



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2024

A report on the Early Years and Childcare Sector in Nottinghamshire

Early Years and Family Hub Service

Children and Families Department

September 2024

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1. Introduction

The Childcare Act (2006) (“The Act”) states that the Local Authority must make arrangements to secure that early childhood services in their area are provided in such a way that facilitates access to those services, and maximises the benefit of those services to parents, prospective parents, and young children. Under section 11 of The Act there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area. This information should be made available to parents and elected members.

The Act currently¹ states that Local Authorities must secure free places offering 570 hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year for every eligible² 2-year-old child in their area, and for all three and four-year olds until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

The Act (2016 amendment) states that the Local Authority must also secure an additional 570 free hours of early education and childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year, for qualifying children of working parents (1140 hours in total). **These children are referred to as having a Funded Place.**

In March 2023, the Government announced reforms to childcare which increased the duty to provide funded childcare places for working families. By September 2025, working parents of all children over the age of nine months will be entitled to 30 hours of funded childcare.

At the same time, the Government outlined the expectation that Local Authorities should develop an offer of what’s known as ‘wraparound care’ outside of normal school hours, so that parents of school age children can access childcare in their local area from 8am to 6pm. This could include breakfast clubs and after school clubs, on site or off-site provision or a childminding community. It is expected that by September 2026, all primary school areas have an offer in their community of before and after school care.

The 2024 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) report focuses on the availability of funded childcare places for children across the County, and the estimated availability in future years.

The 2024 CSA includes:

- Current supply and demand of funded places for
 - 15 hours for 2-year-olds in families on some form of additional government support (Supported).
 - 15 hours for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds from working families (Working).
 - 15 hours for all 3- and 4-year-olds
 - 30 hours for 3- and 4-year-olds from working families.
 - Children and babies under two (15 hours from September 2024 and 30 hours from September 2025)
- Main effects on business sustainability and therefore future availability of places
- Early assessments of any “gaps” identified in provision for all children aged 9 months to 5 years who will be entitled to 30 hours of funded childcare by September 2025
- An early assessment of the supply and demand for places for statutory school aged children using Wraparound care.

¹ We anticipate revised guidance which amends the duties placed on Local Authorities to be published in due course.

² Children previously referred to as “Disadvantaged” and now referred to as Children in Families receiving additional Government Support – now referred to as “Supported”.

1.1 Methodology

Definitions:

Included in the description of Childcare / Early Years Providers are Day Nurseries, Pre-schools, Childminders and Schools offering Early Years provision for children under Statutory School age. Included in the description of Wraparound Childcare are schools and private providers who offer before school and after school provision wrapped around the school day including breakfast clubs and out of school childcare and holiday care. This is childcare between the hours of 8am and 6pm during the school term.

Information and data was collected from:

- Summer 2024 Term Self Update from Providers delivering Early Years funded places. This year we had an 84% return rate on our request for data compared to 77% last year.
- Early Years Consultation group meetings.
- Contact with provision through the Early Years and Family Hub Service teams.
- Information on tracking all vulnerable children.
- Information and support for parents and carers.
- Families Information Survey.
- Data on numbers of children attending a setting and those vulnerable children in receipt of supplementary funding to support them.

2. National and local Context

2.1 National Context

As mentioned in the Introduction, the expansion of childcare support is being rolled out in phases as set out in the table below.

All hours (for early years funded places) stated below are per week, for 38 weeks per year. Providers can offer a “stretched” offer across a full year. 15 hours then becomes 11 hours per week, and 30 hours becomes 22 hours per week.

	April 2024	September 2024	September 2025	September 2026
Supported 2-year-olds	15 hours	15 hours	15 hours	15 hours
All 3- and 4-year-olds	15 hours	15 hours	15 hours	15 hours
3- and 4-year-olds of working parents	30 hours	30 hours	30 hours	30 hours
2-year-olds of working parents	15 hours	15 hours	30 hours	30 hours
All working parents of children aged 9 months to 5 years		15 hours	30 hours	30 hours
All Children of working parents in Primary Schools (5-11 years)				Wraparound care 8-6 (Term time only)

2.2 Local Context

The Early Years team, in partnership with Education, Learning and Inclusion colleagues are working with Early Years Providers, schools and parents and carers to assess the supply and demand for early education, childcare and wraparound places. This takes in to account the current position and estimates any demand for additional places going forward.

We are mindful that Early Years and Childcare providers, both nationally and locally, continue to face challenges to their sustainability, and this poses a potential threat to the availability of places.

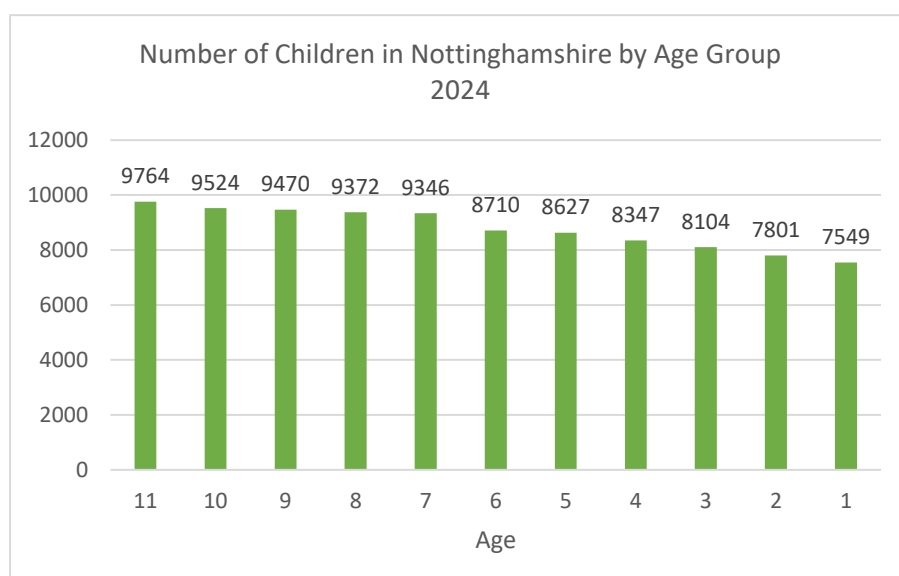
- Providers are struggling additionally with the higher costs associated with pension contributions and the national minimum wage increase.
- Nottinghamshire is also seeing a reflection of the national shortage of trained, qualified, and experienced staff. Providers are reporting that retaining a high-quality workforce is becoming an increasing challenge as childcare / early education is becoming increasingly demanding and remains poorly paid.

However, in alignment with previous years' CSAs, Nottinghamshire appears (as of June 2024) to have sufficient places to meet current demand and anticipated demand for the roll out of the expansion of early years entitlements.

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment also includes an assessment of the current availability of wraparound provision for primary school aged children as well as for children accessing early years childcare and early education. Wraparound care is defined as before school childcare (for example breakfast clubs), and after school childcare (for example regular provision that runs until 6pm or later)³.

3. Population of children in Nottinghamshire

According to the Office of National Statistics (ONS), the population aged 1 - 11 years in Nottinghamshire is as follows.



Age 1 source - [Births in England and Wales: summary tables - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

Ages 2-11 source - [ONS Mid-year population estimates 2022 published March 2024](#)

³ [Department for Education \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

As reported in previous year's assessments, the population of children living in Nottinghamshire continues to drop year on year.

4. Childcare Provision

4.1 The Number of Providers in Nottinghamshire.

In June 2024, there were 1014 Ofsted Registered early years providers, including Private, Voluntary, and Independent (PVI) settings and schools delivering childcare, early education and wraparound care across Nottinghamshire. Of those, 874 are registered to deliver funded places for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds.

267 schools (Maintained and Academies) are registered to provide childcare and early education for 3- and 4-year-olds in a nursery or reception class. 19 schools currently offer places for funded 2-year-olds.

- Providing care in their own home, there are 388 Ofsted registered **childminders** in Nottinghamshire most of which are registered to care for children from six weeks to eight years, and 336 (87%) are registered to deliver funded places for 2,3- and 4-year-olds.
- In addition to Ofsted registered childminders, there are now also 38 childminders registered with Childminding Agencies, 30 of these childminders (79%) are registered to deliver funded places in Nottinghamshire.
- **Day Nursery** settings provide care for children from six weeks to school age. There are 162 day nurseries operating in Nottinghamshire, all of whom deliver funded places for 2,3- and 4-year-olds.
- Generally, **preschools** are used on a half-day or full-day basis and tend to operate only during term time. There are 67 preschools who all provide funded childcare places for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds.
- **Wraparound provision** is currently defined as breakfast club, after school, holiday care and out of school care, some of which offer early years provision. There are 76 Ofsted registered wraparound providers in Nottinghamshire.

Data relating to early years providers and places in this CSA include provision for children under 5 years). Wrap Around settings who solely provide childcare for school age children are excluded from the majority of data in this report unless stated.

