

Redcar & Cleveland Childcare Sufficiency Report 2022



Children & Families Directorate
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

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Childcare Sufficiency Report 2022

1. Introduction

1.1 Background Legislation

Childcare provision is a crucial part of today's society and an integral part of family life as it enables parents to work, improves children's outcomes and helps narrow the gap between disadvantaged children and their peers.

Over the last 16 years progress has been made to increase the affordability and availability of childcare in the UK. Working parents are able to receive help to fund childcare and non-working parents are able to access funded childcare to improve their child's life chances.

The Childcare Act 2006 and subsequent Childcare Act 2016 place a duty on local authorities to report annually on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare.

Sufficient childcare means securing the right type and volume of provision, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents or those undertaking training with the intention of returning to work, for children aged 0 - 14 (up to 18 for a disabled child).

There is also a separate, but linked duty, to secure sufficient early years provision, so that families can access their free early education entitlement (570 hours per year over a minimum of 38 weeks for qualifying 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year old children). From 1st September 2017 the Childcare Act 2016 placed a duty on local authorities to secure 30 hours free early education and childcare for qualifying children, over a minimum of 38 weeks per year for working parents. The 30 hours includes the universal 15 hours free early education entitlement and an additional 15 hours for working parents who meet the eligibility criteria, determined by the HMRC.

Families often access both their free early education entitlement and childcare together; many providers offer places to meet these requirements. Therefore this report contains information about the supply and take-up of all free early education entitlement.

1.2 Childcare Sufficiency

Childcare sufficiency is not just about having enough childcare places, it is about ensuring the provision is of a high quality; that it improves the outcomes for children, narrows the gap in attainment and is inclusive and flexible to meet families' needs.

The provision needs to ensure continuity of care and service by being a sustainable business with affordable fees. A sufficient, sustainable, quality childcare market underpins the poverty agenda, supports local economic development and the Council's Early Help Strategy, which is delivered through the Council and its partner organisations.

To secure sufficient childcare places, local authorities should take into account what is reasonably practicable when assessing what sufficient childcare means, including:

- background and contextual information regarding population, labour market information (LMI), early years and childcare provision across the Borough.

- information about the supply of childcare for particular age ranges of children, and the affordability, accessibility and quality of provision;
- the state of the local childcare market, including the demand for specific types of providers, and the amount and type of supply that currently exists;
- the quality and capacity of childcare providers; and
- details of how gaps in childcare provision will be addressed, if applicable.

1.3 The Annual Childcare Sufficiency Report

The Children & Families Act 2014 repealed the duty on local authorities to prepare assessments about the sufficiency of provision of childcare in their area at least every 3 years; replacing this with the duty to report annually to Elected Members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare.

There is a requirement to make the annual childcare sufficiency report available and accessible to parents; the report is therefore published on the Redcar and Cleveland website and People's Information Network (PIN). The results of the audit of existing childcare provision can be found in Appendix 1.

The Local Authority is responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in the report, geographical division and date of publication. However, the report should include:

- specific reference to how we are ensuring there is sufficient childcare available to meet the needs of disabled children, children from families in receipt of the childcare element of working tax credit or universal credit, children aged 2, 3 and 4 taking up early education places, school aged children and children needing holiday care;
- information about the supply and demand of childcare for particular age ranges of children, including affordability, accessibility and quality of provision; and
- details of how any gaps in childcare provision will be addressed, where applicable.

1.4 Progress since 2021

The Childcare Sufficiency Report of 2021 was published on the Redcar and Cleveland website and People's Information Network. Although the results of the childcare occupancy audit demonstrated that overall there were sufficient childcare places across the borough, it was acknowledged that these pre-school places may not necessarily be in the locations that parents would prefer or be flexible enough to meet the needs of working parents. Work continued over the last year to try to encourage partnership working between settings to increase flexibility, for instance between schools and private day nurseries or childminders.

During 2021, childcare places within the Borough continued to be of a high quality; this is evidenced by the majority of childcare providers achieving judgements of 'Good' or above by Ofsted in their inspection of registered service providers. In 2021, 82% of childcare provider (private day nurseries and childminders) were rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. In 2022, the percentage increased further to 92 %.

The childcare parent/carers' survey conducted in July/ August this year to inform the 2022 childcare sufficiency report, has highlighted that a small number of parents are experiencing problems accessing childcare in the right location and covering the hours they need to meet their requirements.

524 parents completed the survey with 266 who use childcare, last year 652 completed the survey.

When asked:

- Do you think childcare in Redcar and Cleveland is in the right location for your needs?

91% of parents felt childcare was in the right location and only 9% felt it was not (19 parents) (2021 survey results show that 89% of parents felt childcare was in the right location and 11% felt it was not)

- Do you think childcare in Redcar and Cleveland covers the hours you need?

71% of parents felt that childcare did cover the hours they needed and 29% (60 parents), felt that it did not. (2021 survey shows 74% of parents felt that childcare covered the hours they needed and 26% felt it did not)

Contextual Information

The borough of Redcar and Cleveland is located on the northeast coast of England, south of the River Tees. At 93 square miles, it is the largest of the borough's which make up the Tees Valley region, and form the Tees Valley Combined Authority, this also includes the boroughs of Middlesbrough, Stockton, Hartlepool and Darlington.

The geography of Redcar and Cleveland is diverse with a multitude of towns and villages, a beautiful coastline and countryside including a section of the North York Moors National Park, making it an attractive destination for visitors. In total contrast to this the borough is home to one of the largest industrial complexes in the country, inclusive of world class petrochemical and Teesworks the UK's largest freeport and home to diverse sustainable and low carbon industry.

The communities in the borough are varied like its geography. Although some of the towns and villages in Redcar and Cleveland are thriving, some are experiencing extreme levels of deprivation, with low housing demand, high levels of crime and unemployment, poor health, and low educational attainment. The 2019 Indices of Deprivation, a measure of deprivation at lower super output area level (LSOA), small geographical areas of approximately 1600 people, assessed 18 of the 79 LSOAs in the borough to be amongst the 10% most deprived nationally. In stark contrast to this there are 7 LSOAs amongst the 10% least deprived nationally.

In the 2021 census Redcar and Cleveland had a population of 136,500 of which 98.6% were White British. There is a greater level of diversity in the school-aged child population than suggested by the Census data (2011). As at June 2021 (<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/school-pupils-and-their-characteristics>), 7.89% of children attending state-funded secondary schools and 5.43% of children attending a state-funded primary school in Redcar and Cleveland were from a BME background.

Schools	All pupils	BME Minority	Percentage
State-funded primary	12964	704	5.43%
State-funded secondary	8262	652	7.89%
State-funded special school	399	23	5.76%
PRU	68	4	5.89%
Total	21693	1383	6.37

The resident population in 2020 was 137,200 (www.nomisweb.co.uk). The resident population has been in decline since the early 1980's. This decline has had an impact on the child population and forecasts predict that the 0-4 year old child population would decrease by 9% over the period 2016 to 2020, from approx. 7,700 to 7,000 children.

The table below shows the child population and population as a whole in 2020, compared to 2018.

	All residents	Aged 0-4 years	Aged 5-7 years	Aged 8-9 years	Aged 10-14 years	Child population (aged 0-14 years)
2020	137,228	6954	4,827	3,462	7,990	23,233
2018	136718	7348	5151	3,108	7,768	23,375
% change 2018/2020	+0.37%	-5.7%	-6.71%	+10.23%	+2.78%	-0.61%

Source: ONS mid-year estimates 2017; Census 2011

Child population projections

	Age range (000's)			
	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total 0-14 years
2020	7.2	8.2	7.9	23.3
2021	7	8.2	8.2	23.4
2022	6.8	8.1	8.5	23.4
2023	6.7	7.8	8.6	23.1
2024	6.7	7.7	8.7	23.1
% change 2020 to 2024	-7.40%	-6.50%	9.20%	-0.85%

Source: 2018-based sub-national population projections, five year age groups. Population data rounded. Percentages rounded

There are bold and ambitious plans detailed in Redcar and Cleveland's Local Plan that sets out the planned new housing developments across the borough; from 2017/2018 to 2021/2022 a total of 2,453 new homes are planned. The Local Plan recognises the need to retain the borough's working age population in order to assist with objectives to increase employment, stimulate economic

growth, reduce dependency ratios and rebalance the population profile. The corporate objective is to grow the population by approximately 250 people per year more than official population estimates, with a particular focus on working age households and families.

The predicted decline in the child population and the challenges faced by the local authority to increase growth, will impact on the childcare market within the borough and will need to be closely monitored through the annual childcare sufficiency report. The UK has hit a record low birth rate. It is predicted by 2025 that the UK's natural population will start to decline with more deaths than births; the birth rate for England and Wales was 1.61 children per woman, well below the 2.1 that is required to keep the population stable.

