

Early Years Pupil Premium

**Frequently asked questions –
for Providers.**

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is it?

It is direct funding to early years settings and childminders to help them improve the education they provide for 9 months, 2, 3 and 4 year old children.

Who is it for?

Children aged from 9 months to 4 years attending funded early education places. EYPP is only payable for 15 hours of funding, even if the child is eligible to 30 hours. They do not have to take up the full 570 hours early education that they are entitled to. This includes children attending nursery schools and classes, private nurseries and childminders.

Who can claim it?

It can be claimed for eligible children attending for funded early education (not including the Extended or Expanded Entitlements = 30 hours).

Children who are aged 4 and in reception of a primary or infant school cannot get EYPP funding. These children will need to claim the school-aged pupil premium by getting the parents to submit a Free School Meal claim.

Children become eligible for early education at 3 different points within an academic year. These are:

Child reaches relevant age	Eligible to a funded early year place from	When should the child be in the setting to receive EYPP funding
Up to and including 31 st August	Autumn term 1 st Sept – 31 st Dec	Before Census and should be recorded on autumn Headcount As general guidance census will be the first Thursday in October
Up to and including 31 st December	Spring Term 1 st January – 31 st March	Before census and should be recorded on spring Headcount As general guidance census will be the 3 rd Thursday in January
Up to and including 31 st March	Summer Term 1 st April* – mid July *Please note as the Easter holidays move within the calendar, a child would take up a place in the Summer term after the Easter holidays.	Before census and should be recorded on spring Headcount As general guidance census will be the third Thursday in May

What are the eligibility criteria?

Children attending nursery for a funded early years place may be eligible for EYPP if their family gets **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 the State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) **and** have an annual gross income of less than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run on, which is paid for four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit with annual take home pay of no more than £7,400

EYPP is also available if a child is cared for or has been in local authority care for at least one day or more, or was adopted from care in England or Wales, or left care under a special guardianship order.

How can settings identify eligible children?

Early years providers should talk to their parents and get **them** to complete an EYPP application form.

What happens if the child is eligible under the Cared-For criteria?

If a child is identified as possibly eligible under the cared for criteria, the setting should complete a manual EYPP application form. This can be found on the Together for Children website. The completed application form should then be returned securely to Together for Children to be checked and the eligibility consent will be added to the system. However, the setting should also submit the child and carer's details as part of the Headcount task.

Are children that have previously had a free 2 year-old place entitled to EYPP?

Whilst the majority of children will be entitled to EYPP if they have been entitled to a targeted 2-year-old place, the parents' circumstances may have changed since the two-year place was issued, which could mean that they are no longer entitled to EYPP. Also, if the parent or carer is receiving Working Tax Credit they would **not** be entitled unless they are receiving it as Working Tax Credit run on for 4 weeks.

How can it be claimed?

Either EYPP application forms should be completed by the parent or carer and given to the setting, or the parents should sign the EYPP eligibility section of your setting's parental declaration form. It is important that the setting has the parent or carers consent to carry out the necessary eligibility checks. It is the parent or carer's right to refuse to complete an application. It is suggested that when the application is completed that the details of both carers are completed if the family is a two-parent family. In some instances, one partner will be claiming the benefits for the family. Providing both parent's / carer's details will provide the best chance of confirming eligibility.

Completed application forms should be kept by the setting and the information added and submitted as part of the relevant Headcount task. Please see Headcount user guide.

Details of children showing as not eligible will be rechecked periodically throughout each term. If they then become eligible, they will be identified and be able to access the funding from the following term.

How will I find out if children are eligible?

When the headcount tasks have been submitted eligibility checks will be ran by Together for Children via the DfE eligibility checking service for everyone who has had their details uploaded. Any eligible children will be identified and recorded on Together for Children's information management system.

Following this process, a report will be created and sent to settings which will identify all children who have been submitted for a check and the outcome. The reason for eligibility will also be shown as this is required for the January census return to Department of Education.

When a subsequent task is issued via the Provider Portal, any eligible children will be flagged with



in the funding column when viewing the children at your setting.

Please note, this will not show for children that you newly add to a specific headcount task. This won't show until the following headcount task.

What could EYPP be used for?

Ofsted may, as part of an inspection visit, ask about EYPP and how it is used in the setting. The Early Education website has more information about using EYPP to support children's learning [Making effective use of Early Years Pupil Premium - Early Education](#)

What happens if a child stays on in an early years provision rather than joining a school reception class? Are they still eligible for EYPP?

If a child is still receiving the early education entitlement (i.e. the 15 universal hours) and they meet the other criteria, they would still be eligible for the EYPP. This is however only up until the term after the child's 5th birthday.

What happens if a child moves provision part way through a term?

The new setting would receive the funding in the next term if the child is still eligible.

Who should I contact with any queries about EYPP?

Helen Crocker on 0191 561 1446 or 07464910143

Lindsey Barwick on 0191 561 3216 or 07876869013

Or by emailing FIS@togetherforchildren.org.uk