Letter from Early Excellence to all LAs and schools

Dear LA colleague,
Please find below, for your information, an email we are sending to EExBA schools- Head teachers and EExBA Lead teachers We will continue to keep you updated with developments in the coming weeks.
Kind Regards,
The Early Excellence Team

Dear EExBA Lead teacher,
I am sure you will have seen the media’s response to the DfE announcement on YR Baseline 2016 and will be wanting to make sense of this for your school.
The information we have received direct from the DfE, both verbal and written, indicates the following:

- YR Baseline will no longer be used as an accountability measure
- DfE continue to support on-entry assessment and will fund schools who wish to use EExBA (or one of the other accredited baselines) in September 2016
- The government intends to develop a ‘school readiness indicator’ for 2017 with a single provider approach

With regard to Early Excellence and schools using EExBA:
As so many schools value our approach to baseline and the DfE are committed to funding EExBA in 2016, it seems sensible to support schools who wish to continue working with us.
It also feels important to build momentum around practitioner-led assessment in order to ensure the government’s next move is shaped by best practice and the things that are most significant for young children’s learning.
If we continue to work together in 2016, we can establish a clear narrative that articulates what really matters for children, their long term development and ‘life chances.’ In doing so we can continue to be accountable for the impact of a principled and value driven pedagogy in the EYFS.
We will write to you next week to outline our plans for the roll out of EExBA 2016 and look forward to working with you.
With best wishes

Liz Marsden
Early Excellence Founder & Director

Reception baseline comparability study published