

Childcare Sufficiency Report 2023 to 2024

Barnsley Council



BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

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Introduction

The Local Authority has a statutory duty under Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that sufficient childcare places are available across the borough for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

Under Section 7 of the Childcare Act 2006 the L.A also has to secure free early education provision for each eligible young child in their area (i.e. all three / four-year-olds and eligible two-year-olds).

The statutory duty includes that the L.A must 'report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare and make this report available and accessible to parents'.

Having sufficient childcare means that families can find childcare that meets their child's learning needs and enables parents to make a real choice about work and training.

Changes in government policy announced in the budget in March 2023 are significant in relation to the sufficiency of childcare:

Budget Announcements

In the Spring Budget 2023 the Chancellor announced significant changes in relation to funded childcare. It was announced that 30 hours of funded childcare would be available for every child from the term after they reach the age of 9 months with working parents by September 2025, where eligibility will match the existing 3–4-year-old 30 hours offer. This will be introduced in phases:

- 15 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn two coming into effect in April 2024
- 15 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn 9 months in September 2024.
- 30 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn 9 months up to the point they are eligible to access full time school in September 2025.

The funding paid to nurseries for the existing offers will also be increased nationally by £204 million from this September rising to £288 million next year. Schools and local authorities will receive £289m nationally in funding to increase the supply of wraparound care, so that parents

of primary school age children can drop their children off between 8am and 6pm – tackling the barriers to working caused by limited availability of wraparound care.

Additionally Childcare costs of parents moving into work or increasing their hours on Universal Credit will be paid upfront rather than in arrears, with maximum claim boosted to £951 for one child and £1,630 for two children – an increase of around 50%.

In recognition of both the importance and short supply of childminders, incentive payments of £600 will be piloted from Autumn of this year for those who sign up to the profession (rising to £1,200 for those who join through an agency) to increase the number available and increase choice and affordability for parents.

In this report, we have assessed current sufficiency using population data, childcare places and vacancy data gathered from early years providers and schools. The future demand detailed in the report is being predicted by using data supplied by the Department for Education.

This assessment of places is presented by area councils; Central, Dearne, North, North-East, Penistone and South.

The information within the assessment informs the work of the Early Start and Families Service and wider Local Authority departments in meeting the duty.

Key Findings

The number of 0-4's in the borough has reduced slightly from 13,926 in 2022 to 13,460 a difference of 466 children. This trend is due to continue with the ONS projections for the 0-4 population in the borough reducing to 13205 by 2026.

The number of early years children who have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and have either an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or require SEN support is 420 increasing from 335 in 2022.

Housing development and business development plans are now all progressing with significant amounts of housing and large business parks expected to be complete before 2030.

The number of early years registered providers in Barnsley is 189 which has fallen by 10 providers from last year. Early years school provision still stands at 55 which is equal to last year. There are a total of 232 providers of early years places in the borough, the remaining 12

registered providers do not offer early years education and instead offering school age places only.

The reduction in the actual places being offered and the registered places has widened significantly again this year with recruitment issues having a huge impact in the reduction of availability of places.

Encouragingly the number of primary schools now delivering 30 hours has increased to 60%.

The take up rate of 2-year-old funding is 73.8% which is 0.1% below the national average and the take up of 3 and 4-year-old funding is 96.9% which is 3.2 % above the national average.

The cost of childcare is still rising with Barnsley settings charging above the regional rate for places.

Summary

There is the need to create a significant number of places in the Borough in order to meet anticipated demand in line with entitlements expansion, particularly places to meet the demand created by the expansion of entitlements as well as the wraparound offer.

But priority should be firmly placed on the providers who are currently registered within the borough to assist them with the staffing and financial issues they are facing so they can provide the places which they are registered for and to stabilize the market.

Some of the sessional care currently being provided by early years setting and by schools is not currently meeting the needs of working parents so work should be completed with these providers to support the sufficiency needs of the borough.

