



Department
for Education

LA Regional Events

Autumn 2023

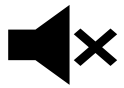
Agenda

- Intros and Housekeeping
- DfE Policy update
- Break
- Introduction to EY SEND TEAM
- Evaluation and Close

Housekeeping



This event will not be recorded



Due to the large number of attendees, please can you remain on mute when not speaking.



Make use of the comments function for asking questions. **Please feel free to 'like' questions, colleagues will try to answer during the webinar.**



Due to the large attendance number, for IT bandwidth, **please do not put your camera on, unless presenting.**



Any issues with IT, or any other questions outside this regional event can be sent to:
earlyyears.entitlements@education.gov.uk

Ministerial Update

Gillian Keegan
Secretary of State for Education



David Johnston
Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing



Policy Updates

EYFS Consultation

Background

The Spring Budget saw the single biggest investment in childcare in England ever. This investment will remove one of the biggest barriers to parents working by vastly increasing the amount of funded childcare that working families can access

- The department has set out its official response to the recent 'Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Regulatory Changes' consultation.
- We will be implementing a number of changes to the EYFS from January 2024. **Please see next slide.**
- We have also heard how some of the proposals would not have benefited children or practitioners, and therefore **will not** be taken forward. This includes:
 - Reducing the percentage of level 2 qualified staff required per ratio from 'at least half' to 30% or 40% of all other staff (group and school-based providers only).
 - Changing the qualification requirements outside of peak hours (group and school-based providers only).
- The department has now also published an evaluation of the 2021 EYFS education reforms which shows many practitioners have benefitted from the changes made, which in turn is seen to be having a positive impact on children.
- We will work with local authorities and other stakeholders, including representative organisations, to ensure settings have the information and support they need to respond to any changes to the EYFS.

EYFS Consultation - Changes that will come into force in January 2024

- Create two separate EYFS frameworks (one for childminders and one for group and school-based providers).
- Introduce a new statutory document on early years qualification requirements and standards.
- Remove the requirement for Level 3 practitioners to hold a Level 2 maths qualification to count within staff:child ratios and instead place this requirement on managers (for group and school-based providers only).
- Change wording on English as an Additional Language (EAL) requirement, from “must” to “may”.
- Allow students and apprentices to count in staff:child ratios at the level below their level of study, where it is judged appropriate.
- Remove the requirement for childminders to complete EYFS training before registration and instead continue to require EYFS knowledge and understanding (for childminders only).
- Allow childminder assistants to hold the role of key person (for childminders only).
- Allow ‘kitchens’ to be considered within floor space requirements (for childminders only).
- Move the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) from the childminder EYFS to an annex (for childminders only).
- Change language on collection of physical evidence.
- Significantly amend the section on the EYFSP in the childminder EYFS (including removing the RBA) (for childminders only).
- Include “other electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities’ to safeguarding requirement.
- Provide further information on safeguarding responsibilities when childminders are working in a group (including change on child protection language) (for childminders only).
- Clarify that while qualifications must be verified, employees do not have to provide physical copies of their qualifications (for group and school-based providers only).
- Change wording on suitable person (for childminders only).
- Change wording on confidential areas for childminders (for childminders only).
- Remove the requirement for childminders to display PFA certificates, instead make these available on request (for childminders only).
- Clarify the wording on the validity of PFA certificates (group and school-based providers only).
- Allow childminders to display a copy of their certificate of registration digitally and make available on request (for childminders only).

Questions?

EY SEND Team Session

EY SEND TEAM: Priorities

Access to Early Education and Entitlements Expansion: What we are doing to ensure children with SEND have access and to the right support

EY Workforce - what we are hearing:

- Settings are having to turn away children with SEND or additional needs as they do not have the staff with the appropriate level of skill and/or experience to accommodate them.
- There has been an increase in staff leaving the sector and it is difficult to recruit/backfill with the same level of SEND expertise.

Deferrals- what we are hearing:

- We are hearing from the sector that there has been an increasing number of deferrals for school entry.

Funding - what we are hearing

- LAs are consistently reporting an unprecedented level of need.
- Funding required by EY provision to deliver additional support that has been cited by providers for why they are unable to offer placements to children with SEND.
- There are delays in being able to access the appropriate funding.
- In the recent EY funding consultation views were shared by LAs and providers that SENIF funding was insufficient, that SENIF processes can be burdensome and that centralised standards setting for SENIFs would be beneficial.

