

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

The Government provides additional funding for the education of some 3 and 4 year olds. The criteria for eligibility are

- Children from low income families (as defined by the criteria for free school meals).
- Children who have been looked after for 1 day or more (Children's Social Care).
- Children who have been adopted from local authority care in England and Wales.
- Children who have left care under a special guardianship order or child arrangement order in England or Wales.

The funding continues to equate to £302.10 per year if a child takes up their full 570 hours of free early education entitlement.

We use Early Years Pupil Premium Grant to put in additional support for these children. Support includes developing children's wellbeing and involvement, helping children to develop their communication and language skills and developing literacy. Support is tailored to children's individual needs. Sometimes there may be a group of children with a similar need, on these occasions we will put on a special project for that group e.g. building social skills through Forest School, reading friendly spaces. Otherwise a teaching assistant works with the children individually or releases their key person so they can work with the child on an individual level.

Nursery aged children's wellbeing and language has been affected by the limited socialisation opportunities during Covid-19 lockdowns and isolations so we focussed on these areas of development. Also, we saw an unexpected increase in children in the summer term who were entitled to EYPP so they participated in an additional Forest School 10 week programme aimed at team work to develop their communication and language in team situations and their collaborative working. The children recorded their experiences and discoveries in floor books which supported their early writing and reading skills

In the 2020/21 academic year we received £9,115 in EYPP. Data for children moving into reception in September 2021 for whom we received EYPP funding showed that:

- The difference in attainment for children eligible for EYPP and their peers diminished in all aspects of personal and social development and communication and language, except self-confidence and self-awareness.
- The gap narrowed most significantly in speaking.

The majority of children eligible for EYPP attended school daily for their 3 hour sessions rather than combining sessions into longer periods. Consequently they benefitted from regular educational input 5 days per week.