

16-19 Tuition Fund

The ESFA has made funding available to colleges to support students who have had their learning affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. The Tuition Fund is ring-fenced for schools, colleges and all other 16 to 19 providers to mitigate the disruption to learning arising from coronavirus.

The funding can be used to provide small group tuition for 16-19-year olds on a study programme where their learning has been disrupted and they have a GCSE Maths and / or English grade of 4 or below at age 16. Although the support is targeted based on prior attainment in maths/English, the funding is not limited to support in these subjects and will be provided according to need.

Support is being prioritised where students will benefit most from small group tuition, and particular regard is being given to the requirements of disadvantaged students and students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

All students must be on a 16 to 19 study programme and the funding should be used to support the tuition activity, above and beyond, the programmes of education already planned. It is for students who:

- have not achieved a grade 4 or 5 in English and/or maths
- have a grade 4 or above in English and/or maths, are from an economically disadvantaged background and would need catch-up support. These are defined as students from the 27% most economically deprived areas of the country based on the index of multiple deprivation

When identifying who needs support through the tuition fund on the basis of low prior attainment, institutions should prioritise tuition for those students who have not achieved a grade 4 in maths and/or English in the first instance. Institutions may subsequently provide tuition on the basis of a student not having received a grade 5 in maths and/or English.

When identifying who needs support from the tuition fund on the basis of economic disadvantage, institutions should have regard for the individual needs of students, for example, providing tuition to assist high achieving disadvantaged students to reach their full potential, in addition to supporting other students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Institutions need to consider what will be most effective for their eligible students, taking into account students' needs and local circumstances including students:

- who have had disrupted learning, for example on vocational courses where assessment has been deferred because of lockdown
- who may benefit from small group tuition to reach their full potential

How will Meden College use the 16-19 Tuition Fund?

Individual or small-group support sessions of no more than 5 students will be set up. There will be Subject Specific Tuition run by specialist tutors.

These sessions will be in addition to the students' normal timetable. The support will be agreed between the student and staff and tailored as far as possible to the individual needs of the student.

Delivery

More than one group can be held in the same space. In these circumstances

- the groups must be clearly defined
- each group must have their own tutor
- the space must be conducive to multiple small group activity

Institutions can decide how to resource the delivery of small group tuition supported through the fund. This may include a mix of both teaching and learning support staff as appropriate. Institutions must ensure that anyone delivering small group tuition has the appropriate knowledge, skills, and experience, and has received appropriate training where necessary.

Resourcing could be through paying for more hours from existing staff, hiring new staff, or buying in a service from a third-party provider.

Quality of provision

Institutions should have regard for the quality of their tutoring provision, considering evidence which suggests that small group tuition works better with the smallest groups and when the tuition is focused on students' specific needs. Training and tutor support are also likely to increase the effectiveness of small group tutoring, providing the best possible outcomes for students