Definitions and Terminology

The definitions and terminology written within this document relate directly to the 0-25 Special Education Needs and Disability process.

**Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND):** There will be no significant changes to the definition of SEN. It will continue to be largely defined as those who:

- Have a greater difficulty in learning than the majority of other children;
- Have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided in the area.

**EHC Review Officer:** A named person who will support you and your family through the planning process for an Education Health and Social Care Plan, Personal Budget within Education, Health or Social Care.

**Personal Budget:** A Personal Budget is an amount of money based on identified need, to deliver all or some of the provision set out in a 0-25 Education Health and Social Care Plan.

**Continuing Care (CC):** Making the child or young person and their family the focus of the continuing care process and facilitate the provision of personalised packages of care working across organisations and agencies in order to reduce the possibility of fragmented care.


**Indicative SEN Budget:** An allocation of funding made prior to finalising the EHC plan. It is called an indicative budget as it is an estimate of funding available measured against the child or young person’s level of need. This will translate to a personal budget allocation after the full EHC plan is agreed in line with identified need. The final allocation may be more or less than the indicative amount.

**Direct Payments:** You may ask for your Personal budget in the form of a Direct Payment. This will mean you are responsible for the management and use of the money.

**Individual Service Fund:** This is where payment for your child’s or the young person’s support is made to a provider or broker to manage on their behalf.

**Virtual or Managed Budget:** When the Council organise the child or young persons support it is referred to as a virtual budget. If you choose this option your support can only be purchased from the preferred providers list and no money will be released.

**Pre-Payment Card:** A pre-payment card is an alternative to a bank account and looks similar to a debit card. You can purchase goods and services in line with your support plan using your prepaid card.

**Personal Assistant (PA):** A Personal Assistant is a person who is employed to support or care for the child or young person named in the support plan. They will carry out specific agreed duties that support the agreed outcomes for the child or young person.

**0-25 Education Health and Social Care Plan (EHC plan):** A single plan outlines the learning outcomes and how a child or young person with SEND will be supported bringing together Education, Health and Social
Care. The EHC plan will also outline the use of a personal budget if the support for the child or young person cannot be met through mainstream services or targeted support.

**Resource Allocation System (RAS):** The Resource Allocation System is a tool. It is a way for the Council to work alongside the family to work out how much money is needed to meet the child or young person’s identified needs. The tool will identify a score which will equate to the indicative monetary value the child or young person could be entitled to, subject to final agreement.

**Education Resource Allocation System (E-RAS):** The Education Resource Allocation System works in a similar way to the (RAS). The tool is designed to help work out how much money is needed to support a child or young person who has been assessed as having a special educational need. This may be the provision of highly specialist learning materials such as Braille, access to regular specialist interventions very different to those available in the classroom. It will not only contribute to the provision of an indicative amount of money that can be taken by the parent/carer as a personal budget but will also help to clarify for parents how the money allocated to their child is currently being spent.

**Individual Support Plan:** An Individual Support Plan will show how you will get the help your child or young person needs. The plan will show will show how the identified support will meet the outcomes for the child or young person identified through their assessment.

**Short Breaks:** Short Breaks provide children and young people with additional and complex needs (ACN) an opportunity to spend time away from their parents, relaxing with friends and having fun. They provide families with a ‘break’ from their caring responsibilities and give parents a chance to unwind rest or spend time with their other children. Examples of short breaks include holiday play schemes, residential overnights, and weekday and weekend clubs in a variety of activities.

**Preferred Providers List:** Oldham Council has developed a list of approved providers who have undergone a selection process to ensure they have important policies in place and meet expectations for providing a high quality service.

**SEND Local Offer:** The Local offer includes Universal, Mainstream and Targeted services clearly identifying how they offer support for children and young people with special educational needs and disability. It includes the access and eligibility criteria. The local offer is developed, published and reviewed with children, young people with special educational needs and disability, and their families.

**Direct Payment:** This is where we make payment directly to you on a prepayment card (see guidance leaflet) to manage and purchase services for your child’s support.

**Third Party Arrangements:** This is where payment for your child’s support is made to an individual or organisation on your behalf. They will use the money to pay for your child’s support.

**An Arrangement:** This is where you have chosen to have the Council organise your child’s support, and we will use the money to pay for this. If you chose this option your support can only be purchased from our preferred providers and services from the Local Authority. No money will be released.

A personal Health Budget or Direct Payment from Health would not be paid through a pre-payment card; pre-payment cards only apply in the case of a Social Care Budget.
A Mixed Package: - This is a combination of the above. You may decide that you want a Personal Budget Payment for some of your child’s support and for us to arrange some things for you.

Universal and Mainstream services: - Universal and mainstream services can be accessed by all. This includes Short Breaks provision, Educational, Social and Leisure Activities e.g. Libraries, Sports Centres, Swimming Pools and Social Clubs. These services include early year’s services, schools, academies and colleges. Training providers who provide learning opportunities and activities which support identified outcomes for the child or young person. There are Service providers who provide learning activities in a variety of settings.

Targeted Services: - Services which support children and young people with a particular need to achieve their outcomes. Within an education or social setting this may mean support focused on one or a group of children or young people where there is a shared offer of support through funding of specialised staff, for example Speech and Language Therapy or one to one support at school.

Continuing Care (CC):- A child or young person must be receiving continuing health care in order to be assessed for a personal health budget.

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG’s):- are NHS organizations set up by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to organize the delivery of NHS services in England

Health Budgets:- Personal health budgets are initially available for people who are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare, who have had a 'right to have' a budget. Clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) can also offer personal health budgets to others that they feel may benefit from the additional flexibility and control.

The eligibility criteria can change with any changes in the child or young person’s condition