EY SEND TEAM: what we are doing

Workforce

- The government is investing up to £180 million in a package of training, qualifications, expert guidance and targeted support for the early years sector as part of the Early Years Education Recovery Programme. The EYER programme supports children with SEND by:
 - Funding training for up to 7,000 early years Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) resulting in an accredited Level 3 EY SENCO qualification.
 - Universally accessible early years online child development training that is aimed at helping early years practitioners improve their knowledge of child development, so they can best support children in early years education settings. The training is free to access.
- We are continuing to look at ways we can support the Early Years workforce, including through recruitment and retention initiatives in support of expanded free childcare, and be able to be skilled, have the knowledge and capacity to respond early and well to children with SEND.

Funding

- We will work with local authorities, providers and stakeholders to establish whether changes to the SENIF, and other associated elements of the wider current early years funding system are needed. This is to ensure that early years SEND funding arrangements are appropriate and well-targeted to improve outcomes for all pre-school children with SEND, and also to support the introduction of a national framework for bands and tariffs as per the SEND-AP Improvement Plan.

Deferrals

- We are working with analysts to identify reasons behind this such as due to being summer born, SEND, no appropriate school placement etc.

SEND AP Reforms:

What we are doing to ensure that EY is aligned to deliver SENDAP IP objectives around early identification and improved systems for 0-25

National Standards:

- Ensuring EYs is supported to participate in the development of national standards, such as Transitions and SLCN Practice Guide, in meeting the needs of children with SEND.

Banding and Tariffs

- We are conducting a review of funding that is provided to the EY sector.

EHCP Reforms

- Linking in with the reforms team to ensure that new templates being developed, as part of the Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment and its digitisation, is fit for purpose and accessible for the EY sector.

Accountability

- EY representation on SEND and AP Strategic Partnerships
- Developing our understanding of current legal tools and legislative levers we might want to recommend.
- Being part of the development of Local Area Inclusion Plans (LAIPs), to ensure that EY is represented in new local structures and that provision and address emerging sufficiency challenges.

EY SEND TEAM: Questions

- Barriers for children with SEND accessing early education
- Workforce Skills/Recruitment and Retention:
 - What would support early years providers to be better able to offer placements to children with SEND?
 - What would support the early years workforce to feel more confident in supporting children with SEND?
 - What training and support can be offered to the workforce?
- Funding:
 - What do we need to do to ensure SENIF works and is effective in supporting children with SEND?
 - What does and does not work well with regards to EY funding and supporting children with SEND?
 - Does EY funding have a positive impact on children with SEND?
- We are interested in holding deep dives with LAs on the barriers children with SEND have in accessing Early Education. Please let us know if you are interested in participating.

Questions?

IT Systems

- We have been engaging with you and your providers to bottom out key delivery issues.
- We issued guidance to you and software suppliers on 18th October, bringing together policy and technical changes for the **April 2024 expansion**. We plan to updating this document after the funding consultation response is published.
- **Please let us know if you have not received this document** or share any further questions you may have via the main email address.
- At the last DfE webinar questions were raised about HMRC contact centres sharing inaccurate information. If parents can provide the phone number they called from and when they called the helpline, HMRC can trace the call and investigate. We're sorry that parents are being given wrong information, we are aware of it and are sharing with HMRC.
- The Childcare Choices website update went live on the 27th of October. Any feedback on the website is welcome.
- We recommend that LAs plan contingency measures for if their digital systems are not ready for the expansion. From January 2nd LAs will be able to access the ECS web browser to manually check the validity of new codes

Questions?

Break

Early Implementation

- As mentioned before, we are exploring options for early implementation of the full entitlement for all eligible working parents of children aged 9-months and over.
- We plan to select a small number of LAs to deliver the full expanded entitlements from September 2024, preparing for delivery from early next year. This is three terms ahead of national rollout.
- The main purpose of early implementation is to understand the delivery challenges LAs encounter when rolling out the expanded entitlements.
- We are currently in the process of finalising the LA selection and evaluation process. We expect this to be published as an Expression of Interest (EOI) Grant opportunity on GOV.UK later this month. We will share further detail and timings on this soon.

Statutory and Operational Guidance

Regulations come into force and **statutory guidance will be published on gov.uk on 1 Jan 2024**

Given the short timescale, we will make small changes to include the expanded entitlements announced in the Spring Budget and some clarification points.

