



Funding for special educational needs in Early Years settings

What funding is available for SEN in Early Years settings?

There are two funding streams available within Cheshire East: an Early Intervention Grant and an Early Intervention Access Grant.

What is the Early Intervention Grant and what is it for?

This funding is available to all private, voluntary and independent early years settings and maintained nursery classes who wish to apply for it where they have a child that meets specific criteria. These are as follows:

- All 2/3/4 year old children receiving FEEE who are identified at risk of delay and require additional intervention and support
- Children for whom professional advice has been sought and specialist interventions recommended. This includes advice from the Early Years and Childcare team, speech and language therapy services, occupational therapist or physiotherapist.

The grant covers funding for interventions which require a level of support that is greater than that provided by the legal ratio in the setting.

What is the Early Intervention Access Grant and what is it for?

This funding is available to all private, voluntary and independent early years settings and maintained nursery classes who wish to apply for it where they have a child with identified complex SEN and disabilities.

The grant is intended to support the implementation of strategies that are additional to or different from what is normally provided by that setting to other children of the same age.

The support and interventions must be linked to outcomes for the child agreed by parents, the setting and professionals and must be delivered by a member of staff with relevant skills and knowledge.

The grant can be used flexibly to support children up to a maximum of 15 hours per week. The funding allocation will be decided by the Early Years Moderation Panel.

Children accessing this grant may need to be considered for a statutory assessment for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Where can I get further information?

The Local Authority has published a **Local Offer** to give an overview of the education, health and care provision available (depending on need) to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. This tells you about the support and opportunities that are available in Cheshire East and informs you how the funding might be directed.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities/education/supporting-send-in-education/sen-and-disability-in-the-early-years.aspx>

The “Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years”:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

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E mail: ceias@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Telephone: **0300 123 5166**