Due to the increase in children with special educational needs and disabilities, the increasing complexities of some of those needs and the potential lack of access due to the lower than average figures in the census, consideration should be given to if there are barriers to access and how increasing needs can be met.

Our Plans for Childcare 23-24

Recruitment Issues

- Continue to facilitate the forum of providers and relevant agencies to discuss and agree strategies that will support the sector with the recruitment issues they are facing.

Financial Pressures

- Investigate ways in which the Local Authority can further support providers to sustain their provision during this cost of living crisis.
- Work with new employers to assess their employees needs to inform local childcare providers and encourage them to provide financial support to local providers who can meet their needs.

Creating Childcare

- Work initially with all existing early years settings and recently closed sites to enable them to provide the places they are registered to deliver.
- Encourage the setup of new providers, including childminders, across the borough with emphasis on those wards that do not currently have full day care provision including Dodworth, Stairfoot and Darfield as well as areas with a low childcare ratio including the Dearne, North and North-East areas.
- Encourage further schools to deliver 30 hours of care flexibly to meet the needs of working parents.

Promotion of Childcare

- Continue to grow the new Virtual Family Hub to improve and widen local information available to residents.
- Further promotion of all childcare initiatives to support parents with the cost of living.
- Continue to promote the two-year entitlement.

1.Demand for Childcare

Population of early years and school age children

There is an estimated total of 42,185 children aged 0-14 living in Barnsley (Office for National Statistics mid-2020 population estimates). The population is distributed evenly across the 5-9 year and 10–14-year age bands with just under 1000 less children in the lower 0-4 years age band, with 31.90% of total aged 0-four years, 34.06% aged five-nine years and 34.03% aged 10-14 years. These figures show a reduction in the 0-4 year and 5–9-year age groups and a slight increase in the 10–14-year age group compared to the mid 2020 population estimates.

Area Council	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total Children 0-14
Central	2,937	3,160	3,100	9,197
Dearne	1,612	1,548	1,538	4,698
North	2,380	2,505	2,563	7,448
North East	2,867	3,088	2,951	8,906
Penistone	1,089	1,385	1,536	4,010
South	2,575	2,683	2,668	7,926
BARNSELEY	13,460	14,369	14,356	42,185

Population estimates by area locality (mid-2020 estimates)

The highest number of children across all age bands live within the wards covered by the Central Area Council followed by the North-East Area Council and the South Area Council.

Population Projections

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2020-based population projections (released March 2020)¹ estimate the child population (children aged 0-16 years old) is projected to decrease by 2026 by 1.1% to 42,677. Increases are forecast in the 10-14 age range and decreases in the younger age ranges.

In contrast, the total population is projected to increase by 5% in the same period.

Child population forecast 2018 to 2026

Age range	2018	2023	% Change 2018-2023	2026	% Change 2018-2026
0-4	14,227	13,221	-7.1%	13,205	-7.2%
5-9	14,911	14,650	-1.8%	14,071	-5.7%
10-14	14,032	15,377	+9.6%	15,401	+9.8%
Child population 0-14	43,170	43,248	+1.8%	42,677	-1.1%
Overall population	245,199	253,424	+3.4%	257,456	+5.0%

Number of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Childcare providers have reported that 420 children who are accessing a 2,3 or 4-year-old funded place either have a EHCP in place or are receiving SEN support, this figure does not include those children accessing Out of School Clubs. This is a rise of 85 children from 2022 although the percentages of children with EHCP's and on SEN support is below the national percentage across both age bands.

