Early Years Funding Entitlement

What is it?

Early Years Funding Entitlement has four elements;

- 2yr funding
- 3&4yr funding – Universal
- 3&4yr funding – Extended
- Early Years Pupil Premium

Early Years Entitlement for 2 year olds

Providers are able to offer 2yr funding if they received "*Good*" or above within their last Ofsted Inspection.
Up to 15 hours a week is available for some children the term after their second birthday. This can be provided term time only or through a stretched offer.

Process

An application needs to be completed by a parent/carer through www.wirral.gov.uk. Once the application is processed families will receive a confirmation letter which providers are expected to retain a copy of.
A parental consent form (EYFE2a) needs to be completed prior to the child beginning their place.

Early Years Entitlement for 3&4 year olds – Universal

Providers are able to offer 3&4yr funding if "*Requires Improvement*" or above was received within their last Ofsted Inspection.
Up to 15 hours a week is available for **all** children the term after their third birthday which can be provided term time only or through a stretched offer.
A parental consent form (EYFE3a) needs to be completed prior to the child beginning their place.

Early Years Entitlement for 3&4 year olds – Extended

Providers are able to offer 3&4yr funding – extended if *"Requires Improvement"* or above was received within their last Ofsted Inspection.
Up to 15 hours a week is available for **some** children the term after their third birthday. This can be provided term time only or through a stretched offer.
Families are required to apply through www.childcarechoices.gov.uk . Following this they will receive an 11-digit eligibility code. Families are required to reconfirm their details every three months for extended funding to be continuous.

A parental consent form (EYFE3a) needs to be completed prior to the child beginning their place to enable providers to confirm entitlement through the Headcount Provider Portal. Families can only claim the extended 15 hours entitlement if the 11-digit eligibility code is validity checked and confirmed through the Headcount Provider

Portal.

Providers are only able to claim extended care if the families continue the reconfirmation process every three months and providers regularly check the dashboard on the Provider Headcount Portal account.

Early Years Pupil Premium

For children who claim 3&4yr funding (Universal and/or Extended) and meet the government-set criteria, providers can receive an extra 53p per funded hour. An online application form is available through www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/early-years-pupil-premium
To increase the number of children receiving the additional 53p per hour, children are also identified through Local Authority internal processes.

How to become a funding provider

To discuss becoming an Early Years Funding Entitlement provider please contact the Early Years Business Support and Quality Improvement Team through email fis@wirral.gov.uk

You will be provided with the current Early Years Funding Entitlement contract which details all requirements, including providing tracking of all funded children to the Local Authority. Along with the Early Years Funding Entitlement contract there is additional paperwork to be completed to enable your claim to be processed, such as bank details and Provider Headcount Portal information.

Once all paperwork has been completed and returned you will receive guidance and log in information for the Provider Headcount Portal.

How to claim

Funding is calculated on a termly basis and paid on a monthly basis also. Once per term providers are required to enter within the Provider Headcount Portal all requested details for Early Years Funded children and payments will be calculated based on the information provided.

Payments will be paid into the bank account identified when you initially became a provider.

For further information or advice please contact budgetsupportearlyyearsqueries@wirral.gov.uk or 0151 666 5533/4649/4432

Term dates

Term	Months
Summer	**1st April - 31th August**
Autumn	**1st September – 31st December**
Spring	**1st January – 31st March**

When can children begin their Early Years Funding Entitlement place

Children can begin their early Years Funding Entitlement place the term after they have had the relating birthday.
Example

- Child's 3rd birthday is 1st April. 3yr funding entitlement can begin within Autumn Term
- Child's 2nd birthday is 7th November and they have been confirmed as entitled to 2yr funding entitlement. Funding entitlement can begin within Spring Term.

Frequently asked Questions

Q Can I claim funding if a child begins after headcount?
A This is dependent on the individual circumstances. Refer the family to the Early Years Quality and Business Support Team on 0151 666 3980 or email fis@wirral.gov.uk

Q I can't access the Headcount Provider Portal
A If you are locked out of your account please email: infosection@wirral.gov.uk, or for a password reset please contact budgetsupportearlyyearsqueries@wirral.gov.uk

Q The family have lost their 2yr funding confirmation letter
A Direct the family to contact 0151 666 3980 or email fis@wirral.gov.uk for a duplicate letter

Q When will 2yr funding application be processed for the following term
A This will begin as soon as possible after the current terms headcount has been submitted.