



2018-19 Short Break Funding Schemes Report

ISS Short Breaks

Short Break Transport Scheme

Enabler Support Scheme

1. Introduction and Executive Summary

Short Breaks Funding Schemes, Inclusion Support Scheme (ISS), Early Years Inclusion Scheme (EYISS), Transport Funding and Enabler Support Scheme were developed to help improve access to holiday play schemes and out of school activities for those children and young people unable to access these without additional support

In 2018-19 (1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019) **403** individual children and young people have accessed the three Short Break Funding schemes. This is a 6% increase compared to last year.

- The budget for 2018-19 was £187,000 with actual spend of £184,082
- 305 accessed the inclusion support scheme¹
- 144 accessed the transport scheme
- 90 accessed the enabler support scheme

The table below shows that the number of children accessing the three schemes over the last three years has increased (369 to 403). Over the last two years two of the three schemes have increased their numbers.

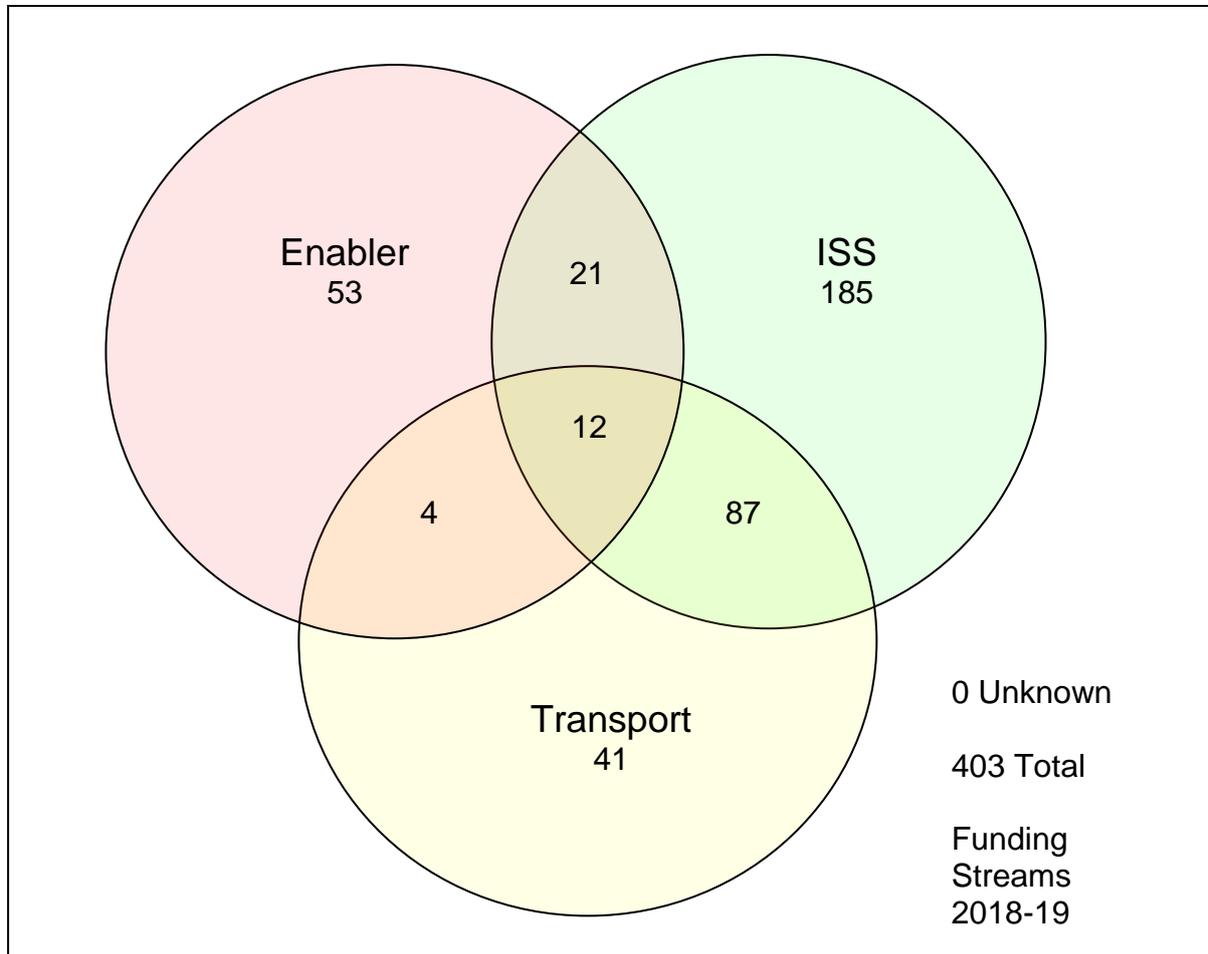
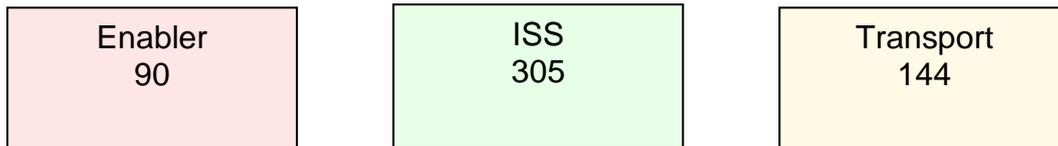
Funding Stream	2018-19 Children	2017-18 Children	2016-17 Children
All three	403	380	369
ISS	305	314	298
Short Breaks Transport	144	106	100
Enabler Support	90	74	78

The table below shows the number of applications over the last three years has also increased (1198 to 1609). Short Breaks Transport has seen the largest increase. The number of applications is more than the number of children as applications are made per activity e.g. a request is made for a child to have help with fees to attend a holiday activity this will be applied for at each holiday period to manage the budget but also to make sure the funding available is shared fairly and not just the most pro-active supporters get the funding.

Funding Stream	2018-19 Applications	2017-18 Applications	2016-17 Applications
All three	1609	1285	1198
ISS	935	928	764
Short Breaks Transport	476	201	282
Enabler Support	198	156	152

The Venn Diagram below shows the overlap between the three schemes

¹ The total of 305 for ISS includes 30 children on EY ISS and 1 child on both EY ISS and ISS (this child would have become 5 years old within 2018-19).



The Venn Diagram contains the 403 children supported by the three funding streams

- ISS has the most children (305)
- The biggest overlap is ISS and Transport with 87 children
- The second biggest overlap is ISS and Enabler with 21 children
- There is less overlap between Enabler and Transport with 4 children
- 12 children have all three funding streams

2. Inclusion Support Scheme (ISS and EYISS)

Inclusion support scheme (short breaks) is available for help with fees or extra support to access activities. Funding can only be accessed by families on low income/benefits with disabled children aged 5-17 years. The priority for this scheme is to support access to out-of-school activities and or holiday activities. The EY ISS funding (Early Years from 0 to 5) was introduced in 2017-18.

During April 2018 to March 2019

- 935 funding applications were successfully granted
- 305 children and young people have taken part in activities that that would not have been able to access
- A total of £66,169 of funding was agreed

The ISS budget is in two parts

Early Years ISS (0 to 4 years), and ISS (5 to 17 years).

The tables below show the number of ISS applications, children supported and costs over the last five years.

ISS data

Year	Number of Successful Applications	Number of individual children supported	Actual Cost of the Scheme	Budget for the year
2014-15	477	180	£36,518	£60,000
2015-16	725	285	£51,696	£50,000
2016-17	764	298	£53,299	£50,000
2017-18	892	280	£60,967	£60,000
2018-19	895	275	£59,565	£60,000

EY ISS data²

Year	Number of Successful Applications	Number of individual children supported	Actual Cost of the Scheme	Budget for the year
2017-18	36	35	£6,893	£12,000
2018-19	40	31	£6,603	£12,000

- The number of ISS children is similar to last year with a slight change from 314 in 2017-18 to 305 in 2018-19 (includes one child in both ISS and EYISS)
- The number of ISS successful applications is also similar to last year with a slight change from to 935.

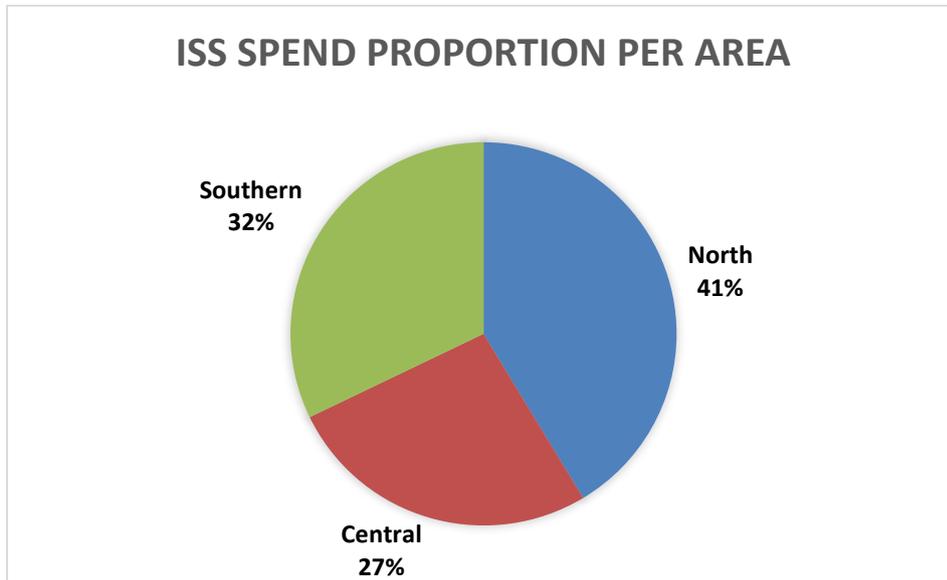
The table below shows the ISS spend, number of children and number of applications by area for 2018-19 (Both EY ISS and ISS).