Source: ONS

The area has a unique social and economic mix with areas of disadvantage situated alongside affluence. The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 shows that the borough ranks an average score of 40th out of the 317 local authorities in the country and ranked 29th within the 10% most deprived areas nationally.

Data suggests the gap between the most deprived and least deprived wards is widening. The health of people in Redcar and Cleveland is generally worse than the England average. Redcar and Cleveland is one of the 20% most deprived districts/unitary authorities in England and about 26% (6,084) of children live in low income families. Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the England average.

The Indices of deprivation

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND



<https://ocsi.uk/indices-of-deprivation/> Indices of deprivation 2019

2. Children and Young People in Redcar and Cleveland

The Public Health England, Child Health Profile, March 2021 states that the health and wellbeing of children in Redcar and Cleveland is generally worse than the England average. 27.7% of children

under the age of 16 are classed as living in child poverty; this is higher than the regional average of 26.4% and national average of 15.6%.

Source: children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-2014-to-2021.ods (live.com)

For every 100 children and young people:

- 22.0% live in poverty
- 48.0% Average Attainment 8 score ([National Average Attainment 8 score is 50.9](#))5.4% between the ages of 16 to 18 will not be in education, employment or training
- 13.1% children aged 4-5 years are classified as obese and 24.0% will be obese by the age of 10-11 years.

Source: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938133228/pat/6/par/E12000001/ati/102/are/E06000003/cid/4>

2.1 Labour Market Information (LMI)

The traditional employment base of Redcar and Cleveland has been manufacturing based on steel, chemicals and heavy engineering. However, over recent decades, there has been a decline in these industries which has impacted upon many communities in the borough and the North East, resulting in areas of urban deprivation and a declining population.

The chemical industry, mainly based at Wilton International, is a vitally important part of the local, regional and national economy. Despite the cessation of steel making in Redcar, the steel sector continues to be an important part of the local economy. Teesport is one of the largest freight ports in the UK, a major employer in the borough and a key economic asset for the Tees Valley. The port forms part of a wider logistics sector which has expanded in recent years and has the potential for further growth (Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan adopted May 2018). In March 2021, as part of the Spring Budget, Tees Valley was announced as one of the first places to get Freeport status under the new Government policy to create Freeports across the country. [Teesside Freeport - Tees Valley Combined Authority](#) (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)

Redcar and Cleveland has lower levels of economic activity and higher levels of unemployment than national averages; levels of unemployment are 1.3% higher than Great Britain but are 0.1% lower than the average North East rate.

2.2 Economic activity

Economic activity in Redcar and Cleveland (the number or percentage of people of working age who are either in employment or who are unemployed); is lower than the North East region and Great Britain as a whole, with 72.3% of people economically active in Redcar and Cleveland compared to 75.0% North East and 78.55% for the whole of Great Britain. Our Borough's unemployment levels are lower at 6.0% than regional levels at 6.1%, and higher than national averages at 4.8%.

Economic activity rates October 2020-September 2021

	Redcar and Cleveland %	North East %	Great Britain %

All people:	137,200	2,680,800	65,185,700
Economically active	72.3%	75.0%	78.5%
In employment	67.7%	70.4%	74.6%
Employees	60.1%	62.8%	65.0%
Self employed	7.7%	7.4%	9.5%
Unemployed	6.0%	6.1%	4.8%

Source: ONS annual population survey (NOMIS). Percentage is a proportion of economically active Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics (nomisweb.co.uk)

Earnings by place of residence

Across Redcar and Cleveland gross weekly pay and hourly pay (excluding overtime) are lower than across the North East and compared to Great Britain as a whole.

Earnings by place of residence (2021)

	Redcar and Cleveland	North East	Great Britain
Gross weekly pay	£510.50	£546.80	£613.10
Hourly pay	£13.13	£14.05	£15.65

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings – residence analysis

Economic inactivity rates October 2020 to September 2021

	Redcar and Cleveland %	North East %	Great Britain %
All people: economically inactive	27.7%	25.0%	21.5%
Not wanting a job	77.8%	75.7%	80.2%
Wanting a job	22.2%	24.3%	19.8%

Source: ONS annual population survey (NOMIS)

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157062/report.aspx?town=redcar#tabempunemp>

It should be noted that a relatively high percentage of economically inactive residents (of working age) are retired; 17.4% compared to 13.6% in the North East and 13.8% in Great Britain.

Out of work benefits

From November 2018 Universal Credit (UC) means-tested benefit for people of working age who are on a low income became operational in Redcar and Cleveland. Under UC a broader span of

claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out the number of people being recorded on the claimant count is likely to rise.

As at June 2022 4.2% of Redcar and Cleveland's resident population aged 16-64 years old were claiming out of work benefits, compared to 4.2% regionally and 3.8% nationally. (For info: July 2021 5.9% Redcar/6.1% NE & 5.5% GB).

21.0% of households in Redcar and Cleveland are workless, compared to 17.8% in the North East and 13.6% across Great Britain (January 2020 to December 2020).

Source: ONS annual population survey.

3. Overview of Childcare in Redcar and Cleveland

Redcar and Cleveland has a well-established market to meet the demands of parents with regards to their childcare requirements, with a combination of school-based, privately owned and voluntary sector or independently-led facilities (PVI), including childminders.

Childcare providers cater for private working customers requiring care for babies from 6 weeks of age upwards, as well as for primary age children around the school day. In addition to income from these private customers, childcare settings across the borough rely heavily on local authority funded early years places (which are free of charge to parents at the point of delivery), and of which there are three main types:

- Early Education Places for 2 year olds for low income or unemployed families (15 hours a week)
- Early Education Places for 3 & 4 year olds (15 hours a week for all)
- The Extended entitlement (up to 30 hours a week) for 3 & 4 year olds of working parents

Parental choice for the 2 year old entitlement is spread across the sector and children who qualify for this free 15 hours of funded childcare can access their place in a setting that meets their individual needs. The highest percentage of families access their child's 2 year old place within a private day nursery 67%, compared to 25% within a school nursery setting and 8% with childminders.

Nationally, the take up of 2 year old funded childcare places for 2021 was 62%*. This is a decrease from 2020 figure of 69%. However, in Redcar and Cleveland, figures from the January early years census in 2022 show that 79% of eligible children were accessing their entitlement which is much higher than the national average.

*Source: National Statistics; Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2021 - official figures only published every 2 years.

Across the Borough, school nurseries, private sector settings and childminders are registered by Ofsted to offer 3 & 4 year old universal early years education places for 15 hours per week. The highest proportion 90% (compared to 82.4% in 2021), accessed a place within a school nursery setting, whereas 9% (12.4% in 2021) accessed their 15 hours per week place with a private day nursery and only 1% (5.2% in 2021) were with childminders. This is a 7.6% decrease on last years' figures for PVI settings including Childminders but returns to the levels seen in 2020 pre-lockdown. Although, the trend of most children in our borough attending a school nursery is reflected nationally, it should be noted that our use of the PVI sector, is still much lower than either the

regional or national picture. In the North East 24% of children took up their universal 15 hours per week in PVI settings and nationally it was 41%, compared to our average of only 8% in PVIs, according to the January 2021 early years census.

For working parents only, the take up of the 3 & 4 year old extended entitlement of 30 hours demonstrates a different picture; with the highest proportion (50%), taking up a place in a private day nursery, whilst (22%) are with childminders and (28%) are within a school nursery setting. This is similar to last year, but it should be noted that there has been a decrease in children attending a PVI setting and an increase in attendance at school nurseries since 2020. This is due to more schools now offering extended funding. During 2022, four further schools have considered opening a 30-hour extended setting with one school opening a setting in May 2022 and a further two expected in September 2022. However, the PVI sector still has the highest proportion of children taking the extended funding.

The local childcare market supports parents to work and access training so is vital to the Borough's economic success. It also employs a large number of our residents in day nurseries or in self-employment as registered childminders. In addition, the Education Policy Institute (EPI) and the Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) have published recent reports which demonstrate there is good evidence that attending high-quality early years provision can improve a wide range of child outcomes, from ensuring children's healthy cognitive, behavioural, social and physical development, to laying the foundations for future, longer-term developmental milestones. These are also key factors in improving outcomes for children and families, [ensuring children are ready for school](#).

3.1 Informal Childcare

Research by the social policy division of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reported that the use of informal childcare increases as children move from the 0-2 year old age group to the 3-5 year old age group, reflecting the increase in the likelihood of parents with children in this age group being employed. Informal childcare rates often fall as children reach compulsory school age, however often incompatibility between school and working hours require some informal childcare arrangements to continue. Informal childcare for children in the lower years of secondary school can be accessed through sporting or other leisure activities and after school homework clubs. Although it is acknowledged that informal childcare is an important source of support to parents; there are no local data sources that record the volume and frequency of informal childcare, nor at what time of the day this type of childcare use occurs. Without this information, it is difficult to build up a comprehensive picture of the ways in which parents use different forms of childcare, which is important for understanding how childcare can work best to support parents back to work or to increase their hours of work. It is generally accepted that those who work atypical hours (nights/weekends) respond in surveys about the lack of flexibility from formal childcare providers, and this remains an issue nationally as on the whole, the childcare market has not felt it is financially viable to respond with this provision for a small minority. Source: <http://www.oecd.org/els/family/PF3-3-Informal-childcare-arrangements.pdf>

3.2 Formal Childcare

Formal childcare is largely defined as Ofsted registered provision (for quality control and child protection purposes). Childcare is primarily needed to enable parents and carers to go to work or to access training. Another significant demand on the sector is the statutory duty to deliver sufficient early years education funded places for eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

The Childcare Sufficiency (CSA) Report and findings from the associated Occupancy Audit relate solely to all provision registered as an Ofsted-regulated childcare provider.

