

**Consultation - Bradford District’s Early Years Single Funding Formula 2019/20**

1. **Introduction**

1.1 Attached with this introduction is the full Technical Statement, which sets out the methodology and timetable proposed for the calculation of funding allocations for individual providers delivering the 2, 3 and 4 year old entitlements in 2019/20. ***A summary of our proposals is given in paragraph 1.5 below.***

1.2 Our proposed approach for 2019/20 continues to incorporate our response to the changes set out by Government in 2016 in its consultation on national formula and early years funding reform, which can be accessed [here](https://consult.education.gov.uk/early-years-funding/eynff). Our proposals for 2019/20 effectively complete what we set out for providers initially in our consultation in autumn 2016 and what we began to implement at April 2017.

1.3 As we set out in autumn 2016, and again in autumn 2017, the most significant ‘directed’ change resulting from the DfE’s national reform is the reduction in the value of the Setting Base Rate allocated in Bradford for the delivery of the 3 and 4 year old universal and extended entitlements. The base funding rate for Maintained Nursery Schools however, remains protected in 2019/20, but only because the DfE has allocated specific monies into the DSG Early Years Block to enable this.

1.4 Please note that the values of funding rates quoted in this consultation document, including the Setting Base Rates, are currently indicative and should be viewed as such. These indicative rates are highlighted in yellow. It is expected that final rates of funding for 2019/20 will be confirmed following the Schools Forum meeting on 9 January 2019. The rates presented in this document however, do represent what we aim to fund in 2019/20 and therefore, do give providers a basis on which to plan.

1.5 We have developed our proposed approach for 2019/20 on the basis that:

* We will continue the policy of ring-fencing of the Early Years Block. Within the Early Years Block however, we will be clearer about the split of funding between the 2 year old and the 3 and 4 year old entitlements. This specifically comes into play when looking at the financing of SEND Early Years Inclusion funding. This is explained further below.
* We will continue our current termly headcount methodology (and 2nd headcount for the 2 year old offer). We do not currently plan to revisit our proposals that we made last year to move to a monthly counting methodology.
* We will continue our simplified processes for PVI providers, which include no longer publishing a ‘hard copy’ pre-calculated Confirmed Indicative Budget in March 2019. Instead, we will begin payments in April 2019 based on the latest confirmed position and we will enable providers to use a ready reckoner to estimate funding. The Authority will continue to develop the Bradford Provider Gateway and will continue to talk to PVI providers about how information submitted through the Gateway can feed into the payments system so that initial payments are made on the latest information.
* Our Early Years Single Funding Formula will continue to pass through to providers 100% of the DSG funding rate for the Early Years Pupil Premium (currently £0.53 per hour) and the Disability Access Fund (currently £615 per year).
* Settings will continue to be funded for the 2 year old entitlement on a single flat rate per hour with no additional supplements. In 2018/19 this rate was £5.20 and we expect this to be the rate funded in 2019/20. Where the decision is taken to continue 2 year old access to SEND Early Years Inclusion funding however, the value of the funding rate passed to settings for the 2 year old entitlement after 2019/20 will be reduced to cover the cost of the inclusion spending. For example, a budget of £100,000, on current numbers, would mean that the £5.20 per hour DSG funding rate in 2020/21 would be reduced by £0.06 to £5.14. To be clear, this reduction will not take place in 2019/20. However, where 2 year olds continue to access inclusion funds after 2019/20, the value of the single flat rate will be reduced to cover the cost.
* We have now established a ‘universal base rate’ for the 3 & 4 year old entitlement, as required by the DfE, with this overridden in 2019/20 for nursery schools via the allocation of the specific MNS factor. This means that that the total funding rates for each nursery school (both base and deprivation rates) will continue to be retained at their 2016/17 values. We will also continue the nursery school lump sum sustainability supplement, using the current methodology, and continuing to bring in the 30 hours extended entitlement into the calculation. On current information, awaiting further announcement from the DfE, 2019/20 is the final year of this protection.
* 2019/20 is the third and final year of the strategy we set out in autumn 2016 for the protection of the value of base rates for PVI providers and nursery classes. We propose to complete this strategy. Meaning:
  + We will allocate one off reserve monies brought forward within the Early Years Block to uplift the universal base rate for 3 & 4 year olds in 2019/20 to £4.11 per hour. £4.11 is the value we set out in our autumn 2016 consultation. This will be the base rate for the 3 & 4 year old entitlement allocated in 2019/20 for all PVI providers as well as all nursery classes in primary schools and academies.
  + We will continue our current deprivation supplement within the 3&4 year old EYSFF in 2019/20, calculated at 9.5% of EYSFF (excluding one off monies). Deprivation rates will reduce slightly in 2019/20 on a general basis because the overall EYSFF funding envelope is reducing due to the impact of national reform (the DSG funded Early Years Block rate is reduced from £4.59 to £4.57).
  + We will not introduce any further supplements into the 3 & 4 year old EYSFF in 2019/20.
  + There is significant further discussion required, and development work to take place, on how our EYSFF, and the values of funding rates, adjust and develop from April 2020. Please see paragraph 2 below.
* Regarding SEND Inclusion:
  + SEND Early Years Inclusion monies will continue to be 100% funded from within the Early Years Block. A budget of £800,000 has been held in 2018/19. We will consult in more detail with the Schools Forum on the value of budget required for 2019/20.
  + We are seeking to implement during 2019/20 a more holistic SEND inclusion fund approach for 2, 3&4 year olds, which will apply to all providers. Our proposal for this holistic approach is set out in detail in Appendix 2 at the back of this document. This is a proposal that we specifically would like feedback on. The holistic approach represents a change from what PVI providers have previously accessed (known as ‘EYIP’ funds).
  + We are seeking to pilot the proposed new holistic model for schools and classes and, subject to the outcomes of this consultation, bring PVI providers, schools and classes together under the new model from either April 2019 or September 2019. We will continue to operate the existing ‘EYIP’ inclusion model for PVI providers until the new model is introduced. Any allocations that have been agreed under the current model that extend beyond the introduction of the new model would be funded until these expire.
* We will have more detailed conversations with the Schools Forum, and the Early Years Working Group, leading up to final decisions to be taken in January 2019, about the Early Years Block increasing its contribution to the cost of support for high needs early years aged children. These conversations focus on the extent to which the costs of centrally managed SEND support services for early years aged children, currently funded by the High Needs Block, are charged to the Early Years Block going forward. Local authorities are required to ‘pass through’ to providers at least 95% of the 3&4 year old Early Years Block funding. Allowing for the impact of one off monies, our pass through rate in 2017/18 was 99%. Benchmarking based on 2017/18 indicates that the national average pass through rate was 96% and the average of our statistical neighbours was 97%. We know that other local authorities charge their Early Years Blocks for the cost of SEND support services for early years aged children. The outcomes of these conversations will not affect the proposals that are set out above for the values of provider funding rates in 2019/20. The outcomes however, may / are likely to / will directly affect how our EYSFF develops after 2019/20. Please see paragraph 2 below.

1.6 Please use the responses form attached at the end of this document to submit your views on the proposals outlined in the consultation. We especially would like to collect feedback on the proposals for a holistic early years SEND inclusion fund. There is space on this form for you to comment on any aspect of the proposals. If you wish to discuss these proposals in more detail, or have any specific questions, please contact either Andrew Redding [andrew.redding@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.redding@bradford.gov.uk) 01274 432678, Susan Krupinski [susan.krupinski@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:susan.krupinski@bradford.gov.uk) 01274 43173 or Jaclyn McManus [jaclyn.mcmanus@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:jaclyn.mcmanus@bradford.gov.uk) 01274 431965.

