

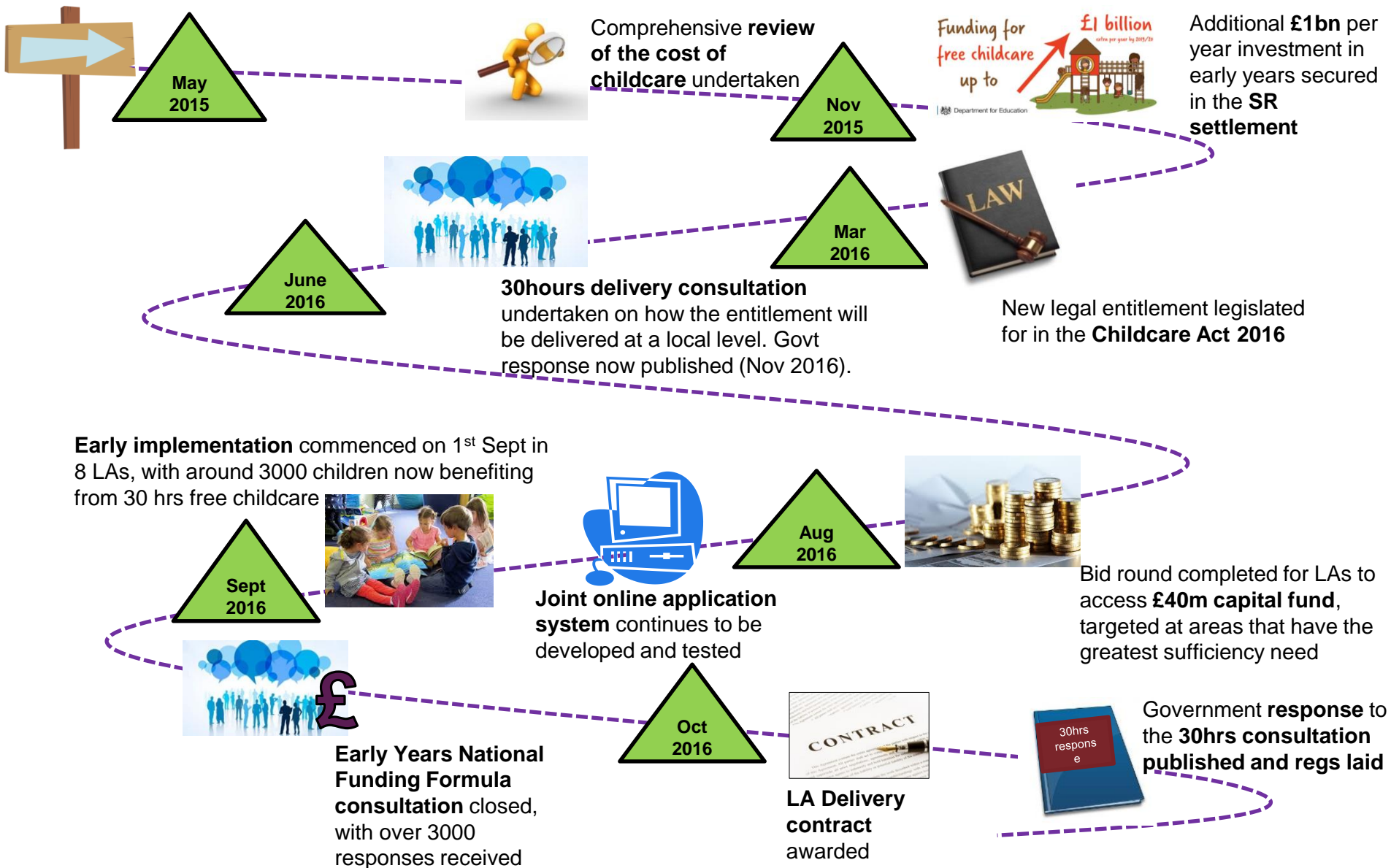
30 hours childcare offer: November 2016 update

