

## **Schools Forum Document NP Appendix 1**

### **Consultation - Bradford District's Early Years Single Funding Formula 2022/23**

#### **1) Introduction & Summary**

1.1 Attached with this introduction is the Technical Statement, which explains the methodology and timetable that are proposed to be used to calculate funding allocations for individual providers delivering the 2, 3 and 4-year-old entitlements in the Bradford District in the 2022/23 financial year, April 2022 to March 2023. This is known as our 'Early Years Single Funding Formula' (EYSFF). ***A summary of our proposals, and a highlight of changes, are given in paragraph 1.10 below.***

1.2 Please note that the values of all funding rates quoted in this document, and highlighted in yellow, are currently indicative and should be viewed as such. It is expected that rates of funding for 2022/23 will be confirmed following this consultation and the Council's budget meeting on 17 February 2022. The rates presented in this document however, subject to this consultation, do represent what we propose to fund and therefore, do give providers a basis on which to plan.

1.3 Following the changes that were made to entitlement funding arrangements for the 2020/21 financial year, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, all local authorities for 2021/22 were expected by the DfE to return to their 'normal arrangements' (normal arrangements for counting actual numbers of entitlement hours recorded for children on roll i.e. the normal 'funding follows the child' approach). The DfE continues to expect all local authorities to follow their normal arrangements in 2022/23. Providers therefore, should continue to plan on the basis that they will be funded from April 2022 on our normal arrangements, as currently proposed in the attached Technical Statement.

1.4 Our proposed approach for 2022/23 continues to incorporate our responses to the changes that began at April 2017, as a result of the Government's national early years funding reforms. Our approach continues to be based on our previously established guiding principles and we do not propose any major structural funding changes. A key priority for 2022/23 is to continue to maximise the rates of funding that are allocated to providers, passing directly through to providers the greater proportion of the uplift in rates of funding that have been announced by the DfE. The Local Authority recognises that the uplift in the National Living Wage, and the introduction of the new National Insurance Levy for the NHS & Social Care, will increase provider operating costs.

1.5 In reviewing the current and predicted future year overall financial position of our Early Years Block (which is the block of the Dedicated Schools Grant from which local authorities fund providers for the delivery of the early years entitlements, and fund other support services relating to early years provision), we do propose to begin to make some small changes to our approach, which are aimed at ensuring that our Early Years Block remains financially resilient and that we can sustain and continue to uplift, across the medium term, the funding rates that providers receive.

1.6 In proposing these small changes, we have looked closely at how our current 2021/22 financial year funding approach compares with that of other local authorities and we have also reviewed how our provider rates of funding compare. A summary of these comparisons is presented in paragraph 2. The headline from these comparisons, looking specifically at rates of provider funding, is that we currently delegate to providers a significantly greater proportion of our Early Years Block than the average authority. As a result of this, facilitated by our use of reserves, providers in Bradford generally currently receive higher values of delegated funding per child per hour for their entitlement delivery than are found in the average authority; both through the Universal Base Rates being higher and through our spending on our Deprivation and SEND Supplement within our 3&4-year-old EYSFF also being higher.

1.7 As we have explained in our consultations in recent years, whilst awaiting a longer term decision from the DfE on the funding of maintained nursery schools, the most significant change so far for Bradford, resulting from the 2017 national funding reforms, has been the reduction in the value of the funding Bradford receives from Government to support the delivery of the 3&4-year-old universal and extended entitlements. Since April 2017, in response, the main priority for the Local Authority has been to protect providers as best as possible against the full impact of this reduction. The funding of maintained nursery schools has remained protected (at 2016/17 levels) because the DfE has provided a specific additional funding supplement for this purpose. Wider than this:

- We have earmarked reserves (one off monies from brought forward balances) held within the Early Years Block to protect the value of the 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate at its current year level, which is £4.25 per hour.
- We continue to allocate, in addition to the Universal Base Rate, funding to providers via our Deprivation & SEND supplement in our 3&4-year-old EYSFF on a proportion of budget that is substantially higher than found in other local authorities, meaning higher provider funding rates. We began at April 2020 to reduce the proportion of our 3&4-year-old EYSFF that is allocated via our Deprivation & SEND supplement, with the intention to reduce this down to the average of our statistical neighbours, which is rounded at 6%. We set out in our consultation in autumn 2019 our intention to reduce down to the 6% average in three steps over three years, with the proportion reduced from 9.5% to 8.0% in 2020/21, and then down to 7.0% in 2021/22 and then to 6.0% in 2022/23. We actioned the reduction from 9.5% to 8.0% in 2020/21. However, in response to the challenging circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we did not reduce our spending further in 2021/22. Deprivation and SEND supplement spending in 2021/22 was retained at 8%, which is still around 2% higher than found in the average of our statistical neighbour authorities. Additional reserves are earmarked to support this higher spending.
- We have also earmarked reserves held within the Early Years Block to directly pass through to providers delivering the 2-year-old entitlement the rate of funding that the Local Authority receives from the DfE for this entitlement, without 'top-slice', whilst also giving access to eligible 2-year-olds to the Early Years Inclusion Fund. The current rate of 2-year-old entitlement funding is £5.36 per hour.
- As a consequence of all the above bullet points, as well as earmarking reserves, Bradford Council continues to retain centrally within the Early Years Block ('top-slicing' provider funding in order to create capacity for the Council to deliver additional early years support activities as well as to administer the EYSFF) a significantly lower value of budget than is retained centrally in the average of other local authorities.

1.8 The financial issues for the Early Years Block that were created by the 2017 national reforms are still present in 2022/23. In addition, as we indicated in our consultation document this time last year, the funding that entitlement providers receive, as well as the funding the Local Authority receives to pass through to providers, is being affected by the reduction in the number of entitlement children in the Bradford District, due to demographic changes. As entitlement numbers reduce, the amount of financial flexibility contained within the Early Years Block also reduces. It is important that providers are aware of this reduction in flexibility, as this will influence the values of rates of funding that can be afforded going forward, and does influence our proposals for 2022/23.

1.9 Following the Chancellor's Spending Review announcement, made on 27 October, the DfE confirmed on 25 November the Early Years Block settlements for local authorities for 2022/23, as well as the guidance that local authorities must follow. The DfE has confirmed:

- Bradford's rate of funding from the DfE for the 3&4-year-old entitlements is increased from £4.69 to £4.86 per hour. This represents an increase of + 3.62% (+ £0.17).
- Bradford's rate of funding from the DfE for the 2-year-old entitlement is increased from £5.36 to £5.57 per hour. This represents an increase of + 3.92% (+ £0.21).
- Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) is increased from £0.53 to £0.60 per child per hour. This represents an increase of 13.2% (+ £0.07).

- The minimum value of Disability Access Funding (DAF) that local authorities must allocate is increased from £615 to £800 per child per year. This represents an increase in the minimum of 30.1% (+ £185).
- The supplement that is allocated to protect the funding of maintained nursery schools will be available for the full 2022/23 financial year. Unlike in previous years, the rate of supplement funding per hour is uplifted by 3.5%, in line with the overall average early years settlement. This is the first time uplift has been applied to rates of supplement funding. Although this supplement has been confirmed for the full financial year, the DfE's announcement does not give any information regarding the longer-term position of the funding of maintained nursery schools.
- There are no technical changes in how local authorities must use their Early Years Block funding, or must operate their Early Years Single Funding Formulae, in 2022/23.
- The DfE's announcement so far does not say anything about whether the additional allocations that maintained schools and academies currently receive, in respect of early years children, for the former Teacher Pay Grant and Teacher Pensions Grants will continue in 2022/23. We anticipate that these separate allocations will continue, but this is a matter still to be confirmed.
- The DfE's announcement does not say anything about the implications for the early years sector of the national SEND system and funding reviews. The DfE has stated that the outcomes of these reviews will be published, and public consultation will begin, in the first quarter of 2022. We anticipate therefore, that it is likely that our EYSFF will need to respond to changes directed from these reviews for the 2023/24 financial year from April 2023. This is a matter we will pick up within our EYSFF review.