We are testing areas in the guidance where there have been the most significant changes.

Approx 10-15 local authorities were chosen to review and comment on draft statutory guidance - this testing is taking place over the next couple of weeks.

In this update, we are **not** changing existing policy for the following key areas:

- Charging: Rules around what additional charges providers can/cannot use.
- Flexibility: Children can take up their full entitlement at times which fit with the needs of their parents.
- Quality and types of providers who can deliver the entitlements for working parents.
- Requirements local authorities can place on providers.

Supporting the workforce

Communications and Marketing

We are supporting recruitment into the workforce by taking action to expand the pool of interested applicants. We are improving early years career advice in schools and job centres and have recently launched a digital and social media campaign promoting Early Years Educator apprenticeships through our [L3 apprenticeships campaign](#).

This is the start of a long-term communications drive to encourage people across the country to consider and then apply for a role in early years. It precedes a national, multi-media recruitment campaign which will launch in early 2024.



The EYFS consultation and associated workforce changes

The recently announced changes to the EYFS intend to offer providers increased flexibility and alleviate known burdens, giving providers more choice over how they operate and making it easier for them to deliver the EYFS. This should support settings to deliver the new entitlements announced at the Spring Budget by allowing them to better utilise the skills and experience in their existing workforce.

Further interventions

We are continuing to develop further workforce initiatives. This includes procuring for Early Years Skills Bootcamps with a pathway to accelerated level 3 Early Years Educator apprenticeships. Skills Bootcamps are free, flexible employer-led courses that give adults the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills and fast-track learners to a guaranteed interview with an employer.

We will be updating LAs with further information on our workforce interventions over the coming months.

Questions?

Childminders: addressing property-related barriers

Sector engagement

- On 21 August, Minister Coutinho wrote an **open letter** to the property sector encouraging landlords and developers to open their doors to childminders.
- Prior to this announcement, we held a **ministerial roundtable** with property sector stakeholders and LAs.

What we learned

- We have identified a number of **property-related barriers** that prospective and existing childminders may be experiencing.
- These barriers include restrictive covenants, social landlord approval, mortgages and insurance.

How LAs could help

- There are a number of things that LAs could do to remove barriers to childminders operating from home.
- **Commit to working with housing/planning teams** to require new developments to make exemptions for childminders when writing covenants.
- **Promote the importance of childminding** with planning teams to remove barriers.
- Support childminders who are denied landlord permission to **find other childminders to work with.**



Childminders: other updates

A new regulation on childminder agencies

- Towards the end of November, **new regulations will come into force** that have the effect of deeming any providers registered with a childminder agency (CMA) that is closing to be Ofsted providers at the point of closure.
- Why? Currently, when a CMA resigns its registration with Ofsted, the individual registrations of providers on the CMA's books are also terminated. This risks disruption for parents, children and the affected providers.
- On 6 September, Rutland Early Years CMA announced that it would **close on 30 November**. These new regulations will minimise disruptions this may cause.
- This arrangement will last 12 months, during which time providers will need to either complete a registration with Ofsted or another CMA.

Levelling up and Regeneration Bill

- Earlier this year, **the government tabled amendments to the Childcare Act 2006** to: increase (from 3 to 4) the total number of people that can work together under a childminder's registration; and allow childminders to spend more than half time working outside of their homes, including an option to operate solely from non-domestic premises.
- These amendments will give new and existing childminders **greater flexibility to expand and grow their businesses**, and we will aim to bring these changes into force by no later than autumn 2024.
- We will notify all relevant parties once commencement timescales have been agreed, **including LAs as they will need to update any guidance they provide** on these matters.

Childminder Start-Up Grants

- DfE's **Childminder Start-Up Grants launch on 30 November**, offering £600 to childminders registering with Ofsted and £1200 to childminders registering with a CMA.
- **We'll be sending you further information** in the coming weeks, including lines for use on your social media.



Wraparound Childcare Programme: Oct Announcement

Local authority allocations

Publication of local authority allocations from the £289m wraparound childcare fund.

Key points include:

- Funding is being distributed to all local authorities on the basis of anticipated need, plugging gaps in the existing market.
- Funding will be available for local authorities to use internally to build capacity within their teams and also to set up new and expanded provision.
- Allocations will be administered by a non-ringfenced Section 31 grant.