Ofsted registered childminders and day nurseries provide full day care places for children aged 6 weeks old and above, generally operating between 7.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. Wrap-around childcare is also available to support parents and carers to access before and after-school and pre-school provision across the day. Holiday provision is available for working parents but reporting is unreliable, as much is provided through non-registered settings such as sport and leisure centres.

It is acknowledged that provision should be as flexible as possible to support those parents working typical hours, as mentioned above. There are currently 5 childminders registered to provide overnight care and 4 who stipulate that they offer weekend provision; however, the majority of childminders do state that they offer 5 or more days a week and can be contacted regarding specific requests from parents/carers.

To date, all enquiries for out-of-hours provision made through the Families' Information Service childcare search facility have been responded to successfully. It should be noted, however, that the number of such enquiries is very low so cannot be relied upon as an accurate reflection of demand (see section above on 'informal' childcare).

However, when parents were asked: *Do you think childcare in Redcar and Cleveland covers the hours you need?* as part of the 2022 childcare survey, 60 parents (29%) who answered the question said No; 51 out of 60 parents commented and below are some of these comments:

- *“Childcare costs make it difficult to justify working full time. In order to work full time, childcare is needed before 8am and after 5pm, many places do not offer these times “*
- *“There is no late evening childcare or weekend childcare available... as a single parent it's difficult to find work that covers 9 to 5 Monday to Friday.”*
- *“Summer holidays - very limited childcare available and hard to find information. Childcare for under 3s is also very expensive.”*

As these comments demonstrate, although overall we do have a flexible offer across the borough, it may not always be in the location the parents would prefer. Following on from this, as the childcare market responds to parental requests for childcare outside of normal hours, or changes in the ways parent's access their childcare, it is envisaged that new ways of working will be introduced; partnerships between different providers will become more formalised e.g. between schools and nearby day nurseries.

3.3 Early Education Places for 2 Year Olds

In September 2013 the Government introduced a legal duty on local authorities to secure free early education places for 2 year olds; offering 570 hours a year, over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year, for every eligible child. Initially children who met the free school meals criteria, or children who were looked after by the local authority, qualified for a free place. Access to high quality childcare is vital to improve children's educational outcomes, particularly for the most disadvantaged groups including children with special educational needs and disabilities and those who are living in poverty.

From September 2014 the Government extended the eligibility criteria to allow more children to access a free place, including children:

- whose families were in receipt of working tax credit and earning no more than £16,190 a year;
- who have a current statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care (EHC) plan;
- who are in receipt of disability living allowance; and/or
- who are in care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order.

During the COVID pandemic in 2020, the government also introduced an additional criterion that meant 2 year old children who were open to social care could also access a free place even if their parents would not have met the criteria financially (on WTC or Universal Credit)

Since the introduction of the 2 year old entitlement, there has been a large increase in demand for early education places across the Borough. The Department for Education has closely monitored take-up figures, to ensure we are engaging with and encouraging eligible families to access their free childcare places.

The number of children in Redcar and Cleveland accessing a 2 year old place showed a slight decrease this year compared to 2021. For example, at the end of Spring term 2021, 518 children were taking up a place which was 84% of those eligible according to the DWP, compared to 506 children the end of Spring term 2022 which was 87%. The slight decrease in the number of two year olds registering for two year old places will also be impacted by the falling birth rate. However, in Redcar and Cleveland the 2 year old take-up of free childcare places by eligible children is 79% which is still consistently above the national average of 62% (last published in 2021).

Work continues to promote the 2 year old entitlement to vulnerable families in the borough. In 2018 an updated golden ticket was produced to highlight the application process and encourage eligible parents to redeem their ticket at a local day nursery or school. These are still used in marketing and promotional activity and prove very popular with some parents ringing the FIS to enquire when they will be getting their golden ticket.

Some highlights of the promotional campaign to date have included:

- direct mail to those eligible - golden ticket campaign (using data from DWP eligibility lists);
- vinyl banners (displayed at all schools, childcare settings and by childminders);
- media adverts in Primary Times and This is Redcar and Cleveland resident's magazine;
- FIS Facebook adverts and People's Information Network (PIN) website features.

In April 2016, a self-service childcare eligibility on-line checking system was introduced for the 2 year old offer. The eligibility checker is hosted on the home page of the Peoples' Information Network (PIN) website and enables parents to determine their entitlement to access a free 15 hours 2 year old early education place for their child. The parent is notified immediately of the outcome and they

can then search for a childcare provider using the PIN website. A childcare voucher can be downloaded and redeemed with the parent's preferred childcare provider.

Childcare providers are also utilising the on-line checking system "Wizard" when carrying out a golden ticket eligibility check, ensuring that parents receive an instant response and are able to make childcare arrangements whilst with the provider.

3.4 Early Education Places for 3 & 4 Year Olds

The local authority is required by law to secure sufficient early education places for 3 & 4 year olds; offering 570 hours a year, over no fewer than 38 weeks, for every eligible 3 or 4 year old child in the borough until the child reaches compulsory school age (i.e. the term after their 3rd birthday to the beginning of the term following their 5th birthday). This is a universal entitlement equating to 15 hours per week and is not means tested.

In Redcar and Cleveland, maintained nursery classes in primary schools (including academies) continue to maintain a high percentage of funded 3 & 4-year olds, with 90% in 2022 compared to 82.4% in 2021 taking up their universal funded early years' place in a school nursery; (however the increase could be due to school nurseries re-opening in January after the pandemic). 1.0% took up universal funding with Childminders and 9% with PVI's in spring term 2022. Comparatively, the national figure for take-up of the 15 hours' nursery provision in schools has remained at the same level seen in 2020. In January 2022, 74% of children in the North East took up their place in a school nursery compared to a lower national figure of 56%. It is apparent that Redcar and Cleveland continue to have a significantly higher proportion of children accessing school-based universal nursery provision when regionally and nationally the numbers continue to be at same levels seen in 2020. This is because all our 44 primary schools have attached school nurseries and some schools even take children on their 3rd birthday (rather than the term after). In addition, more of our schools are now offering the extended entitlement of up to 30 hours childcare for 3 & 4-year olds of working parents.

In 2016, the Childcare Act gave working parents an additional 15 hours free childcare for 3 & 4 year olds from September 2017; this represents one of the most significant recent changes to the childcare market. These pre-school places are used by families who would otherwise have had to pay for this childcare and increases the number of childcare hours for eligible 3 & 4 year olds, up to a maximum of 30 hours a week. This equates to an annual entitlement of 1140 hours per year, with the flexibility to take the hours either term time only (over 38 weeks), or to take less hours per week over the whole year to meet the needs of parents that work. Parents do continue to pay childcare providers for any additional hours above the 30 hours entitlement.

This new legislation supports working parents and offers a financial incentive to unemployed parents to help them secure and sustain employment. The eligibility criteria are:

- If a two parent household, both parents must earn the equivalent of 16 hours work paid at the minimum wage;
- If a lone parent household, the parent must earn the equivalent of 16 hours work paid at the minimum wage;
- If one parent is temporarily on parental, maternity or adoption leave or on statutory sick pay, they can be temporarily excluded from the above;
- If one parent is employed, and the other has substantial caring responsibilities or is disabled or incapacitated (based on specific benefits), they can be excluded; and

- There is an earning cap of £100k per individual.

The number of 30 hours (extended entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds) places paid to childcare providers increased from 597 (spring term 2021) to 605 (spring term 2022). This increase coincides with end of a lockdown in January 2021 (spring term) and no further lockdowns. Most places for 30 hours were registered within private day nurseries, although this has decreased from 2021 when it was 52% of the market share, to 50% in 2022 and reflects the fact that the childminder’s proportion of the market for 30 hours decreased from 27% in 2021 to 22% in 2022. Schools also decreased their proportion of the extended entitlement places in 2021; decreasing to 21% in 2021 (following lockdown in spring term 2021 where they were only open to keyworker and vulnerable children). but increasing to 28% in 2022 which reflects the fact they were open to all children in spring term. In 2022, more parents chose to use the 15 hours extended alongside the universal 15 hours at a school setting (where school offered 30 hours provision) which reflects their confidence in the school’s setting after the previous years’ worry of COVID cross contamination.

