

Additional Support Funding for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Attending Early Years and Childcare Settings

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Additional support funding is offered to early years and childcare providers for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who need extra help to access mainstream childcare provision. Brighton & Hove Integrated Support Service (BHISS) assesses the need for and administers and monitors additional support funding for pre-school children.
- 1.2 Under the new early years national funding formula (EYNFF) the government requires local authorities to establish an SEND Inclusion Fund from 2017/18.
- 1.3 Brighton & Hove City Council has consulted and agreed through its schools forum to have a SEND inclusion fund of £450,000 in 2018/19.
- 1.4 Early years and childcare providers who have children attending their setting who are assessed as in need of additional support may receive funding to pay for this from the SEND inclusion fund.
- 1.5 The intention of the funding is to enable children in receipt of the Early Years Free Entitlement (EYFE) with SEND to access the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

2. Eligibility for Early Years Free Entitlement (EYFE)

- 2.1 Eligible two year olds and all three and four year olds receive EYFE from the term after their second (where eligible) or third birthday. This continues until the child starts school.
- 2.2 Eligible two year olds are children from low income families, as well as children who are disabled, looked after or adopted from care. EYFE is for 570 hours a year.
- 2.3 To be eligible for EYFE two year olds with SEND must be in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, and/or have a statement of SEN, and/or an Education, Health and Care plan.
- 2.4 From September 2017 three and four year old children of working parents have been entitled to 30 hours free childcare, which is double the existing universal EYFE. This is known as the “extended entitlement”.
- 2.5 If the child of a working parent ceases to be eligible for the extended entitlement (for example if their parent stops working) a “grace period” will apply, during which the childcare will continue. The grace period is a minimum of half a term.
- 2.6 BHISS will assess the level of support which children with SEND in receipt of EYFE need in order to access the EYFS at their early years setting.
- 2.7 **There is no additional support funding for hours which children spend in early years and childcare settings outside of EYFE hours.**

- 2.8 Any hours paid for by parents will not attract additional support funding.
- 3. Additional Support Funding Amount – Private, Voluntary and Independent Settings**
- 3.1 Where a child is assessed as in need to additional support this will be paid at the rate of £9.50 per hour.
- 3.2 The maximum number of hours for which a child can receive additional support is 570 per year, or 1,140 hours where the child is a three or four year old of a working parent.
- 3.3 **Only EYFE hours will attract additional support funding.** If a three or four year old child loses their eligibility for the extended entitlement (for example if the parent stops working) the additional support funding will also at the end of the grace period, even if the child remains in the setting for hours above EYFE hours paid for by parents.
- 3.4 Any hours paid for by parents will not attract additional support funding.
- 4. Additional Support Funding Amount – Maintained Settings**
- 4.1 Where a child is assessed as in need to additional support this will be paid at the rate of £9.50 per hour.
- 4.2 The maintained setting will be required to make a contribution of 25% of the assessed amount of additional support.
- 4.3 The maximum number of hours for which a child can receive additional support is 570 per year, or 1,140 hours where the child is a three or four year old of a working parent.
- 4.4 **Only EYFE hours will attract additional support funding.** If a three or four year old child loses their eligibility for the extended entitlement (for example if the parent stops working) the additional support funding will also at the end of the grace period, even if the child remains in the setting for hours above EYFE hours paid for by parents.
- 5. Disability Access Fund**
- 5.1 Early years and childcare settings which have a three or four year old children in attendance who is in receipt of DLA will also be eligible for a one-off payment of £615 per year from the Disability Access Fund (DAF).
- 5.2 Separate guidance regarding the DAF has been issued, this is available on our [EYFE webpage](#)
- 6. Equality Act 2010**
- 6.1 If there are additional costs associated with a child with SEND attending early years provision for hours in addition to their EYFE the early years provider will need to make “reasonable adjustments” under the Equality Act 2010.

- 6.2 Adjustments only have to be made where they are considered to be reasonable and this will depend on a range of factors including:
- the nature of the disability
 - how practicable the changes are
 - if the change would overcome the disadvantage
 - the size of the organisation
 - how much money and resources are available
 - the cost of making the changes
 - if any changes have already been made
- 7. Other Support for Parents of Children with SEND with Childcare Costs**
- 7.1 From April 2017 the government is established a [Tax Free Childcare](#) scheme. This offers parents a 20 per cent top-up towards childcare costs, with parents of disabled children eligible for a maximum government contribution of £4,000 a year (compared with £2,000 for non-disabled children).
- 7.2 Some parents of children with SEND receive additional support through direct payments and/or Disability Living Allowance (DLA) which could be used to support additional childcare costs.
- 8. Children from East and West Sussex Attending Early Years and Childcare Provision in Brighton & Hove**
- 8.1 Additional support funding is only provided for children who live in Brighton & Hove (including those who attend early years settings outside the city). This means that the home local authority of a child attending a setting in Brighton & Hove will pay any additional support funding in accordance with their local policy and from their own SEND inclusion fund.

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