

## Criteria for allocating early years inclusion funding to FEEE registered, non-maintained settings 2019 – 2020 for children aged 2 years until school entry

### Purpose

To support the inclusion and participation in mainstream registered, non-maintained settings for a child accessing a Leicestershire provision, with significant and complex additional needs, aged 2 years until school entry.

### Process

A panel of relevant professionals meets regularly to consider applications. The following guidance should be considered carefully when making an application to enable the panel to make the best decisions in meeting a child's needs.

### The Local Authority's Responsibility

The Local Authority has a Statutory Duty to:

- provide sufficient childcare where it is reasonably practicable to do so
- meet children's individual education and care needs ensuring that all providers delivering funded early education places meet the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and /or Disabilities (SEND).

### The Settings Responsibility

The provision is required to:

- be registered with Leicestershire's Early Years Inclusion and Childcare Service to receive Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE)
- be classed as private, independent or voluntary
- have regard to the SEND Code of Practice
- agree to adhere to requirements to receive FEEE
- be registered and adhere to Ofsted regulations
- comply with the Equality Act 2010
- have a named SENCO
- clearly state their SEND offer, communicate this with parent, carers and the wider community

- take a graduated approach - the cycle of action should be revisited in increasing detail and with increasing frequency.
- inform the parent/carer of any allocation of funding given to their child.

The child must be:

- attending and / or will be on the head count of the setting to receive their FEEE
- within the age range of two years and school entry.

The application must:

- be completed in all sections and carry all necessary signatures
- ensure parental section is completed and signed. Failure to do this will delay your application.
- have a complete and up to date targeted plan and if appropriate a SEND support plan
- be accompanied by supportive information as listed on the application form.
- you should seek permission from the professional concerned when including reports or letters from other agencies
- be received by the panel deadlines.

Funding will only be provided where the child needs adult interventions which are additional to, or different from, that which is normally available within a non-maintained setting.

### Thresholds for Inclusion Funding

The Panel bases its decisions on the information received on the appropriate application form and with the additional documents to support the application. If the Panel considers the information to be inadequate or incomplete, the Designated Officer will inform the setting SENCo to clarify and agree a way forward. The application may be deferred until the next scheduled Panel meeting following receipt of the missing details. Funding cannot be backdated for those applications refused due to insufficient information contained with the application.

## Funding Details

The funding is intended to support the child to access inclusive high-quality provision. The Allocations Panel agrees to fund up to a maximum of 15/30 (if the child is eligible for the extended entitlement) hours a week, but not exceeding 38 weeks a year.

The funding is allocated in two ways;

1. For children who either have an Education Health Care plan or are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Inclusion funding may be allocated for the financial year with payments being made throughout term time.

2. For children whose needs are in the process of being assessed, Inclusion funding will be applied for each term because:-

- the child may move setting
- The child's needs may change
- The child's needs are short term

As the funding follows the academic year, the number of weeks allocated may change each term. It cannot be guaranteed that funding for the hours requested will be received.

Payments will commence from the date of the Panel decision. There will be no retrospective funding of allocations.

Early years providers will be informed within 4 weeks of the panel of their allocation through AnyComms.

If the child is absent for more than 15 days, you must notify the local authority as Inclusion funding will cease.

## Training for Settings

A setting may apply for the payment of courses provided by the Diana Community Nurses for children with medical conditions. This application should be in writing or by telephone to the Service Manager (contact details below). Once agreed, training can be accessed. The setting will be required to pay for the training but on receipt of an invoice the local authority will reimburse monies (for up to two members of staff).

## Right of Appeal

Validated non-maintained early years settings do not have a right of appeal against the Local Authority decision in this area.

## The Local Authority's Responsibility

If parents or carers have any concerns regarding the Panel's decision, they should discuss this with the Designated Officer (the Early Years SEND Manager, Olivia Dale), contact details below.

If a concern cannot be resolved at this point, then the matter should be taken to Suzanne Wilson, Service Manager, Early Years Inclusion and Childcare, contact details below.

The local authority will monitor 10% of settings receiving Inclusion funding to ensure no misappropriation of funds. If parents or carers are dissatisfied with a service received from the department, they can put their concerns in writing to the Officers detailed below who will escalate their concerns to an appropriate Investigating Officer. The Investigating Officer will ensure the complaint is dealt with accordingly and the outcomes of enquiries are communicated to all concerned.

## Contact details

Early Years Inclusion and Childcare Service

Room G20, County Hall

Glenfield

Leicestershire, LE3 8RA