SCHOOLS FORUM

**4**

Date:

Heading: Early Years SEND Report

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| **Lead Officer** | Sara Willis Service Manager 0-11 Outcomes  Nicholas Fortt, Early Years Inclusion & Partnership Coordinator |
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| **Forum asked to be informed/decision** | To note how Forum funding is being spent in the Early Years on children with additional needs as more children aged 2 + take up their entitlement to 15 hours free childcare. |
| **Time Needed** | **5 minutes** |

1. **Early Years Inclusion Support Funding (ISF)**

In April 2014, Schools Forum allocated £99,000 to support 2, 3 and 4 year olds with Specialist Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This was to enable children with SEND to have enhanced additional support to help them access their 3 year-old Early Years Entitlement or 2 Year funding entitlement (both 15 hours per week). There is currently a banding system which allocates funding based on the child’s needs (see table).

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Band Level** | **Needs** | **Amount of funding required** |
| **Band 3**  (Highest level, complex needs) | Needing individual support most / all of the time for safety and to access play and learning | 15 hours per week |
| **Band 2**  (Medium level needs) | Needing individual support for a range of identified activities including group work | 10 hours per week |
| **Band 1**  (Low level needs) | Needing individual support for some group/individual activities | 5 hours per week |
| Funding is provided at £8 per hour x 38 weeks per year | | |

Since 2010, the Early Years team has seen a **122%** increase in children with SEND coming through the Early Years Inclusion Panel. On average, the increase of cases year on year is 23.4%. To meet this need, Schools Forum has allocated an additional £128,000 for 2015-16. Please see the table below for the total number of children funded this financial year (2014-2015) – these numbers may go up slightly with the last panels in March 2015.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of children receiving one-to-one support (SEND needs)** | | | | | | |
|  | **Active** | **Pending** | **Band 1 Cases** | **Band 2 Cases** | **Band 3 Cases** | **Total** |
| **Bath East** | 19 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 19 | 24 |
| **Bath West** | 18 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 19 |
| **Somer Valley** | 29 | 6 | 2 | 12 | 21 | 35 |
| **K&CV** | 9 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 13 |
| **Total** | **75** | **16** | **5** | **24** | **62** | **91** |

In the next financial year (2015-2016) the individual needs will be recorded for each child to give Schools Forum a further detailed breakdown, so that you can see the types of needs children are presenting with.

We are also further analysing regional data as we know B&NES has higher numbers of children recorded as having SEND than our statistical neighbours i.e. for all children with a statutory assessment B&NES had 758 in 2013-14 versus 486 in North Somerset.