4.2 Changes in the Number of Providers

Overall, the number of settings in Nottinghamshire had been largely static for a number of years, hovering around the 1,000 mark. However, in the last six years there has been an overall net decrease in PVI providers of 24% (excluding wraparound only provision), a 6% reduction in the last year. This has largely been driven by a decrease in childminder numbers. There has been a national decrease in the numbers of providers delivering early years places, according to the latest Ofsted data (June 2024).⁴

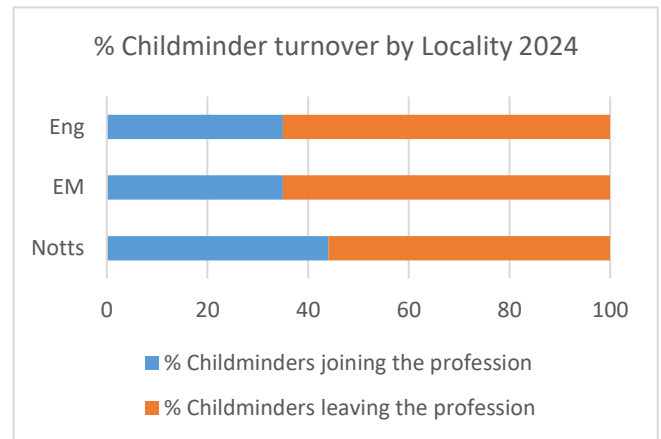
⁴ [Management information - childcare providers and inspections data as at 30 June 2024](#)

Childminders

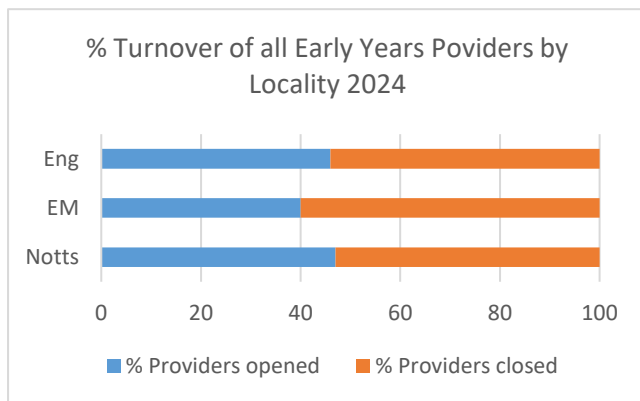
In England, there were 562 early years registered childminders who left the profession and 305 who newly registered between March and June 2024.

In the same period, Ofsted report that In the East Midlands, 51 childminders resigned and 28 new childminders were registered.

In Nottinghamshire, 10 childminders resigned and 8 joined the profession during the same period.



All Early Years Providers (including Childminders)

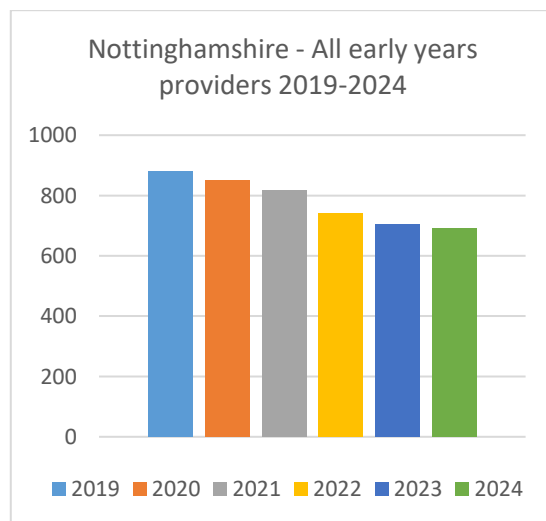
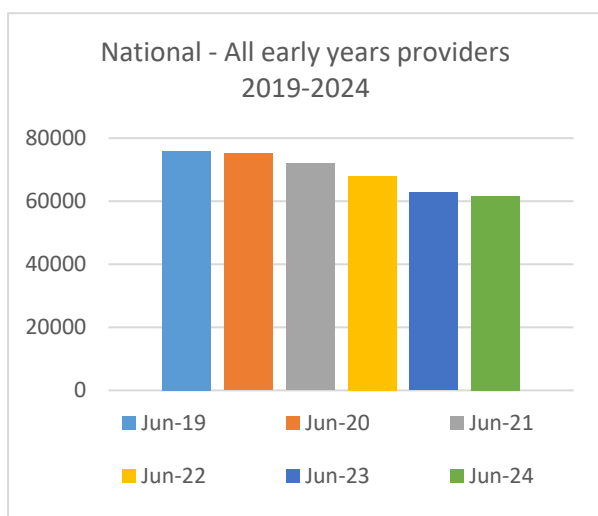


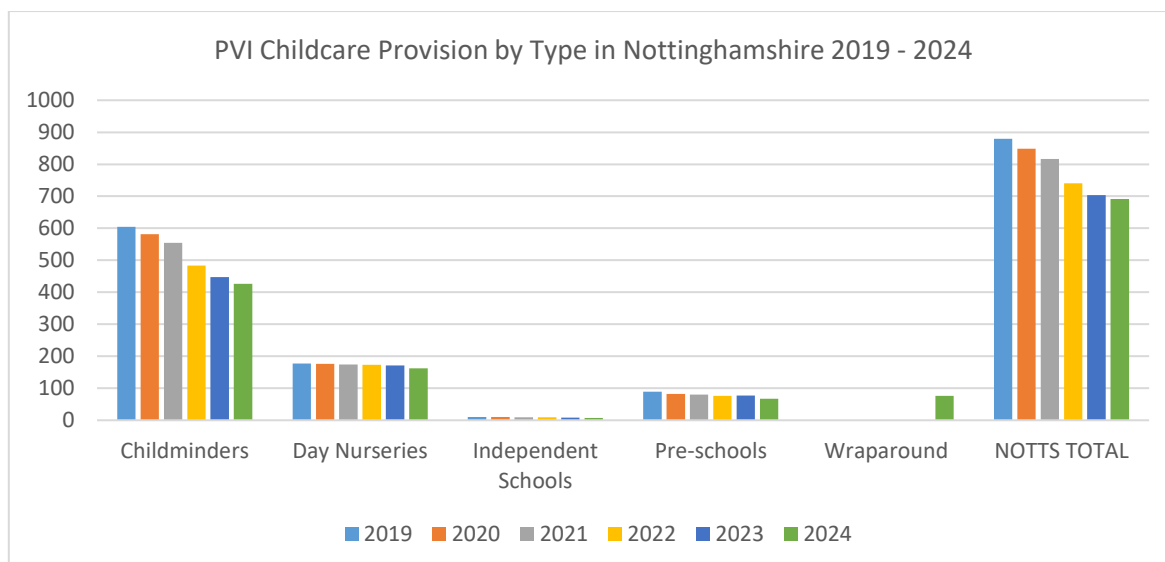
In England, there were 925 providers on the Early Years Register who closed and 795 new providers opened between March and June 2024.

In the same period, Ofsted report that in the East Midlands, 74 providers closed and 51 new providers opened.

In Nottinghamshire there were 14 closures and 12 newly opened provisions.

Nottinghamshire therefore reflects national and regional trends for the number of providers who are joining and leaving the early years profession including childminding.





Number of PVI Providers in Nottinghamshire by Provider Type:

Private, Voluntary and Independent Sector	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/- change 2023 to 2024	+/- change 2019 to 2024	% change 2019 to 2024
Childminders	604	581	554	483	447	426	-21	-178	-29%
Day Nurseries	177	176	174	173	171	162	-9	-15	-8%
Independent Schools	10	10	9	9	8	7	-1	-3	-30%
Pre-schools	89	82	80	76	77	67	-10	-22	-24%
Wraparound ⁵						76	-	-	-
NOTTS TOTAL	880	849	817	741	703	767	64	-103	-12%

Schools

There has been an increase over the last six years in the number of school based early years provision offering the extended entitlements for 3 and 4 year olds. There are 215 Schools registered to deliver early years places (75% of all primary schools). In June 2024, 80% are delivering extended (up to 30 hours) of funded early education and childcare.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-	% change (Since 2019)
Schools funded to deliver Extended (30 hours) offer	117	130	146	155	163	173	56	47%

⁵ Data for wrap around childcare provision has only been required this year.

The number of schools offering extended (up to 30 hours) hours for 3 and 4 year olds has steadily increased since it's introduction 6 years ago. With the introduction of the new entitlements over the next 2 years we also anticipate an increase in schools lowering their age range and offering funded places to 2 year olds.

4.3 Early Years Providers offering places for 2 year olds

The table below shows the numbers of children claiming 2 year old funding by provider type in summer 2024, currently only 4.3% of 2 year olds claim their funding in a school setting (down from 7.5% in 2023). Currently there are 19 schools offering provision for 2 year olds.

	Academy	Childminder	Day Nursery	Independent School	Maintained School	Pre-school
Supported 2YO Funding	105	145	1066	8	22	261
	6.5%	9.0%	65.7%	0.5%	1.4%	16.2%
Working Families 2YO Funding	49	520	2920	24	29	396
	1.2%	13.2%	74.1%	0.6%	0.7%	10.1%

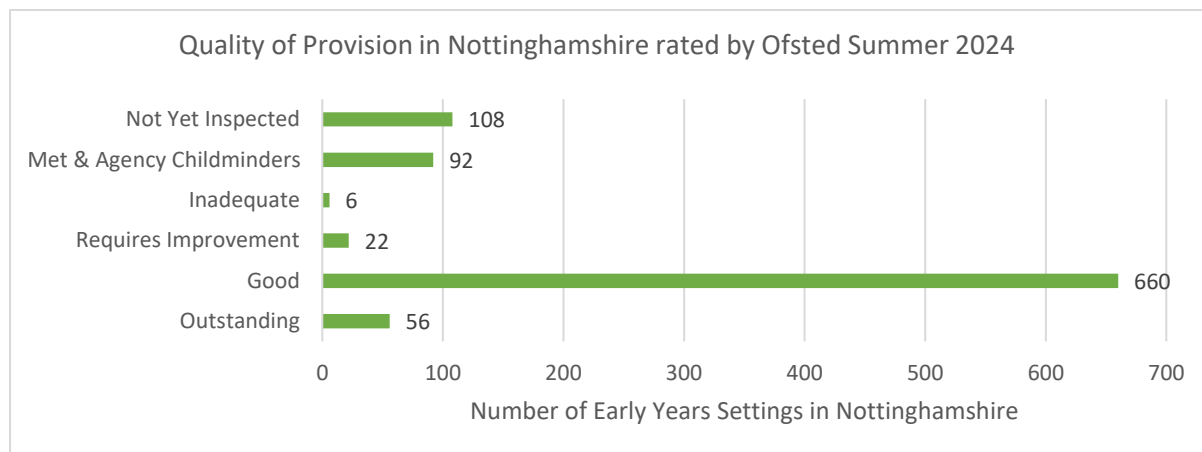
4.3 Quality of provision

Early Years Provision

Below is a table showing the number of Early Years settings rated by Ofsted as Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement or Inadequate.