Early Years & Childcare Reform Team



Department
for Education

30 hours childcare- Progress to date



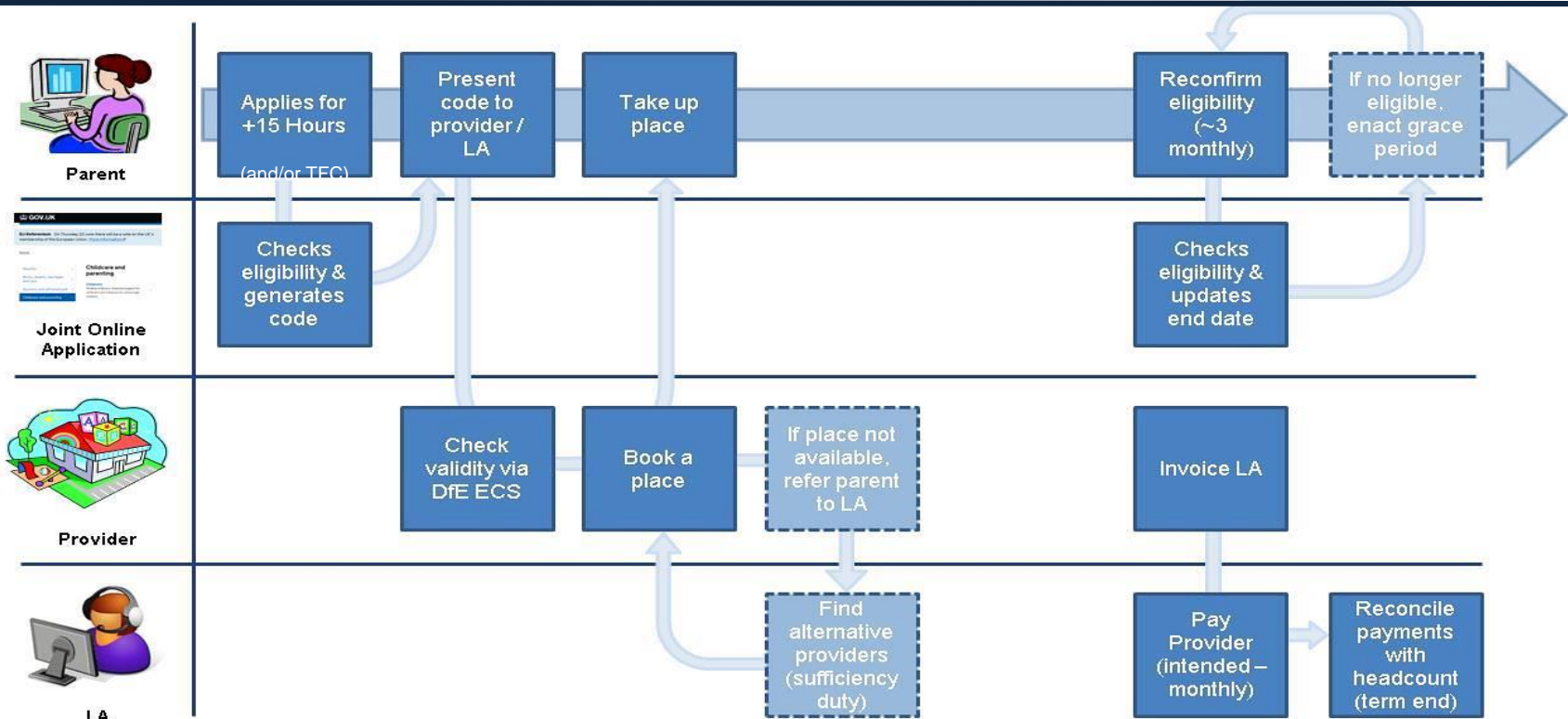
30 hours childcare: eligibility

Eligibility for the additional free entitlement will include households where:

- All parents (whether two-parent family or lone parent) are working and earning the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the National Minimum or Living Wage (includes income received from tax credits or Universal Credit) **and/or**:
- One/ both parent/s is away on leave (parental, maternal etc.)
- One/ both parent/s is on Statutory sick pay
- Parents on zero-hours contracts will be eligible, as are those who are registered as self-employed
- One parent is employed and the other parent has either: substantial caring responsibilities/ and or disability; is a foster carer with their own three- and four-year-old children
- Parents who are in training will not be eligible as they can receive other Government support
- There is an income cap. If one parent's income exceeds £100k the household will not be eligible

We're developing an online application and eligibility checking system to make it easy for parents to apply and to minimise burdens on providers and LAs.