Area	£ ISS Spend	Number of Children	Number of Applications
North	£27,377.08	111	413
Central	£17,511.60	92	236
Southern	£21,280.66	103	286
Total	£66,169.34	306	935

² EY ISS data recording started in 2017-18, This is the first time we have been responsible for EY ISS. Before that it was run by the Early Years SEN Team.

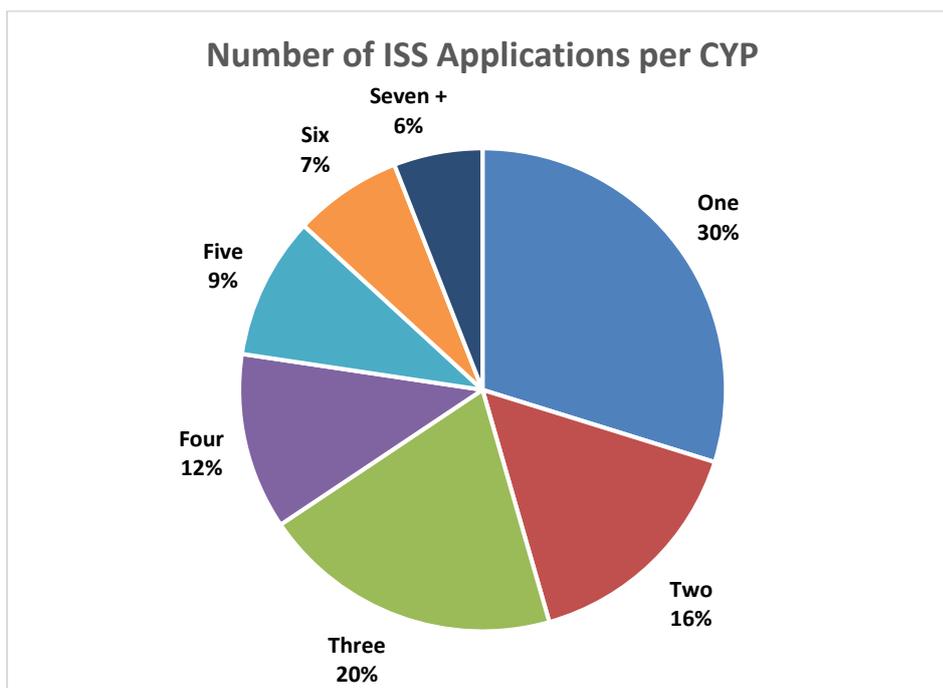
The ISS spend has fallen slightly from £67,860 in 2017-18 to £66,169 in 2018-19. This is a 2.5% decrease.

The graph below shows the proportion of ISS spend per area



Compared to last year the North spend proportion has increased (39% to 41%), the Central spend has decreased (35% to 27%) and the Southern spend has increased (26% to 32%)

Number of applications per child – the chart below shows the number of ISS applications per child.



- 91 children and young people have one ISS application
- 48 children and young people accessed two ISS applications
- 61 children and young people accessed three ISS applications
- 36 children and young people accessed four ISS applications
- 29 children and young people accessed five ISS applications
- 22 children and young people accessed six ISS applications
- 7 children and young people accessed seven ISS applications
- 6 children and young people accessed eight ISS applications
- 3 children and young people accessed nine ISS applications (10 last year)
- 2 children and young people accessed ten ISS applications³

For 2018-19, 30% of children had one application (36% last year).
70% had more than one application (64% last year)
54% had three or more applications 48% last year)

The number of applications per child can be explained by meeting the needs of a child. One child may really like one activity that they like to do throughout the year and it is only the cost, which may not be high but is preventing them doing this. An application will be made for them to then to have help with the cost of this so that they can attend. Another child may like to go each holiday to the holiday club and this holiday club will be every holiday so that would be 5 or 6 applications made for this purpose. Children may also like to access a variety of activities and an application will need to be made for each one.

The cost is generally not high but would prevent a child from attending. There is a maximum amount per year for each child, £500 for ISS, however most children do not reach this amount and therefore more children are able to be supported. There is also no entitlement to this amount and if all children had the maximum we would only be able to support 120 children. If the 305 children who received funding this year had £500 each, the budget would be overspent by £92,500⁴. We also ask parents to contribute to the ISS request, even 10% of the cost of the activity can help to make the funding stretch further. This year Parental contributions saved £14,352, (£14,797 last year). A few Parents will be unable to contribute or will be funding some other Short Break activity for their child.

Children and young people were supported by ISS to access services from a variety of providers. In 2018-19 there were 74 different organisations attended by children and young people in and out of Oxfordshire. The providers include:

- Providers commissioned by the county council to provide open access to after school activities, holiday activities and youth groups
- Special schools
- Leisure centres, community groups, local schools and pre-schools

³ For the two children with 10 ISS applications, one is under LCSS (Locality and Community Support Service) and one is not supervised by social care services

⁴ This includes the ISS budget of £60,000. It does not include the EYISS budget of £12,000

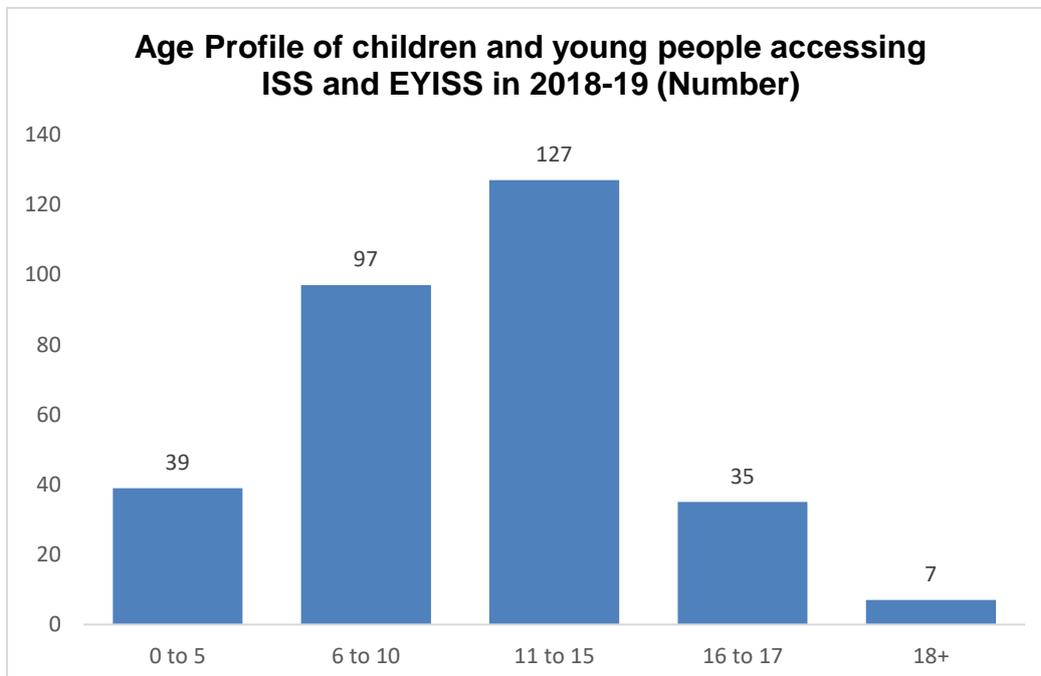
- Science activities such as Bright Sparks
- Sports clubs (includes football, gymnastics, horse riding, rugby, self-defence, swimming and tennis)
- Stage school and dance organisations
- Motor activities (TRAX)
- Uniform organisations such as Animal Rangers, Explorers and Scouts

Other areas of support within EY ISS applications include equipment (special chairs, adjustable chair head rest, toilet chair and standing frame). The EYISS is limited to £250 per child per year and is generally all spent as it is mainly spent on fees or 1:1 care to support an early year's child prior to other funding being put in place. Applications are very much lower, and the budget is £12,000. This is generally to bridge the gap before statutory funding comes into place.

For the 935 ISS accepted funding applications the highest proportion of activity type is holiday hours at 71.6% (75.4% last year). This is followed by after school hours at 23.4% (19.5% last year). This covers 95% of the funding applications.

The rest of the 5% of the 935 applications is providing weekend hours (13 applications), equipment (10 applications), youth hours (10 applications), pre-school hours (7 applications) and residential nights (7 applications).

Age Group - (age as at 31/03/2019) - The biggest age group for ISS and EY ISS children is 11 to 15 with a proportion of 41.6% (127 children) followed by 6 to 10 with a proportion of 31.8% (97 children).

