



Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018

**Early Childhood Services
Children and Family Services
September 2018**

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1. Introduction

The Childcare Act (2006) requires local authorities to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents, or parents studying for training and for disabled children. The Local Authority must publish each year how it intends to shape and support the childcare market to enable flexibility, sustainability and to be responsive to the needs of its community.

Section 7 requires local authorities to secure 15 hours of funded early years provision for eligible children aged two and all three and four year olds. 2 year olds from low income households are eligible for 15 hours of free early education a week. Around 40% of two year olds nationally are legally entitled to free early years provision and in Nottinghamshire this equates to approximately 3594 children who are eligible

Since September 2017, eligible families of three and four year olds, with working parents have had access to the equivalent of 30 hours free childcare a week (or 1140 hours per year), extending the current universal provision of 15 hours a week (570 hours a year).

Section 12 places a duty on local authorities to provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents relating to the provision of childcare, services or facilities that may be of benefit. The Childcare Act (2016) amends the Childcare Act (2006) and requires local authorities to publish information of a prescribed, description, interval and manner.

Early years and childcare places are provided by maintained schools, academies, day nurseries, preschools, childminders and independent schools. Further details are available in section 3 of this report.

1.1 Benefits to children and families

Sufficient, high quality, affordable, sustainable, and accessible childcare has huge benefits for both parent and child, i.e.:

- Affordable childcare supports families to work, or train to maximise work opportunities which helps to raise household income and improve outcomes for children – children in workless families are three times as likely to be in relative poverty than families where at least one parent works ;
- A good quality pre-school experience supports children's cognitive and emotional development, aiding transition between home and school and improving school readiness. A 2012 Department of Education (DfE) research report¹ evidenced that early education starting at an early age had a direct impact on the attainment of children.

1.2 National Context

The last year has seen significant developments and changes affecting the early years and childcare sector, including:

- First full year of 30 Hours extended childcare.
- Revised statutory and operational guidance.
- Revised National model provider agreement.
- Introduction of eligibility for 30 hours for foster carers.

¹ DfE (2012) 'Achievement of Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/achievement-of-children-in-the-early-years-foundation-stage-profile>

- Establishment of an Early Years Inclusion fund to support children with SEND to access their early years entitlement.

1.3 Local Context

The national developments above have impacted locally on how the LA fulfils its statutory duties for early years and childcare. Specifically, they have led to:

- A successful bid to the DfE resulting in additional resources to support the implementation of the 30 hours free childcare through the new DfE Delivery Support Fund;
- A very successful first year of operation of 30 hours free childcare, with 6,621 parents applying for to check their eligibility for the additional hours, then receiving a code, which in turn led to 99% of those eligible having their codes validated by a childcare provider; 93% of whose children took up the additional funded hours with a Nottinghamshire provider²;
- The completion of two capital projects at Holgate Primary School and Robert Mellors Primary School creating 45 and 55 additional 30 hours childcare places respectively;
- Commencement of a tender process to procure childcare delivery at five Children's Centre sites, creating an additional 140 childcare places in communities where they are needed;
- Approval of the Deprivation supplement paid as part of the Early Years Single Funding Formula, to address inequality other than financial deprivation, including children known to social care;
- Established the Early Years Inclusion Fund to support children with special educational needs and disabilities;
- Revision of the Nottinghamshire Provider Agreement, which requires all early years providers, including schools to adhere to the conditions for funding including new duties re GDPR;
- The launch of new data systems designed to support providers to share sufficiency data and progress of vulnerable children.

1.4 Methodology

The information used to undertake this assessment was gathered from early years providers and parents using a variety of methods.

- Information obtained from 641 local early years providers was sought using a new module of Capita, the Self-update - a system which has yet to embed.
- An online survey was carried out in June 2018 was also used to gain feedback from parents and to gauge potential demand. This provided a return of 297 responses.
- Data regarding the number of children currently accessing their funded childcare entitlements through a regular headcount process was also used. This data is captured each academic term and data in this assessment is from the most recent headcount in summer 2018.
- Data regarding the number and types of providers is taken from the Nottinghamshire Families Information Service which is located within Inspire. The Families Information Service provides

² Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/30-hours-free-childcare-summer-term-2018>)

information for parents and carers to help them access childcare and the service relies on childcare providers to submit information to help promote their service.

2. Demography

This section focuses on the demography of Nottinghamshire in relation those accessing and benefiting from childcare and early years provision. Further detail regarding the population of Nottinghamshire is included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment available at <http://www.nottinghamshireinsight.org.uk/research-areas/jsna>

2.1 Child Population

There are approximately 46,000 children under the age of 5 living in Nottinghamshire, with greatest numbers living in Ashfield and the lowest in Rushcliffe.

Figure 1: Child population in Nottinghamshire (2017)

District	Age							
	0	1	2	3	4	5 - 8	9 – 14	15-19
Ashfield	1,513	1,487	1,462	1,563	1,534	7,816	7,104	6,843
Bassetlaw	1,302	1,284	1,291	1,271	1,294	6,743	6,239	6,225
Broxtowe	1,157	1,158	1,195	1,200	1,269	6,536	5,695	5,790
Gedling	1,172	1,251	1,278	1,240	1,328	7,011	6,483	6,157
Mansfield	1,313	1,295	1,340	1,385	1,340	6,775	5,749	5,415
Newark and Sherwood	1,234	1,237	1,309	1,300	1,350	7,232	6,682	6,469
Rushcliffe	1,086	1,164	1,179	1,250	1,315	7,221	6,948	5,957
TOTAL	8,777	8,876	9,054	9,209	9,430	49,334	44,900	42,856

Based on 2017 Ward population estimates for England and Wales, mid 2017 (from Office of National Statistics)

The child population aged 0-19 years in Nottinghamshire is forecast to increase to 194,000 over the next 10 years to 2026 with the greatest increases in Broxtowe (12% increase) and Gedling (8% increase). As at mid-2017 there were 182,436 0-19 year olds living in the county, 9.6% of whom were aged 0-1 years old and 15% aged 2-4 years of age. School aged children (5-19 years) accounted for three quarters (75%) of the child population.

The greatest forecasted increase in child population of 0-4 year olds over the next 20 years is in Broxtowe (9.4% increase) and Rushcliffe (10.0% increase).

2.2 Characteristics of Children in Nottinghamshire

- **Disability**

There has been a significant increase in the number of young claimants of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) across the county (aged 0-16 years old). In 2002 there were 3,010 children aged 0-16 years old claiming DLA and in 2016 this had more than doubled to 7,000. According to the Office for National Statistics, more than 10% of those were aged under 5, with the majority of children claiming DLA living in Ashfield, Mansfield and Gedling.

The Disability Access Funding (DAF) received from the Department of Education for 2018-19 to support children to access their early years entitlement, suggest there are currently 280 3 and 4 year olds eligible

for who are therefore eligible for the DAF. As a relatively new stream of funding, take-up this year so far suggests more needs to be done to encourage providers to promote it with parents with eligible children.

- **Looked After Children**

The number of children looked after by the local authority has increased since last year from 133 in Spring 2017 to 153 in Summer 2018 (under 5s only). Total LAC children of all ages (0-18) for same period is 788 increased to 849.

- **Low income families**

The number of places required to meet the needs of eligible 2 year olds has reduced from 3,013 (2017) to 2,098 this year, which reflects the fall in birth rate.

- **Ethnicity**

According to the 2011 Census, the majority of Nottinghamshire's population is White/White British accounting for 95.5% of the population. Broxtowe has the greatest ethnic diversity with 7.3% of the population from a different broad ethnic group. Within the White/White British population there will be different ethnicities represented, including European, and as such, this should not be considered an homogenous group.

Data regarding eligibility by ethnic origin is not available, so it is unclear if the low take up rates in some communities is linked to eligibility or preference to use alternative childcare.

Figure 2: Breakdown of Ethnicity of 2, 3 & 4 year olds claiming childcare entitlements in summer 2018

Ethnicity Code	Ethnicity Description	Count of age 2-4s	% of total claiming
AAO	Any other Asian background	123	0.61%
ABA	Bangladeshi	17	0.08%
AIN	Indian	165	0.81%
APK	Pakistani	112	0.55%
BLB	Caribbean	27	0.13%
BLF	African	94	0.46%
BLG	Any other Black background	51	0.25%
CHE	Chinese	73	0.36%
MBA	White and Black African	93	0.46%
MOT	Any other mixed background	288	1.42%
MWA	White and Asian	142	0.70%
MWB	White and Black Caribbean	237	1.17%
OEO	Any other ethnic group	121	0.60%
WHA	Any other white background	811	3.99%
WHB	White British	15708	77.36%
WHR	White Irish	29	0.14%
WHT	Irish Heritage	11	0.05%
WRO	Roma/Roma Gypsy	41	0.20%
Unclassified			
(blank)		840	4.14%
NOT	Information Not Yet Obtained	1229	6.05%
REF	Prefer not to say	94	0.46%
		20306	100.00%

Source: NCC early years headcount – summer 2018

- **English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

There has been a steady increase in the numbers of children aged under 5 with English as an additional language with 932 children in 2013 compared to 1,291 in 2017, and 1,340 in 2018³.

Such data requires an understanding of any cultural differences that may exist in the need for/access to childcare provision. Information to parents also needs to be accessible to ensure barriers prevent them from either accessing childcare or taking up their early years entitlement.

3. Childcare Supply

Types of provision

Early years and childcare places are provided by schools, academies, day nurseries, preschools, childminders and independent schools.

- **Maintained Schools and Academy Schools** – typically provide childcare for 3 and 4 year olds by lowering their age range. A smaller number provide childcare for eligible 2 year olds. Schools do tend to close their provision during the school holidays unless a different childcare provider works on the school site.
- **Preschools and playgroups** – are generally attended on a half-day or full-day basis, and tend to operate only during term time. Some provide a lunchtime session to span the gap between morning and afternoon sessions. In the main, preschools provide childcare for children aged 2 to 5, and provide funded childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Governance is often provided by a voluntary management committee or group of trustees, though some are Community Interest Companies or private businesses. Many have charitable status and most operate on a not for profit basis. Preschools are registered and inspected by Ofsted.
- **Day Nurseries** – can be sole trader businesses or part of a chain. They provide care and early years education for children from six weeks to school age. They are all registered with Ofsted, and work towards the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Most nurseries can offer free childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
- **Childminders** – are self-employed childcare professionals who work in their homes caring for other people's children, and often offer funded early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. They sometimes work with assistants and can work 50% of their time on non-domestic premises, including schools. Childminders can have individual registration with Ofsted or can be part of a Childminder Agency which has its own Ofsted registration. All childminders follow the EYFS. Many childminders offer care very flexibly, to meet the needs of parents who work atypical hours, days, or work shifts.
- **Independent Schools** – many independent schools have early years provision and are registered and inspected by the Independent Schools Council. Independent schools must also follow the EYFS and can offer funded early years places for eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
- **Home Childcarer** - A Home Childcarer cares for children in their own home, often working as nannies. They do not need to be registered by Ofsted, but can join the Ofsted voluntary Childcare register. Those on the register can care for children from up to two families, as long as the care is provided in the home of children from one of those families. Some home childcarers care for specific

³ NCC January school census 2017 & 2018.

children with particular needs or disabilities. There are 68 registered Home Childcarers in the county – the highest number (25) are in Rushcliffe, with 16 in Newark and Sherwood and 8 in Gedling. We do not hold information on home childcarers who are not registered with Ofsted.

