

EYSFF Consultation Feedback 2020 – 2021

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Summary

There were 25 responses received: 21 from Merton schools and 4 from Merton PVI providers. Feedback from the responses is provided below

Funding formula for 3 and 4-year-olds

Merton Council is proposing no change to the existing EYSFF. Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes	No	Don't know	No answer
21	0	2	2

Comments (1):

• 'As a 104 place Nursery we would like to know the new rate for the hourly rate that is paid to us to inform our draft budget for April 2020'

Funding formula for 2-year-olds

Merton Council intends to continue to use the funding allocation for 2-year-olds solely for this purpose and not move any funding between 2 year old and 3 and 4-year-old allocations.

Comments (2):

- 'Agree to continue'
- 'If there is consistently year on year an underspend in two-year-old funding perhaps it should be moved to 3 and 4-year-olds, but paid to schools as a lump sum based on EHCP need or SEN'

SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF)

It is proposed that the value of the SENIF continues, as last year, to be based on the factors as described in the document on paragraph 4.3.6. Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes	No	Don't know	No answer
15	6	1	3

Comments (8):

- 'In general, more funding for OT / SEN / EAL needs would be beneficial'
- 'Can an increase in the hourly rate be considered that better reflects the actual cost to schools of supporting children with SEN?'
- 'Insufficient SEN funding'
- 'This needs to be higher as it does not reflect the true cost to schools'
- 'Can an increase in the hourly rate be included to give us improved funding for SEND in the Early Years?'
- 'This doesn't reflect the cost of SEND in Early Years'
- 'I would question whether the current value is significant to support the increasing number of children with lower level or emerging SEN. Is the funding keeping up with the increased demand?'
- 'Please can an increase in the hourly rate be considered so it better reflects the actual cost to schools'

Early Years retained items

Merton Council intends to retain 5% of the total budget to fund key statutory duties (administration, information, securing training for staff in the sector) support and advice to the sector, focussing on support to weaker settings and settings working with children with additional needs/SEND.

Comments (7):

- 'There will always be schools needing additional support because of a number of factors, this will be helpful to them'
- 'Continue to retain 5%'
- 'Would like to see more money spent on training for EYFS in schools, rather than PVIs'
- 'I feel that more funding needs to be allocated for training'
- 'Clarity on how schools can access this and what the criteria are'
- '5% is a significant amount considering the challenges schools face at the moment'
- 'More money used on training for schools'