Disability Access Fund FAQs for EY Providers

What is the Disability Access Fund (DAF)?

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) is funding that early year's providers can use to support children with disabilities in their setting. The aim of the DAF is to help providers to make reasonable adjustments in their settings to support children in the setting.

It is a one-off payment that is given to any registered early years provider who is providing a funded early education place.

How will I know child is eligible?

To be eligible for DAF, family will need to meet the following criteria:

- child attending your setting receives disability living allowance (DLA) and;
- child is accessing an early years funded place.

Please note: parent will need to provide evidence that child receives DLA.

How much is DAF funding and how to apply?

DAF is a one-off payment of £910 per year. You will need apply for the funding via the Synergy portal; and email the funding officer relevant evidence.

Link to Synergy portal - Sign In - Synergy (servelec-synergy.com)

Who does the DAF payment go to?

DAF funding is payable directly to the early years provider. If the child is attending more than one provider for their early education entitlement, then the parent must declare which setting they would prefer to receive this funding.

How often can I apply for DAF?

DAF funding is allocated once in a 12-month period however you may apply for the funding at any point during the academic year.

What can DAF be spent on?

DAF funding is to support settings make reasonable adjustments in the setting to support children eligible for this funding. You may choose to work parents to decide how the funding will be used to support their child whilst in your setting.

What happens to the funding if the child moves setting?

If a child moves to another setting, the funding does not move with the child however the new setting may be able to apply 12 months after the first payment was made.