

Dear Colleagues,

## **HOPE Headlines – 2020/21**

Many of you will be familiar with receiving our Newsletters and Briefings. We are working to streamline the communications we send out to our partners and welcome your feedback on this new, short form, 'HOPE Headlines'.



As always, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support for the education of children in care in what continues to be an exceptionally challenging year.

Best wishes,  
The HOPE Team

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**Tel:** 0117 90 36282

[The HOPE has information and guidance online](#)

### **1. Key Theme: Transition**

We ask all our partners to contribute to high quality transition planning for children in care; with particular focus on standard transition points – starting Early Years; Early Years to Primary School, Key Stages within Primary, Primary to Secondary and Secondary into Post-16.

We know that transitions can cause additional anxiety for children in care and your thoughtful planning makes a huge difference to successful moves. Listening to children and young people; completing high quality Personal Education Plans (PEPs) involving both the current and new settings; fully involving Social Workers and carers all have a significant impact.

If you would like further advice about transition, please contact HOPE advocates on 0117 903 6282.

### **2. Meet our new HOPE staff members:**

 <p>Carrie-Ann Palmer Years 6-11 Advocate</p>	 <p>George Lane Business Support Officer</p>	 <p>Sarah Peacock Years 1-5 Advocate</p>
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### **3. We're making some changes to Children in Care (CiC) Pupil Premium Payments:**

We wrote to all Designated Teachers on 5<sup>th</sup> May to let you know that we're moving to two CiC Pupil Premium payments a year (rather than three, as in previous years). The letter provides details of the compliance criteria we require for schools to receive payment. Please read the letter carefully and share with Headteachers and Business Managers in schools.

Instalment 1 - deadline for schools to provide PEPs & data **24<sup>th</sup> June 2021**. Paid in July 2021.

Instalment 2 – deadline for schools to provide PEPs & data **26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Paid in February 2022.

#### **4. Education Plans for Previously Looked After Children (PLAC)**

Whilst statutory PEP meetings are not required, schools have a duty to continue to monitor and support previously looked after children. We recommend that **Education Plan** meetings between school and parents/carers are held regularly to ensure a child's needs are fully identified and supported.

We have templates on our website that can be used record these meetings.

[Information for schools and education settings - Hope Virtual School - bristol.gov.uk](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/information-for-schools-and-education-settings-hope-virtual-school)

At Education Plan meetings in the summer term it will be important to consider what enhanced transition support these children will need.