

Early Years Noticeboard: 4 October 2018

1. Early Education Entitlement Guidance and Support

The Early Years Team provides information and guidance relating to early years on EYMIS an online data base. Presently there are over 100 early education documents for early years providers to access. Providers can access the data base by following the instructions below;

The log-on details are: https://www.ted-birmingham.org.uk

- Log in details: PVI2 (Capital letters PVI (the letter i) then the number 2)
- Password: PVI2year (Capital letters PVI (the letter i) then the number 2 and lowercase year)

Please note that EYMIS is a system used by all Early Years Providers including PVI, Schools and Academies with Nursery Classes and as it does not contain sensitive information the password is the same for all users, therefore you MUST NOT change the password or try and personalise the system when you log on.

Email and Telephone Support

If providers have questions which they are unable to answer using the documentation available on EYMIS, additional support is available through the NEF Duty team;

- Telephone support is available 10am to 4pm daily on 0121 303 0267
- Alternatively questions can be raised by email to <u>NEF@birmingham.gov.uk</u>

Email contacts

If you need to contact the NEF team by email with any queries please include your name, provider name, a contact telephone number and your Impulse ID. If you do not know your Impulse ID you can provide us with your Ofsted number. This will help us to deal with your enquiry quickly and efficiently.

2.30 hours parental eligibility reconfirmations

It is really important that we support parents to ensure that they can continue to access their 30 hours extended entitlement. Please display **the attached posters** in your provisions to help to encourage parents to maintain and update their childcare service accounts.

CONTACT:NEF Duty LineEMAIL:nef@birmingham.gov.ukTEL:0121 303 0267

3. Birmingham City Council Website accessibility

Please promote awareness that the Birmingham City Council website https://www.birmingham.gov.uk includes the ability to adjust the settings including the font size and language.

Please see the following links for more information www.birmingham.gov.uk/accessibility/settings www.birmingham.gov.uk/languages

4. Publication of Research Reports

The Department for Education have published the following reports, which may be of interest:

- Evaluation of the first year of national rollout of 30 hours free childcare: A mixed methods evaluation of 12 local authorities (LAs) case studies with surveys of providers and registered parents, analysis of 2017 and 2018 census data and qualitative interviews with LAs, stakeholders, providers and parents.
- Follow-up survey to the 2017 Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents (CEYSP): A followup telephone survey of 774 parents of 3-4 year-olds in May-July 2018 that agreed to be recontacted following their 2017 A follow-up telephone survey of 774 parents of 3-4 year-olds in May-July 2018 that agreed to be re-contacted following their 2017 CEYSP survey (in January– August 2017).
- <u>Take-up of Free Early Education Entitlements (FEEE)</u>: This report examines the factors affecting take-up of free early education entitlements (FEEE) through a rapid evidence assessment, regression analysis of existing data on take-up, and qualitative interviews with 21 local authority early years leads, 30 providers and 40 parents of 2, 3 and 4 year olds who were not taking up FEEE.
- Impact Study on Early Education Use and Child Outcomes up to age four years: The second impact report from the Study of Early Education and Development (SEED), a longitudinal eightyear study following approximately 6,000 children across England from the age of two, through to the end of Key Stage One (age seven).

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5. Transitional Protection for Free School Meals (FSM) and Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

The Government has introduced a transitional protection period to be implemented to protect all children that would have lost their entitlement to free school meals following the introduction of Universal Credit.

The transitional protection period which will operate as follows:

• Any pupil eligible for free school meals (through legacy – previous, benefits or Universal Credit) at the point an earned income threshold is introduced (i.e. eligible before 1 April) will retain their eligibility until the end of the rollout of Universal Credit (March 2022), regardless of whether their circumstances change.

- Any pupil who becomes eligible during the rollout of the Universal Credit (through legacy benefits or Universal Credit) (from 1 April 2018 to March 2022) will also retain their eligibility until the end of Universal Credit rollout, regardless of whether their circumstances change.
- Once the rollout of Universal Credit has completed, any losing pupil will continue to be transitionally protected until the end of their current phase of education, e.g. primary / secondary.

Ensuring transitional protection transfers with pupils moving schools

- Schools will continue to record pupils claiming free school meals or EYPP –including those being transitionally protected –as eligible for free school meals or EYPP on the termly school census, as they do now.
- Schools should also complete the Common Transfer Form as usual for any pupils moving schools so that FSM and EYPP status follows with that pupil.
- If a school is uncertain whether a new pupil should be protected for FSM and EYPP, and this information is not available from the Common Transfer Form, the school should contact the previous school or the previous local authority.



