Appendix C

SEN Inclusion Funding (SENIF)

Extract from ESFA Guidance :

'Early Years Operational Guidance

With the introduction of the new working parent entitlements for 2024 to 2025, local authorities should establish SENIFs for all children with SEN eligible for or taking up the entitlements, regardless of the number of hours taken. These funds are intended to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN who are taking up the entitlements. This fund will also support local authorities to undertake their responsibilities to strategically commission SEN services as required under the Children and Families Act 2014.

Eligibility

Local authorities should target SENIFs at children with lower level or emerging SEN. Children with more complex needs and with an education, health and care plan (EHC) plan continue to be eligible to receive funding via the high needs block of the DSG. Further information on the high needs funding system can be found in the <u>high needs funding arrangements: 2024 to 2025</u>. As with other elements of early years funding, SENIFs should apply to children attending settings in the relevant local authority area, regardless of where they live.

Sources of funding

Local authorities should establish their SENIFs using funding from the early years block and/or the high needs block of their DSG allocation.'

Value

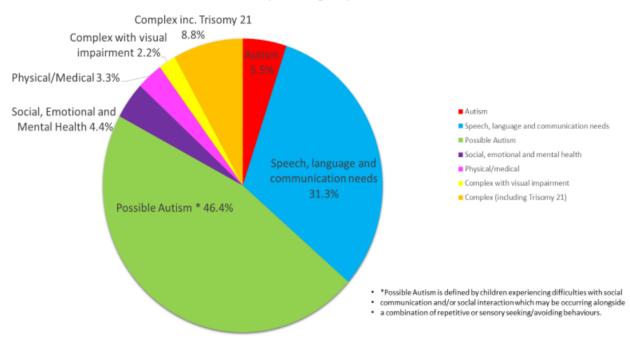
The value of the fund should consider the number of children with SEN in the local area, their level of need, and the overall capacity of the local childcare market to support these children. Local authorities must consult with early years providers to set the value of their local SENIF.

RBWM Referrals data – Academic Years



Number of individual referrals to the EYs SEND team by year

Number of referrals by category of need 2023/24 to date



2023-24 RBWM Funding Matrix

SEN Inclusion Funding by Band

The vast majority of EYIF requests are anticipated to fall within Band A and B. A very limited number of requests are anticipated to fall within higher bands/ Band C.

Band	SEND category	Funding per term	Funding per year
A	Low/Emerging needs/Early Intervention graduated support	Up to £600*	£1800
В	Moderate to High Needs graduated support	Up to £1060**	£3180
с	Complex Needs level of funding	Discussed on a case by case basis	Discussed on a case by case basis

* Based on the child accessing their full entitlement of 15 or 30 hours per week

** Band values are subject to change and available budget