

Wolverhampton Disability Access Fund (DAF) Guidance

What is the Disability Access Fund (DAF)

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) was introduced to support disabled children's access to their entitlement for government funded early years provision. The City of Wolverhampton Council is committed to promoting inclusion across the city and ensuring its compliance with the Equality Act 2010

The funds can be used to support providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings to benefit the child in question or in purchasing specialist equipment as recommended in a professional report.

Eligibility Criteria

A child is eligible for DAF if they are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and they are at least 9 months old. <https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children>

Entitlement

- Disability Access Funding applications are reviewed four times per year by a multi-agency panel (see Local Offer for Inclusion Panel Dates: <https://www.localofferwolves.co.uk/>). Applicants will be notified of the panel decision and should inform parents/carers of this decision.
- If a child attends two different settings or their entitlement only one of these can receive DAF. The parent should nominate the main setting as the one which will receive the DAF.
- A DAF application for each individual child can only be submitted once per financial year.

How to apply

- The provider must have parental consent to make the application
- Provide the reference number from the child's DLA award letter
- Where funds are being requested to purchase specialist equipment, this should be done under the advice of a therapist such as an Occupational Therapist/ Physiotherapist or a Specialist Teacher. This equipment will follow the child on transition.
- Providers request funding by completing the online application form <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/sen-inclusion-fundingdaf-online-application>