Programme handbook

Publication of the programme handbook.

This sets out:

- the ambition and vision of the programme
- information about how to set up and deliver the programme
- the funding available to local authorities and what it can be used for
- expectations for planning, understanding supply and demand, reporting and monitoring
- the role of providers and importance of local authorities working collaboratively with schools, private and voluntary providers and childminders
- expectations for the provision of wraparound, addressing safeguarding, quality and inclusivity.

These documents are designed to give clarity on the programme expectations and the funding envelope so that local authorities can begin to plan for the implementation of the wraparound programme, ready to deliver an increase in the availability of wraparound childcare from September 2024

Wraparound Childcare Programme: actions and support

Actions for local authorities

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) issued to local authorities

MoU to be signed and returned by the LA Section 151 officer before any funding can be released.

LA Readiness Assessment

Second round of self-assessments to be completed by 24 November. LAs to consider funding allocations and content of programme handbook when completing self-assessment.

Planning and preparation for roll-out

LAs to start planning and preparation for rollout of national programme including any recruitment, if not already commenced.

Support for local authorities

Delivery Partner

Undertaking an open contracting process to appoint a delivery partner to provide support to LAs; expectation delivery partner to begin working with LAs in early 2024.

Wraparound LA Webinar

Webinar in late November/early December (date TBC). Q&A documents from August and October webinars have been shared with LAs.

Guidance

Guidance for schools and updated programme handbook - building on first version - to be published in January 2024.

Contact us: Wraparound.PROGRAMME@education.gov.uk

2-Year-Old Disadvantaged Entitlement



Take up of the disadvantage entitlement is at 74%

Data Sharing exercise very nearly complete

Feedback on NRPF eligibility extension policy

Updates

Policy: From April 2024 there may be circumstances where households could be eligible for both the disadvantage and the extended entitlement.

Family Hubs – Start for Life Programme



The government is investing £300m in Family Hubs – Start for Life services to transform services for parents, carers, babies and children in half of upper tier local authorities (75 LAs) across England.

The majority of the 75 LAs opened their family hubs over the summer and should be delivering on all the expectations as set out in the Family Hubs Programme Guide by March 2025.

Family hubs should provide a one stop shop to families enabling them to get the support they need. They should allow professionals to build connections enabling them to work together to support the family.

The 75 LAs will be sending management information to show the impact of Family Hubs which we will publish

£12m Family Hubs Transformation Fund

The £12m Family Hubs Transformation Fund launched in November 2021 and is supporting 13 local authorities (LAs) in England to open family hubs.

The fund is enabling us to learn more about the process of local transformation, to build our evidence base, and to create valuable resources and learning for those local authorities moving to a family hub model in the future.

All LAs are now progressing with their transformation journeys and have begun delivering visible change for families and their communities.



Parenting and Home Learning Environment (HLE) update:

HLE Strategy – 3 Strand Approach

1. Family Hubs / Start for Life Programme – Joint DfE & Department of Health and Social Care delivery of £300 million programme to transform Start for Life services through a new network of family hubs in half of local authorities in England. Includes £50 million on parenting support and over £28 million in evidence-based HLE programmes to support parents to chat, play and read with their children to improve their early development. Priority given to the families that will benefit most.

2. Expanded HLE behaviour change campaign - DfE and Department of Health and Social Care are jointly promoting the home learning environment and early parenting as part of the Better Health Start for Life national media campaign to encourage parents to support children's early language development and connect families to the support on offer through family hubs, including evidence-based HLE interventions funded in the 75 LAs. Next edition of our Home Learning Environment campaign due to launch in January.

3. Partnership Working

- **Early Years VCS Disadvantage Grants 2023-25 (£4.5m)** - Competitive grant round launched this summer to build on national voluntary and community sector work re: HLE and EYSEND policy priorities to support disadvantaged children's early development and wellbeing. Grant activities will align with the Family Hubs programme via place-based grant activities. We will update on the successful bidders over the coming weeks.
- **Local Govt Association –Supporting local speech, language and communication systems.** We are funding LGA to support local area health and early years partnerships working in a more integrated way on SLC systems through peer reviews. Six councils are currently undertaking targeted support, Torbay, Rutland, Stoke, Somerset, West Sussex and Oxfordshire. Other areas are booked to start later in the year.

