

## National Wraparound Programme:

## Grant Funding Allocation 2025-2026

## Application Guidance for Schools and PVI Providers

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## 1. Introduction

This document outlines the process to apply for grant funding to set up or expand wraparound provision, either as a school or an existing Private, Voluntary or Independent (PVI) provider in Peterborough.

Wraparound provision can be delivered directly by a school or through existing childcare partners already operating on a school site (such as early years providers or Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme providers) or delivered off site with a school pickup arrangement. Please let us know in your response what arrangement is being proposed. PVI providers must be registered or be prepared to register with Ofsted on the Early Years Register to be considered.

It is expected that schools will consider provision for all children in the school, including those with SEND. The Department for Education (DfE) has recognised in the guidance that provision for Special Schools may be more challenging. The guidance says:

*“We expect Local Authorities to factor all schools into their mapping activity, although we understand that traditional school based wraparound models may not be feasible outside of mainstream settings, given the additional staffing requirements and potential impact of costs for parents. Where demand is identified for pupils attending non mainstream schools, Local Authorities [LA] should work with schools to establish appropriate provision where possible.*

*Schools should communicate the local available offer, to parents of the children that attend their school to ensure equal opportunities for all children.”*

Should special schools wish to discuss options available, please contact the Wraparound Programme Lead, Laura Adams ([laura.adams@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:laura.adams@peterborough.gov.uk)) or Wraparound Childcare Support Officer, Vincent Drummond ([Vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:Vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk)).

## 2. Background

In the Spring 2023 budget, the Chancellor announced a £289m investment over two academic years, from September 2024, to enable schools and local areas to set up wraparound childcare provision.

The principal aim of the Wraparound Programme is to increase the availability for school age children of full wraparound provision between the hours of 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, which many parents depend on to give them the ability to go into new work, return to work, extend their hours, or work more flexible hours.

Wraparound childcare should take place immediately before and/or immediately after the school day, and its primary function should be to provide childcare for school-age pupils.

Wraparound care is a guaranteed, regular service, with settings responsible for collecting children from their classes and looking after them until working parents can collect them.

The Wraparound Programme is a universal offer, open to all children and families, and funding to increase the availability of provision has been allocated to all local authorities in England. Parents are expected to pay for the wraparound they use, but eligible parents will be able to use government subsidies such as Tax-Free Childcare and the childcare element of Universal Credit against payment for registered childcare.

Holiday childcare does not fall within the remit of the programme.

### 3. Available funding

Grant allocations were announced in Autumn 2023 and Peterborough City Council have received funding to deliver the Wraparound Programme, working in partnership with schools and PVI providers, including childminders, to ensure a full wraparound offer is available to families of primary school aged children.

#### Revenue funding

Available funding allocated to support the development of wraparound is outlined below. This covers revenue expenditure only to support set up/operational costs:

	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26 (provisional)	Total
Peterborough	£7,782	£569,800	£250,187	£827,769

The local authority has been funded on the basis of the following DfE assumptions:

- Type A schools, any school that does not have a before and after-school childcare offering. We assumed an average of 20 additional places per school.
- Type B schools have both before and after school care, but not full 8am – 6pm wraparound. We assumed an average of 10 additional places per school.

The DfE expects an average of 15 additional wraparound places to be supplied (either expanded or created) for each school which does not currently have full wraparound available to the parents of pupils at that setting.

The initial grant funding period will be for 2 terms. Further tapered funding at this stage of the programme for any subsequent terms would be subject to remaining budget and cannot be guaranteed.

Projects must start during Autumn 2025 at the latest; current guidance from the Department for Education states we cannot fund projects commencing from Spring 2026.

Funding can only be considered for:

- Applications that meet the “full wraparound” definition i.e. operates from 8am to 6pm.
- To support expansion of existing capacity where waiting lists are in place and some families are currently unable to access wraparound service due to demand, or it is likely that demand will exceed supply in the future.

Only the element of the provision which is new can be financially supported. (For example, if you are expanding your operational hours from 17:30 to 18:00, 30 minutes per place can be awarded funding. If you are expanding the number of places you offer, funding can only be awarded for delivery of the new places)

If sufficient evidence is provided showing a demand, then an application that meets “equivalent hours” (i.e. that which starts no later than 8am and ends no earlier than 5.30pm) may be considered. It should be emphasised that there must be evidence of a clear demand for such a provision.

Revenue funding can be used to cover costs including staffing, training, and transport costs such as minibus hire. Funding can be used to purchase resources and can also be used to contribute to running costs whilst demand builds, to remove any financial risk to providers of offering additional places before demand is guaranteed.

Funding can also be used to pay for training for wraparound staff, including specialist training for staff to ensure they feel equipped to support children with additional needs.