Number of children by special educational needs (SEN) provision' for 15 hour entitlement, EHC plan and SEN support in Barnsley and England between 2020 and 2023									
		England				Barnsley			
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
EHC Plan	Number of registered two-year-olds	826	715	645	824	2	1	4	0
	Number of Registered three and four-year-olds	11603	12444	13330	15411	46	35	43	56
	Percentage of two-year-olds registered	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
	Percentage of three and four-year-olds registered	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%
SEN Support	Number of Registered two-year-olds	4153	3617	4851	5245	14	31	17	18
	Number of Registered three and four-year-olds year olds	72079	63974	71209	80178	191	146	271	346
	Percentage of two-year-olds registered	2.9%	2.9%	3.6%	4.2%	1.7%	4.2%	2.1%	2.5%
	Percentage of three and four-year-olds registered	5.7%	5.3%	5.9%	6.7%	3.5%	2.7%	5.1%	6.6%

Data from the Early Years Census 2022

Housing Projections and Business Growth

As reported in last year's assessment there are a number of large housing developments planned across the borough with numbers of homes being built increasing significantly from 2024 through to 2027 and beyond.

	No. Of Developments	Sum of 23/24	Sum of 24/25	Sum of 25/26	Sum of 26/27	Sum of 27/28	Sum of Total
Central							
Central	2	9	65	45	45	13	177
Dodworth	4	20	161	252	282	263	978
Kingstone	1	10	0	0	0	0	10
Stairfoot	2	41	45	45	45	45	221
Worsbrough	4	37	40	26	45	15	163
Central Total	13	117	311	368	417	336	1,549
Dearne							
Dearne North	5	52	87	135	162	126	562
Dearne South	7	16	43	145	151	124	479
Dearne Total	12	68	130	280	313	250	1,041
North							
Darton East	9	0	59	158	145	166	528
Darton West	3	32	12	0	40	45	129
Old Town	1	0	0	0	18	0	18
St Helen's	3	23	0	7	45	55	130
North Total	16	55	71	165	248	266	805
North East							
Cudworth	5	36	26	40	50	86	238
Monk Bretton	8	15	79	153	251	198	696
North East	5	24	3	62	45	16	150
Royston	4	32	45	58	90	90	315
North East Total	22	107	153	313	436	390	1,399
Penistone							
Penistone East	4	15	12	14	2	2	45
Penistone West	6	103	86	162	115	115	581
Penistone Total	10	118	98	176	117	117	626
South							
Darfield	7	14	47	95	90	118	364
Hoyland Milton	4	2	62	38	24	0	126
Rockingham	8	15	167	150	150	185	667
Wombwell	2	30	86	45	45	45	251
South Total	21	61	362	328	309	348	1,408
Grand Total	94	526	1,125	1,630	1,840	1,707	6,828

Statistics provided by School Place Planning

Alongside the planned residential developments are large business parks some already occupied by large employers who require a flexible workforce that can work non-standard hours, shifts including evening, weekend and nights.

2. Supply of Childcare

There are a total of 189 registered early years and childcare settings in Barnsley, and 55 maintained nursery classes, which is a fall of 10 settings as reported in the 2021-2022 Childcare Sufficiency Report. Collectively, these settings can provide a total of places 5684 early years places, however they are currently offering 5318 places. Therefore, we have 102 fewer registered places and settings are offering 255 fewer places. Settings that are not offering the full number of places they are registered for state that this is due to recruitment issues.

Childminding provision is available in all areas and day nursery provision in most wards. Wards with no day nursery provision include Dodworth and Stairfoot (Central area); Darfield (South area), although Darfield does have a Family Centre with a nursery. There is maintained nursery provision in all wards and areas.

There are only 4 pre-school/sessional settings registered in Barnsley, two are located in the North East area, one in Dearne and one in Penistone. All apart from the Penistone area has at least one Family Centre that offers sessional childcare places and family services, Penistone Family Centre does not offer childcare but does offer family services. Preschool and sessional settings rely on government funding and do not meet the needs of most working parents therefore they are finding it increasingly difficult to survive.