#### **1.10 We have developed our proposed EYSFF approach for 2022/23 on the basis that:**

- We are continuing to develop and to introduce a **new Bradford Provider Headcount Portal** for the collection of entitlement delivery information from providers. This new Headcount Portal will shortly replace the existing Bradford Provider Gateway that PVI providers, and also that schools and academies that deliver the 2-year-old entitlement, currently use to submit their entitlement delivery information to the Local Authority. It is anticipated that the new Headcount Portal will be used to collect all information for the 2022/23 EYSFF from PVI providers and also to collect 2-year-old information from schools and academies that deliver this entitlement.
- **The Authority's medium-term aim is that the new Bradford Provider Headcount Portal will also be used to collect 3&4-year-old entitlement delivery information from schools and academies,** meaning that the submission of this entitlement delivery information via the Headcount Portal will replace the current approach, whereby this information is extracted from the school's / academy's termly census return that is submitted to the DfE. There are significant advantages to using a discrete mechanism for the collection of entitlement delivery information from all providers, including from schools and academies, rather than relying on the termly census returns. Many other local authorities now use a separate Portal. Whilst we further develop and pilot our new Headcount Portal, with the medium-term aim of introducing this for schools and academies, we will continue to extract 3&4-year-old entitlement delivery information from the termly censuses that schools and academies submit to the DfE.
- **We do not propose to make any changes in the 2022/23 EYSFF to how provider entitlement delivery is counted, meaning that we will continue to use the existing termly-headcount methodology, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> termly headcount for the 2-year-old entitlement.** The introduction of a single Portal for the collection of entitlement delivery information from all providers will give opportunities for us to explore again the pros and cons of different counting arrangements, including options for counting arrangements that are more sensitive to the movement of children and to the fluctuations in numbers within terms. When we previously consulted with providers in 2019 on an option to move from a termly-count to a 'starters and leavers' type arrangement, the responses from providers were mixed. We will therefore, wish to consider carefully all options that might be available and to continue to consult with providers on these.
- Regarding the **2-year-old entitlement**, providers in 2022/23 will continue to be funded on a single flat rate per child per hour with no additional supplements. This rate was £5.36 in 2021/22. The DfE has confirmed that Bradford's rate of funding for 2-year-olds in 2022/23 at Early Years Block level has been

uplifted to £5.57 per hour. **We propose to set our rate of funding for providers in 2022/23 at £5.55 per child per hour.** This passes the majority of the DfE's uplift onto providers (£0.19 out of the £0.21 uplift), with £0.02 contributing to the cost of access to eligible 2-year-olds to the Early Years Inclusion Fund (EYIF). This £0.02 contribution is one of the minor adjustments, stated in paragraph 1.5, to support achieving the sustainability of our EYSFF approach across the medium term. A £0.02 contribution will provide an estimated total cash contribution of £25,000 to the estimated 2-year-old EYIF budget cost of £100,000 in 2022/23.

- Regarding the **3 & 4-year-old entitlement**, we propose:
  - **To set the 3 & 4-Year-Old Universal Base Rate (UBR) for providers in 2022/23 at £4.39 per child per hour.** This is an uplift of £0.14 on the £4.25 funded in 2021/22. This uplift passes through to providers via the Universal Base Rate the majority of the DfE's uplift at Early Years Block level (£0.14 out of the £0.17 uplift). Of the remaining £0.03 uplift, £0.01 is allocated to providers overall through the uplift in Deprivation and SEND supplement rates, which automatically comes from increasing the UBR and retaining this supplement spending at 8%, and £0.02 is contributing to the overall financial position of the Early Years Block, factoring in all costs. Again, this £0.02 is one of the minor adjustments to support achieving the sustainability of our EYSFF across the medium term in the context of the proposal (next bullet point) to continue to retain a higher level of Deprivation and SEND supplement funding within our EYSFF.
  - **To continue to 'pause' the previously planned further reduction in spend on the Deprivation & SEND Supplement, meaning that spending on this supplement will again be retained at 8% in 2022/23.** Progress towards the previously planned reduction, ultimately to 6%, will be reviewed again for 2023/24.
  - **Not to introduce any more supplements into our 3 & 4-year-old EYSFF.** New supplements would dilute further both the Universal Base Rate and the Deprivation & SEND rates at a time when we see our priority to be to maximise the value of the UBR for all providers.
- We will pass through to providers the nationally set funding rate for **the Early Years Pupil Premium, which been uplifted from £0.53 to £0.60 per child per hour for 2022/23.**
- Regarding the **Disability Access Fund (DAF)**, in 2021/22 we increased the value of funding that we allocate per child per year to £1,000. The DfE has increased for 2022/23 the national minimum funding value, from £615 to £800. **We propose to retain our funding rate at £1,000 per child per year for 2022/23.**
- Regarding the **Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund (EYIF)**:
  - EYIF will continue to be fully funded solely from the Early Years Block.
  - **We will continue to apply the existing Inclusion Fund approach, as set out in Appendix 2, and the existing basic core funding rate per hour of £6.32.** This rate is unchanged because the value of Element 2 (£6,000) to which this directly relates is also unchanged in 2022/23.
  - 2-year-olds will continue to be eligible for EYIF.
- Regarding funding the delivery of the **3&4-year-old entitlements in Maintained Nursery Schools**:
  - The protected setting base rate for maintained nursery schools is proposed to be set at £5.98 per hour in 2022/23. This is the 2021/22 protected £5.84 uplifted by £0.14 in line with the uplift that is proposed to be applied to the 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate for other providers.
  - The Deprivation and SEND supplement rates for each maintained nursery school are proposed to be protected at their 2016/17 values (as they have been since 2017), plus 3.29%. A 3.29% uplift is in line with the percentage uplift in the 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate (£4.39 vs. £4.25) and in line with the estimated median average uplift in Deprivation and SEND supplements rates for other provider. This uplift is being applied because the DfE has also

uplifted the value of supplement rates allocated to the Local Authority. This is the first time since 2017 that the additional maintained nursery school supplement has been uplifted by the DfE.

- We propose that the maintained nursery school lump sum sustainability supplement will continue to be calculated using the current methodology, but with the values of the different factors uplifted by 3.29%. This uplift does not mean however, that nursery schools will receive in 2022/23 a sustainability lump sum value increased by 3.29% on 2021/22 values. This is because the lump sum works on a sliding-scale basis, with reference to the number of entitlement hours delivered, but also because we will uplift by 3.29% 'both sides' of this sliding-scale calculation (both the minimum level of funding required to be allocated as well as the funding that is 'normally' allocated before a top up to the minimum is provided).
- Regarding sums that are proposed to be **retained centrally within the Early Years Block**, to fund support services relating to early years provision, on current estimates, **we propose to retain a total value of £438,300 in 2022/23**. Approval for this value (adjusted for final calculations) will be sought from the Schools Forum at its meeting to be held on 12 January 2022. This compares with a value of £493,000 that was retained in 2020/21 (2020/21 is last reasonable year for comparison, due to the 'exceptional circumstances' changes we made in 2021/22 to protect the Early Years Block through the COVID-19 pandemic). Our benchmarking (please see section 2) strongly indicates that we are currently a low central retainer of Early Years Block funding, in comparison with the average local authority, and that we will continue to be a low central retainer in 2022/23. The DfE restricts the value of the 3&4-year-old EYSFF monies that can be 'retained' to a maximum of 5% i.e. our 3&4-year-old EYSFF must allocate to providers in total (including EYIF but excluding the maintained nursery school supplement) a minimum of 95% of the value of 3&4-year-old Early Years Block funding we receive. Within the 5% allowance however, local authorities also must contain the cost of any subsidy that might be provided by 3&4-year-old funding to the cost of funding allocated to providers for the 2-year-old entitlement. So our position is little complicated, because our 2-year-old entitlement funding to providers is currently estimated to continue to exceed our 2-year-old Early Years Block funding in 2022/23. On current estimates, including the subsidy of the 2-year-old entitlement but excluding the allocation of reserves, **we anticipate that our pass through to providers in 2022/23, will be c. 97.5%**; or, to put it another way, 2.5% of our 2022/23 3&4-year-old entitlement funding received from the DfE will be either be retained for central support services or will be used for the 2-year-old entitlement. Finally, just for clarity, we do not currently transfer any monies out of the Early Years Block to be spent in other blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant and we do not propose to transfer any funding in 2022/23.

1.11 Please use the responses form attached at the end of this document to submit your views on the proposals outlined in the consultation. There is space on this form for you to comment on any aspect of the proposals. If you wish to discuss these proposals in more detail, or have any specific questions, please contact either Andrew Redding [schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk) 01274 432678 or [EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk) 01274 431965.

1.12 Please ensure that your response is submitted by the deadline of **Monday 24 January 2022**. Any responses received after this date will not be considered.

1.13 It is anticipated that final proposals will be put to Council on 17 February 2022. A confirmed Technical Statement, giving sight of the final Early Years Single Funding Formula, and rates of funding, for the 2022/23 financial year will be published as soon as possible after this.

## **2) Comparing Bradford's Early Years Block approach and our Early Years Single Funding Formula**

2.1 It is important that we regularly compare our approach to the management of our Early Years Block, and our Early Years Single Funding Formula, with other local authorities. It is also important that we review our proposed direction of travel for 2022/23 in this context. Key areas of comparison are presented below. These comparisons are all based on 2021/22 financial year budget information, which has been collected and published by the DfE.

2.2 The table below shows the median averages of 3&4-year-old provider Universal Base Rates (UBR) for the current 2021/22 financial year.

<b>3&amp;4 Year Old Entitlement UBRs 2021/22</b>	<b>UBR £</b>
Bradford	£4.25
Yorks & Humber Regional Average	£4.14
Statistical Neighbour Average	£4.25
National Average (including London)	£4.26
National Average (excluding London)	£4.19

2.3 The table below shows the median averages of 2-year-old provider Universal Base Rates (UBR) for the 2021/22 financial year.

