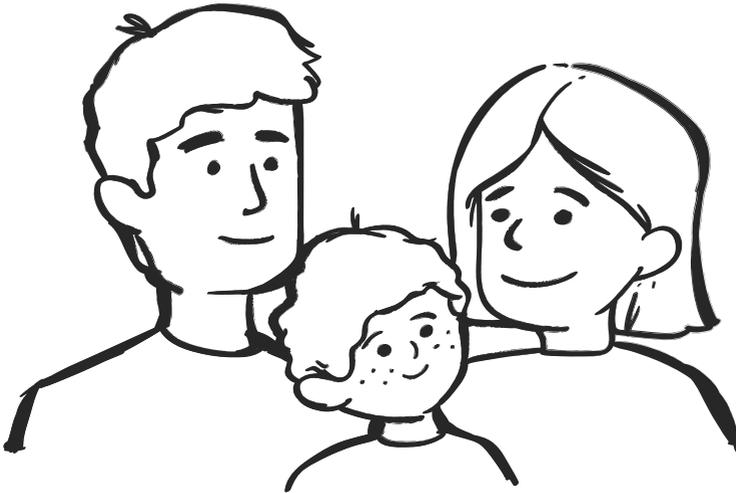


A guide to

Early years provision for children with additional needs



The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to five years old. All schools and Ofsted registered early years providers must follow the EYFS, including childminders, pre-schools, nurseries and school reception classes.

The continuum of Early Years Provision in Cornwall

Some two year olds are entitled to an Early Years entitlement of 15 hours a week in a setting rated as good or outstanding by OFSTED.

All three and four year olds have an Early Years entitlement of 15 hours a week from the term after their third birthday and can access a range of settings. In addition, your childcare provider may be entitled to £300 of extra funding (pupil premium) to improve the education of your three or four year old. This funding may be used by your childcare provider in a number of ways, for example, to provide new resources, staff training, additional support and new play or learning experiences to help improve outcomes for your child.

To check if your child is eligible follow this link to the Family Information Service website:

cornwall.childreancesservicesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/fsd/service.page?id=VXh9e6VklSU - choose childcare funding

Alternatively phone the Family Information Service on **0800 587 8191 / 01872 323 535** or email **fis@cornwall.gov.uk**

Portage

The Portage Service provides support and guidance for families of children aged 6 months to 3 years who have significant and complex additional needs. For further information follow the link to the Early Help Hub website.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub

Maintained nurseries

- Operate with a qualified teacher supported by teaching assistants/nursery nurses
- Have a minimum 1:13 adult to child ratio
- Usually admit children the term after their third birthday, although some will offer places before then
- Open term time only

Private day nurseries

These offer education and care for children 0-5 years and in some cases wrap-around care for older children. They:

- operate all year round
- offer care usually from 8am-6pm
- have minimum ratio of 1:4 for under 3 years and 1:8 for 3-5 years with an Early Years Professional or NVQ Level 3 leader and nursery assistants.

Private and voluntary pre-schools

These offer term time pre-school sessions of 3 hours many offering morning, afternoon and some more flexible sessions. They:

- have the same ratios as private day nurseries
- may work in conjunction with childminders to provide wrap-around child care
- are sometimes on the same site as a school.

Childminders

- Offer the 15 hour Early Years entitlement
- Provide a flexible approach for education and care
- Childminders can access support through the EYIS Senior Locality SENCo



For children with a higher level of need

Child development centres

There are four Child Development Centres (CDCs) in Cornwall based in Liskeard, St Columb Major, Truro and Penzance. There is also a CDC teacher that offers outreach support for children in the Launceston and Bude areas.

For preschool children, CDCs offer:

- specialist short term nursery provision (2-3 terms) either by the child attending (an in reach placement), or through support to another setting (an outreach placement) or a combination of these
- multi-agency assessment
- minimum ratios of 1:3 with a qualified teacher and nursery nurse
- supported transition to local Early Years settings or to school, depending on the child's age
- specialist teacher and Speech and Language Therapist intervention.

This place is not additional to the 15 hours of Early Years entitlement, but counted as part of it.

Requests for CDC involvement will be via Early Years Inclusion Service, Education or Health Professionals. Places are allocated by a central multi-agency panel. Parental preferences for direct attendance or outreach support will be established prior to a request being made.

Special school provision

Children accessing a special school Foundation Stage class will have long term complex needs. A child can be considered for a place from 3 years once they have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC). Nancealverne (Penzance), Curnow (Redruth) and Doubletrees (near St Austell) are funded through the local authority.

Early support

This is an approach for children aged from 0 to adulthood, with a disability or long term additional need.

It aims to:

- place the child and family priorities as central to planning next steps
- support the family with advice
- define roles and responsibilities of the professionals involved
- limit duplication of services.

The multi-agency Team Around the Child (TAC) works together to meet the child and family's needs. The family is supported by their chosen Lead Professional. Contact Cornwall Family Information Service for more information.

The Early Years Inclusion Service

If your child has additional needs and requires support to access an Early Years setting, then you or the setting staff can request involvement from the EYIS.

The EYIS Senior Locality SENCo (SLS) has a key role in the coordination of services for children with additional needs and supports from the initial referral to the EYIS until the child starts school.

The SLS can support with:

- advice
- signposting to other services
- liaisons with other professionals within the EYIS as they are needed
- training
- funding opportunities
- transitions between settings.

The Senior Locality SENCo has an overview and close working relationship with providers and professionals to ensure all children have access to appropriate early interventions. For children with the most complex needs this may include Early Years Autistic Spectrum Disorder/Social Communication Support Workers or Early Years Inclusion Workers.

If a high level of different or additional support is required to ensure the inclusion of a child and they don't already have an EHC plan, the setting can apply for additional funding through the Inclusion Fund. Please contact your EYIS Senior Locality SENCo for further information about this.

Although the request for involvement will be received by the Senior Locality SENCo, the professionals from the EYIS who are most likely to be working with the maintained settings are the Early Years Autistic Spectrum Disorder/Social Communication (ASD/SC) workers and the Early Years Educational Psychologists (EPs). The EPs primarily see children before being considered for a place at a Child Development Centre and, in addition, to provide advice as part of the Education and Health Care Plan process.



Further information

Early Help Hub

www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub

Cornwall Family Information Service (FIS)

www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/family.page?familychannel=0

Telephone: 0800 587 8191

Special educational needs disability information advice and support service (SENDIASS)

Telephone: 01736 759 500

www.cornwallsendiass.org.uk

Parent Carer Council

Telephone: 07973 763 332

www.parentcarercouncilcornwall.org.uk

Child Development Centres

Dilys Vincent, Professional Lead for CDCs in Cornwall

Telephone: 01872 253 878

Cornwall's special schools

Nancealverne Special School

Telephone: 01736 365 039

Curnow Special School

Telephone: 01209 215 432

Doubletrees Special School

Telephone: 01726 812 757

Contact us

Early Years Inclusion Service

eyis@cornwall.gov.uk

Manager: **Hannah Fugill**

email: hannah.fugill@cornwall.gov.uk

Call: **07813 367408**

If you would like this information in another format or language please contact:

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Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY

e: equality@cornwall.gov.uk

t: 0300 1234 100