

## **EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM**

The information in this document is only for early years childcare providers who are registered to offer government funded places in North Yorkshire

### **What is the Early Years Pupil Premium?**

The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years childcare providers to improve the education they provide for eligible government funded children, who access the government funded hours. Ofsted requires evidence of impact of this funding, showing that the gap in children's outcomes has narrowed. A child will be entitled from the term after the child has attained the relevant age and the child or parent meets the eligibility criteria

### **Which children are eligible?**

For 2024 to 2025, EYPP has been extended to all 2-year-olds and under accessing the entitlements and meeting the eligibility criteria detailed below.

A child will be eligible for EYPP if the child receives **one** of the following:- the universal 15 hours entitlement for 3 and 4-year-olds, **or** the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year-olds, **or** the 15 hours entitlement for children aged 2 years of working parents, **or**, from September 2024, the 15 hours entitlement for children aged 9 months to 2-years-old of working parents, **and** they meet any of the following criteria:

- their family receives one 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 are 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](#) (household income must be less than £7,400 a year after tax, not including any benefits - this is assessed on up to 3 of the parent's most recent universal credit assessment periods) –

**Or**

- they are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- they have left care in England or Wales through an adoption order, a special guardianship order or a child arrangements order

If a child qualifies for EYPP under more than one set of criteria, they will only attract the funding once.

EYPP is not payable on the additional 15 hours entitlement for 3 and 4-year-old children of working parents. It is only payable on Universal

Children that are currently in local authority care with North Yorkshire should already have been identified, however all providers are responsible for checking a child has the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) indicator under the Child Weightings column in the Synergy Web Provider Portal headcount.

### **How much is the Early Years Pupil Premium worth per child per hour?**

From April 2024 providers will receive an additional 68p per hour.

### **Do children have to access the full 15 funded hours to be eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium?**

From April 2024 the EYPP has been extended to 2-year-old children in receipt of working parent or disadvantaged funded hours as well as the current 3 & 4-year-old children who are accessing their universal hours. From September 2024 EYPP may be claimed for 9 – 23-month-old children accessing their working parent funded hours.

Children do not have to access all the 15 hours to be eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium. Providers will receive Early Years Pupil Premium funding for the number of weekly funded hours that a child is attending based on the termly claim on the headcount.

### **Which providers will be eligible?**

All registered early years PVI providers, Maintained and Academy nurseries that take eligible children for the funded early years funding will be able to claim the Early Years Pupil Premium for eligible children.

### **When do children become eligible?**

When children reach the date of birth eligibility criteria.

Children attending a primary school reception class **cannot** claim the early years pupil premium.

### **What happens if a child stays on in early years provision rather than joining a school reception class, are they still eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium?**

If a child is still eligible to receive early years funded hours (i.e., the 15 hours) and they meet the other criteria, they would still be eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium.

Once the child enters reception, they will no longer be eligible for the EYPP, but may become eligible for the [pupil premium](#).

Eligibility for EYPP does not lead automatically to eligibility for pupil premium when the child starts school.

### **Which local authority will be responsible for checking a child's eligibility if they take up their entitlement outside of the local authority in which they live?**

If a child who lives outside of North Yorkshire but is accessing their government funded hours at a childcare provider in North Yorkshire, then the childcare provider in North Yorkshire will be responsible for submitting the parent and child details on the Synergy Web Provider Portal to enable a check to be done. For children who are looked after, the local authority who has responsibility for the child will need to identify eligible children through the Virtual School Head or the child's social worker. Childcare providers are responsible for asking the parent/carer for this information and sending it to the Early Years Funding Team.

## **When and how often will the local authority check children’s eligibility?**

The Early Years Funding Team will check eligibility on ‘economic grounds’ if the required information has been submitted by the childcare provider, once each termly headcount data has been cleansed. However, this check will not identify if a child has ‘looked after’ status. Childcare providers are expected to be aware of children who may qualify on this basis.

Once headcount is processed providers are asked to check the termly headcount. If a child whom you would expect to be eligible for EYPP does not have the EYPP in the weightings column, you need to contact the Funding Team. Please email [eyft@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:eyft@northyorks.gov.uk) and confirm the child’s name and date of birth, along with details of why you believe they should qualify. We can then advise further.

## **What data will providers need to supply to enable a check for Early Years Pupil Premium eligibility?**

Providers must submit parents/carers name, date of birth and National Insurance or NASS number and the permission box is ticked, for a check for EYPP to be done. This data is submitted on the parent tab, as shown on the screen shot below on the FIS Synergy Web Provider Portal. The parent/carer should be informed that any personal details they provide will be used for the purposes of checking eligibility for the Early Years Pupil Premium.

The screenshot shows a form titled 'Parent / Carer Details' with the following fields and options:

- Forename\* (text input)
- Surname\* (text input)
- DOB\* (text input)
- Email (text input)
- Contact Number (text input)
- NI\* or  NASS Number\* (checkboxes)
- Tick to give consent to Eligibility Checking for:
  - EYPP
  - Working Family Eligibility

If one or more pieces of information are missing, the automatic check cannot be completed. This may mean a provider is missing out on receiving additional early years funding for a child.

The other criteria that may apply for EYPP, is if a child has ‘looked after’ status. We are unable to check whether a child qualifies on this basis, using your headcount data. We therefore need providers to be aware from their contact with any parent/carer if a child may meet this particular criterion. If a child’s adoption or placement was carried out via North Yorkshire, then our child record’s may have EYPP added. However, if the child was placed via a different local authority, we may need additional evidence from the parent/carer to be provided by you before we can add EYPP to your headcount claim.

## **Will all funded children automatically qualify for the Early Years Pupil Premium?**

No, Early Years Pupil Premium is focused on the most disadvantaged children. The eligibility criteria are very tight, targeted at children from economically disadvantaged households, and those who are in care or have been in care.

### **How will parents be notified of the outcome of checks?**

Childcare providers are responsible for notifying parents that their child is in receipt of EYPP and discuss how this can be used. Providers can see if a child is eligible once the headcount data has been cleansed. Children who are eligible will have EYPP (68p) under the Child Weightings column on the headcount.

### **How will Early Years Pupil Premium be paid?**

The Early Years Pupil Premium will be paid with the balancing payment each term, providing a child has been identified as eligible and is on a childcare provider's headcount,

Autumn term paid in December based on actual headcount, Spring term paid in March based on actual headcount, Summer term paid in July based on actual headcount.

### **What if a child moves to a different provider partway through the year? Will the previous provider lose the funding?**

Payment of Early Years Pupil Premium is made based on where the child was registered and attending on headcount week each term.

For example, if a child received Early Years Pupil Premium at a provider in Autumn term and moved to a new childcare provider in Spring term, the new childcare provider would receive the EYPP for the Spring term if a claim was made.

*If you are in any doubt about the eligibility of a child for Early Years Pupil Premium, please contact [eyft@northyoks.gov.uk](mailto:eyft@northyoks.gov.uk)*

Early Years Funding Team April 2024