Number of settings by type of provision – area and ward

Wards	Childminder	Day Nursery	Family Centre	Out of School	Sessional	Maintained Nursery	Sum of Total
Central							
Central	1	6				3	10
Dodworth	1					2	3
Kingstone	6	1				4	11
Stairfoot	7					3	10
Worsbrough	2	2	1			3	8
Central Total	17	9	1	0	0	15	42
Dearne							
Dearne North	2	1	1		1	4	9
Dearne South	5	2	1			3	11
Dearne Total	7	3	2	0	1	7	20
North							
Darton East	14	2		2		3	21
Darton West	5	2		1		1	9
Old Town	9	1		3		2	15
St Helen's	3	1	1			5	10
North Total	31	6	1	6	0	11	55
North East							
Cudworth	10	3		1		2	16
Monk Bretton	2	3				2	7
North East	5	2	1	1	1	3	13
Royston	9	1		1	1	2	14
North East Total	26	9	1	3	2	9	50
Penistone							
Penistone East	4	4		1		1	10
Penistone West	8	4			1	2	15
Penistone Total	12	8	0	1	1	3	25
South							
Darfield	10		1			2	13
Hoyland Milton	4	5		1		3	13
Rockingham	7	2				2	11
Wombwell	8	3		1		3	15
South Total	29	10	1	2	0	10	52
Grand Total	122	45	6	12	4	55	244

Number of early years providers and places

In total, there are 232 early years childcare providers in our local authority offering early years places, this a reduction of 15 providers from 2022, currently offering a maximum of 5,318 early years childcare places:

Type of provision	Number of providers	Number of Registered Places	Number of places currently Offered
Childminders	122	432	392
Number of classes in schools	55	2383	2383
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries (inc. 6 Family Centre Sessional Care)	55	2,869	2,543
Total	232	5,684	5,318

This does not include any childminding places for school aged children or OSC numbers.

For private, voluntary and independent nurseries and childminders, the number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many providers choose to operate below their number of registered places.

Children may attend childcare full time or part time. This table records places for children who are attending full time, or for as many hours as the setting is open. In some cases, two or more children attending part time may use one full time equivalent place. For example, one child may attend in the morning and one child may attend in the afternoon.

Childcare Penetration Rate

The ratio of childcare places has risen slightly over the past year to an average of 0.34. However, the North-East has fallen once again and remains below average along with the North and Dearne areas. Although, once again, if settings were able to deliver the number of places they were registered for, the percentages would have been 0.37 average with just Dearne, North and North-East still being below this years' average.

The Dearne and North areas are significantly lower than this years' average, as they had been in the previous 2 years.

Area Council	0-4 population 2023	Total of Childcare Places 2023	Places Offered	Maintained Places	Total Maintained and Childcare Places	Childcare Ratio on places offered 2023	Childcare Ratio 2022-2023
Central	2,937	753	627	448	1,075	0.37	0.32
Dearne	1,612	251	191	195	386	0.24	0.22
North	2,380	482	434	208	642	0.27	0.26
North East	2,867	643	636	288	924	0.32	0.34
Penistone	1,089	490	455	78	533	0.49	0.46
South	2,575	702	609	286	895	0.35	0.32
Barnsley	13,460	3,321	2,952	1,503	4,455	0.34	0.32

Early years vacancies

Vacancy Levels have significantly reduced this year, with 562 fewer full-time places available compared with 2022 figures.

Type of provision	Number of providers	Average Number of Vacancies	Number of Full Time Vacancies
Childminders	122	<0.5	0.1
Number of classes in schools	55	8.4	4.2
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	55	3.5	2.8
Total	232	3.0	1.7

Vacancy rates are a snapshot, and often change rapidly. In some cases, providers may have a vacancy which is only available for a specific age group, or for a particular part time arrangement. [We ask providers to report vacancies to us so we can help promote them. Not all choose to do this]. In general, vacancy rates are higher in the autumn, when children move to school.

Number of school age providers and places

The table below shows the variety of wraparound school age provision on offer across the borough. There are 129 holiday care providers including childminders, 51 of the 55 primary

schools provide a breakfast club with 1,712 places offered. After school care is provided by several provisions including childminders, PVI's and some schools.

