

Autumn 2024 - Important Information Regarding Early Education Funding

Dear Provider,

Please see below, key autumn term information for all providers offering early education places, including school nurseries and out of school clubs.

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Changes To The Payment System From August 2024

Following the success of the monthly payment trial which took place in the Summer 2024 term, we are now moving ALL providers to monthly payments. Please see the schedule included in the funding email. Please note the change to an earlier estimate deadline – **FRIDAY 2ND AUGUST**. This earlier deadline is to ensure the funding team can make your first monthly payment to you in August. Failure to meet this deadline will result in you not receiving your first monthly payment, and you will instead receive your payment on the next available monthly payment date.

Early education funding rate for financial year 2024/25

The funding rates for the financial year 2024/25 are as follows:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------|---|
| Under 2s base rate: | £9.58 | Deprivation £1.04 – all hours |
| 2-year-old base rate: | £7.06 | Deprivation 76p – all hours |
| 3- & 4-year-old base rate: | £5.09 | Deprivation 55p - all hours |
| EYPP | 68p | for first 15 hours for all eligible children claiming funded hours. |
| DAF | £910 | annual payment for all eligible children claiming funded hours. |

Childcare reforms summary

- **April 2024:** eligible working parents of 2-yr-olds: 15 hours
- **Sept 2024:** eligible working parents of children 9 months+: 15 hours
- **Sept 2025:** eligible working parents of children aged 9 months+: 30 hours
- **From Sept 2026:** all parents of primary school children able to access wraparound care in their local area from 8am – 6pm, term time only. To help ensure they have enough childcare to work full time, more hours and with flexible hours.

Parental declaration forms / birth checks

A form must be completed for **ALL** children accessing a funded place & kept for 4 terms. An updated parent declaration form is available on the Raise York website alongside an accompanying parent information sheet. These forms can now be completed electronically by parent/carers, and the option to print these forms remains. Providers are welcome to use their own versions of the parent declaration forms however we ask that the privacy notice details are included as well as all the necessary fields outlined in the City of York Council form.

Providers should:

- Ensure the relevant boxes are signed and ticked by the parent/carer if an eligibility code or an EYPP check is required
- Check that information entered onto the funding portal matches the declaration form.
- Check original copies of documentation to confirm a child has reached the eligible age for all funded entitlements. You should **NOT** retain copies of this documentation.

Funded 2-YEAR-OLD places (disadvantaged entitlement)

The local authority receives a list of potentially eligible parents from the DWP several times each year. We cross check this list with our funding portal to identify families already accessing a funded place. Families on the list who are not accessing a funded place will receive a letter from us to say that they may be eligible for a funded place and inviting them to apply, which they can do online at www.raiseyork.co.uk/2yearfunding or by contacting the Family Information Service (FIS) on 01904 554444.

Families who apply and are eligible will receive a letter containing a 6-digit code which they must take to their chosen provider, therefore you will need to see the approval letter and the 6-digit code before offering a funded place for a 2-year-old.

Working parent entitlement for under 2s, 2 year olds and 3 & 4 year olds

Parents MUST apply for/renew their eligibility code for this entitlement via the Childcare Choices website before **31st August 2024** for a place from the Autumn term and will need to reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months.

Providers are required to check the code on the portal via the Eligibility Checking tab, prior to the child taking up their funded place. When using the Eligibility checker tab, please check the dates on the code – the end date of the code must be AFTER the start of term.

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

Providers are encouraged to speak to parents/carers to find out who may be eligible. Families receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for their child who is accessing a funded place should:

- ❖ complete the DAF Declaration Form
- ❖ provide you with evidence to show that the child is receiving DLA.
- ❖ you should then email the completed DAF Declaration form AND a copy of the evidence to: earlyyearsfunding@york.gov.uk via a secure email link.

On receipt of the completed DAF Declaration Form /evidence, the one-off payment will be made to the nominated provider with the balance payment for the funded entitlement.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

EYPP has now been extended to eligible Under 2s and 2-year-olds. If a child is found to be eligible, this will show on your portal as a weighting of 002. More information about EYPP can be found on our [EYPP page](#).

Early Years Inclusion Fund

Inclusion Funding is available to support children with SEND/Additional needs accessing an early education place. Priority is given to children with 'high needs/low incidence, however, support for children with 'high incidence–low needs' will be considered if they meet threshold level 2 and above descriptors. An application form can be found on the [Early Years Inclusion funding webpage](#).

Eligible date of birth ranges

3- & 4-YEAR-OLDS: **1 SEPTEMBER 2019 – 31 AUGUST 2021**

2-YEAR-OLDS: **1 SEPTEMBER 2021 – 31 AUGUST 2022**

UNDER 2s: **1 SEPTEMBER 2022 – 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

Yours sincerely,

The Early Years Funding Team