

## SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA 10 - 11

1. Funding can be used only in accordance with sustainability plan agreed with the Local Authority.
2. Funding cannot be used to maintain profit margins. Any surplus generated in the grant period must be reinvested in the provision.
3. Funding cannot be used to support staffing ratios higher than the Ofsted requirement.
4. Funding cannot be used to support lower than market prices.
5. Funding cannot be used for capital items or projects.
6. Priority will be given to groups demonstrating a balance of the following:
  - Groups in disadvantaged areas
  - Groups where closure would have an adverse impact on the current or future development of Children's Centres and/or Extended Schools.
  - Funding to enable compliance with the Early Years Foundation Stage or immediate health and safety needs
  - Where closure would have an adverse impact on parent's access to employment or training or a child's access to Early Education
  - Groups which experience unexpected increases in expenditure caused by external factors
  - Groups which experience a temporary drop in attendance
  - Groups which can demonstrate they offer high quality provision
  - Groups which can demonstrate that they have already taken steps towards sustainability eg marketing, recruitment of staff, having a current business plan, financial monitoring systems and trained staff
  - Groups undertaking a management takeover.
7. Funding can only be given to settings judged inadequate by Ofsted if there is full compliance with the action plan agreed between the setting and the Local Authority.
8. Funding cannot be awarded to cover a shortfall caused by the withdrawal or refusal of Nursery Education Funding.
9. Awards will only be given to groups with a long term sustainability plan showing that they do not need additional Sure Start funding to remain viable.
10. Consideration, when determining the amount of the award, will be given to the number of places supported and a balance of the above priorities.
11. Funding is limited and there is no guarantee that any bid which meets the criteria can be funded.