

30hr Extended Entitlement Update for Providers- January 2018

First of all we would like to wish everyone a happy new year!

There are a number of updates and information we would like to share with you at the beginning of January.

1. Local Authority Discretion regarding spring term applications

The DfE is encouraging all LAs to exercise discretion to fund 30 hours places for spring term for any parent who has a 30 hours code dated 11 January or earlier.

Most parents' first port of call for information will be their provider, and therefore we would like to confirm that Ealing will accept a code dated 11th January or earlier for the Spring Term.

As in the autumn term, we would like you to ask the parent to provide evidence of this in the form of the correspondence they have received from HMRC

We would be grateful if you could ensure providers are checking codes promptly, so that all children taking up a 30 hours place can be funded.

Important Note:

Any child taking up a 30 hours place in the spring term must have had their code checked by the time of the annual census (18 January) in order for them to be funded by the DfE.

2. EYPP Eligibility Check

Please note that we have many funded settings that have not yet updated their parent/carer tab on the portal for 3-4 year olds.

If the information has not been entered, the child cannot be checked for EYPP eligibility at the end of each month and consequently, no payment will be made even if the child is actually eligible.

You are required to fill in **just once**, (as we will carry that info forward from month to month for you):

- Parent first name
- Parent surname
- Parent DOB
- Parent NIN

You are required to have Parent Consent in order to check for EYPP, please ensure this is gained before entering the details. The updated parent declaration form covers this.

The portal will close on the 24th this month, so if you populate the parent/carer tab for your 3-4 year olds by this date, the child will be checked against EYPP this month.

Any questions, please contact Maggie Luuka

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3. Tax-Free Childcare is now available for under 6's

Tax-Free Childcare is now available to parents with children under 6. All eligible parents will be able to apply by the end of March 2018. Parents can find out more and apply through the Childcare Choices website.

4. DfE 30hr survey of childcare and EY providers

The DfE will be piloting the Survey of Childcare and EY Providers in January and February 2018.

For the pilot, the survey will be issued to 750 providers, 250 each of group based providers, school based providers (with nursery – exclude reception only), and childminders with an aim of achieving 150 completed surveys (i.e. 50 per provider type).

Although this is not being run via LAs, the DfE wants to alert you to the possibility that providers may legitimately be contacted by the National Centre for Social Research, on DfE's behalf, to take part in the survey.

All providers invited to participate (either pilot or mainstage) will be contacted in writing.

This initial communication will include an opportunity to opt out of further contact about the survey, FAQs and a contact at the Department (the letters will include the team email inbox as the contact point) so providers can check the legitimacy of the survey.

The main fieldwork, with the much larger sample of providers (circa 70,000), is scheduled to take place from April to June 2018, with letters being issued from March 2018.

5. Early Years Annual Spring Census Return

The yearly census return will be conducted during the spring term, which will require an Establishment Form to be completed for each setting as well as the usual monthly headcount submission.

We ask for all providers to look at this in detail and complete as accurately as possible.

It is imperative that this submission is as accurate as possible and submitted by the required dates.

The headcount that is returned to the DfE is the headcount that determines the Local Authorities funding for the forthcoming year.

We will be in touch with further detail and guidance on the census return in the forthcoming weeks.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Bryn Jones on BJones@ealing.gov.uk or Sandeep Sahota on Sahotasa@ealing.gov.uk