The tables below summarise this data:

30 hours Extended figures Spring Term

Places	CMs	PVIs	Schools	Total		% Market Share	CMs	PVIs	Schools
2021	159	308	130	597		2021	27	52	21
2022	136	301	168	605		2022	22	50	28

* **CM is abbreviation for childminder**

* **PVIs is abbreviation for Private, Voluntary & Independent Settings**

3.5 Childcare for those with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

In September 2017, the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy, 2017 – 2020 was introduced outlining the Local Authority’s plans and priorities;

Our vision is to provide excellent SEND provision within our Borough to improve outcomes for Children/Young People aged 0-25 years with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The Early Years SEND Practitioner team was created in April 2017 to provide seamless support for children with SEND aged 0 to 5 years and their families. The practitioners work in partnership with professionals to support individual family’s needs on a one to basis and by facilitating family groups. They utilise the information available through the Local Offer to source relevant services, giving parents access to advice about available childcare services, short breaks and a range of activities. In September 2018, the effectiveness of the team was further enhanced following the appointment of an Early Years Area SEN Coordinator (SENCO), as team manager. In April 2019, the team joined the wider SEND teams based within the Education Service, to make sure there was a consistent and

informed approach to meeting children's needs as they develop from pre-school through to school age and beyond.

The team also work closely with childcare providers, including school nurseries, settings and childminders to give advice and support with strategies, equipment and plan targets. This supports inclusive practice for all children.

The Early Years SEND Practitioners initiate the Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) process, by holding a Referral Planning Meeting (RPM). This year the Early Years SEND Practitioners have completed 23 Referral Planning Meetings (RPM's) from September 2021-May 2022 (Feb 22). The team support children's transitions into school and hold transition meetings to ensure that parent's wishes and the voice of the child are captured. Transition meetings can be held virtually or face to face. The meetings facilitate information being shared between settings that know the child and the staff from the new school, collaborative working ensures that the child has a smooth transition.

The Early Years SEND panel allocates resources to support the needs of children with complex needs, including one-to-one funding when appropriate. Whilst the service to date has always been able to identify a childcare option for a child with SEND, trying to find the most suitable and accessible placement has, on occasions, been very challenging. The extended entitlement has placed an additional pressure on one-to-one funding and identifying childcare providers who have trained staff that can meet the individual requirements of children with complex additional needs. This continues to be a potential area of significant pressure for the local authority as the extended entitlement becomes more embedded.

However, in the last year, all 2 year olds with additional needs, who wished to access a free childcare place, have been successfully placed with appropriate providers including childminders, day nurseries and schools. Varying levels of support and advice are provided to the settings by the Early Years SEND practitioners and the Early Years Area SENCo, depending on the child's individual needs. Specialist training is provided to settings where necessary if a child has a specific complex need or condition.

The team works in partnership with therapists to ensure that a holistic approach is adopted to meet the needs of individual children.

Childcare providers can apply for additional funding if it is deemed the child will need a one-to-one practitioner or to request additional training or access support and advice. Any requests are assessed by the Early Years SEND panel; the Early Years Area SENCo chairs the multiagency panel and directs the work of the team following requests at panel.

The local authority funds requests approved at panel from the SEN Inclusion Fund, this budget has been established from the early year's funding block within the dedicated schools grant. The panel also consider whether the child has complex health needs that would meet the criteria for continuing health care funding and practitioners have been trained to complete the Decision Support Tool (DST) which is an assessment form.

In the last year, a successful continuing health care application was made by an Early Years SEND Practitioner to secure 15 hours 1:1 funding for a child placed at Woodlands assessment nursery. The funding has been allocated for a year from the health budget. The child with complex health needs will be supported by a one to one health care professional. This place is additional to the places that

have been allocated and funded through the local authority's nursery education grant and higher needs funding (Dedicated Schools Grant).

The settings across the borough support children's special educational needs and disabilities up to the end of the May 2022. In total, there were 121 children accessing 1:1 support, being intensively supported, 57 in school nurseries and 64 in private day nurseries and with childminders.

Within the sector, the following two specialist settings provide early years' education places for 20 of these children with complex additional needs. The current occupancy is detailed below:

Woodlands School Nursery in Redcar			Dots 'n' Spots Private Day Nursery in Skelton	
2 year olds	(Sep 21)	1	2 year olds	1
3 & 4 year olds		12	3 & 4 year olds (including 1 child who accesses 30 hours a week)	6
Total		13	Total	7

Capacity in Dots N Spots Specialist provision has been decreased recently, as one child is in receipt of 30 hours funding, due to their parents working. The nursery has received intensive support and training from the Early Years Area SENCo and team; including involving partners in training sessions e.g. Speech and Language Therapy. The nursery has also been supporting children with transitions into Kilton Thorpe School.

A comprehensive training programme focused on supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) within settings, is offered by the Early Years Area SENCO to childcare providers. All providers are supported to assess each child's needs individually and plan learning accordingly. This year three sessions were offered by Council for Disabled Children (CDC) and the Early Years Area SENCo to develop a transition document. The sessions were accessed by a parent, childminder and staff from day nurseries and school nurseries, both special and mainstream school. The transition document will be used to support transitions for children starting full time and assessment nurseries from September 2020.

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) was introduced on 1st April 2017. Early years settings can access this additional funding to support children with a disability aged 3 and 4 years old who are attending their setting. The DAF payment is a lump sum, annual payment of £800.00 from April 2022 per eligible child, paid directly to the provider. This fund is not payable for children who are in their reception year.

The qualifying criteria to be eligible for the DAF was that the child must be in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, 36 applications to the DAF were received from a range of providers and of them, 36 children qualified for support and the providers received a lump sum payment of £615.00. Applications were varied depending on the individual child's needs and ranged from; PECS start up pack, communication resources, sensory equipment, ear protectors.

The local authority is required to report DAF take up via the annual early years' census, next due in January 2023.

The Local Offer website is a focussed on-line directory of services available for children and young people aged 0-25 years old that have special educational needs and disabilities and is part of the over-arching People's Information Network (PIN) website.

The Redcar & Cleveland Local Offer is available at: www.peoplesinfontet.org.uk

3.6 Quality of Provision

Childcare for children aged under 8 years old must be registered on one of two Ofsted Registers: The Early Years Register (EYR); and the Ofsted Childcare Register (OCR).

The majority of registered childcare provision in Redcar & Cleveland has been judged by Ofsted as 'Good'.

Ofsted Inspection Judgements for Provisions

Provision Type	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Met/No grade	Inadequate
Childminders	13	74	0	5	0

Day Nurseries (incl. playgroups)	2	24	1	1	0
Schools Delivering 2 Year Places	3	8	*1		

Please note: Ratings are as at July 2022. 'No grade' means that the provision is newly registered and has not yet received an Ofsted judgement. 'Met' means there were no early years children present when the inspector called. 'Requires Improvement' is the grade formerly known as 'Satisfactory'. * The one school judged by Ofsted as 'Requires Improvement' in November 2017, remained 'Requires Improvement' in September 2021 which included their Early Years Provision.

The Local Authority Education Officers offer training and support to all childcare providers, including childminders. A programme of support is developed, with setting leaders, and is available at the start of the academic year.

For those settings that are funded to provide early education places for two, three and four year old children and received an Ofsted judgment of less than 'Good', it is mandatory that they engage with the Local Authority Education Officers. For settings judged as 'Inadequate', they are prohibited from providing any new placements prior to securing an improved outcome in a subsequent inspection. This is because the DfE are clear that the Local Authority should not fund places in poor quality settings. However, children already attending may continue if parents wish them to remain.

The Local Authority Education Officers work intensively in these settings to achieve the required improvement, offering support and challenge to any setting rated less than 'Good' by Ofsted in their inspection of registered provision.

The Quality Improvement Programme has been developed by the Local Authority, based on the Ofsted outcomes. This programme is used by Local Authority officers with day nursery managers to produce a unique Focused Improvement Plan (FIP) for each setting. The FIP focuses on specific areas and enables childcare providers to set achievable objectives, timescales and outcomes. Childminders are signposted to relevant training and supported with a pre-Ofsted visit and guidance to complete a reflective self-evaluation document prior to inspection.

A comprehensive business support programme is available to all childcare providers in the Borough, through our Early Year's Sufficiency Advisor, who offers advice and guidance around sustainability, finance, marketing, staffing, policies and procedures.

3.7 Childcare Costs

The Families' Information Service holds detailed charging information for all childcare providers. Establishing average charges for childcare is difficult due to inconsistent charging patterns across the sector; however, an average for each setting type has been calculated below:

Provision Type	Average Rate
Childminder*	£189.37 (per week full time)

Day Nursery	£247.82 (per week full time)
Pre School Playgroups	£8.95 (per hour)
After School Clubs	£12.63 (per session)
Breakfast Club	£2.38 (per session within school)
Breakfast Club	£5.47 (per session)
Holiday Clubs	£150.00 (per week full time)

**The childminder average costs figure is influenced by some of our childminders preferring to discuss prices with parents rather than publish a set weekly amount.*

The average cost of childcare per week in our region is lower than the national average at £189.37, compared to £228. However, the average weekly gross pay in Redcar and Cleveland of £510.50, is £102.60 lower than the England average of £613.10 per week.