The introduction of 30 Hours childcare has presented opportunities for early years providers to work more in partnership to ensure parents' needs are more effectively met. By working together, parents are more likely to be able to access childcare at the beginning/end of the working day, and throughout the year, through the delivery of a 'stretched' and/or 'blended' model.

3.1 Schools and Academies

Data shows that schools offer a substantial number of childcare places in Nottinghamshire with the majority now providing childcare places for 3 and 4 year olds (78%). Further work is required to increase the number of schools offering places for 2 year olds eligible for 15 hours of free early education as currently only 4% of schools provide this compared to 28% of schools offering the 30 hours extended entitlement.

Figure 3: Total number of maintained schools and academies delivering funded places

District	Number of Schools	Number of Schools with Funded Early Years places for 3 and 4 year olds	Number of Schools with 30 hours Funded Early Years places for 3 and 4 year olds	Number of Schools with Funded Early Years places for 2 year olds
Ashfield	46	37	13	2
Bassetlaw	56	50	25	3
Broxtowe	42	30	9	1
Gedling	49	34	11	4
Mansfield	44	32	13	1
Newark and Sherwood	52	43	13	2
Rushcliffe	46	35	9	2
Total	335	261	93	15

Source: NCC early years headcount – summer 2018

Figure 4: Total number of children in funded places in maintained schools and academies

District	4 year old reception places	3 & 4 Year old 15 hour part time places	3 & 4 Year old 30 hours extended entitlement places	Total 3 & 4 year places	2 Year old 15 hour Places
Ashfield	624	1119	184	1916	29
Bassetlaw	507	874	335	1716	12
Broxtowe	550	487	137	1174	4
Gedling	539	562	208	1309	21
Mansfield	528	1312	157	1997	4
Newark and Sherwood	515	846	114	1475	18
Rushcliffe	551	237	162	950	8
Total	3814	5437	1297	10537	96

Source: NCC early years headcount – summer 2018

3.2 Childminders

The introduction of 30 hours extended childcare during 2017/18 has made a significant difference to how childminders work, with more than half now accessing funding for either disadvantaged 2 year olds, or 3 and 4 year olds accessing their universal 15 hours or the new extended entitlement of 30 hours.

Though Nottinghamshire has 35 fewer registered childminders than last year, we have an additional 8 who are part of the local Childminder Agency. There are an additional 111 childminders now providing places for funded children, the majority of those are providing the additional hours which wrap around 3 and 4 year olds attending their universal 15 hours in schools and academies.

There are good and effective partnerships between childminders and other providers, including schools, academies and other PVI providers. There are many children that are cared for by childminders that are not eligible for funded childcare including those under the age of 2 and 2 year olds not from low income families, as well as school aged children.

Figure 5: Funded 2 year olds and 3 & 4 year olds using Childminders

District	Registered CM's	Registered Places	Agency CM's	No. CM's accessing funding	Children attending Funded 2 Yr. Olds	Children attending Universal 15 hours 3 & 4 Yr. Olds	Children attending Extended 15 hours 3 & 4 Yr. olds
Ashfield	95	561	4	48	28	11	69
Bassetlaw	76	462	3	38	17	5	58
Broxtowe	89	522	3	34	8	8	68
Gedling	145	841	3	84	34	18	143
Mansfield	62	361	3	48	35	16	120
Newark & Sherwood	74	425	1	37	33	16	70
Rushcliffe	81	448	2	35	7	13	50
Total	622	3620	19	324	162	87	578

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service database 2018 and NCC Headcount Return 2018

Childminder Agency - Nottinghamshire has one registered childminder agency (CMA), which also covers the city of Nottingham. The childminders working for the agency do not get their own Ofsted inspection or quality judgement and are supported for their training and quality development needs by the agency, which is inspected. An additional 8 childminders have started with the agency, working across the county in the last year. This follows a targeted recruitment campaign to try to increase the number of childminders, either self-employed or working through the agency, to meet the demand from 30 hours extended childcare.

Childminders offer more flexibility than other providers of childcare as can be seen in the table below. Some families who require this flexibility are more likely to use childminders or a mixture of early years provision to address their needs.

Figure 6: Flexible Childcare by Childminders

	Short Notice/ emergency	Before 7am	After 6pm	School Holidays	Saturday	Sunday	Overnight	Bank Holiday
Ashfield	44	31	21	23	6	4	4	2
Bassetlaw	35	30	23	11	11	7	8	6
Broxtowe	28	21	22	20	7	4	2	3
Gedling	50	35	30	22	11	10	10	4
Mansfield	28	27	16	15	13	8	4	5
Newark & Sherwood	33	22	22	15	10	7	6	4
Rushcliffe	18	14	17	13	6	3	6	1
Totals	236	180	151	119	64	43	40	25

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service database 2018

(i) School holiday data differs significantly from 2017 as the way data is collected has changed. Previously all childminders who were available during school holidays were included. Now data refers to those childminders who offer childcare for school-aged children during the school holidays.

(ii) 36% of childminders have not updated their flexibility data this year, so their information is not included in this table

3.3 Childcare in Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings

There are a wider range of PVI providers across Nottinghamshire and the variety of provision can be seen in the table below. The majority of PVI providers are based in Rushcliffe and the least in Mansfield.

Figure 7: Nottinghamshire supply of registered childcare providers by district

Type of childcare provided	Ashfield	Bassetlaw	Broxtowe	Gedling	Mansfield	Newark & Sherwood	Rushcliffe	TOTAL
Day Nursery	24	18	28	29	27	27	38	191
Pre-school	8	14	14	17	1	15	25	94
Childminder	95	76	89	145	62	74	81	622
Home Childcarer	5	3	6	8	5	16	25	68
Agency Childminders	4	3	3	3	3	1	2	19
Independent Schools	0	2	1	1	1	2	1	8
Out of School care	6	1	9	14	9	12	14	65
TOTAL	142	117	150	217	108	147	186	1067

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database 2018

The number of registered places is determined by that setting and up to a maximum number of places as determined by Ofsted. It is up to the setting to decide how many children they will care for in each age group, as long as they meet the welfare requirements in the Early Years Foundation Stage. These

requirements include sufficient space and within suitable staff: child ratios based on the ages and number of children attending.

PVI childcare providers make available 13,847 childcare places across Nottinghamshire as evidenced below with Day Nurseries providing the largest number of places.

Figure 8: Nottinghamshire supply of registered day nurseries and preschool places by district

	Day Nurseries		Pre Schools		Independent Schools	
District	Number of early years settings	Number of Registered Places	Number of early years settings	Number of Registered Places	Number of early years settings	Number of funded places
Ashfield	24	1529	8	255	0	0
Bassetlaw	18	876	14	407	2	46
Broxtowe	28	1675	14	466	1	10
Gedling	29	1494	17	493	1	54
Mansfield	27	1608	1	20	1	17
Newark & Sherwood	27	1461	15	423	2	62
Rushcliffe	38	2296	25	798	1	15
Total	191	10,939	94	2704	8	204

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database 2018

3.4 Out of School Childcare

Over recent years, there has been a decline in the number of registered out of school settings in the county. There has also been a relaxation by Ofsted of the numbers of children in any age range a provider can care for, up to a maximum number determined by the size of the premises. It is up to each provider to ensure that they have the correct staff: child ratio in place for the ages of the children attending their setting. Rather than have a separate registration for school-aged children, day nurseries, childminders etc. have extended their provision to offer places to older children before and after school and during the holidays. The numbers below represent actual out of school care registrations on both the compulsory and voluntary Ofsted registers, plus any provision run directly by schools, which is exempt from registration.

Changes to the annual school census have enabled us to harvest data from maintained schools, which provides data regarding school-run provision in Nottinghamshire. The census data from academies is sent directly to DfE but the county council will continue to collect data from academies via the Families Information Service in 2018/19.

Typically, breakfast clubs operate from at least 8.00am until the start of the school day. Many schools offer this to ensure that children have a good, healthy breakfast and that the children are ready to learn when entering the classroom at the start of the school day. After school clubs usually operate until 6.00pm to enable parents to return from work and collect children from school/childcare. Again, children will usually be offered a snack whilst attending the provision. Holiday childcare operates for around 10 weeks per year, Monday to Friday, between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm. Most holiday clubs allow for the children to bring a packed lunch, with breakfast and a snack also available. Parents are more likely to travel further to access holiday childcare than they do on a school day. Many school buildings are not open for childcare provision during the holidays.

Two special schools in the county offer after school childcare and two offer holiday childcare. Two special schools offer both.

Figure 9: Number of Ofsted registered schools and PVI providers in Nottinghamshire offering Out of School Childcare for all ages (Summer 2018)

	Breakfast Club		After School		Total
District	School	PVI	School	PVI	
Ashfield	20	4	10	6	40
Bassetlaw	25	1	19	1	46
Broxtowe	12	11	6	9	38
Gedling	8	14	5	14	41
Mansfield	18	7	7	9	41
Newark & Sherwood	21	5	15	12	53
Rushcliffe	9	7	9	14	39
TOTAL	113	49	71	65	298

Source: Schools Childcare Data, Nottinghamshire County Council January Census 2018 and Nottinghamshire FIS database 2018

4. The Cost of Childcare

Many pre-school aged children are eligible for 570 hours of funded childcare per year, (equivalent to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year); this includes the most disadvantaged 2 year-olds and for all 3 and 4 year-olds. Many 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for an additional 570 hours per year (known as 30 hours childcare or the extended entitlement) where both parents (including foster carers) are working.

Early years providers who offer places for these children receive an hourly rate agreed by the Nottinghamshire Schools Forum using central Government funding which is allocated to Nottinghamshire via the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. Where children are not eligible for funded childcare, providers can set their own costs and charges. Some providers offer additional services, such as outings, drama, sports coaching etc. which they can charge for. Providers can also charge for optional extras, such as meals and consumables, or parents can provide their own packed lunches, nappies, wipes etc.

The funded hours are free of charge to parents and access to these funded hours cannot be conditional upon parents paying for additional hours or services. Providers can charge parents for any additional childcare hours, which wrap-around the funded hours. Providers are free to set the times and days that funded sessions are available, with many stretching the hours to make fewer hours available, but over more weeks of the year; this helps families to manage their childcare costs over the year, rather than having very high costs with no funded hours during, for example, school holidays.

The cost of childcare in Nottinghamshire varies across districts and by type of provider. Nottinghamshire FIS collates available information on fees which are published in this CSA and in the Childcare and Family Trust annual childcare costs and annual holiday childcare costs surveys. However, not all providers declare their fees to FIS, so the results below represent the average cost by type and district.

As was the case last year, fees are highest in Rushcliffe across the board, and day nursery fees are lowest in Newark and Sherwood. The average hourly rate for childcare in a day nursery for a child under the age of 2

is £3.73 per hour, rising to £3.78 for a child over 2. The most expensive day nursery in the county has an hourly rate of £4.88, with the cheapest being just £2.94 per hour.

The average hourly rate with a childminder for a child under the age of 2 is £3.80 and £3.74 for a child over the age of 2. Childminder costs for a school-aged child is on average £3.62. Childminder fees are lowest in Bassetlaw for preschool children and lowest in Mansfield for school-aged children. Apart from in Ashfield and Gedling, childminder hourly rates for preschool children have reduced over the last year. This could be due to more childminders now claiming funding for childcare, which was previously paid for by parents. However, childcare provided after school by childminders in Rushcliffe has increased by 42% to an average of £5.00 per hour over the last year.