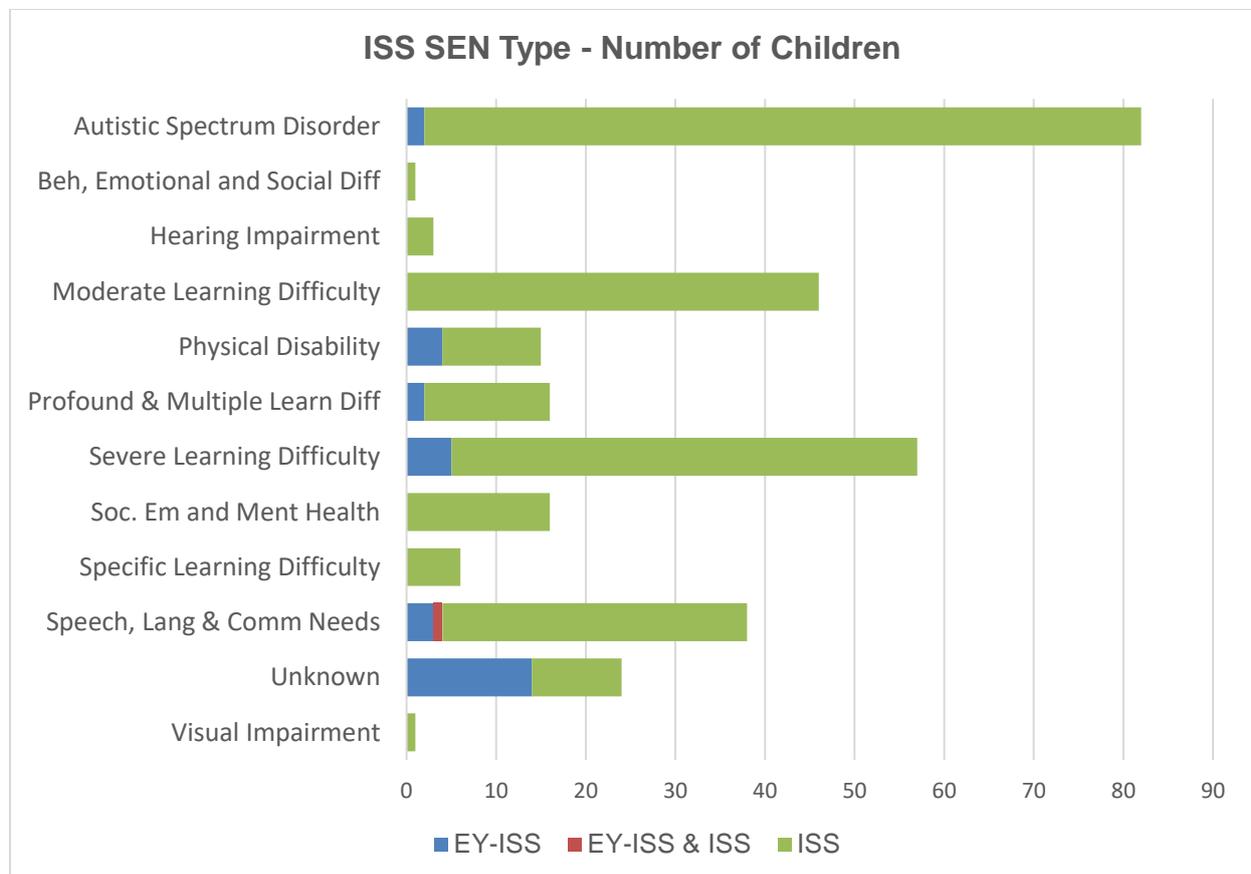


Gender – For the ISS and EY ISS children 29.8% are female (91 children) and 70.2% are male (214 children). The proportion of females has increased from 28.9% last year to 29.8% this year.

Ethnic Group – For the ISS and EY ISS children 23% are “BME” (70 children). This includes 4.3% Asian, 6.2% Black and 12.5% Other. The largest single “BME” group is Black African at 4.6% (14 children). The proportion of “BME” children has increased from 21% last year to 23% this year.

SEN Need⁵ - The Primary SEN Need is recorded in the following chart. The top three types are autistic spectrum disorder (82 children), severe learning disability (57 children) and moderate learning disability (46 children). This is the same top three as last year.

There are 51 children who do not have a Primary SEN Need recorded. For these children 27 have an “Other” SEN need recorded which has been added to the SEN Need bar chart. There are 24 children with no Primary or Other SEN need recorded, 14 of these 24 children are aged 0 to 5, so have not yet been diagnosed with a SEN Need.



Free School Meals – Of the 305 ISS children 61.8% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (189 out of 305). For 2017-18 a proportion of 58.2% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (183 out of 314)

ISS funded children have a slightly higher proportion on Free School Meals compared to the transport funding stream (61.8%) and a much higher proportion compared to the enabler funding stream (28.9%). The ISS children and young people are needing help with fees, so we would expect there are a higher proportion

⁵ SEN = Special Education Need

on Free School Meals. The ISS funding is helping the families who would not be able to pay.

ISS Postcodes – See **Appendix 1**: “Short Break Funding Schemes 2018-19” There are 304 different ISS postcodes (mapped green circles). One unknown address postcode is not mapped. The main clusters of ISS funding postcodes are around the population centres of Oxford, Banbury, Bicester, Didcot, Abingdon, Witney and Wantage. The district with the highest number is Oxford City (86 ISS children) followed by Cherwell (81 ISS children).

Survey results for Early Years ISS

Survey returns were sent out to 15 applicants who covered 27 children. Survey information has been returned from 8 applicants who covered 19 children.

The return rate per EY-ISS survey applicant is 60.0% (9 out of 15).

The return rate per EY-ISS survey child application is 77.8% (21 out of 27).

Last year 10 returns were received.

Next year we intend to send out EYISS survey returns after the end of each school term rather than after the end of the financial year.

Comments

- This funding was able to support not just the individual child, in his own development, but also gave respite and therefore supported the family.
- Made a huge difference to the family and to the child's confidence.
- Positive play experiences with other children with the required additional adult support.

The detail of the Early Years ISS survey results is in **Appendix 2**

Survey results for ISS

Survey returns were sent out to 26 applicants who covered 331 children. Survey information has been returned from 15 applicants who covered 303 children.

The return rate per ISS survey applicant is 57.7% (15 out of 26).

The return rate per ISS survey child application is 91.5% (303 out of 331).

Last year 11 returns were received.

Next year we intend to send out ISS survey returns after the end of each school term rather than after the end of the financial year.

Comments

- This funding makes a huge difference to many families across Oxfordshire.
- The continued support has enabled more of our families to attend and is bridging the gap in fees.
- Without this funding some of our learners would miss out on great opportunities.

Helping parents with costs and developing the child are the key benefits of the ISS funding.

The detail of the ISS survey results is in **Appendix 3**

3. Short Break Transport Funding

The purpose of this funding is primarily to support access to holiday activities for children aged 5 – 17 years who have the most complex needs and/or identified as vulnerable families who do not have access to transport

Transport Short Breaks funding provides the money to provide transport to get children to activities and services in Oxfordshire which is a large rural county.

During April 2018 to March 2019

- 144 children have been supported
- 476 transport applications were agreed
- £67,154.38 for transport was awarded (this was overbudget)

Over the past five years the number of applications, children supported, and costs are as follows:

Year	Number of Successful Applications	Number of individual children supported	Actual Cost of the Scheme	Budget for the year
2014-15	260	105	£37,541.19	£35,000
2015-16	230	104	£43,649.31	£45,000
2016-17	282	100	£62,649.25	£45,000
2017-18	201	106	£37,074.70 ⁶	£55,000
2018-19	476	144	£67,154.38	£55,000

Two things have happened with the transport budget

- The transport budget was increased for 2017-18 as it had been over spent in the previous year.
- Stricter criteria for after school transport requests were brought in because of escalating costs. These criteria were for exceptional circumstances for a child to have transport requested for an after-school activity through the Short Breaks transport budget they would be restricted to:
 - Children where there are identified safeguarding concerns or high CIN concerns and where the after-school activities will improve child outcomes
 - Families who cannot provide transport because of post-operative issues (affecting child or parent) or significant ill health preventing the parent from driving

⁶ Lower transport spend in 2017-18 could be due to inaccurate billing by Fleet. Some charges for Fleet Services, an internal service had not been charged until 2018-19

- Confirmation would also be required that the request has been agreed by a disability team manager.

Budget spend was much lower than expected in 2017/18 but this could have been due to inaccurate billing by Fleet.

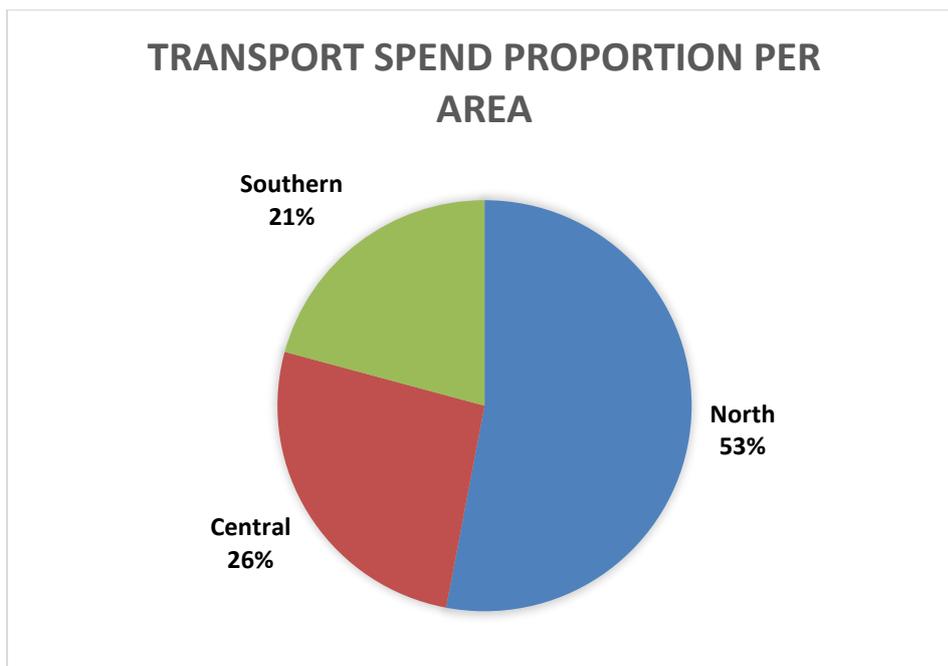
The number of children supported has increased in 2018-19 after remaining constant from 2014-15 to 2017-18, this shows that the funding really does support our most vulnerable families and children who would otherwise not access the activities without this help.