Source: Money Advice Service, Family and Childcare Trust 2021; and Office of National Statistics 2020)
<https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/childcare-costs#full-time-childcare-costs> and
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157062/report.aspx?town=redcar#tabempunemp>

3.8 Childcare Information, Advice and Guidance

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide information, advice and guidance to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area, ensuring parents:

- are aware of early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds;
- understand that their child’s 15 hours early education entitlement can be with a private, voluntary, independent provider (PVI) or school;
- understand that attending a school nursery does not guarantee admission to the school, therefore parents must apply for a school place if they want their child to *transfer* to the reception class;
- know how to find childcare and early education provision in their area; and
- know how to assess the quality of that provision.

In Redcar and Cleveland this duty is fulfilled by the Families’ Information Service. As part of the service, an on-line childcare directory is maintained and made available to parents via the Peoples’ Information Network (PIN) website, along with a telephone advice line.

The Families’ Information Service also provides a bespoke brokerage facility to match the needs of families with registered childminders. Between April 2021 and March 2022, the service received 55 childcare enquiries and processed 771 free 2 year childcare applications. We did see a further decrease in childcare enquiries and applications in the past year but believe this may be due to the impact of Covid 19 lockdowns when parents decision to send their children to childcare shifted

towards childcare within their families eg, grandparents and has not recovered to the pre-covid levels; or used school based breakfast and after school clubs. Also, not as many families met the criteria to access 2year old funding as seen in previous years as there has been no changes to the eligibility thresholds since 2014.

3.9. Parental Views (Demand for Childcare)

Parents in Redcar and Cleveland were invited to take part in a childcare survey that was live between July and August 2022 to ascertain their views about childcare provision. The information was gathered and analysed using a Survey Monkey questionnaire. Overall, 524 parents responded to the survey, this is a decrease of 128 responses compared to 2021 when 652 parents took part but has remained at an increased level from 2020 when only 122 were received. The sustained increase could largely be attributed to the fact that we were able to link in with schools again and used Facebook to help us promote the survey again this year. This year saw the parent survey being completed again early in summer term, while all provisions were still open. Out of 524 parents 9 were out of the area and 258 do not use childcare.

Of the 524 parents who completed the survey who lived in Redcar and Cleveland Council, the largest responses were from East Cleveland at 46%, Greater Eston area at 34 % and interestingly in the Redcar area a 20% response rate which decreased from 40% last year.

The families who responded were answering the survey in relation to children of varying ages. The breakdown is listed below:

- 101 respondents live in the Redcar Area
- 237 respondents live in the East Cleveland area
- 177 respondents live in the Greater Eston area
- 6 responses were from parents who lived out of borough and utilised childcare within the Redcar and Cleveland area.

When asked if the childcare provision in Redcar and Cleveland is of a good quality, 92% said yes, which is unchanged from parents who answered the question last year. This is further evidenced by Ofsted judgements during 2021/2022 with 13 childminders judged as outstanding; 2 nurseries achieving an outstanding and the large majority of settings falling into the 'good' Ofsted grading category.

The most popular type of childcare used was schools 18%, private day nurseries 17% and childminders 14% but informal childcare also played a large role with Grandparents 23% and family and friends at 28%, an increase from 10% in 2021. However, some of the respondents were using two different types of childcare.

The numbers in some childcare provisions have not returned to pre-covid. During the pandemic, whilst working parents used more informal childcare, parents experienced the benefit of saving childcare costs. This cost saving and flexibility may explain why parents are continuing to use more informal childcare especially given the recent cost of living concerns. This can explain the decrease of private nurseries being used from 34% in 2021 to 17% in 2022.

For those parents who completed the survey, 44% thought that childcare is affordable and 56% not.

Parents continue to find a more cost-effective way of using their funded hours and the number of parents accessing Tax Free childcare (see section 3.10 below) is also increasing; this further supports their childcare choices. The Families Information Service team direct parents to the Childcare Choices government website, to access the childcare calculator.

This enables parents to find out about the funding or combination of funding that is relevant to their family; utilising all relevant childcare support to enable them to work or engage in training.
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

3.10 Tax-Free childcare

Tax-Free Childcare was launched to the UK public in April 2017 for working families, including the self-employed, with children under 11 (under 17 for disabled children). Families with a Tax-Free Childcare account receive 20% top up on childcare costs up to a total of £2,000 per year per child (£4,000 for a disabled child). The eligibility criteria for tax-free childcare is:

- Parents must work;
- Each of them must earn a certain amount over 3 months, this is at least the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week on average.
- Each parent must not have an income over £100,000 per year.

Annual Number of Children with Used Tax-Free Childcare Accounts in Redcar and Cleveland

2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
85	260	520	600	830

Source: [Tax-Free Childcare Statistics, March 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tax-free-childcare-statistics)

The rise in account usage and government top-up in March 2022 represents the highest month-on-month percentage increase since March 2021 following the second COVID lockdown. It is too early to say whether this represents a permanent increase in the upward trend and the factors driving this are unclear.

It is encouraging to see the increasing numbers but efforts by the FIS Team will continue to promote future Tax Free Childcare to maximise the cost saving benefits for our working families in the Borough and help the Early Years Providers remain sustainable whilst the birth rate continues to decline and concerns about the cost of living grow.

Work continues to promote tax free childcare to reduce costs, support parents to access childcare during school holidays and to provide wrap around care.

4. Supply of Childcare

4.1. Ofsted Registered Childcare

Data in relation to Ofsted registered childcare provision has been obtained from the Families' Information Service. The Families' Information Service is responsible for maintaining and updating the Local Authority's childcare database which is updated whenever Ofsted make changes to the registration status of providers, including newly registered, resigned, and inspected.

4.2. Childcare Provision in Redcar & Cleveland by Provision Type

The table below shows the various different types of Ofsted registered childcare provision across the borough, as obtained from the Families' Information Service in May 2022:

Provision Type	Number
Childminders	92
Day Nurseries	28
Pre School Playgroups	3
After School Clubs	24
Breakfast Clubs	40
Holiday Clubs/schemes	13
School 2 Year old Provisions	13
Total	213

4.3 Geographical Distribution of Childcare Provision

For the purposes of the report, this information is displayed by areas:

Provision Type	West Cleveland Area	Redcar Area	East Cleveland Area
Childminders	24	44	24
Day Nurseries	10	9	9
Pre School Playgroups	1	0	2
After School Clubs	11	6	7
Breakfast Clubs	18	11	11
Holiday Clubs/schemes	4	7	2
School 2 Year Old Provision	3	7	2
School 30 hour Provision	7	4	10

As at May 2022, twelve school-based 2 year old settings were operating from the following primary schools: St Peters, St Josephs, Whitecliffe, Lingdale, Handale, Hummersea, New Marske, Lakes, Grangetown, Chaloner, South Bank and St Marys.

As at May 2022, 21 school-based 30 hour settings were operating from the following primary schools: St Peters, St Josephs, Whitecliffe, Lingdale, Handale, Hummersea, New Marske, Ormesby, St Paulinus, Nunthorpe, Skelton, Badger Hill, Wilton, John Batty, Caedmon, St Gabriels, Galley Hill, St Benedicts, St Bedes, South Bank and Chaloner.

4.4 Supply of 2 Year Old Funded Early Education Places

In order to meet the large increase in demand for 2 year old places following its introduction in 2013, a robust strategic plan was developed using demand data from The Department for Work and Pensions and local intelligence, to identify hot spot areas requiring further provision. In addition, support was provided to encourage established childcare settings to expand their existing provision to offer more places where possible. Following this planning and implementation strategy as at the end of the spring term 2022, there were 525 two year old places taken up in school and private nursery settings across the borough.

In the future, childcare providers may need to consider the impact of the declining birth rate, schools opening their own 2-year-old provisions, families not meeting the criteria to access 2 year old funding as there has been no changes to the eligibility thresholds since 2014 and increasing employment and childcare within their own families post covid. Currently, only a small number of providers are expressing concern of declining numbers of eligible 2-year olds in their setting and competition from other settings offering funded places. FIS will continue to monitor the situation.

Through consultation and business workshops, the childcare sector in Redcar & Cleveland has been encouraged to offer much more flexible provision, rather than the restricted 5 morning or 5 afternoon sessions per week, term time only offer. Parents can now choose from a range of patterns including 2 x 7.5 hrs, 3 x 5 hours, 5 x 3 hours. Some providers also offer a stretched offer which allows children to take only 12 hours per week but attend for 48 weeks per year; enabling working parents to continue to receive their entitlement during school holidays.