1.7 Please ensure that your response is submitted by the deadline of **Friday 30 November 2018.** Any responses received after this deadline date will not be included in the overall analysis presented to the Schools Forum.

1.8 It is anticipated that the Schools Forum will make its final recommendations on 2019/20 arrangements on Wednesday 9 January 2019. A confirmed Technical Statement, giving sight of the final Early Years Single Funding Formula, and rates of funding, for the 2019/20 financial year will be published very shortly after this meeting.

1. **Future Direction of the EYSFF from April 2020**

2.1 As explained in the introduction, 2019/20 is the final year of our 3 year Early Years Block DSG strategy that we initially set out in autumn 2016 in response to the DfE’s national early years funding reform.

2.2 Our strategy has included the allocation of reserves brought forward within the Early Years Block intended to soften the reduction in 3&4 year old base rate funding for PVI providers and primary classes that has come from the national reform. Our 3&4 year old EYSFF base rates in 2018/19, without one off monies, would be £4.03 per hour rather than the £4.12 we have set.

2.3 Our strategy has also included the reduction in the proportion of the 3&4 year old EYSFF that is allocated via our deprivation and SEND supplement, although to a greater extent this was forced by the DfE’s restriction that supplements within the 3&4 year old EYSFF (of which deprivation is one) cannot allocate more than 10% of funds. Prior to April 2017, we had allocated 14% of our 3&4 year old EYSFF through our deprivation & SEND supplement. We reduced this to 9.5% (excluding one off monies) in 2017/18.

2.4 There are wider DSG ‘national funding formula’ system changes on the horizon, which the Authority will need to manage in consultation with the Schools Forum. There continues to be uncertainty about the speed of progress of these changes. The DfE has recently stated that national funding formula policy direction, and the monies available for education and schools nationally, cannot be set out until after the autumn 2019 spending review. This level of uncertainty is difficult. In particular, we remain unclear about the future policy direction of early years funding, including whether nursery schools will be protected after 2019/20.

2.5 Therefore, we are currently unsure of the rates of funding we will be able to set for providers after April 2020. The Authority has begun to review the options for our EYSFF funding from April 2020. This review will need to take account of the following as these become clearer *over the next 12 months*:

* Any further directed changes or additional restrictions from the DfE on the operation of the EYSFF.
* The specific outcomes of the DfE’s consultation on the future funding of nursery schools. This consultation is still to be published. The supplement, which is used to protect the funding rates of nursery schools, is only currently committed by the DfE to the end of 2019/20. If this supplement does not continue, we are unlikely to be in a position to sustain current levels of funding for nursery schools.
* The position of the High Needs Block and the relative responsibilities (between the High Needs Block and the Early Years Block) for the funding of centrally managed support services for high needs children in early years settings. The extent which the Early Years Block contributes more to these costs.
* The impact of our holistic early years SEND inclusion fund and the role that this has in supporting providers. The impact that access by 2 year olds to these inclusion funds has.
* That, under the current EYSFF construction, where we continue to spend 9.5% of our EYSFF for 3 & 4 year olds on the deprivation & SEND supplement, the 3 & 4 year old setting base rate could be set lower than £4.00 per hour going forward. Without the further allocation of reserves (as these may no longer be available), the value of the base rate could be uplifted above £4.00 by reducing the proportion of the EYSFF spent on the deprivation & SEND supplement. However, this will mean lower rates of funding for settings that support children from more deprived backgrounds and may have consequences for support and outcomes for these children as well as direct consequences for cost pressure on SEND inclusion funding. The options for the 3 & 4 year old base rate going forward require very close consideration. However, our early analysis suggests that we may not be able to retain our deprivation & SEND supplement rates at current levels going forward after April 2020 and we wish to give settings early warning of this. For reference, benchmarking based on 2017/18 indicates that the national average spend on deprivation supplements was 5% and the average of our statistical neighbours was 6% compared with our 9.5%.

2.6 The Authority will work with the Early Years Working Group on these issues and will seek to publish information / a consultation as early as it is practical to do so (in summer 2019). This timetable will be influenced significantly by when the DfE releases further information on funding national funding policy direction.

**Bradford District Early Years Single Funding Formula 2019/20**

**(DRAFT VERSION FOR CONSULTATION OCTOBER 2018)**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TECHNICAL STATEMENT IS WRITTEN ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET MADE BY BRADFORD SCHOOLS FORUM AT ITS MEETING ON 9 JANUARY 2019. A FINAL DECISION ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE TAKEN BY COUNCIL ON 21 FEBRUARY 2019**

**INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

**1) The Basic Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for the 3 and 4 year olds universal and extended entitlement in 2019/20 is proposed as follows:**

***(a + b + c) x d + e = Total EYSFF Funding 2019/20***

*a) Universal Base Rate (£ per child per hour)*

*b) Provider Deprivation & SEN Rate (£ per child per hour)*

*c) Base Rate Protection (Nursery Schools only) (£ per child per hour)*

***(a + b + c) = Provider’s Total Funding Rate***

*d) No. of Entitlement Hours delivered at the provider (per year)*

*e) Lump Sum Funding for Sustainability (Nursery Schools only)*

For example, on the simple basis that all children at a PVI provider or in a primary school nursery class access 15 hours entitlement per week for 38 weeks per year, funding using the EYSFF in 2019/20 will look like:

*a) Universal Base Rate £4.11*

*b) Provider Deprivation & SEN Rate £0.30 \*\* Example Rate Only*

***The provider’s funding rate per hour = (£4.11 + £0.30) = £4.41***

*c) No. of Entitlement Hours delivered at the provider (per year)* ***= 39,660*** *calculated as follows:*

***Children Hours Delivered***

*i Summer Term 78 14,040*

*ii Autumn Term 62 13,020*

*iii Spring Term 70 12,600*

***Sub Total EYSFF Funding = £4.41 x 39,660 = £175,297***

**2) The Basic Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for the extended 30 hours entitlement for eligible 3 & 4 Year Olds is proposed to operate within the same framework as the universal 15 hours entitlement as set out in this Technical Statement.**

Rates of funding, timetabling and counting arrangements are the same. Specific guidance about the funding of the 30 hours entitlement, where necessary, is incorporated into this Statement.

**Question 1 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the existing framework, timetabling and counting arrangements for the operation of the EYSFF in 2019/20? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Question 2 – Do you have any comments on how we could improve our proposed arrangements, including where our guidance could be clearer?**

**3) The 2 year old entitlement in 2019/20 is proposed to continue to be funded via a simple flat rate per child per hour for all providers. The value of rate for all providers is set at £5.20.**

The timetabling and counting arrangements for the funding of the 2 year old entitlement are the same as for the 3 and 4 year old entitlement. Specific guidance about the funding of the 2 year old entitlement, where necessary, is incorporated into this Statement. A 2nd headcount per term continues in 2019/20.

**Question 3 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the single funding rate value for all providers for the 2 year old entitlement set at the value the DfE funds Bradford’s Early Years Block (which in 2018/19 was £5.20 per hour)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**4) Following the feedback received in the consultation we conducted in autumn 2017, we chose not to move to a monthly ‘starters and leavers’ counting arrangement. This remains our position. Therefore, the current termly headcount methodology is proposed to be retained in 2019/20.**

**5) We have established a Universal Base Rate for the 3 and 4 year old entitlements.**

A Universal Base Rate for the funding of the 3 and 4 year old entitlement is a requirement of the DfE’s national early years funding reform.

