

COVID – 19 Provider Funding Portal Update

The portal will open each month. Timetable of portal and payment dates are below, we do not anticipate any changes to these dates.

2020-21 PVI Portal and Payments Timetable						
Calendar Month	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20
Portal Month	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4		Month 5
Payment Weeks	2	3	4	4		4
Portal Open	01 April 2020	01 May 2020	01 June 2020	01 July 2020		01 September 2020
Portal Close	24 April 2020	24 May 2020	24 June 2020	24 July 2020		24 September 2020
Payment Report Download	27 April 2020	25 May 2020	25 June 2020	25 July 2020		25 September 2020
Payment Released	30 April 2020	28 May 2020	02 July 2020	31 July 2020		01 October 2020

2020-21 PVI Portal and Payments Timetable						
Calendar Month	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Portal Month	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10	Month 11
Payment Weeks	3	4	2	4	4	4
Portal Open	01 October 2020	01 November 2020	27 November 2020	02 January 2021	01 February 2021	01 March 2021
Portal Close	24 October 2020	24 November 2020	14 December 2020	24 January 2021	24 February 2021	12 March 2021
Payment Report Download	26 October 2020	25 November 2020	16 December 2020	25 January 2021	25 February 2021	15 March 2021
Payment Released	30 October 2020	01 December 2020	21 December 2020	29 January 2021	02 March 2021	19 March 2021

We require all childcare providers to input claims on the portal as normal.

Children are carried forward each month for all providers. It is the provider's responsibility to check the data is correct and if not, then amend accordingly (e.g. add any new starters / delete any leavers). All PVI nurseries must input the funded hours for each child.

If you were due to have new children start in the summer term you can claim for them if you have one of the following.

- Signed funding agreement form
- Signed registration form

If you have an offer letter sent to parents and confirmation from the parent they have agreed to take the place you may also use this as evidence to make a claim but you **must** be sure that the parent has not also agreed the same with another provider. You could not receive funding for this child if another setting makes a claim for the same child.

We do not need you to submit the above evidence to the local authority, but you will need to keep them on file. All claims will be subject to audit checks and where children appear on more than one setting claim you will be required to submit evidence of take up before funding can be released. In order to ensure swift payments please ensure that your submission is accurate, and children have only been included with the parent's knowledge and consent.

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If you are able to redirect the additional funding of summer term places which children will not be taking up during the COVID - 19 closures to support places for children of keyworkers this would be greatly appreciated. These places are invaluable to parents who are experiencing the difficulties of balancing family life with the pressure of supporting critical services in our communities. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to ensuring that these vulnerable children are able to access high quality care and provision at this difficult time

As you may be aware new guidance was published on the 21nd April.

What will happen to funding for free childcare places during this period of disruption?

On 17 March 2020, the Chancellor confirmed the [government would continue to pay local authorities for free early years entitlement places for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds](#).

We will be updating this guidance to set out how local authorities can use their free entitlement funding differently, redistributing it – in exceptional cases and in a clearly focussed and targeted way – in order to secure childcare for the children of critical workers and for vulnerable children, where their usual arrangements are no longer possible.

Local Authorities will need to ensure there are sufficient childcare places at this time, and to redistribute funding across settings accordingly. This ability to redistribute will enable local authorities to ensure that critical workers, including NHS staff, are able to access childcare where they need it. Any setting which sees their early entitlement funding reduced in order to fund childcare places elsewhere will be able to increase the proportion of their salary bill eligible for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme in line with the [Department's guidance](#) on access to the scheme.

The above information can be found under 'Funding':

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

As a local authority we are waiting on further guidance outlining what this will mean for our childcare providers.

We advise you regularly check www.gov.uk for new guidance and updates.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this document, please email children@ealing.gov.uk