The following table shows the transport budget spend, number of children and number of applications by area for 2018-19

Area	£ Transport Spend	Number of Children	Number of applications
North	£35,572.39	69	278
Central	£17,626.30	43	95
Southern	£13,955.69	32	103
Total	£67,154.38	144 ⁷	476

The spend on the budget was significantly higher with Fleet services charging late and slightly higher to the Short Breaks budget. The budget was overspent in 2018/19. Transport spend will be monitored closely in 2019/20 and closed if funding no longer available. For 2019/20 we will ensure Fleet charge after each holiday period.

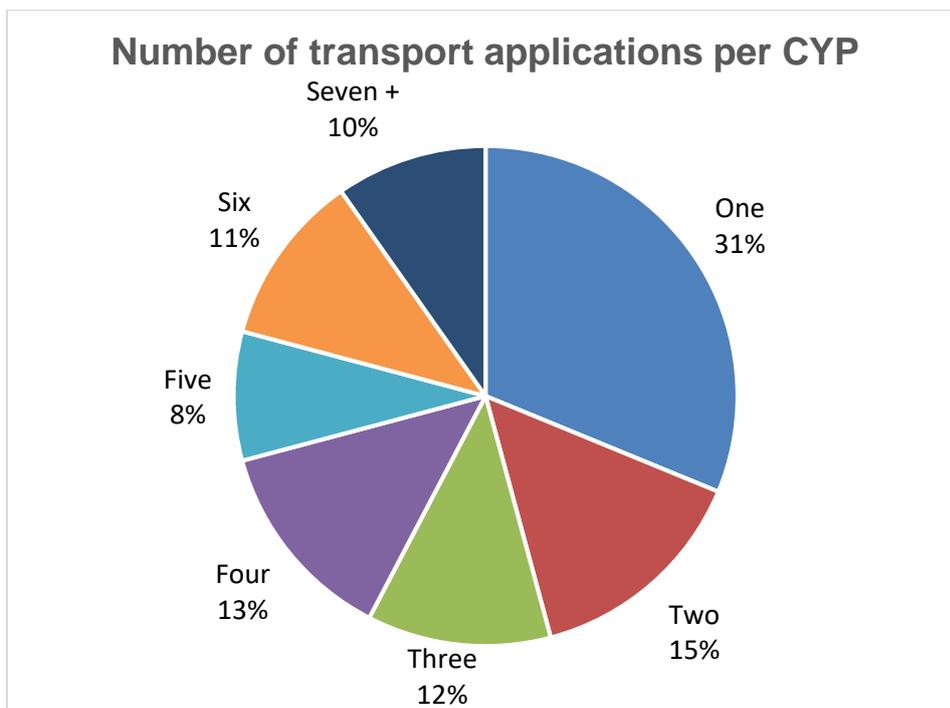
The chart below shows the proportion of short break transport spend per area.



⁷ Area information is based on where the child lives

The North area has the largest proportion of transport spend followed by the Central area. The proportion of spend compared to last year has increased in both the North area (46% last year) and the Central area (22% last year). In the Southern area the proportion of spend compared to last year has fallen from 32% to 21%

Number of applications per child – the chart below shows the number of short break transport funding applications per child.



- 45 children and young people have one transport application
- 21 children and young people accessed two transport applications
- 17 children and young people accessed three transport applications
- 19 children and young people accessed four transport applications
- 12 children and young people accessed five transport applications
- 16 children and young people accessed six transport applications
- 9 children and young people accessed seven transport applications
- 3 children and young people accessed eight transport applications
- 1 children and young people accessed nine transport applications
- 1 children and young people accessed ten transport applications

There has been an increase in the number of applications per child.

For 2018-19, 31.3% of children had one application (45.3% last year).

68.3% had more than one application (54.7% last year)

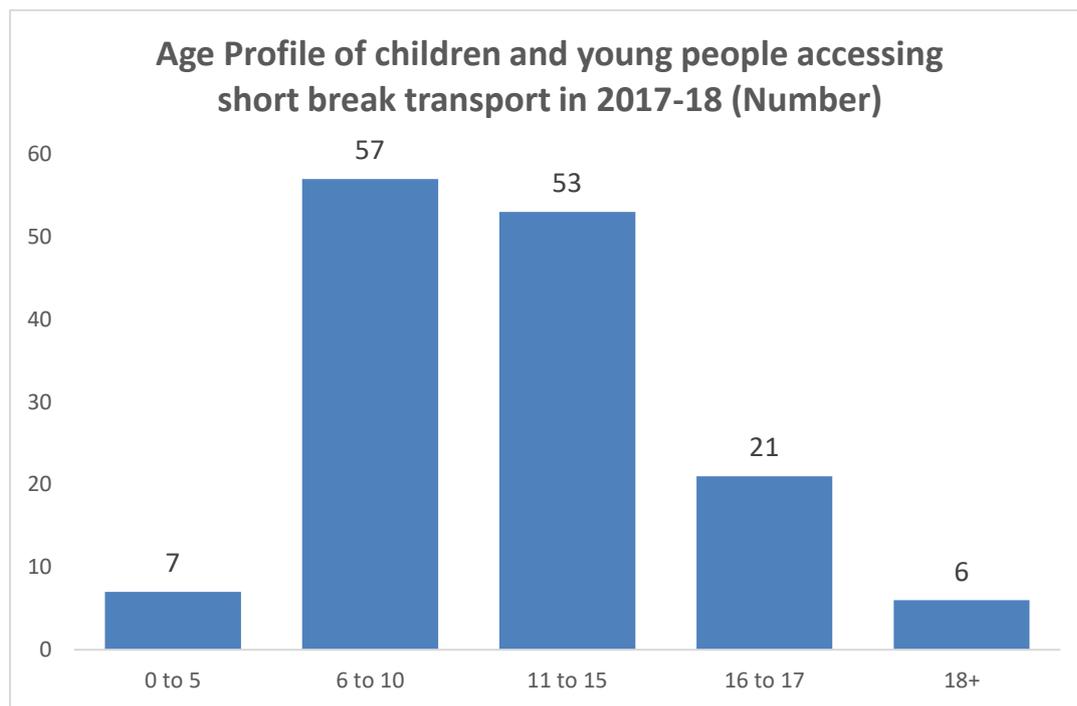
54.2% had three or more applications (20.7% last year) – this is a large increase.

Transport is booked on-line and can only be completed by a Professional with access to the OCC system. Once booked this is then sent to the transport portal for Providers to bid for. These are approved by the Development Manager.

For the 476 transport funding applications the highest proportion of activity type is holiday hours at 90.8% (77.1% last year). This is followed by after school hours at 5.7% (11.4% last year). This covers 96.4% of the funding applications.

The rest of the 3.6% of the 476 applications is covered by weekend hours (9 applications) and youth hours (8 applications).

