

National Wraparound Childcare Programme Getting ready for national roll out in September 2024 - Information for schools and PVI providers

In the Spring Budget 2023, the Chancellor announced £289 million to support the expansion of wraparound childcare for primary school age children so that parents can access employment and increase labour market participation. Parents can expect to see an expansion in the availability of wraparound care from September 2024 with the ambition that by September 2026, all parents and carers of primary school-aged children, who need it, will be able to access term time wraparound childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm.

Early Adopters

This week, four early adopters from five local authorities (Central Bedfordshire, Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire) have begun rolling out expanded wraparound provision five months ahead of the national programme launch in September.

The Department has recently published a <u>blog</u> showcasing the work of Queen's Park Primary School in delivering wrapround childcare within one of our early adopter areas. The Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing, David Johnston, also visited Kidz Zone Club after school provision based at Linslade Lower School, where they have, as an early adopter, increased their number of places from April.

Getting ready for national roll out in September

As we approach national roll out, we wanted to ensure you were aware of the key documents to support you as you consider how you will deliver expanded provision from September:

<u>The programme handbook</u> will support schools, providers and local authorities to work together to deliver expanded wraparound in their area. It describes the programme's vision and objectives, it sets out the expectations of the programme for all involved and includes details about what funding can be used for.

The handbook also encourages providers to promote the availability, where appropriate, of government childcare subsidies to parents, including <u>Tax-Free childcare</u> and Universal Credit childcare. Please ensure you are either Ofsted or childminder agency registered and set up to accept tax-free childcare payments to ensure parents in your area can benefit from this financial support.

<u>Guidance for schools and trusts</u> outlines their role in providing wraparound childcare. This guidance reiterates messages in the handbook on roles and responsibilities across the system and offers a practical guide for schools and trusts to support parents to access wraparound childcare provision on a school site, including partnering with a private, voluntary or independent provider to run provision.

Action

Please contact your local authority to discuss the support (including funding) available through the programme and the places you currently have available and /or could create through the programme to support this wraparound expansion.

If you have any questions please contact wraparound.programme@education.gov.uk