One of the challenges for the local authority moving forward, is to ensure there is a sufficient supply of 3 and 4 year old places that are flexible enough to meet the demand of working parents requiring up to 30 hours per week. This is particularly challenging for Redcar and Cleveland given the high percentage of children who take up nursery entitlement in schools who traditionally operate on a term time only basis, mornings or afternoons (not full day).

We must ensure that all early years' places are in locations that meet parent's needs. As 30-hours childcare has become more embedded and new parents become eligible for the early years' entitlements, demand will change; requiring the LA to continually monitor take-up and offer support to providers to understand the changes, potential shifts in the market and how they can respond to them in a timely way.

5. COVID-19 and its impact on the childcare market

The worldwide pandemic caused by COVID-19 affected every aspect of our daily life and lock-down restrictions announced by the UK government in March 2020 to try and control the spread of the virus, placed unprecedented pressure on local school nurseries and childcare providers. On 23rd

March 2020, all schools and early years settings were instructed to close with immediate effect to all children except those of critical workers and vulnerable children who had an Education, Health and Care plan or a social worker. All non-essential workers were also ordered to stop going out to work and remain at home (working from home wherever possible).

There was a lot of concern and anxiety from childcare providers and schools in the immediate aftermath of this announcement and the Families' Information Service and Early Years Quality team did their best to advise and support them by circulating guidance and links to support, such as business grants available and the government's job retention scheme (furlough).

The government also announced that eligibility criteria for 2 year olds would be relaxed to include all children of that age open to social care, regardless of their parents working or income status (usually they must be claiming certain benefits). This was to encourage our most vulnerable children to attend childcare. The FIS team worked with Social Care to identify any 2 year olds who were open to social care during this period. Social workers were asked to encourage the parents to apply and register their children with a childcare provider if they were not registered already.

5.1 Where are we now

Since 8th March 2021, all Early Years Providers have re-opened to all families. The FIS team has continued to help, support and advise its Early Years Providers, especially the childminders who opened up their homes during the second and third COVID lockdowns allowing parents to work. Since providers opened, concerns about business sustainability have been raised by several settings. Their concerns are based on the declining birth rate, competition for places for 2year-old and 30 hour-funding settings especially with further schools either opening and considering opening their own settings, some parents finding alternative childcare with their friends and families during COVID lockdowns and not returning to providers and more parents struggling with the increases in the cost of living and being unable to afford childcare. Also, some settings have had problems with recruiting and retaining staff.

Going forward the FIS team will continue to promote the range of childcare and funding options available to parents with children of all ages, whether they are working or not, to maximise the benefits and possible savings for our working families in the Borough and help the Early Years Providers remain sustainable.

6. Childcare Occupancy Audit and Data Analysis

In order to inform the basis of the childcare sufficiency report, data was gathered relating to:

- baseline socio-economic information including population profiles;
- analysis of all known childcare places within Redcar and Cleveland; and
- demand for childcare services across the Borough.

To understand the extent and capacity of all provision within the borough, an occupancy audit was undertaken by the Families' Information Service in April 2022, covering the holiday week of 18th April – 22nd April and the term time week of 9th – 13th May 2022.

Delivery of early years' education and childcare provision, including breakfast, after-school and holiday provision, is through a mixed market of private and voluntary providers, including pre-school

playgroups, day nurseries, childminders and schools. In order to establish robust and reliable results, it was fundamental that all providers were included within the audit process.

A questionnaire was developed to ascertain the capacity of the provision and the take-up of places by age of child. Responses were collated for analysis.

The audit examined each of the three localities as a distinct geographical area and provides an analysis of supply and demand in order to highlight any potential gaps in the local childcare market, such as:

- geographical gaps: areas where there may be a potential shortage of childcare provision;
- income gaps: a shortage of affordable childcare;
- specific needs gaps: a shortage of childcare for disabled children or children with other specific needs;
- time gaps: a shortage of childcare when it is required by parents/carers;
- age gaps: a shortage of age appropriate care; and
- type gaps: a shortage in a type of childcare for which parents/carers may be expressing a preference.

The figures submitted by the childcare providers for the 15 hours entitlement included children who were accessing the provision on a full-time basis or other part-time arrangements. Therefore, for the purposes of the audit, one full time place was defined as being available over 5 days, either morning or afternoon Monday to Friday.

In assessing occupancy, the number of children who were taking a place each day during the specified week were totalled, then divided by 5 (to reflect a week). This gave a definitive figure of available places, occupied places and spare places that were used in the analysis.

Additional data within the report was collected by the Families' Information Service and considered when producing the Childcare Sufficiency Report to give a broader picture of childcare in the Borough. This included the number of childcare enquiries received during the period April 2021 and March 2022 (55), and the pricing policies within settings as well as their Ofsted judgements.

Response rates from childcare providers decreased this year, with a total of 138 providers (including schools) completing the occupancy survey compared to 144 last year. This included all our 28 private day nurseries (89.3% response) and 76 of our 92 Ofsted registered and actively working childminders (82.6% response). Combined, the private childcare sector response rate was 84.2% excluding the schools. There was a decrease in the response from schools this year with 37 out of 44 schools completing the survey which is an 84.1% response rate compared to 93% in 2021.

6.1 Findings from the Occupancy Audit and Overview on Childcare Sufficiency in the Greater Eston Area

The Greater Eston Area includes the following council wards:

- Eston
- Grangetown

- Normanby
- Ormesby
- South Bank
- Teesville

The occupancy audit identified that childminders in Greater Eston have capacity to offer additional places for pre-school aged children. The response rate from childminders in this area was 83%. The data shows there were a total of 29 spare pre-school aged places available to children amongst registered childminders, compared to 25 spare places available at the time of the 2021 childcare occupancy audit. The Greater Eston area has the least number of registered childminders working in the borough, as only 25% of the total population of childminders are based here. Despite the number of childminders in the area reducing in the current year from 24 (2021) to 23 (2022), there are still sufficient spare places available for pre-school aged children than last year, presumably still reflecting less demand.

All of the 10 day nurseries in the area responded to the survey (100% response rate). They have a total of 236 spare pre-school places available which demonstrates there is sufficient childcare places should demand increase.

93% of primary schools/academies responded to the survey in Greater Eston and it is clear that the number of children attending breakfast and after school clubs has increased from last year to 283 (2022) compared to 265 (2021) breakfast club places taken and 160 (2022) compared to 120 (2021) after school club places taken; this is less than 2019 for breakfast clubs (472) and afterschool clubs (123), this could be due to schools returning to normal operating procedures following the restrictions of COVID bubbles within schools.

The childcare provision in the Greater Eston area is in the right area to meet people's needs as 90% of parents surveyed felt that childcare was in the right location to meet their need; however, 10% felt it was not. Replies from the parents' survey;

"I have struggled to find any suitable childcare this summer 2022 holiday period as the only club offered I can find is 12-4.30 which they have said was driven by the council to provide FSM care and has split child age groups between morning and afternoon, so if you have two children how does that cover your full working day ? Or school day as a minimum - well it doesn't !!!!! And it is only on for 2 weeks at my daughters school so how helpful is that ?! Answer not a lot ! We will need to rely as usual on friends and grandparent care and taking holidays for which we are already spread thin over other school term holidays"

"Childcare is so so expensive - it costs me up most of my wage to have my two children in three days a week and one child in after school and breakfast club- it has reduced since my child turned 3 with the free hours however it didn't have as much of an impact as I thought it would with it not been redeemable in school holidays . I also used to work shifts and struggled finding childcare for late nights and early mornings"

"Far too expensive and not enough in walking distance"

34 out of 58 (59%) parents who answered yes you do have enough choice and 42 out of 57 (74%) said it covers their working hours.

The parental survey also highlighted that 37 out of the 58 parents who answered the question that childcare was not affordable which shows that parents in the Greater Eston area still felt that childcare was too expensive.

Parents comments:

“Childcare with private nurseries is very expensive. I don’t think school nursery should be part of the 30 hours free childcare. Due to how many hours we have our daughter with her nanny we still have to pay for full days so she doesn’t miss out on income!”

“Breakfast club at school starts too late for me to use.”

“I don’t have to pay but if I did, I wouldn’t be able to work as it’s very expensive for parents if they have more than one child”

“Could work more hours if there was affordable childcare for my little one”

The data demonstrates that childminders and day nurseries/schools in the Greater Eston area still have capacity to accommodate any additional demand for all early years’ age groups however the cost of childcare has a direct impact on parents’ decision to use childcare provisions.

The Families’ Information Service has not received any direct feedback in terms of unmet need for any aspect of childcare in the Greater Eston area.

6.2 Findings from the Occupancy Audit and Overview on Childcare Sufficiency in the Redcar area

The Redcar Area is located in the centre of the borough and comprises of the following council wards:

- Coatham
- Dormanstown
- Kirkleatham
- Newcomen
- West Dyke
- Zetland
- Longbeck
- St Germaines
- Wheatlands

The data demonstrates that although this area has the highest number of registered childminders (49% of the total boroughwide), 7 childminders have stopped providing childcare in the last 12 months. 82%, which is 37 out of the 45 of childminders in this area completed the forms.

