

If you have queries about any of the above, please email

 [eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:eyservice@gloucestershire.gov.uk) 



16 July 2024

## Good morning!

Welcome to this week's Business Newsletter.

We are delighted to hear from those of you we have spoken with that this new weekly newsletter is proving helpful.

If you have any questions, please contact [Business Support Team](#), [Wraparound Support Team](#) or [Early Years Admin Team](#).

## Business and Finance News

### Early Years Capital Grant Applications

The grant application form for the early year's capital grant has been finalised and you can access the link [here](#).

Please can we remind you to only use this [email address](#) for Early Years Expansion Capital Grant Applications and for any queries you may have.

We appreciate the tight time frame for the submission of applications for this round, please be aware that there will be further opportunities for you to submit applications in the Autumn.

Coming soon - EY web pages to support with Capital Grant Applications.

## **CLAIMING FUNDED HOURS FOR THE WORKING PARENTS ENTITLEMENT - AUTUMN TERM 2024**

From September 2024, 15 hours childcare support is being extended to eligible working parents of children from the age of 9 months.

If you take children at your setting from the age of 2, you will be able to claim these funded hours for them, if they have a valid code. You will not have to wait until the term after their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday to make a claim. From the term after their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday, they will then convert to the funding rate for 2-year-old funding.

Please validate the eligibility code in the Provider Portal under the "Working Parent Entitlement" menu option BEFORE you add the child to your headcount task. You can then add the claim onto your headcount task, in the usual way, and you will see the claimed hours default into the "Expanded/Extended Hours Claimed per week" column of the task, if the code is valid.

***Please ensure that you have indicated on your Provider Agreement declaration form, that you will be offering this entitlement scheme at your setting, even if not registered or caring for children under 2.***

## **Childcare Sufficiency Duty report 2024**

We have been working on this years report and will continue to monitor the supply and demand for childcare places especially as the Expanded Entitlements roll out gathers momentum with more parents becoming eligible for funded childcare

## **Self-Update Provider portal SUPP and Glos Families Directory information**

As we come to the end of another academic year and we see the transition of many children onto school many settings review their business model, staffing, costs and charges and policies in readiness for the start of the new academic year.

With children leaving for the next part of their Early years journey and new children joining it is also a good time to review your details including occupancy figures and spaces.

It is also a good time to update the information on your information on Glos Families Directory and the Self Update Provider Portal - SUPP.

Are you aware that if you update your Self Update Provider Portal this also directly updates your information on Glos Families Directory so you only need to do this once –

however please be aware that it does not work in reverse, if you update Glos Families Directory, this does not automatically feed into the SUPP

If you need support with using the SUPP please let us know and we can arrange some support

## Nursery Funding Updates

### AUTUMN TERM FUNDING CLAIMS

We opened the Autumn term funding claim task on Tuesday 9 July to allow you all a bit more time to add your claims. However, it was brought to our attention that the current software model has not been updated to allow the claims for your 9 month old children to be added to your tasks yet. You can continue to validate their eligibility codes using "Run a new check" under the "Working Parent Entitlement" menu option. This can be done at any time, you do not need to wait for a funding task to be open to allow you to do this.

We are working with our IT team to establish when the software update can be installed and have expressed the urgency of this requirement. We are expecting it to be addressed before the task closes on 6 September and you will then be able to add your claims for the new funding entitlements for the Autumn term.

We will keep you updated as soon as we have more information for you.

## Business Team Network Meetings

Thank you to all of you who attended last week's meeting with many of you taking points away to implement into your businesses.

The focus for the meeting was **Consumables & Compliant Invoices**, please see [here](#).

**As we have decided to focus future meetings on a particular topic, we will publish the focus for the next meeting in a Business News Tuesday bulletin closer to the date.**

We look forward to welcoming more of you to these meetings over the coming months. Please let us know of any specific areas you would like to discuss, send any suggestions to the [EY business inbox](#).

The dates and booking links are as follows:

20 August 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - book [here](#).

19 September 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - book [here](#).

15 October 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - book [here](#).

26 November 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - book [here](#).

17 December 2024 - 7pm to 8pm - book [here](#).

As these are online meetings and bookings will close the day before. We will send out the links on the morning of each event. If you need to book late at any time, please email the [Early Years Admin Team](#).

## Wraparound news

We hope to hear soon after the Secretary of State for Education's meeting on the 16 July 2024 about the funding for the wraparound programme so we can let schools and providers who have applied during this grant application window know what funding we can release to them.

We have updated our **FAQ document** on our web page as we have had several new enquiries and queries.

We'd like to draw your attention to the question around expected opening times for those looking for support from the grant (page 4). We will be checking that settings are offering childcare from 8am-6pm and where this is not the case this may mean the application does not meet the criteria for the funding. Remember It is important not to make assumptions about what parents want, unless you have sound, solid and reliable evidence that the timings are not suitable for parents, all applicants should be offering 8am to 6pm. If after time (approx. 6mth- 12mth) applicants find parents are not using the full hours they may consider changing them. However, applicants need to remain adaptable as different cohorts of children start with schools.

The FAQ document is available [here](#).

## Useful Contacts

**Gloucestershire Early Years:** [Early Years and Childcare | Early Years Service \(gloucestershire.gov.uk\)](#)

**Childcare Works:** Useful tools for settings regarding business: [HUB for Providers - childcareworks.org.uk](#)

**Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted):** Ofsted inspects and regulates services that care for children and young people [Ofsted - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**PATA:** PATA now has support tools available to purchase for non-members as well as members, including sample policies tailored specifically for Gloucestershire. [PATA \(UK\) - Home \(pataglos.org.uk\)](#) These and other resources are available at [\(PATA \(UK\) - Shop](#)

([pataglos.org.uk](http://pataglos.org.uk)) We'll be adding more policies and other bundles of documents over the next few months.

**The Early Years Alliance:** This charity is the largest early year's membership organisation that offers information and advice to the early years sector [Early Years Alliance | \(eyalliance.org.uk\)](http://EarlyYearsAlliance.org.uk)

**National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA):** A charity and membership association for the nursery sector and people working in early years [National Day Nurseries Association - NDNA](http://NationalDayNurseriesAssociation.org.uk)

**Professional Association for Childcare Professionals (PACEY):** A charity providing membership support that represents childminders and childcare professionals [Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years | PACEY](http://ProfessionalAssociationforChildcareandEarlyYears.org.uk)

**Childcare Choices:** A website that provides information to parents and the early years and childcare sector on support available to pay for childcare [Homepage | Childcare Choices](http://ChildcareChoices.org.uk)

**GOV.UK:** A sector information website where parents and the early years sector can find details of government services [Welcome to GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC):** Provides information, advice and targeted financial support to families and individuals [HM Revenue & Customs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**Charity Commission:** The commission registers and regulates charities in England and Wales [The Charity Commission - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**Companies House:** Companies house incorporates companies and makes company information available to the public [Companies House - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS):** Provides free and impartial information to employers and employees on all aspects of work-based relationships and employment law [Acas | Making working life better for everyone in Britain](http://Acas.org.uk)



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