Welcome

Early Years Schools Briefing

11th February 2025 8am and 4pm Microsoft Teams

Cheryl McLean: Early Years Funding Co-ordinator Katherine Crossley: Early Years Project Manager Laura Phipps: Early Years Funding Assistant



Agenda

- Funding Consultation and Early years funding rates 2025/26
- Reminder of the entitlements
- Accurate portal submissions
- Questions/comments



Funding Consultation

- Undertaken in line with best practice this year
- Closed 31st January 2025
- Focused on structure of the formula
- Further information on the DfE's 'Easy Explainer' document which outlines how LA's national hourly rates are determined, how a maximum of 4% can be retained by the LA and the remaining 96% passported out to the Sector



Funding Consultation Feedback

Question	Response
Do you agree that the LA should continue with the universal hourly base rate of funding regardless of provider type?	97% agreed
Do you agree with the LA's proposed pass-through rate?	94% agreed
Do you agree with the proposal to continue with the established local funding formula for each of the early years entitlements?	100% agreed
Do you agree with the proposal to continue only utilising the mandatory deprivation supplement?	97% agreed
Do you agree with the LA proposal to continue the SENIF in its established format?	97% agreed



Early Years Entitlements Terms are nationally set: 1st January, 1st April and 1st September

• Universal 15 hours entitlement

All children the term after they are 3.

Disadvantaged/Families receiving additional support 15 hours entitlement

Eligible 2 year olds the term after they are 2, up until the term after they are 3. They apply for this through asklion.co.uk and can start from the date on letter.

Working parent funding

Currently 15 hours for eligible children aged 9 month – 2 years and 30 hours for eligible children the term after they are 3.

From September 2025, all those eligible children aged 9 months + will be entitled to 30 hours.

Families must apply for a working parent code via the HMRC at childcarechoices.gov.uk they can only use the code the term after it was applied for or the term after they are the relevant age, whichever is later.



Early Years Funding 2025/26

	From 1 st April 2025
Families receiving additional support 2 Year Old Base Rate	£8.95 per hour (increase of 64p on April 2024 rate)
Working Parent of 2 Year Old Base Rate	£8.10 per hour (increase of 47p on April 2024 rate)
3 & 4 Year Old Base Rate (Universal & Extended Hours)	£5.52 per hour (increase of 36p on April 2024 rate)
Deprivation Supplement	£1.00 per hour for up to 30 hours per child per week (equivalent) for 3 & 4 year olds attracting EYPP
Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Supplement	£1.00 (increase of 32p on April 2024) per hour, up to 15 hours per child for children across all age groups, accessing the Early Years Entitlements
Disability Access Fund (DAF)	Increased to £938 (increase of £28 on April 2024 rate) per eligible child. Any child claiming DLA.

Funding Examples

- Example of a 15 hour place on a 3 & 4 year old base rate;
 - Basic Hourly Rate without EYPP or Deprivation Supplement = £3,146.40 p/a (equivalent of £5.52 p/h)
 - Basic Hourly Rate with EYPP & Deprivation Supplement = £4,286.40 p/a (equivalent of £7.52p/h)

Difference of £1,140



Accurate Portal Claims

- Termly Portal Claim = Data Schools Funding Team use to make payments to schools
- Submit ahead of deadline in order to pick up any potential queries.
- The following should be included on your claim:
 - All nursery and F2/reception children within the specified Date Of Birth range
 - Parent/carer details if wishing to make an EYPP check



Accurate Portal Claims: Nursery Children – 2's/Rising 3's

- Must be eligible for either disadvantaged 2's/families receiving additional support and/or working parent entitlement.
- Children in this cohort could also be eligible for EYPP but can only receive this additional payment if they receive early years entitlements funding as well
- Boxes will only open if eligible. The first 3 boxes are information only and are not the payment information boxes.



Accurate Portal Claims: Nursery Children – 3 and 4 year olds

Universal 15 hours funding

 All 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to 15 hours universal funding the term after their 3rd birthday

Working parent funding

- Some 3 and 4 children are eligible for 30 hours funding and a code from HMRC needs to be obtained the term before
- The extended boxes will only open if there is a valid code i.e. it is in date and has an eligible from date the term before.



Children attending more than one setting

- Parents are able to split their funded hours over more than one setting. You need to ensure that this is recorded clearly i.e. where the child is taking the hours and on what days.
- Particularly important if child is entitled to 30 hours:

For 3 & 4's you need to record which setting is claiming for the working parent hours and which setting is claiming for the universal. If parents fall out of eligibility it is the universal setting who can continue to claim.

For 2 year olds who are entitled to both working parent and the disadvantaged/additional support funding, you need to record which setting is claiming for the disadvantaged funding. If parents fall out of working parent eligibility, it is the setting claiming disadvantaged funding who will continue to claim.

 If a child aged 2 up until the term after they are 3 are only entitled to 30 hours working parent funding and fall out of eligibility, the full 30 hours will cease.

Accurate Portal Claims: EYPP/Deprivation Funding

- In order to check EYPP eligibility, parent/carer details need adding onto your headcount task
- If a child is eligible, they will attract an additional £1.00 for EYPP.
- In addition, a deprivation supplement of £1 per child per hour is paid to 3 and 4 year old children who are eligible for EYPP.



Accurate Portal Claims: Reception/F2 children

- Any children that fall in Date Of Birth range who attend Reception/F2 need to be added
- Only complete weeks, average hours per week and hours per term - <u>Remove universal and extended</u> <u>hours</u>
- <u>Decline to give</u> parent/carer details as not eligible for EYPP



Summary

- Children are only entitled to the appropriate funding stream the term after they are the eligible age.
- Children are only entitled to working parent funding the term after the code was applied for (the 'eligible from' date is the date they applied).
- Ensure you claim the correct number of weeks and hours depending on start date.
- Input parent/carer details, where you have permission, in order for us to run an EYPP check (nursery children only).
- If hours are being split over more than one setting, ensure you are claiming the agreed funding stream.



Q&A

Schools Portal Training

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