We developed, and consulted on, the principles on which our 2019/20 EYSFF is based in our initial response to the DfE’s reform in 2016. In autumn 2016, we set out our intention to adopt new arrangements under the protection afforded by the use of brought forward balances within the Early Years Block for 3 financial years. A subsequent key guiding principle has been to guard against moving away from what we agreed and set out in our autumn 2016 consultation, recognising that providers have used this information to inform their business planning.

Below are the rates of funding for 2019/20 we forecasted and published within the autumn 2016 consultation:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ESTIMATED Rate Per Hour** | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** |
| 2 YO Offer - Universal Base Rate | £4.83 | £5.20 | £5.20 | **£5.20** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 & 4 Year Old Entitlement |  |  |  |  |
| Provider Base Rate – Nursery Schools | £5.70 | £5.45 | £4.12 | **£4.11** |
| Provider Base Rate – Nursery Classes | £4.13 | £4.11 | £4.11 | **£4.11** |
| Provider Base Rate – PVI Providers | £4.62 | £4.62 | £4.12 | **£4.11** |
| Mean Deprivation & SEN Rate | £0.68 | £0.50 | £0.49 | **£0.47** |
| Nursery Schools Supplement | £1.07 | £1.87 | £3.16 | **£3.18** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Looked After Children Additional | £1.75 |  |  |  |
| Early Years Pupil Premium | £0.53 | £0.53 | £0.53 | **£0.53** |

So, in 2019/20, there will be a single Universal Base Rate per hour for the 3 and 4 year old entitlements. The value of this is £4.11 per hour. All providers will be funded on this starting Base Rate. Maintained Nursery Schools then receive an additional amount, funded from the DfE’s specific Maintained Nursery School Supplement, to bring the Base Rate for Maintained Nursery Schools up to £5.70 per hour, which is the value of their Base Rate in 2016/17 prior to the implementation of the DfE’s national formula reform.

**Question 4 – Do you agree with the proposal to set the value of the 3&4 year old universal base rate in 2019/20 at £4.11 i.e. at the value that was published in the Authority’s consultation in autumn 2016? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Question 5 – Do you have any comments on this estimated universal base rate value?**

**Question 6 – Do you agree with the proposal to continue our current Deprivation & SEND supplement factor in 2019/20 set to allocate 9.5% of the EYSFF? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Question 7 – Do you agree with the proposal not to add any further supplements into the Early Years Single Funding Formula in 2019/20? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**6) One off funding (brought forward balances within the Early Years Block) is allocated to enhance the values of the provider Base Rates for the 2, 3 and 4 year old universal and extended entitlements in 2019/20, which is not currently planned to continue after April 2020.**

Without the allocation of one off monies, the base rate for the 2 year old entitlement would be reduced from £5.20 per hour to £5.14 per hour, assuming the continued access of 2 year olds to early years SEND inclusions funds requiring a budget of £100,000.

Without the allocation of one off monies, the base rate for the 3&4 year old entitlements would be reduced from £4.11 per hour to c. £4.00 per hour.

The extent to which the value of base rate for the 3&4 year old entitlement can be maintained at an ‘enhanced’ level after 1 April 2020 is subject to a number of considerations, including:

* The value of any brought forward balance within the Early Year Years Block that can be re-allocated on a time-limited basis going forward.
* The proportion of the 3&4 year old EYSFF that is allocated through our deprivation and SEND supplement. A decrease from the current 9.5% proportion would release more funding to support a higher level of base rate.
* Whether we see value in adding additional supplements that are permitted in the 3&4 year old EYSFF. Additional supplements will reduce the funding available for the base rate.
* The cost of the early years SEND inclusion fund, which is fully funded from the Early Years Block.
* The value of the charge to the Early Years Block for the cost of support services for early years aged high needs children.

**7) The Authority is seeking to implement a more holistic SEND inclusion fund approach for 2, 3&4 year olds, which will apply to all providers**.

Our proposal for this holistic approach is set out in detail in Appendix 2 at the back of this document. This is a proposal that we specifically would like feedback on. The holistic approach represents a change from what PVI providers have previously accessed (known as ‘EYIP’ funds).

We are seeking to pilot the proposed new holistic model for schools and classes from the start of the spring 2019 term and, subject to the outcomes of this consultation, bring PVI providers, schools and classes together under the new model from either April 2019 or September 2019. We will continue to operate the existing ‘EYIP’ inclusion model for PVI providers until the new model is introduced. Any allocations that have been agreed under the current model that extend beyond the introduction of the new model would be funded until these expire.

SEND Early Years Inclusion monies will continue to be 100% funded from within the Early Years Block. A budget of £800,000 has been held in 2018/19. We will consult in more detail with the Schools Forum on the value of budget required for 2019/20.

**Question 8 – Do you agree with the Authority’s proposals for a holistic early years SEND inclusion fund (set out in Appendix 2)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**8) Funding is allocated in addition to the basic Early Years Single Funding Formula for 3 purposes, which are explained further in this Statement:**

* Early Years Pupil Premium
* Disability Access Fund
* Early Years SEND Inclusion

**Question 9 – Are there any changes that you would like to see made to the Early Years Single Funding Formula in 2019/20 that have not been proposed?**

**Question 10 – Do you have any other comments that you have not made elsewhere in your response, including matters that you would wish to be included in the Authority’s review of the EYSFF for 2020/21?**

**SECTION 1**

**a) There is now a single Universal Base Rate per hour for the 3 and 4 year old entitlements. In 2019/20 the value of this is £4.11**

* The Base Rate is expressed as a value of funding per child per hour.
* It is made up of £4.00 of on-going Early Years Block DSG funding and £0.11 of one off monies, which is funded from Early Years Block brought forward balances.
* All providers are funded on this starting Base Rate. Maintained Nursery Schools then receive an additional amount, from the DfE’s specific Maintained Nursery School Supplement, to bring the Base Rate for Maintained Nursery Schools up to £5.70 per hour, which is the value of their Base Rate in 2016/17 prior to the implementation of the DfE’s national formula reform.
* The Universal Base Rate is used to fund both the universal 15 hours entitlement and the additional extended 15 hours entitlement, up to a maximum of 30 hours per child, for eligible children.
* The Universal Base Rate is fixed and will not change during 2019/20. It is fixed at the point the 1st draft of Indicative Budgets are published, which for 2019/20 is in February 2019. Please see the timetable.
* For Primary schools and academies with Nursery classes, funding allocated to support whole school costs remains fully within the Primary sector funding formula (e.g. business rates).

**b) The value of a provider’s ‘Deprivation & Special Educational Needs (SEND) Rate’ for 3 and 4 year olds is based on the measured level of deprivation of children taking the entitlement at that provider**

* All Local Authorities are required by the Department for Education (DfE) to have a deprivation factor within their EYSFF. This funding is allocated, in addition to the Base Rates, specifically to:
  + Support raising the educational outcomes and life chances of children from more deprived backgrounds
  + Support the reduction of the attainment gap that currently exists between children from more deprived and children from more affluent backgrounds
  + Support providers for the additional costs associated with the delivery of the entitlement to children from more deprived backgrounds and to children that have additional lower level educational needs (Early Years Action, Early Years Action +).
  + Please note that this funding does not replace the provision and processes in place within the Bradford District to support children with higher level special educational needs.
* As with the Base Rate:
  + A provider’s ‘Deprivation & SEND Rate’ is expressed as a value per child per hour,
  + These rates are fixed at the point the 1st draft of Indicative Budgets are published, which for 2019/20 is in February 2019. They will not change during 2019/20.
  + All 3 and 4 year old entitlement hours, including the extended 30 hours, delivered at a provider are funded at the same Deprivation and SEN Rate.
  + The DfE’s Maintained Nursery Schools Supplement is allocated to maintain each Maintained Nursery School’s ‘Deprivation and SEN Rate’ at the 2016/17 value.
* Unlike the Base Rate, Deprivation and SEND Rates vary according to the measured level of deprivation of children attending each provider. Each provider’s Deprivation and SEN Rate is calculated using the Index of Multiple Deprivation and the postcodes of children taking up the entitlement at the provider, recorded in the January 2019, January 2018 and January 2017 censuses (3 year rolling average). Because of the time lag in data, the Local Authority appreciates that using this approach may produce some anomalous funding results, especially for smaller providers. We keep this approach under review.
* Rates of funding have been calculated, based on the estimates of funded hours delivered used to calculate the Indicative Budgets, using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) scores linked to individual children’s postcodes. Where this data for an individual provider cannot be properly determined or is not available, and for providers that newly establish during the year, the provider’s deprivation rate will be calculated using the average IMD scores for all providers of this type. This is especially applicable for Childminders.