The 30 hours Customer Journey



- The joint childcare service will allow parents to apply for both 30 hours and TFC at the same time, and only have to provide their information once.
- The simple and smooth customer journey, will save parents and providers valuable time. Parents will be invited to apply for 30hours from early 2017
- The cross-Government comms campaign will ensure that parents, and providers, are aware of and understand the government funded childcare offers, and can make informed choices about how and whether to take up the support available to them.
- We are considering how best to support LAs in developing their own IT systems for 30 hours

30 hours consultation - outcomes

Eligibility:

- Set a national grace period, which will be automatically encoded by the DfE's Eligibility Checking Service, to ensure simplicity and clarity for parents, providers and LAs
- Carry out further consultation on the length of the grace period, before setting out final decisions in statutory guidance in the new year

Flexibility:

- Extending the hours over which funded provision can be delivered from the current 7.00 am to 7.00 pm, to 6.00 am to 8.00 pm
- Keeping the max funded session to 10hrs per day and remove the minimum session length for funded places
- Parents can access provision at max of 2 sites per day to minimise transitions for the child

SEND:

- Introduce, subject to the EYNFF consultation, SEND funding reform. This includes:
 - The introduction of additional targeted Disability Access Funding of £12.5 million per year to support providers to make initial reasonable adjustments and build the capacity of the setting to support disabled children
 - The proposal that all local authorities should set up an inclusion fund in their local funding systems to improve the supply of appropriate support children receive when in an early years setting
- Work with local authorities and Parent Carer Forums to develop examples of good practice, which we will include in future departmental advice on delivery of 30 hours free childcare
- Revise statutory guidance to explain more clearly the responsibilities of LAs under both the Children and Families Act 2014 Part 3 and Equalities Act 2010

30 hours consultation - outcomes

LA Delivery:

- Amend statutory guidance to set out a clear expectation that, by September 2018, childminders are paid monthly and all other providers are paid monthly unless they request an alternative payment model
- Develop a model agreement template, working closely with providers , local authorities and representative organisations through an expert working group, to bring clarity and consistency to agreements between local authorities and providers

Charging for Meals:

- Make clearer in statutory guidance that government funding is intended to deliver free, high quality early education; Providers are already free to charge parents for discretionary items, such as meals, provided they are not compulsory.

Information to Parents:

- Strengthen regulations and guidance to make clear that LAs will be required to update and publish their childcare information on a termly basis
- Require LAs to publish information by electronic means via their websites, but to have other formats to publish info. where necessary

The Model Agreement

- Each LA currently develops agreements with each childcare provider in the area for delivery of the free early education entitlements for two-, three- and four-year-olds.
- This can lead to inconsistent and varied agreements and administrative burdens for providers working across more than one area - some chains work across more than 80 LAs.
- The model agreement will set out the Department's expectations on what should be included in free entitlement agreements between LAs and providers to bring consistent practice and align agreements for those that work across more than one area.
- An expert group of early years providers and LAs is supporting us to develop the model agreement to ensure that the agreement will work in practice.
- We intend to publish the model agreement in early 2017, alongside updated Statutory Guidance.

Early Years Funding Consultation

What are we proposing?



Fairer funding for Local Authorities

Introducing a national funding formula to allocate a record level of investment, including an additional £1 billion by 2019-20, fairly and transparently.

95%

Maximum funding to providers

All local authorities to pass on the vast majority (95%) of funding direct to childcare providers.



Fairer funding for providers

Childcare providers to receive the same basic rate of funding for every hour of the free entitlements.



Greater transparency for providers

More targeted use of funding supplements to incentivise providers to meet the needs of parents.



Additional funding for children with SEND

Targeted additional funding for providers to support disabled children and a new LA approach to supporting children with SEN.

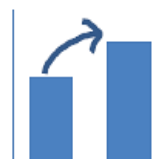
What does it mean for the early years sector?

£3.9bn

A record £3.9bn funding per year from 2019-20 to ensure we can expand the free early years entitlements from 15 to 30 hours a week.

£4.88

Government fulfils its promise of a higher national average hourly funding rate, increasing from £4.56 to £4.88.



The vast majority of local authorities and providers to see increases in their average hourly funding rates.



A more level playing field for different types of provider, which is more transparent and easier to understand.



A new approach for disabled children and children with special educational needs with extra funding to help them access and benefit from the free entitlements.

Early Years Capital Strategy

The government is investing **£50 million** to support the creation of early years places. Our capital projects have **two main objectives**:

- 1) Immediate need to support 30 hours delivery- The £40 m EY Capital Bid Round. Focus was for LAs (working with providers) to demonstrate clear evidence of localised sufficiency capital need for 30 hours places. Other core criteria were outcomes (like quality and deliverability) and vfm (reasonable and evidenced costs).
- 2) Attracting additional investment into the early years market to support providers to expand sustainably to deliver 30 hours AND deliver wider policy objectives like quality provision for disadvantaged children, SEND, integration of childcare with wider community services.