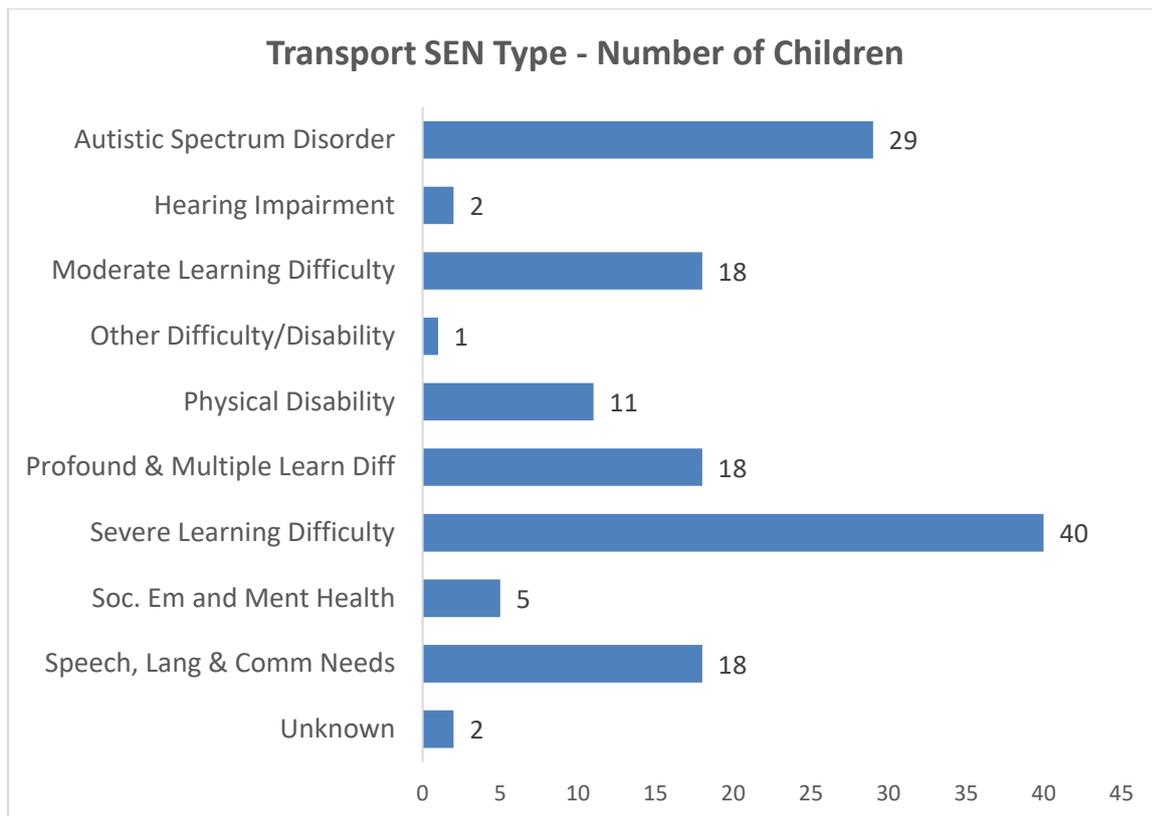
Age Group - (age as at 31/03/2019) - The biggest age group for short break transport children is 6 to 10 with a proportion of 39.6% (57 children) followed by 11 to 15 with a proportion of 36.8% (53 children).



Gender – For the short break transport children 31.9% are female (46 children) and 68.1% are male (98 children). The proportion of females has increased from 30.2% last year to 31.9% this year.

Ethnic Group – 28.5% are “BME” (41 children). This includes 7.6% Asian, 5.6% Black and 15.3% Other. The largest single “BME” group is White and Black African at 4.9% (7 children). The proportion of “BME” children has stayed nearly the same from 29.2% last year to 28.5% this year.

SEN Need – The Primary SEN Need is recorded in the following table. The top two disability types are severe learning disability and autistic spectrum disorder.



Free School Meals – Of the 144 short break transport funded children 61.8% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (89 out of 144)⁸ For 2017-18 a proportion of 59.4% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (63 out of 106)

Transport Postcodes – See **Appendix 1: “Short Break Funding Schemes 2018-19”** There are 144 different transport postcodes (mapped yellow diamonds). One “out of county postcodes” is mapped, this is in Aylesbury Vale close to the county border. The main clusters of transport funding postcodes are around the population centres of Oxford, Banbury, Bicester, Didcot and Abingdon. The district with the highest number is Cherwell (47 transport children)

Survey results for Short Break Transport

Survey returns were sent out to 18 applicants who covered 158 children. Survey information has been returned from 11 applicants who covered 140 children.

The return rate per Transport survey applicant is 61.1% (11 out of 18).

The return rate per Transport survey child application is 88.6% (140 out of 158).

Last year only 2 returns were received.

Next year we intend to send out Transport survey returns after the end of each school term rather than after the end of the financial year.

⁸ This high proportion of Free School Meal children helps to confirm that the short break transport funding is supporting the most vulnerable children.

Comments

- Having this funding available to our families is a lifeline. For most this is the only break they get from their children (an extended day) and for the students themselves it gives them “downtime” in a safe environment.
- It was fantastic to receive the funding to enable these children to go to a wonderful event at the Royal Albert Hall.

The detail of the Short Break Transport survey results is in **Appendix 4**

4. Enabler Support Scheme

An enabler is a person who can be with the child to enable that child to participate, primarily in a main stream activity – usually after school activities or holiday activities. Applications for Enabler Support provide access to a wide range of activities and services that children would otherwise be unable to attend as they require one to one support, specialist equipment or staff training to take part in the activity. Funding can pay for:

- Additional staff / enabler hours to help a child with one to one support
- Support from specialist organisations to enable children to access a setting by training existing staff to gain skills / knowledge and child specific training necessary to meet individual needs
- Equipment; if there are no other funding mechanisms to do this and it will enable a child or young person to attend an inclusive setting.

During April 2018 to March 2019

- 90 children have been supported
- 198 applications were agreed
- The total cost of these applications is £50,157.94

The enabler scheme started in September 2016. Over the past two full years the number of applications, children supported, and costs are as follows:

Year	Number of Successful Applications	Number of individual children supported	Actual Cost of the Scheme	Budget for the year
2017-18	156	74	£32,112.77	£60,000
2018-19	198	90	£50,757.94 ⁹	£60,000

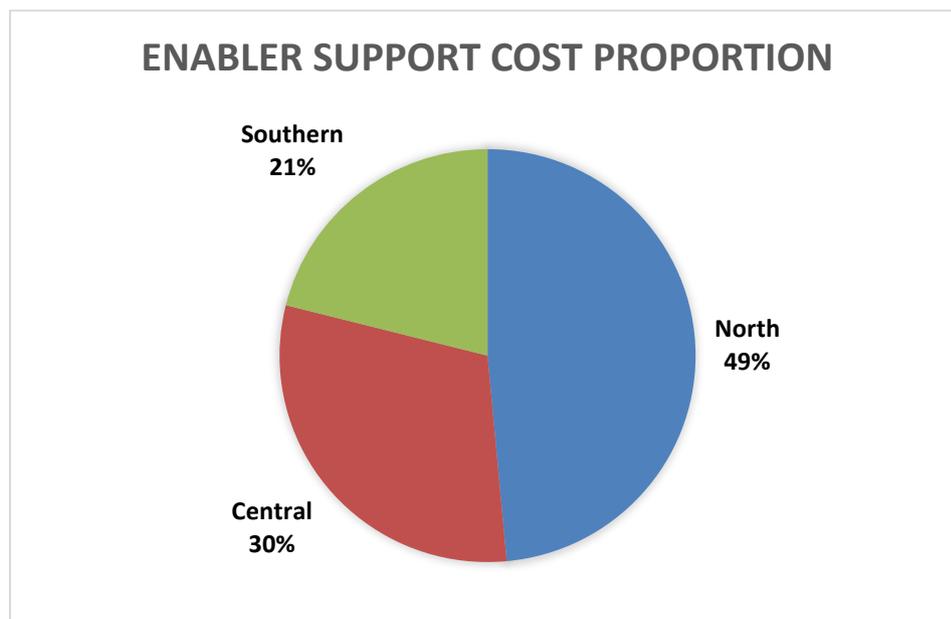
The following table shows the enabler support scheme budget spend by area for 2018-19.

Area	£ Enabler Spend	Number of Children	Number of Applications
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⁹ The 2018-19 Enabler spend includes £600 spent on childminder training (£200 per area). Childminder training was to provide childminders with the right skills to support more disabled children.

North	£24,540.47	42	105
Central	£15,448.06	32	63
Southern	£10,769.41	16	30
Total	£50,757.94	90	198

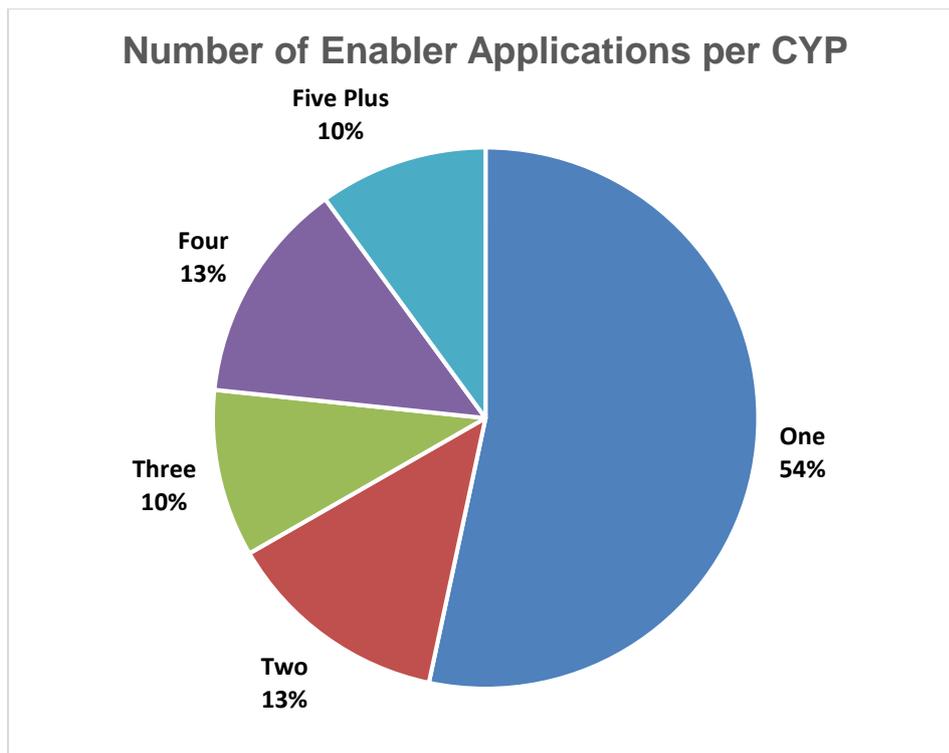
The chart below shows the proportion of enabler spend per area. 49% of the enabler support cost is spent on children from the North area.