Ofsted Grading	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met & Agency Childminder	Not Yet Inspected	TOTAL
Academy School	13	85	4	0	0	24	127
Childminder	14	269	3	0	68	75	426
Day Nursery	19	123	5	0	0	15	162
Independent School	2	5	0	0	0	0	7
Maintained School	4	121	3	0	0	2	141
Pre-school	4	57	1	0	4	1	67
TOTAL	56	660	16	0	72	117	930

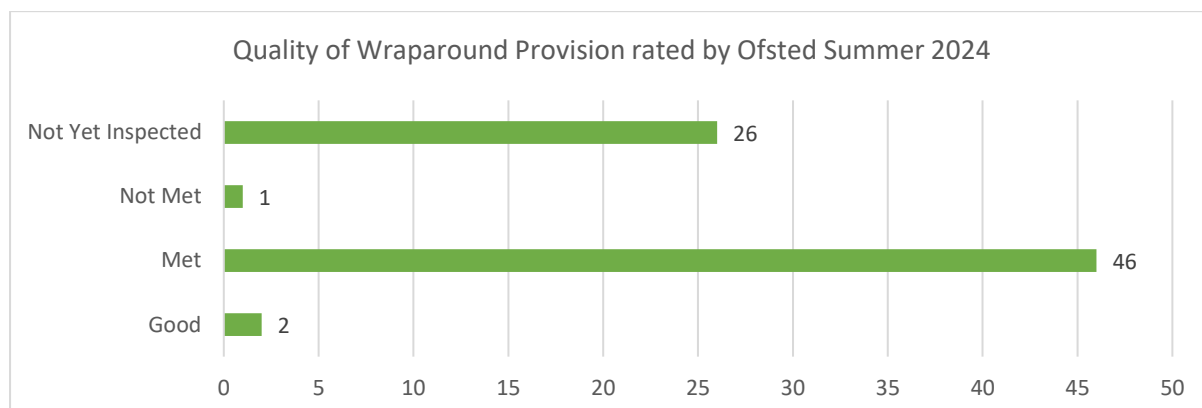
89% of the inspected Early Years provision in Nottinghamshire is classed as Good or Outstanding, with a further 9% judged as having Met⁶ all requirements for registration. Under 2% of providers are judged as Requiring improvement, with no providers judged as Inadequate, 15% of provision is yet to be inspected.



Wraparound provision

Government announced new wraparound duties for Local Authorities to assess and report which have been in place since xxx, the 2024 CSA therefore includes an assessment of current provision for children of statutory school age to access wraparound care.

Since September 2019, wraparound providers have only been able to receive a judgement of Met or Not Met from Ofsted. Those rated as Good are historical judgements and are yet to be reinspected. Only one provider currently has a judgement of Not Met.



⁶ Some Early Years childcare providers and childminders may have no children on roll at the time the inspection is carried out, or may not have any children present, even though they have children on roll. As a result, no grades can be given against the 4 key judgements. The inspector will make a judgement only on the 'overall quality and standards of the early years provision', and offer a judgement as to whether this is Met or Not Met

5. Sufficiency Assessments

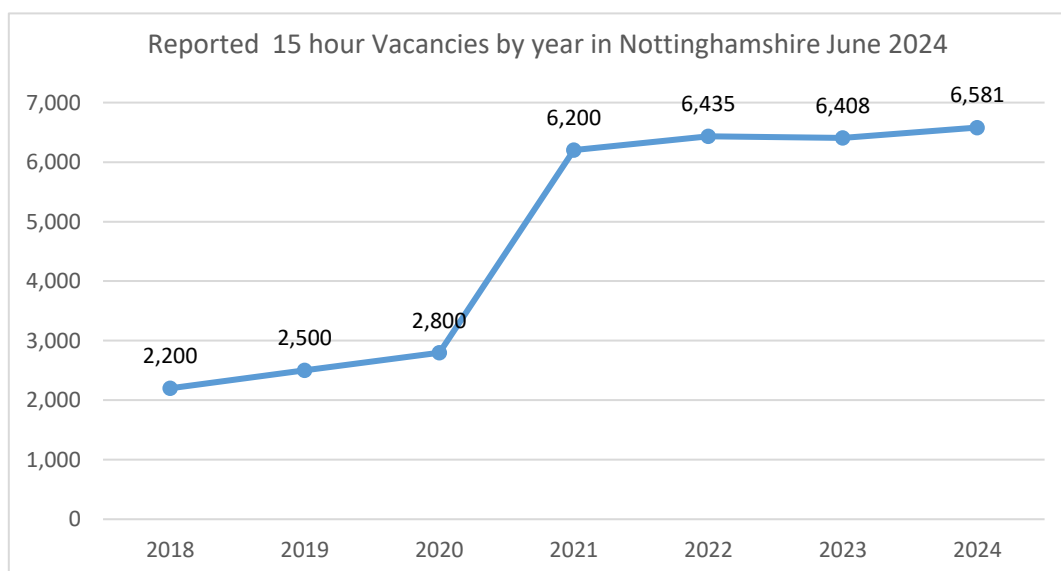
5.1 Vacancies for 2- 3- and 4-year-olds (Children currently funded by Early Education Entitlements)

The table below shows the number of reported vacancies for funded children across Nottinghamshire, reporting a year-on-year increase. However, this year we have seen 173 more vacancies than in 2023, demonstrating only a slight increase in the number of unfilled places.

Historically, and in this year's CSA a "place" has been reported as a 15-hour (part time) place, as this was the previous entitlement.

In the future, a "place" will be reported as either a 30-hour Full Time Equivalent (FTE) place or a 15 hours Part Time Equivalent (PTE) place as working parents are entitled to 30 hours funded early years childcare from September 2025.

Number of vacant places as reported in Nottinghamshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessments 2018-2024						
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
2,200	2,500	2,800	6,200	6,435	6,408	6,581



The map below shows at a glance the supply of FUNDED childcare for 2- 3- and 4-year-olds by ward cluster, and details vacancies reported as a percentage of places available.

There are reported to be over 40% of PTE available places that remain vacant	There are reported to be between 30% and 40% of PTE available places that remain vacant	There are reported to be between 20% and 30% of PTE available places that remain vacant	There are reported to be between 10% and 20% of PTE available places that remain vacant	There are reported to be less than 10% of PTE available places that remain vacant

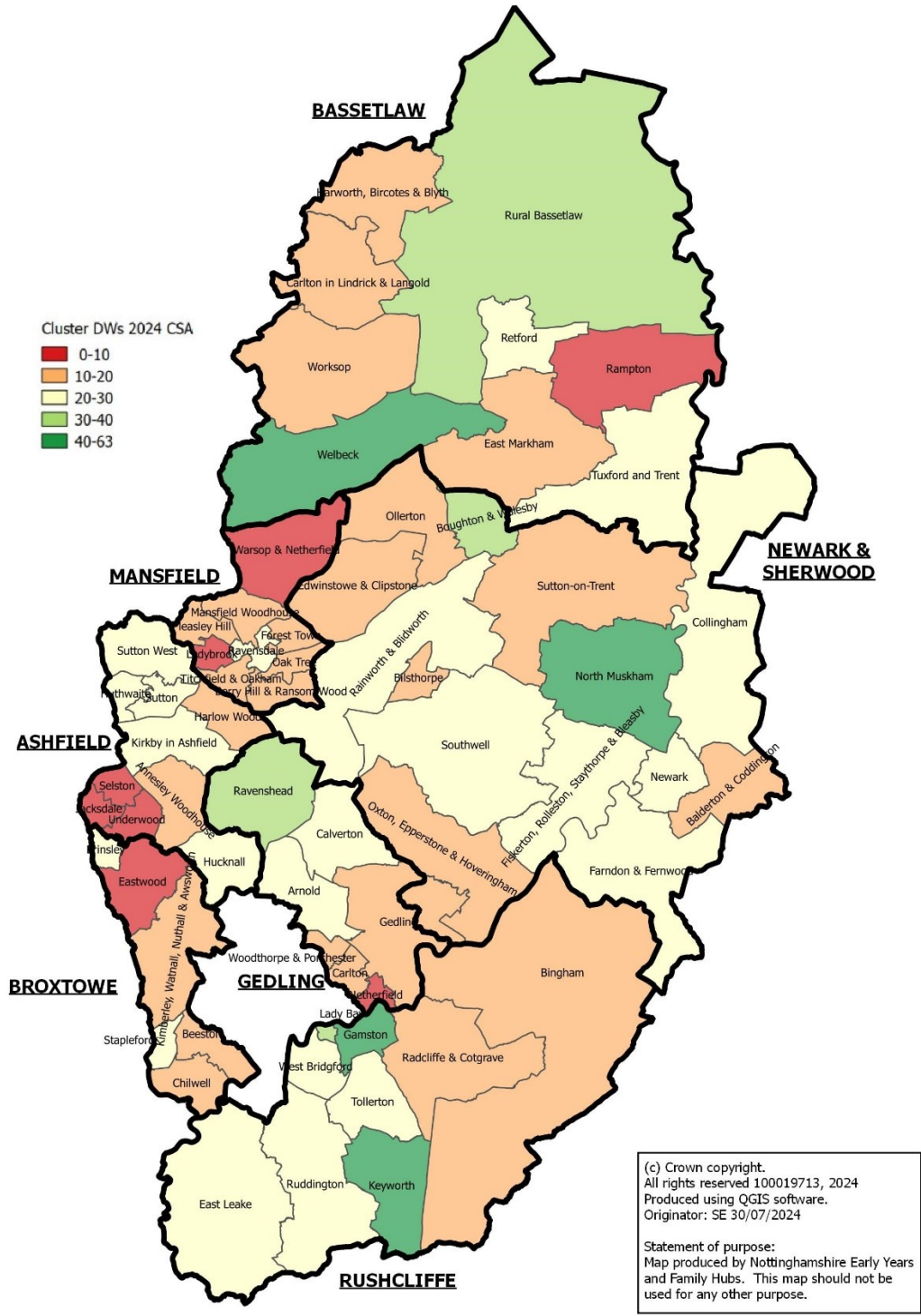
There are no areas of the County where demand for funded childcare outweighs supply, but there are eight areas of concern where there could be insufficient places in the future and are reported as having under 10% vacancies. However, in some of the areas we did not receive returns from some providers, and this has meant we are not able to accurately estimate vacancy levels. Some of the returns from Schools which were submitted in the summer term indicate their Early Years Provision is full, but for future terms this is not the case and there are some vacancies.

