

This information is about Personal Budgets, which are available for some young people with special educational needs (SEN).

What is a Personal Budget?

The SEN Personal Budget is a sum of money that can be used to personalise your learning support and help meet the outcomes in your Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP). This allows you or your parents or carers to create flexible or specialised learning support.

How can I get a Personal Budget?

You or your parents can request a Personal Budget once your Local Authority have carried out an EHC Needs Assessment and confirmed that you will get an EHCP. If you already have an EHCP, you can request one at your Annual Review.

How do I use my Personal Budget?

You can only use your Personal Budget to fund the support in your EHCP. Examples of this are:

- Equipment to help you at home
- Equipment to help you communicate or learn
- Activities, clubs or short breaks
- A personal assistant to help with tasks at home
- Organising work or learning opportunities

You can't use your Personal Budget to pay for:

- Help from a family member who lives with you
- Payment for a place at school or college
- Medical costs such as dental work, prescriptions or holiday vaccinations.

How do I manage a Personal Budget?

Personal Budgets can be managed in different ways. These are:

- Direct Payments, where individuals receive the money to find, buy and manage a service themselves.
- Arrangements or Notional Budgets, where the school, college, or Local Authority have the money and organise the support specified in the plan.
- Third Party Arrangements, where the money is paid to an individual or organisation on your behalf.

Where can I get more information, advice or support?

You can find out more about Personal Budgets by visiting

<https://contact.org.uk/about-us/resource-library/factsheet-personal-budgets-in-england/>

You can also get in touch with **MK SENDIAS Service** on 01908 254518 or email: contact@mksendias.org.uk