December 2016-£40 M Early Years Capital Fund

Aim: LA-led applications; LA must demonstrate localized need for 30 hours places.

Is heavily oversubscribed, an overwhelming majority of LAs submitted applications. We are grateful to the LAs and providers that submitted an impressive number of bids in the timeframe and are working hard to finalise award packages.

Timing: Bid round closed 31 August 2016. **We are currently mid-assessment.** Awarded by December 2016. Payments expected in early January 2017. Projects must complete by end August 2017.

Late 2017-18 onwards-£30 M Early Years Investment Fund (£10 M DfE/£20 M External Investors)

Aim: DfE invests at a 'first -loss ' position to draw in additional investment from a range of external investors. This fund will facilitate provider access to loan finance for those that would not be able to access traditional commercial finance. Investments will result in place creation for 30 hours alongside wider social impact (serving disadvantaged children, 2YO offer, SEND).

Timing: Fund Manager appointed March 2017. First round of loans will likely be available from early 2018, with investment support grants from late 2017.

Current Status: We are mid-way through the procurement of a fund manager to oversee the creation of this Fund and will be/are doing extensive engagement with LAs and providers on its design. Please note that all estimated external investment figures are indicative only. If you are interested in learning more or inputting, please get in touch with us at : Earlyyears.FUND@education.gov.uk