The funding cannot be used to subsidise the cost of places. Any places created through the programme must be paid for by parents. Eligible parents should be able to use Universal Credit childcare support for up to 85% subsidy of their costs, and eligible parents can use Tax-Free Childcare to subsidise costs, covering 20% of costs up to £2k a year (or up to £4k for disabled children up to age 16).

The funding must not be used to subsidise the running cost of existing wraparound childcare places. This does not prevent the use of funding to contribute to the costs of expanding existing provision to create new childcare places.

## 4. Criteria and scoring

It is the ambition to have sufficient resources to meet needs of all schools looking to provide full wraparound. However, should the funding applications exceed the available funds the following criteria will be applied. Each application will be scored on the basis of the criteria below, and projects scoring the highest will be prioritised.

Criteria	Weighting
Value for money – cost per childcare place created	20%
<p>Demonstrate commitment and explanation of how wraparound childcare will be in place to meet the full wraparound 8am to 6pm requirement, The following will be prioritised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No wraparound provision is currently available.</li> <li>2. Partial wraparound provision is available.</li> <li>3. Children are unable to access existing provision due to capacity issues.</li> </ol> <p>Proposals to expand existing place capacity or create new places which meet “equivalent hours” criteria (i.e operating from at least 8am until at least 5:30 pm) will need to demonstrate that these operational hours are sufficient to meet parental need (e.g. results of parent consultation). Priority will be given to projects which meet full wraparound criteria.</p>	50%
Ability to demonstrate appropriate care for children with additional, behavioural, and complex needs	5%
Ability to demonstrate parent engagement and maximising take up of places	5%
Ability to be operational in terms of accommodating children from April 2025 or soon thereafter	20%
Commitment to allow families to pay using government subsidies (i.e. Tax Free Childcare)	Pass/fail
Commitment to participate in monitoring and auditing of the project	Pass/fail

### Grant scoring

The following scoring criteria will be used when assessing your application form and responses:

Rating of response	Score
<b>Excellent:</b> Provides real confidence based on experience of the requirement; indicates that the provider will add real value to childcare market with excellent skills and deep understanding of the service needs.	10 Outstanding - High 9 Outstanding - Low
<b>Good:</b> Demonstrates understanding of the requirement and provides evidence of ability to meet it.	8 Very Good - High 7 Very Good - Low
<b>Adequate:</b> Suggests potential with some evidence given of experience/skills. There may be some concerns that proposal lacks certain requirements. Overall the submission is weak and/or poorly explained.	6 Satisfactory - High 5 Satisfactory - Low 4 Fair - High 3 Fair- Low
Failed to answer the question or lacks convincing evidence of skill/experience sought; lack of real understanding of requirement or evidence of ability to deliver.	2 Poor - High 1- Poor - Low 0 - Unacceptable

Existing neighbouring provision (for example, offered off school site by a PVI provider and childminders) will be considered before expanding/creating provision on a school site to ensure there is sufficient demand for places.

## 5. Application process

**Applications must be submitted using the online application:**

<https://tinyurl.com/426zesbd>

Providers making an application must submit a detailed costing breakdown to [vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk) which will be used to calculate your per-term funding allocation if funding is awarded.

Your costings must demonstrate:

*1. If you plan to expand operational hours or increase existing capacity:*

- i. Current annual costs for each item of expenditure you are hoping to receive support with (operational costs such as staffing and premises)
- ii. Current termly cost for each item of expenditure you are hoping to receive support with
- iii. Projected annual costs for each item of expenditure if expansion takes place
- iv. Projected termly costs for each item of expenditure if expansion takes place
- v. One off costs (such as furniture and resources)

*2. If you plan to provide a new service:*

- i. Estimated annual costs for each item of expenditure (operational costs such as staffing and premises)
- ii. Termly breakdown for each item of expenditure
- iii. Start-up / one off costs (such as furniture and resources)



## 6. Grant award and monitoring

Applications will be assessed via a panel including the Head of Early Years and Childcare, Childcare Market Facilitation Officer and Wraparound Programme Lead, Wraparound Childcare Support Officer and Finance representation.

The initial grant funding award will be for 2 terms. A grant funding agreement will be required to be in place before funding can be issued.

Depending on the start date of your project, tapered funding may be available for further terms, subject to available budget. The amount of tapered funding would be determined through termly monitoring based on the number of children accessing a place, the amount of initial grant funding spent, income generated via the provision, and the sustainability of the project.

Local Authority monitoring requirements will be confirmed on the award of funding. Further monitoring requirements will be requested from the Department for Education via your Local Authority through the duration of the programme.

For enquiries please contact:

- Vincent Drummond, Wraparound Childcare Support Officer: [Vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:Vincent.drummond@peterborough.gov.uk)
- Laura Adams, Wraparound Programme Lead: [laura.adams@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:laura.adams@peterborough.gov.uk)
- Pam Setterfield, Head of Early Years and Childcare: [pam.setterfield@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:pam.setterfield@peterborough.gov.uk)