

Early Years Outturn Funding 2021/22

Key Messages

Forum members are asked to **note**:

1. The proposal to consult with the early years providers over the summer with a view to distributing the net £465k 2021/2022 positive outturn.
2. The £142.6k Disability Access Funding (DAF) from the 2021/22 outturn will be distributed in line with the process agreed in the September 2022 Schools Forum meeting.

1. Early Years Positive Outturn 2021-2022

- 1.1. As reported in July 2022 the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) confirmed the 2021/22 financial year outturn and Sheffield has a gross positive variance of £608k of early years funding. This is due to the differences in how the ESFA provides funding to local authorities and the national requirements in funding for individual providers.

2021/22 Early Years Outturn Statement	£
3- & 4-year-old Funded Early Learning (FEL)	480,286
2-year-old FEL	-14,550
Net FEL outturn	465,737
Disability Access Funding (protected)	142,680
Gross FEL Outturn	608,417

- 1.2. The net positive variance is split across the two age ranges in the early years sector and is made up of £480k for 3&4-year-old Funded Early Learning funding (FEL) with a negative variance of -£14.5k for the 2-year-old FEL sector.
- 1.3. There is a net positive variance of £142k for the DAF that is protected funding.

2. Proposal for Distribution

- 2.1. The net positive DAF outturn will be distributed to all 3&4-year-old providers as soon as possible in line with the agreed policy decision made by the Schools Forum in September 2022.

- 2.2. It was recommended at the 6 February 2023 Early Years Working Group meeting, that further consultation is required with the sector over the summer period to agree the methodology for distribution of this and all future net positive funding. Their recommendation will be brought back to the September Schools Forum.

3. Method of Distribution - DAF

- 3.1. The DAF will be allocated to all current providers (schools/PVIs and childminders) using their FEL hours paid in the 2022/23 financial year.
- 3.2. The funding will be distributed to early years providers as soon as is practical.
- 3.3. There will be a minimum payment of £250 paid to all eligible providers.

4. Recommendations

Forum members are asked to **note**:

1. The proposal to consult with the early years providers over the summer in relation to the net £465k 2021/2022 positive outturn.
2. That the £142.6k DAF balances, from the 2021/22 outturn, will be distributed in line with the process agreed in the September 2022 Schools Forum Meeting.