

Additional Early Years Funding –A Quick Guide for Providers

This document provides information about the additional early years streams that are available in addition to the place funding - the funding providers receive per hour per child for the funded early education place.

These funding streams are available to all Early Years provider types such as Childminders, Day nurseries, Preschools and Schools that provide funded Early Education.

Each funding stream has its own eligibility criteria, therefore children may or may not be eligible for 1 or more funding streams.

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

What is DAF?

DAF stands for Disability Access Fund

How much is it?

Early Years Providers can receive £910 per year for eligible children. DAF can only be allocated to 1 provider per year. If a child attends more than 1 provider, the parent will choose which provider receives DAF.

Who is Eligible for DAF?

Children aged from 9 months to 4 years, that are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and who are accessing their funded early education entitlement.

How do I apply?

Providers must indicate on their termly headcount claim or census return that a child is eligible for DAF and submit a copy of the child's DLA award letter with their claim or to ey.funding@merton.gov.uk via secure email or USOFX.

DAF funding is allocated alongside the termly headcount payments

How can it be used?

DAF must be used to support the child's access to early education. It can be used flexible based on the needs of the child, such as;

- purchase specialist resources to meet the child's need

- staff training
- to support the cost of enhanced ratios

Providers can seek advice from their Inclusion Officer on the best use of the fund to support the child's SEN support needs.

Are there any auditing or reporting on the using DAF?

Providers must keep a record of what they have used DAF for, the local authority will as part of the inclusion or funding audits request evidence of spend and impact.

As part of an Ofsted Inspection, providers will be asked if they have received DAF for any of their children, how it was used and the difference it made.

Providers are not required to routinely submit evidence of spend.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

EYPP is the additional funding allocated to Early Years providers for eligible children aged 9 months – 4 years accessing their funded early education.

How much is it?

EYPP is additional funding for providers of up to £388 per child, per year.

Who is eligible?

A child or parent must meet the eligibility criteria provided here; [Get extra funding for your early years provider - GOV.UK](#)

How do I get it?

Providers must submit the parent and child details collected on the Parent Funding Agreement Form onto the EY Hub when submitting their termly headcount claims. The local authority will check children's eligibility for EYPP as part of the providers' claim.

For children who meet the adoption/special guardianship criteria, providers must send evidence of this via a secure email to ey.funding@merton.gov.uk or USOFX.

Eligibility for EYPP will also mean that providers will receive the Deprivation supplement in addition to the base rate of funding for the funded early education place. More information can be found here [Early education funding support](#)

EYPP is only available for 15 hours of funded early education.

Funding is allocated termly alongside the provider's headcount payment.

More information about submitting headcount claims and payment dates can be found here [Early education funding support](#)

How can it be used?

EYPP can be used to support a child's access to funded early education and/ or support the costs of additional extras such as Trips, extra-curricular activities, food and uniform.

Is there any auditing or reporting on the use of EYPP?

Providers must keep a record of eligible children and what they have used EYPP and for, the local authority will as part of the inclusion or funding audits request evidence of spend and impact.

As part of the Ofsted Inspection, providers will be expected to know what children are eligible for EYPP, how the funding was used and the difference it has made.

SEND Inclusion Fund (SENDIF)

Early Years providers can apply for SENDIF for children aged 9 months – 4 years accessing their funded early education entitlement.

SENDIF is allocated to providers to support them to meet the needs of children with Special Educational Needs or Disability accessing their funded entitlement.

Funding may be used for; purchasing appropriate of SEND resources; training: targeted interventions and/ or enhancing adult to child ratios

Funding rates vary depending on the age of the child.

SENDIF Funding is allocated to providers termly alongside their termly headcount payment.

Full details on how to apply for SENDIF, can be found here [Childcare workforce information, training and support : Universal Offer for providers | Merton Council](#)