Type of Provision	Number of Providers	Number of registered places	Number of places offered
Independent Out of School Clubs	12	358	313
Independent Holiday Clubs	5	170	165
School Breakfast Clubs	51	1,890	1,712
School After School Clubs	13	359	359
School Holiday Clubs	0	0	0
Childminders Term Time	107	735	703
Childminders Holiday	104	703	651
PVI's Out of School Provision	35	366	311
PVI's Holiday Provision	20	301	252
Playgroups / Sessional Out of School Provision	2	66	24
Total	349	4,948	4,490

Tracking supply of childcare for school age children is difficult because not all this type of provision is registered with Ofsted. Parents may also use provision which is not considered 'childcare', for example sports or arts clubs after school or in the holidays.

School age places and vacancies

Although vacancies change daily, the vacancies at the time of the survey for these providers were as follows:

Type of Provision		Number of Providers	Number of places offered	Number of Vacancies	Number of Full Time Equivalent Vacancies	% places vacant	% of full time places vacant
Independent Out of School Clubs	Before School	12	358	35	28	9.8	7.8
	After School			26	25	7.3	7.0
	Holiday	5	165	23	23	13.9	13.9
School	Before School	51	1,712	346	325	20.2	19.0
	After School	13	359	98	92	27.3	25.6
	Holiday	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Childminder	Before School	107	703	29	19	4.1	2.7
	After School			25	18	3.6	2.6
	Holiday	104	651	82	76	12.6	11.7
PVI's	Before School	35	311	26	23	8.4	7.4
	After School			28	25	9.0	8.0
	Holiday	20	252	43	40	17.1	15.9
Playgroups / Sessional	Before School	2	24	0	0	0.0	0.0
	After School			1	1	4.2	4.2
	Holiday			0	0	0.0	0.0

3.Funded Early Years Education

Two-Year-Old Funding

Currently some two-year-old children are eligible for a funded place; eligibility for funding is based on the national criteria for disadvantaged two-year-olds. All eligible two-year-olds are able to access a free early education place from the term after their second birthday. Each eligible child is entitled to 15 hours of free education a week, up to 570 hours per year for a maximum of three terms.

The current take up is 73.8% which is 0.1% below the national average. The figures below show the take up rate comparison between Barnsley LA, all Yorkshire and Humber LA's and the national figure.

		2020	2021	2022	2023	
England	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	207,392	201,562	188,318	168,080	
	Number of Registered 2-year-olds	143,439	124,543	135,410	124,211	
	Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	69.0%	62.0%	72.0%	73.9%	
Yorkshire and The Humber	Yorkshire and The Humber	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	23,904	22,814	21,210	19,149
		Number of Registered 2-year-olds	17,318	15,231	16,143	14,668
		Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	72.0%	67.0%	76.0%	76.6%
	Barnsley	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	1,147	1,054	1,059	982
		Number of Registered 2-year-olds	839	738	793	725
		Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	73.0%	70.0%	75.0%	73.8%

Three and Four-Year-Old Funding

All three- and four-year-olds are entitled to 570 hours free early education a year, delivered as a minimum as 15 hours a week over 38 weeks (school term time) but can be taken as a stretched offer with fewer hours a week over more weeks in a year.

Since September 2017 eligible three and four-year-olds have been entitled to an additional 570 hours free childcare, taking the entitlement for some children to 30 hours per week or 1,140 hours a year. Parents of children accessing a funded place can pay for additional hours to meet their childcare needs. This offer is widely available within the sector.

Take up of 3 and 4-year funded places has increased over the last 2 years and is now at 96.9%, which is 3.2% above the national average and 1% above the regional average.

		2020	2021	2022	2023
England	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	1,271,544	1,211,991	1,212,234	1,196,031
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	1,368,723	1,351,161	1,312,363	1,276,447
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	92.9%	89.7%	92.3%	93.7%
Yorkshire and The Humber	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	125,706	119,889	119,937	117,813
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	132,183	130,598	126,917	122,850
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	95.1%	91.8%	94.5%	95.9%
Barnsley	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	5,531	5,329	5,299	5,246
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	5,798	5,837	5,673	5,414
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	95.4%	91.3%	93.4%	96.9%

4. Prices

The price of childcare in Barnsley is below all the national average figures by age and by hours, although slightly higher in most categories than the regional average.

