



An introduction for commissioners

Specialist education and outreach · 2026-27

This is a short introduction to The EBAP Outreach Team, a new service run by East Boldon Alternative Provision. It sets out what we do, what you would receive, and where we stand on the one question we think you are entitled to ask us.

What we do

We work one to one with children and young people who are not in school. That might be at home, out in the community — learning to travel independently, for example — or in hospital, where a child needs an educator alongside them so their education does not stop while they are unwell.

We deliver between three and six hours a week for each child. That is deliberate. Outreach is there to hold a child's education steady and move them towards something more permanent, which sits with the Department for Education's position that non-school alternative provision is a time-limited intervention rather than a destination.

How we work with you

We work to your target, not ours. At the point of referral we record what you want for that child — a return to school, a place in a provision, an EOTAS package holding steady — and everything we report afterwards is measured against it.

We aim to reach that outcome and close the case, rather than let a placement run on quietly term after term. It is a shorter relationship than some providers offer, and that is the point.

What you would receive

An email for every session, sent once the session has started, confirming the child was there. If they were not, you get an email telling you so and giving the reason.

A written progress report roughly every six weeks. Our system can produce up to ten reports a year for a child where that is useful, and we are glad to add a review at any point you ask for one.

The reporting is both qualitative and quantitative. You get the numbers — sessions delivered, attendance, progress against the target you set — and you get the picture behind them, so you can see how a child is actually doing and not only how often they turned up.

Our position, stated plainly

EBAP runs its own alternative provision, so it is fair to ask whether our outreach team is a route into our classroom. It is not. The destination for a child is yours to decide, and you decide it at the enquiry stage, before any work begins.

We do not expect that destination to be our own provision. Having adopted the higher standards ourselves, we understand that the direction of travel in the new Department for Education guidance is towards a registered provision, and that is what we work towards with you.

We still record where every outreach child goes — school, another provision, college, or our own classroom — and we look at it again at six months and at twelve. That information is yours whenever you want it.

Safeguarding, staffing and compliance

Lynne Stothard is Designated Safeguarding Lead for the company and Jill Cogdon is Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for outreach. A concern about the Managing Director goes outside the company, to the local authority designated officer or the NSPCC, and our policies say so in plain terms.

Nobody starts work with a child until we have seen their enhanced DBS certificate with barred list information. There is no supervised early start and no exceptions. Practitioners are employed by us rather than supplied through an agency, so the people who begin with a child are the people who finish with them.

We already work with South Tyneside, Sunderland, Gateshead and County Durham, and our safeguarding policy carries the designated officer and children's social care contacts for each. Our full policy library, insurance certificates and staff training records are available to you on request.

What it costs

Our rate card is enclosed. We price in half days and full days rather than by the hour, so you know what a week costs before it starts, and travel is included with no separate mileage charge. All prices are exclusive of VAT, and we invoice half termly in advance.

We are built inside an existing provision rather than as a separate company with its own premises and administration. That was a deliberate decision, and the saving goes into the rate you pay rather than into overheads.

Making a referral

A referral can be made through **ebapsystems.com**. It goes directly into our secure recording system, so nothing sits in an inbox waiting to be picked up. We will agree the target with you at that point, and we begin with an assessment, so that what we plan is based on the child in front of us rather than on the paperwork.

If you would like to talk it through first, I would be very glad to. Please contact Lynne Stothard at lynne@safetyac.co.uk, or Jill Cogdon at jillebap@fastmail.com.