<b>2 Year Old Entitlement Base Rates 2021/22</b>	<b>Base Rate £</b>
Bradford	£5.36
Yorks & Humber Regional Average	£5.30
Statistical Neighbour Average	£5.28
National Average (including London)	£5.36
National Average (excluding London)	£5.34

2.4 Additional points of comparison:

- Bradford's 2-year-old Universal Base Rate in 2021/22 is £5.36, which is 26% higher than our 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate of £4.25. The national median average 2-year-old Universal Base Rate (including London) is 26% higher at £5.36 than the national median average 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate at £4.26. Excluding London, the national average 2-year-old Universal Base Rate is 27% higher at £5.34 than the average 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate at £4.19.
- As in Bradford, the vast majority of local authorities (all but 12) fund the 2-year-old entitlement using only a single flat Universal Base Rate of funding per hour, without any additional supplements.
- Approximately 2/3rds of local authorities (103 authorities) set a 2-year-old Universal Base Rate, which is lower than the rate of funding for 2-year-olds that they received from the DfE within the Early Years Block i.e. 2/3rds of authorities in 2021/22 'top-sliced' the provider funding rate to use a proportion of this funding for other purposes. Only a third of local authorities, including Bradford, set a 2-year-old Universal Base Rate for providers at the rate of Early Years Block DfE funding, without top-slice.
- When we last compared this position (in 2018/19), the national average spending on supplements in the 3&4-year-old EYSFF was 4.4% and the average of our statistical neighbours was 5.7%. Bradford in 2021/22 spends 8.0% (excluding use of reserves and the maintained nursery school supplement). All local authorities are required to have a deprivation supplement and a small number of authorities also used other permitted supplements. It is quite difficult to update this calculation for 2021/22, because of the way supplement spending information is presented. It is difficult to cleanly see the proportion of 3&4-year-old funding that is allocated on supplements, without the inclusion of the maintained nursery school supplement, which will have a distorting impact on the figures because this supplement is not present in all authorities. With this limitation, we calculate that the national average spending on supplements in the 3&4-year-old EYSFF in 2021/22 is 4.8% and the average of our statistical neighbours is 6.3%. These % are slightly increased on, but are not dissimilar to, the %s we found in 2018/19.

- Looking at Early Years Block centrally retained funds, in 2021/22, Bradford centrally retained 0.3% of our EYSFF funding (this excludes the funds that at the start of the year are held centrally but are subsequently allocated to providers - Early Years Inclusion Fund, Early Years Pupil Premium and Disability Access Fund). This is significantly lower than all other averages (national median of 4.7%; Yorks & Humber median of 4.8%; statistical neighbour median of 3.6%). One of the contributing factors to this is that we took a decision in 2021/22 to transfer (on a one off basis for 2021/22 only in support of the anticipated financial pressures placed on the Early Years Block as a result of COVID-19) the Early Years Block's contribution to early years SEND services. If this contribution had been present in 2021/22, our central retention figure would have increased from 0.3% to 0.9%. Even with this adjustment however, this 2021/22 comparison confirms the extent to which Bradford Council is currently a very low central retainer of Early Years Block funding, which is to the benefit of the rates of funding allocated to providers.
- The national median average spending on Early Years SEND Inclusion Funds (EYIF) as a % of the EYSFF in 2021/22 was 1.4%, compared with 1.2% in Bradford and 0.7% in our statistical neighbours. Approximately 1/4 of other local authorities (38 authorities) also allocated EYIF funding to 2-year-olds in 2021/22, as we do in Bradford.

### **3) Equalities Impact Assessment 2022/23 Proposals**

3.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Local Authority to give due regard to achieving the following objectives in exercising its functions:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

3.2 We assess that our proposals for 2022/23 will have a positive impact on equalities. The arrangements that the Local Authority proposes in this consultation for the 2022/23 financial year retain a significant amount of continuity on current positive practice.

- We propose to pass through to providers delivering the 2, 3&4-year-old entitlements the vast majority of uplifts in funding rates that have been allocated by the DfE, whilst making some minor adjustments to support on-going sustainability. These uplifts continue to support all providers in their delivery of the entitlements as costs, especially salaries costs, increase in 2022/23. Uplifting the Universal Base Rates annually for all providers helps support universal good quality provision for all children.
- We propose to continue the protection of maintained nursery schools, with this protection being funded using the specific supplement within the Early Years Block, supported by one off monies. The numbers of children with SEND and from more deprived backgrounds is typically higher in the nursery schools sector and this protection continues to support provision for these children.
- The Early Years Pupil Premium, as well as the Disability Access Fund and Early Inclusion Funds, will continue to complement the Early Years Single Funding Formula and will provide additional funds to support children with SEND as these have done in 2021/22. The proposal to continue Disability Access Funding at the higher value of £1,000 for eligible children, is put forward with the aim of continuing to support providers in meeting the needs of eligible children with SEND.
- Following review, we have proposed to continue to pause the previously planned further reduction in spend on the Deprivation & SEND supplement within the 3&4-year-old EYSFF, meaning that spending on this supplement will be retained at 8% in 2022/23. This proposal is put forward in recognition of the current impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Authority's concern to maximise the amount of funding that will be allocated to early years providers next year to support children from more deprived backgrounds. The position of the Deprivation & SEND supplement will need to be reviewed again for 2023/24.





# **Bradford District Early Years Single Funding Formula 2022/23**

## **(DRAFT VERSION FOR CONSULTATION DECEMBER 2021)**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A DRAFT PROPOSED VERSION OF THE TECHNICAL STATEMENT WRITTEN FOR CONSULTATION.**

### **INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

**1) The Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for the 3&4-year-olds universal and extended entitlements in 2022/23 is as follows:**

$$(a + b + c) \times d + e = \text{Total EYSFF Funding 2022/23}$$

a) Universal Base Rate (£ per child per hour)

b) Provider Deprivation & SEND Rate (£ per child per hour)

c) Rate Protection (Maintained Nursery Schools only) (£ per child per hour)

$$(a + b + c) = \text{Provider's Total Funding Rate per child per hour}$$

d) No. of Entitlement Hours delivered at the provider (per year)

e) Lump Sum Funding for Sustainability (Maintained Nursery Schools only)

For example, on the simple basis that all children at a provider access 15 hours universal entitlement per week for 38 weeks per year, entitlement funding for providers using the EYSFF in 2022/23 will look like:

a) Universal Base Rate

**£4.39**

b) Provider Deprivation & SEND Rate

£0.30

\*\* Example Rate Only

$$\text{The provider's funding rate per child per hour} = (\text{£4.39} + \text{£0.30}) = \text{£4.69}$$

c) No. of Entitlement Hours delivered at the provider (per year) = **39,660** calculated as follows:

	<b>Children</b>	<b>Hours Delivered</b>
i Summer Term	78	14,040
ii Autumn Term	62	13,020
iii Spring Term	70	12,600

$$\text{Sub Total EYSFF Funding} = \text{£4.69} \times 39,660 = \text{£186,005}$$

**2) The Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for the extended 30 hours entitlement for eligible 3&4-Year-Olds operates within the same framework as the universal 15 hours entitlement, as set out in this Technical Statement.**

Rates of funding, timetabling and counting arrangements are the same. Specific guidance about the funding of the 30 hours entitlement, where necessary, is incorporated into this Statement.

**3) The 2-year-old entitlement in 2022/23 continues to be funded via a simple flat rate per child per hour for all providers. The value of rate for all providers is set at **£5.55** per child per hour.**

The timetabling and counting arrangements for the funding of the 2-year-old entitlement are the same as for the 3&4-year-old entitlement. Specific guidance about the funding of the 2-year-old entitlement, where necessary, is incorporated into this Statement. A 2nd headcount per term continues in 2022/23.

#### **4) The existing termly headcount methodology is retained for 2022/23.**

We consulted with providers in autumn 2017 on an option for a 'starters and leavers' based approach to replace our current termly headcount. This option received a mixed response and we chose not to progress this further.

We are continuing to develop and to introduce a new Bradford Provider Headcount Portal for the collection of entitlement delivery information from providers. This new Headcount Portal will shortly replace the existing Bradford Provider Gateway that PVI providers, and also that schools and academies that deliver the 2-year-old entitlement, currently use to submit their entitlement delivery information to the Local Authority. It is anticipated that the new Headcount Portal will be used to collect all information for the 2022/23 EYSFF from PVI providers and also to collect 2-year-old information from schools and academies that deliver this entitlement.

The Authority's aim is that the new Bradford Provider Headcount Portal will also be used to collect 3&4-year-old entitlement delivery information from schools and academies, meaning that the submission of this entitlement delivery information via the Headcount Portal will replace the current approach, whereby this information is extracted from the school's / academy's termly census return that is submitted to the DfE. There are significant advantages to using a discrete mechanism for the collection of entitlement delivery information from all providers, including from schools and academies, rather than relying on the termly census returns. Many other local authorities now use a separate Portal. Whilst we further develop and pilot our new Headcount Portal, with the aim of introducing this for schools and academies, we will continue to extract 3&4-year-old entitlement delivery information from the termly censuses that schools and academies submit to the DfE.

