

FOCUSED INTERVENTION FUNDING (FIF)

All funding strands at a glance • Hertfordshire • FIF replaces LHNF from 1 April 2026

Non-statutory, discretionary funding for Hertfordshire children and young people where additional, time-limited provision is required.

STRAND 1a

EARLY YEARS ENHANCED PROVISION

Pre-Reception children with established, complex and ongoing SEND needs requiring personalised, high-level provision beyond OAP and other EY SEND funding.

FUNDING £15/hour; up to 15/30-hour entitlement; maximum 3 terms.

ROUTE Application → local DSPL → Early Years SEND Team Panel.

STRAND 1b

RECEPTION TRANSITION FUNDING

Time-limited support for emerging SEND needs when moving from Nursery to Reception, supporting continuity of strategies and environmental preparation.

FUNDING £1,000 one-off per identified pupil.

ROUTE Automatic contact from EYs team; funding agreement required.

STRAND 2

RECEPTION FUNDING

Children arriving in Reception with complex SEND needs, new to the education system, with no external support or funding already in place.

FUNDING £6,000 one-off.

ROUTE Application → DSPL Manager → SENCo cluster → panel → finance.

STRAND 3

LIFE-CHANGING NEEDS

Life-changing medical needs preventing access to learning, or children new to the country with complex needs requiring immediate support.

FUNDING £6,000 one-off.

ROUTE Multi-agency route; school concerns → DSPL Manager.

STRAND 4a

FOCUSED INTERVENTION – INDIVIDUAL

Mainstream child/young person with emerging needs needing a focused, time-limited intervention above OAP and unlikely to require an EHCP.

FUNDING £4,500/year, proportionate to intervention; 12 weeks = £1,500.

ROUTE Application → DSPL Manager → SENCo cluster → panel → finance.

STRAND 4b

FOCUSED INTERVENTION – GROUP

Group of children/young people with similar needs requiring provision above OAP but not expected to require EHCPs. One group application.

FUNDING £9,000/year, proportionate to intervention; 12 weeks = £3,000.

ROUTE Group application → DSPL Manager → lead SENCo/cluster → panel → finance.

KEY POINTS FOR SENCOs / SETTINGS

- FIF is discretionary and managed locally through DSPL areas.
- Strands 4a/4b must provide intervention above Ordinarily Available Provision.
- Describe the actual intervention — not simply '1:1 support' or 'personalised curriculum'.
- Reduced timetables require attendance and a clear reintegration plan.
- Use concise, relevant evidence and measurable outcomes.
- Parents must be informed and agree to the application.