



EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM (EYPP) GUIDANCE

Introduction

Eligible statutory school age children have been receiving Pupil Premium for many years. In April 2015, the Government introduced Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) for 3 and 4 year olds. Since September 2024, it was extended to include all eligible 9-23 month olds, 2 year olds, as well as 3 and 4 year olds. This is additional funding for childcare providers who are delivering the Free Early Years Entitlement (FEYE) and is designed to narrow the attainment gap between young children from low-income families and their peers, setting them on a path to a more successful future.

This leaflet has been produced to give childcare providers advice/ideas on how to use the EYPP funding. It also includes a sample form, which can be used to record how the funding has been used and the impact it has had on the child/setting, in preparation for an Ofsted inspection.

Impact of COVID

"Our evidence review looked at children in general as well as how disadvantage has compounded the effects of the pandemic and exacerbated inequality and attainment gaps - and the impact on child development, trauma, anxiety, bereavement, attachment and safeguarding"

Ellen Broomé, February 2022

- identified insufficient physical activity
- oral health
- personal, social and emotional
- communication and language
- academic attainment/ school readiness
- unable to listen / basic number skills
- social isolation
- changes in family environments

"The impact of the pandemic were not evenly distributed across children and their families, and exacerbated existing inequalities"
(Cultural Capital)

Early Years Pupil Premium

The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) is an additional funding for Early Years providers to help them improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 9-23 month olds, 2 year olds, and 3 - 4 year olds

The early years pupil premium is designed to give children from the poorest families the support they need to develop and learn and ensure they are 'school ready'

Oxfordshire County Council

Eligibility Criteria

Your setting could apply for EYPP for 9-23 month, 2, 3 or 4 year olds if the parents are in receipt of at least one of the benefits listed below and have given consent for an eligibility check

- You can apply for early years pupil premium if your child is aged 9-23 months old, 2 years old, 3 or 4 years old and you get 15 hours free childcare
- You must also get at least one of the following:
 - Income Support
 - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
 - Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
 - Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year after tax not including any benefits you get

Looked after children

You may also get early years pupil premium if any children attending your setting are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales or if your child has left care in England or Wales through:

- adoption
- special guardianship order
- a child arrangements order

In order for the Early Years Team to add EYPP to this child's record, please indicate in the NOTES section on the Provider Portal that the child is Adopted, on an SGO or RO and stating that you have seen legal evidence

Did you know?

- Children must be in receipt of free early years education in order to attract EYPP funding. They do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to get EYPP.
- Where eligible the Provider shall be paid at a rate of £1 per hour (amount correct as at 1.4.25), per eligible child, for the universal 15 hours only
- The Provider acknowledges that children who are 4-years-old and attending primary school reception classes and who already receive the school-age pupil premium are not eligible for EYPP funding.
- The Provider shall ultimately be responsible for identifying eligible children
- In order for the Provider to access the EYPP funding, it must obtain parent/carers National Insurance number/National Asylum Support Service reference number, dates of birth and surname via the Parental Declaration form ((Annex A in the annual FEYE Contract) and submit parent/carer details
- The Provider shall be notified through the Provider Portal if a child is eligible. The Provider shall then inform the child's parents or legal carers of the outcome of the check.
- For Looked After Children (LAC) a Personal Education Plan (PEP) should be submitted by the Provider to the Borough Council's Virtual Schools Head.
- EYPP is only paid to providers claiming the universal hours and is paid in the final monthly payment each term.



Once a child is identified as being eligible for EYPP, the extra funding will be applied as soon as the child starts claiming the FEYE funding

REMEMBER!

The Provider Portal will identify which children are eligible for EYPP, as the headcount will have EYPP next to eligible children's names



Providers must ensure the parent/carer details entered on the Provider Portal are accurate i.e. parent's full name, date of birth and National Insurance Number. If any of this information is entered incorrectly, the system will give a result of 'Not Found' and the family/provider will not receive EYPP. The "EYPP Consent" box must also be ticked.