HLE is a key predictor of a child's early language ability and future success. We know children from low-income households are less likely to experience a high-quality HLE; this has been exacerbated by the pandemic and by the current cost of living pressures.



Questions?

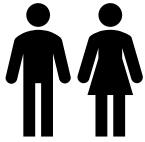
Early Years Recovery Programmes

Early Years Education Recovery – EYER



	Would you like to...	EYER Programme to consider
Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...	Build your knowledge and understanding of child development and get practical tips and ideas to use in your setting.	Early Years Child Development training
Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...	Refresh your knowledge and understanding of child development and get practical tips and ideas to use in your setting.	Early Years Child Development training
	Build on your existing knowledge of child development (ages 2-4) with a focus on supporting early communication and language, early maths and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED).	Professional Development Programme
	Build your knowledge and expertise of performing the SENCO role in Early Years.	L3 Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) qualification
Are you a childminder, setting leader or aspiring leader...	Support your staff through delivering evidence-based training on child development.	Early Years Child Development training
	Develop your expertise in leading high-quality education and care, as well as effective staff and organisational management.	National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership
	Access 1-2-1 support from an Early Years expert to help develop your leadership capabilities and mentor support for your practitioners.	Experts and Mentors
Are you a graduate working in Early Years or considering entering Early Years...	Gain Early Years Teacher status with this postgraduate qualification.	Early Years Initial Teacher Training
Would you benefit from bespoke advice about which elements of the programme are right for you or your setting...	Contact your local Stronger Practice Hub to discuss the offer and to access support to adopt evidence-based practice improvements and a network for sharing effective practice.	

EYER – Online Child Development training



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

...and looking to build your knowledge and understanding of child development and get practical tips and ideas to use in your setting?



Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...



Are you a setting leader or aspiring leader...

Early Years Child Development training

Key updates

- Module 6: Mathematics launched in October and modules on effective curriculum, observation and assessment and supporting individual needs will be launched in the coming months.
- Please do let settings in your areas know about the training – we have developed promotional materials for LAs to use to do this [Early years child development training : Promotional materials \(ey-recovery-staging.london.cloudapps.digital\)](https://ey-recovery-staging.london.cloudapps.digital)
- We are always keen to hear from LAs about how the training is / can be used most effectively in settings so please do get in touch on this if you would like to.
- We are continuously carrying out and responding to user research and feedback to develop and improve the training
- Users can provide feedback using the forms in the training and by emailing us – eyfs.qualitypractice@education.gov.uk

EYER – Professional Development Programme



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

... looking to **build** on your existing knowledge of child development (ages 2-4)?



Are you a **Level 3 qualified practitioner**...

Have you considered: Professional Development Programme 3

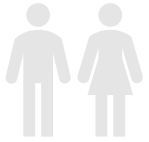
Key updates

- We really appreciate LAs support in paying the backfill funding to settings and continuing to review your lists of eligible settings and sending updated lists to EDT.
- Cohort 1 successfully completed their training in October and Cohort 2 began their training on 11 September. The application window for cohort 3, starting in January, is open and we'd be grateful for any support you can give in promoting the opportunity to settings.



Are you a setting leader or aspiring leader...

EYER – L3 SENCO qualification



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

... acting as a SENCO or due to take up the role of SENCO?



Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...



Are you a setting leader or aspiring leader...

Have you considered: L3 Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) qualification

Key updates

- Our delivery partner, Best Practice Network, have updated their recruitment messaging as they are now able to offer applicants to start on the following month's intake, rather than joining a waiting list with an unknown start date. This has had a positive impact on engagement.
- Best Practice Network are doing a significant comms push which includes regular social media posts highlighting the benefits of completing the qualification and regular email campaigns to their audiences.
- EY SENCO graduates continue to receive their graduation packs (certificates, lanyards, pin badges and digital assets) so they can proudly show that they have completed the programme and thereby promote it to other EY settings in their networks
- BPN have launched a separate campaign which just focuses on funding being available for the North East, NW and Yorks as a priority.

EYER – NPQ Early Years Leadership



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

...who wants to develop your expertise in leading high-quality education and care, as well as effective staff and organisational management?



Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...

Have you considered: The National Professional qualification in Early Years Leadership

Key updates

- Final cohort for which guaranteed DfE scholarship funding is available commences in February 2023
- Application window for February 2023 cohort is open
- Please promote NPQEYL to PVI's and childminders in particular as we know they will struggle to pay for the NPQEYL without the scholarship funding.
- Use the two blog toolkits and the animation toolkit previously provided to help with this and a promotional video will be made available shortly.
- Stronger Practice Hubs have also been asked to help promote NPQEYL.



