

**Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**

This FAQ has been put together to support the roll out of EYPP here in Shropshire. Please note it will be updated on a regular basis as more questions are posed and more answers provided. Should you have a question that has not been answered below, please send your question by email to nef@shropshire.gov.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible as well as updating this FAQ.

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| **Q** | **Do children have to be receiving the full early education entitlement i.e. 570 hours a year to be eligible for EYPP?** |
| **A** | No, from April 2015 providers will receive an additional 53p per hour for each eligible child. Children do not have to access the full entitlement in order to be eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium. Providers will receive the EYPP funding that is proportionate to the number of hours that a child is taking up. |

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| **Q** | **Who is eligible?** |
| **A** | The eligible groups for the EYPP will predominantly be 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; have been adopted from care; have left care through special guardianship; and children subject to a child arrangement order setting out with whom the child is to live (formerly known as residence orders); and children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or are subject to an Education Health & Care Plan. |

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| **Q** | **Will settings that have been rated as ‘requires improvement’ be eligible to receive funding?** |
| **A** | Yes, as long as they provide evidence of their plan to address Ofsted’s recommendations for improvement.Settings with an Ofsted rating of ‘outstanding’ or ‘good’ will be eligible for the EYPP as long as the provider is willing to accept the conditions of funding.Providers rated ‘inadequate’ will not be eligible to claim EYPP. |

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| **Q** | **Will providers receive a full year’s funding for the child in a lump sum?** |
| **A** | No, the EYPP will be paid as part of the early education entitlement funding as an additional weighting, therefore will be calculated at an hourly rate of 53p per hour per child, and paid on a termly basis. |

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| **Q** | **How will I know which children are eligible?** |
| **A** | Providers will need to collect key information from parents to enable eligibility checks to be carried out. Parents surname, national insurance (NI) number and date of birth will be required. For asylum seeking children, providers will need the parents National Asylum Support Service number (NASS).Payment processes and funding systems will be modified in readiness for the EYPP. |

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| **Q** | **How will EYPP be spent?** |
| **A** | Local authorities will not impose conditions on providers regarding how the EYPP is spent. However, it must be used to improve the quality of early years education for disadvantaged children. |
|  | The Government is encouraging providers to use their EYPP funding to contribute to employing a teacher/graduate leader in their setting. Other recommendations include purchasing services and specialist training. Some providers may wish to work collaboratively with other providers to pool their EYPP funding and use accordingly. |

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| **Q** | **Who will providers be accountable to?** |
| **A** | The main accountability mechanism for the use of the EYPP will be through Ofsted inspections. Ofsted inspectors will consider how well disadvantaged children make progress. Their inspection report will include a statement on the strategies that the provider has used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged children, and how the |
|  | EYPP is used to support strategies. |
|  | To make this happen, Ofsted will update their inspection frameworks to set out that effective use and impact of the EYPP. This will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement. |
|  | As with other funding, local authorities will be responsible for ensuring that funding is passed to providers in respect of early education for individual eligible three and four year olds, and that this money is not claimed fraudulently. |

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| **Q** | **As a provider, what can I be doing in preparation for EYPP?** |
| **A** | Use your progress and assessment tool kits and begin to identify the learning and development needs of a cohort of children who you feel are likely to be eligible. |

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| **Q** | **Do private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings need to publish documents showing their spend with regards to EYPP?** |
| **A** | Only childcare providers that currently have to publish information relating to Pupil Premium spend (i.e. school-run provision), have to include the Early Years Pupil Premium spend. |

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| **Q** | **Will the eligibility check carried out also check those children who live out of the local authority area?** |
| **A** | Yes, the check is run against the DWP national database which holds information on anyone who claims benefits. |

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| **Q** | **If a child is eligible currently for the 24U two year-old funding, will they be automatically eligible for EYPP when they turn three?** |
| **A** | Although the eligibility criteria is similar, an eligibility check will still need to be carried out when a previously 24U-eligible child turns three, as family circumstances may have changed.An eligibility check will need to be repeated again later as the child turns four, as family circumstances may have changed. |

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| **Q** | **Which parent do we get the information from in order for an eligibility check to be done?** |
| **A** | The information will need to be taken from the parent/guardian who is in receipt of the benefit in which the family qualify under. |

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| **Q** | **Will the EYPP funding follow the child?** |
| **A** | The EYPP guidance issued to local authorities from the Department for Education (DfE), makes it clear that funding will follow the child. There are no exceptional circumstances attached to the EYPP element of the free entitlement. |

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| **Q** | **What if the information on one parent/guardian returns as not eligible, can a check then be carried out on the other parent/guardian?** |
| **A** | Yes. If the initial parent/guardian whose details were submitted is not eligible, as long as you are within the specified timetable deadlines then you can resubmit the new parent/guardian information against that child’s claim. This additional check will override the original information submitted and another eligibility check will run. |

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| **Q** | **Does the parent need to have the same last name as the child?** |
| **A** | No, the child does not need to have the same last name as the parent/guardian as the check is carried out using the parents’ name, date of birth and NI number (or NASS number). |

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| **Q** | **If a provision is part of a chain of settings operating in Shropshire can it pool its funding together?** |
| **A** | Yes, as long as each provision is able to evidence to Ofsted that the outcomes for all eligible |
|  | EYPP children in each setting have improved. |
|  | N.B. this only applies to settings that operate in Shropshire and meet the requirements of |
|  | Shropshire Council’s Free Entitlement Code of Practice. The same arrangement cannot be agreed where a provider has settings operating across more than one local authority area. |
|  | In order to pool Shropshire EYPP funding children must be attending a setting operating within Shropshire Council local authority area. |

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| **Q** | **Once parents have returned their completed registration forms, and we have submitted all EYPP information for our setting back to the council, how long will it be until we are able to see if our identified children are eligible, and how much funding to anticipate?** |
| **A** | We are aiming to be able to check a child’s eligibility on a daily basis; however this will depend on the volume of information we receive and it may take a few days for all checks to be completed. |

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| **Q** | **Can the EYPP funding be split across two childcare providers?** |
| **A** | Yes, just like the 15 hours funding the EYPP can be split (shared) with up to one other provider. Each childcare provider will be paid for the hours that the child attends their setting. |

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| **Q** | **Will the council be contacting us in order to monitor how the EYPP has been spent?** |
| **A** | No, Shropshire Council will not inspect any aspect of the EYPP; the main accountability route will be through Ofsted. |

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| **Q** | **Will the Ofsted framework be changed to reflect EYPP?** |
| **A** | The Early Years Pupil Premium and funding for two year olds consultation document section 6.4 states ‘Ofsted will inspect their inspection framework to set out their effectiveness use, and the impact of the EYPP will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement’. |

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