**c) Each provider is funded on the number of 3 and 4 year old entitlement hours recorded as delivered in a single census taken each term**

* Each provider’s no. of funded entitlement hours delivered for the 2019/20 financial year is the sum of:
  + Summer term (beginning 1 April 2019): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 16 May 2019, x 12 weeks
  + Autumn term (beginning 1 September 2019): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 3 October 2019, x 14 weeks.
  + Spring term (beginning 1 January 2020): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 16 January 2020, x 12 weeks.
* ‘Hours delivered’ are the entitlement hours a child is registered to take at that provider, taken from the contracts signed with parents for that term. ‘Hours delivered’ is not affected by the actual attendance of children at the time the censuses are taken.
* The dates for the censuses are the same for schools, classes and PVI provider. The dates are those set by the DfE for the school termly censuses. One of the reasons for this is so that the census data for each provider can be cross checked to identify duplicate children.
* For maintained schools and academies, the entitlement hours information will be taken by the Local Authority from the data recorded in the “funded hours” field in the censuses, which schools submit to the DfE via the COLLECT website. PVI providers will be required, as is the process now, to submit their information through the Bradford Provider Gateway.
* Adjustments will be made to the funding of providers that open or close (or cease to deliver entitlement hours) mid-term, to reflect the proportion of the term applicable.
* No adjustment will automatically be made to funded entitlement hours for starters or leavers after the census date in each term. However, exceptional circumstances can be considered where a provider admits a significant number of children after the census has been taken that term.
* An adjustment to funded hours delivered may be made specifically for the autumn term only, recognising that in this term the intake of children into nursery provision is often staggered into schools and classes and that eligible children may start the term at a PVI provider and then move to a school or class before the October census. Where a child started the autumn term at a PVI provider and has moved to a school or class prior to the October census, an adjustment may be made to split the funding for the autumn term, based on the number of weeks that a child has attended each provider. This adjustment applies for the autumn term only.
* For the purposes of calculating Indicative Budgets for maintained schools and academies (Indicative Budgets will not be published for PVI providers, who will have access to a ready reckoner instead) before the start of the financial year, estimates of the funded entitlement hours that will be recorded in each of the censuses will be used.
* The Authority reserves the right to make adjustments to estimates (and to initial payments), or not to make any payment, where the information submitted by providers is demonstrably incorrect or is missing.

**d) Only children eligible for the 3 and 4 year old entitlements will be funded**

* The EYSFF for 3 and 4 year olds will only allocate funding for children in providers that are accessing the entitlement from the term after their 3rd birthday. The 1 September, 1 January and 1 April are taken as start dates for each of the terms. The offer has been extended to eligible 2 year olds, but this does not mean all children accessing provision under aged 3 are eligible for EYSFF funding.
* The maximum number of hours any child will be funded for, for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, for the universal entitlement is 15 hours per week (for 38 weeks) or the annual equivalent of this total. This is the same for any child regardless of their age, so a four or five year old child staying in nursery (rather than starting Reception) will only be funded for the maximum on this basis, unless they are eligible for the extended 30 hours or they are continued to be placed at the request of the Local Authority (e.g. children with SEND).
* Some children will be entitled to 30 hours per week (for 38 weeks per year) and, for these children, 30 hours x 38 weeks is the maximum number of hours that will be funded by the EYSFF between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020.
* Although a child can take up their entitlement over two providers, the maximum universal entitlement is still the equivalent of 15 hours per week over 38 weeks per year, unless otherwise agreed. Where a child attends two providers, the Local Authority will fund each provider on a pro-rata basis only up to a maximum of 15. Where a child attends two providers, the individual providers should ensure they are aware of the entitlement hours being accessed by that child at another provider; this should help to avoid funding discrepancies regarding duplicate pupils. This may involve discussion with the providers involved where the pro-rata split is not clear from the census returns.
* Although a child can stretch their entitlement over more than 38 weeks, the Local Authority will fund providers on the basis that all children are taking their entitlement over 38 weeks. It is for the individual provider to then manage funding. To ensure providers are funded correctly, these children should still be recorded in the censuses as accessing 15 hours or 30 hours, where they access an annual total of 570 hours (equivalent to 15 hours x 38 weeks) or 1,140 hours (equivalent to 30 hours x 38 weeks).
* The ESYFF no longer applies a cap on the number of hours funded based on the published admission number of a maintained provider. However, schools and academies are expected to remain within their agreed Published Admission Number (PAN).
* More detailed guidance on the eligibility requirements for the extended 30 hours entitlement, the processes for determining this and how the Authority is required to verify eligibility, can be found on Bradford Schools Online [here](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/content/30-hours).

**e) The Confirmed Indicative Budget published in March 2019 for schools and classes only gives an estimate of funding. A pre-calculated Indicative Budget for PVI providers is replaced with a flexible Ready Reckoner**

* A pre-calculated 1st draft Indicative Budget for 2019/20 will be published at the end of February 2019 only for maintained school and academy providers. This will show a provider’s Base Rate and Deprivation and SEND Funding Rate, which are fixed for 2019/20. For the purposes of calculating these Indicative Budgets, simple estimates of the funded entitlement hours for the following year will be used. The pre-calculated Indicative Budget will be largely calculated on hours delivered by each school recorded in the previous year i.e. estimating that a school’s numbers will be the same, adjusted for known changes, such as the full year delivery of the extended 30 hours entitlement.
* Maintained school providers and academies will have the opportunity to revise their estimates, should they wish, to incorporate their latest information on admissions for the coming financial year, including anticipated numbers of children taking up the extended 30 hours offer. A Confirmed Indicative Budget for 2019/20 will then be published in mid-March 2019. This budget will be used to begin payments to maintained schools and academies within the established whole-school advances system. A ready reckoner for maintained and academy providers to use to estimate funding adjustments will be published, as now, alongside the Confirmed Indicative Budgets.
* Pre-calculated Indicative Budgets are no longer published for PVI providers. Instead, an electronic (Excel) Ready Reckoner will be published in February 2019, showing the per hour rates of funding for each provider and allowing providers to calculate their own indicative budgets based on their estimates of hours to be delivered across the next financial year. This change is in response to the requests from providers to simplify the information that is published. Please note that the publication of a ready reckoner for PVI providers is not new, but its publication has been brought forward from March to February.