Are you a setting leader or aspiring leader...

EYER – Experts and Mentors



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

...who would benefit from access to an Early Years expert to help develop your leadership capabilities and mentor support for your practitioners?



Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...

Have you considered: The Experts and Mentors Programme

Key updates

- The programme is continually looking for settings to support, so please do continue to make suggestions for those settings who have either SEND needs, or have improvements needed before their next Ofsted.



Are you a childminder or setting leader ...

EYER – Stronger Practice Hubs



Are you in the early stages of your Early Years career...

...and would you benefit from bespoke advice about which elements of the programme are right for you or your setting?



Are you a Level 3 qualified practitioner...



Are you a setting leader ...

Have you considered: Stronger Practice Hubs

Key updates

- Hub websites are under development and are planned to go live mid December –hosted by NCB.
- Literacy and Maths themes will be published on the Early Years Evidence Store early November.
- All 18 Hubs are in place and have agreed their LA splits across each region. Hub contact details can be found on NCB's website so do reach out.
- Hubs are recruiting settings for development programmes that are available in their areas –please promote this opportunity to settings and childminders (where appropriate).

EYER – Stronger Practice Hubs

★ North West

- Bright Futures North West EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Lime Tree Primary Academy, **Trafford**
- Liverpool City Region and Beyond Early Years SPH
 - Lead setting: Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, **Liverpool**

★ West Midlands

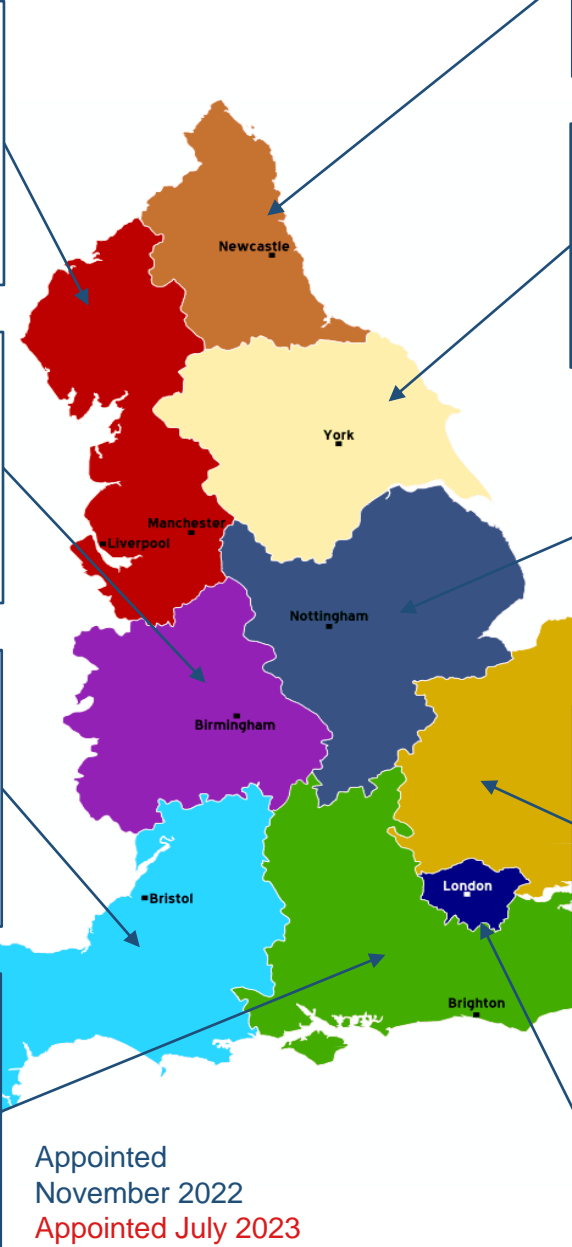
- HEART – Midlands EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Bloomsbury Nursery School, **Birmingham**
- Thrive Together EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Ryders Hayes School, **Walsall**

★ South West

- Bristol & Partners EYSPH
 - Lead setting: St Pauls Nursery School and Childrens Centre, **Bristol**
- EYE South West, EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Plym Bridge Nursery and Daycare, **Plymouth**

