

# Early Years Provider Consultation - Autumn Term 2024/25

## **Early Education Funding (EEF) Payment Dates**

Early Education Funding Team  
Staffordshire County Council



## Autumn Term 2024/25

# Early Education Funding (EEF) Payment Dates

### Current Situation

For some years now, the EEF payment dates have been set for the week ending the third Friday of each month, with the expectation that the money will be in the bank account by the Friday of that week.

These dates, along with the correlating task dates, are published well in advance (currently published to April 2025).

### Identified Issue

With the expansion of the Childcare Entitlements (15 hours for Working Parents of 2 Year Olds from 1 April 2024 and for Under 2s from 1 September 2024), Providers are now due to receive a larger proportion of their income from EEF, and this will expand again when the 15 hours for these cohorts expands to 30 hours in September 2025.

### Proposal

To change the monthly pay dates to the week ending the first Friday of each month.

### Impact

Some published task dates will have to be moved, and in some cases be earlier in the term than has historically been the case.

The proposed dates are shown in the table below (first columns in peach) and compared with the current dates (final columns in green).

### Note

There is no plan to move from the current payment model options, which have now been set for the current Academic Year.

Option 1 [full payment up front model]

Option 2 [monthly payments]



## **What we are asking you to do**

We are asking for your response to a simple questionnaire which can be found at the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/PDww36SSwS>

Consultation will end on the 22 October 2024 and results will then be analysed. The option with the greatest votes will be chosen and the outcome published week commencing 4 November 2024.

We are asking for one response per Provider.

**Any queries please direct to [eefportal@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:eefportal@staffordshire.gov.uk) and please mark your email "Provider Consultation".**



Funding Period and Task	Proposed New Dates			Current Dates		
	Dates	Payment Option 1 - Week Ending	Payment Option 2 - Week Ending	Dates	Payment Option 1 - Week Ending	Payment Option 2 - Week Ending
<b>Spring Actual 2024/25</b>	13th January 2025 to 21st January 2025	21st March 2025	4th April 2025	13th January 2025 to 21st January 2025	21st March 2025	18th April 2025
<b>FINAL Autumn Amendment 2024/25</b>	11th February 2025 to 13th February 2025	4th April 2025	4th April 2025	11th February 2025 to 13th February 2025	18th April 2025	18th April 2025
<b>Summer Forecast 2025/26</b>	5th March 2025 to 11th March 2025	4th April 2025	4th April 2025 2nd May 2025 6th June 2025	19th March 2025 to 27th March 2025	18th April 2025	18th April 2025 16th May 2025 20th June 2025
<b>Spring Amendment 2024/25</b>	2nd April 2025 to 8th April 2025	2nd May 2025	2nd May 2025	2nd April 2025 to 8th April 2025	16th May 2025	16th May 2025
<b>FINAL Spring Amendment 2024/25</b>	6th May to 8th May 2025	6th June 2025	6th June 2025	20th May 2025 to 22nd May 2025	20th June 2025	20th June 2025
<b>Summer Actual 2025/26</b>	13th May 2025 to 22nd May 2025	4th July 2025	First 50%: 4th July 2025 Second 50% 1st August 2025	3rd June 2025 to 12th June 2025	18th July 2025	First 50%: 18th July 2025 Second 50% 15th August 2025
<b>Autumn Forecast 2025/26</b>	2nd July 2025 to 6th August 2025	5th September 2025	5th September 2025 3rd October 2025 7th November 2025	9th July 2025 to 13th August 2025	19th September 2025	19th September 2025 17th October 2025 21st November 2025
<b>Summer Amendment 2025/26</b>	3rd September 2025 to 9th September 2025	3rd October 2025	3rd October 2025	10th September 2025 to 16th September 2025	17th October 2025	17th October 2025
<b>FINAL Summer Amendment 2025/26</b>	7th October 2025 to 9th October 2025	7th November 2025	7th November 2025	21st October 2025 to 23rd October 2025	21st November 2025	21st November 2025
<b>Autumn Actual 2025/26</b>	15th October 2025 to 23rd October 2025	5th December 2025	5th December 2025	5th November 2025 to 11th November 2025	19th December 2025	19th December 2025
<b>Spring Forecast 2025/26</b>	19th November 2025 to 25th November 2025	2nd January 2026	2nd January 2026 6th February 2026 6th March 2026	26th November 2025 to 2nd December 2025	16th January 2026	16th January 2026 20th February 2026 20th March 2026
<b>Autumn Amendment 2025/26</b>	10th December 2025 to 16th December 2025	6th February 2026	6th February 2026	10th December 2025 to 16th December 2025	20th February 2026	20th February 2026
<b>Spring Actual 2025/26</b>	8th January 2026 to 21st January 2026	6th March 2026	3rd April 2026 1st May 2026 5th June 2026	8th January 2026 to 21st January 2026	20th March 2026	17th April 2026 15th May 2026 19th June 2026
<b>FINAL Autumn Amendment 2025/26</b>	24th February 2026 to 26th February 2026	3rd April 2026	3rd April 2026 1st May 2026 5th June 2026	10th March 2026 to 12th March 2026	17th April 2026	17th April 2026 15th May 2026 19th June 2026
<b>Summer Forecast 2026/27</b>	4th March 2026 to 10th March 2026	3rd April 2026	3rd April 2026 1st May 2026 5th June 2026	18th March 2026 to 24th March 2026	17th April 2026	17th April 2026 15th May 2026 19th June 2026

## **School Holidays 2025/26:**

Easter Holiday:	Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April
May Half-Term:	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May
Summer Holiday:	Tuesday 22 July to Friday 29 August
October Half-Term:	Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October
Christmas Holiday:	Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January
February Half-Term:	Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February
Easter Holiday:	Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April

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