The North area has the largest proportion of enabler spend¹⁰ followed by the Central area. The proportion of enabler spend compared to last year has increased in the Central area (24% last year). It has decreased in the North area (55% last year) and stayed the same in the Southern area (21% last year)

Number of applications per child – the chart below shows the number of enabler applications per child. Some of the applications were for the same service with a different period.

¹⁰ This is likely because the OSLO at Springfield Special School organises for CYP to access the Holiday Play scheme in the local leisure centre in the north area. Also, the north area has 3 pro-active OSLOs (Springfield Special School, Frank Wise Special School and Bardwell Special School).



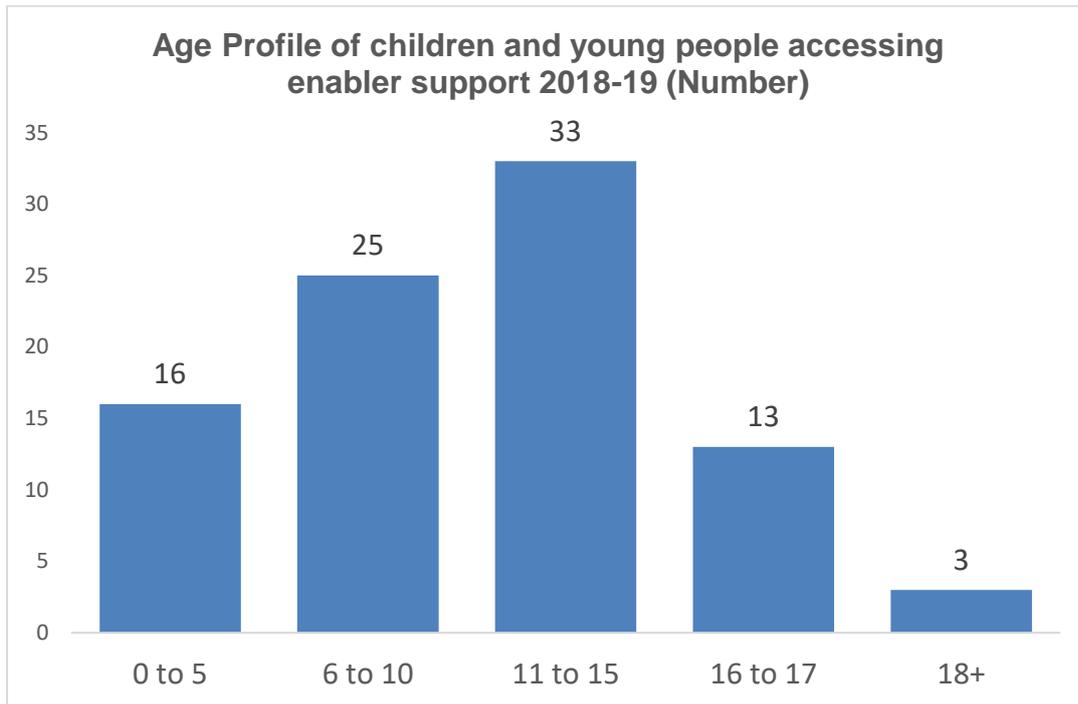
- 48 children and young people have one enabler application
- 12 children and young people accessed two enabler applications
- 9 children and young people accessed three enabler applications
- 12 children and young people accessed four enabler applications
- 5 children and young people accessed five enabler applications
- 2 children and young people accessed six enabler applications
- 2 child and young people accessed seven enabler applications

For 2018-19, 53.3% of children had one application (56.8% last year).
46.7% had more than one application (43.2% last year)
33.3% had three or more applications (25.7% last year) – an increase.

Where children and young people require a second application for enabler support funding a monitoring form is sent to the provider to complete, a visit made to the setting to assess the support and discuss the needs of the child and a judgement is made if one to one support is required to continue or can be lowered or is no longer required.

For enabler support the proportion of holiday activity applications is 77.8% (154 out of 198 applications). The proportion of after school activity applications is 19.2% (38 out of 198 applications). The remaining six are 3 residential holiday applications, 2 weekend activity applications and 1 youth activity application. The range of activities accessed were holiday groups, school activities and clubs (cookery, cricket, scouts, swimming and dance groups).

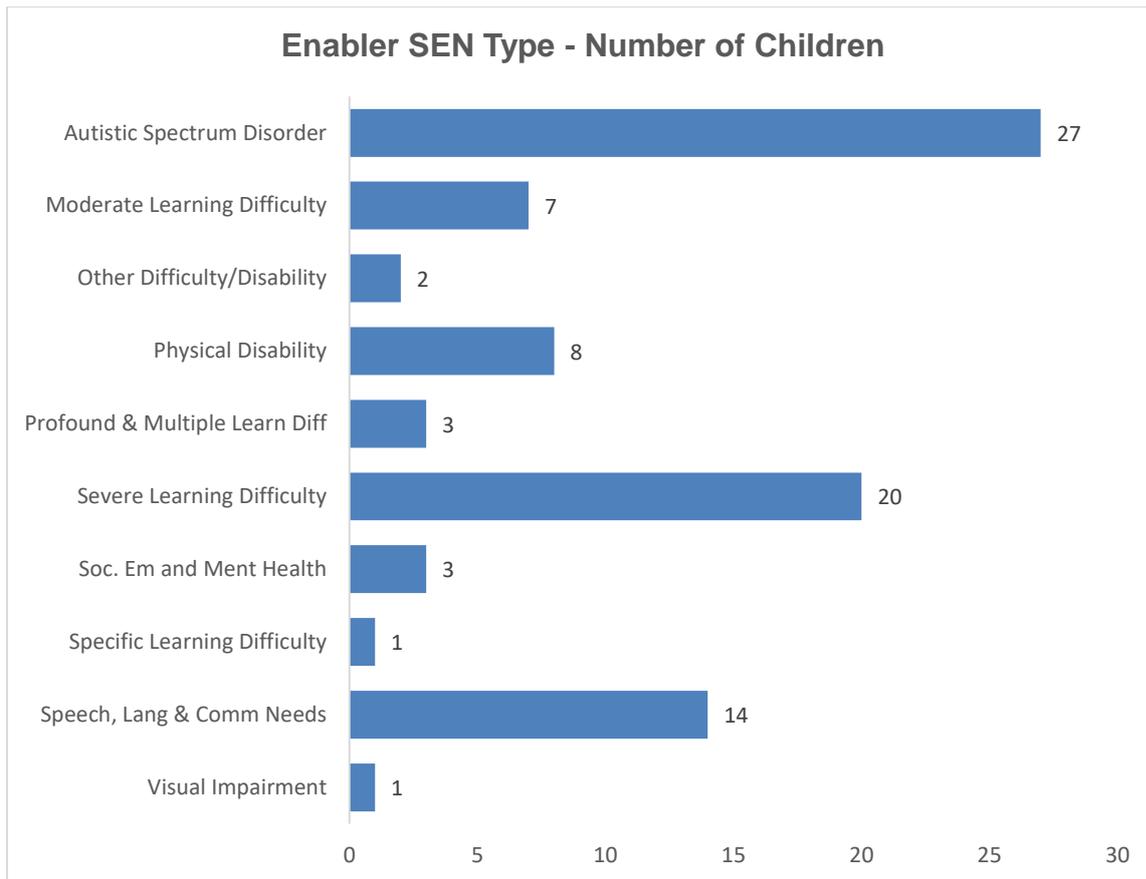
Age Group - (age as at 31/03/2019) - The biggest age group for enabler support children is 11 to 15 with a proportion of 36.7% (33 children) followed by 5 to 10 with a proportion of 27.8% (25 children).



Gender – For the enabler support children 32.2% are female (29 children) and 67.8% are male (61 children). The proportion of females has increased from 31.1% last year to 32.2% this year.

SEN Need¹¹ – The Primary SEN Need is recorded in the following chart. The top three types are autistic spectrum disorder, severe learning difficulty and speech language and communication needs.

¹¹Twelve children with no Primary SEN Need recorded, Other SEN Need used in eight cases. Data from application form used in two cases. Information not available in four cases



Free School Meals – Of the 90 Enabler Support funded children 28.9% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (26 out of 90)¹². For 2017-18 a proportion of 39.2% are recorded as being entitled to Free School Meals (29 out of 74)

Enabler Support Postcodes – See **Appendix 1**: “Short Break Funding Schemes 2017-18” There are 90 different enabler postcodes (mapped red squares). Three “out of county postcodes” are mapped¹³ The main clusters of enabler support funding postcodes are around the population centres of Oxford, Witney and Abingdon. Compared to ISS and transport funding postcodes there is a higher proportion in Witney. This is due to the applications at the Windrush Centre. The district with the highest number is West Oxfordshire (33 enabler children)

Enabler Form Reviews – These have been completed and logged for 162 of the 198 applications. This is a return rate of at least 81.8%. Some of the returns may be for more than one child.

Comments

- Very good funding which enables our SEN pupils to access mainstream activities.
- The funding application was easy to understand, and a decision was made promptly.