Childcare in an after school club for a school age child is on average £2.68 per hour in the county, though this can be masked by school-run provision, which is run on the basis of covering additional costs without incurring additional premises costs etc. This cost has risen by 7.7% over the last year. Rushcliffe district has the highest cost, equivalent to £3.06 per hour, but Bassetlaw has seen the largest percentage increase over the year by 8.9%.

With the high take-up of the 30 hours childcare during the first year of that entitlement, we can report that many families are benefitting from reduced childcare costs.

4.1 Average childcare costs to parents

Figure 10: The cost of Childcare in Nottinghamshire

District	Day Nursery 25 Hours (under 2) £	Day Nursery 25 Hours (2 & over) £	Childminder 25 Hours (under 2) £	Childminder 25 Hours (over 2) £	After School Club 15 Hours £	Childminder After School 15 Hours £
Ashfield	93.62	93.62	93.75	93.75	33.91	52.50
Bassetlaw	93.01	93.01	90.00	90.00	42.88	51.00
Broxtowe	90.01	90.01	92.25	92.20	39.88	50.00
Gedling	93.64	93.85	97.50	97.35	45.00	52.00
Mansfield	90.45	90.50	91.50	91.50	39.90	49.50
Newark & Sherwood	89.56	89.56	92.50	92.30	33.45	50.00
Rushcliffe	110.12	110.12	98.75	98.55	45.93	75.00
Nottinghamshire	94.34	94.38	94.96	93.66	40.13	54.28
East Midlands	109.61	109.53	94.36	94.35	50.90	60.48
England	124.73	120.66	110.61	109.95	56.38	62.25

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database July 2018 and Family and Childcare Trust Childcare Survey 2018

4.2 Help with childcare costs - Tax Free Childcare

Currently, parents can get help with childcare costs from the childcare element of working tax credit or childcare vouchers, which are exempt from National Insurance (NI) contributions. Childcare vouchers will cease to be available to new applicants by the end of 2018. Parents already using childcare vouchers will be able to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Tax Free Childcare Accounts became available to parents from September 2017. For every £8 paid into the account, Government will top up by £2, up to a maximum top-up of £2000 per year, per child; doubled for disabled children. However, take –up of this new service has been slow nationally, with only 10% of parents expected to use it by central Government setting up an account. In our 2018 parental survey 109 parents out of 195 who answered that question said they knew about Tax Free Childcare accounts, but only 26 (13%) have set up an account.

4.3 Early Years Single Funding Formula

The Early Years Single Funding Formula was introduced in 2009/10 and used to set the funding rate allocated to LA's for early years places for 3 and 4 year olds. At that time, the funding hourly rate awarded was higher than the rate charged by providers for non-funded places, so was popular with providers. The rate then remained static until 2017, during which time the non-funded hourly rate rose higher than the funded rate. Some early years providers reported that parents paying the higher non-funded rate were subsidising places provided for funded children.

2017/18 saw the introduction of a National Early Years Single Funding Formula (NEYSFF) which was applied to each LA to set the hourly funding rate awarded by DfE. For Nottinghamshire, the rate awarded for 3 and 4 year olds fell below the national minimum funding rate and had to be enhanced by a top up from Government. Following local consultation with the sector, the Schools Forum set the hourly rate that was passed through to providers. This included a 1p reduction to create the Early Years Inclusion Fund to meet increased number of applications from providers requesting support for children with SEND.

There was no increase in the funding rate for Nottinghamshire via the NEYSFF for 2018/19.

Figure 11: Early Years Funding rates in Notts

	2017/18	2018/19
Early Years Base Rate:	Hourly Rate	
Eligible 2 year olds in PVI settings	£5.23	£5.22
Eligible 2 year olds in school settings	£5.10	£5.09
Eligible 3 and 4 year olds in PVI settings	£4.17	£4.16
Eligible 3 and 4 year olds in school settings	£4.07	£4.06
Funding supplements:		
Deprivation	£0.05	£406 per annum
Early Years Pupil Premium for 3 and 4 year olds	£0.53	£0.53
LAC Early Years Pupil Premium (all ages)	£0.53	£0.53
DAF	£615 per annum	£615 per annum
EY Inclusion Fund	£250,000	£350,000
Plus assessments, equipment and manual handling training support (£26,000)	£25,000	£26,000

4.4 Supplementary Funding

The Early Years Single Funding Formula did award a healthy uplift in the funding rate for 2 year olds in Nottinghamshire. The Early Years Pupil Premium funding continued at the same rate (£302.10 per year per eligible child attending their 3 and 4 year olds entitlement). It also required the LA to administer the Disability Access Fund (£615 per eligible child) and establish a new SEN Inclusion fund. The Early Years

Inclusion Fund has also been established, re-working of the former DCATCH fund, targeted now to support eligible 2, 3 and 4 year old children with SEND to access their early years entitlement. New supplementary funding has also been introduced this year for 'Children in Need' or 'Child on Child Protection Plan' (see section 4.7 below).

4.5 Special Educational Needs and Disability

The Early Years Inclusion fund continues to contribute to additional inclusion support costs of children with severe, complex and enduring special educational needs attending Nottinghamshire private, voluntary and independent early education and childcare settings. So far in 2018, 126 children have accessed funding.

Figure 12: Age breakdown of children in receipt of local Early Years Inclusion funding (excluding schools)

Total number of children (2018/19)	126
Under 2	2
Age 2	33
Age 3	45
Age 4	39
Age 5 and over	7

Source: Nottinghamshire County Council August 2018

In addition, providers have claimed for 18 children eligible for the Disability Access Funding which was launched nationally on the 1st April 2017.

Schools are able to access High Level Needs funding for children in their care and are not eligible for the inclusion fund.

4.6 Early Years Pupil Premium

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) provides funding to help early years providers to narrow the attainment gap between children from low income families and their peers.

The funding is intended to make a difference by enabling early years settings to provide targeted strategies focused specifically on this cohort of children. Early Years providers currently receive £302.10 per year per eligible child for 15 hours funded entitlement. Take up rates indicate that providers have claimed for 1,535 children in the academic year 2017-18 compared to 1,563 in academic year 2016/2017, which is a reduction from 89% to 87% spend of the allocated budget.

4.7 Early Years Pupil Premium Looked After Children (LAC).

The funding is given to the early years providers in the PVI sector to meet the individual needs of children following a robust assessment. There were 36 eligible children in summer 2017 and similarly, there are 36 eligible children in summer 2018. So far this year, 31 providers have claimed EYPP to support eligible children compared to last year there were only 21 eligible children accessing a funded place.

4.8 Deprivation Supplement

New supplementary funding was introduced in April 2018 to replace previous enhancement to the funded rate for 3 and 4 year olds whose families met the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals. After consultation with the early years sector, Nottinghamshire agreed to allocate the new deprivation supplement allocates £406 per year per eligible child (payable over 3 terms) for any Nottinghamshire

resident child who is identified under one of these categories: 'Children in Need' or 'Child on Child Protection Plan'.

The funding is available to support providers to engage in multi-agency meetings and ensure they make effective interventions to improve outcomes of eligible children. Since April 2018 to July 2018, 71 providers have already claimed supplementary funding to support eligible children.

5. Quality of Early Years Provision

Statutory guidance states that all children should be able to take up their free hours in a high quality early years setting. Evidence shows that higher quality provision has greater developmental benefits for children, particularly for the most disadvantaged children leading to better outcomes. The evidence also shows that high quality provision at age two brings benefits to children's development. Quality Improvement support is available to settings in Nottinghamshire through the Early Years Quality and Attainment Team. There are three possible levels of support available; intensive, targeted and universal that are offered based on criteria such as Ofsted ratings/reports, local Foundation Stage Profile results, numbers of children that are Looked After or have SEND, and numbers of children in workless households.

- Those on universal support are offered a yearly quality visit and access to locality networks
- Those on targeted support are offered a half termly visit and access to locality networks
- Those on intensive support are offered monthly visits and access to locality networks

Settings who are judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding are able to access bespoke in house training through the council's traded service. Training to support quality development is available via the early years Training and Development Opportunities pages on the Nottinghamshire County Council website.

Figure 13: Ofsted quality ratings of Nottinghamshire early years providers as judged by Ofsted (summer 2018)

District	Ofsted Grading	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected	TOTAL
Ashfield	Childminder	3	49	2	1	19	2	19	95
	Day Nursery	6	11	1	0	0	0	5	23
	Pre-school	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
	Ind. School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	9	68	3	1	19	2	24	126
Bassetlaw	Childminder	10	42	0	0	9	2	11	74
	Day Nursery	3	8	2	0	0	0	4	17
	Pre-school	2	8	0	1	0	0	1	12
	Ind. School	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	TOTAL	15	60	2	1	9	2	16	105
Broxtowe	Childminder	4	56	3	0	16	4	12	95
	Day Nursery	4	18	0	0	0	0	4	8
	Pre-school	0	12	1	0	0	0	0	13
	Ind. School	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	8	68	4	0	17	4	16	117
Gedling	Childminder	10	96	1	2	19	2	25	155

	Day Nursery	4	15	2	0	0	0	1	22
	Pre-school	3	16	0	0	0	0	1	20
	Ind. School	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	18	127	3	2	19	2	27	198
Mansfield	Childminder	10	49	0	2	10	1	6	78
	Day Nursery	5	15	2	0	0	0	2	24
	Pre-school	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3
	Ind. School	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	15	66	3	2	10	1	9	106
Newark & Sherwood	Childminder	5	41	1	0	8	1	15	71
	Day Nursery	7	17	1	0	0	0	1	26
	Pre-school	1	11	1	0	0	0	0	13
	Ind. School	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	TOTAL	14	70	3	0	8	1	16	112
Rushcliffe	Childminder	6	51	1	0	13	3	12	86
	Day Nursery	16	16	0	0	0	0	4	36
	Pre-school	2	18	1	0	0	0	2	23
	Ind. School	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	24	86	2	0	13	3	18	146
Nottinghamshire	Childminder	48	384	8	5	94	15	100	654
	Day Nursery	45	82	8	0	0	0	21	156
	Pre-school	8	74	4	1	0	0	5	92
	Ind. School	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	8
	TOTAL	103	545	20	6	95	15	126	910

Source: Ofsted July 2018

Figure 14: Ofsted ratings of Nottinghamshire schools as judged by Ofsted⁴ (summer 2018)

District	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Not Yet Inspected	TOTAL
Ashfield	5	24	1	0	7	37
Bassetlaw	3	38	1	1	7	50
Broxtowe	2	24	1	0	3	30
Gedling	7	20	0	0	7	34
Mansfield	2	25	0	0	5	32
Newark & Sherwood	5	25	4	0	9	43
Rushcliffe	8	16	0	0	11	35
Nottinghamshire	32	172	7	1	49	261

Source: Ofsted July 2018

⁴ Schools inspected since September 2014 have received a separate rating for their early years provision, these are reflected in figure 14.

6. Take up of Funded Childcare

6.1. Take up Rates for 3 and 4 year olds (Universal Offer)

Since 2010 all 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free childcare a week (also known as the universal offer). In summer 2017, over 100% of 3 and 4 year olds accessed their childcare place (this does include children from surrounding local authority areas that chose to access childcare provision in Nottinghamshire).