Ensuring transitional protection transfers with pupils moving within the private, voluntary and independent sector (PVI's).

PVI's will continue to use the eligibility checking system to establish eligibility to FSM and EYPP. If a PVI is uncertain whether a new child has transitional protection for FSM and EYPP the provider should contact the previous school or provider and request that the provider confirms in writing by email that the child has transitional protection. Please remember that you **must** protect any sensitive data, you can encrypt emails using Egress. Following confirmation that the child has transitional protection, you must then forward the email confirming previous eligibility to <u>NEF@birmingham.gov.uk</u> stating the child's name, DOB and provide your ineligible ECS application reference number. The NEF team will then confirm transitional protection and amend your ECS record to eligible.

Transitional Protection FAQs

Does this only apply to children who get FSM and EYPP through Universal Credit?

• No -children who are eligible for FSM or EYPP through legacy benefits will also be protected.

Does this include nursery children receiving FSMs and EYPP?

• Nursery children who are eligible for FSM and EYPP will be protected --their end of phase will be end of primary.

Will a child who is not yet of school age but has an older sibling who is, automatically receive FSMs and EYPP once they reach school age?

• No -- the protection is applied for the **individual child**, not for the family as a whole.

The child does not need to continue to live with the eligible parent, transitional protection follows the child not parent.

If no claim for EYPP or FSM has previously been made then the child will not have transitional protection.

Example 1: Transitional Protections

Peter and Sarah receive Universal Credit. Their oldest child, Tom, who is in Year 5, currently receives free school meals. Their earned income is £10,200 and so from April 1 2018, they do not meet the eligibility criteria for FSM.

• However, Tom will be protected and so will keep his free school meals until 31 March 2022. At this point, he will be in Year 9 and so will then be protected until the end of secondary school.

Example 2: Siblings

Peter and Sarah have a younger child, Anna, who will start in school in September 2018. Anna will not be eligible for free school meals because the family's earned income is over £7,400 when they make the claim for the meal.

Anna will **not** receive free school meals even though her older brother is protected.

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6. Parent Declaration Forms and GDPR

The Early Education Entitlement Provider Agreement states that:

• 2.3.9 Settings (including schools) and childminders must ensure that a parental declaration form is completed for each child in the setting, for each term of claiming EEE. Failure to do so will result in a claw-back following audit.

Following the implementation of the European Union General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) on the 25th May 2018 in consultation with Birmingham City Council legal services the parental declaration form has now been strengthened to ensure GDPR compliance. The amended parental declaration can be accessed by following the following link <u>EEE Provider</u> Agreement (Terms & Conditions & Forms)

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7. Children moving or starting provision after the start of term

Please ensure that if children are leaving another setting to start with you, that the parent is made aware that they will be liable for any childcare fees at the other setting as that provider will not be able to claim the funding if they have left before headcount/census date. The headcount/census dates for this academic year are;

- Autumn Term 4th October 2018.
- Spring Term 17th January 2019
- Summer Term 16th May 2019

The EEE Provider Agreement for all providers states:

2.89 Providers may only claim funding in respect of an eligible child who is correctly included in the headcount on headcount/census day, or who missed the headcount/census for permissible reasons such as absence through illness but genuinely expected to return within the four weeks permitted absence period. No claim should be made in respect of a child who has permanently left the provision before the headcount/census day.

In exceptional circumstances a child may need to start at a provider after the headcount/census date and claim their EEE funding entitlement within that term. Exceptional circumstances could include a child moving from another Local Authority or when the late start is in the child's best interests and has multi agency support. Exceptional circumstances requests must be submitted via email to <a href@birmingham.gov.uk and will be considered on a case by case basis.

N.B. Please ensure any exceptional circumstance requests are approved before offering a place.

LINK: <u>EEE Provider Agreement (Terms & Conditions & Forms)</u>

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To keep your 30 hours free childcare place **you** need to check your details are up to date every 3 months. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount

Childcare Ch⁰ices





Not sure what support **you** could get with childcare costs? Go to childcarechoices.gov.uk

Childcare Ch⁰ices





Log in to your childcare account every 3 months to check your details are up to date. Go to gov.uk/childcareaccount