Nationally, it has been acknowledged that the cost of childcare in the U.K is higher than most other countries and is unsustainable. The government have introduced the increase in funded age range and hours to support parents with the rising cost of childcare.

Table 1 - Price of 25 hours a week childcare for children aged under three at nurseries and childminders

Area	Nursery		Childminder	
	Under 2	2 year old	Under 2	2 year old
England	£ 140.68	£ 135.28	£ 124.83	£ 122.33
Yorkshire and Humber	£ 122.17	£ 118.23	£ 110.39	£ 108.09
Barnsley	£ 138.83	£ 135.37	£ 116.59	£ 116.41

Table 2 - Price of 50 hours a week childcare for children aged under three at nurseries and childminders

Area	Nursery		Childminder	
	Under 2	2 year old	Under 2	2 year old
England	£ 273.57	£ 265.38	£ 237.58	£ 236.01
Yorkshire and Humber	£ 241.88	£ 234.31	£ 210.07	£ 208.06
Barnsley	£ 259.27	£ 256.68	£ 227.26	£ 225.54

5. Quality of childcare in our local area

Ofsted inspection grades

The grade a childcare setting receives when it is inspected by Ofsted is a key indicator of quality of the care and education it provides. There are four different grades that can be given to childcare settings, outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate.

The following table shows the percentage of providers achieving good or above outcomes. The percentage of good and outstanding outcomes has fallen by 1% in Barnsley with national outcomes falling by 2% in the same period.

Area	August 2016	August 2017	August 2018	August 2019	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022	August 2023
Barnsley	92%	96%	97%	98%	99%	98%	98%	96%
Yorkshire and Humber	91%	95%	95%	96%	97%	98%	97%	97%
National	91%	93%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%	96%

Figures Ofsted Statistics

The Local Authority has provided support to all childcare settings in the borough, with those that are likely to be inspected in the near future being offered specific support on an individual and bespoke basis.

Providers can also receive a met or not met outcome if they are inspected when they: have no children on roll or have no children present on the day of the inspection. Out of School Clubs and those on the Childcare Register can only receive a met or not met outcome however some do still carry the old outcomes and therefore when these have been reinspected, it has resulted in some 'Good' and 'Outstanding' grades becoming 'Met' grades which has resulted on a change to percentages of outcomes.

6. Parents and carers views of sufficiency of childcare in our local area

Parent and carers survey

A parents and carers survey was undertaken in November 2023 to ascertain the view of parents with regards to childcare availability and accessibility.

The survey was promoted and distributed by the Barnsley Families Information Service (FIS), Family Hubs and through Barnsley Council social media platforms and 63 families responded to this survey. A further 124 survey forms were started but not completed. 23% of respondents have a child/children with identified or suspected additional need/s

83% of respondents stated that they prefer to access childcare Close to home, with 11% preferencing childcare close to work.

The main reason given for accessing childcare was to enable access to work.

Reason	Number of responses	Percentage
To allow me to work	56	48%
To help with my child's learning and development	28	24%
So my child can play with others	20	17%
My child has an additional need or disability and needs support with learning and development	6	5%
To allow me to study	4	3%
To give me time for myself	3	3%

52% felt they could arrange flexible childcare to meet their needs. Most respondents stated they use childcare via a day nursery – 52%, followed closely by informal childcare (family/friends) – 43%. At total of 75% of respondents had the same childcare needs week to week, whilst 25% needs varied.

68% of respondents did not need to access childcare on evenings, weekends or overnight. However, 22% stated they needed childcare in the evenings, with 6% needing weekends and 4% needing overnight.