Figure 15: Take up of universal 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds by district according to provider post code (Summer 2018)

District (nos. of children attending at providers in these districts)	Population Estimate 3s	Take up Summer 2018	% take up		Population Estimate 4s	Take up Summer 2018	% take up
Ashfield	1447	1407	97.24%		1513	1491	98.55%
Bassetlaw	1239	1181	95.32%		1226	1217	99.27%
Broxtowe	1228	1252	101.95%		1216	1227	100.90%
Gedling	1254	1347	107.42%		1224	1350	110.29%
Mansfield	1293	1280	98.99%		1365	1377	100.88%
Newark and Sherwood	1268	1229	96.92%		1269	1256	98.98%
Rushcliffe	1090	1293	118.62%		1172	1410	120.31%
Totals	8819	8989	101.93%		8985	9328	103.82%

Sources: ONS Mid-year population estimates 2016 (projected forward to 2018)
NCC Headcount return summer 2018

6.2 Overall take up of 3 and 4 year olds by type of provider

Compared to summer term 2017, the proportion of children funded in a maintained setting is slightly higher for the same period this year. 52% of children accessed their early years entitlement in a school setting this year compared to 49% last year.

Figure 16: Number of funded providers by type

District	Number of Funded Providers, by Type - Summer 2018					
	CM	Day Nursery	Independent	Maintained	Playgroup	Total
Ashfield	48	23		37	8	116
Bassetlaw	38	18	2	50	12	120
Broxtowe	34	25	1	30	13	103
Gedling	84	22	1	34	20	161
Mansfield	48	24	1	32	3	108
Newark & Sherwood	37	26	2	43	13	121
Rushcliffe	35	36	1	35	23	130

Total	324	174	8	261	92	859
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6.3 Take up Rates for 3 and 4 year olds (Extended Childcare Offer – 30 hours)

Take up of the extended childcare offer (30 hours funded childcare for children in working households) has been hugely successful with 99% of parents who applied and received an 'eligible 30 hours code' from HMRC, had the codes validated by an early years provider, 93% of whom were in a 30 hours place in Nottinghamshire. This is compared to 94% validated and 91% in a place in East Midlands, and 94% validated and 90% in a place nationally for the same time period (Summer Term 2018)⁵.

Figure 17: Take up of extended childcare hours by district according to provider post code (Summer 2018)

District Nos. of children attending providers in these districts	Calculated population of 30 hours eligible children (summer term)	Take up Summer 2018	% take up
Ashfield	1577	807	51%
Bassetlaw	1478	754	51%
Broxtowe	1470	975	66%
Gedling	1501	1122	75%
Mansfield	1457	751	52%
Newark and Sherwood	1557	826	53%
Rushcliffe	1525	1301	85%
Total	10565	6536	62%

Source: DfE Local Authority Breakdown (12/07/2018) [click here for link to document](#)

Note: our take up is higher than codes issued due to cross border factors, i.e. children out of area claiming funding in local early years settings.

Figure 18: Proportion of take up of extended childcare by age by district according to provider post code (Summer 2018)

	Proportional take up of 30 hours places between ages	
District	3s	4s
Ashfield	63%	37%
Bassetlaw	63%	37%
Broxtowe	67%	33%
Gedling	60%	40%
Mansfield	61%	39%

⁵DfE Experimental statistics on the use of 30 hours free childcare from April to August 2018, Published 21 June 2018

Newark and Sherwood	63%	37%
Rushcliffe	59%	41%
County	62%	38%

Figure 19: A breakdown of early years settings currently delivering the extended childcare offer (summer 2018).

	Total providers	Currently being funded for 30 hours	%
Childminder	459	272	59%
Day Nursery	178	170	96%
Independent School	9	4	44%
Maintained school/academy	264	93	35%
Pre-school playgroup	93	82	88%
Total	1003	621	62%

Source: NCC Summer Term 2018 Headcount

6.4 Two year olds from low income families

In September 2014, 2 year olds from low income families became eligible for 15 hours of free early education per week. The aim of is to provide high quality early education for two year olds who are least likely to be ready for school. Two year olds that are Looked After and families reliant on out of work benefits are also eligible for this funding.

Currently in Nottinghamshire, the target is to ensure that at least 80% of eligible two year olds access their place, and latest data from summer 2018, identified that the overall county take up is 73% depending on how the data is summarised.

Local data uses the postcode of the childcare provider to help breakdown district level take up rather than the postcode of the child.

Figure: 20: Take-up of free early education by 2 year olds (DWP January 2018)

District (nos. of children attending at providers in these districts)	Jan 2018 DWP list	Summer 2018
Ashfield District	592	408
Bassetlaw District	442	281
Broxtowe District	332	249
Gedling District	379	237
Mansfield District	478	296
Newark and Sherwood District	433	320
Rushcliffe District	205	148
Out of county		140
Totals	2861	2079
% takeup		72.67%

Source: NCC Early Years Headcount July 2018

7. Parental Demand

The annual parental survey for childcare was completed in the summer term 2018. There were 297 respondents, representing a total of 913 children of which 296 are in the early years range. 93% of the respondents were female.

Key findings from the survey:

- Family members provided the most frequently used childcare (29%), which is down from 35% last year. Day nurseries usage has increased to 20%, with 12% using pre-schools and 10% using childminders. 10% use after school clubs and 9% use breakfast clubs for childcare, to wrap around the school day.
- On average, 63% of children spent between 7 and 20 hours in childcare per week, with Tuesday the most frequent day childcare is needed.
- Childcare is required 7 days a week and 24 hours a day, not just during the hours from 8am to 6pm. The parental responses indicate that some parents need provision to operate outside of these hours to afford them necessary flexibility. 82% needed childcare in the daytime, with 16% during evenings. 2% needed overnight care
- More out of school care is required for school aged children.
- 66% of families said they prefer to access childcare close to home, with only 10% choosing childcare close to, work and 10% close to school.
- 75% of children accessing funded childcare for disadvantaged 2 year olds attend for the full 15 hours available.
- 89% of children accessing universal early education for 3 and 4 year olds take the full 15 hours available. 98% are satisfied with the location of this childcare, with 94% satisfied with the days and 93% satisfied with the times the childcare was available. Again Tuesday is the most popular day to access the funded childcare.

- 53% children accessing 30 hours funded childcare are taking the full 30 hours
- 90 respondents agreed that the additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for their household.
- 23 respondents currently in work would increase their hours, or look for another job if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare and 11 not currently in work would look for work. 10 respondents with a partner in work said their partner increased their hours of work or looked for another job due to the additional 15 funded hours of childcare.
- 40 respondents (70%) stated that they use the additional funded hours towards the childcare they were previously paying for.
- 84% of families who completed the survey stated it was easy to find a suitable childcare provider for their child, with 88% also stating they were able to access childcare at the times and dates that were suitable for the family.
- Of those families that completed the survey, 44% work full time over 30 hours each week, 34% work part time over 16 hours each week and 9% are stay at home parents due to having a very young child.
- The survey included 38 children with a disability or special educational needs and only 5 of these children were in the early years age range. 71% of respondents said it was easy to find childcare for their SEND child with 77% able to access childcare at suitable times.

District analysis of sufficiency is included later in this assessment, these include comments from parents who responded to the survey about their use of and demand for childcare. A common theme from parents with very young and/or older children was the lack of available financial support to help with childcare costs, including after-school care.

8. Information for Parents/Carers

8.1 Families Information Service (FIS)

- The Family Information Service exists to fulfil 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.
- The information that must be provided is prescribed in the Childcare Act 2006 (Provision of Information to Parents) (England) Regulations 2007 ('the Regulations'). Section 12(7) of the 2006 Act requires local authorities to have regard to this guidance when carrying out their functions under section 12.
- FIS also fulfils the council's statutory responsibilities under the Children and Families Act 2014 to provide information, advice and support directly to children, young people and parents on matters relating to special educational needs and disability.
- In September 2014, the Children and Families Act came into force. This set out wide-reaching Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms designed to provide 'simpler, improved and consistent help for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities'.
- The FIS is the key route for childcare providers to submit information about their service which helps our understanding of the local early years sector as well as promoting information to parents.

- FIS facilitate a popular Facebook page for local parents which helps promote a range of services and activities such as the promotion of home learning. This site is also used by Early Childhood Services in the council to share information and engage in consultation exercises with parents.
- FIS is commissioned by the local authority and is hosted by Inspire.

8.2 Notts Help Yourself

- Notts Help Yourself is a countywide 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 enabling parents to search for childcare in their local area.
- The early years elements of the website are developed and maintained by the FIS.
- The website also helps parents when looking for funding for childcare

8.3 Childcare Choices

- Government introduced a new national website, www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to enable parents to check eligibility for 2 year old and 30 hours funding. After checking the eligibility, that website redirects people with a Nottinghamshire postcode to Notts Help Yourself, to let them search for childcare locally.
- Parents are also able to open a Tax-Free Childcare account through the Childcare Choices site.
- In the 2018 parental survey, 52 of the 297 respondents had used the Childcare Choices website. 60% of those using the site were happy with it.

8.4 Nottinghamshire County Council

- NCC provides a number of routes to help share information with parents including FIS and the Notts Help Yourself website. These include the NCC website, twitter feeds, campaigns and media work.
- All NCC services working with children under 5 are tasked to promote childcare entitlements. Information has been provided for all internal and external partners regarding the early years entitlements to ensure they are better informed and can effectively support families with whom they work. The Family Service especially provides this information to enable parents into work

8.5 Children's Centre Services

- Nottinghamshire's Children's Centre services continue to play a vital role to ensure families have access to information and support they need to meet their individual child's and family's needs.
- Children's Centre services are often the first point of contact for many families considering the childcare needs and access advice from them to ensure the most appropriate support is sought especially if their child has additional needs to consider.

8.6 Wider Services

- Organisations such as Homestart, CAB, Healthy Families Teams, Family Service, and DWP amongst others, promote childcare when appropriate.
- Partner organisations are regularly sent information to help promote childcare entitlements.

9. District Sufficiency Assessments

9.1 Ashfield

The District of Ashfield is home to an estimated 125,500 people, 97.7% are white. The District is situated in north-west Nottinghamshire. Just north of Nottingham City, it has excellent communications corridors through the A38 and junctions 27 and 28 of the M1, also boasting close proximity to East Midlands Airport. The Robin Hood Line has four stations in Ashfield connecting to Nottingham City, Mansfield and Worksop. Ashfield comprises three large settlements, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Hucknall, alongside the rural parishes of Annesley, Felley and Selston.

The population of Ashfield is likely to increase over the coming years with 900 homes planned for the Rolls Royce site in Hucknall. A new primary school and nursery is being developed to support the demand for additional school places. This will open in September 2019. There has been a capital development project to create a 55 place nursery for the 30 hours extended the extended entitlement in High Leys in the Hucknall area. This is due to open in September 2018.

The Child Population projections data is also forecasting an increase in the child population in Ashfield.

There is a good range of provision across this district, offering parental choice for the type of childcare places used. There is a high number of maintained nurseries for 3 and 4 year olds across Ashfield and a low number of PVI-run pre-schools. High levels of economic disadvantage across the District continues to present additional sustainability challenges for PVI childcare businesses.

21 schools in Ashfield run their own breakfast club, there are 10 after school clubs run by school.

The PVI sector run 12 breakfast clubs and 23 after school clubs across the district.

There are 46 schools in Ashfield. 37 offer 3 and 4 year places. 13 have some children attending for part all or part of the extended entitlement and 2 Schools are now offering childcare places for 2 year olds. The Abbey Hill ward in Kirkby in Ashfield is still a hotspot where more childcare is needed. One other school in this area has shown an interest in developing more early years places.