¹² Free School Meals information from ONE database header records, children who receive a Free School Meal now or in the past

¹³ These three (2 in Aylesbury Vale and 1 in Cotswold) are all very close to the county boundary

- The funding means a huge amount to our families.
- X found the paperwork confusing and a little difficult to access. He found it time consuming and requiring a lot of office time, which he does not have (1).
- It is frustrating that there are so many forms to fill in! (1)
- Support from the OCC team running this scheme are excellent

The enabler plays a key role to the child or young person, building their confidence, supporting new friendships and promoting growing independence.

The full detail of the Enabler Form Review survey results is in **Appendix 5**

Compared to last year more of the allocated budget has been spent – 53.5% proportion in 2017-18 (£32,112.77 spent) and 84.6% proportion in 2018-19 (£50,757.94 spent). The budget for both years is £60,000.

Plans for future enabler development will include

- Ensuring 100% return of review forms.

5. Conclusion

The Short Break Funding schemes for 2018-19 has been successful with:

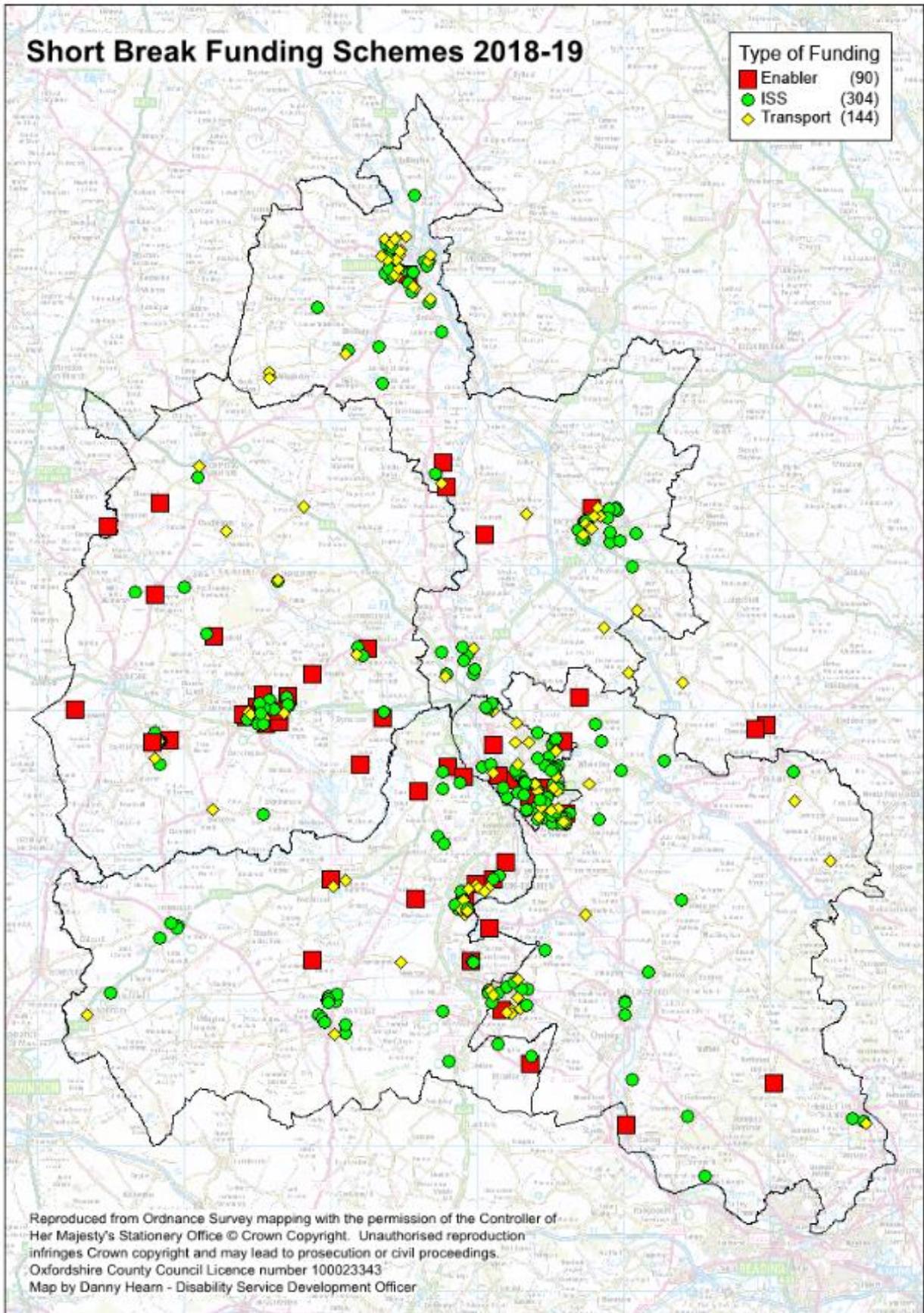
- Increased numbers of children (Enabler and Transport)
- Increased numbers of applications (all three funding streams)
- EYISS and ISS spend is similar to last year
- Transport spend is much higher than last year
- Enabler spend is higher than last year

A focus for next year (2019-20) will be to send ISS / EYISS and Short Break Transport Evaluations three times within the year (each term) rather than year end. This year we could not send out evaluation forms to the applicants who had changed job or retired. All applicants are expected to complete an evaluation as part of the agreed funding.

The Enabler Support scheme reviews are now completed by the organisation / applicant prior to funding being made. This ensures reviews are received which help to monitor the scheme. The return rate for this year is at least 81.8% (162 out of 198).

Danny Hearn
Disability Services Development Officer
10/07/2019

Appendix 1 - Map of Short Break Funding Schemes Children in Oxfordshire



Appendix 2 - Survey results for Early Years ISS (2018-19)

The return rate per EY-ISS survey applicant is 60.0% (9 out of 15).

The return rate per EY-ISS survey child application is 77.8% (21 out of 27).

Last year 10 returns were received.

The main themes from the answers to the questions are listed below

Question 1 - What has the Early Years ISS funding been used for?

- Funding was required for children to attend holiday activities and after school activities. After school activities include Tae Kwon Do classes and swimming lessons.
- To support the family to access more sessions.
- Used to buy equipment (including head rest, stander and toilet chair).

Question 2 - What difference did the Early Years ISS funding make to the families?

- Family were able to have a break from looking after a child with very high level needs and were able to focus on their other children.
- Give mother with no other options for childcare some respite.
- It offered families financial support.
- Parent worked night shifts, so this enabled her to rest in the day.

Respite and financial assistance are important issues for the family.

Question 3 - What difference did the Early Years ISS funding make to the children?

- Help to improve self-confidence & self-belief.
- Able to support the child with his eating which is an issue.
- Good preparation for transfer to school in September.
- Funding enabled regular routine to continue.
- Helped develop communication, interaction and social skills in a different setting.
- Encouraged them to socialise and mix with others.
- Equipment improved child's strength, ability to weight bear and work on physio targets at nursery.

Learning new skills and improving confidence are important issues for the child.

Question 4 - What would happen if Early Years ISS funding was not provided?

- The holiday period would have been very difficult for the family with the child at home all the time.
- Would not have been able to attend so many sessions, as parents have low income.
- We would not have been able to give so much attention to the child's eating and socialising needs.

- Parents have assurance their child with SEN is being supported whilst attending the holiday club.
- Without a small group lesson, there is no alternative way for him to learn to swim.
- There would have been no respite time for single parent.
- Would have been unsafe without equipment provided.

Question 5 - How successful do you think the Early Years ISS funding arrangements have been?

Most respondents have answered positively with “very successful” or “very useful.”

- Enabled child to start a new activity, one which the child is still doing.
- ISS funding very useful to tailor for the specific needs of this family.

Of the few who did not respond with “very successful” or “very useful.”

- Child struggled to settle in a different setting.

Question 6 - Was the Early Years ISS funding application process easy to understand and access?

All respondents answered “Yes”

Question 7 - Did you receive a decision about Early Years ISS funding within a reasonable time?

All respondents answered “Yes”

Question 8 - Any further comments you would like to make

The following comments show that everyone benefits from this funding:

- This funding was able to support not just the individual child, in his own development, but also gave respite and therefore supported the family as a whole.
- Made a huge difference to the family and to the child’s confidence.
- Positive play experiences with other children with the required additional adult support.
- The funding was for twin boys and we only received one lot of funding, however this was easily resolved.

The following comment will be put into practice for next year:

- It would be better to have this survey closer to the time the funding was used.

The Early Years funding has proved to be a success for young children and their families.

Appendix 3 - Survey results for ISS (2018-19)

The return rate per ISS survey applicant is 57.7% (15 out of 26).
The return rate per ISS survey child application is 91.5% (303 out of 331).
Last year 11 returns were received.

The main themes from the answers to the questions are listed below

Question 1 - What has the ISS funding been used for?

- Funding was required for children to attend holiday activities, after school activities and youth clubs.
- The families that have been supported by the ISS funding have either been families on low income or single parent families.
- In a couple of cases ISS funding has been used to help families that are going through Children In Need (CIN) or Child Protection (CP)
- Fees for inclusive Teenage activities

Question 2 - What difference did the Early Years ISS funding make to the families?

The main theme is that the families are on low income and would not have had the capacity to fund the short break activity for their child(ren). The benefits of the ISS funding to families are broad

- Allowed them to have a break from their caring role.
- Opportunity to spend time with siblings
- Reduces financial pressure.
- Gives time to complete chores and tasks which are impossible with the young person at home.
- Family are happy in the knowledge that their child is doing something s/he loves.
- Single parent would struggle to cope without the few hours respite.
- For some of the families this is the only social interaction the children get.

