

Early Years Inclusion Fund Group 2026-2027

Terms of Reference

Name of Group

Group to agree, allocate and moderate the spending of the Early Years Inclusion Fund including Level 1, Level 2 (High Needs Funding) and equipment applications.

Membership

- Lisa Morris – Early Years Team Manager
- Lisa Irving – SISS, Team Coordinator of Sensory and Physical Impairments Team
- Gina Godwin – Early Years Forum representative
- Sarah Stroud – Early Years representative
- School and setting representative on rota basis
- Rosie Ratcliffe – Family Information Service

Purpose and aims of the Early Years Inclusion Fund Group

Purpose

To develop a clear application process for settings applying for the Inclusion Fund, this includes establishing a panel to consider applications for Inclusion Fund and moderating the effective use of funding and impact on outcomes for young children.

Aim

The aim is that all children with emerging SEND can have their needs identified and met in a setting, so that with the additional support they can be 'school ready'.

Objectives

- To continue to review the criteria and process for allocation of the Inclusion Fund Level 1, Level 2 (High Needs Funding), transition funding, under 2s inclusion fund, and equipment grant, including the panel process.
- To ensure that a clear and robust payment system is in place for allocating funding.
- A moderation system is established to look at a sample of applications and how the Inclusion Fund and Disability Access Funds have been spent, in addition to the impact of the funding on outcomes for the child.
- To review and evaluate impact measures for the use of the Inclusion Fund.
- To capture and report LA data and impact measures in relation to the numbers of pre-school children with SEND, effective SEND practice within settings and progress data....
 - To produce an annual report, this will include – the number of applications for Inclusion Fund, T level, under 2 fund, Level 1 and Level 2 High Needs Funding and equipment, how the funding has been used, impact/outcome measures and areas for improvement/development. This report will go to the School Forum finance group.
 - Information on termly spending is provided to the Head of Access and Development on request
- To publish all information on Solihull Council website and ensure that information is kept up to date

<https://www.solgrid.org.uk/eyc/eef/early-years-inclusion-funding-for-early-education-funded-children/>

Due for update- 2027 January