The number of registered Childminders has increased significantly since last year, from 69 to 95. 4 have been recruited through the agency. 48 childminders are offering funded places. 28 children are attending for their 2 year places, 11 attend for their universal 3 and 4 year places and 69 attend for all or part of the extended entitlement.

Childminders in the district offer very flexible childcare, with 31 operating before 7.00am and 21 after 6.00pm. 32 are offering school holiday care. There are also a few who provide child care on Saturdays (6) Sundays (4) overnight (4) and on Bank Holidays (2). Out of the 95 childminders in the district 44 will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. Childminders offer a total 561 funded early years places for children aged two, three and four in Ashfield.

Compared with the 2017 CSA, this year's data shows there is 1 more day nursery, 3 more pre-schools and 26 more childminders operating from the Ashfield area.

Schools inspected since September 2014 have received a separate rating for their early years provision, 29 Ashfield Schools were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted.

69 childcare providers in Ashfield were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. This has decreased since last year, 3 settings require improvement and 1 is inadequate.

The data shows that 411 (69%) eligible children were accessing a 2 year place in Ashfield in the summer term 2018. Newstead achieved the highest take up (90 %) Butlers Hill Broomhill in Hucknall had the lowest take up in the district (42%).

97% of 3 year olds and 99% of 4 year olds took up the universal offer of 15 hours.

Take-up of 30 hours has been a success in its first year of operation; 807 children have accessed a 30 hours place in the summer term 2018.

Parents Survey results

- 20 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 36 children covered by the survey. 11 respondents used the same Nursery in the district. 19 children had used a day nursery, with 17 using family for childcare in the last six months and only 4 used a pre-school. The most popular days of the week for needing childcare are Monday and Tuesday in Ashfield, with Tuesday also the most popular evening that childcare is needed.
- 9 children accessed the funded 30 hours childcare, with 89% accessing the full 30 hours. 85% of parents are satisfied with the free entitlement and 70% also satisfied with the days available and venues offering the provision, with 75% satisfied with the times the places are available.
- 16 respondents pay for some childcare, with 40% paying with a combination of money and childcare vouchers and 25% using just childcare vouchers. 65% of Bassetlaw respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts but only 15% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account.
- The satisfaction rate with the national Childcare Choices website was 79%.
- 39% prefer childcare to be close to home, whilst 28% prefer childcare to be on the route to work.
- 55% said the additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for their household
- 20% use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that they used to pay for
- 40% would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours.
- 15% who do not use any childcare would consider using formal childcare such as a nursery, pre-school, or childminder for their child if they could use 30 free hours of childcare.
- 15% of those that have more than one dependent child would only use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare if they could use the same childcare provider for all of their children.

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>Our childminder is now like a family member, we adore her.</i>	<i>Help for working parents who have children younger than 2. I have returned to work full time after maternity leave, my partner reduced his hours to 20 per week. We are just unable to afford more than 1 day in nursery Grandparents have to help with childcare otherwise we would be better off having my husband stay at home</i>
<i>Cannot praise the staff enough at Day Nursery.</i>	<i>Child care is too expensive for twins, we are (were) both working professionals so did not qualify for any of the free funding or any other benefits therefore I was forced to quit my job</i>

<i>It would be nice to have more options for after school care, luckily the school we will be using has this facility,</i>	<i>Struggled to get my child into nursery when it was time for funded hours due to them all being full.</i>
<i>Quality of provision and finding the right fit for my eldest child. Finding provision that we felt comfortable and confident about sending our child to.</i>	<i>Working parents shouldn't have to wait until their child is 3 years old to get help with child-care when unemployed parents get it a lot sooner</i>
	<i>It would be great if the school in our catchment area has a feeder nursery/pre-school.</i>
	<i>Childcare in Nottinghamshire is very expensive. It is higher than my rate of pay per hour</i>
	<i>Needs to be more care available during school holidays</i>

Hot-spot wards requiring additional childcare in Ashfield⁶:

Red (Very High)	Sutton Central ward New cross ward
Amber (High)	Abbey Hill ward Kingsway ward

9.2 Bassetlaw

The District of Bassetlaw is situated in North Nottinghamshire and boasts thousands of acres of countryside, parkland and ancient woodlands. Bassetlaw has two main population centres, the market towns of Worksop and Retford, which are home to the majority of its 113,650 residents. Residents living on the edges of the district will cross the county border to access goods and services from Doncaster, Sheffield, Rotherham and Lincoln, which are closer than the city of Nottingham to the south.

5.5% of the population are in the early years, with a further 17% in the school and training years life stage. Birth projections for Bassetlaw remain static for the next 20 years. Large scale housing developments close to the major A57 trunk road around Gateford near Worksop will also include a new school.

While the district appears to have a good range of provision in the urban centres, there are challenges relating to the rural nature of the district which impacts upon the sustainability of group provision seeing a greater reliance on child-minders and schools.

Over half of maintained schools in Bassetlaw now run their own breakfast club, giving working parents access to childcare to enable them to travel to work. Bassetlaw also has the highest number of school-run after school clubs in the county, as parents here may have a longer travel from work journey. Many academies also run their own breakfast and after school facilities, but as they are exempt from registration if run directly by the academy and as the school census data from academies goes directly to the DfE, we are unable to confirm actual numbers. However, there is only one setting registered with Ofsted as out of school provision in the district, although a total of 38 PVI providers offer childcare for school aged children during the holidays.

There has been a small decrease (-7) in the number of childminders registered in Bassetlaw since 2017, but Nottinghamshire's childminding agency has recruited 3 new minders into the district. There has also been a

⁶ Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, new housing developments, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards have been identified because they have a sustained identified unmet need.

small decrease in the number of funded two year olds and 3 and 4 year olds accessing their funded place with childminders in Bassetlaw however, this could be due to a drop in population. There are now 58 children accessing part of the 30 hours extended childcare with childminders, working in partnership with schools and academies delivering the universal 15 hours.

Childminders in the district offer very flexible childcare, with 30 operating before 7.00am and 23 after 6.00pm. There is also a healthy number who provide childcare on Saturdays (11) Sundays (7), overnight (8) and on Bank Holidays (6). Almost half of childminders in the district will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. In some very rural areas, childminders provide the only childcare in a community. School holiday childcare data is now collected differently by FIS, and only refers to childcare provided by childminders for school aged children during those periods. Bassetlaw has 11 registered childminders providing childcare during school holidays for these children.

One preschool has closed, with the funded early years places and 30 hours places for three and four year olds to be delivered by the local school since September 2017. One day nursery has closed in Harworth and a new nursery has opened in Carlton in Lindrick.

Childcare costs in Bassetlaw are lower than the county, East Midlands and England average. The cost of childcare for pre-school children with childminders has gone down since last year and is the cheapest in the county. However, the cost of after school childcare in a club has risen by 8.9% and with childminders has risen by 3.5% in the last year.

The quality of registered provision is high, with 84% of providers rated as good or outstanding and 10% meeting Ofsted requirements. 16 providers have not yet been inspected by Ofsted, 4 childminders who were previously rated as good now have the status of having Ofsted requirements met, (this happens when there are no funded children present when the setting is inspected by Ofsted, which can easily happen with unannounced inspections.)

In summer term 2018, the take up of funded places for two year olds in Bassetlaw was 66%, which is below the county average of 73%. Performance is below 60% in some areas of the district, with the number of children not accessing a place high in some areas, namely Manton (33 children), Harworth and Bircotes (23 children), north and east Retford (22 children and north and east Worksop (38 children). . Some rural villages in Bassetlaw have low take up by eligible two year olds, although it is noted that the numbers eligible are very low. As the main focus during 2018 has been take-up of 30 hours for 3 and 4 year olds, we are now refocussing work with children's centres to identify eligible 2 year olds and encourage them to attend some sessions, to prepare them for their universal 15 hours entitlement at age 3.

Take up of the universal 15 hours for three year olds in Bassetlaw is 95.3% which is an increase of 3% on last year. The county average take up for 3 year olds is 102% Take up of the universal 15 hours for four year olds in Bassetlaw is 99.3%, a 2% increase since last year, against a county average of 103.8%. Only 83% of three year olds and 85% of four year old children in Manton are taking up their entitlement with Harworth and Bircotes (76% and 86% respectively) and East Retford (75% and 83%) also providing concern.

Take-up of 30 hours has been a resounding success in its first year of operation. 754 children have accessed a 30 hours place in Bassetlaw in the summer term. This

Parents Survey results

- 36 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 85 children covered by the survey, with a total of 8 disabled children, (1 under age 5) also included. 17 children had used family for childcare in the last six months, with 12 using a day nursery, 7 using a school nursery, 9 using a pre-school and 7 using a childminder. The most popular days of the week are Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Bassetlaw, which are also the most popular evenings that childcare is needed.

- 15 children have used a funded 15 hour place in the last six months, with the majority (96%) accessing their full 15 hours. Most children were using their free hours in morning sessions, with Tuesday and Wednesday the busiest days. 11 children accessed the funded 30 hours childcare, with 75% accessing the full 30 hours. 100 % of parents are satisfied with the free entitlement and 100% also satisfied with the days available and venues offering the provision, with 93% satisfied with the times the places are available.
- 15 respondents pay for some childcare, with 60% paying with money and 27% using childcare vouchers. 83% of Bassetlaw respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts but only 10% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account.
- The satisfaction rate with the national Childcare Choices website was 64%. 81% prefer childcare to be close to home.
- 58% of those accessing 30 hours childcare said *"The additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for our household"*
- 100% of those accessing 30 hours said *"I use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that I used to pay for"*
- 25% of parents would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours.
- 13% of those currently in work would increase their hours, or look for another job if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare per week.
- 38% of those that have more than one dependent child would only use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare if they could use the same childcare provider for all of their children

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>My nursery in Worksop is fab. There was no other place I would like to send my daughter. I can rest at work knowing she is being looked after by the lovely staff up there.</i>	<i>Giving 15hrs free to parents of 2-4yr olds does not help the parents of older kids. I'm a single mum, it's far too expensive, even with help. My child has had to spend more time with my family than with me (overnight) than I'd like due to the unsociable hours some shifts are. Flexible working rights don't help.</i>
<i>My daughter is in yr6 and goes to after school club 3 evenings a week and she accesses breakfast club as and when needed. The care she gets is good.</i>	<i>Not initially due to days I needed being full, I went on a waiting list for a place and now have the days I need</i>
<i>My nursery is an outstanding provider. My children are settled and cared for wonderfully. Since starting there they have come on leaps and bounds developmentally, and I doubt they would be as confident both in their learning and emotional development had they not benefited from the support of this team of fantastic professionals. They deserve recognition for the service they provide the community.</i>	<i>Evening needs</i>
<i>Nursery has been fantastic</i>	<i>Waiting list for extra days within the selected nursery</i>
<i>We are thrilled with our nursery</i>	<i>Funding for children under 2</i>
<i>We are lucky to have found a great nursery. They</i>	<i>Some of the more traditional nurseries don't offer a</i>

<i>have to deal with our daughter's 12 food allergies In 2016, childcare options were very limited, but now there at least seems more options, with many more nurseries opening up.</i>	<i>breakfast or after school facility</i>
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Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Bassetlaw⁷:

Red (Very High)	East Retford South ward
	East Retford West ward
	Workshop South East ward
	Workshop North East ward

Hot spot wards with poor take up rates

Red (Very High)	East Retford East ward
	Harworth and Bircotes ward
	Workshop South East ward

9.3 Broxtowe

The Borough of Broxtowe is home to an estimated 112,700 people and lies to the west of the City of Nottingham and is bounded by the River Trent on the south and the River Erewash on the west. There are four main towns; Beeston, Stapleford, Kimberley and Eastwood, each with its own character and individuality.

