



**Early Years and SEN and disability funding  
4Children and CDC LED events  
March 2015**

**Philippa Stobbs, Council for Disabled Children**

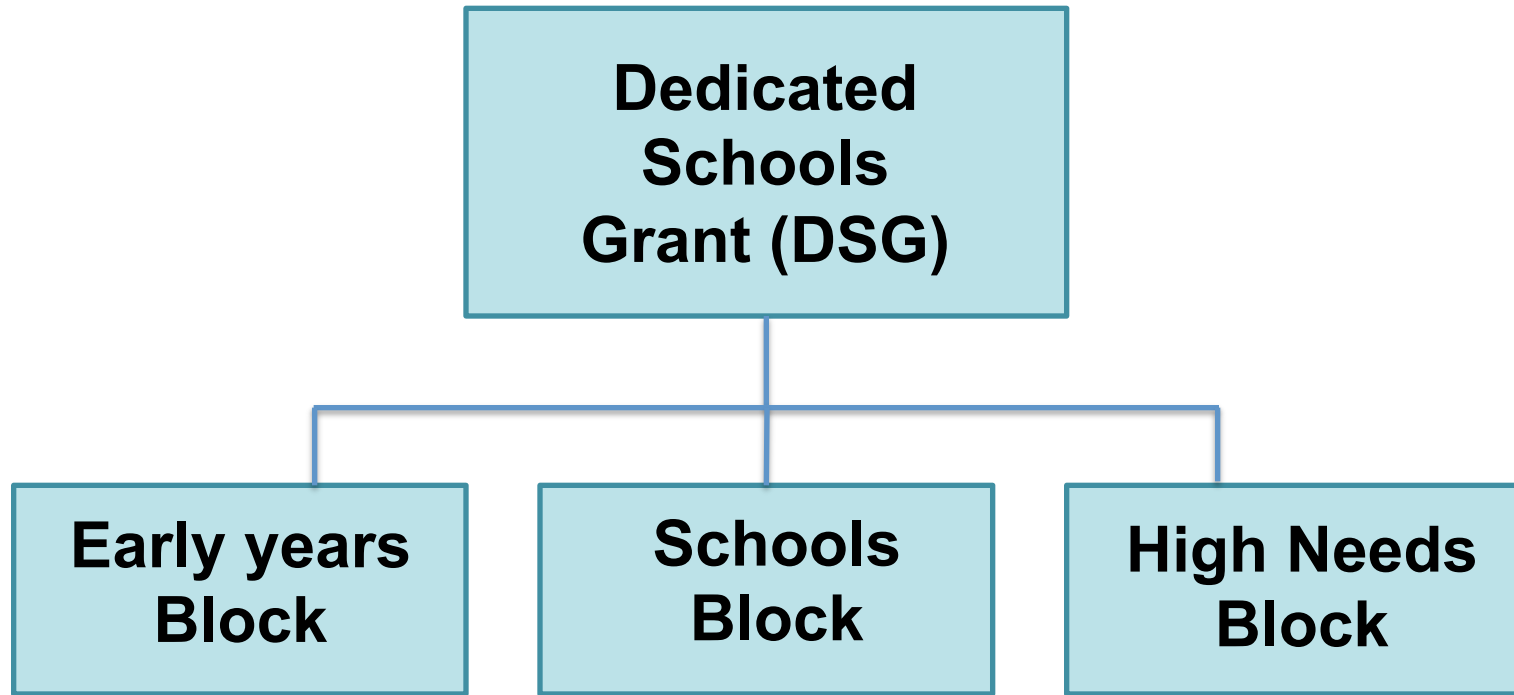
# Introduction

---

- The big blocks of funding
- The early years block
- The high needs block
- How funding is used to support early years settings



# The funding blocks



# The big blocks

---

## National:

- Allocations from national to local level
- Minimum funding guarantee for schools
- Current review of High Needs Block

## Local:

- Use of formula for allocating locally
- Role of Schools Forum
- Early years representation
- Funding can be moved between the blocks



# Early years block

- Department for Education funding goes into Early Years Block for:
  - Free entitlement for 3 and 4 year-olds
  - Free entitlement for some two year-olds
- Funding then allocated locally against an agreed formula
- At the level of the setting, it should be clear what every setting is expected to cover from the allocated funding
- This should be set out in the local offer



# High Needs Block

- To meet needs of children with more complex needs and who need higher cost provision
- This is over and above what a setting can be expected to provide
- For schools, a *notional SEN budget* is allocated to be used to meet needs up to a national threshold of £6k
- Early years do not have a *notional SEN budget*
- Different arrangements for getting support to early years settings



# Arrangements for funding additional support

- Money retained from Early Years Block
- High Needs Block
- Top-up for settings, for groups or for individual children
- Through a fund, eg *Early Years Inclusion Fund*, which may be funded through Early Years or High Needs Blocks or both
- Through services, eg Area SENCOs, peripatetic teachers (HI or VI), Portage
- Combination of funding and services
- Funding for a statement or EHC plan would come from the High needs Block



# Considerations

---

- Funding to support early intervention
- Making the case
- Proving the impact of what early years settings do
- Record keeping
- Data
- What the local offer says about funding support

