

Early Years Pupil Premium

Overview

From April 2015, nurseries, schools, childminders and other childcare providers will be able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care. The following information will explain what the Early Years Pupil Premium and who is eligible for this funding.

National data and research tells that children eligible for free school meals tend to do less well, for example in 2014 45% of children eligible for free school meals achieved the expected level at the end of the early years foundation stage compared with 64% of other children. The Early Years Pupil Premium will provide us with extra funding to close this gap.

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides an extra 53 pence per hour for three and four year old children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits or who were formally in local authority care but who left care because they were adopted or were subject to a special guardianship or child arrangements order. This means an extra £302 a year for each child taking up the full 570 hours funded entitlement to early education. This additional money could make a significant difference to us.

We can use the extra funding in any way we choose to improve the quality of the Early Years education that we provide for your child. This could include for example additional training for our staff on early language, investing in partnership working with our colleagues in the area to further our expertise or supporting our staff in working on specialised areas such as speech and language.

It is well documented that high quality early education can influence how well a child does at both primary and secondary school so we do want to make the most of this additional funding. You may be aware if you have older children that a pupil premium has been available for school age children and it has proved to have given a real boost to the children receiving the funding. We want to do the same for our early years children entitled to this funding.

Eligibility

3- and 4-year-olds in state-funded early education will attract Early Years Pupil Premium funding if they meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

- their family gets 1 of the following:
 - Income Support
 - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- they have been in local-authority care for 1 day or more in England or Wales
- they have been adopted from care in England or Wales
- they have left care under a special guardianship order or residence order in England or Wales

Children must receive free early education in order to attract Early Years Pupil Premium funding. They do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to get Early Years Pupil Premium.

Children become eligible for free early education at different points in the year depending on when they turn 3. Details of the dates when children become eligible are available.

Please note that 4-year-olds in primary school reception classes who already receive the school-age pupil premium are not eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium funding.

Impact of Early Years Pupil Premium

We will monitor and measure the impact of our investment of Early Years Pupil Premium by establishing a secure baseline assessment from which we will formulate a personalised intervention plan. The intervention plan will highlight where the eligible child is secure in their Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development and identify the areas of intervention which will enable the child to achieve accelerated progress. We will monitor termly the impact the intervention is having on the child to ensure that the child is making outstanding progress in line with their peers.

Feedback will be provided to parents with their views and ideas being sought and included in the intervention plan.

The effectiveness of our deployment of Early Years Pupil Premium will be published on our web site which will highlight the funding we have received and how this money has been used to improve outcomes for our eligible children.