Early Years Inspection Framework (EIF)

Inspectors will gather evidence about the quality of care, education and learning by...

- tracking a representative sample of 2 or more children and this will include children with EYPP
- asking staff and the children's key person how the EYPP has impacted positively on children's learning and development
- discussing what the children could do when they arrived, what they are working on now and what you as their key person want them to learn or be able to do by the time they leave

Tracking progress

In Halton, we track the progress of EYPP cohort in the Ready for Reception (RFR) Trackers. This is shared with the Early Years sector on a regular basis. When analysing your data consider what trends are emerging for your cohort of children.



It is very important that you can demonstrate that EYPP money is making a difference. This is something OFSTED will ask about during inspections

Oxfordshire County Council

Free School Meals for Nursery Children

This information applies to Maintained Nursery Schools/Classes and Academies Only

Nursery children are entitled to free school meals if they meet the following criteria:

- The child is attending a maintained nursery school/class/academy
- Parents receive one of the qualifying benefits for Free School Meals (which is the same criteria as EYPP)
- The child attends the school nursery before and after the lunch period either using a 30 hour code, or, if parents are paying for sessions

If you believe parents meet the above criteria, please encourage them to apply for FSMs via [Parent Portal: Home](#)

Questions to consider.....



How have you used EYPP funding in your setting in the last few years?

‘The choice of how to spend the EYPP is yours, but this must be based on the needs of the eligible children at your setting.’



Which areas did you focus the support?

- Early Language & Communication
- Personal, Social & Emotional
- Physical
- Literacy- reading & writing
- Mathematical Development
- Other?
- Continuing Professional Development
- Transition
- Supporting families, parental engagement, home learning
- Widening children’s life experiences (cultural capital)



How do you decide how EYPP is used in your setting?

- Measuring starting points & after intervention
- Monitoring the quality of interactions/interventions/experiences/knowledge of staff
- Formative & Summative assessment – WELLCOMM screening/Ready for Reception/online
- Views/comments from the children, families, staff & professionals
- Audit tools/quality improvement
- Learning walks/displays/case studies



How do we know it is making a difference?



How well do your staff understand EYPP?

- Reflect as a staff team
- OFSTED will ask staff & the children’s key person how the EYPP has impacted positively on children’s learning & development



How do you justify how and why you spend your EYPP?



Cultural Capital

Widening children's experiences - Cultural Capital

Is the essential knowledge that children need to prepare them for their future success. Inspectors will consider how well leaders 'use the curriculum **to enhance the experience and opportunities available to children**, particularly the most disadvantaged.' (142)

Children arrive at an early years setting with different experiences from others, in their learning and play....'it is the role of the setting to help children **experience the awe and wonder of the world in which they live**, through the seven areas of learning.' (143)

Early Years Inspection Handbook(2022)

Question to consider.....



How do you extend children's cultural capital through their EYFS journey?



- Experiences widened & be open to the new world of learning/wonder
- Opportunities for children's knowledge, understanding skills to be extended though new opportunities & experiences- this will look different in every setting & for every child
- Enhance the opportunities & experiences available to the children especially disadvantaged children.



Ideas for spending EYPP

Early Education

<https://early-education.org.uk/eypp-the-basics/>

Oxfordshire County Council - Oxford Early Years

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/early-years-education>

Foundation Years Website

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2015/02/early-years-pupil-premium-guidance-for-providers/>

Early Years Toolkit

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/early-years-toolkit>

DfE booklet - Early Years Entitlements

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2022-to-2023/early-years-entitlements-local-authority-funding-of-providers-operational-guide-2022-to-2023>

DfE booklet - Early Years Pupil Premium Providers Survey

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-pupil-premium-providers-survey>

Early Years Pupil Premium Fund (EYPP)

Name of child	Child's Key Person	Term and amount of EYPP funding received	How is funding to be spent? Why?	Impact on			Additional comments
				Impact on child	Impact on staff/family/setting		