

Warwickshire Inclusion Grant from April 2024

Warwickshire Inclusion Grant is a fund to support the emerging needs of pre-school aged children. Inclusion Grant is a contribution towards costs to enhance ratios for intervention at key times. Inclusion Grant is not for resources or training.

Eligibility Criteria for Inclusion Grant:

- The child must be in receipt of their 15 hours universal Early Years Entitlement aged three or four
- OR
- The child is two in receipt of 2HELP
- The child is in receipt of Working Family Entitlement
- AND for ALL children:
- The child is attending a Warwickshire setting
- The child will have been referred to IDS
- Inclusion Grant is for the child's funded hours only and not for any additional hours the child may receive
- The Assess Plan Do Review cycle has already begun
- There is staffing in place or planned, which shows enhanced ratios at key times.
- The setting is Ofsted rated Good or Outstanding. If the setting is Ofsted Requires Improvement a Service Level Agreement will be put in place. If the setting is Ofsted Inadequate Inclusion Grant will only be issued in exceptional circumstances
- Inclusion Grant stops at the point an Education Health and Care Plan is finalised
- The majority of children would only receive Inclusion Grant for at most 3 terms. Either children make progress over three terms because of successful short term intervention or an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment Referral is completed.
- Inclusion Grant is not for children in their Reception Year even where they are not yet Statutory school age.
- Where children are out of year group (not yet Statutory school age and deferred to start Reception a year later than their chronological peers) their needs will usually be met within the setting funding or an EHCP will be in place. There will usually have been an extended period of individualised Assess, Plan, Do Review as part of the graduated approach. Inclusion Grant will only be given to children who are chronologically in their Reception year in exceptional circumstances. This will be a case by case basis.

Applying for Inclusion Grant:

The setting will apply for Inclusion Grant. The exception is where there are complex manual handling needs. In this case the IDS team member may apply.

- The setting will apply using the Inclusion Grant Information form.
- The setting will provide supporting developmental information. The Teaching Talking Profile is the preferred development tool. The setting will send the information to dsteachingandlearning@warwickshire.gov.uk.
- The application will be considered and if appropriate funding allocated, subject to moderation.
- The setting will be informed of the outcome by IDS. They can request updated information by emailing dsteachingandlearning@warwickshire.gov.uk
- The setting is responsible for finding additional staffing to enhance ratios. This may be from existing staff or from new staff.
- The setting will be responsible for updating IDS on the needs of the child, progress and use of Inclusion Grant, or when an EHCP is finalised.
- The setting will respond to the Inclusion Grant end of year questionnaire.

Process:

- The Inclusion Grant Fund allocation is split across the financial year. The budget is weighted 25% in the Autumn Term, 30 % in the Spring Term and 45% in the summer term, to reflect the growing cohort over the academic year.
- Applications arriving prior to the half term will receive the full term's funding. Applications after half term will receive 50% of the term's allocated funding. Applications arriving in the final two weeks of term will be considered for the following term.
- Where children are receiving their nursery entitlement across sites a pro rata rate will be agreed individually.
- Inclusion Grant is for nursery education entitlement hours only and not for children receiving 'wrap around' hours.
- While the funding is agreed termly the staff support can be put in place across the child's hours, at the discretion of the setting. This will be in consultation with professionals, including where the child has a 'stretched' offer of more than 38 weeks.
- Inclusion Grant will be removed if the child leaves the setting. If the child has attended for part of the term this will be a pro rata amount.
- Funding will be in a case by case basis if a child's attendance remains very different to their nursery entitlement. Funding may be removed if hours are significantly lower than a child's entitlement for a prolonged period.
- Inclusion Grant will cease if a final EHCP is issued.
- Process and provision is reviewed and moderated by a Panel at least once per term. Invited to the Panel are representatives from IDS, SENDAR, EPS, Warwickshire EY, therapy services and EY settings.

March 2024

dsteachingandlearning@warwickshire.gov.uk