The population of Broxtowe is likely to increase over the coming years, with potentially 500 homes earmarked for the proposed HS2 route. Child Population projection data is also forecasting an increase in the child population in Broxtowe.

Broxtowe District currently has a good range of childcare places across the area and due to the Districts close proximity to the City families can choose to use childcare across the City border. This offers parental choice for the type of childcare places used.

There are 42 schools in Broxtowe. 30 offer 3 and 4 year places. 9 have some children attending for all or part of the extended entitlement and 1 School is now offering childcare places for 2 year olds.

Schools inspected since September 2014 have received a separate rating for their early years provision, 26 Broxtowe Schools were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted.

12 schools in Broxtowe run their own breakfast club, there are 6 after school clubs run by school.

The PVI sector run 11 breakfast clubs and 9 after school clubs across the district.

The number of registered childminders is 89, 34 are offering funded places. 3 have been recruited through the childminder agency. 8 children are attending for their 2 year places, 8 attend for their universal 3 and 4 year places and 68 attend for all or part of the extended entitlement.

⁷ Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards are defined by the projected demand of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds against the number of available places in an area. Hot spot wards can also be identified because of unexplained sustained low take up rates by children eligible for funded childcare.

Childminders in the district offer very flexible childcare, with 21 operating before 7.00am and 22 after 6.00pm. 20 are offering school holiday care. There are also a few who provide child care on Saturdays ((7) Sundays (4) overnight (2) and on Bank Holidays (3)

Out of the 89 childminders in the district 28 will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. Childminders offer a total 522 funded early years places for children aged two, three and four in Broxtowe.

The data shows that 271 (81.63%) eligible children were accessing a 2 year place in Broxtowe in the summer term 2018. This is higher than the County average of 73%. Beeston North achieved the highest take up (96.15%) Beeston central had the lowest take up in the district (60.00%).

101.95% of 3 year olds and 100.90% of 4 year olds took up the universal offer of 15 hours.

Take-up of 30 hours has been successful in the first year of operation. 975 (66%) children have accessed a 30 hours place.

Parents Survey results

- 27 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 59 children covered by the survey. 19 children had used family and 19 used a pre-school for childcare in the last six months, with 13 using a day nursery. The most popular days of the week for needing childcare are Tuesday and Wednesday in Broxtowe, with Tuesday also the most popular evening that childcare is needed.
- 2 children access the full 15 hours funded for the most disadvantaged 2 year olds. 9 children accessed the funded 30 hours childcare, with 90% accessing the full 30 hours. 100% of parents are satisfied with the provision they use and 85% also satisfied with the days and times provision is available.
- 23 respondents pay for some childcare, with 52% paying with money and 30% using childcare vouchers. 55% of Broxtowe respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts but only 7% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account.
- The satisfaction rate with the national Childcare Choices website was only 47% in this district. 65% prefer childcare to be close to home, whilst 15% prefer childcare to be close to school.
- 13 said the additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for their household
- 8 use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that they used to pay for
- 7 would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours.
- 4 currently in work would increase their hours, or look for another job if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare per week
- 15% who do not use any childcare would consider using formal childcare such as a nursery, pre-school, or childminder for their child if they could use 30 free hours of childcare.
- 6 of those that have more than one dependent child would only use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare if they could use the same childcare provider for all of their children.

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>I work in a day nursery setting so took her to where I work</i>	<i>More after school clubs are needed. My 7 year old has one at her school but is heavily over-subscribed.</i>

<i>My childminder is amazing and so flexible</i>	<i>Day is only 9-3 a longer day to allow for work, no space on a weds pm due to reduced provision</i>
<i>I feel very lucky to have a good range of childcare close to my home</i>	<i>Unable to have both children in pre-school for the same hours.</i>
<i>My daughter really enjoys playgroup, they really encourage her interest in creative activities and outdoor play, they share her development through tapestry online and we love getting photos and observations on her :)</i>	<i>Difficult to find independent reviews and choose the best option</i>
<i>The pre-school my children attend is excellent in terms of their childcare provision. The hours are not conducive for a parent looking to return to work</i>	<i>My husband works shifts and I work a regular weekday evening and every Sunday, we struggle to find childcare during these times, particularly as we chose not to use a childminder.</i>
<i>I knew she'd be safe as I knew the setting well. Playgroup is somewhere she was familiar with</i>	<i>Not long enough hours at preschool have to rely on grandparents</i>
	<i>The cost of childcare for multiple children is astronomical</i>
	<i>Neither my partner nor I work set hours every week and often work outside the usual nursery opening times. We manage the majority of the childcare between ourselves which means we very rarely have time together as a family</i>

Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Broxtowe⁸:

Red (Very High)	Chilwell East ward
	Beeston West ward
Amber (High)	Bramcote ward
	Beeston Rylands ward

9.4 Gedling

The borough of Gedling is home to an estimated 116,500 people and comprises the towns of Arnold and Carlton and the surrounding parishes. It borders Sherwood Forest to the north, the River Trent to the South East and the City of Nottingham to the South West. Children from this district access City provision, and City children attend County provision.

Gedling District has a good range of childcare provision across the District and also has childcare providers who can offer City families childcare places. The population of Gedling is likely to increase over the coming years with 1000 homes planned for the former colliery site in Gedling.

Gedling has 49 schools, with 34 offering universal 15 hour funded early years places for 3 and 4 year olds. 4 schools offer places for funded 2 year olds and 11 are delivering some element of 30 hours funding. 8 schools run their own breakfast club, with many of the 14 PVI-run breakfast clubs on school sites, giving working parents access to childcare to enable them to travel to work. Many academies also run their own

⁸ Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards are defined by the projected demand of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds against the number of available places in an area. Hot spot wards can also be identified because of unexplained sustained low take up rates by children eligible for funded childcare.

breakfast and after school facilities however as the school census data from academies goes directly to the DfE, we are unable to confirm actual numbers. There are 12 PVI settings registered with Ofsted as out of school provision in the district, but many PVI providers, including childminders, offer childcare for school aged children during the holidays.

There are 145 childminders registered in Gedling, with an additional 3 childminders working for the Nottinghamshire Childminder Agency, making it the district with the most childminders in the county. 34 funded two year olds access their provision with childminders in the district and though the number accessing the universal offer for 3 and 4 year olds has dropped by 68, we have 143 children using childminders for the 30 hours entitlement. Childminders in Gedling offer very flexible childcare, with 35 operating before 7.00am and 30 after 6.00pm. There is also a healthy number who provide childcare on Saturdays (11) Sundays (10), overnight (10) and on Bank Holidays (4). A third of childminders in the district will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. Gedling has 22 registered childminders providing childcare during school holidays for school-aged children.

Gedling district has had 2 new nurseries open over the last year, with one pre-school closing and another under threat of closure. The district also benefits from 55 new childcare places, created via the new build at Robert Mellors primary and nursery school in Arnold.

Average childcare costs in Gedling day nurseries have increased by almost 4% over the last year, to around £3.75 per hour, though childminder costs for preschool children have seen a much lower rise of around 1.3%. However, the cost of after school childcare in a club has risen by 6% to £3.00 per hour and with childminders has risen by 4% to £3.47 since 2017.

The quality of registered provision is high, with 85% of providers rated as good or outstanding and 10% meeting Ofsted requirements. 27 providers have not yet been inspected by Ofsted. 2 childminders were rated as inadequate and another childminder and 2 day nurseries were rated as requires improvement in their last inspection. The Early Childhood Services team at NCC will continue to work with these providers to raise their quality.

In summer term 2018, the take up of funded places for two year olds in Gedling was 83%, which is a 10% fall from last year, but still well above the county average of 73%. Performance is only 44% in Ernhaile ward, 45% in Carlton ward, 47% in Phoenix ward and 53% in Colwick. NCC is now refocussing work with Children's Centre Services to identify eligible 2 year olds and encourage them to attend some sessions, to prepare them for their universal 15 hours entitlement at age 3.

Take up of the universal 15 hours for three year olds in Gedling is 107%. The county average take up for 3 year olds is 102%. Take up of the universal 15 hours for four year olds in Gedling is 110%, against a county average of 104%. This can be explained by a significant number of city children accessing provision just across the boundary. Only 73% of three year olds and 79% of four year olds in Daybrook ward and 84% 3 year olds and 75% 4 year olds in Carlton/Carlton Hill wards are taking up their entitlement.

Take-up of 30 hours has been a resounding success in its first year of operation. 1,122 children have accessed a 30 hours place in Gedling in the summer term 2018

Parents Survey results

- 26 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 47 children, 2 of whom were disabled children. 20 children had used family for childcare in the last six months, with 6 using a day nursery, 2 using a school nursery, 9 using a pre-school and 5 using a childminder. 9 children used a breakfast, after school or holiday club. The most popular days of the week are Tuesdays and Thursdays in Gedling, with 58% needing care in mornings. Childcare is needed every evening, including Saturday and Sunday by 11% of the respondents.

- 2 children in the survey have used a funded 15 hour place for 2 year olds in the last six months, with 7 accessing the universal 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds and 4 accessing 30 hours funded childcare. 100% of parents are satisfied with their provider for the free entitlement but only 67% were happy with the times and days available.
- 16 respondents pay for some childcare, with 75% paying with money and 19% using childcare vouchers. Only 26% of Gedling respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts and only 11% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account.
- Only 4 parents had used the national Childcare Choices website.
- 57% prefer childcare to be close to home, with 21% preferring close to school and 21% preferring on the route to work. One parents said they didn't mind as long as the provider had a good Ofsted report.
- 6 of those accessing 30 hours childcare said *"The additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for our household"*
- 3 of those accessing 30 hours said *"I use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that I used to pay for"*
- 3 parents would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours.
- 4 of those currently in work would increase their or their partner's hours, or look for another job if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare per week.
- 4 of those that have more than one dependent child would only use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare if they could use the same childcare provider for all of their children.
- 2 that do not use any childcare would consider using formal childcare such as a nursery, pre-school, or childminder for their child if they could use 30 free hours of childcare.

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>Brilliant child care from day nursery and forest school.</i>	<i>Not enough places available during holidays no other provision in the area</i>
<i>Offering the best early years provision for my child</i>	<i>No spaces</i>
<i>I have had no issues with my child but cost.</i>	<i>This needs addressing urgently, as it make life very difficult to hold down a job</i>
<i>I feel confident leaving my daughter.</i>	<i>I started working self-employed so I could work during school as there is very little childcare for children over 5 years.</i>
<i>This is the most amazing preschool!</i>	<i>Childcare provision does not target older children requiring support with getting meals, completing homework or generally supporting their wellbeing on inset days or during holidays.</i>

Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Gedling⁹:

Red (Very High)	Coppice Ward (Arnold)
	Colwick ward
	Carlton & Carlton Hill Ward
	Netherfield ward

Hot spot wards with poor take up rates in Gedling:

Red (Very High)	Daybrook ward (Arnold)
	Colwick ward
	Netherfield ward
	Carlton and Carlton Hill ward

9.5 Mansfield

Mansfield is a market town, it is the main town in the district and is part of the Mansfield urban area. Nestling in a pocket within the Maun Valley surrounded by hills, the town is around 12 miles north of Nottingham. The district is a largely urban area situated in the north west of Nottinghamshire populated by an estimated 125,00 residents, the vast majority of whom live in Mansfield (including Mansfield Woodhouse), with Market Warsop a secondary centre, and the remainder in the rural north of the district.

