

**Derbyshire’s response to the 30 hour entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.**

**Attention of**: SEN Leadership team; Early Years Support Services; Early Years providers; Early Years strategic group; Early Years Core Group; Special School Head Teachers; Nursery, Infant and Primary Heads.

As of September 2017 all 3 and 4 year olds were entitled to 570 hours of nursery education over a year. This is available as 15 hours per week term time or fewer hours per week stretched throughout the year. In addition, the children of working families will be entitled to up to 1,140 hours a year which again can either be taken as 30 hours per week term time or fewer hours per week stretched throughout the year.

Included in this briefing are policies and procedures that Derbyshire LA will offer to meet the requirements of this entitlement for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

*The new national formula allocates funding to local authorities for the existing 15-hour entitlement for all three- and four-year-olds and the additional 15 hours for three- and four-year children of eligible working parents. The funding rates for both the existing 15-hour entitlement and the additional 15-hour entitlement are the same. (EYRS National Funding Formula: Operational guidance).*

1. **Derbyshire will not make any distinction between the core 15 hours and additional 15 hours.**

Derbyshire LA will support young children with SEN (3 and 4 year olds) up to 30 hours attendance, making no distinction regarding the payment source of their attendance.

*The Equality Act 2010 ensures that local authorities and settings must not discriminate, harass or victimise disabled children, and must make reasonable adjustments. Local authorities must ensure that disabled children entitled to a place are found suitable provision (EYRS National Funding Formula: Operational guidance).*

1. **Derbyshire LA will honour the ‘30 hours’ entitlement ensuring young children with SEND have access to their entitlement irrespective of their level of need.**

*Two new measures are being introduced for 2017-18 to support children with disabilities or SEN: (EYRS National Funding Formula: Operational guidance).*

1. **Resources will be allocated on the basis of attendance by the child up to 30 hours.**

 There are 2 new requirements for LA’s when allocating funding. They are:-

* The introduction of a Disability Access Fund.
* A requirement for authorities to establish a Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund.

In addition Derbyshire has made provision for children through:

The availability of an Early Years SEN helpline.

Early Years SEN Helpline (Childrens Services) EarlyYears.SENHelpline@derbyshire.gov.uk

 The support of the Early Years Specialist SEN Teaching service (please see DCC Local Offer for referral).

* Receipt of an Educational Health Care Plan (usually attending specialist provision).

**Disability Access Fund:**

Government funded, this is a one off annual payment for all 3 and 4 year olds in receipt of free nursery education and who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. Details have been circulated to Early Years Providers and are available on DCC website/ Local Offer.

**Early Years SEN Inclusion Fund (EYIF):**

Derbyshire’s EYIF has been identified as the nationally required SEN Inclusion fund. Derbyshire will award EYIFs up to 30 hours based on learning outcomes as applied for by the settings (revised forms have been circulated). The allocation of resources will continued to be judged based on the educational interventions required as part of the Graduated Response (SEN Code of Practice 2015).

**Education Health Care Plans:**

Children who have an EHCP and attend either Special schools or early years providers will receive EHCP funding for the number of hours they attend the setting (up to 30 hours).

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