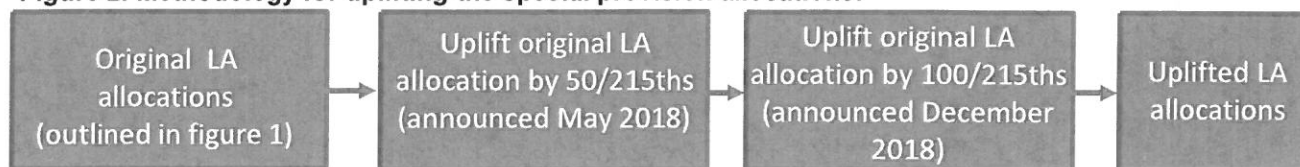


**Figure 2: Methodology for uplifting the special provision allocations:**

## Meeting local need

These allocations will support local authorities to create new places and improve facilities at existing schools. This funding is primarily intended to develop provision for pupils with more complex special educational needs (i.e. an EHC plan or a statement of special educational needs) in mainstream and/or special schools. However, local authorities are free to spend the fund on other education based provision for children and young people aged from 0 to 25 where this meets local needs, such as early years settings or further education colleges.

Local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that there is a school place available for every child. The Children and Families Act 2014 requires local authorities to keep the provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities under review (including its sufficiency), working with parents, young people, and providers. In this context local authorities will wish to consider how best to use their capital allocation from the special provision fund to support them to meet local need. We expect local authorities to plan and make decisions in consultation with local stakeholders. Engagement with parents and young people is crucial and local authorities should consult with parent carer forums, to ensure that the range and quality of provision reflects the needs and aspirations of children and young people in the area. Ahead of receiving this funding, we asked local authorities to complete and publish a concise plan to show how they would invest their share of the fund on their local offer page, and we are now asking them to refresh that plan to receive the additional funding announced in May and December 2018.

Local authorities should review and develop their local offer of special provision. A condition of receiving the additional capital funding is that authorities prepare and publish strategic plans setting out how the special educational needs of children and young people in their area should be met and, in particular, how the special provision capital fund will be used in accordance with the overall strategic plans that authorities have drawn up. We provided £23 million of additional revenue funding in 2016-17 to increase local authorities' capacity to undertake this strategic review and planning activity, in consultation with schools, colleges and other providers, and with local parents and young people.