

Census Guidance 2022-2023

Post looked after arrangements [used for funding]

Post looked after arrangements collects information regarding children, who have left local authority care in England and Wales through adoption, a special guardianship order, a residence order or a child arrangements order and are still subject to such orders on census day.

Children who have left care under one of the measures listed above will be eligible for the post looked after element of the pupil premium.

From autumn 2022, we have extended these options to include code 'O' - children adopted from state care outside of England and Wales. 'State care' is care provided by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other organisation whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

It is for those with parental responsibility (adoptive parents, special guardians and carers of former looked after children on residence / child arrangements orders) to decide if they wish to self-declare their children's status to schools. Schools should ensure parents and carers are aware of this and that this information is collected to help ensure that the designated teacher for previously looked after children can support those children and the school can attract pupil premium funding to support this cohort. Parents are to provide supporting evidence, for example, a photocopy of the adoption order, and confirm that their child was previously in care in England or Wales.

Where parents choose to declare their child's status as being adopted from state care from abroad, the school must be satisfied that the child has been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Parents will be expected to provide documentary evidence of their child's adopted from abroad status. Where there is any doubt about whether evidence provided by a parent is acceptable, the school can request advice from their Virtual School Head.

Parents may conceal sensitive information (for example the name of the birth parents) should they wish.

Schools are reminded that this is particularly sensitive data and of the ongoing need for confidentiality. Schools should ensure that, as for other pupil level data items,

they comply with their responsibilities with respect to UK GDPR when processing this data.

Schools record the information using the following codes. Only one of the values will apply to each pupil and a school's MIS should provide a default value of N – not declared.
Find a code for post looked after arrangements:

Code	Description
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N	Not declared
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A	Not looked after - adoption from England and Wales
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G	Not looked after - special guardianship order (SGO) from England and Wales
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R	Not looked after - residence order (RO) from England and Wales. Residence orders were replaced by child arrangements orders in April 2014.
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C	Not looked after - child arrangements order (CAO) from England and Wales
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O	Not looked after – adopted from state care outside of England and Wales
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Please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complete-the-school-census/changes-for-2022-to-2023> and look for 'existing data items' and then follow to 'post looked after arrangements'.