Early Years

Early Years Funding Process

Term dates: Mon 4th January 27 – Thursday 25th March 27
Stretched Entitlement dates: Friday 1st January 27 – Friday 9th April 27

Spring Term 27

Date	Process
Wednesday 16/12/2026	**Wizard** available for Spring 27 estimated figures for an advanced funding claim.
Monday 04/01/2027	**Headcount Return available in School360 (PVIs ONLY)**
Monday 04/01/2027	**DEADLINE to submit estimated figures via Wizard.**
Friday 08/01/2027	**Payment (all providers)** **Advanced Termly Payment/1st Monthly Instalment** Based on estimated figures
Thursday 21/01/2027	**HEADCOUNT DAY**
Friday 22/01/2027	**Submit** ALL providers must complete headcount by this date via (Schools360, Census or SIMS) **PVI ONLY deadline to complete Questions module in Wizard**
Friday 12/02/2027	**Payment (providers who have chosen monthly payments only)** 2nd monthly instalment based on estimated figures
Wednesday to Wednesday 17/02/2027 to 03/03/2027	**Request second headcount (DISADVANTAGED 2YO ONLY - EY2C CODES)** To claim funding for 2-year-old children who took up their entitlement or increased their hours after first headcount (email sophie.downing@northumberland.gov.uk to request a second headcount)
Friday 12/03/2027	**Submit 2nd Headcount via Schools360** Providers must submit 2nd headcount for disadvantaged 2YOs only with codes beginning EY2 (children who took up entitlement after first headcount)
Friday 19/03/2027	**Payment (all providers)** Final termly payment/3rd monthly instalment based on full headcount and 2nd headcount
Friday TBC	Systems available for Summer term 27 funding claim

Where providers miss funding deadlines the LA cannot guarantee payment. However, if this is corrected within a short period, it may still be possible to process claims and access the funding. Due to the extra administration involved with late submissions we require providers to pay towards the associated costs as set out in section 6.9 of the Local Code of Practice for the delivery of 2,3- and 4-year-old entitlement, below:

6.9 If the Provider fails to submit the headcount forms by the deadline specified the Authority cannot guarantee payment and an administration charge of £50 may be applied. Any headcount forms received

for previous terms or claims made for payments from previous financial years (1st April – 31st March) will not be considered.