★ South East

- Thames Valley EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Blagdon Nursery School, **Reading**
- Kent EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Discovery Day Nursery, **Kent**



★ North East

- Northern Lights EY SPH cop CE Academy, **Sunderland**
- The Great North EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Haltwhistle Primary Academy, **Northumberland**

★ Yorkshire & Humber

- St Edmund's EYSPH
 - Lead setting: St Edmund's Nursery School, **Bradford**
- Yorkshire and Humber Together EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Childhaven Nursery School, **North Yorkshire**

★ East Midlands

- East Midlands EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Pen Green Centre, **Northamptonshire**
- Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Alfreton Nursery School, **Derbyshire**

★ East of England

- East of England EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Highfield Nursery School, **Suffolk**
- Reachout EYSPH
 - Lead setting: The Barn Nursery School, **Essex**

★ London

- Brighter Start: East London's EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Sheringham Nursery and Children's Centre, **Newham**
- London South EYSPH
 - Lead setting: Charles Dickens Primary and Nursery School, **Southwark**

Appointed November 2022
Appointed July 2023

Questions?

Break

Expanded Entitlements - Communications

- On our [Childcare Choices website](#), parents can now use the updated online eligibility checker to see how much support they can get now and, in the future, as well as subscribe for regular updates on the upcoming expansion.
- We have also shared a [new communications toolkit for partners](#) which include key information and resources for you to use across your channels.
- Marketing campaign with messages about the childcare expansion went live on 27 October across social media and paid search. This is complementing the already existing messages on available childcare offers.
- Bigger campaign push across different channels from January 2024

Colleagues are doing further work in this area and have two question for you:

- ***How can the Department for Education help you to communicate with parents about available and upcoming government childcare support?***
- ***What type of content/communications materials would you find useful – e.g. leaflets, posters, social post copies, social graphics, newsletter copy etc?***

LA readiness Assessments

Self-assessments

- LA readiness self-assessments were sent to all local authorities on Friday 3 November, for completion **by Friday 24 November**.
- The self-assessments are intended to act as a helpful checklist of essential activity ahead of the reforms rolling out. This will enable you and your council members to understand how implementation is progressing locally, to enable DfE to understand where support for LAs may be needed going forwards, and to ensure delivery plans are in place across the country. The feedback we receive will also be used to help evaluate delivery of the childcare offer.

Supply and demand data

- The self-assessments were sent out alongside supply and demand data for each local authority.
- The self-assessments and analysis are intended to be used alongside one another. The self-assessment asks questions about your interpretation of the data – this helps us refine our understanding of need across the country, and will enable us to provide you with improved analysis in the future.

LA Delivery support funding

£12m of LA Delivery support funding was announced in July. This funding is intended to support LAs to support local authorities meet programme and delivery costs associated with rolling out the expanded EY entitlements in FY23-24. **On 18 October we informed all eligible LAs, via email, of their allocation of the LA Delivery support funding.**

We used a formula to produce local authority level allocations. This formula:

- **apportions funding based on each LA's share of the total PTE two-year-old and under two-year-old pupil number estimate, as published alongside the Early years funding** - extension of the entitlements consultation to give a 'population weighted funding' element to reflect variation in LA size.
- **includes an area cost adjustment (ACA) used in the current EY funding rates formula.** This ensures the per-LA funding rates take into account the cost of delivery in different areas.
- **has a minimum funding floor of £55,000 included,** which will ensure every eligible LA receives a minimum level of funding for support to deliver the expanded entitlements.

We understand LAs have a need for the funding in 23/24 so expect most LAs will want to spend it this FY. As mentioned in the covering email for the GDL and MOU, **this is a non-ringfenced grant and we will not claw back unspent delivery support funding from FY23-24**

We are considering what further support may be needed beyond this financial year.