There are a total of 49 spare pre-school aged places available to children in this area amongst registered childminders compared to 129 in 2021. Even though there are fewer childminders and spaces available this year, there is still spare capacity within the childminding community in the Redcar area to offer additional places for children aged 0-4 years old.

There are 9 day nurseries in the Redcar area and 8 of them responded to the occupancy survey this year. In total, there were 153 (2022) spare pre-school aged places available through these day nurseries compared to 255 spare places in April 2021. In the period 2021- 2022 occupied places have decreased from 279 to 251 (10%) and spare places decreased from 255 to 153 (40%) so it seems that day nurseries are operating at a reduced occupancy but there is still some capacity to take additional children.

13 out of 15 primary schools in Redcar responded to the occupancy audit. However, even taking this into account, it is clear that the number of children attending breakfast and after school clubs has significantly increased since last year with 283 breakfast club places taken in 2022 compared to 167 in 2021; 107 after school club places were taken in 2022 compared to 93 in 2021. The number of breakfast and after school places have returned to similar levels seen in 2019 when 273 breakfast club and 133 after school club places were taken.

The parent survey confirmed that 94% - 44 out of 47 of parents answered that the childcare was in the right location in the Redcar area. However, 53% - 25 out of 47 parents who replied said the cost of childcare in Redcar was not affordable.

Parents comments from the survey include:

“Breakfast and after school facilities need to be more extensive to help working parents (especially those who work shifts, starting early)”

“Becoming less affordable, lots of childminders and nurseries, however these are really expensive - fine if you are getting contribution in benefits but if a single parent and don't get benefits, summer holidays alone is £1110 minimum, that's more than half my monthly wage and I'm on a decent wage! More low cost childcare needed such as holiday clubs provided by local organisations eg leisure centre, youth service, childrens hubs.”

“I think childcare in general is expensive but understandable given the costs associated. I need full time childcare for 2 children so it's incredibly expensive. I used to need childcare from 6am until 6pm but ended up changing jobs as this wasn't available”

“Primary school offers no wrap around childcare provision and there are only a handful of childminders. The alternative nursery provider are inflexible with times and food choice and expensive.”

“Prices don't correlate with wages”

The Families' Information Service has not received feedback in terms of unmet need for any aspect of childcare in the Redcar area.

6.3 Findings from the Occupancy Audit and Overview on Childcare Sufficiency in the East Cleveland area

The East Cleveland area of the borough comprises of the following council wards:

- Brotton
- Guisborough
- Hutton
- Lockwood
- Loftus
- Saltburn
- Skelton East
- Skelton West
- Belmont

The data demonstrates that in the East Cleveland area, 21 of the 24 registered childminders responded to the audit, this equates to 24% of the total active childminders in the borough at this time.

These childminders told us that they had 42 spare pre-school places this year compared to 22 in 2021, this is 48% more than last year. This means there is spare capacity within the childminding community to offer additional places for children aged 0-4 years old.

There are 9 private day nurseries in the East Cleveland area. In total, there were 124 spare pre-school aged places available through private day nurseries in Spring 2022 compared to 196 in spring 2021 (47% fewer this year). In addition, 242 pre-school places were occupied in Spring 2022 compared to 346 pre-school aged places were occupied in July 2021 which is a 30% decrease.

There were 11 of the 15 primary schools in East Cleveland responded to the occupancy audit. However, even taking this into account, the number of children attending breakfast and after school clubs has significantly increased to 208 (2022) breakfast club places taken compared to 99 in 2021. This is an increase of 48% on last year. In July 2022, 55 after school club places were taken; compared to 53 in 2021. However, in 2019, 326 breakfast and 100 after school club places were taken. Overall, this is a 42% increase in children attending before and after school club provision in the East Cleveland area between 2021 and 2022 but still a 38% decrease in numbers attending since 2019

East Cleveland is a rural area, although the data shows there is capacity amongst day nurseries, there is still a sufficiency concern in terms of choice across some specific towns and villages in the area, with the reduction in the number of childminder places available generally across the locality. This is a concern in Saltburn specifically, where there are currently only two childminders working. Two further childminders have resigned in previous 12 months. There is also only one day nursery provision in Saltburn which is a very affluent town with many working households. Despite there being some childminders and other day nurseries in the surrounding areas which do have capacity to offer childcare spaces, some parents may not have the means or desire to travel to another village and would prefer to stay in their immediate community, especially if school pick-ups and drop-offs are required.

We asked parents if childcare was in the right area and 89 out of 100 who replied said it was in right area. However when asked if affordable 54 out of 100 (54%) said it wasn't and 46 out of 100 (46%) said it was affordable.

Parents comments include:

“Childcare is expensive. When I contacted FIS I was told of only one nursery in the area and no childminders. School does not provide an after school care and the breakfast club only starts at 7.45 which makes it difficult if starting work at 8.”

“As a nurse my shifts tend to be 7-7:40 (like many other key workers) no childcare in the area accommodates these times”

“Single part time working mums don't get enough help with childcare costs at £8.50 a session for breakfast club two days a week is too expensive”

“Places can be limited so you have to take what is available rather than actively being able to choose”

“When nursery prices are similar per hour to the minimum wage and you have to factor in travel times to work as well it quite often costs as much to go to work as you earn when there.”

“After school club don't do full hours in school holidays. Very limited number of childminders in Guisborough serving the school my daughter goes too”

The Families' Information Service are aware of the sufficiency concerns in Saltburn and there have already been several childminder enquiries where searches have had to be widened to include childminders living outside of Saltburn who would be willing to pick up and drop off outside of their own community; or where day nurseries were offered instead. We continue to be active to attract more childminders and two have been recruited this year.

6.4 Conclusions

- The results of the childcare occupancy audit demonstrate that overall there are still sufficient childcare places across the Borough, with a significant decrease in the number of spare childcare places for 0-4 year olds available across the borough compared to in 2021. However, the number of spare places in the childminder market of Central Redcar has reduced by 36% and East Cleveland by 37%. This may cause problems for parents who would prefer a childminder in these localities and specifically in Saltburn, where there are currently only two active childminders, however 1 more childminder in Saltburn is in the process of registration
- The number of two-year-old children registered at settings has decreased this year, 523 in Spring 2022 compared to 530 Spring 2021. This is likely to be due to lack of parental confidence following the lockdown periods, the falling birth rate and families falling out of eligibility as the income criteria has not been reviewed since 2014.
- The number of universal 3 and 4 year olds attending settings across the Borough has decreased in 2022 to 191 children attending settings compared to 351 in 2021. This will be checked again at the time of the annual early year's census in Jan 2023. This is probably due to

the fact that schools were closed to all but keyworkers in Spring 2021 lockdown, with children returning to the schools for 3 year old universal funding in Spring 2022.

- The number of children accessing the 30 hours extended entitlement for working parents has decreased this year with 437 children using a funded place in 2022 compared to 467 in 2021 which is a 6% decrease.
- The number of children attending breakfast and after school clubs in schools has increased across the Borough by 41% in 2022 compared to 2021. In the Greater Eston area, there was only a 15% increase compared to 73% increase in East Cleveland.
- Information around childcare places is sufficiently accessible. Day nurseries, playgroups and childminders can be found via the Families' Information Service (FIS) telephone helpline, email or through the Peoples' Information Network (PIN) website.
- In most areas, parents are generally able to choose from a range of childcare options when selecting a provider, with an appropriate balance between the various types of provision to meet local demand, except for East Cleveland, where there has been a reduction in the availability of childminders which is likely to impact on specific towns and villages in the area.
- Childcare places are of high quality. This is evident due to the number of childcare providers across the Borough achieving judgements of 'Good' or above by Ofsted in their inspection of registered service providers. In June 2022, 95% of the 92 registered childminders were rated 'good' or 'outstanding'; and 26 out of the 28 day nurseries were good or outstanding. This is a positive reflection of the support given to these settings by the Local Authority's Quality Improvement Team.
- Findings around flexibility are inconclusive. There are a range of childcare options available to fit the needs of various working patterns, and to date there have been a low number of requests from parents looking for childcare to cover atypical working pattern. However a small percentage of parents surveyed said that childcare did not cover the hours they needed. There are only a few providers currently offering evening, weekend or overnight services in line with the national picture, and the majority of 3 and 4 year old nursery places are sessional and term time only, as they are school-based.
- In terms of childcare for children with complex special educational needs, whilst the Early Years SENCO and FIS have to date always been able to identify a childcare option for a child with SEND, trying to find the most suitable and accessible placement has, on occasions, been very challenging. The extended entitlement has placed an additional pressure on one-to-one funding and identifying childcare providers who have trained staff that can meet the individual requirements of children with complex additional needs. This continues to be potential area of significant pressure for the local authority as the extended entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds becomes more embedded.