There are reported to be less than 10% of available places that remain vacant

There are reported to be over 40% of PTE available places that remain vacant

There are eight areas where there are more than 40% of available places that remain unfilled, which is a concern for the sustainability of providers in those areas which will therefore affect future supply. It should also be noted that Early Years and Family Hub Service are using a different software system to collect sufficiency data this year, so a direct comparison with previous years is not possible. Sufficiency levels have been estimated for approximately 7% of providers as they did not submit a sufficiency return (based on the known take up of places in the summer term).

Nottinghamshire - District Ward Clusters and % vacancy rates (Reported Vacancies for 2-4yr olds of Reported Capacity) - Summer 2024



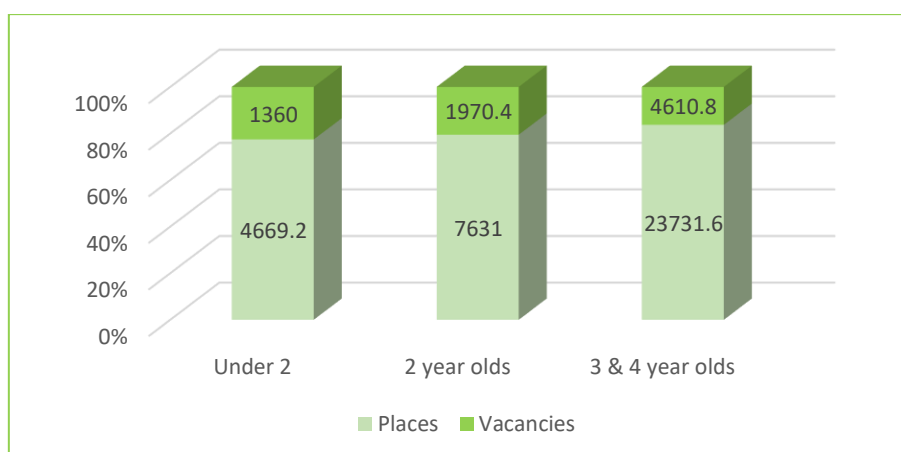
5.2 Children aged under 2 years

Childcare for children under the age of two was not funded through Early Years Entitlements at the time of the Sufficiency update, however, many providers, particularly childminders and day nurseries, offer places for children from aged 6 weeks to five years. In the latest Provider Self-Update, we have included these numbers in our sufficiency report.

As we are now able to collect more detailed information from providers, we can assess childcare vacancies more accurately for all children. This is of particular significance as more children will be eligible for funded childcare from the age of nine months in the coming years. As mentioned in the Introduction, working parents will be able to access up to 30 hours of funded childcare for their child from the age of 9 months from September 2025.

In addition to the 6,581 vacancies reported for funded children aged 2,3 and 4 years old in June 2024, we have a reported 1,360 vacancies for children under two years. Providers reported that they have capacity to offer 4,669 places. There is therefore a 29% vacancy rate for places for children under the age of 2 years.

The table below shows the overall vacancy levels across the county for the three age groups in June 2024.



5.3 Predicted take up of new Entitlements for Children under two from September 2024

Parents currently apply for an eligibility code for their Working Parents entitlements on the Childcare Choices website ([Homepage | Childcare Choices](#)). Once a code has been issued for any child it must be validated by the Childcare provider at the time of signing up for a place before the funding can be claimed.

A new DFE Eligibility Checking Service dashboard has been released showing real time data regarding parent eligibility codes issued and validated for age 2s and under. From April 2024, parents/carers were able to obtain codes to allow them to access 15 hours of funded childcare from September 2024 if their child was aged 9 months and over.

For under twos the following table shows our reported capacity compared to how many codes have been issued for Autumn Term 2024. This does not mean that the code has been validated (i.e. "spent").

92% of codes issued for two-year-olds in the summer term were validated at a setting – meaning 8% of parents chose not to take up a place in Nottinghamshire after applying for a code. It must be noted however that some of these codes could have been validated at providers outside Nottinghamshire.

	Under Twos places capacity	No. codes issued for autumn 2024	Indicative Surplus/Deficit of places
Totals	4664*⁷	3938	726

The assumption (and experience of the two-year olds expansion) is that children under the age of 2 currently accessing paid for places will be from working families and therefore eligible for the under 2s working parents funding from September 2024 onwards. They will simply “convert” to taking some funded hours.

The table above suggests that we have sufficient places across the County to meet demand for September 2024 based on the number of codes issued.

5.4 Expansion of Early Years Places

To allow Local Authorities to develop and expand places for both early years children and primary aged children (wraparound), the Government made funding available to support the creation of new places to meet demand. The early years team has worked with providers to assess priority “Red” areas of the county where there are less than 10% vacancy rates and where there is a need to develop places. In the first round of funding in the Summer of 2024, funding has been made available to Early Years providers to create a further 72 places in areas of low supply.

6. Demand for funded childcare and take up rates

6.1 Eligible 2-year-olds

Two-year-olds qualify for a funded (15 hours) place if their home address is in Nottinghamshire, and

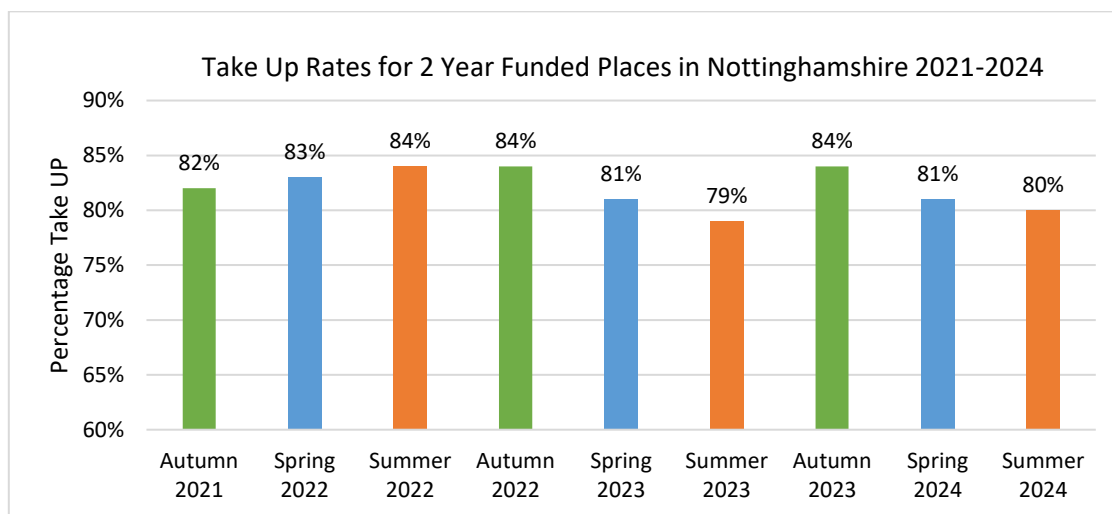
- if they are classed as a “looked after child”
- if they have left care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order
- if they have an Education Health and Care Plan
- if their parents or carers are in receipt of certain benefits or no recourse to public funds

Numbers of eligible children are identified through a list received from the DWP that details children who are in families in receipt of qualifying benefits. Parents apply through the Nottinghamshire County Council website⁸ where they are provided with their eligibility code.

⁷ Number of places differs from graph above due to one of our local childminder agencies being based in Nottingham City but delivering places with childminders in the County which have not been assigned to one of the specific Nottinghamshire districts.

⁸ [Help with childcare costs | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

The proportion of supported 2-year-old children taking up their funded entitlements has slightly increased since the last CSA, with an average of 82% for the academic year 2023/24. Take up rates vary by time of year and area of residence as evidenced in the graphs below.



The table shows the numbers and rate up rates for eligible 2-year-olds– in the previous academic terms (spring 2024 and summer 2024) by location of provider

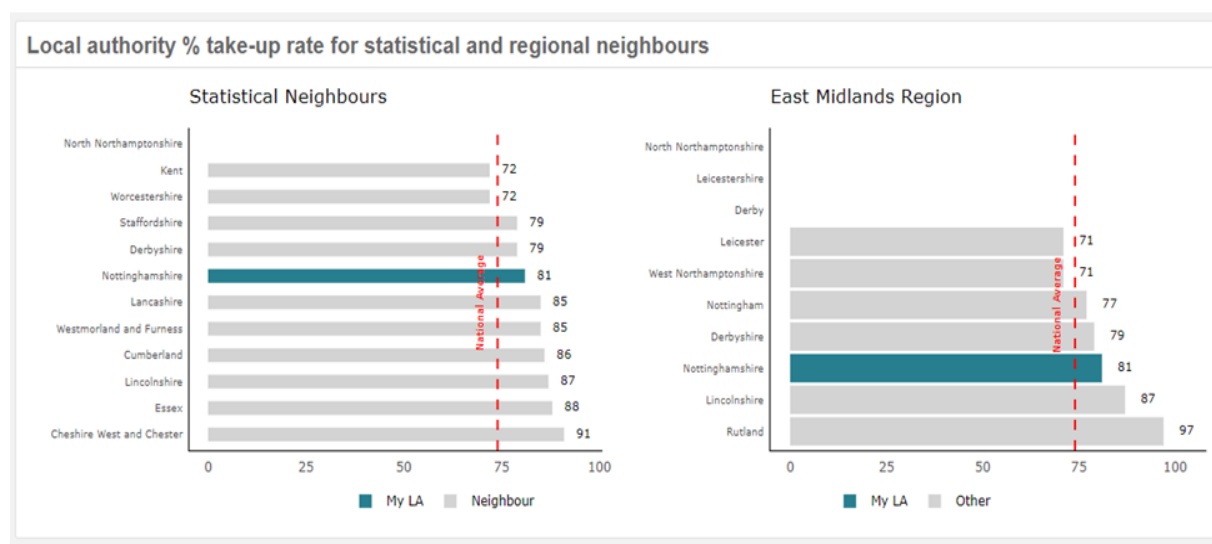
District (nos. of children attending at providers in these districts)	Nov 2023 DWP list	Numbers taking up Spring 2024	% take up by district	March 2024 DWP list	Numbers taking up Summer 2024	% take up by district	% increase in summer from spring 2023
Ashfield	407	328	80%	410	323	78%	-2%
Bassetlaw	332	215	65%	311	210	67%	2%
Broxtowe	201	174	86%	191	166	87%	1%
Gedling	221	242	109%	223	240	107%	-2%
Mansfield	363	272	74%	371	274	74%	0%
Newark & Sherwood	290	209	72%	295	206	70%	-2%
Rushcliffe	153	148	96%	158	156	98%	2%
Totals	1967	1588		1959	1575		
% take up		81%			80%		
		31/03/24			16/07/24		

