



SCHOOLS' FORUM MEETING

Thursday 30th June 2022

Learning and Skills Service Fees and Charges to Early Education Settings and Schools 2022-2023

Early Education Settings

Local Authorities are required by legislation to secure information, advice and training for providers in their area on the following matters:

- Meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Meeting the needs of children with special educational needs and disabilities, vulnerable and disadvantaged children
- Effective safeguarding and child protection.

Local Authorities are also required by legislation to secure information, advice and training on the matters for the following providers:

- Those registered on the Early Years Register who are judged less than 'good' by Ofsted in their most recent inspection report
- Newly registered providers on the Ofsted Early Years Register who have not yet had an inspection report published
- Those on Part A (the compulsory part) of the Ofsted General Childcare Register who are assessed by Ofsted as not having met the requirements of registration or the requirements relating to activities.

Local Authorities cannot require a provider to undertake any training or quality improvement programme, unless the training or quality improvement programme has been identified as necessary to address concerns raised in the Ofsted inspection report and the provider has been judged less than 'good' by Ofsted.

The Department for Education (DfE) provides local authorities with 6 relevant funding streams which together from the Early Years Block of the Designated Schools Grant (DSG). They are:

- The Universal 15 hours entitlement for all 3 and 4-year-olds
- The additional 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of 3 and 4-year-olds (the extended entitlement)
- Maintained nursery schools (MNS) supplementary funding. *This is not applicable to Rutland as there are no maintained nursery provisions*
- The 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year-olds
- The Disability Access Fund (DAF)
- The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP).

Local authorities are required to plan to pass-through at least 95% of their 3 and 4-year-old funding from the government to early years providers ([Early years entitlements: local authority funding of](#)

[providers operational guide 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/103123/providers_operational_guide_2022_to_2023_-_gov.uk) Section 4.2). %% can be retained to support central services for the statutory responsibilities.

Additional funding to support training for the early years sector is no longer available and therefore all statutory information, advice and training will be covered through DSG Early Years block centrally held funding. Local authorities also have a power to impose reasonable charges when securing information, advice and training. (The Department for Education (DfE) Early education and Childcare Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities Early education and childcare (publishing.service.gov.uk) section A4.23).

Regular information updates will continue to be delivered through existing communication channels, with the LA continuing to ensure relevant local, regional and national guidance is disseminated to all providers.

The LA will continue to provide timely advice to the sector to support provider compliance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage with additional advice offered to reflect any extra-ordinary events, as witnessed during the Pandemic or with the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

The Early Years SEND and Inclusion Forums, Designated Safeguarding Lead Forums and the Safeguarding Information Briefings will enable early years practitioners to remain well-informed and confident in these areas. The Early Years' Service will continue to recommend engagement with programmes of support made available through external funding or support offered to the LA, as advised within the Early Years Provider Agreement.

The LA will continue to signpost to additional training offers but cannot commit to supporting the costs of these offers.

The LA, though its Childcare Sufficiency duty, remains committed to securing sufficient places in high quality childcare for parents and carers in employment or training.

Schools

The Learning and Skills Service offers two services to state-funded schools for which there is an annual charge and has undertaken an annual review of fees and charges. **Following full review, it is proposed that an increase be made for the academic year 2022-23.**

Co-ordination of Admissions

Proposal

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose by 7.0% in the 12 months to March 2022 so increase in charges is being recommended in line with this rate.

Context

All Local authorities are required by the School Admissions (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 to have a scheme in place each year for coordinating admission arrangements for all maintained schools and academies (except special schools and nursery schools) within their area. The scheme must comply with the provisions of the School Admissions Code 2021.

Coordinated schemes are intended to simplify the admissions process whilst reducing the likelihood of any child being left without a school place. Coordination establishes a mechanism that ensures as far as is reasonably practicable that every parent of a child living in a local authority (LA) who has applied to a maintained school is sent a single offer of a school place by their LA.

