

Early Years and Childcare Service
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11 December 2015

Dear Provider/Administrator

Early Years Entitlement – Autumn term balancing payments

Headcount balancing payments have now been made. If you have not received a payment, please check if your forecast was greater than the termly claim. Any over payments of funding will be deducted from future payments from Devon County Council (not just EYEF payments)

Forecast payment – Spring 2016 (non DCC school settings)

Forecast spring payments will be 50% of the total funding for 2, 3 & 4 year olds received in autumn term. If you know that you will have a significant variation in the number of children claiming, please let us know **by Friday 18th December** either by email or letter.

Indicate the total number of hours per term you will be claiming and a manual adjustment can then be made to your forecast payment. **Funded Childminders must** advise us of estimated hours in order to receive a forecast payment. Alternatively, you will have the full payment in March.

DO NOT INPUT ANY SPRING HOURS INTO THE PORTAL

Spring Headcount

Spring Term claims will commence from Monday 4th January for term-time and stretched all year round claims. Funding for Spring Term ends Thursday 31st March (Thursday 24th March for term-time providers). Part week adjustments will need to be calculated for the Spring Term for any child who attends a Friday if the funded hours cannot be offered elsewhere. The online calculator is available on the following weblink:

https://devoncc.sharepoint.com/sites/PublicDocs/Education/_layouts/15/questaccess.aspx?questaccesstoken=SRz1NSeZ%2bAydX9%2fiTmSVPx41QiGv8Wc3t08IETi4Vq8%3d&docid=09ed8e64f6b6a460d8a7ba321990db11b

Remember that the minimum claim must be 2.5 hours. Please think about parents trying to claim 13 hours with yourself and 2 hours elsewhere. If this happens the 13 hour provider will be reduced if there is a conflict.

We only fund whole or ½ hours so if your sessions are of 15 minutes you can multiply them for the term. You must however ensure that you do have a 15 hour model, 3 sessions of 5 hours or 5 sessions of 3 hours so that parents can access 15 hours free without having to pay for any additional time.

You cannot insist that a child attends for a minimum amount of time/sessions in excess of 2.5 hours (unless you have the 5 hour model).

Textphone: 0845 155 1020
www.devon.gov.uk

Strategic Director People Jennie Stephens

2gether Golden Tickets

We are getting lots of positive feedback regarding the new system which should make it easier for parents to access childcare. It is still new so we may see changes in future but this is a positive step to increase our 2 year old take-up in Devon.

2gether Funding Rates Summer 2016

We were able to delay the 2 year reduction in the 2 year old funding rate but from Summer 2016 the hourly rate will be £4.88 which was agreed as part of our Funding Formula Consultation in Summer 2014. Summer 2017 is due to reduce to £4.82.

If DfE notify us of a change of EY funding rates, we will then be able to review again.

2gether eligibility from another Local Authority

If you receive an eligibility letter from a parent from another Authority, please could you send a copy to the EYEF Helpdesk so that we can amend the child's record to show they are entitled to 2gether funding. This should help reduce the number of children showing as not eligible when we run our checks prior to payment of funding.

Provider Portal

We can only apologise for the IT problems experienced in the Autumn Term. The majority of this related to the introduction of the EYPP. Thank you for your patience and understanding and as with any new system, we hope to overcome these problems for Spring Term 2016.

The Amendment Task is now open. You must record any increases/decreases for any child at your setting including joiners & leavers. **This relates to funding changes for Autumn Term 2015. DO NOT INPUT ANY DATA THAT RELATES TO SPRING 2016**

If you can input before the deadline this will help with us make a start with our check. We have noticed that some providers have submitted a leaver without recalculating the hours for the term. Please check asap, amend and re-submit.

Early Years Action Plus Funding / EY SEN Support Funding

If there are any reviews outstanding for this term, please submit immediately so payments can be made in Spring Term. Unless you request a change to funding on your review you will not receive a letter and funding will just continue.

Can we also take this opportunity to wish you and your staff and families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we'll do it all again in 2016!

Early Years Entitlement Funding Team

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