We do not propose to make any changes in the 2022/23 EYSFF to how provider entitlement delivery is calculated, meaning that we will continue to use the existing termly-headcount methodology, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> termly headcount for the 2-year-old entitlement. The introduction of a single Portal for the collection of entitlement delivery information from all providers will give opportunities for us to explore again the pros and cons of different counting arrangements, including options for counting arrangements that are more sensitive to the movement of children and to the fluctuations in numbers within terms and during the year. We will wish to consider carefully all options that might be available, in consultation with providers.

#### **5) Funding continues to be allocated to all eligible providers in addition to the basic Early Years Single Funding Formula for three purposes, which are explained further in this Statement:**

- Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
- Disability Access Fund (DAF)
- Early Years SEND Inclusion (EYIF)

#### **6) The funding levels (referring back to 2016/17 funding levels, prior to the national EYSFF reforms) of Maintained Nursery Schools continues to be protected for the full 2022/23 financial year using the specific additional supplement funding that continues to be allocated by the DfE.**

## SECTION 1

**a) There is a Universal Base Rate per child per hour for the funding of the 3 and 4-year-old entitlements. In 2022/23 the value of this is £4.39**

- The Universal Base Rate is expressed as a value of funding per child per hour.
- All providers are funded on this Universal Base Rate. Maintained Nursery Schools then receive an additional amount of lump sum funding from the DfE's specific Maintained Nursery School Supplement, effectively to bring the Base Rate for Maintained Nursery Schools up to £5.98 per child per hour, which is the value of their Base Rate in 2016/17, prior to the implementation of the DfE's national reform, plus uplifts in 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 in line with the uplifts in the Universal Base Rate for all providers in these years.
- The same value of Universal Base Rate is used to fund both the universal 15 hours entitlement and the additional extended 15 hours entitlement, up to a maximum of 30 hours per child, for eligible children.
- The Universal Base Rate is fixed and will not change during 2022/23. It is fixed at the point the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of Indicative Budgets is published, which for 2022/23 is in February 2022. Please see the timetable at the back of this Statement.
- For maintained primary schools and academies with nursery classes, funding allocated to support whole school costs, such as business rates, remains fully within the primary-phase core funding formula.
- *Still subject to confirmation by the DfE* - Maintained nursery schools, and maintained primary schools and academies with early years pupils, that currently receive additional allocations of Teacher Pay Grant and Teacher Pensions Grant, are expected to continue to receive these grants separately in respect of their early years pupils in 2022/23. This is different in approach from mainstream primary-phase funding, where these two grants were amalgamated into core formula funding at April 2021.

**b) The value of a provider's 'Deprivation & Special Educational Needs (SEND) Rate' for 3 and 4-year olds is based on the measured level of deprivation of children taking the entitlement at that provider**

- All local authorities are required by the Department for Education (DfE) to have a deprivation factor within their EYSFF. This funding is allocated, in addition to the Universal Base Rate, specifically to:
  - Support raising the educational outcomes and life chances of children from more deprived background.
  - Support the reduction of the attainment gap that currently exists between children from more deprived and children from more affluent backgrounds.
  - Support providers for the additional costs associated with the delivery of the entitlement to children from more deprived backgrounds and to children that have additional lower level educational needs.
- As with the Universal Base Rate:
  - A provider's 'Deprivation & SEND Rate' is expressed as a value per child per hour,
  - These rates are fixed at the point the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of Indicative Budgets is published, which for 2022/23 is in February 2022. Rates will not change during 2022/23.
  - All 3 and 4-year-old entitlement hours, including the extended 30 hours, delivered at a provider are funded at the same Deprivation and SEND Rate.
  - The DfE's Maintained Nursery Schools Supplement is allocated to maintain each Maintained Nursery School's individual 'Deprivation and SEND Rate' at the 2016/17 value, but with the value of each school's protected rate in 2022/23 uplifted in line with the uplift in the Universal Base Rate.

- Unlike the Universal Base Rate, which is the same value for all providers, Deprivation and SEND rates vary between providers according to the measured level of deprivation of children attending each provider. Each provider's Deprivation and SEND Rate is calculated using the Index of Multiple Deprivation and the postcodes of children taking up the entitlement at the provider, recorded in the January 2022, January 2021 and January 2020 censuses (this is a 3 year rolling average). Because of the time lag in data, the Local Authority appreciates that using this approach may produce some anomalous funding results, especially for smaller providers. We keep this approach under review.
- Rates of funding have been calculated, based on the estimates of funded hours delivered used to calculate the Indicative Budgets and using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) scores linked to individual children's postcodes. Where this data for an individual provider cannot be properly determined, or is not available, and for providers that newly establish during the year, the provider's deprivation rate will be calculated using the average IMD scores for all providers of their type. This use of averages is especially applicable to the rates applied to Childminders.

**c) Each provider is funded on the number of 3 and 4-year-old entitlement hours recorded as delivered in a single common census taken each term, with the dates of these termly censuses being the same for all providers**

- Each provider's no. of funded entitlement hours delivered for the 2022/23 financial year is the sum of:
  - Summer term (term beginning 1 April 2022): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 19 May 2022, x 12 weeks
  - Autumn term (term beginning 1 September 2022): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 6 October 2022, x 14 weeks.
  - Spring term (term beginning 1 January 2023): the total of entitlement hours delivered per week recorded in the census taken on 19 January 2023, x 12 weeks.
- 'Hours delivered' are the entitlement hours a child is registered to take at that provider, taken from the contracts signed with parents for that term. 'Hours delivered' is not affected by the actual attendance of children at the time the censuses are taken nor by a child's attendance for the rest of the term after the census is taken.
- The dates for the censuses are the same for all schools, classes and PVI providers. This is so that the entitlement delivery information for each provider can be cross checked to identify any duplicate children.
- For maintained schools and academies, funded hours information will be extracted by the Local Authority from the data recorded in the "funded hours" field in the DfE Termly Censuses, which schools submit to the DfE via the COLLECT website. PVI providers will be required, as is the process now, to submit their information directly to the Local Authority via the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal.
- Adjustments will be made to the funding of providers that open or close (or cease to deliver entitlement hours) mid-term, to reflect the proportion of the term applicable. Adjustments to funding will not normally be made where closure is only short term and for a public health reason or for another circumstance that is not within the control of the provider e.g. local or national elections or damage to premises.
- Other than in the two circumstances below, no adjustments will normally be made to funded hours for starters or leavers after the census date in each term. Exceptional circumstances will be considered (via provider application), where a provider admits a significant number of children after the census has been taken in that term (please see section h).

- Adjustments may be made to funded hours for the intake of children after the census is taken for that term where this is the result of re-allocation from the closure of an inadequate setting.
- Adjustments to funded hours may be made specifically for the autumn term, recognising that in this term the intake of children into nursery provision is often staggered into schools and classes and that eligible children may start the term at a PVI provider and then move to a school or class before the October census. Where a child started the autumn term at a PVI provider and has moved to a school or class prior to the October census, an adjustment may be made to split the funding for the autumn term based on the number of weeks that a child has attended each provider. This adjustment applies for the autumn term only.
- For the purposes of calculating Indicative Budgets for maintained schools and academies, published before the start of the financial year, the Authority will use estimates of the funded hours that will be recorded in each of the termly censuses.
- The Authority reserves the right to make adjustments to estimates (and to initial payments), or not to make any payment, where the information submitted by providers is demonstrably incorrect or is missing. As provided for within the Funding Agreement, the Authority also will charge an administration fee where there are issues with the quality or the timeliness of funded hours information that is submitted by providers.

#### **d) Only children eligible for the 3 and 4-year-old entitlements will be funded**

- The EYSFF for 3 and 4-year-olds will allocate funding for children in providers that are accessing the entitlement only from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. The 1 September, 1 January and 1 April are taken as start dates for each of the terms. The entitlement has been extended to eligible 2-year-olds, but this does not mean all children accessing provision that are aged under 3 are eligible for EYSFF funding.
- The maximum number of hours any child will be funded for, for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, for the universal entitlement is 15 hours per week (for 38 weeks) or the annual equivalent of this total. This is the same for any child regardless of their age, so a four or five-year-old child staying in nursery (rather than moving into Reception at statutory school age) will only be funded for the maximum on this basis, unless they are eligible for the extended 30 hours or they continue to be placed at the request of the Authority, most commonly in the case of children with SEND placed in early years resourced provisions attached to nursery schools, where children can access 25 hours per week.
- Some children will be entitled to 30 hours per week (for 38 weeks per year) and, for these children, 30 hours x 38 weeks is the maximum number of hours that will be funded by the EYSFF between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.
- Although a child can take up their entitlement over two providers, the maximum universal entitlement is still the equivalent of 15 hours per week over 38 weeks per year, unless otherwise agreed. Where a child attends two providers, the Authority will fund each provider on a pro-rata basis only up to a maximum of 15. Where a child attends two providers, the individual providers should ensure they are aware of the entitlement hours being accessed by that child at another provider; this should help to avoid funding discrepancies regarding duplicate pupils. This may involve discussion with the providers involved where the pro-rata split is not clear from the census returns.
- Although a child can stretch their entitlement over more than 38 weeks, the Authority will fund providers on the basis that all children are taking their entitlement over 38 weeks. It is for the individual provider to then manage funding. To ensure providers are funded correctly, these children should still be recorded in the censuses as accessing 15 hours or 30 hours, where they access an annual total of 570 hours (equivalent to 15 hours x 38 weeks) or 1,140 hours (equivalent to 30 hours x 38 weeks).