The Designated Schools Grant (DSG) identifies Admissions as an ‘other ongoing duty’ to be funded from the Central Schools Services Block. This covers the basic Admissions expenditure on the operation of the system of admissions of pupils to schools at normal admissions rounds. The LA, using preference data and oversubscription criteria ranking outcomes (including those from own admission authority schools and academies), allocates places for the start of Reception Year (entry to primary school) and Year 7 (entry to secondary school) according to each parent’s preference ranking. The LA does not co-ordinate in-year admissions for academies or Voluntary Aided Schools; they are their own admissions authorities.

All schools have the option of choosing from one of three support packages for normal round admissions. The tables below detail each support package along with the cost of each for the 2021-2022 admissions round and the increased cost for the 2022-2023 admissions round based on a 7% increase:

Support Package	Charge 2021-2022	Charge 2022-2023
<u>Service Level 1</u> - Support, Ranking and Distance Measurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and support throughout the admissions round – fixed charge: • Ranking – based on number of applications received for the school at a cost per hour based on processing time of 5 minutes per application: • Distance measurement fixed charge for primary and secondary schools: 	£51.00 £38.00 p/h £62.00 - prim £87.00 - sec	£55.00 £41.00 p/h £66.00 - prim £93.00 - sec

Below are examples of the cost increases to schools for Service Level 1 in 2022-2023:

- Large primary school purchasing Service Level 1:
 - 2021-2022 – total cost £329.67
 - 2022-2023 – total cost £352.74
 - A cost increase of £23.07
- Secondary school purchasing Service Level 1:
 - 2021-2022 – total cost £1577.33
 - 2022-2023 – total cost £1687.74
 - A cost increase of £110.41

Support Package	Charge 2021-2022	Charge 2022-2023
<u>Service Level 2</u> - Support and Distance Measurement:	£51.00	£55.00

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and support throughout the admissions round – fixed charge: • Distance measurement fixed charge for primary and secondary schools: 	<p>£62.00 - prim £87.00 - sec</p>	<p>£66.00 - prim £93.00 - sec</p>
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Below are examples of the cost increases to schools for Service Level 2 in 2022-2023:

- Primary school purchasing Service Level 2:
 - 2021-2022 – total cost £113.00
 - 2022-2023 – total cost £121.00
 - A cost increase of £8.00
- Secondary school purchasing Service Level 2:
 - 2021-2022 – total cost £138.00
 - 2022-2023 – total cost £148.00
 - A cost increase of £10.00

Support Package	Charge 2021-2022	Charge 2022-2023
<u>Service Level 3 - Support Only:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and support throughout the admissions round – fixed charge: 	<p>£77.00</p>	<p>£82.00</p>

Moderation and Monitoring of Key Stage One and Two Statutory Assessments

Proposal

An increase in charges is being proposed in line with this rate with an increase from £433.50 to £463.85 for academic year 2022-2023. This charge has been increased this year to reflect the Consumer Price Index.

Context

All Local Authorities have statutory duties as outlined in the DfE Standards Testing Agency (STA) Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) for Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. The ARA contains provisions made in terms of Article 11 of The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 2 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 2003. This Order is made by the Secretary of State under powers provided for by section 87 of the Education Act 2002.

LA responsibilities include:

- ensuring training and advice is available to schools on all aspects of the KS2 tests
- viewing their schools' applications for early opening of the tests or additional time

- making unannounced KS2 monitoring visits to a sample of at least 10% of LA maintained schools and 10% of those academies that have elected to be monitored by Rutland, before, during and after the test period
- undertaking moderation of KS1 and KS2 teacher assessment in 25% of those academies that have elected to be moderated by Rutland and 25% of maintained schools
- informing STA of any irregularities in the test administration or assessment process and discussing next steps to take.

Academies are charged a fixed annual fee to cover both moderation and monitoring activities and attendance at workshops for teachers new to Year 2 and Year 6. However, due to the relatively small numbers of teachers in Rutland, this has historically opened this up to all Y2 and Y6 teachers who wish to attend. Maintained schools do not have to pay for this service for which an annual grant is received.

Academies have an agreement in place with a local authority; this is generally the geographical authority, although Academies may apply to STA if they wish to use an alternative LA. Academies have until early December each year to confirm this arrangement for the following summer term.