



## Auxiliary Aids and Equipment

The Equality Act of 2010 says that both schools and academies and the Local Authority have a duty to provide auxiliary aids and equipment. Auxiliary aids could be equipment that helps a child or young person at school. This is only for equipment to be used in a child's or young person's school or which needs to be provided to make education accessible.

In Wakefield, schools and academies use their own money to buy equipment for children and young people when equipment costs less than £1000. If it costs more than £1000, then the person who thinks the child or young person needs the equipment puts 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 teacher for the deaf. A child or a young person does not need to have a statement or a new Educational Health and Care Plan to have equipment bought by the local authority.

If the school buys the equipment it belongs to the school. When a child or young person moves to a different school or goes to college, it is up to the new school or academy or college to make sure they get the right equipment.

If the Local Authority buys the equipment the equipment will go with the child or new person 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 looked at as the same as a single piece of equipment and when it costs more than £1000 the Local Authority would buy the equipment on behalf of the child or young person.