- The ESYFF does not apply a cap on the number of hours funded based on the published admission number of a maintained school or academy provider. However, schools and academies are expected to remain within their agreed Published Admission Number (PAN).
- More detailed guidance on the eligibility requirements for the extended 30 hours entitlement, the processes for determining this and how the Authority is required to verify eligibility, can be found on Bradford Schools Online [here](#). All providers are reminded that they must check 30 hour codes prior to confirming with parents their child's eligibility for the extended entitlement, and also prior to the submission of their censuses. The Local Authority conducts a code-checking exercise each term, through which the Authority confirms the children that are eligible to be funded for the extended entitlement. The Authority will not fund a provider for the extended entitlement where 30 hour codes are not valid or have not been issued before the deadline date for eligibility in the current term.

**e) The Confirmed Indicative Budget, published in March 2022, for maintained nursery schools and for maintained school and academy nursery classes only gives an estimate of funding. A pre-calculated Indicative Budget for PVI providers has been replaced by a flexible Ready Reckoner**

- A pre-calculated 1<sup>st</sup> draft Indicative Budget for 2022/23 will be published at the end of February 2022 only for maintained school and academy providers. This will show the Universal Base Rate and the provider's Deprivation and SEND Funding Rate, which are fixed for 2022/23. For the purposes of calculating these Indicative Budgets, simple estimates of the funded hours for the following year will be used. The pre-calculated Indicative Budget will be based on hours delivered by each school and academy in the previous year i.e. these budgets estimate that a school's / academy's delivery numbers in the new year will be the same as in the previous year.
- Maintained school providers and academies will have the opportunity to revise their estimates, should they wish, to incorporate their latest information on admissions for the coming financial year. A Confirmed Indicative Budget for 2022/23 will then be published in mid-March 2022. This budget will then be used to begin payments to maintained schools and academies within the Authority's established whole-school monthly advances system. A ready reckoner for maintained school and academy providers to use to estimate any funding adjustments will be published alongside the Confirmed Indicative Budgets.
- Pre-calculated Indicative Budgets are no longer published for PVI providers. Instead, an electronic (Excel) Ready Reckoner will be published in February 2022, showing the per hour rates of funding for each provider. This Ready Reckoner then allows providers to calculate their own indicative budgets based on their own estimates of hours that they expect to deliver across the coming financial year.

**f) A provider's actual funding will be adjusted to reflect differences between estimated and actual entitlement hours delivered during the financial year**

- Adjustments to funding will be calculated following each of the termly censuses:
  - Please see the timetable at the end of this statement for when adjustments will be published and actioned in 2022/23. These adjustments will alter the amounts of funding physically paid to providers.
  - The adjustments will reflect the differences between estimated and actual funded hours delivered.
  - A ready reckoner is provided by the Authority, which providers should use to anticipate these funding adjustments and plan their provision and spending accordingly.
  - A statement of the value of adjustments is published in advance of these being actioned through the payments system. Please see the timetable.
- Additional notes on the calculation of funding adjustments:

- The values of adjustments are influenced by the accuracy of the estimates of funded hours that are used. Adjustments are likely to be larger in value for providers that have more volatile numbers. Providers should use the ready reckoner to anticipate these.
  - Adjustments can be both positive and negative.
  - Adjustments will take account of any sustainability funding for maintained nursery schools that is funded via the DfE's supplement. The ready reckoner provided by the Authority for nursery schools incorporates this.
  - All adjustments for the 2022/23 financial year will be calculated and actioned before 31 March 2023. However, because of the very tight timescale for processing the data after the January 2023 census, the adjustments for the spring term 2023 will be based on summary information. Where amendments to funding are subsequently identified e.g. for duplicate children, following the processing of the more accurate individual child level census data, these amendments will be incorporated into the adjustments made to the funding for the summer term 2023. Where a provider does not pay back, via separate cheque or by BACs, any monies owed to the Authority at year-end, the value of funding owed will be taken from the provider's summer term payment.
  - Where closed or closing providers owe funding to the Authority, where the value owed cannot be recovered through adjustment of future payments, the provider will be asked to pay the funding back via cheque or via BACs.
- The first payment of the financial year, in April 2022, and then the first payments in each subsequent term, for schools and classes will be based on the Confirmed Indicative Budget.
  - For PVI providers, these first payments will be based either on latest actual delivery information or on updated estimates submitted by providers through the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal.

#### **g) In 2022/23 EYSFF funding will continue to be paid monthly to all providers**

- For maintained schools and academies, the Authority operates a well-established whole-school monthly advances payment system. EYSFF funding will continue to be paid using this. The adjustments to EYSFF funding will be incorporated into the September 2022, December 2022 and March 2023 advances adjustments. Please see the timetable.
- The Authority moved to monthly payments for PVI providers at April 2016. 2022/23 arrangements continue as follows:
  - Summer Term 2022:
    - Funding calculated on the latest delivery information / latest estimates will be divided by 5 (no. of months in the term) for 5 equal payments to be made between April and July.
    - 2 payments will be made in April, firstly for April and then for May. Payments for the remaining 3 months of summer term will be paid in May, June and July respectively.
    - Any positive or negative adjustments following the re-calculation of funding using the May Census actual numbers will be added to or deducted from the July payment.
    - Where the July payment is insufficient to recoup the full value of any negative adjustment, the August payment will also be reduced. Where a negative balance is still outstanding after this, a deduction will be made from September payment.
  - Autumn Term 2022:
    - Funding calculated on the latest delivery information / latest estimates will be divided by 4 (no. of months in the term) for 4 equal payments to be made each month between August and November.
    - The payment for September will be made in August, with payments for the remaining 3 months of the term made in September, October and November.
    - Any positive or negative adjustments following the re-calculation of funding using the October Census actual numbers will be added to or deducted from the November payment.

- Where the November payment is insufficient to recoup the full value of any negative adjustment, the December payment will also be reduced. Where a negative balance is still outstanding after this, a deduction will be made from the January payment.

➤ Spring Term 2023:

- Funding calculated on the latest delivery information / latest estimates will be divided by 4 (no. of months in the term) for 4 equal payments to be made each month between December and March.
  - The payment for January will be made in December, with payments for the remaining 3 months of the term made in January, February and March.
  - Any positive or negative adjustments following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be added to or deducted from the March payment.
  - A provider that has still been overpaid after the March payment must repay the value of overpayment by cheque or by BACs by 30 April 2023. Where a cheque or BACs payment is not received by 30 April 2023, the Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly payment in the summer term. This is likely to be in May 2023.
- The Authority will continue to talk to individual PVI providers about how information submitted through the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal can feed into the monthly payments system (so that payments that are made prior to the collection of the censuses can be based on a provider's latest delivery information / latest estimates). Adjustments to payments can be made during the term prior to the final adjustments being enacted.
  - Where a PVI provider experiences exceptional cash flow difficulties, they should contact the Authority to discuss this further. Contact details can be found in Section 3 of this document.
  - Providers will receive one single payment each month, which combines EYSFF funding and other grant allocations (such as EYPP, DAF, EYIF and EHCP funding) applicable for that month. A breakdown of the values paid for each type of funding and / or grant allocation will be shown on the advances (payments) update schedules. These schedules will continue to be updated and published on Bradford Schools Online monthly. We strongly recommend providers download and check these schedules each month.
  - Monthly payments pull together the main recurrent funding streams, which are the 2-Year-Old entitlement, the 3 & 4-Year-Old entitlement, Early Years Pupil Premium, DAF, EYIF and SEND top up funding for children with EHCPs. Early Years Pupil Premium payments are made on a termly retrospective actuals basis and are added to monthly payments as a lump sum in September, December and March. All other non-entitlement payments (EYIF, DAF, EHCP top up) are made on an actuals basis in the next available monthly payment following their confirmation.

## **h) Approach to Funding Sustainability & Exceptional Entitlement Funding in 2022/23**

- The EYSFF in 2022/23 continues to include a "sustainability" lump sum factor, which works on a sliding scale basis to allocate funding specifically to Maintained Nursery Schools in addition to the funding per children per hour. This factor ensures that funding allocations continue to reflect specific:
  - Site related costs (as set in our 2016/17 EYSFF): buildings and grounds maintenance costs, rates and insurance,
  - Fixed type costs (as set in 2016/17 EYSFF) incurred by maintained providers in leadership and management and administration and premises staffing.
- Maintained school, academy and PVI providers can access advice on sufficiency and sustainability provided by the Authority's Sufficiency Officers.
- The Schools Forum has established a process, which is used to consider the allocation of additional funding, on a one off exceptional basis, to maintained primary schools that request financial support



in response to exceptional cost pressures. Requests for funding are reviewed on an individual case basis against set criteria. Such requests are rare, but the most likely cause of a request is a significant increase in pupil numbers during the financial year, where the maintained school has had to make additional provision, such as establish a new class, but where this school's funding has not responded to this increase in pupil numbers due to the 'lag' in the funding system.