**f) A provider’s actual funding will be adjusted to reflect differences between estimated and actual entitlement hours delivered during the financial year**

* Adjustments to funding will be calculated following each of the termly censuses:

* + Please see the timetable for when adjustments will be published and actioned in 2019/20. These adjustments will alter the amounts of funding physically paid to providers.
  + The adjustments will reflect the differences between the estimated and actual funded hours delivered.
  + A ready reckoner is provided by the Local Authority, which providers can use to anticipate these funding adjustments and plan their provision and spending accordingly.
  + A statement of the value of adjustments will be published in advance of the adjustments being actioned. Please see the timetable.
* Additional notes on the calculation of funding adjustments:
  + The value of adjustments is influenced by the accuracy of the estimates of funded hours. Adjustment values are likely to be larger in providers that have more volatile numbers that change month on month. Providers should use the Ready Reckoner.
  + These adjustments can be both positive and negative.
  + All adjustments for the 2019/20 financial year will be actioned before 31 March 2020.
  + Funding adjustments will take account of any sustainability funding; the ready reckoner provided by the Local Authority incorporates this.
  + Because of the very tight timescale for processing the data after the January 2020 census, the adjustments for the spring term 2020 for PVI providers will be based on the summary information. Where amendments to funding are subsequently identified e.g. for duplicate children, following the processing of the more accurate individual child level census data, these amendments will be incorporated into the adjustments made for the funding for the summer term 2020. Where a provider does not pay back any money owed to the Local Authority at year end via cheque the value of funding owed will be taken from the provider’s summer term payment,
  + Where closed or closing providers owe funding to the Local Authority that cannot be recovered through the adjustment of advances the provider will be asked to pay the funding back via cheque.
  + Other funds – Early Years Pupil Premium and Disability Access Fund especially – will be paid within the termly system.
* The first payment of the year, in April 2019, for schools and classes will be based on the Confirmed Indicative Budget. For PVI providers this will be based on spring term 2019 actual delivery information.

**g) In 2019/20 EYSFF funding will continue to be paid monthly to all providers**

* Maintained schools and academies have a well-established whole-school monthly advances payment system and EYSFF funding will be allocated using this. The adjustments to EYSFF funding will be incorporated into the September 2019, December 2019 and March 2020 advances adjustments. Please see the timetable.
* We moved to monthly payments for PVI providers at April 2016. 2019/20 arrangements are the same as in 2018/19 and are as follows:
* Summer Term 2019:

* + - Funding calculated on the latest spring term 2019 delivery information will be divided by 5 (no. of months in the term) for 5 equal payments to be made between April and July.
    - 2 payments will be made in April, firstly for April and then for May. Payments for the remaining 3 months of summer term will be paid in May, June and July respectively.
    - Any positive or negative adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using May Census actual numbers will be added to or deducted from the July advance.
    - Where the July advance is insufficient to recoup the full value of any negative adjustment, the August advance will also be reduced. Where a negative balance is still outstanding after this, a deduction will be made from September advance.
* Autumn Term 2019:
  + - Funding calculated on the latest delivery information will be divided by 4 (no. of months in the term) for 4 equal payments to be made each month between August and November.
    - The payment for September will be made in August, with payments for the remaining 3 months of the term made in September, October and November.
    - Any positive or negative adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the October Census actual numbers will be added to or deducted from the November advance.
    - Where the November advance is insufficient to recoup the full value of any negative adjustment, the December advance will also be reduced. Where a negative balance is still outstanding after this, a deduction will be made from the January advance.
* Spring Term 2020:
  + - 80% of funding calculated on the latest delivery information will be divided by 3 (no. of months in the term) for 3 equal payments to be made each month between December and February.
    - The payment for January will be made in December, with payments for the remaining 2 months of the term made in January and February.
    - Any positive adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be paid in a single additional payment at the end of March. This payment will include any funds owed from 20% of the termly amount being withheld from the initial advances calculation.
    - A provider that has still been overpaid, after the 20% that was withheld from the initial calculation has been taken into account, must repay the value of overpayment by cheque by 30 April 2020**.** Where a cheque is not received by 30 April 2020, the Local Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly advance in the summer term. This is likely to be in May 2020.
* The Authority will continue to develop the Bradford Provider Gateway and will continue to talk to PVI providers about how information submitted through the Gateway can feed into the monthly payments system (so that initial payments at the start of each term are based on latest delivery information).
* Where a PVI provider experiences exceptional cash flow difficulties, they should contact the Local Authority to discuss the matter further. Contact details can be found in Section 3 of this document.
* Monthly payments will incorporate payments for 2 Year Olds, 3 & 4 Year Olds, Early Years Pupil Premium, DAF funding, and any other applicable funding due from Bradford Council to providers.
* Funding of Early Years Pupil Premium will be calculated on a retrospective basis and will be added to monthly advances as a lump sum in September, December and March.
* Providers will receive one single payment each month combining all the funding and grants applicable for that month. A breakdown of the values paid for each section of funding and/or grants will be shown on the advances (payments) update schedules. This will be updated and published on Bradford Schools Online monthly. We strongly recommend providers download this schedule every month.

**h) Approach to funding Sustainability Issues in 2019/20**

* The EYSFF in 2019/20 continues to include a “sustainability” lump sum factor, which works on a sliding scale basis to allocate funding specifically to Maintained Nursery Schools in addition to the funding per children per hour. This factor ensures that funding allocations continue to reflect specific:
  + Site related costs: buildings and grounds maintenance costs, rates and insurance,
  + Fixed type costs incurred by maintained providers in leadership and management and administration and premises staffing.
* Both maintained / academy and PVI providers can access advice on sufficiency and sustainability provided by Bradford Council Early Years Services.
* The Schools Forum has established a process, which is currently used to consider the allocation of additional funding, on a one off basis, to Primary schools facing exceptional cost pressures during the financial year. Requests for funding, submitted by schools, are reviewed on an individual case basis against set criteria. The most common reason for requests is a significant increase in pupil numbers during the financial year, where the school has had to make additional provision, such as providing up a new class. This established process will be used in 2019/20 as the basis on which to consider the allocation of additional funding to any maintained / academy or PVI provider that may face exceptional cost pressures. A likely common reason for providers asking for exceptional funding will be where a provider has admitted a significant number of children after the census has been collected for that term. In such cases, exceptional circumstances will always be measured in terms of the level of additional cost pressure faced by the provider in admitting these children, rather than simply measured by the number of additional children not counted in the census.

**i) The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) in 2019/20**

* Providers will receive up to £300 per year, or £0.53 per child per hour, for each eligible child.
* Early Years Service has access to the DfE’s Eligibility Checking Service which will be used to check whether a child is eligible for the Pupil Premium. Providers will then be funded, along with their main Early Years Single Funding Formula, through the established adjustments process.
* The eligible groups for the Early Years Pupil Premium will be as follows:
  + children from low income families (defined as meeting the criteria for free school meals);
  + children that have been looked after by the local authority for at least one day;
  + children that have been adopted from care; have left care through special guardianship;
  + and children subject to a child arrangement order (formerly known as residence orders)
* As with the school-age Pupil Premium, the Government believes providers are best placed to know how to support their disadvantaged pupils with the Early Years Pupil Premium. Restrictions will therefore not be imposed on how providers spend the Early Years Pupil Premium. Instead, Ofsted will hold providers to account for how they’ve used their Early Years Pupil Premium to support their disadvantaged children through the regular inspection process.
* The DfE’s web-page gives further information on the Early Years Pupil Premium:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/early-years-pupil-premium-guide-for-local-authorities>

