

Disability Access Funding (DAF) Application 2024 - 25

Information for Parents/Carers

The government is clear that all children should be able to access their free early years entitlement and that no child should have their access restricted, or denied, because of special educational needs, or a disability. They have, therefore, created a targeted fund called the **Disability Access Fund (DAF)**,

The purpose of the fund is to support early years settings to make initial reasonable adjustments and to build the capacity of their setting to support disabled children.

- The DAF is not based on an hourly rate and will be paid as a one-off payment of **£910** per year to the early years setting for each eligible child.

Eligibility

Providers in Herefordshire who are in receipt of Nursery Education Funding (NEF) are eligible to receive DAF where a two –four year old child taking up a place is;

- in receipt of disability living allowance for children; and;
- is accessing a place at the setting under their entitlement to free early learning and childcare.

Please note: four-year olds in primary school reception classes are not eligible for DAF funding.

Two, Three- and four-year olds in receipt of DLA for children will be eligible where they take-up any period of free entitlement. If a child, eligible for the DAF, is splitting their free entitlement across two, or more, settings the parents will need to nominate the setting to whom they wish the payment to be made. This will usually be the setting where the child is accessing the majority of their free entitlement hours.

If a child receiving DAF moves from one setting to another within a financial year, the new setting is not eligible to receive DAF funding for this child within the same financial year. The new setting will need to wait until the following financial year to be able to apply for funding for the child. Our **local agreement for DAF** is that those resources purchased with DAF **should follow the child** to the new setting, so that the child is not disadvantaged in their new setting.

Eligibility checking

Parents wishing to access DAF must provide a copy of the letter confirming the child's entitlement to DLA to the setting to whom they would like the payment to be made.

The setting will make a copy of this letter and send it to the Local Authority via Anycomms for verification, in accordance with data protection policies.

In cases where a child who lives in one authority area attends a setting in a different local authority, the setting's local authority is responsible for funding the DAF for the child and eligibility checking.

If you wish to claim DAF for your child's early years setting please complete the form overleaf.

Parent / Carer information: (to be completed and signed by the parent/carer)

Parent / Carer information:		
Parent's name		
Child's name		
Nominated childcare Setting		
Does your child attend another setting where they are taking up free hours? Please note that DAF can only be paid to one setting.	Yes / No <input type="checkbox"/>	If so, please list the other settings below
Additional childcare Setting		
Additional childcare Setting		

I can confirm that my child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance for children and that I have provided a copy of the official letter to my nominated childcare provider. I understand that this is a one-off payment to the childcare setting and that payment cannot be made to another setting within the same financial year.

Signature

Date

Nominated setting information: (to be completed and signed by the setting)

Setting Ofsted URN, Independent school no or DfE	
Name of childcare setting	
Contact name	
Contact telephone number	

I can confirm that the setting named above is the nominated setting for the DAF payment for this child in this financial year and that I have a copy of the official letter regarding receipt of Disability Living Allowance. We will maintain evidence of the expenditure should it be required in future.

Signature

Date

Providers should hold the copy of the official letter in accordance with Data Protection policies and send a copy of this application to **Della Pascoe** via Anycomms to 'Early Years Inclusion' to make their claim. Payments will be included in the Actual payment later in the term.