

Funding for Early Years Capital Development: expansion and new places in Slough.

FAQ's

1. Can we use the money to refurbish a room or make minor alterations to create a few more spaces?

Yes. The funds can be used to develop new childcare places or increase the places of existing childcare.

2. Can we use the money for equipment and resources?

No, this funding is for Capital works and items which would include modifications, alternations or extensions to a building. It could be used for re-landscaping an outdoor area, if it has been affected by building works. The money can be used for fixtures and fittings, such as boiler and radiators, white goods, noticeboards, built-in storage cupboards and awnings (as long as new places are being created), but cannot be used for toys and resources.

3. Can the funding be used for running costs such as staffing and training?

No, this is capital funding and can only be used towards the types of items listed in question 2

4. I only want to apply for part of the grant, am I allowed to?

Yes. Applicants can apply for some or all of the grant. For example, if the advertised amount available is £200,000 and a Childcare provider has the opportunity to increase or create just a few places, they can apply for just a part of the grant. All applications will be considered, as long as they do not exceed the available amount.

5. Do we have to be registered?

Yes. The new or expanding childcare places must be registered with Ofsted / DfE.

6. Can we apply; we are a small committee run preschool?

Yes. All types of organisations from the private, voluntary, independent or maintained sector are welcome to apply.

7. Is the money for a specific area?

Yes. All funding will be allocated in line with the priority matrix criteria which has been formulated as a result of the most recent Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. Applicants will still be asked to provide their own market research to demonstrate the need in the area for the type of childcare place being proposed in the application.

8. What do I need to do to apply for a grant?

To apply for a grant you must submit:-

- An Application Form (guidance available)
- A Business Plan (guidance and templates available)
- A Financial Plan / Cash flow forecast
- Risk log
- Market research demonstrating the need for new or additional childcare places
- Detailed timescales including any relevant planning information
- Plans or drawings for larger projects
- 3 estimates/quotes for the building work you are proposing
- Written consent from landlord / freeholder, if the project includes building work / modifications to the building, that is on a lease-hold agreement

9. Can I speak to someone in Early Years Service to get some more support?

Yes you can speak to either Co-ordinator Childcare Development, Clare Thompson, QCL Manager, Sharon Lindsay or the Early Years Advisory Teacher, Sharon Rose.