Support Contract

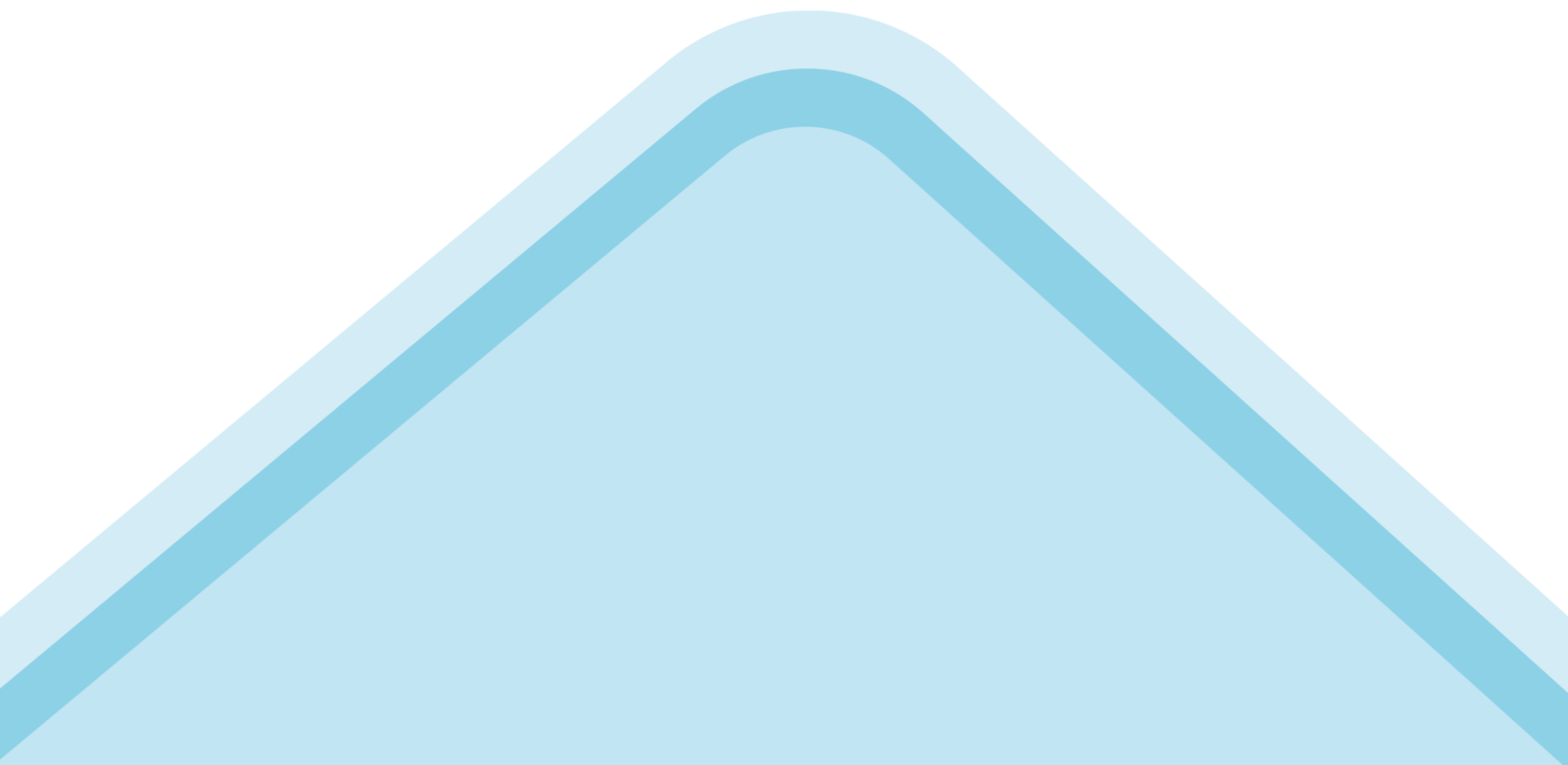
Current support

- Email of 6th Nov: highlighted that we have expanded the scope of the current Hemsall's contract to deliver a comprehensive and coherent package of delivery support for the **current early years entitlements** and the **expanded early years entitlements**.
- Encourage you all to sign up to the face-to-face regional events, which you should have received information for directly from Hemsalls.
- Contract run until March 2024

Future support

- As mentioned in the previous webinar on 19 October, we are procuring a support contract to provide specialist support for LAs to enable them to deliver:
 - a. their Early Years (EY) and wraparound childcare sufficiency duties;
 - b. the expansion to the EY entitlements announced at the 2023 Spring Budget;
 - c. and the wraparound childcare programme announced at the 2023 Spring Budget
- From early next year, the successful supplier will provide expert support for LAs to support them to increase their capacity and expertise to deliver, supporting LAs to meet delivery milestones. Where appropriate, this support will be joined up between EY and wraparound.

Evaluation



Department for Education

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