

Disability Access Funding

What is Disability Access Funding or DAF?

Disability Access Funding (DAF) is a one-off annual payment, paid at a rate set by central government. It is paid to one childcare provider that has been nominated by a parent, of a child who receives Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and accesses the universal entitlement to free Nursery provision.

What is Disability Living Allowance?

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is an extra payment for a child who:

- is under 16
- has difficulties walking or needs much more looking after than a child of the same age who does not have a disability

The money is intended to help families with the extra costs of looking after a child with additional needs.

What do we use the additional funding for?

Bowerdean and Mapledean Nursery Schools are determined that all children can access and enjoy their early education, regardless of any challenges they face. We use the Disability Access Funding to help us support our children with additional needs to thrive. The funding could help:

- Develop our Nursery spaces to ensure they are accessible and meet children's individual needs
- Buy special equipment to support learning and development
- Provide specialist teaching to meet the children's individual needs
- Access further training to upskill staff to maximise children's progress
- 1-1 support for periods during free flow play in targeted areas of learning
- Home learning activities
- Support with transition
- Additional provision targeted at developing social relationships

Measuring the impact

We are continually assessing and evaluating the children's learning through interactions and observations during play or more formal development assessments, which include:

- Development Matters progress comparison
- Oxford Developmental Journey
- Achievement of individual targets
- Professional feedback (if applicable)

These assessments and observations help us to ensure the funding is used to achieve the best outcomes possible for our children.