**j) Disability Access Funding (DAF)**

* The DAF is allocated for children age three and four year old who are:
  + accessing their entitlement hours at a provider in Bradford – they do not have to be accessing all their entitled hours
  + and receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
* Please note that four year olds in a maintained, academy or free school reception class are not eligible.
* DAF funding is allocated to support providers towards making reasonable adjustments that will benefit the child and the setting as a whole. It cannot be used to pay for additional hours and services. Providers must discuss plans with the parent and how the funding will be used.
* It is a payment of £615 per year.
* Parents are required to make an online application; they can access this through Bradford Council’s Families information Service website [Disability Access Fund Application](https://www.bradford.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/looking-for-childcare/disability-access-funding-for-three-and-four-year-olds/). The application form requires basic details of the parent, the name of the chosen provider, and a copy of the child’s Disability Living Allowance award letter.
* Support is available for parents who require help to make an application including face to face support if required. Providers should signpost parents to the website and/or provide them with the contact number 01274 431386.
* DAF funding cannot be split between providers, so if a child is splitting their entitlement hours with more than one provider, the parent will be required to nominate one provider.
* The DAF is for 1 calendar year; the funding period will be based on the award date, for example if a child was awarded the funding on the 30 October 2019 then they can reapply to be awarded again on the 30 October 2020.
* If a child leaves after the funding has been awarded, the provider will not be required to pay back any money even if the child leaves to go to another provider.
* The application will be processed by the Early Years Funding team; they will check the child is attending a provider in Bradford and that the child is in receipt of DLA. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the application; if successful they will be given an award date and the date they can reapply if their child is still accessing their early year’s entitlement. The provider they have nominated will be informed and provided with details of the funding period.
* Providers will receive payment of the full amount of £615 through the existing early years funding payment process.

**k) Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund**

* Local authorities are required to have SEN Inclusion Funds for all 3 & 4 year olds with special educational needs (SEN) who are taking up the entitlements, regardless of the number of hours taken. These funds are intended to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN. This fund will also support local authorities to undertake their responsibilities to strategically commission SEN services as required under the Children and Families Act 2014. Local authorities are expected to target SEN Inclusion Funds at children with lower level emerging SEND. All early years providers that are eligible to receive funding for the entitlements for three and four year olds are also eligible to receive support from the SEN inclusion fund.
* The Authority is seeking to implement a new holistic approach during 2019/20, subject to the outcomes of this consultation. **Our proposed holistic approach is set out in detail in Appendix 2 at the back of this document.** This approach represents a change from what PVI providers have previously accessed (known as ‘EYIP’ funds).
* The Authority aims to pilot the proposed new holistic model for schools and classes from the beginning of the spring 2019 term and, subject to the outcomes of this consultation, bring PVI providers, schools and classes together under the new model from either April 2019 or September 2019. We will continue to operate the existing ‘EYIP’ inclusion model for PVI providers until the new model is introduced. Any allocations that have been agreed under the current model that extend beyond the introduction of the new model would be funded until these expire.
* The final agreed inclusion funding process for 2019/20 will be confirmed, following consultation and pilot, in the updated Technical Statement that will be published in January 2019.

**SECTION 2**

**l) The Entitlement for Eligible 2 year olds**

* Early education became a statutory entitlement for eligible 2 year olds from 1 September 2013. Eligible children are defined as children who are looked after and children who meet the Free School Meals eligibility criteria. The programme was extended from September 2014 to include around 40% of 2 year olds.
* In 2018/19 these places are funded on a flat rate of £5.20 per hour. Child numbers are counted and funded in the same way as for 3 / 4 year olds – based on participation recorded at individual providers in the termly censuses, but incorporating a second headcount each term. This second headcount identifies the most vulnerable children that don’t arrive neatly at the start of term (especially the autumn term when the census is taken early in October). The second headcount supports meeting the key outcome, which is to secure sufficient places on a participation-led funding basis.

* This approach is continued in 2019/20 at a single flat rate per hour, £5.20 for all children. Please note that the national funding Regulations only permit a single flat rate to be used to allocate funding for the 2 year old offer.
* The second head count will be taken on the following dates:
* Summer term: 13 June 2019
* Autumn term: 31 October 2019
* Spring Term: 20 February 2020
* The timetabling and counting arrangements for the funding of the 2 year old entitlement are otherwise the same as for the 3 and 4 year old entitlement. Providers will be funded for their delivery of the 2 year old entitlement within their single monthly payment from the Authority.

**SECTION 3**

**m) Who do I contact?**

* The key Local Authority contacts for any queries about the EYSFF are:

**Maintained school and academy providers**: Susan Krupinski, School Funding Team, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, 01274 434173, [susan.krupinski@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:susan.krupinski@bradford.gov.uk)

**Private, Voluntary & Independent providers**: Jaclyn McManus, Early Years Service, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, 01274 431965, [EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk)

* Key contact details will be included in all correspondence relating to Indicative Budgets and adjustments to funding.