The population of Mansfield is likely to increase over the coming years with 1700 homes planned for the Mansfield and Ashfield regeneration route, starting at Berry Hill. As part of the development a new nursery and primary school are being developed to support the demand for additional school places.

The Child Population projections data is also forecasting a slight decrease over the next 20 years.

The district appears to have a good range of provision, but provider numbers are small, given the population of the district. There is a high number of maintained places for 3 and 4 year olds across Mansfield hence the very small number of voluntary managed groups in the area. Economic disadvantage across the district can present additional sustainability challenges for new and existing private, voluntary and independent childcare businesses.

80 childcare providers in Mansfield were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted.

Schools inspected since September 2014 have received a separate rating for their early years provision, 27 Mansfield Schools were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted.

18 schools in Mansfield run their own breakfast club, there are only 7 school run after school clubs.

The PVI sector run 7 breakfast clubs and 9 after school clubs.

There are 44 schools in Mansfield. 32 offer 3 and 4 year places. 13 have some children attending for part or all of the extended entitlement and 1 school now offers places for 2 year olds.

⁹ Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards are defined by the projected demand of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds against the number of available places in an area. Hot spot wards can also be identified because of unexplained sustained low take up rates by children eligible for funded childcare.

There are 62 registered Childminders in the district, 3 are agency childminders. 48 are accessing early education funding. 35 children are attending for 2 year places, 16 children are attending for their universal 3 and 4 year places and 120 children are attending for all or part of the extended entitlement.

Childminders offer very flexible childcare, with 27 operating before 7.00am and 16 after 6.00pm. 46 childminders offer school holiday care. There are a few who provide child care on Saturdays (13) Sundays (8), overnight (4) and on Bank Holidays (5) Out of the 62 registered childminders in the district 28 will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. Childminders offer 841 funded early years places for children aged two, three and four in Mansfield.

The data shows that 324 children (67.78 %) eligible children were accessing a 2 year place in Mansfield in the summer term 2018. This is lower than the county average of 73%. Warsop achieved the highest take up (68.25%) Forest Town had the lowest take up in the district (33%)

98.99% of 3 year olds and 100.88% of 4 year olds took up the universal offer of 15 hours.

Take up of 30 hours has been low with only 751 children accessing a place out of a possible 1457.

Parents Survey results

- 14 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey in Mansfield district, with a total of 25 children, 11 of whom are early years children. More children (12) use extended family for childcare with 8 using a day nursery and 5 using a childminder. 5 children use breakfast clubs. The most popular day of the week for childcare is Thursday in Mansfield. 10 parents (71%) rated their childcare provider as outstanding, with 4 rating the provider as good.
- Only 1 child in the survey have used a funded 15 hour place for 2 year olds in the last six months, with 4 accessing the universal 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds and 4 accessing 30 hours funded childcare. 100% of parents who answered the question are satisfied with their provider for the free entitlement and with the times and days available.
- 71% of respondents pay for some childcare each week. 36% pay with money and 36% use childcare vouchers with a further 18% using a combination of money and vouchers. 71% of Mansfield respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts but only 1 has set up a Tax Free Childcare account. There was a 59% satisfaction rating for the www.childcarechoices.gov.uk website
- 71% prefer childcare to be close to home, with only 21% preferring childcare to be close to work.
- 57% of those accessing 30 hours childcare said *"The additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for our household"*
- Half of those accessing 30 hours said *"I use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that I used to pay for"*
- 2 would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours
- 2 would increase their hours, or look for another job and another 1 would look for work if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare per week

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>My child had attended the setting from 5 months and prior to the additional funded hours being in place.</i>	<i>Very few childminders locally collecting from the school that I originally wanted my little boy to go to.</i>
<i>Offering the best early years provision for my</i>	<i>I receive 30 hours funding in September and my</i>

<i>child</i>	<i>childcare cost will be the same as I pay now without funding for the times I need</i>
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Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Mansfield¹⁰:

Red (Very High)	Sherwood ward
Amber (High)	Kings walk ward
	Holly ward

9.6 Newark and Sherwood

Newark and Sherwood is the largest district in Nottinghamshire and has a resident population of approximately 116,817 people. The district is made up of several distinct areas: the affluent market towns of Newark-on-Trent to the southeast and Southwell to the southwest which serve as the main shopping and service centres for the surrounding rural areas; the sparsely populated areas in the central and northern parts of the district, and the old mining areas to the north-western part of the district with relatively high levels of deprivation. The housing development planned as part of the Growth Point is significant across the South of Newark.

5.6% of the population is in the early years, with a further 17.1% in the school and training years life stage. Birth projections for Newark and Sherwood show a 7% increase over the next 20 years.

There is a good mix of childcare provision across the district; however the bulk is concentrated around the Newark and Southwell town areas, and to the north east of the district such as Edwinstowe and Clipstone. The provision is balanced across Day Nursery, Pre School provision and Childminders in the more rural and geographically isolated areas.

There are 52 schools in the district, with 43 offering funded early years places to three and four year olds. Half of schools in Newark and Sherwood run their own breakfast club, with a third running childcare after school on site giving working parents access to childcare to enable them to travel to work. There are also 13 registered out of school clubs in the district. Many childminders and other PVI providers also offer childcare for school aged children both after school and during holidays. These providers are able to do so within their existing Ofsted registration.

As is the case in the rest of the county, there has been a decrease in the number of childminders in the district, from 81 to 75. However, the childminders continue to work very flexibly with 33 offering short notice/emergency care, 22 providing care before 7.00am and 22 who operate after 6.00pm. 10 Childminders in Newark and Sherwood work Saturdays and 7 work Sundays, with 4 who work bank holidays and 7 providing overnight childcare. Childminders delivered 119 funded early years places for children aged 2, 3 and 4 in Newark and Sherwood in the summer term 2018.

There are 27 day nurseries in the district registered to offer 1,461 childcare places, plus 15 preschools who operate for sessions during term time only offering an additional 423. There are also 16 Home Childcarers, who provide care in the child's own home.

The cost of childcare in a nursery in Newark and Sherwood is on average £3.58 per hour, which is the lowest in the county. As with most of the county, the cost of care for pre-school children by childminders

¹⁰ Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards are defined by the projected demand of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds against the number of available places in an area. Hot spot wards can also be identified because of unexplained sustained low take up rates by children eligible for funded childcare.

has fallen and now is at an average of £3.70 per hour. However childminder hourly rates for school aged children have risen by 15% to £3.33. It is not clear if childminders are charging more for non- funded childcare, to compensate for the difference between what they would charge for a childcare place and what they receive from the local authority for a funded place.

The quality of childcare in the district is very good with 88% of provision judged as good or better on inspection by Ofsted. 14 providers in the district achieved an outstanding judgement, with none rated as inadequate and 3 providers require improvement. 8 childminders were inspected with no children present, so were judged as having met Ofsted registration requirements, but no quality rating has been awarded. 1 Childminder did not meet these requirements and is being supported to raise their quality. 16 providers have yet to be inspected and awarded a quality rating.

In summer term 2018, the take up of funded places for two year olds in Newark and Sherwood was 67%, which is an increase of 1% on last year, but still below the county average of 73%. Performance is only 43% in Castle ward in Newark , 20% in Collingham and 43% in Southwell wards , though there are comparatively small numbers of children eligible for a two year old place in that area. Of greater concern would be Balderton South ward (63%) where eligible children are not accessing their place. Take-up Bridge ward in Newark has increased from 68% last year to 82% in summer 2018.

Take up of universal funded places for three year olds is 97% against a county average 101% and 99% against 103% for four year olds. Areas of concern in the district are Collingham ward with 73% of 3 year olds and 78% of 4 year olds taking up a place, (however, with other parts of Newark town showing over 100% take-up, then children living in this ward could be accessing provision out of catchment), and Rainworth North and Rufford ward, which may be due to children travelling to other schools following an inadequate Ofsted inspection in a local school.

Take-up of 30 hours has been a resounding success in its first year of operation. 826 children have accessed a 30 hours place in Newark and Sherwood in the summer term 2018.

Parents' Survey results

- Only 66 families responded to the summer 2017 childcare survey, 33 of whom had two children and 24 had one child. 59 children under age five were covered by the survey, with a total of nine disabled children, (only one under age 5) also included. 54 children had used family for childcare in the last six months, with 39 using a day nursery, 21 using a school nursery, 11 using a pre-school and 19 using a childminder. 36 children had used both breakfast and after school clubs. The most popular days of the week to use childcare are Tuesday and Thursday in Newark and Sherwood, with Wednesday and Monday the most popular evenings that childcare is needed.
- 28 children have used a funded 15 hour place in the last six months, with the majority (26) accessing their full 15 hours. Most children were using their free hours in morning sessions, with Wednesday and Tuesday the busiest days. 26 parents are satisfied with the free entitlement, though three would prefer to have the hours stretched over more weeks of the year or for whole days.
- 53 respondents pay for some childcare, with 33 paying for between 8 and 20 hours of care per week. 45 would definitely use the 30 hours funding (including another 4 who were likely to), with most using between 11 and 15 additional hours. 40 respondents stated that 30 hours childcare would significantly reduce the household outgoings on childcare and 15 would look to increase their hours of work when in receipt of the additional funded hours.
- Satisfaction rates with the www.childcarechoices.gov.uk website were 56%. Only 82% of respondents stated that it was easy to find childcare, with 12 families citing difficulties, particularly with childcare for school aged children. One parent was finding it difficult to find respite care for a disabled child. 86% were able to access childcare at suitable times and days, but 8% could not access childcare to wrap around the school day or holiday periods. The large majority prefer childcare to be close to home.

- 41 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 87 children covered by the survey, with a total of 6 disabled children, (none under age 5) also included. 33 children in these families were under 5. 20 children had used family for childcare in the last six months, with 3 using a day nursery, 8 using a school nursery, 6 using a pre-school and 6 using a childminder. The most popular days of the week are Tuesdays and Thursdays in Newark and Sherwood, which are also the most popular evenings that childcare is needed.
- 22 parents rated the quality of their childcare provision with 10 saying the provision was outstanding and 12 saying it was good.
- Only 3 children have accessed a funded place for 2 year olds in the last 6 months, but all accessed the full 15 hours available. 8 children have used a funded universal 15 hour place, with the all accessing the full 15 hours. The split of children using their free hours in morning or afternoon sessions was quite even, with Tuesday and Thursday the busiest days. 5 children accessed the funded 30 hours childcare, with only 1 accessing the full 30 hours. 100 % of parents are satisfied with the venues offering the free entitlement, with 82% satisfied with the times and days the funded places are available. The reasons given for dissatisfaction were because one parent was only offered a morning place and another parent wanted to access the funding at a weekend. Funded places on a weekend are usually available with childminders.
- 15 respondents pay for some childcare, with 40% paying with money and 20% using childcare vouchers. 58% of Newark and Sherwood respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts and 16% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account and are using it to pay for their childcare.
- The satisfaction rate with the national Childcare Choices website was 62%. 72%% prefer childcare to be close to home, with 15% preferring it to be close to school.
- 92% of those accessing 30 hours childcare said *"The additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for our household"*
- 50% of those accessing 30 hours said *"I use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that I used to pay for"*
- 16% of parents would switch to another childcare provider to use the full 30 hours if their current provider could only deliver 15 hours.
- 8% of those currently in work or with partners in work would increase their hours, or look for another job if they were able to use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare per week.
- 8% of those that have more than one dependent child would only use the additional 15 funded hours of childcare if they could use the same childcare provider for all of their children

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>Excellent service offered by my day nursery</i>	<i>Nothing for working parents during school holidays that are open from 8 am until 5.30 that are suitable for older children.</i>
<i>We had to form a committee and set up an after school club, lots of work involved</i>	<i>I feel 2 year funding and 3 year funding should be for working parents only!</i>
	<i>Due to needs and hours</i>
	<i>Would really benefit from weekend provision</i>
	<i>My partner works shifts. I also work evenings and weekends so we struggle to sort out childcare out of hours</i>

	<i>No other than please do something about offering child care for older kids during school holidays that fit in to a normal working day.</i>
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Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Newark and Sherwood¹¹:

Red (Very High)	Balderton South ward
	Collingham ward

Hot spot wards with poor take up rates in Newark and Sherwood:

Red (Very High)	Castle Ward
	Rainworth North ward
	Rufford ward

9.7 Rushcliffe

Rushcliffe lies immediately south of the City of Nottingham and the River Trent and extends across towards Newark in the North East and Loughborough in the South West. Although parts of the borough lie close to Nottingham, Rushcliffe has a strong identity of its own. Rushcliffe borough has an estimated population of 115,200, with over a third of Rushcliffe's population living in West Bridgford. The remainder of the district is largely rural, with the centres of population split between small towns and villages.

