

Title: Early Years Funding		
Final EYPP check for Schools taking place Wednesday 7 October 2026. Please check the provider portal and ensure your MIS and COLLECT submission mirrors your Synergy provider portal headcount. Please be aware that any children receiving EYPP on the Provider Portal must be on your Census return to COLLECT. Discrepancies found on Census return will be subject to recovery of funding where applicable. 65 Schools yet to submit headcount as of 1pm Wednesday 30 September.		
AUTUMN TERM ACTION CHECKLIST		
Action Required	Complete	
Submit Autumn Term Headcount Claim and DAF supporting evidence, if applicable Deadline 5pm - Friday 2 October 2026	☐	
Complete the North Yorkshire Council 2027-2028 Early Years Funding Consultation Deadline: 5pm on Friday, 23rd October 2026.	☐	
Ensure that your charging policy follows the statutory guidance - Early education and childcare - GOV.UK	☐	
KEY DATES AT A GLANCE		
Activity	Date	
Headcount Submission and DAF evidence Deadline	5:00pm, 2 October 2026	
North Yorkshire Council – 2027-28 Early Years Funding Consultation on principle-based proposals for early years funding rates - complete the response form on this link at: https://survey.northyorks.gov.uk/t/8OC3H7/ The responses received to this consultation will be considered by the North Yorkshire Council Executive Members for the Children & Young People's Service in their decision-making process in relation to early years' funding rates for the 2027-28 financial year.	5pm on Friday, 23rd October 2026	
Save the Date – Provider Funding Briefing Session - further details will follow in October	1pm & 7pm, Tues 3 November 2026	
AUTUMN TERM HEADCOUNT - OPEN		
☒ The Synergy Provider Portal is now open for Autumn Term Headcount submissions.		
Headcount Week	28 September – 2 October 2026	
Headcount Submission and DAF evidence Deadline	5:00pm Friday 2 October 2026	
☒ Key Rule: Census information on funding page. <u>Always</u> enter '38' weeks for the entitlement being claimed, even if you operate fewer weeks or offer stretched funding. This information must be added to be able to submit your claim. If submitted incorrectly, providers will be contacted and required to re-send.		
Claim Type	Funded Entitlement Weeks	Expanded/ Extended Entitlement Weeks
Under 2's – Working Family Expanded hours claim	0	38

2YO – Early Learning for 2-year-olds funded hours claim only (formerly FRAS)	38	0
2YO – Working Family Expanded funded hours claim only	0	38
2YO – <u>both</u> Early Learning for 2-year-olds funded and Working Family Expanded hours claim	38	38
3&4YO – Universal funded hours only	38	0
3&4YO – Working Family Extended only	0	38
3&4YO – both Universal funded and Working Family extended hours claim	38	38

- ✓ Submit claims as early as possible, early submission allows time to resolve:
- Eligibility code issues, access problems, additional claims and data queries

SCHOOL CENSUS RETURN

- ✓ **Autumn Term 2026 Headcount must match MIS (e.g. Arbor/Bromcom) and Census return.**
- The early years child data submitted via the **School Census is the primary mechanism used by the Department for Education to fund the local authority for early years entitlements for each term.** Accurate and complete early years data submission is therefore essential to ensure early years funding levels correctly reflect early years pupil attendance and entitlement.
 - Schools should **submit the Autumn Term Early Years headcount via the Synergy Provider Portal as early as possible.** Do not wait until headcount week, as submissions can be **amended at any point up to the published deadline.**
 - It is essential that **all child data matches across all systems for all funded entitlement**, e.g. 3&4 year old Universal (funded), 3&4 year old Extended (Extended), Early Learning for 2 year old (funded), 2 year old working parent entitlement (Expanded) and 9 -23 month (Expanded) including:
 - School MIS e.g. ARBOR, BROMCOM
 - Synergy Provider Portal
 - School Census via COLLECT
 - **Weekly checks on EYPP eligibility will be carried out**, but this can only be completed once you have submitted your **headcount on Synergy and has been processed by the Early Years Funding Team (EYFT).**
 - Schools may **only claim funded hours for children who are registered and attending during Headcount Week**, which runs from **28 September – 2 October 2026.**
 - A **valid Parental Agreement** must be in place **before any funding claim can be made.** Claims submitted without a valid agreement may be rejected.
 - **Disability Access Funding (DAF) evidence must be submitted by Friday 2 October 2026.** Late submissions cannot be guaranteed for payment.

COMPLIANCE

- ✓ Review current practices to ensure compliance with DfE statutory guidance, including:
- **No artificial breaks:** Children should be able to access their funded hours in continuous blocks where desired. Providers must not create artificial breaks within funded sessions, such as offering funded hours from 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 3pm, with only paid hours available between 12pm and 1pm.
 - **Invoicing:** Invoices must clearly show funded hours as **£0 at the point of delivery**, with any charges for non-funded hours or consumables listed separately and transparently.

- **Deposit:** Refundable deposits can be used by providers, and can then be retained by a provider, if the parent does not take up their funded place by headcount week.
- **Notice Periods:** Providers cannot impose a charge for funded hours within a notice period, if a parent is moving their child from your setting, before headcount week. Providers can however still charge for items not covered by government funding within any notice period.
- ✅ **Compliance Checks**
- Veritau, on behalf of the Funding Team, will shortly be contacting a number of providers to undertake a compliance review. If you are a provider contacted to take part and have any queries about this request, please contact eyft@northyorks.gov.uk

North Yorkshire Council 2027-2028 Early Years Funding Consultation

- ✅ Please find attached the 2027-2028 Early Years Funding Consultation document which includes a link to the response form section 8 on page 7.

Please ensure to enter your provider's name as any anonymous consultations cannot be included in the analysis.



North Yorkshire
Council - 2027-28 Ear