

Wednesday 18th March 2015

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Early Years Pupil Premium

From April 2015, all schools, preschools, childminders and other childcare providers will be able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium to support children's development, learning and care. I am writing to families 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 so that if your child is eligible we can claim the extra funding to help them to learn well and be successful.

The Early Years Pupil Premium provides up to **an extra £302 a year** for us to help each eligible three and four year old child.

This extra money is to support those children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits, those who are in local authority care and any who left care because they were adopted or were subject to a special guardianship or child arrangements order. This additional money could make a significant difference to children.

We can choose to use the extra funding in whatever way will best improve the quality of the early year's education that we provide for your child. This could include, for example, special equipment or additional specialist help with early speech and communication.

It is recognised that high quality early education can influence how well a child does later at both primary and secondary school so we do want to make the most of this additional funding. You may be aware if you have older children that a pupil premium has been available for school age children and it has proved to have given a real boost to the children receiving the funding. We want to do the same for our early years children entitled to this funding.

Therefore we ask that ***all parents / guardians*** complete the on line application so that we can check whether your child is eligible. This will allow us to claim the additional Early Years Pupil Premium for as many children as possible to help us to provide high quality learning opportunities which will benefit all the children.

You can access the online form at www.hertsdirect.org/eypp from **Thursday 19th March 2015.**

If you have any questions or need ICT support, please contact Mrs Conyard or Mrs Dorey at the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Carly Simmonds
Headteacher