To ensure all children who are eligible can access their place, our Family Hubs and Children’s Centre Services teams follow up any family where they have applied for a place but haven’t taken it up. In the Summer term, 113 parents were contacted, 28 confirmed they had a place and were waiting to start and 24 had plans to take up their place at their preferred provider.

For the remaining parents where direct contact was made, and families chose not to take up their child's place the Family Hubs and Children's Centre Service teams were able to help the families access support that was right for them and their child. This involves using their menu of interventions and encouraging families to access local groups and/or take up a childcare place in future terms. Early Years Project Officers will also continue to focus on any districts and specific ward areas that are identified as having limited sufficiency for supported 2-year places. They will continue to provide advice and guidance to schools and PVI providers, as well as supporting recruitment campaigns and activities.

With the introduction of working families funding for 2-year-old places from April 2024 we will be using the existing 2-year focus group to monitor take up of places for supported 2-year-olds (as defined in paragraph 6.1 or this assessment). This will ensure we can assess if sufficient spaces for supported 2-year-olds remain in place, where they are needed. A key indicator for this will be if we observe a decline below the average 80% take up rate of supported childcare places. We will also compare our progress with statistically similar Local Authorities when this data is published.

The most recent data (2024) shows that Nottinghamshire take up rates are above the national rate of 74%. Nottinghamshire compares with local authorities in the East Midlands and across statistical neighbours as detailed in the graph below.



Maintaining a focus on increasing take up rates for eligible 2 year olds remains a priority in the Council Plan because it helps children to thrive and develop and be ready for school; it also supports parents/carers to access work.

6.2 3-and 4-year-olds

All 3- and 4-year-olds are entitled to 570 hours of funded Early Years Education per year. The tables below show take up rates for 3- and 4-year-olds by district. The data source is the ONS Mid-Year 2022 population estimates and therefore is a snapshot and does not consider a fluctuation in population. Take up is over 100% for age 4s as a significant proportion of children residing out of county are taking up places with Nottinghamshire providers and schools. Conversely, county resident children may be accessing their nursery place in a city school or adjoining County area.

District Name	Population of 3 year olds (1)	Population of 4 year olds (1)	3s taking place (2)	4s taking place (2)	% take up 3s	% take up 4s
Ashfield	1,291	1336	1249	1405	96.75%	105.16%
Bassetlaw	1,175	1208	1031	1132	87.74%	93.71%
Broxtowe	972	1018	857	924	88.17%	90.77%
Gedling	1,153	1165	982	1070	85.17%	91.85%
Mansfield	1,127	1174	1069	1210	94.85%	103.07%
Newark and Sherwood	1,238	1275	1163	1160	93.94%	90.98%
Rushcliffe	1,148	1171	1047	1243	91.20%	106.15%
			7398	8144		
Out of county resident/address not known			556	486		
Grand Total	8,104	8,347	7954	8630		
Sources:			Overall % take up for county resident children	91%	98%	
ONS Mid year population estimates 2022 published March 2024						
Summer Term 2024 Headcount Data – attending either universal or expanded hrs.			Overall % take up including out of county resident children	98%	103%	

6.3 Expanded entitlements for working parents.

3- and 4-year-olds of working parents and carers are entitled to an additional 570 hours paid at the same hourly rate.

Take up of the extended childcare offer continues to be very good, 96.4% of 3- and 4-year-old children with an eligible 30 hours code accessed their extended hours in Nottinghamshire this summer term, a slight drop from 97% for the same period last year. In total 7,552 children accessed funding for some (or all) of their extended hours this summer term.

This funding has now been extended to 2-year-olds of working parents and carers (for 15 hours currently, increasing to 30 from September 2025). 3,853 children received this funding in the summer term which equates to 92% of codes issued for two-year-olds being validated.

7. Vulnerable Children

Early years providers report to us that they are seeing an increase in children presenting with additional needs. This is reflected in the number of children accessing Disability Access Funding (DAF), as there is a 43% increase in the last year.

The barriers to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) accessing a place are mainly around staffing. Providers report that they are struggling to recruit additional staff to support the needs of the increasing numbers of children presenting with additional needs or SEND.

When we surveyed providers, data told us in January 2024 that from 174 responses, 20% of providers said they could meet demand for SEND places, 54% said they were unsure if they could offer sufficient places to SEND children and 25% said they could not offer sufficient places for SEND children. Some childminders told us that being lone workers created a challenge to support some children with complex needs, as they would be unable to meet the needs of these children.

Under Section 23 of the Children and Families Act 2014, health services have a duty to notify the appropriate local authority, where they anticipate that a child under school age has or is likely to have a special educational need and/or disability (SEND) when they start school. This is called an Early Help notification.

From September 2023 to July 2024, the Early Years team received 363 (Section 23) Early Help notifications for under 5-year-olds. In June 2024 we know, 248 currently attend an early years setting. This data is from birth, and we know some parents choose to be the child's primary carer.

Additional supplementary funding is made available to support Early Years Providers who are meeting the needs of the most vulnerable children. Details of the funding rates can be found below in Section 8.

7.1 All Early Years Supplementary Funding take up rates.

All providers are offered additional funding to support the most vulnerable children in their provision. Details about these funding streams is further explained below. The table below shows how many providers access supplementary funding for children.

	Summer 2023	Summer 2024
Inclusion Funding	13% of providers	12.58%
Disability Access Fund for Children on Disability Living Allowance	4% of providers	13.08%
Deprivation Fund for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds known to Social Care	25% of providers	13.46%
Early Years Pupil Premium	44% of providers	54.46%
Do not receive any supplementary funding	49% of providers	34.46%

7.2 Early Years Inclusion Funding

This fund is available for children identified as having emerging, targeted and higher-level needs. An application can be submitted for a 2-, 3- or 4-year-old child who is accessing a funded place and is living in Nottinghamshire. Funding is available to all providers, to include early years provision in schools from September 2024.

Age	Number of Children 2023-2024
1yr	1
2yrs	24
3yrs	116
4yrs	146
5yrs	2
Total	289

	AUTUMN 2023	SPRING 2024	SUMMER 2024
Nottinghamshire Total 2023-2024	143	172	269
	Autumn	Spring	Summer
2022-2023 (for comparison)	152	195	249
2021-2022 (for comparison)	111	140	194

The numbers of children accessing the Early Years Inclusion Funding has risen by 16% since summer 2023. This is attributed to early years providers becoming more aware of the funding, and a clear targeted support offer for children identified earlier as having emerging needs.

7.3 Early Years Deprivation Fund

Children eligible for the Early Years Deprivation Fund are those 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds accessing their funded entitlement and who are known to Children's Social Care (CSC), i.e. Child in Need (CIN), Child on a Protection Plan (CPP) or Looked After (LAC).

Since Summer 2023, Communication and Language (C&L) payments have been made to providers who have 3- and 4-year-olds (who were previously identified as eligible for Supported 2yr old funding) if the child is not meeting the national Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) expected levels of development in C&L, as evidenced by termly provider data returns to Early Years. This allows providers to consider targeted interventions for these children. This is shown on the last three columns of the table below.

District / Academic Year	Child in Need			Child Protection Plan			C&L Payments		
	Aut 23	Spr 24	Sum 24	Aut 23	Spr 24	Sum 24	Aut 23	Spr 24	Sum 24
Ashfield	14	11	13	7	14	13	62	96	119
Bassetlaw	15	13	12	10	12	9	26	54	55
Broxtowe	6	9	7	2	3	8	25	31	50
Gedling	5	12	12	3	2	2	9	36	69
Mansfield	14	13	17	15	17	10	81	82	117
Newark	6	11	18	5	8	5	24	59	74
Rushcliffe	1	5	3	2	0	2	18	22	56
Notts County Total 2024	61	74	82	44	56	49	245	380	540
	Aut 22	Spr 23	Sum 23	Aut 22	Spr 23	Sum 23			Sum 23
Notts County Total 2023 for comparison	153	199	65	99	106	64			508

7.4 Early Years Pupil Premium

2, 3- and 4-year-old children are eligible who meet the economic criteria for free school meals, and/or are Looked After by the Local Authority are eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP).

The numbers of children receiving Early Years Pupil Premium (**Economic Factor**) in Academic Year 2023-2024 by district by term are shown below. The total number of children funded was 2,016 across the academic year.

District	Autumn 23	Spring 24	Summer 24	Summer 24 (2 yr olds)
Ashfield	244	290	402	111
Bassetlaw	159	209	277	81
Broxtowe	115	150	182	52
Gedling	104	128	175	60
Mansfield	199	258	355	81
Newark	178	229	319	74
Rushcliffe	59	72	102	41
Out of county	49	67	83	49
Notts total 2023-4	1107	1403	1895	549
Notts total 2022-23 for comparison	1487	2150	2325	n/a

* NB Figures vary across the terms as children may be funded for one, two or three terms.