This established process will continue to be used in 2022/23 to consider any requests for additional exceptional EYSFF entitlement funding that may be made by any maintained school, academy or PVI provider. The Authority expects to consider submissions of this nature only where a provider evidences that they have admitted a significant number of entitlement children after the census for that term has been collected and so evidences that the census does not accurately reflect their true significantly higher net entitlement delivery in that term.

In such cases, exceptional circumstances will be measured in terms of the level of additional cost pressure faced by the provider in admitting these additional children, rather than simply in terms of measuring this on the number of additional children not counted in that term's census. The Authority will also look at the provider's actual delivery weekly across the term. The Authority would not expect providers to seek to claim additional entitlement funding only for small variances in numbers and, for example, where numbers following the term's census may have increased but where this is balanced by numbers being much lower in the weeks prior to the census. We would remind providers that a single termly count is designed to protect funding against smaller fluctuations in numbers during each term. We would also remind providers of the standard adjustments that are made within our normal arrangements (in the autumn term and following the closure of inadequate settings) as explained in section c.

#### **i) The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) in 2022/23**

- Providers will receive up to £342 per year, or £0.60 per child per hour, for each eligible child. The maximum number of annual hours funded for eligible children is 570 (15 hours x 38 weeks). Where a child is also eligible for the additional 15 hours entitlement for working parents, EYPP is paid on the universal 15 hours only, up to a total of 570 hours in the year.
- The DfE's guidance on the EYPP is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2022-to-2023/early-years-entitlements-local-authority-funding-of-providers-operational-guide-2022-to-2023#early-years-pupil-premium-eypp>

<https://www.gov.uk/get-extra-early-years-funding>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/experiences-of-the-early-years-pupil-premium>

- Providers should also refer to the specific guidance on EYPP that is available on Bradford Schools Online here:

<https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Secure/CMSPage.aspx?mid=3346>

- As with the school-age Pupil Premium Grant, the Government expects that providers are best placed to take decisions on how to support their disadvantaged pupils. Restrictions therefore, are not imposed on how providers spend the Early Years Pupil Premium. Ofsted, through the regular inspection process however, will hold providers to account on how they have used their Early Years Pupil Premium to support their disadvantaged children.
- EYPP is paid to providers using the process explained in section g.

#### **j) Disability Access Funding (DAF) in 2022/23**

- The DAF is allocated to children aged 3&4 who are accessing their entitlement hours at an early years provider in Bradford and who are also in receipt of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Children in receipt of the DLA do not have to be accessing all their entitlement hours to be eligible. Please note however, that 4 year olds in reception classes in maintained schools, academies or free schools are not eligible.
- DAF funding is allocated to support providers to make reasonable adjustments that will benefit the child and the setting as a whole. DAF cannot be used to pay for additional non-entitlement hours and non-entitlement services. Providers must discuss how the funding will be used with the child's parent or guardian.
- Parents / guardians are required to apply online. This can be accessed via the Authority's website:  
<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/looking-for-childcare/childrens-disability-access-funding/>
- The application requires basic details about the parent / guardian, the name of the chosen provider, and a copy of the child's Disability Living Allowance award letter. Support is available for parents / guardians who may require help to make an application. Providers should signpost the Authority's website and provide the contact number 01274 431386. Applications are processed by the Authority, who checks that the child is attending a provider in Bradford and that the child is in receipt of DLA. The parent / guardian is informed of the outcome of the application and, if successful, is given an award date and the date they can re-apply if their child is still accessing their early years entitlement. The provider the parent / guardian has chosen to receive the funding is also informed and is provided with details of the funding period.
- DAF is a lump sum payment, which the DfE states must be at least £800 per year per child in 2022/23. The Authority continues to enhance the value of payment per child in 2022/23 above this minimum to £1,000. DAF funding cannot be split between providers, so if a child is splitting their entitlement hours with more than one provider, the parent / guardian is required to nominate only one provider that will receive the full amount.
- The DAF is allocated for one calendar year with the funding period based on the grant award date. So, for example, if a child is awarded funding on the 30 October 2022 they can re-apply to be awarded again on the 30 October 2023 if they are still accessing their early years entitlement.
- If a child leaves after the funding has been awarded, the provider is not required to pay back any monies to the Authority.
- DAF is paid to providers using the process explained in section g.

#### **k) Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund (EYIF) in 2022/23**

- Local authorities are required to have SEND Inclusion Funds for all 3 & 4 year olds with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who are taking up the entitlements, regardless of the number of hours taken. These funds are intended to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEND. This fund will also support local authorities to undertake their responsibilities to strategically commission SEND services as required under the Children and Families Act 2014. Local authorities are expected to target SEND Inclusion Funds at children with lower level emerging SEND. All early years providers that are eligible to receive funding for the entitlements for three and four year olds are also eligible to receive support from the SEN inclusion fund.
- The Authority's approach is set out in detail in Appendix 2.
- EYIF is paid to providers using the process explained in section g.

## SECTION 2

### l) The Entitlement for Eligible 2-year-olds in 2022/23

- Early education became a statutory entitlement for eligible 2-year-olds at 1 September 2013. Eligible children are defined as children who are looked after and children who meet the Free School Meals eligibility criteria.
- Providers have been funded in 2021/22 for 2-year-old entitlement delivery on a flat rate of £5.36 per child per hour.
- 2-year-old entitlement hours will continue to be funded in 2022/23 on a flat rate per child per hour, which is **£5.55**. There are no additional supplements.
- 2-year-old entitlement delivery is initially counted in the same way as it is for 3&4-year-olds, using the entitlement delivery data from individual providers that is recorded in the 3 termly censuses. However, the Authority collects additionally for the 2-year-old entitlement a second headcount each term. Funding on the basis of a second headcount supports the Authority to retain sufficient capacity and to more effectively fund providers for their delivery of provision to the most vulnerable children, who may not enter settings by the time the termly censuses are taken. This is especially the case for the autumn and spring terms when the censuses are collected relatively early. The second headcounts in 2022/23 will be taken on the following dates:
  - Summer term: 9 June 2022
  - Autumn term: 3 November 2022
  - Spring Term: 23 February 2023
- The timetabling and counting arrangements for the funding of the 2-year-old entitlement are otherwise the same as for the 3&4-year-old entitlement.
- All providers are required to submit their 2-year-old entitlement delivery information to the Authority via the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal.
- Providers are paid for their delivery of the 2-year-old entitlement within their single monthly payment from the Authority, as explained in paragraph g.

## SECTION 3

### m) Who do I contact?

- The key Local Authority contacts for any queries about the EYSFF are:

**Maintained school and academy providers:** School Funding Team

[schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk)

**Private, Voluntary & Independent providers:** Early Education Funding Team

[EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyEducationFund@bradford.gov.uk)

- Key contact details will be included in all correspondence relating to Indicative Budgets and adjustments to funding.

Appendix 1 – Timetable

Appendix 2 – Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund

## **Appendix 1: Bradford District Early Years Single Funding Formula 2022/23 Timetable**

Please read this timetable alongside the separate 'Technical Statement', which explains how the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) will be applied across the Bradford District in the 2022/23 financial year.

