

**Email from Carolyn Terry to Essex early years and childcare and childcare providers**

**From:** Free Entitlement Funding Queries <[FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 10 July 2020 16:13

**Cc:** Free Entitlement Funding Queries <[FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk](mailto:FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Urgent - Please Read - Covid-19 Update 10 July 2020

Dear All

Please find below information on the following areas

- Update on Funding Portal
- Reminder to complete Online Summer 2020 Childcare Sufficiency Survey
- Job Retention Bonus
- Updated FAQs

**Update on Funding Portal** – the funding portal is now open for you to submit your interim headcount data for the September 2020 term. This closes on 15 July 2020. Our apologies again for the issues you have been experiencing and thank you for bearing with us

**Reminder to complete Online Summer 2020 Childcare Sufficiency Survey** just a reminder that this closes on 12 July 2020. We have already had over 650 responses to this – a big thank you to everyone that has completed this already. For those of you still to complete, the link for the survey is: -

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/workforce-development-1/7044d84e>

**Job Retention Bonus** – the Chancellor announced this week a Job Retention Bonus that may be a support for some childcare settings. The unprecedented Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) has so far supported over one million employers to protect over 9 million jobs. The scheme has been open since March, and will wind down flexibly and gradually, supporting businesses until October. It is important that people who have been furloughed are supported back to work. It is beneficial for everyone, including the individual, to prevent skills from fading and to maintain strong employment relationships. Therefore, the government is introducing a new Job Retention Bonus to reward and incentivise employers who keep on their furloughed employees. Please see the detail below

Policy decision on the Job Retention Bonus – The government will introduce a one-off payment of £1,000 to UK employers for every furloughed employee who remains continuously employed through to the end of January 2021. Employees must earn above the Lower Earnings Limit (£520 per month) on average between the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the end of January 2021. Payments will be made from February 2021.

Further detail about the scheme will be announced by the end of July, and please see the following link for the full article. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-plan-for-jobs-documents/a-plan-for-jobs-2020>

**Updated FAQs** – please see attached FAQs.

Best wishes

Carolyn

**Carolyn Terry**

EYCC Sufficiency and Sustainability Manager  
Strategy, Planning and Performance  
Education Directorate  
Essex County Council

<https://eycp.essex.gov.uk/>

Please note my normal working days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

**T:** 033 3013 6481

**Mob:** 078 2586 0004

**E::** [carolyn.terry@essex.gov.uk](mailto:carolyn.terry@essex.gov.uk)