16 per cent of respondents stated they do not use formal childcare because they find it too expensive. A further 10 % stated that they cannot find a vacancy.

No respondents found it easy to find suitable childcare for Free Holiday clubs or Children with Special Educational needs and/or disabilities, and Early Years (0-4 years) plus Holiday Club/Childcare respondents found it more difficult than easy.

	Very Easy	Quite Easy	Quite Difficult	Very Difficult	Not Applicable
Early Years (0-4 years)	2%	32%	33%	14%	19%
Breakfast Club (from 5 years)	13%	19%	8%	6%	54%
After School Club (from 5 years)	5%	24%	10%	10%	52%
Holiday Club/Childcare (8-6)	2%	10%	11%	14%	63%
Free Holiday Club (3 or 4 hours per day i.e. HAF)	0%	0%	14%	24%	62%
Child with SEND	0%	0%	2%	14%	84%

Comments from respondents included:

- Very few childminders/ day nurseries start at 7 to allow for travel to work.
- Holiday clubs are generally 9/10 until 3pm so may not work for everyone.
- Early years is easy to find - however if you want a school nursery place, this then limited your options for longer / full day care as they would need to swap / change provision which is not ideal.
- It was easy as they had availability, but my children took the last two places on one of the days so if they were full, it wouldn't have been.
- I found childcare easy enough, in the location and with the flexibility I needed. I hear others find it less easy.
- The after school club is only until 4.30, I work until 6pm
- I currently have to use childcare in Sheffield for school holidays as there is nothing in Barnsley other than 10-2 free holiday camps, which is no good for working 8-hour shifts.

The majority of respondents pay for all of their own childcare costs, the second highest is using the Tax Free Childcare Scheme.

Some of the comments from the survey demonstrate the need to further promote the childcare available across the local authority area as well as the entitlements to funded childcare.

	Eligible and using this entitlement	Eligible but not using this	Checked but I am not eligible	Aware of it but I have not checked eligibility	Unaware of this offer
2-year-old entitlements (15 hours a week)	12%	6%	55%	16%	12%
3 and 4-year-old funded early years education (15 hours childcare in school nursery or childcare provider, including childminders)	19%	13%	38%	21%	9%
extended 3 and 4-year-old funded early years education (30 hours childcare in school nursery or childcare provider, including childminders)	23%	14%	29%	25%	9%

7. Expansion of Early Years Funded Childcare

The DfE has provided Local Authorities with assessment data provided in Medium Super Output Areas (MSOA). Although we can compare some of this data against the collated data from our 100% return this year for the Childcare Sufficiency Data, some data cannot be compared due to the MSOA crossing some ward boundaries.

Estimated demand for the new childcare entitlement in April 2024: 15 hours funded childcare extended to all eligible working families for all 2-year-olds from the term following their second birthday.

MSOA	Est. 2-year-olds	Projected users of new entitlement	Low scenario : new demand	Central scenario : new demand	High Scenario : new demand
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	71	33	3	8	16
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	63	24	2	6	12
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	46	21	2	5	11
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	97	36	4	9	18
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	68	27	3	7	13
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	113	39	4	10	19
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	118	35	4	9	18
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	87	26	3	6	13
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	64	30	3	8	15
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	97	38	4	9	19
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	100	40	4	10	20
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	105	48	5	12	24
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	137	47	5	12	24
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	122	31	3	8	16
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	70	25	3	6	13
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	37	18	2	4	9
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	76	28	3	7	14
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	82	25	2	6	12
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	46	19	2	5	9
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	114	36	4	9	18
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	79	26	3	6	13
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	99	29	3	7	15
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	99	33	3	8	17
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	89	50	5	13	25
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	84	29	3	7	14
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	113	42	4	10	21
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	49	29	3	7	15
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	81	35	4	9	18
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	79	33	3	8	17
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	65	25	2	6	12
Totals	2550	957	98	237	480

We currently have 87 more 2-year-olds across the borough than the DfE have estimated. If we consider the central scenario for new demand when entitlements change in April 2024, there will be an additional 237 2-year-olds that will be eligible for funding.