Question 3 - What difference did the ISS funding make to the children?

Increasing confidence, learning new skills and being able to socialise with other children are key themes

- Children were able to socialise with peers during the school holidays.
- Pupils would not have the same opportunities as their peers.
- Learnt new skills, become more tolerant and learnt to cope with new situations (for example, learning to cope with new people).
- Increases independence.
- Reduces isolation and builds confidence.
- More confident in making choices.
- Gives the young person something to look forward to and have fun.
- Will now eat different foods
- Social skills have improved.

- Behaviour has improved, (reduction in challenging behaviour and appropriate behaviour with peers and staff).
- Personal hygiene has improved.
- Age appropriate activities alongside their non-disabled peers.
- Enables children to establish friendships which continue outside the setting.

Question 4 - What would happen if ISS funding was not provided?

The children would not be able to access the services

- If funding were not provided it is likely that far fewer young people could attend short breaks.
- Added more stress on the families.
- Child would be socially isolated from children his / her own age.
- Families would struggle to cope without respite.
- Families would spend their days at home, struggling to find suitable activities.
- The families would become isolated.

Question 5 - How successful do you think the ISS funding arrangements have been?

All applicants have responded that the ISS has been successful

- The families know where they are and budget accordingly.
- Children get to enjoy activities they love, parents benefit from much needed respite and there have been positive feedback from all parties involved including the activity centres.

Two applicants have highlighted the following issues:

- There have been some difficulties with providers, giving costings / places in a timely manner.
- The level of weekly provision that can be facilitated is low compared to the past. This is due to the level of funding and the number of places available in the specialist provisions.

Question 6 - Was the ISS funding application process easy to understand and access?

All applicants have responded with a "Yes"

- The application form is very detailed, precise and user friendly to fill out.

One applicant has highlighted the following issue:

- Although it can be time consuming and repetitive.

One applicant has made the following suggestion about the ISS form:

- Administration of the scheme is very efficient. The forms are fit for purpose requesting appropriate information but not too time consuming. Would be helpful if you could put more than 10 requests on a form so that all applicants could be submitted together

Question 7 - Did you receive a decision about ISS funding within a reasonable time?

All applicants have responded with a "Yes"

- Decision turn-around times have been great, which helps with effective planning of services for the children and families I work with.

Question 8 - Any further comments you would like to make

- This funding makes a huge difference to many families across Oxfordshire.
- The continued support has enabled more of our families to attend and is bridging the gap in fees.
- Without this funding some of our learners would miss out on great opportunities.

Helping parents with costs and developing the child are the key benefits of the ISS funding.

Appendix 4 - Survey results for Short Break Transport (2018-19)

The return rate per Transport survey applicant is 61.1% (11 out of 18).
The return rate per Transport survey child application is 88.6% (140 out of 158).
Last year only 2 returns were received.

The main themes from the answers to the questions are listed below

Question 1 - Why was transport applied for?

- Lack of transport for most families.
- Transport was required for holiday activities and after school activities.
- Trip to Royal Albert Hall music event.

Question 2 - Transport is intended for those families without access to transport, If families have a car or access to public transport, please explain why help with transport was needed

- In some cases, it is unsafe for the child to travel with other siblings due to behaviour/ safety concerns and the need for routine.
- New baby and unable to transport.
- Parents with significant health needs.
- All the families do not have a car and cannot access public transport because we are in a rural area and buses are very few and far between.
- Father unable to drive in the mornings due to medication.

Question 3 - What difference did the transport make to the families?

- Families would not be able to afford taxi fees.
- Families do not need to use unsafe methods of transport.
- Break or respite from caring – this is especially vital in the long holiday periods which families can find a huge challenge.
- Families able to spend time with their other children.
- Made a huge difference to single parent family.
- Risk of family stress and perhaps even family breakdown due to escalation of children's behaviour.

Question 4 - What difference did the transport make to the children?

- Able to be with their friends rather than being at home.
- Able to engage in community activities that child thoroughly enjoys.
- Greater independence and access to social environment, creating opportunities to engage with peers and other adults.
- Have learnt new skills, become more tolerant and learnt to cope with new situations.
- Social time with their peers.
- Routines established.
- Learning to cope well with new people.

- Able to enjoy being around others and having the opportunity to explore outside.

The themes of independence and social interaction are important – “This maybe the only opportunity they get to socialise and play with their peers”

Question 5 - What would happen if transport was not provided?

Most respondents highlighted the fact that the children would not be able to take part in the activity without the transport to get them there.

- They would not have been able to take part in the activity.
- Many children would miss out on accessing holiday provision and families would be put under a greater strain.
- Would most likely have stayed at home.
- It would have a significant impact on these families who are socially isolated and on low incomes.
- Child would have had a limited week during the holidays.

Question 6 - How successful do you think the transport arrangements have been?

Most respondents have answered positively with “very” or “extremely” or “good” or “huge”

There have been a few issues:

- Times where pupils have not been collected.
- Taxi’s not turning up at correct times.
- Transport arrived when it was not booked or expected.
- Transport was not processed even though a request was made.
- A request which was marked as submitted was not actioned.
- Some taxi companies provide different staff each time (no continuity) which can be distressing for the children.

These are shared with the Quality Monitoring Team

Question 7 - Was the transport scheme application process easy to understand and access?

Most respondents have answered with a “Yes”

One respondent answered with a “Not really” and had the following comment:

- Our administrators do it but it’s not easy and when things go wrong it is not clear how to escalate

Another respondent did not answer with a “Yes” and had the following comment:

- Time consuming having to put in all details for each child every time you apply instead of being able to review existing details on file and amending

Another respondent who answered “Yes” has the following comments on the detail of the transport booking system.

- The online access portal is archaic.
- Forms are slow to fill in and if an error is spotted at the checking point, choosing to go back and edit clears the whole form and you must start again.
- It would be helpful to have a clear picture of which information in the form is passed to the transport provider and on to the driver and escort as a lot of time is spent including medical, communication and safeguarding needs and it is not always evident that this information has been passed to the driver and escort in the vehicle. This is particularly concerning when there are safeguarding issues such as children not being safe to be left with particular adults.

Question 8 - Did you receive a decision about transport funding within a reasonable time?

All but two of the respondents have answered “Yes”

The two respondents who answered with a “Mostly” have the following comments:

- On occasion it has been confirmed very close to the end of term and parents get anxious / frustrated waiting for confirmation.
- Was informed if there was going to be a delay so that we could re-arrange a start date.

Question 9 - Any further comments you would like to make (e.g. transport arrangements made)

The following comments neatly encapsulates the benefits and need for transport funding:

Having this funding available to our families is a lifeline. For most this is the only break they get from their children (an extended day) and for the students themselves it gives them “downtime” in a safe environment.

It was fantastic to receive the funding to enable these children to go to a wonderful event at the Royal Albert Hall.

Appendix 5 – Enabler Review Form results (2018-19)

On the enabler review form most questions require a written answer. Here are these enabler form questions with examples of feedback.

Question 1 - How did Enabler Support Scheme funding help the child / young person?

- The enablers ensured X was kept safe and got most benefit out of the club. X is becoming much more confident and not just playing with Springfield children but playing with mainstream children as well.
- Y's anxiety was greatly alleviated by knowing that her enabler was there to support if necessary and was fully up-to-speed with recent events at home.
- We witnessed some lovely interactions with peers

Question 2 - How did Enabler Support Scheme funding help the family?

- X is from a single parent family and this offers valuable respite for his dad.
- Y has siblings also with additional needs, his time here alleviates pressure on the family.
- The family had found it difficult to find places where Z was accepted, and which were flexible enough to adapt the activities so Z could take part.
- Mum can work and spend time with her other children.

Question 3 - How was the funding used by the setting / childminder and what impact did it have?

- The funding paid for experienced support staff to work at the play scheme supporting the children play games and trying out new activities with the mainstream children.
- The additional funding was used to cover the cost of 1:1 staffing for those young people who otherwise would not be able to attend
- Funding was mainly used to provide two extra members of staff to support the children to fully engage with our project along with some extra resources to meet their needs.

Question 4 - The Enabler Support Scheme is time limited funding: will the child / young person continue to access the services / activities in the setting?

- X continues to need support due to his needs.
- Y can confidently attend the club without support staff
- Only if the funding continues as Z will always require this 1:1 care.
- No further support needed as only a four week project.

Question 5 - Please identify for each child if they will continue to need 1:1 support.

- Depending on the type of activity day, X does not always need 1:1 support.
- Y requires intensive interactions to engage in activities, 1:1 support is essential to maintain this.

- No Z will now be attending on his own

On the enabler review form several questions are asked which require a yes or no answer. Here are these yes or no questions.

Question 6 - Was Enabler Support scheme easy to understand and access?

98.75% (158 / 160) have answered "YES" Two are answers incomplete for this question.

Question 7 - Did you receive a decision about enabler funding within five working days?

98.75% (158 / 160) have answered "YES" Two answers are incomplete for this question.

Question 8 – Comments

- The pupils could not access this club without the enabler support funding.
- This funding means a huge amount to our families.
- We could not run our clubs without this funding to support our more complex pupils.
- Support from the Oxfordshire County Council team running this scheme is excellent.
- A great source of funding which enables our pupils to access mainstream activities with appropriate support.