

## Eligibility Criteria for Sure Start Out of School Funding 2011 - 12

Any applicant for out of school childcare funding must be able to demonstrate their project can meet the following three criteria in order to be eligible for a childcare grant:

### **1. Does the project meet the Local Authority definition of childcare for out of school funding?**

Each of the following four components must be features of the proposed service:

- **Duration:** The combination of care and education provided must mean that a parent is able to leave their child for a continuous period of at least four hours in order to be able to access work or training. In most instances in out of school development this is the case e.g breakfast then school.
- **Escort:** At the beginning or end of the school day children must be able to get to or from the childcare setting without the intervention of their parents. For example, if a setting is not located on the school site appropriate arrangements must be made for children to be supervised on that journey.
- **Reliability:** Parents must be able to rely on the availability of the service. The expectation is that the service would only be cancelled in extreme circumstances where opening would cause a breach of Ofsted regulation, for example where back up plans for meeting staff ratios have failed or where heating systems have broken.
- **Sustainability:** Funding is intended to assist with the initial equipment costs of a project only. Applicants must be able to demonstrate how the project will be sustainable. This is usually achieved through fee income from parents.

### **2. Does the project make a strategic contribution to the Local Authority's requirement to deliver childcare sufficiency?**

Where a project meets the criteria for childcare (1), consideration will be given to whether need for additional provision has been identified under the Local Authority's assessment of Childcare Sufficiency.

March 2011

Review date: March 2012