**Appendix 1: Bradford District Early Years Single Funding Formula 2019/20 Timetable**

Please read this timetable alongside the separate ‘Technical Statement’, which explains how the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) will be applied across the Bradford District for the 2019/20 financial year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Key Activity** |
| **January 2019** | **a) Department for Education (DfE) January Census 17 January** |
| **February 2019** | **a) 1st draft of Indicative Budgets for 2019/20 published week commencing 18 February**   * Maintained / Academy providers will be able to access on the Bradford Schools Online (BSO) website pre-calculated annual forecasted allocations for 2019/20 (on estimated funded hours based on the previous year’s delivery and incorporating further estimates of full year delivery of the 30 hours extended entitlement) as part of their S251 Budget Statements. Providers will then have approximately 3 weeks to review the estimates of funded hours, with the opportunity to change these up or down, prior to the publication of Confirmed Indicative Budgets. * PVI providers will be able to access on the Bradford Schools Online (BSO) website an electronic (Excel) Ready Reckoner, showing rates of funding for 2019/20 and allowing providers to calculate forecasted annual allocations on their estimates of numbers for 2019/20. Pre-calculated annual forecasts will not be published.   **b) Spring Term 2019 Adjustments Statement Published week commencing 25 February**   * A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual spring term funded hours delivered and the value of adjustments due. * Maintained / Academy providers and PVI providers will be able to access this statement on the BSO website. |
| **March 2019** | **a) Confirmed Indicative Budgets for 2019/20 published week commencing 11 March**   * Maintained / Academy Providers: the Confirmed Indicative Budgets will establish the starting point for funding / payments for the 2019/20 financial year. These budgets will be different from the 1st draft where providers have asked for their estimates of funded numbers to be altered. Where a provider has not asked for their estimates to be altered their confirmed Indicative Budget will be the same as their 1st draft. * The Confirmed Indicative Budgets will be published with a warning that these budgets are subject to change, for differences between estimates of and actual funded hours delivered recorded in the termly censuses. * The Confirmed Indicative Budgets will be published in the same way as the 1st draft Indicative Budgets. * At the same time Confirmed Indicative Budgets are published, the Authority will provide a ‘ready reckoner’, which providers can use to anticipate likely adjustments to funding for actual funded hours delivered.   **b) Monthly Advances for Maintained / Academy and PVI providers amended to incorporate Spring Term 2019 adjustment**   * For Maintained / Academy providers, the value of Local Authority I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in the final advances update in March 2019 to take account of the adjustment due from the January census. This adjustment will impact on each school’s March 2019 carry forward balances position. Schools should use the ready reckoner provided by the Authority to ensure that this adjustment is incorporated by schools in their forecast of their year end balances position. * For PVI providers, any positive adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be paid in a single additional payment. A provider that has been overpaid must repay the value of overpayment by cheque by **30 April 2019.** Where a cheque is not received by 30 April 2019, the Local Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly advance in the summer term. This is likely to be in May 2019. |
| **April 2019** | 1. **For Maintained / Academy and PVI providers, initial payments for 2019/20 will begin**  * For Maintained / Academy providers, monthly advances for 2019/20 will be calculated from the Section 251 Budget Statements and a schedule & breakdown of payments will be published at the beginning of April. * For PVI Providers, monthly payments for 2019/20 will begin. These will be based on the latest delivery information. Providers should consult the advances statement published on Bradford Schools Online at the beginning of April. |
| **May 2019** | **a) May (Summer Term) Census 16 May 2019**   * Maintained / Academy providers will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT. This Census is not used for EYSFF funding purposes. * PVI providers will submit their delivery information to Bradford Council EYS via the Bradford Provider Gateway on Bradford Schools Online. The Gateway will be open to do this from the beginning of term. |
| **June / July 2019** | **a) Summer Term Adjustments Statement Published week commencing 24 June and payment adjustments PVI providers**   * A second head count for 2 year olds will be taken on Thursday 13 June 2019. * A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual summer term funded hours delivered and the value of adjustments due. The adjustment will be a positive value (meaning that the Local Authority owes the provider more funding), where the number of hours delivered actually recorded in the May census is greater than the delivery information used to make initial payments. The adjustment will be a negative value (meaning the provider must repay funding back to the Local Authority) where the number of hours delivered recorded in the May census is lower than the delivery information used to make initial payments. * Maintained / Academy and PVI providers will be able to access this adjustments statement on the BSO website. * Adjustments will be made to the July 2019 payment for PVI providers (both positive and negative) for the re-calculation of summer term funding from the May Census. The August payment may also be adjusted, where the value of the July advance is not sufficient to enable full recovery of a negative adjustment. |
| **August 2019** | **a) Deadline for PVI providers to notify the Local Authority, through the Gateway, of estimated delivery in the autumn term Monday 5 August** |
| **September 2019** | **a) Monthly Advances for Maintained / Academy providers amended to incorporate Summer Term adjustments**   * For Maintained / Academy providers, the value of LA I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in September to take account of the adjustment due from the summer term actual delivery data. |
| **October 2019** | **a) October (Autumn Term) Census 3 October 2019**   * Maintained / Academy providers will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT. This Census is not used for EYSFF funding purposes. * PVI providers will submit their delivery information to Bradford Council EYS via the Bradford Provider Gateway on Bradford Schools Online. The Gateway will be open to do this from the beginning of term. |
| **November 2019** | **a) Autumn Term Adjustments Statement Published week commencing 11 November and payment adjustments PVI providers**   * A second headcount of 2 year olds will be taken on 31 October 2019. * A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual autumn term funded hours delivered and the value of adjustments due. * Maintained / Academy providers and PVI providers will be able to access this statement on the BSO website. * Adjustments will be made to the November 2019 payment for PVI providers (both positive and negative) for the re-calculation of autumn term funding from the October Census. The December payment may also be adjusted, where the value of the November advance is not sufficient to enable full recovery of a negative adjustment.  1. **Deadline for PVI providers to notify the Local Authority, through the Gateway, of estimated delivery in the spring term Friday 29 November** |
| **December 2019** | **a) Monthly Advances for Maintained / Academy providers amended to incorporate Autumn Term adjustments**   * For Maintained / Academy providers, the value of LA I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in December to take account of the adjustment due for the autumn term. |
| **January 2020** | 1. **DfE January (annual) Census 16 January 2020**  * Maintained / Academy providers will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT. This Census is not used for EYSFF funding purposes. * PVI providers will submit their delivery information to Bradford Council EYS via the Bradford Provider Gateway on Bradford Schools Online. The Gateway will be open to do this from the beginning of term. |
| **February 2020** | **a) 1st Draft of Indicative Budgets / Ready Reckoners for 2020/21 Published** (see notes for February 2019)   1. **A second head count of 2 year olds will be taken on Thursday 27 February 2020**. |
| **March 2020** | **a) Spring Term 2020 Adjustments Statement Published week commencing 24 February**   * A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual spring term funded hours delivered and the value of adjustments due. * Maintained / Academy providers and PVI providers will be able to access this statement on the BSO website.   **b) Monthly Advances for Maintained / Academy and PVI providers amended to incorporate Spring Term 2020 adjustment**   * For Maintained / Academy providers, the value of LA I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in the final advances update in March 2020 to take account of the adjustment due from the January census. This adjustment will impact on each school’s March 2020 carry forward balances position. Schools should use the ready reckoner provided by the LA to ensure that this adjustment is incorporated by schools in their forecast of their year end balances position. * For PVI providers, any positive adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be paid in a single additional payment. A setting that has been overpaid, must repay the value of overpayment by cheque by **30 April 2020.** Where a cheque is not received by 30 April 2020, the Local Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly advance in the summer term. This is likely to be in May 2020.   **c) Confirmed Indicative Budgets / Ready Reckoners for 2020/21 Published** (see notes for March 2018) |

**The Local Authority has sought to plan this timetable as comprehensively as possible. Please note however, that all dates in this timetable are provisional and subject to change. Where we anticipate that any dates will significantly change, the Local Authority will do it’s best to notify all providers as soon as possible.**

**Appendix 2 – Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund Proposal for Consultation**

Introduction

1. All local authorities are required by the DfE to have an Inclusion Fund for 3 & 4 year olds with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who are taking their early years entitlements. Funding is allocated to promote the inclusion of children who may require high levels of support within a pre-5 setting. This funding also support local authorities to undertake their responsibilities to strategically commission SEND services as required under the Children and Families Act 2014.
2. All early years providers that are eligible to receive funding for the 3 & 4 year old entitlements are eligible to receive support from the SEND Inclusion Fund. Bradford Local Authority currently also offers SEND inclusion funding to eligible 2 year olds, and proposes to continue to do so, but this is non-statutory.
3. Local authorities are expected to target their Early Years SEND Inclusion Funds at children with lower level emerging SEND. ‘Emerging SEND’ is not defined within the DfE’s guidance. We define this as children, assessed as requiring Wave 2 Interventions ([Early Years SEND Progress Grid](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3465) with assessed needs at the top of Range 2-3), who do not have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
4. At the point an EHCP is put in place for a child, the resources allocated via this EHCP will replace inclusion funding.
5. The Deprivation and SEND supplement within Bradford’s Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) already allocates an amount of additional funding that providers should use to meet the needs of 3 & 4 year olds with emerging SEND. Additional grant funding is also available to support these children, including the Early Years Pupil Premium and the Disability Access Fund (DAF) grant. This funding must be utilised in the first instance prior to claiming inclusion funding.

Bradford – Current Position

1. We have an Early Years Inclusion Fund (known as ‘EYIP’) in place for 2 year olds that all providers access and for 3 & 4 year olds that PVI providers access. Our EYIP arrangements have been in place for a number of years and are provider-referral-to-panel based. Information on our current approach can be found on Bradford Schools Online [here](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3511).
2. Our current referral process for funding requires providers to fully evidence that the needs of the child have been appropriately assessed, that the provider has already made adjustments to meet the child’s needs and that the provider has also accessed all available resources (such as DAF). The referral form asks the provider to set out why additional funding is now required and the level of support (number of hours of support) requested. Evidence of needs-assessment must link closely with Bradford’s Early Years SEND Progress Grid.
3. Building on these features, we now intend to implement a single holistic inclusion fund approach to support 2, 3 & 4 year olds with emerging SEND across PVI providers, nursery classes and nursery schools. We propose to pilot a new model for nursery schools and classes from January 2019 and, subject to the outcomes of this consultation and this pilot, bring PVI providers, schools and classes together under this new model from either April or September 2019. We would continue to operate the existing EYIP model until the new model is fully adopted. Any allocations agreed under the current model that extend beyond the transfer to the new system would be funded until these expire.
4. Our current EYIP approach is funded fully from our Early Years Block (EYB) and the new holistic model will also be funded in this way. We have made £0.8m of budget provision in 2018/19 (of which £0.1m is for 2 year olds). Any increase in cost from April 2019 will need to be managed within the EYB. Therefore, there is a balance to be achieved between supporting providers financially to meet the additional needs of children with emerging SEND and ensuring that a sufficient level of basic core funding for all providers is allocated through the EYSFF.

