



Auxiliary Aids Policy

The Equality Act 2010 states that both schools and Local Authorities have a duty to provide auxiliary aids and equipment. Auxiliary aids could be a teaching assistant or it could be equipment that helps a child at school. This is only for equipment to be used in school or which needs to be provided to make education accessible.

In Wakefield, schools use their own money to buy equipment for children when the cost is less than £1000. If it costs more than £1000 then the person who thinks the child is in need of the equipment needs to put in a request to the Local Authority. This person could be a physiotherapist or an occupational therapist, it could be a specialist teacher such as a teacher of the deaf. A child or young person does not need to have a Statement or a new Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to have equipment bought by the authority.

If the school buy the equipment it belongs to the school. When a child moves to a different school it is the new school's responsibility to make sure they acquire the correct equipment. If the Local Authority procure the equipment the equipment will go with the child whilst they are in education.

Sometimes a child needs a system of equipment like an FM system if they are deaf or a specialist seating/wheelchair system. This is considered as the same as the above and when it costs more than £1000 the Local Authority will procure this on behalf of the child.