As we cannot be certain about how many of these children would be new users to childcare, we may find that quite a number are already accessing childcare places. We do know however that

there are 139 registered places for 2-year-olds across the borough that are not being offered at the moment due to the staffing constraints that providers are experiencing.

Estimated demand for the new childcare entitlement in September 2024: 15 hours of funded childcare for all eligible children from the term following when a child reaches 9 months of age.

MSOA	Est. under 2's	Projected users of new entitlement	Low scenario: new demand	Central scenario: new demand	High Scenario: new demand
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	168	63	6	21	42
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	154	47	5	15	31
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	110	42	4	14	28
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	236	70	7	23	46
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	149	50	5	17	33
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	275	77	8	25	50
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	278	68	7	22	45
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	198	49	5	16	33
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	156	60	6	20	39
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	229	74	7	24	49
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	226	75	8	25	50
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	226	90	9	30	60
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	303	89	9	29	58
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	273	58	6	19	38
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	175	51	5	17	33
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	91	34	3	11	23
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	161	51	5	17	34
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	189	47	5	16	31
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	93	34	3	11	22
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	275	70	7	23	46
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	189	51	5	17	33
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	238	57	6	19	38
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	215	62	6	20	41
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	212	97	10	32	64
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	210	57	5	19	38
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	261	80	8	27	53
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	121	58	6	19	38
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	170	65	7	22	43
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	177	63	6	21	42
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	159	48	5	16	32
Totals	5917	1837	184	607	1213

The estimate of 0–2-year-olds from the department for education is almost 700 higher than the figures detailed above. There are, as a central scenario of increased demand, over 600 newly eligible children. There are currently 383 0–2-year-old places being offered across the borough

in group provision but there are a further 51 places that registered but not being offered at this time. As childminders can only normally look after 1 child under the age of 1, it is reasonable to assume that there are a maximum of 244 0-2 places in the borough with childminders and as detailed above, the average childminder has less than half of a full-time equivalent place vacant as of July 2023.

Therefore, we envisage that although more detailed work must be done to identify just how many of these children will be new users to childcare and therefore equate to a need for new and additional places and where these places are needed, we can estimate that Barnsley will most probably need more 0–2 year old places to be created than 2 year old places and this will also lead to increases when all eligible children that are in receipt of 15 hours, become eligible for the new 30 hours entitlement.

The DfE have mapped supply and estimated demand that predicts that Barnsley needs 98 new places for April 2024, a further 159 places for September 2024 and 727 places by September 2025.

8. Expansion of Wraparound Childcare

The Governments expansion to Wraparound care is expected to generate demand once the provision is in place. It has been identified that families that work have had to reduce their working hours, change their employment or seek support from others to provide childcare when their child has begun full time school. This is in most part due to their being much more accessible childcare for children up to school age. Therefore, with the expansion for early years childcare, there should be a genuine need for an increase in wraparound when those children reach compulsory school age and throughout at least their primary school education.

The current Wraparound Market is as follows:

These figures include all out of school provision that meets the governments definition of childcare of 8am to 6pm provided to all children that need it on every school day (childminders, day nurseries and pre-schools, out of school clubs and primary schools).

MSOA	Breakfast	After School	Holiday
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	142	32	32
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	91	91	62
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	87	87	87
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	134	94	62
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	85	55	25
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	64	14	12
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	183	123	13
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	150	66	30
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	110	24	38
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	55	55	30
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	90	20	20
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	61	61	39
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	144	144	67
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	90	55	6
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	67	57	22
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	115	115	40
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	104	14	6
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	81	38	18
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	33	40	0
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	168	56	31
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	88	38	38
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	37	17	17
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	75	75	54
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	178	178	111
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	79	24	24
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	167	93	61
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	42	50	26
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	177	125	101
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	111	19	4
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	123	23	23
Totals	3131	1883	1099