Outline Proposal – New Holistic Model:

1. We propose an Early Years Inclusion Fund model established on the following basis:
   * Applications are made by providers on an individual child basis using a prescribe referral form. Providers will continue to be required to fully evidence that the needs of the child have been appropriately assessed, that the provider has already made adjustments to meet the child’s needs and that the provider has also accessed all available resources (such as DAF). The referral form will continue to ask the provider to set out why additional funding is now required and the level of support (number of hours of support) requested. Evidence of needs-assessment must continue to link closely with Bradford’s [Early Years SEND Progress Grid](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3465).
   * Decisions will be taken by a Panel.
   * This Panel will consider 4 matters in each application:
     + **Decision 1:** Whether, against the agreed criteria, the child is eligible for inclusion funding.
     + **Decision 2:** The number of hours (of the child’s entitlement) support will be funded for.
     + **Decision 3:** The rate of funding per hour.
     + **Decision 4:** The number of terms (or weeks) that support is to be funded for and the expiry date.
2. **Decision 1** – the **eligibility criteria** that are proposed are:
   * The provider must be registered with Ofsted on either the Early Years Register or the Childcare Register or must be legally exempt from this registration.
   * Inclusion funding will only be allocated to children aged 2, 3 or 4 who
     + are taking their early years entitlements, up to a maximum of 15 hours (2 year olds) and 30 hours (3&4 year olds), and
     + are assessed, with submitted evidence, at “SEND Support” (top of Range 2-3) on Bradford’s [Early Years SEND Progress Grid](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3465), and
     + do not have an Education Health and Care Plan, and
     + are not placed in Early Years DSP provision or in a special school (as these places are already funded at a higher level).
   * In their application, the provider must evidence:
     + that Wave 1 interventions (Quality First Teaching) are in place for all children and that a graduated response has taken place, evidencing a clear review process and the need for targeted Wave 2 Interventions as advised by professionals from appropriate services.
     + that the parent or carer of the child has been a partner in the whole process.
     + where appropriate, an EA1 Notification from Health has been received for the child.
     + where a child is newly arrived in the country, advice from other services (for example, Health Visitors, Paediatricians, Paediatric Therapists, and Pre-5 Service) has been gathered to support the request.
     + that the provider has exhausted all avenues of support available to them from within existing funding.
     + that reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of the child have already been made. This  
       includes how the provider has used the DAF, if the child is eligible.
     + why existing staffing is insufficient to meet the child’s needs.
3. **Decision 2** – **The number of hours to be funded.** The approach proposed is as follows:
   * The provider must set out in the application both the number of entitlement hours per week the child is taking with the provider as well as the number of hours per week the provider is requesting funded support for.
   * Using the [Early Years SEND Progress Grid](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3465), the Panel will determine whether the provider’s request hours is accepted or amended.
   * The Panel will assume that the weekly entitlement is delivered across 38 weeks per year and providers will be allocated monies on this basis.
4. **Decision 3** – The **rate of funding per hour**, which is proposed to be set at a standard (maximum) of £6.32.
   * The national SEND ‘Place-Plus’ funding framework is based on the financial definition of a ‘High Needs’ child being one whose education, incorporating all additional support, costs more than £10,000 per annum (1 FTE). This threshold lays the foundation of the definition of the financial responsibility that schools, academies and other education providers have for meeting the needs of children from their delegated budgets.
   * Schools are required to meet the first £10,000 of cost for children with SEND, both with and without EHCPs, from their core formula-funded budgets. This £10,000 is separated in the national model into Element 1, at a value of £4,000 per 1 FTE (25 hours) and Element 2, at a value of £6,000 per 1 FTE (25 hours). Element 1 £4,000 represents the core funding that all pupils attract. In the Early Years Single Funding Formula, Element 1 is allocated through the Setting Base Rates, which in 2018/19 are £5.20 for 2 year olds and £4.12 for 3 & 4 year olds. Element 2 £6,000 is the contribution that schools are required to make from their ‘notional SEND’ budgets, which are derived from additional funding allocated using proxy indicators of additional needs, such as deprivation and low prior attainment. Element 2 is not present in the Early Years Single Funding Formula, although the Deprivation and SEND supplement within the 3 & 4 year old formula does allocate a small amount of additional funding. As a result, the function of the Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund is to allocate Element 2 funding to children with emerging SEND.
   * So we define Element 2 as an amount per child per hour as follows:

£6,000 / 25 hours (1 FTE) / 38 weeks = **£6.32 per hour.** So, for example:

A child with 5 hours of support = £6.32 x 5 x 38 = £1,201

A child with 15 hours of support = £6.32 x 15 x 38 = £3,602

1. **Decision 4** – The number of weeks or terms that support is to be funded for and the expiry date. This would be determined by the Panel, taking account of the pupil’s age, needs-assessment and timescale for transfer into reception. We would typically expect the time period to be expressed in terms e.g. 1, 2 or 3 terms and we would expect all funding decisions to be reviewed at least annually. Funding would cease immediately where a child leaves a provider or where an EHCP is put in place.

**RESPONSES FORM**

**Consultation on the Early Years Single Funding Formula 2019/20**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Setting Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**THE DEADLINE FOR RESPONSES TO THIS CONSULTATION IS FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2018**

Please send completed questionnaire responses to:

School Funding Team

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

1st Floor, Britannia House,

Hall Ings

Bradford

BD1 1HX

Tel: 01274 432678

Fax: 01274 435054

Email: [andrew.redding@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.redding@bradford.gov.uk)

Please complete the questionnaire by marking the appropriate boxes. There is a space below each question for you to record comments.

**Question 1 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the existing framework, timetabling and counting arrangements for the operation of the EYSFF in 2019/20? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 2 – Do you have any comments on how we could improve our proposed arrangements, including where our guidance could be clearer?**

Please comment here:

**Question 3 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the single funding rate value for all providers for the 2 year old entitlement set at the value the DfE funds Bradford’s Early Years Block (which in 2018/19 was £5.20 per hour)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 4 – Do you agree with the proposal to set the value of the 3&4 year old universal base rate in 2019/20 at £4.11 i.e. at the value that was published in the Authority’s consultation in autumn 2016? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 5 – Do you have any comments on this estimated universal base rate?**

Please comment here:

**Question 6 – Do you agree with the proposal to continue our current Deprivation & SEND supplement factor in 2019/20 set to allocate 9.5% of the EYSFF? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 7 – Do you agree with the proposal not to add any further supplements into the Early Years Single Funding Formula in 2019/20? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 8 – Do you agree with the Authority’s proposals for a holistic early years SEND inclusion fund (set out in Appendix 2)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree  On Balance Agree (some reservations)  Strongly Disagree**

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 9 – Are there any changes that you would like to see made to the Early Years Single Funding Formula in 2019/20 that have not been proposed?**

Please comment here:

**Question 10 – Do you have any other comments that you have not made elsewhere in your response, including matters that you would wish to be included in the Authority’s review of the EYSFF for 2020/21?**

Please comment here: