Sandbrook Primary School

Headteacher: Ms C Temple
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Dear Parent,

The Early Years Pupil Premium

From April 2015, nurseries, schools, childminders and other childcare providers have been able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care. We wanted to write to you to explain what the Early Years Pupil Premium is, explain who is eligible for this funding and, importantly, to ask you to complete an online application on *www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/early-years-pupil-premium* so that we as a provider can claim the extra funding due.

National data and research tells us that children who are eligible for free school meals tend to do less well. In 2014, 45% of children eligible for free school meals achieved the expected level at the end of the early year's foundation stage compared with 64% of other children. The Early Years Pupil Premium will provide us with extra funding to close this gap.

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides an extra 53 pence per hour for three and four year old children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits or who were formally in local authority care but who left care because they were adopted or were subject to a special guardianship or child arrangements order. This means an extra £302 a year for each child taking up the full 570 hours of funded entitlement to early education.

The additional money will make a significant difference. We can use the extra funding to improve the quality of the early years education that we provide for your child. This could include for example additional training for our staff, investing in partnership working with our colleagues to further our expertise or supporting our staff in working on specialised areas such as speech and language development.

High quality early education can influence how well a child does at both primary and secondary school. You may be aware that a pupil premium is already available for school age children and it has proved to have given a real boost. We want to do the same for our early years children.

We are asking that parents / carers fill in an online form at *www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/early-years-pupil-premium* if you think you meet the criteria which will allow us to claim any additional Early Years Pupil Premium (see overleaf).

All information completed will be held securely in accordance with General Data Protection Registration Act 2018.

If you have any questions, please have a chat to Mrs Blakemoore-Irving, lead teacher for early years at Sandbrook.

Yours faithfully,

Ms C Temple
Headteacher

TEAM Sandbrook – Striving Together for Excellence

Criteria for Early Years Pupil Premium

The setting your child attends may be able to receive Early Years Pupil Premium from the term after your child's 3rd birthday if your family receives one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit
- and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Your child has:

- they have been in local-authority care for 1 day or more in England or Wales
- they have been adopted from care in England or Wales
- they have left care under a special guardianship order or residence order in England or Wales