Date	Key Activity
January 2022	<p><b>a) Department for Education (DfE) January Census: w/c 17 January</b></p> <p><b>b) Deadline for consultation responses: 24 January</b></p>
February / March 2022	<p><b>a) 1<sup>st</sup> draft of Indicative Budgets for 2022/23 published week commencing 14 February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> will be able to access on the Bradford Schools Online (BSO) website pre-calculated annual forecasted allocations for 2022/23 (calculated on estimated entitlement hours) as part of their S251 Budget Statements. Providers will then have approximately 3 weeks to review their estimates of entitlement hours, with the opportunity to change these up or down, prior to the publication of Confirmed Indicative Budgets.</li> <li>• <u>PVI providers</u> will be able to access on the Bradford Schools Online (BSO) website an electronic (Excel) Ready Reckoner, showing rates of funding for 2022/23 and allowing providers to calculate forecasted annual allocations using their own estimates of entitlement hours.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Spring Term 2022 Adjustments Statement published week commencing 28 February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An initial reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual spring term entitlement funded hours delivered and the value of adjustments due.</li> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> and <u>PVI providers</u> will be able to access this statement on the BSO website.</li> </ul>
March 2022	<p><b>a) Confirmed Indicative Budgets for 2022/23 published week commencing 7 March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u>: Confirmed Indicative Budgets will establish the starting point for funding / payments for the 2022/23 financial year. These budgets will be different from the 1<sup>st</sup> draft where providers have asked for their estimates of funded hours to be altered. Where a provider has not asked for their estimates to be altered their Confirmed Indicative Budget will be the same as their 1<sup>st</sup> draft.</li> <li>• Confirmed Indicative Budgets will be published with a warning that these budgets are subject to change, for differences between currently estimated and actually delivered entitlement hours still to be recorded in the termly censuses.</li> <li>• Confirmed Indicative Budgets will be published in the same way as the 1<sup>st</sup> Draft Indicative Budgets.</li> <li>• At the same time the Confirmed Indicative Budgets are published, the Authority will provide a 'ready reckoner', which providers can use to anticipate likely adjustments to funding for their actual entitlement delivery.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>b) Monthly Advances for <u>Maintained / Academy and PVI providers</u> amended to incorporate the Spring Term 2022 adjustment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u>, the value of 2021/22 Local Authority I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in the final advances update in March 2022 to take account of the adjustment due from the January Census. This adjustment will impact on each school's March 2022 carry forward balances position. Schools should use the ready reckoner provided by the Authority to ensure that this adjustment is incorporated into their forecast of their year end balances position.</li> <li>For <u>PVI providers</u>, any positive adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be paid in a single additional payment. A provider that has been overpaid must repay the value of overpayment by cheque or BACs by <b>30 April 2022</b>. Where a cheque or BACs payment is not received by 30 April 2022, the Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly advance. This is likely to be in May 2022.</li> </ul>
<b>April 2022</b>	<p><b>a) For <u>Maintained / Academy and PVI providers</u> initial payments for 2022/23 will begin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u>, monthly advances for 2022/23 will be calculated from the final Section 251 Budget Statements and a schedule and breakdown of payments will be published at the beginning of April.</li> <li>For <u>PVI Providers</u>, monthly payments for 2022/23 will begin. These will be based on the latest delivery information / latest estimates received from providers. Providers should consult the advances statement published on Bradford Schools Online at the beginning of April.</li> </ul>
<b>May 2022</b>	<p><b>a) May (Summer Term) Census: 19 May 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT.</li> <li><u>PVI providers</u> will submit their entitlement delivery information to the Authority Early Education Funding Team via the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal. Maintained schools and academies that delivery the 2-year-old entitlement will also submit this delivery information via this Portal.</li> </ul>
<b>June / July 2022</b>	<p><b>a) Summer Term Adjustments Statement published week commencing 27 June and payment adjustments actioned for PVI providers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A second headcount for 2 year olds will be taken on Thursday 9 June 2022.</li> <li>A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual summer term entitlement hours delivered and the values of adjustments due. The adjustment will be a positive value (meaning that the Authority owes the provider more funding) where the number of entitlement hours delivered actually recorded in the May Census is greater than the delivery information used to make initial payments. The adjustment will be a negative value (meaning the provider must repay funding back to the Authority) where the number of entitlement hours delivered recorded</li> </ul>

	<p>in the May Census is lower than the delivery information used to make initial payments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy and PVI providers</u> will be able to access the adjustment statements on the BSO website.</li> <li>• Adjustments will be made to the July 2022 payment for <u>PVI providers</u> (both positive and negative) for the re-calculation of summer term funding from the May Census. The August and September payments may also be adjusted, where the value of the July advance is not sufficient to permit full recovery of a negative adjustment.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Deadline for <u>PVI providers</u> to notify the Local Authority, through the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal, of estimated delivery in the autumn term: Friday 29 July</b></p>
<b>August 2022</b>	
<b>September 2022</b>	<p><b>a) Monthly Advances for <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> amended to incorporate Summer Term adjustments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Maintained / Academy providers, the value of Local Authority I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in September to take account of the adjustment due from the summer term.</li> </ul>
<b>October 2022</b>	<p><b>a) October (Autumn Term) Census: 6 October 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT.</li> <li>• <u>PVI providers</u> will submit their entitlement delivery information to the Early Education Funding Team via the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal. Maintained schools and academies that deliver the 2-year-old entitlement will also submit this delivery information via this Portal.</li> </ul>
<b>November 2022</b>	<p><b>a) Autumn Term Adjustments Statement published week commencing 7 November and payment adjustments actioned for <u>PVI providers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A second headcount of 2 year olds will be taken on 3 November 2022.</li> <li>• A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual autumn term entitlement hours delivered and the value of adjustments due.</li> <li>• <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> and <u>PVI providers</u> will be able to access this statement on the BSO website.</li> <li>• Adjustments will be made to the November 2022 payment for <u>PVI providers</u> (both positive and negative) for the re-calculation of autumn term funding from the October Census. The December and January payments may also be adjusted, where the value of the November advance is not sufficient to permit full recovery of a negative adjustment.</li> </ul>

December 2022	<p><b>a) Deadline for <u>PVI providers</u> to notify the Local Authority, through the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal, of estimated delivery in the spring term: Friday 2 December</b></p> <p><b>b) Monthly Advances for <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> amended to incorporate Autumn Term adjustments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u>, the value of Local Authority I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in December to take account of the adjustment due from the autumn term.</li> </ul>
January 2023	<p><b>a) DfE January (annual) Census: 19 January 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> will submit their termly census to the DfE via COLLECT.</li> <li><u>PVI providers</u> will submit their entitlement delivery information to the Early Education Funding Team via the Bradford Provider Headcount Portal. Maintained schools and academies that delivery the 2-year-old entitlement will also submit this delivery information via this Portal.</li> </ul>
February 2023	<p><b>a) 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of Indicative Budgets / Ready Reckoners for 2023/24 Published</b> (see notes for February 2022)</p> <p><b>b) A second headcount of 2-year-olds will be taken on Thursday 23 February 2023.</b></p>
February / March 2023	<p><b>a) Spring Term 2023 Adjustments Statement Published week commencing 27 February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A reconciliation statement for all providers will be published, which will show the differences between estimated and actual spring term entitlement hours delivered and the value of adjustments due.</li> <li><u>Maintained / Academy providers</u> and <u>PVI providers</u> will be able to access this statement on the BSO website.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Monthly Advances for <u>Maintained / Academy and PVI providers</u> amended to incorporate the Spring Term 2023 adjustment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <u>Maintained / Academy providers</u>, the value of Local Authority I01 funding used to calculate the monthly advances will be amended in the final advances update in March 2022 to take account of the adjustment due from the January Census. This adjustment will impact on each school's March 2023 carry forward balances position. Schools should use the ready reckoner to ensure that this adjustment is incorporated by schools into their forecast of their year end balances position.</li> <li>For <u>PVI providers</u>, any positive adjustment following the re-calculation of funding using the January Census actual numbers will be paid in a single additional payment. A setting that has been overpaid, must repay the value of overpayment by cheque or by BACs by <b>30 April 2023</b>. Where a cheque or BACs payment is not received by 30 April 2023, the Authority will deduct the value of the outstanding overpayment from the next available monthly advance. This is likely to be in May 2023.</li> </ul>

	<b>c) Confirmed Indicative Budgets / Ready Reckoners for 2023/24 Published (see notes for March 2022)</b>
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**The Local Authority has sought to plan this timetable as comprehensively as possible. Please note however, that all dates in this timetable are provisional and subject to change. Where we anticipate that any dates will significantly change, the Local Authority will do its best to notify all providers as soon as possible.**



## **Appendix 2 – Early Years SEND Inclusion (EYIF) Funding 2022/23**

### **Introduction**

1. Whilst recognising that “children develop at their own rates and in their own ways” (EYFS Framework 2017), children with additional needs may benefit from additional support. All local authorities are required by the DfE to have an Inclusion Fund for 3 & 4 year olds with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who are taking their early years entitlements. Funding is allocated to promote the inclusion of children who may require high levels of support within a pre-5 setting. This funding also supports local authorities to undertake their responsibilities to strategically commission SEND services as required under the Children and Families Act 2014.
2. All early years providers that are eligible to receive funding for the 3 & 4 year old entitlements are eligible to receive support from the Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund. Bradford Local Authority currently also offers Early Years SEND Inclusion Funding to eligible 2 year olds, and will continue to do so in 2022/23, but this is non-statutory.
3. Local authorities are expected to target their Early Years SEND Inclusion Funds at children with lower level emerging SEND. ‘Emerging SEND’ is not defined within the DfE’s guidance. We define this as children, assessed as requiring SEND Support with assessed needs at the top of SEND Support and above, who do not have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
4. At the point an EHCP is put in place for a child, the resources allocated via this EHCP will replace Inclusion Funding.
5. The Deprivation and SEND supplement within Bradford’s Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) already allocates an amount of additional funding that providers should use to meet the needs of 3 & 4 year olds with emerging SEND. Additional grant funding is also available to support these children, including the Early Years Pupil Premium and the Disability Access Fund (DAF) grant. This funding must be utilised in the first instance prior to claiming Inclusion Funding.