There has been a drop in numbers of children eligible for EYPP from 2022/3 to 2023/4 which may be partly attributed to NCC Early Years changing data collection systems during 2023. Providers entering parental data may not have manually ticked the consent to check box, and therefore a check has not been performed. Also as more people move onto the working entitlements, their income may now exceed the EYPP check threshold.

45 Children received Early Years Pupil Premium (**Children Looked After**) in Academic Year 2023-24 by district. This figure includes Children Looked After, previously Looked After and Adopted.

	Autumn 23	Spring 24	Summer 24
Notts Total 2023-4	14	27	42
	Autumn 22	Spring 23	Summer 23
Notts Total 2022-23 for comparison	21	35	26

* NB. Figures vary across the terms as children may be funded for one, two or three terms.

7.5 Early Years Disability Access Fund

Early Years Providers in Nottinghamshire are eligible to receive Disability Access Fund (DAF), £915 annually, per child, where a child is taking up a place and is in receipt of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA). DAF is allocated to Local Authorities based on the numbers of children claiming DLA, although not all of those children are accessing a childcare place.

The table shows the number of children accessing Disability Access Fund (DAF) Academic Year 2023-2024 by district.

District	Autumn 23	Spring 24	Summer 24	Total
Ashfield	8	13	14	35
Bassetlaw	6	5	16	27
Broxtowe	8	5	11	24
Gedling	4	10	17	31
Mansfield	5	5	11	21
Newark	4	6	14	24
Rushcliffe	9	10	10	29
Notts Total 2023-24	44	54	93	191
Notts Total academic year 2022-2023 for comparison	Autumn 2022	Spring 2023	Summer 2023	Total
	43	37	53	133

The numbers of children accessing DAF has increased by 43% in the last year, with summer 2024 seeing the highest ever take-up of this funding.

DAF funding was extended to children in receipt of 2-year-old funding in summer 2024 (previously only available to 3- and 4-year-olds). 18 2-year-olds received the funding summer term.

8. Funding

8.1 Early Years Funding rates for 2024-25 in Nottinghamshire

Funding for childcare places is provided from the Early Years block of the Dedicated Schools Grant which uses a national Early Years Funding Formula to allocate funds to top tier local authorities. All Councils can retain up to 5% of the Early Years Block to pay for administration, quality assurance, create an Inclusion Fund and Deprivation Fund. Nottinghamshire has historically retained less than 5% and in 2023-24, 2.7% of the Early Years block was retained. In 2024-2025 the retention is 1.7%.

The hourly rates are based on the National Early Years Funding Formula and local consultation. The following hourly rates are in place.

	2022-2023	2023-2024 Summer	2024-2025

		(Autumn & Spring following national supplementary uplift)	
Early Years Base Rate:			
Eligible 9 month + PVI settings	NA	NA	£10.20 (Applicable Sept 2024 onwards)
Eligible 2-year-olds School & PVI settings	£5.60 per hour	£5.66/ (£7.47) per hour	£7.58
Eligible 3- and 4-year-olds in PVI settings	£4.48 (per hour)	£4.70/ (£5.03) per hour	£5.34
Funding supplements:	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Early Years Pupil Premium for 3- and 4-year-olds (for all ages in 2024-25)	£0.60 per hour	£0.62/(£0.66) per hour	£0.68 per hour
LAC Early Years Pupil Premium (all ages)	£0.60 per hour	£0.62/(£0.66) per hour	£0.68 per hour
Deprivation Fund 3- and 4-year-olds eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium (for all ages in 2024-25)	£0.10 per hour	£0.05 per hour	£0.05 per hour
Deprivation Fund for 3- and 4-year-olds	£406 per annum for monthly Child in Need (CiN)/Child on child protection plan (CPP) & Looked After Child (LAC) Meetings	£406 per annum for monthly CIN/ CPP & LAC Meetings (current children only)	£406 per annum for monthly CIN/ CPP & LAC Meetings (current children only)
Deprivation for 2-year-olds	£406 per annum for monthly CIN/ CPP & LAC Meetings	£406 per annum for monthly CIN/ CPP & LAC Meetings (current children only)	£406 per annum for monthly CIN/ CPP & LAC Meetings (current children only)
Deprivation for 'Emerging' EYFS Communication & Language for previously eligible 2 year olds		£50 per term per 3 or 4 years old when evidence supplied	£50 per term per 3 or 4 years old when evidence supplied
Disability Access Fund (DAF)	£800 per annum	£828/(£881) per annum	£910 per annum

8.2 Tax Free Childcare

Tax Free Childcare is for families with children under 12, a Tax-Free Childcare account can be worth up to £2,000 per year per child towards registered childcare, such as before and after school clubs, holiday clubs, childminders, nurseries, and pre-schools. This increases to £4,000 per year for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and goes up to the age of 17.

If parents are eligible, they set up an online childcare account for their child at [Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare). For every £8 they pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay the childcare provider.

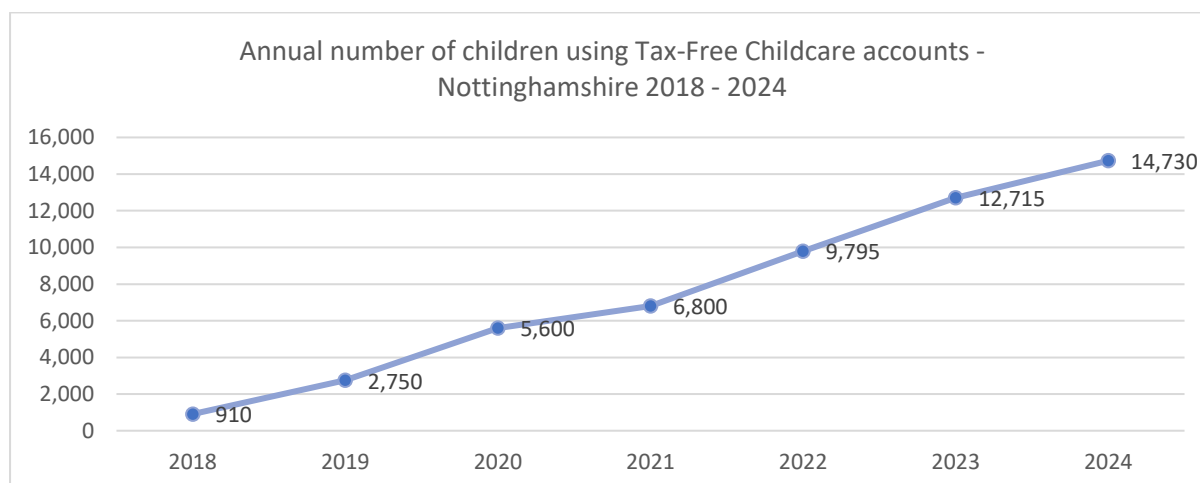
To be eligible both parents must be in employment, or one parent in a single-parent household, and be earning at least the National Minimum Wage for 16 hours per week on average and under £100,000 per year. This includes being self-employed, on maternity or parental leave, on sick leave or annual leave.

National Information - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare>

Local Information – [Tax-free childcare | Nottinghamshire County Council](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)

[Tax-free leaflet A5 \(nottinghamshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare/leaflets)

Take up of this offer is low nationally, this is also reflected in Nottinghamshire. However, since its introduction in 2017, there has been a steady increase following increased National and local promotion.



9. Sustainability

Despite our findings that Nottinghamshire’s supply of childcare remains stable and sufficient, we are hearing from our Early Years Consultation group and from our direct contact with providers, that there are concerns for the future sustainability of their provision. As described in Section 5 above, local statistics tell us that there are eight district ward clusters in County where there may be limited places available for the children in that area. However, what is also a concern is that there are eight areas where there are more than 40% of available places that remain unfilled, this raises apprehensions about the sustainability of the providers in these areas due to a high level of vacancies and low take up of places.

The Early Years and Childcare Sector in Nottinghamshire continues to face significant challenges:

- The challenges of operating a viable, sustainable early years setting have become more acute in recent years. In July 2023, the Government announced that funding rates would increase as illustrated in section 8 above. Whilst the additional funding has been welcomed, providers report that the funding rates are still lower than the actual cost of delivering funded places, particularly when taking into consideration minimum wage increases and pressures of pension contributions. These, along with increasing operating costs is adding additional pressures to the day-to-day management of services.
- Providers are encountering workforce challenges, recruitment has become more difficult over the last few years, maintained nursery schools, school-based settings and private, voluntary, and independent (PVI) settings report that they are struggling to recruit to vacant posts and retain their current workforce. It is recognised that many staff have left the sector over the last few years and there is a national decline in practitioners joining the sector, particularly childminders. The implications of this are that providers may need to limit the numbers of children that they can offer places to due to the legal requirements of staff to child ratios. Qualified staff are more difficult to recruit, and staff not having the right qualifications and a high turnover of staff means that providers are not only struggling to remain financially viable, but they have little time to focus on solutions to the business and workforce challenges they face.

Some of the ways we know that settings are challenged by the factors above:

- They tell us through regular communications through our Early Years Consultation Group and Early Years Provider briefings and Networks.
- Early years settings asking for up-front payments of the entitlement funding.
- A few settings have told us they are limiting numbers (and therefore income) due to a shortage of staff and their ability to fulfil safe staffing ratios.
- Numbers of providers decreasing (particularly childminders and some smaller providers)

We have seen an increase in a number of smaller day nurseries being taken over by large (often national) nursery chains when they are struggling with their viability. The larger chain organisations have more sustainable business models and economies of scale to mitigate against some of the challenges above.

10. Wraparound Childcare

10.1 New Duties Placed on Local Authorities

Following Governments' announcement of new Wraparound duties for Local Authorities, we have now included an assessment of current provision for children of statutory school age to access Wraparound care.

The Government State in their National Wraparound Childcare Programme Handbook⁹ (February 2024) that *"The government's ambition is that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary school-aged*

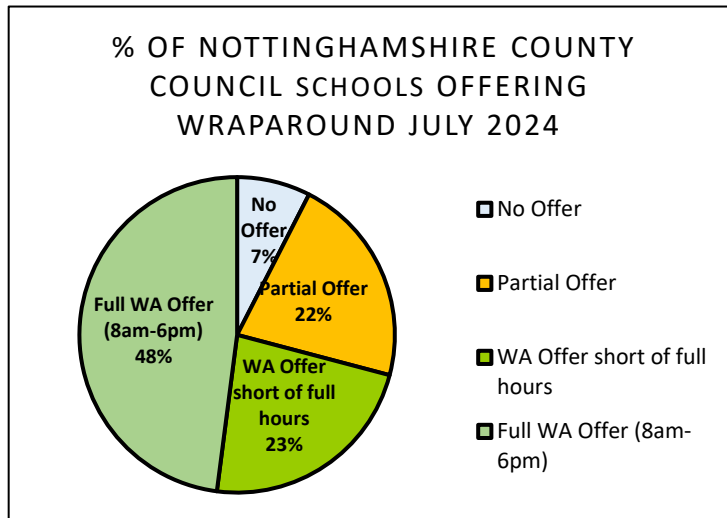
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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d859af6efa83001ddcc55b/National_Wraparound_Childcare_Programme_Handbook.pdf

children who need it will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm, so that parents can access employment and improve labour market participation.”

The Programme Handbook also suggests that “A wraparound childcare provider is anyone who delivers wraparound provision. This can include private, voluntary and independent organisations, schools, childminders, and other early years providers”.

71% of Nottinghamshire Schools have a Wraparound Childcare Offer in place. 22% have a partial offer (not before AND after school) and only 7% of schools have no offer in place.



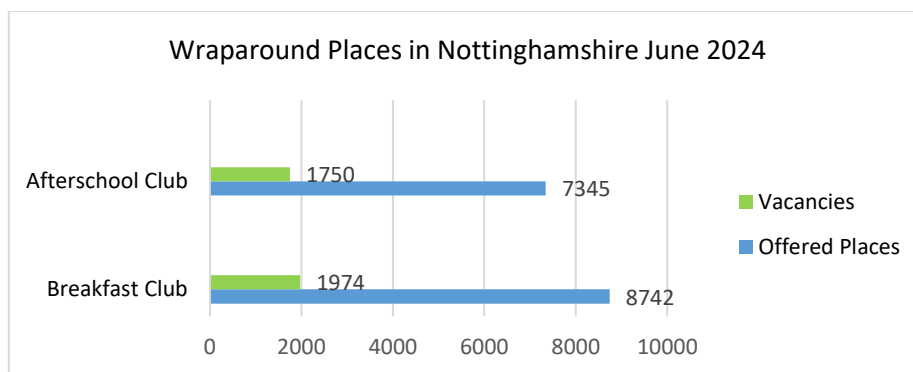
10.2 Wraparound Provision in Nottinghamshire

Through our own collection of indicative data via Synergy Sufficiency Assessment returns and Provider questionnaires we found that in Nottinghamshire (July 2024) there were a variety of settings offering Wraparound childcare, other than schools directly.

There are a variety of different wraparound models being used in the County. 63% of schools run their own Breakfast clubs, and 29.5% of schools use an External Provider (for example this could be a PVI setting or a standalone wraparound organisation).

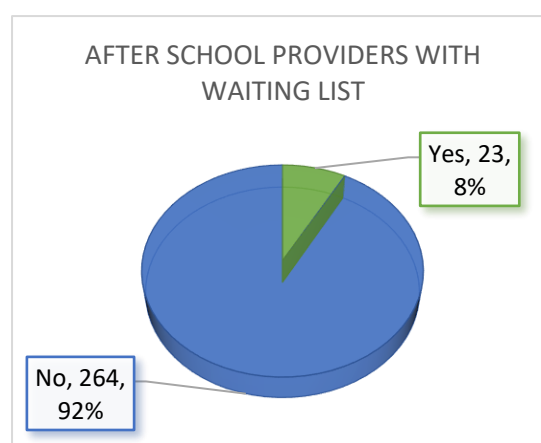
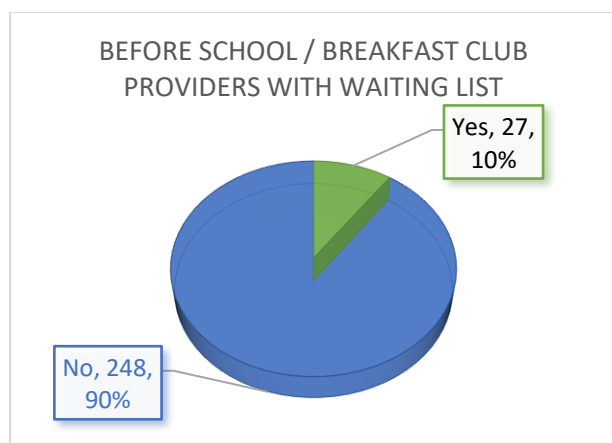
Similarly, 45.2% of Nottinghamshire schools run their own After School club and 37% provide their pupils an After School club run by an External Provider Partnership.

From our latest provider surveys, we found there are currently 82 known, formal Wraparound partnerships between schools and external Wraparound providers. This number does not include local childminders who do school collections or a local PVI setting who may also provide wraparound for school aged children, or the child’s parent/carer has organised themselves independently. As the understanding of what the term wraparound means, and with the support of Nottinghamshire County Council’s work with providers, the sufficiency returns from providers on wraparound are growing and each term we are gradually getting more data to be able to map out sufficiency, supply, and demand for this area of childcare.



On a typical day in Nottinghamshire there are 8,742 reported Breakfast club places with 1,974 reported vacancies. In addition, there are 7,345 reported After School club places in Nottinghamshire with 1750 reported vacancies.

Across the County 23% of Breakfast Clubs and 24% of After School Clubs have reported having vacancies, although there are still waiting lists in certain settings. 10% of our providers have a waiting list for Breakfast Club places and 8% have a waiting list for their Afterschool provision, demonstrating that we currently meet demand in most settings.



The Children’s Wellbeing Bill announced in the King’s Speech July 2024¹⁰ included the Government’s commitment to ensuring there are free breakfast clubs in every primary school. In Nottinghamshire we currently offer 8,742 breakfast club places to school aged children and have a reported 23% vacancy rate in paid for Breakfast Clubs.

Through our RAG rating system, surveys, and sufficiency assessment returns, providers have been offered the opportunity to apply for additional funding to extend their places capacity, provision and hours through Nottinghamshire County Council’s Childcare Expansion Fund. Funding has been made available to providers or Wraparound childcare to expand numbers of places for primary school aged children by 496 places for the new academic year 24-25.

¹⁰ <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/07/18/the-kings-speech-2024-what-does-it-mean-for-education/>

10.3 Searching Notts Help Yourself to find Wraparound Care

The Families Information Service has developed a new search page on the Notts Help Yourself website to make it easier for parents to find childcare providers who offer before and after school care.

On the [Nottshelpyourself | Wraparound](#) page, parents can choose their child's school from a list to quickly return a search result of all the providers (including the school) that have indicated on their listing that they offer wraparound services at that school. Optionally a postcode can also be included in the search to allow the results to be ordered by nearest to a specific location, e.g. their home. This system continues to develop to include those providers who, as mentioned above may not yet have formal links to schools, such as childminders who offer drop off and pick up.

11. Information and support for Parents and Families

As well as Early Years and Family Hub Service own communications, we have worked closely with Notts Help Yourself, Families Information Service and Nottinghamshire County Council Corporate Communications teams to ensure parents and families are kept up to date with childcare information in Nottinghamshire.



The [Families Information Service \(FIS\)](#) fulfils the statutory duty laid out in Section 12 of the Childcare Act 2006 to offer a service providing information, advice and assistance about childcare and other activities to benefit parents, children and young people up to the age of 20, including activities to do at home and in the community, guidance on parenting challenges, child development, healthy lifestyles, volunteering, returning to work.

The [Families Information Service Facebook](#) page shares key messages about finding childcare, the different types of childcare funding and how to apply. Boosted Facebook posts are used to reach the wider Nottinghamshire community with childcare messages, each month there is a targeted Facebook post about 2-year funding, 30 hours funding, tax-free childcare, DAF Funding, and looking for childcare. Each month there is also a targeted Best Start theme with four boosted posts throughout the month.

An [FIS Instagram](#) was launched September 2022 to reach out to a younger demographic, to date the percentage of the audience in the 18-34 age group is only slightly higher than the Facebook page.

[nottshelpyourself.org.uk](https://www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk)

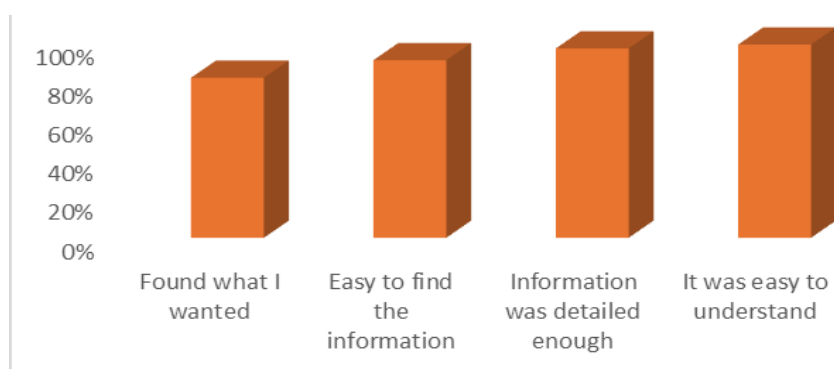
Notts Help Yourself is a countywide directory and information website which provides a range of information for parents including childcare provision, wrap around care and holiday clubs.

