

Wraparound Programme Funding Application

Context

Wraparound refers to childcare provision operating directly before and after the school day, during the school term, for primary aged children (Reception to Year 6). The provision can be offered by schools and/or private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers (including childminders) and can be run on a school site or in the local area. It must not require parent/carers to pick children up from school and drop them off at another location.

Wraparound childcare does not include extra-curricular activities/clubs that are offered before and/or after the school day, although they may be offered to complement the available wraparound childcare.

By September 2026, the aim is that all parents and carers of primary school-aged children who need it, will be able to access childcare in their local area from 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term-time.

The wraparound childcare must be sustainable, accessible, affordable and high quality.

Types of Funding

Both capital and revenue funding is available to support the expansion of Wraparound provision across Worcestershire.

In total this equates to:

Capital Funding: £205,000

Revenue Funding 2024/25: £1,710,000

- Capital funding encompasses building work, the installation of fixed assets and equipment with a shelf life of more than a year and costing more than £500; it cannot fund unfixed play resources or running costs. It is not intended for routine maintenance or refurbishment of premises. For further information about the use of capital funding for wraparound provision: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66165d051a70cf4b9209316c/Childcare_Expansion_Capital_Guidance_For_LAs_Nov2023.pdf
- Revenue funding can be used to support start-up costs, staff training, resources and transport hire. It cannot be used to subsidise the cost of places (for parents/carers) or for running costs of ongoing provision unless the provision is expanding/increasing their wraparound offer.
- Further information about how funding can be spent can be found on pages 31-33 of the [National Wraparound Childcare Programme Handbook](#).

The funding can be used to:

- Create new wraparound provision (8am – 6pm, term-time).
- Expand existing wraparound provision, creating additional places and/or increasing offer to meet the 8am – 6pm requirement.
- Remove identified delivery barriers.

Amount of Funding

Applications for funding will be judged as per the criteria below, which includes value for money; applications will be compared to prioritise low-cost solutions wherever possible. Applications for revenue funding should not exceed:

- £500 per place to expand existing provision to meet 8am – 6pm requirement
- £500 per place to expand the number of places available at existing provision
- £1000 to create brand new provision

Where there are significant, identified barriers to either the supply or demand of wraparound childcare, applications that exceed the above expectations will be considered **however** it is recommended that you discuss your plans with Sharon Jones, Early Years Improvement Advisor, before submitting your application.

Revenue funding will be allocated on a first come, first served basis until it has all been allocated or until 31st March 2025, whichever is first. Provision funded through this process is expected to open as soon as possible but no later than September 2025. Capital Funding will be allocated based on sufficiency need.

Eligibility

The funding is available for any school or PVI setting, including childminders, supporting a school to meet demand generated by Worcestershire school pupils. PVI settings must be Ofsted registered or, in the case of Childminders or Childcare on Domestic Premises registered with either Ofsted or a Childminder Agency.

The new provision must be offered 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday during term-time. Funding cannot be used to open/expand holiday-based provision, however we would recommend assessing the need for holiday provision. Non-financial support is available if this is something you would like to pursue.

The new/expanded wraparound offer must not jeopardise any existing provision in the local area. Where provision already exists for pupils of a school there must be clear evidence that there is **unmet** demand that would sustain both provisions being in operation.

Where a PVI setting is opening and/or expanding wraparound provision for pupils at a specific school/s, the PVI setting is expected to work with the school and develop a working agreement; the school must be named in the application and agreement received from the Trust/Governing Body.

Provision must enable parents to use Tax-Free Childcare and the childcare element of Universal Credit, as appropriate.

All provision supported by the Wraparound Funding must comply with the DfE criteria outlined in the [Wraparound childcare guidance for schools and trusts in England](#).

Applications

For provision opening:	Application Deadline	Allocation Decisions communicated:
September 2024	Friday 12 th July	By Friday 19 th July
During 2024/25	Friday 31 st January	Within 4 weeks of application

All applications for funding need to be submitted using the appropriate application form, the link to which can be found below. All applications will be considered by an evaluation panel, with the outcome communicated as soon as possible. Where applications are not successful, feedback will be provided to inform any future Wraparound Funding applications.

Application Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/fiwutMThuN>

The following documents must be submitted as part of the application:

- 1. Cash-flow forecast** covering the next 3 years (2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27)
- 2. Quotes** (For proposals that include capital funding or purchasing of material goods):
PVI settings, Maintained and Academy schools must follow the LA guidance and submit:
 - 3 quotes for applications under £20,000
 - 4 written quotes or formal invitations to tender for applications over £20,000 and less than £50,000

For applications above the thresholds listed above, a formal buying process must be completed.

- 3. Evidence of demand**

Where wraparound provision is already in place (providing a service to pupils at a specific school), clear evidence of unmet demand must be submitted. We would expect evidence to include (anonymised) details of families who are unable to access wraparound provision to meet their needs. Where additional wraparound provision is in place within the local community, meeting the needs of families, we would not expect existing provision to be negatively impacted by your proposal.

- 4. Partnership Working**

Where you are a PVI working with a school you must provide a copy of your working agreement with the school signed by the Governing Body/Trust or an email confirming your working arrangements must be provided

Only one application will be considered at a time; if an application is unsuccessful, further submissions can be made once feedback has been supplied.

Support

Sharon Jones, Early Years Improvement Advisor is available for support via Wraparound@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Funding Application Assessment Criteria:

Funding will only be awarded if all of the following criteria are met

Criteria	Evidenced by:	Outcome
Applicable Wraparound Survey has been submitted (for any existing provider/school) Schools: https://forms.office.com/e/LvKXVTRMjK Childminders: https://forms.office.com/e/6rcmU7bcRC Group-Based PVI: https://forms.office.com/e/HDhXggcAhN	Survey received	
Proposal addresses an identified gap in provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded opening hours to meet 8am – 6pm requirement Expanded number places that are available 8am-6pm New provision creating places that are available 8am – 6pm Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses identified delivery barriers 	Wraparound survey Application	
Proposal is unlikely to negatively impact existing local provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radial search of providers within 2 miles Search for providers picking up from school Evidence of unmet demand 	LA records LA records Application	
Proposal indicates long-term viability	Cash-flow forecast	
Provision is likely to be affordable to parents/carers within school community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative to local schools and settings 	Application LA records	
Proposal indicates an ethos of high-quality childcare	Application	
Proposal indicates an ethos of safeguarded children	Application	
Proposal evidences good value for money <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost per place does not exceed maximum values unless address multiple gaps in provision Costs are comparative to similar proposals 	Application	