



Department
for Education

DfE Update

Parent Champions Conference: 13th May
2025

This Government are putting children at the forefront of their vision

In his ***Plan for Change***, the Prime Minister set out his five missions for government:

- Kickstart economic growth
- Build an NHS fit for the future
- Safer streets
- **Break down the barriers to opportunity**
- Make Britain a clean energy superpower

At the heart of the Opportunity mission is the **giving children the Best Start in Life** pillar, with a target to ensure 75% of children reach a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage assessment by 2028.

The Prime Minister has tasked DfE and DWP to deliver an ambitious **strategy to reduce child poverty** (cross-government departments), listening carefully to the voices of children and families living in poverty and working with leading organisations, charities, and campaigners.



This government is committed to reforming early education and childcare in England

Building an early education and childcare system that works for the sector, children and parents, setting every child on the journey to improved life chances and giving them the best start in life through:

Affordable and high quality early education and childcare

- Rolling out the new childcare entitlements by September 2025.
- With over 320,000 additional parents now accessing a place.
- Providing over £8bn for the early years entitlements in 2025-26 – a £2bn (over 30%) increase compared to 2024-25.
- Biggest ever increase (45%) to Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Available and accessible early education and childcare

- new nursery places by upgrading space in primary schools.
- free breakfast clubs in every primary school



Update on 15 hours early education for disadvantaged 2yos and Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Take up

- 75% take up (Jan 2024) is welcome but we are aware and mindful of the potential impact of the working parent entitlement expansion

Eligibility overlaps

- Significant variation by LA
- Guidance and support for LAs to manage these circumstances but appreciate it remains tricky

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

- Guidance and Ofsted blog
- Deep dive into LA views on barriers for parents and providers to access EYPP

