

SENDCo Update Summary

GRIP/TAPS to Inclusion Panel

Please note, GRIP is no longer available. TAPS will not be after this week. Any applications for new funding or any continuations will need to be submitted via the new Inclusion Panel. There is no other route to accessing additional funding prior to an EHCP.

The key messages from the meeting on Tuesday are as follows;

- The GRIP backlog has now been cleared and schools have received payment (or will receive by the end of the month) for the applications submitted before 1st December. No further applications have been processed.
- The final TAPS panel will take place on Wednesday 25th January with applications to be sent in by Friday 20th January.
- A new pilot to replace GRIP and TAPS will begin in February – **Inclusion Panel**.
- This is a pilot and so feedback will be taken throughout so that we can make sure we address and amend any issues as we work through it. Your feedback will be essential in this.
- The first Inclusion Panel will be on Wednesday 15th February. The panel will have representation from across Access and Inclusion services and Virtual School. We envisage the panel being weekly to begin with whilst we get a clearer view on the demand, number of referrals etc.
- The new form will be online and automatically submitted. We would like support to be efficient and responsive to need to support schools with inclusion issues.
- The link to the online form will be shared with schools as soon as possible.
- The Inclusion Panel will cover a wider scope of inclusion issues which TAPS and GRIP may not have covered and increase our ability to allow funding to increase outcomes for children and young people.
- You will be required to describe the need clearly, demonstrate in a clear provision map describing the support you have given with clear costings. You will then need to complete a second provision map with a clear description of the support you intend to use additional funding for.
- Any reports/advice should be incorporated into your provision map – attachments will not be required. The only attachment required will be a reintegration plan for those children on part-time timetables.
- The panel will ensure that the level of funding requested is linked to the level of need.
- The outcome from panel could be funding or signposting to additional support. If rejected because there is not adequate information, you can reapply.
- The length of time funding will be allocated for is also a panel decision and linked to need etc.
- The intention is also that the recording and monitoring of inclusion panel will inform SEND sufficiency and commissioning going forwards.
- Any enquiries/feedback throughout the pilot should go directly to Helen Wallace so that we can ensure it is developed, refined, and fit for purpose.
- It sits with Inclusion Support Services (ISS), not SEND and so no enquiries should go to SEND.