

Waltham Forest Early Years Guidance

SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF)

The purpose of this guidance is to support schools and early years settings, including childminders, in developing their understanding of applying for and using SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF).

What is SENIF?

The SEN Inclusion Fund is funding available to early years providers for supporting children with developmental delay or SEND. The funding is for use in the early years provision that the child attends and will be paid to the provider to be used to support the needs of the identified individual child.



Eligibility for funding?

To be eligible for funding the children needs to be:

- A 2, 3 or 4-year-old and **taking up their FEEE place.**
- Attending an early years provision in the London Borough of Waltham Forest
- Presenting with additional needs in the moderate to profound delay range with **over six months of developmental delay.**

How to apply?

- A **SENIF Application form** needs to be **fully completed and signed by the child's parent / carer.**
- An up to date **Early Years Support Plan** needs to be completed and submitted.
- Submit any recent **supporting evidence**, this may include **referrals or assessments.**



- All documents are to be sent to EYSEND.Panel@walthamforest.gov.uk

What can the funding be used for?

- Specialist or one-off training to upskill whole team or staff member(s).
- Enhance ratios in order to support the child.
- Build capacity within the early years provision with additional staffing to support specific interventions/ strategies for the child.
- Small pieces of equipment / resources to support the child.

What can the funding *not* be used for?

- Funding cannot be used to cover the cost of additional childcare hours.
- SENIF funding is not permanent and will be reviewed.
- Funding will move with the child if they are to change provisions, this needs to be considered if employing additional staff.

For further information please speak to your allocated Area SENCO if you are a PVI, or your Childminder Development Worker, if you're a childminder. **Please [see here](#) for further information and to obtain the SENIF application form.**