### **Bradford – Holistic Model:**

6. Our Early Years Inclusion Funding model is established on the following basis:
  - Applications are made by providers on an individual child basis using a prescribed referral form. Providers are required to fully evidence that the needs of the child have been appropriately assessed, that the provider has already made adjustments to meet the child’s needs and that the provider has also accessed all available resources e.g. DAF and Early Years Pupil Premium. The referral form asks the provider to set out why additional funding is now required and the level of support (number of hours of support) requested. Decisions will be taken by a Panel.
  - This Panel will consider 4 matters in each application:
    - **Decision 1:** Whether, against the agreed criteria, the child is eligible for Inclusion Funding.
    - **Decision 2:** The number of hours (of the child’s entitlement) support will be funded for.
    - **Decision 3:** The rate of funding per hour.
    - **Decision 4:** The number of terms (or weeks) that support is to be funded for and the expiry date.

7. **Decision 1** – the **eligibility criteria** are:

- The provider must be registered with Ofsted on either the Early Years Register or the Childcare Register or must be legally exempt from this registration.
- Inclusion Funding will only be allocated to children aged 2, 3 or 4 who
  - Are taking their early years entitlements, up to a maximum of 15 hours (2 year olds) and 30 hours (3&4 year olds), and
  - In their application, the provider must evidence that a child is eligible for Early Years Inclusion funding. This evidence could include:
    - *2- year olds*: EYFS development levels are approximately from 10 to 17 months behind chronological age in two or more prime areas (for example, Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs and Sensory and/or Physical).
    - *3- year olds*: EYFS development level are approximately from 18 to 25 months behind chronological age in two or more prime areas (for example, Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs and Sensory and/or Physical).
    - *4-year olds*: EYFS development levels are approximately from 21 to 31 months behind chronological age in two or more prime areas (for example, Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction, Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs and Sensory and/or Physical).
    - The child may have been referred to and / or be known to one or more health and/or education professionals.
    - It would be expected that the early years provider intends to or has put in place a cycle of Assess, Plan, Do and Review.
    - Information required to demonstrate that the child is experiencing a delay in some of their developmental milestones.

and

- Are likely to require small group interventions and / or structured early years experiences with high adult to child ratio of support required for up to 15% - 20% of time at setting, and
  - Do not have an Education Health and Care Plan, and
  - Are not placed in an Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision or in a special school (as these places are already funded at a higher level), and
  - Are not in paid for childcare, and
  - Are not in an upper foundation class in a maintained primary school.
- In their application, the provider must also evidence:

- That Wave 1 interventions (Quality First Teaching) are in place for all children and that a graduated response has taken place, evidencing a clear review process and the need for targeted Wave 2 Interventions as advised by professionals from appropriate services.
- That the parent or carer of the child has been a partner in the whole process.
- Where appropriate, an EA1 Notification from Health has been received for the child.
- Where a child is newly arrived in the country, advice from other services (for example, Health Visitors, Paediatricians, Paediatric Therapists, and Specialist Teaching and Support Services) has been gathered to support the request.
- That the provider has exhausted all avenues of support available to them from within existing funding.
- That reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of the child have already been made. This includes how the provider has used the DAF and / or Early Years Pupil Premium, if the child is eligible.
- Why existing staffing is insufficient to meet the child's needs.

**8. Decision 2 – The number of hours to be funded.** The approach is as follows:

- The provider must set out in the application both the number of entitlement hours per week the child is taking with the provider as well as the number of hours per week the provider is requesting funded support for.
- The Panel will determine whether the provider's requested hours is accepted or amended. The Panel will translate this into a % of funding based on the hours a child attends their early education entitlement per week.
- The Panel will assume that the weekly entitlement is delivered across 38 weeks per year and providers will be allocated monies on this basis.

**9. Decision 3 – The rate of funding per hour,** is set at a standard (maximum) of £6.32.

- The national SEND 'Place-Plus' funding framework is based on the financial definition of a 'High Needs' child being one whose education, incorporating all additional support, costs more than £10,000 per annum (1 FTE). This threshold lays the foundation of the definition of the financial responsibility that schools, academies and other education providers have for meeting the needs of children from their delegated budgets.
- Schools are required to meet the first £10,000 of cost for children with SEND, both with and without EHCPs, from their core formula-funded budgets. This £10,000 is separated in the pre-16 national model into Element 1, at a value of £4,000 per 1 FTE (25 hours) and Element 2, at a value of £6,000 per 1 FTE (25 hours). Element 1 £4,000 represents the core funding that all pupils attract. In the Early Years Single Funding Formula, Element 1 is allocated through the Setting Base Rates, which in 2022/23 are **£5.55** for 2 year olds and **£4.39** for 3&4-year-olds. Element 2 £6,000 is the contribution that schools are required to make from their 'notional SEND' budgets, which are derived from additional funding allocated using proxy indicators of additional needs, such as deprivation and low prior attainment. Element 2 is not present in the Early Years Single Funding Formula, although the Deprivation and SEND supplement within the 3&4-year-old formula does allocate a small amount of additional funding. As a result, the primary function of the Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund is to allocate Element 2 funding to children with emerging SEND.

- So we define Element 2 as an amount per child per hour as follows:

$\text{£6,000} / 25 \text{ hours (1 FTE)} / 38 \text{ weeks} = \textbf{£6.32 per hour}$ . So, for example:

A child accessing 15 hours early education entitlement per week, term time only, with 5 hours of funded support =  $\text{£6.32} \times 5 \times 38 = \text{£1,201}$  (this would equate to 33% funding).

A child accessing 30 hours early education entitlement per week, term time only, with 15 hours of funded support =  $\text{£6.32} \times 15 \times 38 = \text{£3,602}$  (this would equate to 50% funding).

10. **Decision 4** – The number of weeks or terms that support is to be funded for and the expiry date. This would be determined by the Panel, taking account of the pupil's age, needs-assessment and timescale for transfer into reception. We would typically expect the time period to be expressed in terms e.g. 1, 2 or 3 terms and we would expect all funding decisions to be reviewed at least annually. Funding is non-transferrable between providers and would cease when a child leaves a provider. Where a child leaves a provider part way through a half term then there would be a grace period for the remainder of that half term. The provider must inform Bradford Council if a child in receipt of Inclusion Funding leaves their setting/school. Any additional unspent funding after the end of that half term would be reclaimed by Bradford Council. Funding will cease when an EHCP is put in place.

## RESPONSES FORM

### Consultation on the Early Years Single Funding Formula 2022/23

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Setting Name \_\_\_\_\_

**THE DEADLINE FOR RESPONSES TO THIS CONSULTATION IS MONDAY 24 JANUARY 2022**

Please send completed questionnaire responses to:

School Funding Team  
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council  
1st Floor, Britannia House,  
Hall Ings  
Bradford  
BD1 1HX

Tel: 01274 432678

Fax: 01274 435054

Email: [schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:schoolfundingteam@bradford.gov.uk)

Please complete the questionnaire by marking the appropriate boxes. There is a space below each question for you to record comments.

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**Question 1 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the existing timetabling and counting arrangements for the operation of Bradford's EYSFF in 2022/23 (see Section 1 paragraphs C through to G (pages 12 to 16) and Section 2 (page 19))? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 2 – Do you have any comments on how we could improve our proposed operational and counting arrangements?**

Please comment here:

**Question 3 – Do you agree with the proposal to continue to fund the 2-year-old entitlement on a single flat rate without additional supplements (see Section 2 page 19)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 4 – Do you agree with the proposal to set the value of the 2-year-old Universal Base Rate in 2022/23 at £5.55 per hour (see Section 2 page 19)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 5 – Do you agree with the proposal to set the value of the 3&4-year-old Universal Base Rate in 2022/23 at £4.39 per hour (see Section 1 page 11)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 6 – Do you agree with the proposal to continue not to operate within Bradford’s 3&4-year-old EYSFF any supplements other than the Deprivation & SEND supplement? (see paragraph 1.10 page 4)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 7 – Do you agree with the proposal to pause further reducing the % of 3&4-year-old funding that is allocated via the Deprivation & SEND supplement, retaining this at 8% in 2022/23? (see paragraphs 1.10 page 4)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 8 – Do you agree with the proposal to retain the value of the Disability Access Fund (DAF) grant to providers at the higher value of £1,000 in 2022/23 (see paragraph J page 18)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 9 – Do you agree with the proposal to continue our existing protection arrangements for maintained nursery schools in 2022/23 (see paragraph 1.10 page 4)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 10 – Do you agree with the Authority’s proposal to continue to use the holistic Early Years SEND Inclusion Fund approach that is set out in Appendix 2 (see page 25)? If not, please can you explain why not.**

**Strongly Agree** ☐ **On Balance Agree (some reservations)** ☐ **Strongly Disagree** ☐

If not, please provide further explanation here:

**Question 11 – Are there any changes that you would like to see made to the Early Years Single Funding Formula that have not been proposed?**

Please comment here:



**Question 12 – Do you have any other comments that you have not made elsewhere in your response, including matters that you would wish to be included in the Authority’s continued review of the EYSFF for future years?**

Please comment here: