

Early Years SEND Inclusion Funding: Application Guidance and Criteria

Who is the funding for?

- ✓ children aged 0-5 years whose educational needs are so **significant and complex** that they could not access Early Years Provision without additional support.
- ✓ SEND Inclusion Funding is for a child attending any Early Years Provision.
- ✓ children in Early Years Provision in Slough where the provider can evidence that the child has been assessed as having significant delay in one or more of the SEND Areas of Need, A-D, listed below.

A. Communication and Interaction

Those children who, despite appropriate intervention, need a high level of individual support because of difficulty with one, some or all of the different aspects of speech, language or social communication.

B. Cognition and Learning

Support for learning difficulties maybe required when children learn at a much slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation.

C. Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties

Children may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying severely challenging or disruptive behaviour.

D. Sensory and/Physical needs

Children with physical needs, vision impairment, hearing impairment or a multisensory impairment may require specialist support and/or equipment to access their learning.

What can funding be used for?

- ✓ to enhance the level of provision for the child to meet their needs
- ✓ to facilitate the gathering of evidence for an EHCP
- ✓ to enhance staff ratios to promote inclusion and support access to the curriculum
- ✓ to facilitate transition into the next setting/school

Who can apply?

- ✓ Applications are be made by the setting but **MUST** include the involvement and agreement of the parent/carer.

- ✓ **Applications cannot be processed without a parent/carer signature.**

How do we apply?

- ✓ Application forms can be found on The Link website <https://thelink.slough.gov.uk> or requested from EarlyYears@slough.gov.uk
- ✓ Please complete the application form **fully** and include evidence to demonstrate a child's needs and progress, for example, setting assessments, observations and assess, plan, do, review records as well as any reports or letters from other professionals such as a Paediatrician, Speech Therapist etc.
- ✓ **Application forms MUST BE returned to the Early Years Areas SENDCo as detailed on the form.**

What happens next?

- ✓ All applications are considered by the SEND Panel, which meets weekly.
- ✓ Settings will be advised of the panel's decision by letter.

Please note:

The EYIF provides funding for a maximum of 15 hours per week enhanced staffing over a period of up to 22 weeks.

The level of funding allocated will not exceed £14/hour.

The funding will automatically end after the 22 weeks has elapsed.