The information from the FIS database populates the website www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk enabling parents to search for childcare in their local area. Childcare providers can self-update their information on the website to ensure parents are getting the most up to date information about their service. Since summer 2023 the Families Information Service has been leading a cross-council project to audit and update all the 6,000+ listings on the Notts Help Yourself website. Every listing will have been updated or removed within a 12-month period so that the information provided to residents is current and the date clearly shown when the information was updated.

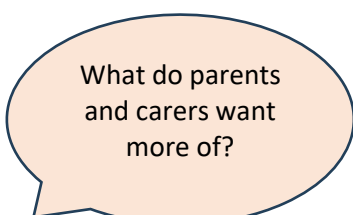
11.1 Families Information Service Customer Survey 2024 Findings

Since 2019 there has been an annual user satisfaction survey conducted by the Families Information Service to find out from families, providers, and professionals whether they are aware of our services, the top reasons for using our services, and areas for future development. Findings of the 2024 survey highlighted the following:

- ◇ 51% of respondents to the survey had heard of Notts Help Yourself, the first time since we have been running surveys that the majority of respondents had heard of Notts Help Yourself. 36% had heard of the Families Information Service; the general trend for people aware of these services is increasing year on year.
- ◇ The most popular ways respondents find out about childcare and parenting information is 1. Internet Search e.g., Google, 2. Word of Mouth, 3. Facebook, 4. Children’s Centre Service, 4. Notts Help Yourself, 5. Nottinghamshire County Council Website.
- ◇ There were 412 responses to the survey, a 10% increase compared to last year.
- ◇ The majority of respondents (87%) were parent/carers, 30% of parents/carers who responded had children with SEN or a disability, a 6% increase on last year.
- ◇ When people have used Notts Help Yourself to find information, 82% have found the information they want, 91% said it was easy to find the information, 97% said the information was detailed enough, and 100% said it was easy to understand.



- ◇ The Notts Help Yourself website was refreshed with a new look and design in October 2022 and the information in the Families Information Service section continues to be improved and expanded to make it more searchable as a Virtual Family Hub. 79% of respondents said they would use a chat function to help them find information.



- “More information for older age children in primary and secondary school”
- “Children's Mental wellbeing, transitioning from primary to secondary.”
- “Flow chart for specific issues or service search. E.g. SEN services”
- “Need for local school holiday care clubs in the area.”

We also track how people are using our information services and what they want to know.

Top 10 things people use Notts Help Yourself to find information about?

To find information about childcare funding	34%
Information to improve emotional and mental health for me/my child/ren	19%
Starting nursery, school, college or university	17%
Drop-in services to access information, advice and guidance on a range of topics	16%
Advice on managing children's behaviour	16%
Crafts, play and learning activities to do at home	16%
To find childcare	15%
Information about being a parent of children aged 0 to 4	13%
Guidance on how to support my child with special educational needs or disabilities	12%
Information on work, training and volunteering	9%

12. Conclusions, Actions and Recommendations

In order to fulfil the duties placed on us as a Local Authority there are a number of considerations for the forthcoming year which are reflected in the Early Years and Family Hub Service Delivery Plan for 2024 - 2025. The following actions and recommendations for Nottinghamshire County Council Early Years and Family Hub Service are summarised below:

12.1 Childcare Supply

There is no immediate concern about the supply of early years childcare across the county with similar numbers of vacancies being reported as in the last few years in the early years sector. However, we will:

- ✓ identify those areas where there are less than 10% reported vacancies (shown in red in Section 5) and do further analysis of supply and demand on a local level to further understand the needs of those communities and providers with particular attention to the balance of places for supported 2-year-olds and working families.
- ✓ continue to target support for providers working in areas of high levels of disadvantage and where supported children would be adversely affected if there were no provision available through Provider Support meetings and District Early Years meetings.
- ✓ target promotion of grant funding opportunities available for the creation of new places to all schools and PVI settings for early years and wraparound childcare in areas of low supply.
- ✓ work closely with schools who want to lower their age range (to secure future numbers) to ensure there is no oversupply. This includes supporting new schools struggling to fill their school places.
- ✓ develop further ways to ensure providers update their details on Families Information Service to market their provision.

In order to ensure that the most disadvantaged families have access to good quality childcare, we will

- ✓ offer additional support for settings who are working with an ever-increasing number of children with high level needs and ensure they access appropriate supplementary funding to support those children.
- ✓ review Supplementary funding for younger children as 2-year-olds of working parents begin to access funded places from April 2024.

We recognise the need to have a fuller understanding of the supply of Wraparound Childcare for school aged children, and we will work closely with schools, childminders, and nurseries to assess the supply of Wraparound childcare more accurately for school aged children to:

- ✓ support the roll-out of the Wraparound childcare programme and make effective use of the available funding to ensure there are sufficient wraparound childcare places for parents.
- ✓ ensure families can easily access the information they need regarding childcare options and wraparound provision available in Nottinghamshire on our Families Information Service
- ✓ assess the offer of Holiday care for working parents.
- ✓ ensure that our data returns are accurate, and we offer the most up to date information to families.

12.2 Demand for Childcare

Take up of childcare for three- and four-year-olds continues to be over 100% (including out of county children). However, in the last few terms we have seen a reduction in the number of Supported two-year-olds taking up a place. We need to ensure that these children can access their entitlement as the new entitlements for working parents develop. We will:

- ✓ continue to assess the demand for the childcare expansion offer for working parents as we move towards the 30 hours for children from 9+ months in Sept 2024 and what impact this may have on sufficiency throughout 2024 and on into 2025.
- ✓ ask our 2 year olds focus group to continue to monitor take up of places for supported 2 year olds. Ensuring that scrutiny is focused on the percentage of places offered and taken up. Early indications of any decline below the average 80% will be a priority.
- ✓ explore the demand for out of hours childcare, evenings, and weekends to allow flexible / shift working parents to work.
- ✓ In the Autumn term 2024, engage in a comprehensive public consultation process with parents of primary aged children to assess their needs for Wraparound and Holiday childcare.

In order to ensure that parents can maximise support for childcare costs:

- ✓ We will embark on a partnership approach to increasing the parental take up of Tax-Free childcare accounts through publicity materials made available to Providers, the Best Start Partnership and schools.

12.3 Quality of Childcare

To ensure that all childcare offered across Nottinghamshire is of the highest quality we will:

- ✓ Continue to offer workforce development opportunities for the early years profession through our training and development offer including free safeguarding training and conferences.
- ✓ Increase the offer to include the Wraparound workforce.
- ✓ To support the rising numbers of SEND children in the County, we will work closely with PVI's including childminders and childminder agencies and wraparound providers, to grant capital funding which will make places available to meet a wider range of needs.
- ✓ As it is difficult to recruit staff above ratio requirements to support SEND children, we will share practical ideas from providers where they have found a solution to a barrier. We will do this through a wide variety of communications.

12.4 Sustainability of Provision

We know that, for the Early Years Sector, their biggest concern is sustainability in the years ahead in an uncertain climate of change, Early Years and Family Hubs representatives will therefore:

- ✓ Continue to develop the offer of Provider Networks, Committee Workshops and ongoing support and guidance for settings who are struggling with sustainability, offering advice on marketing, recruitment, and local consultation.
- ✓ Work closely with all providers (Nurseries, Preschools, Childminders and Schools) to develop sustainable models when looking at the Wraparound offer.
- ✓ Promote working in childcare, attend careers hub meetings and connect with organisations and colleagues who work collaboratively with schools and colleges.
- ✓ Act as part of the NCC Employment and Skills Framework, and voice the sectors issues in relation to employment and skills ensuring that this is shared widely amongst the authority and local partnerships. This framework should identify childcare as a critical element of supporting a growing workforce and enabling families to work.

12.5 Funding

We want to increase childcare affordability for families whilst also ensuring that we make best use of Early Years funding provided to Nottinghamshire. We will therefore:

- ✓ Ensure timely promotion of the funded expansion of childcare entitlements for early years children, in particular encouraging parents to apply and register within the national deadlines.
- ✓ Work with Providers to spread the messages about take up through their regular communications, through parental information and on invoices.
- ✓ Ensure new provision on the Wraparound Programme is registered with Ofsted and then for Tax Free Childcare to allow paid for childcare to be more affordable for families.
- ✓ Target promotion of grant funding opportunities available for the creation of new places to all schools and PVI settings for early years and wraparound childcare, particularly in areas of low supply.

12.6 Information for families

We want to ensure that the offer of childcare and family support is accessible and up to date at all times. We will therefore ensure that:

- ✓ Schools are encouraged to link to Notts Help Yourself regarding Wraparound and their offer.
- ✓ Providers are encouraged to update their records and link to schools as above.
- ✓ Providers who are offering wraparound childcare in the school community also link their records to the relevant school.
- ✓ Providers update their records on vacancy levels and their offer on a regular basis, removing out of date records from the information pages.

13. Useful Reading and Resources

The Coram Family and Childcare Survey 2024 ([Childcare Survey 2024 - Coram Group : Coram Group](#))

Coram Family and Childcare finds that childcare costs continue to rise and that there is a drop in childcare availability across England over the past year.



Scan to view The Coram Family and Childcare Survey 2024

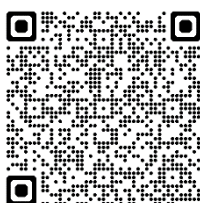
Childcare Choices [Homepage](#) | [Childcare Choices](#)



Scan to view Childcare choices

Ofsted management Information [Childcare providers and inspections: management information - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Management information aggregating registered childcare providers and inspections and their outcomes.



Scan to view current and historical management information and statistical data sets from Ofsted

The King's Speech 2024: What does it mean for education? [The King's Speech 2024: What does it mean for education? – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

The Coram Holiday Childcare Survey 2024 [Holiday Childcare Survey 2024 July \(coram.org.uk\)](#)



Scan to view The Coram Holiday Childcare Survey 2024