Rushcliffe - has 46 schools, with 35 offering universal 15 hour funded early years places for 3 and 4 year olds. 2 schools offer places for funded 2 year olds and 9 are delivering 30 hours funding. 9 schools run their own breakfast club, with 7 PVI-run breakfast clubs on school sites, giving working parents access to childcare to enable them to travel to work. There are also 9 school-run after school clubs, and 14 clubs run by PVI providers. Many academies run their own breakfast and after school facilities, exempt from Ofsted registration if run directly by the academy. School census data from academies goes directly to the DfE, so we are unable to confirm actual numbers. Many PVI providers, including childminders and day nurseries, offer childcare for school aged children during the holidays.

There are 81 registered childminders in Rushcliffe, with an additional 2 childminders working for the Nottinghamshire Childminder Agency. 7 funded two year olds access their provision with childminders in the district and though the number accessing the universal offer for 3 and 4 year olds has dropped to 13, we have 50 children using childminders for the 30 hours entitlement. Childminders in Rushcliffe offer very flexible childcare, with 14 operating before 7.00am and 17 after 6.00pm. 6 childminders provide childcare on Saturdays and 3 on Sundays, with 6 providing childcare overnight and 1 on Bank Holidays. 22% of childminders in the district will offer childcare at very short notice or during an emergency. Rushcliffe has 45 registered childminders providing childcare during school holidays for school-aged children.

2 new nurseries have opened over the last year, with the number of pre-schools remaining the same. There are 25 home-childcarers in Rushcliffe, who provide care for a child in the child's own home.

Average childcare costs in Rushcliffe day nurseries have increased by 3% over the last year, to £4.40 per hour – the highest in the county, where the average is £3.78 per hour. The most expensive nursery in the

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county is in Rushcliffe. Childminder costs for preschool children have fallen slightly to an average of £3.95. However, the cost of after school childcare in a club has risen by 8% to £3.06 per hour, but with childminders has risen by a whopping 42% to £5.00 per hour since 2017.

The quality of registered provision is high, with 86% of providers rated as good or outstanding and 10% meeting Ofsted requirements. 18 providers have not yet been inspected by Ofsted. No providers were rated as inadequate and 3 rated as requires improvement in their last inspection will be supported by Early Childhood Services team to raise their quality.

In summer term 2018, the take up of funded places for two year olds in Rushcliffe was 89%, well above the county average of 73%. Take up by eligible 2 year olds is only 42% in Bingham west ward. As the main focus during 2018 has been take-up of 30 hours for 3 and 4 year olds, we are now refocussing work with children's centres to identify eligible 2 year olds and encourage them to attend some sessions, to prepare them for their universal 15 hours entitlement at age 3.

Take up of the universal 15 hours for three year olds in Rushcliffe is 119%. The county average take up for 3 year olds is 102% Take up of the universal 15 hours for four year olds in Rushcliffe is 120%, against a county average of 103.8%. This can be explained by a significant number of city children accessing provision just across the boundary. Only 72% of three year olds and 90% of four year olds in Gamston North ward and 92% 3 year olds and 88% 4 year olds in Trent Bridge ward are taking up their entitlement. Only 64% of 3 year olds in Bunny access their provision. We would suspect that as take-up across the district is over 100% that families who are very mobile travel to take up provision out of catchment.

Take-up of 30 hours has been a resounding success in its first year of operation. 1301 children have accessed a 30 hours place in Rushcliffe in the summer term 2018.

Parents Survey results

- Only 9 families responded to the summer 2018 childcare survey with a total of 15 children, 12 of whom are early years children. In a very marked change from other districts, more children (4) use a preschool than extended family (3) for childcare with 3 using a day nursery. The most popular day of the week for childcare is Wednesday in Rushcliffe. Childcare is needed in the evening and at weekends.
- 3 children in the survey have used a funded 15 hour place for 2 year olds in the last six months, with 5 accessing the universal 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds and 4 accessing 30 hours funded childcare. 100% of parents are satisfied with their provider for the free entitlement and with the times and days available.
- 57% pay with money and though 78% of Rushcliffe respondents had heard of Tax Free Childcare Accounts and only 11% have set up a Tax Free Childcare account.
- 89% prefer childcare to be close to home, with only 1 parent preferring childcare to be on the route to work.
- 4 of those accessing 30 hours childcare said *"The additional 15 funded hours of childcare would significantly reduce the cost of childcare for our household"*
- 4 of those accessing 30 hours said *"I use the additional funded hours towards the childcare that I used to pay for"*
- 1 who currently do not use any childcare would consider using formal childcare such as a nursery, pre-school, or childminder for their child if they could use 30 free hours of childcare.

Parents' comments

Positive Comments	Negative Comments
<i>Very happy with provision from both child-</i>	<i>But unhappy at having to pay for the 15h I ac-</i>

<i>minder and preschool ...</i>	<i>cess at preschool.</i>
<i>I work long and irregular hours, luckily we have the means to pay for a nanny</i>	<i>I think we are missing a crèche as this would suit so many mums. Either working shifts or just going to do some shopping, cleaning etc.</i>
<i>My nursery is very flexible and small and homely- lovely setting</i>	
<i>Need to use grandparent to keep cost down and ensure homely environment</i>	

Hot spot wards requiring additional childcare in Rushcliffe¹²:

Red (Very High)	Bingham west
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Hot spot wards with poor take up rates in Rushcliffe:

Red (Very High)	Trent Bridge ward
	Gamston ward

¹² Hot spot wards are likely to change midway through the year depending on new provision, provision closing, waiting lists and occupancy. This data is a snap shot in time, however hot spot wards are defined by the projected demand of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds against the number of available places in an area. Hot spot wards can also be identified because of unexplained sustained low take up rates by children eligible for funded childcare.

10. Recommendations and Next Steps

	Recommendation	Proposed Action
A.	Review support arrangements to improve data returns from early years providers across Nottinghamshire to improve the understanding of demand and supply.	<p>Strengthen and instigate compliance of local Early Years Provider Agreement and statutory requirement to submit timely headcount data. Monitoring of data submissions with ensure the council contacts early years providers who do not meet deadlines.</p> <p>Deliver regular targeted workshops to the early years sector across the county for providers to demonstrate use of the self-update module, including schools.</p> <p>Ensure all Early Childhood Services team members promote the use of the self-update module during visits to early years settings.</p>
B.	Targeted work in areas to ensure sufficient places (in particular for 2 year olds) and establish new ways to support their take up.	<p>Increase work and support for schools who currently provide childcare for 3 and 4 year olds to lower their age range to create places for eligible 2 year olds (in particular across hot spot wards).</p> <p>Implementation of Early Childhood Services communications and marketing plan, including the increased promotion of the Families Information Service Facebook page and Notts Help Yourself website and continue targeted promotion in hot spot wards where take up rates are low.</p> <p>Implement new processes for Children's Centre services to make contact with all families that are eligible for funding and not yet taking their place.</p> <p>Engage early years providers who no longer offer childcare places for 2 year olds who have instead refocused their provision to solely provide places for 3 and 4 year olds, to understand their rationale and encourage them to reconsider.</p>
C.	Develop Partnership Hubs between local providers to strengthen joint working arrangements and ensure sufficient places meet local parents' needs.	<p>Establish joint working arrangements with existing early years providers in hot spot wards, bringing together schools, childminders, and other PVI providers to deliver combined childcare options for parents.</p> <p>Use learning from the local Action for Children project to embed partnership hubs across hot spot wards.</p>
D.	Work in partnership to establish new childminder provision in target areas.	<p>Work with the local Childminding Agency (@Home Childcare) to roll out a targeted campaign to recruit childminders in areas of low childcare sufficiency.</p> <p>Increase promotion of Nottinghamshire County Council website and Notts Help Yourself to signpost prospective childminders to guidance and tools to help establish their new business.</p> <p>Signpost prospective childminders to the local Child-minding Agency and the national charity PACEY.</p> <p>Create a council 0.5FTE post to lead on support and recruitment of childminders by realigning council funding to prioritise this area of work following committee approval.</p> <p>Creation of toolkit for prospective childminders by working with the</p>

		local Childminding Agency.
E.	Ensure providers with less than Good Ofsted ratings are prioritised for quality improvement support	<p>Continue to offer free packages of support to settings judged as 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement' by Ofsted.</p> <p>Successful implementation of the Early Years Improvement Plan which focuses on quality and attainment.</p>
F.	Promote supplementary funding available for vulnerable children and review and share best practice guidance to improve their outcomes.	<p>Active promotion of supplementary funding to local early years providers through briefings, factsheets, application processes and newsletters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion Fund • Deprivation Fund • Disability Access Fund • Early Years Pupil Premium <p>Increased focus on the promotion of the Disability Access Fund for children claiming Disability Living Allowance, by promoting funding entitlements to parents of children with SEND who are not accessing childcare provision through local services working with this cohort.</p> <p>Ensure all early years providers in receipt of supplementary funding provide outcome tracking data through the 'Better Start' tool as part of the Nottinghamshire Early Years Provider Agreement.</p> <p>Carry out in depth analysis to of Better Start data to assess the impact of supplementary funding on the development of eligible children each term.</p> <p>In depth review of the new Early Years Inclusion fund application and monitoring processes after a year of implementation (April 2019).</p> <p>in depth review of the new Deprivation Fund criteria on outcomes for 3 and 4 year olds known to social care after a year of implementation (April 2019).</p>
G.	Promote take up of Tax Free Childcare accounts by parents	<p>Active promotion of Tax Free Childcare through websites, social media and media releases to target eligible parents.</p> <p>Publish more information on the Notts Help Yourself website to help promote Tax Free Childcare to parents.</p> <p>Continue to brief local partners regarding childcare funding including Tax Free Childcare.</p>
H.	Strengthen consultation activities with parents of preschool children to better gain their views to help meet their needs.	<p>Future consultation exercises to be promoted through Children's Centre Facebook pages which are more targeted to parents with preschool children.</p> <p>Children's Centre services will be tasked to support future consultation exercises.</p> <p>Ensure that consultation exercises gather the views of parents across Nottinghamshire to greater understand local needs.</p>