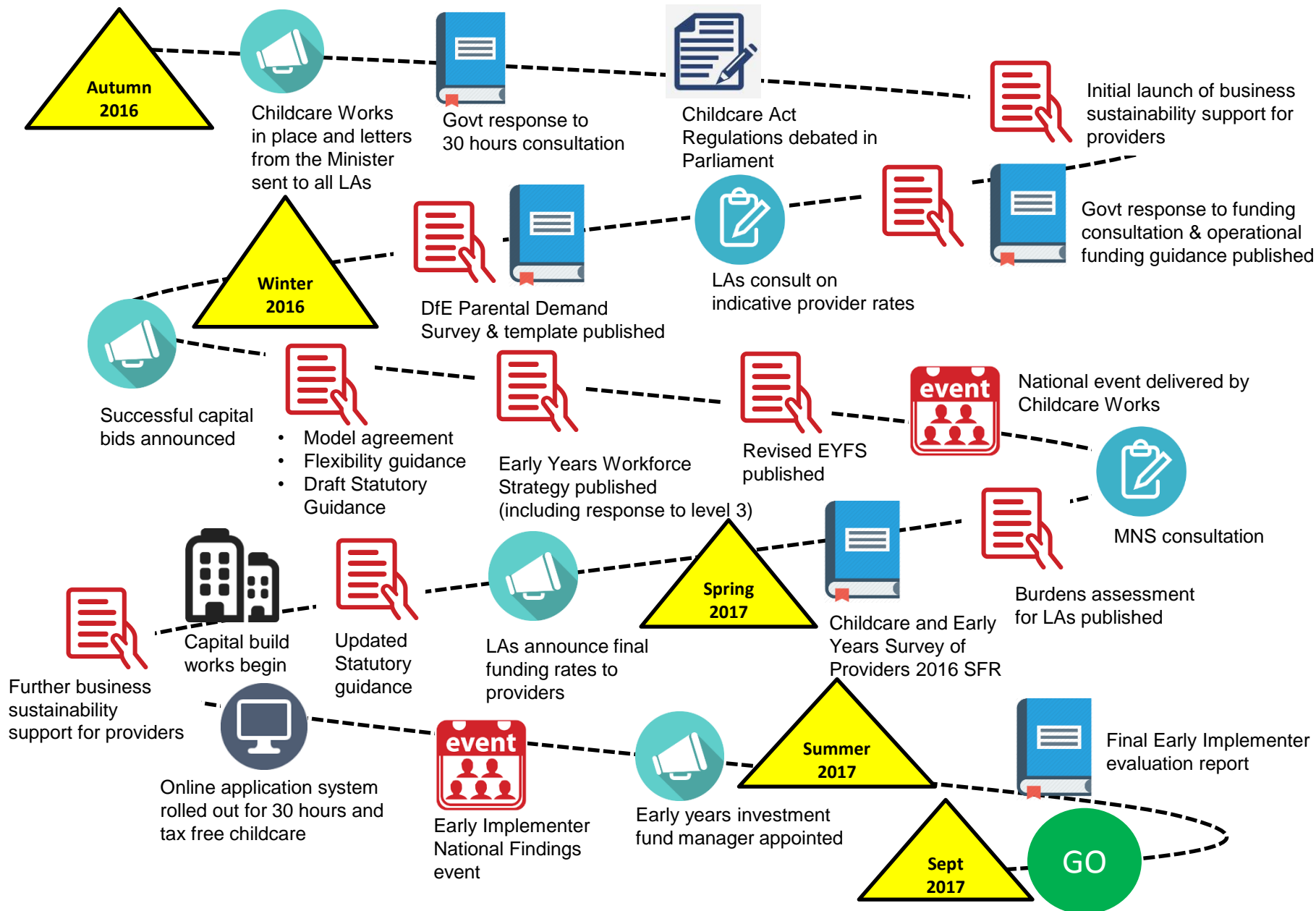
Early Implementers and Innovators

- 8 Early Implementers launched on 1st September this year – providing some working families with the additional 15 hours a year ahead of full rollout. Supported by 24 Early Innovators – providing learning to support national roll-out developing innovative approaches to address key delivery issues on SEND; flexibility; quality; sufficiency and work incentives.
- Over 3600 children are already accessing an extended entitlement place. We expect this to rise to around 5,000 children over the course of the pilot.
- An independent evaluation of early implementers is underway and we are working at pace to gather and disseminate learning as fast as possible. There will be a **findings event in May next year for Early Implementers**, with **numerous events in June with non-EI LAs** and a formal evaluation report published in **July 2017**.
- Childcare Works are delivering a series of engagement events with local authorities and providers throughout the autumn. These events will be used to disseminate the early learning we have gathered from the eight Early Implementer local authorities – the **National Event hosted by Childcare works** will be in **March 2017**.
- Anecdotal feedback suggests that 30 hours is helping some providers with occupancy rates and early indications are that parental demand will be high – currently 83% in York. After a tricky start, 86% of providers in York are signed up to deliver and this continues to increase.
- Learning will continue to be captured throughout the year and shared regularly to ensure that it informs all areas' delivery planning.

Evaluation Timeline Summary

	2016					2017						
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
El Programme		First term				Second term				Third term		
National policy review	Docs											
Local policy review	Docs											
EI Lead telephone interviews		Fieldwork										
EI case studies						Fieldwork						
EINN telephone interviews						Fieldwork						
EY/school census data						Fieldwork						
Providers' survey						Fieldwork						
Parents' survey						Fieldwork						
Presentation – evaluation plans	DfE	EI										
Presentation – policy review				DfE		EI						
Presentation – final findings										EI/LA	DfE	
Written outputs								EI reports			Final report	

ROAD MAP FOR 30 HOURS DELIVERY



Consultation on level 3 GCSE requirement

Aim: we are seeking views on the knowledge, skills and qualifications in maths and English that level 3 early years educators need

Closing date: 28th November

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/level-3-early-years-educator-numeracy-and-literacy-requirements>

The response to which will be in the:

Early Years workforce strategy

Which will set out what government will do to help remove barriers to...

Attracting staff

Retaining staff

Developing and
progressing staff

A revised **Early Years Foundation Stage framework** which incorporates any necessary changes on level 3 qualification requirements and inclusion of training requirements on paediatric first aid will be published in 2017.

It's not just about 30 hours

- Early years is one of the few areas of **LA growth**
- There is attention on the **EY workforce** and recognition across government of the importance of early education for all children and especially for the **most disadvantaged**.
- Early years will play a big part in this government's new **social mobility agenda** - six new opportunity areas were announced in October – they will receive **£60 million** of funding to help local children and young people get the best start in life. This 'life course' approach will include a focus on the early years.
- **Quality for all children** remains of paramount importance and the number of children achieving a good level of development continues to **increase** - now at 69.3%. We are eagerly awaiting the first SEED reports on quality.
- And of course, our Statutory **EYFS Framework** – envied by many countries - remains at the heart to ensure quality learning, development and well being for our children

Childcare

Learning
Parental Choice
Childminders
Sustainability
Mums
Working Families
Day Nurseries
Outcomes
Health
Nursery Classes
Development
Affordability
3-year olds
Providers
Opportunities
Grandparents
Capacity
Pack Aways
Gap Narrowing
EYFS
4-year olds
Parents
Blended
Employers
Quality
Children
Dads
Challenges
Academies
Children's Centres
Sessional
Flexibility
Funding
Employment
Ofsted
Schools