7. Summary Statement

Based on the findings of the occupancy audit undertaken in May 2022, and considering other available evidence, we can conclude that overall the local authority is currently meeting its childcare sufficiency duty as far as is reasonably practicable. However, there has been significant changes to the childcare market in 2022 since the impact of COVID-19.

The take up of places for eligible 2 year olds for free childcare places who come from low income or non-working households has decreased slightly again this year. However, during the Spring Term

2022, the number of eligible 3 and 4 year olds, taking up extended entitlement places for children of working parents was 95%.

It is still of paramount importance that the Local Authority is able to ensure affordable, flexible childcare is available throughout the Borough to enable parents and carers to access work or education and make a difference to the lives of their families.

8. Future challenges

The local childcare market is facing several business challenges with a declining birth rate, an increased number of parents using informal childcare, increased competition from more settings offering 2-year-old and 3-and-4-year-old 30 hour extended hours settings along with increased costs of living where parents struggle to afford childcare and providers not making an income after their costs are covered.

The FIS Team, Early Years Sufficiency Advisor and Early Years Quality Team are best placed to keep a watchful eye on the number of childcare providers, including childminders resigning and registering and will be proactive in terms of any sufficiency issues raised by parents.

We will liaise with childcare settings to ensure they are making the best use of the government financial support available to them via the Tax- Free Childcare scheme and offer them business support to try and remain sustainable. This will help support jobs in the sector and break through some of the misinformation being shared, and help providers navigate recent changes and uncertainty with the support available.

We will continue to work with partners such as Health Visitors and Job Centre Plus to identify and engage families eligible for the two-year-old early years entitlement.

We will continue to ensure that working parents know about the extended childcare offer (up to 30 hours for 3- and 4-year olds) and apply in good time for the following term. The Families' Information Service (FIS) team will continue to work with corporate communications to raise awareness of the extended entitlement and tax-free childcare.

Childcare and early years provision needs to be considered when new housing is planned, to ensure any new families moving into the area can access childcare and early years provision to meet their needs.

9. ACTION PLAN

Key Actions

Key Actions	Target Delivery Date	Measure of Success	Outcome	Who is responsible
Work with early years providers across all sectors to encourage more flexible supply of childcare places	Termly 2022	Sufficient childcare places delivered at times to suit those who wish to work or train.	Meet statutory duty to ensure there is sufficient childcare.	Early Years Sufficiency Advisor
Promote extended hours of entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds to ensure working parents are informed and able to access this provision.	September 2023	Number of children accessing extended 3 and 4 year old entitlement increases (30 hours) from levels at September 2021.	More working parents are supported by this childcare initiative to provide more affordable childcare.	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Families' Information Service Assistant
Closely monitor resignations of childminders across the borough and encourage new childminders to register, particularly in East Cleveland.	September 2023	Monthly management information available on Childminder turn-over and availability. Increase in registered childminders in East Cleveland.	Sufficient childminders across the borough and in East Cleveland.	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Families' Information Service Assistant Early Years Quality Team

Key Actions	Target Delivery Date	Measure of Success	Outcome	Who is responsible
Carry out annual Early Years Census of available places for funded children aged 2, 3 and 4 years old across the Borough and determine the number of places available.	January 2023	There will be enough childcare places to meet the needs of working families in Redcar and Cleveland.	The local authority will meet its statutory duty to conduct the DfE census and provide sufficient childcare places.	Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Intelligence team
Encourage partnership working between schools and other providers to deliver a flexible 30 hour entitlement for working parents.	Dec 2023	Childcare provision is flexible and meets the needs of working parents (not just available term time only).	Increase in affordable childcare for working parents in the Borough.	Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Early Years Quality Team
Carry out a wide-reaching parent survey to inform the Childcare Sufficiency Report in 2022.	April 2023	Parents' views about childcare in Redcar and Cleveland are reflected within the Childcare Sufficiency report and are representative of parents in all the local authority area.	There is sufficient/ the local authority is working towards building sufficient childcare places to meet parent's needs.	Early Years Sufficiency Advisor
Complete Childcare Sufficiency (CS) Report update for 2023.	December 2023	CSA report update available on RCBC website and PIN.	Local authority will meet duty to complete annual review of current CS report.	Education Capital Projects and Place Planning Lead FIS Lead Officer/ Early Years Sufficiency Advisor

Key Actions	Target Delivery Date	Measure of Success	Outcome	Who is responsible
Work with those childcare providers that are identified by Ofsted as 'Requires Improvement.'	As required	Improved Ofsted inspection outcomes.	Improved social, emotional and educational outcomes for children who are ready to start school.	Early Years Quality Team
Provide an annual continuous Professional Development programme for all childcare providers.	Termly	Providers will have up to date knowledge and skills to deliver EYFS.	Improved inspection outcomes and high-quality provision, which ensures children's school readiness.	Early Years Quality Team
Increase information available about childcare provision/short breaks to parents of children with SEND, via the Local Offer website.	April 2023	More detailed information about SEND skills and experience of childcare providers (including childminders) available on the Local Offer website.	Families of children with SEND have access to information to make informed childcare choices.	Commissioning Officer for Children's Services Monica Wheater supported by Amie Metcalfe.
Promote Free Childcare places for 2-year olds before the start of each term.	Termly	Increased take up of Free Childcare places for 2-year olds from levels at September 2022.	Improved outcomes and transitions into education for the most disadvantaged early years children.	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Officer Families Information Service Team

Key Actions	Target Delivery Date	Measure of Success	Outcome	Who is responsible
Support childcare providers to remain sustainable through delivery of bespoke business support and by coordinating their access to the DfE national support contracts.	Quarterly	The Borough has a sustainable supply of childcare to meet the demand of families.	A choice of childcare places is available for parents to work or train.	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Early Years Quality Team
Promote Tax Free Childcare	Termly	Increased Take up of 30 hour extended places from levels at September 2022	Working Parents supported by reducing childcare costs and childcare setting numbers increased	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Families' Information Service Assistant
Promote PIN (People's Information Network)	Termly	Up to date source of information for residents to access	Increased use	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Families' Information Service Assistant
Closely monitor the type of childcare used	September 2023	Parent Survey in 2023 shows an increase of usage of informal childcare	Providers remain sustainable and parents have the reassurance of a regulated setting	FIS Lead Officer Early Years Sufficiency Advisor Families' Information Service Assistant

Appendix 1 Results of Occupancy Audit Data by Area

Redcar Area Childcare Provision

Childminders

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	20	20	23	22	24	24	23	25	19	19	22	21	16	16	2	2	0	0
Occupied Places	14	14	17	17	16	16	16	18	10	10	12	12	13	13	1	1	0	0
Spare Places	6	6	6	5	8	8	7	7	9	9	10	9	3	3	1	1	0	0

Daycare Provision (including day nurseries, school 2 year old provisions and pre-school playgroups)

Redcar Area Childcare Provision

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	50	49	74	76	61	59	31	35	34	34	44	29	13	6	0	0	0	0
Occupied Places	25	24	59	39	37	32	19	22	23	20	30	14	12	5	0	0	0	0
Spare Places	25	25	15	37	24	27	12	13	11	14	14	15	1	1	0	0	0	0

School Provision

Redcar Area Childcare Provision

	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places
	3-4 years	3-4 years	5 – 10 years	5 – 10 years	8-11 years	8-11 years
Occupied Places	14	4	103	38	166	65

Holiday Provision (Across all childcare types)

Available Places	243
Occupied Places	198
Spare places	45

East Cleveland Area Childcare Provision

Childminders

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	15	15	17	16	12	13	11	10	12	14	14	12	6	6	0	0	0	0
Occupied Places	13	13	10	9	8	7	8	7	6	6	6	6	3	3	0	0	0	0
Spare Places	2	2	7	7	4	6	3	3	6	8	8	6	3	3	0	0	0	0

Daycare Provision (including day nurseries, school 2 year old provisions and pre-school playgroups)

East Cleveland Area Childcare Provision

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	38	36	59	59	30	29	60	50	41	38	20	13	7	6	0	0	0	0
Occupied Places	26	24	41	41	26	20	44	36	19	15	13	6	5	4	0	0	0	0
Spare Places	12	12	18	18	4	9	16	14	22	23	7	7	2	2	0	0	0	0

School Provision

East Cleveland Area Childcare Provision

	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places
	3-4 years	3-4 years	5 – 10 years	5 – 10 years	8-11 years	8-11 years
Occupied Places	15	1	85	17	108	37

Holiday Provision (Across all childcare types)

Available Places	141
Occupied Places	108
Spare places	33

Greater Eston Area Childcare Provision

Childminders

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	16	16	15	14	10	9	11	13	13	13	8	9	2	2	2	2	0	0
Occupied Places	13	13	10	10	7	6	7	9	8	8	6	7	1	1	2	2	0	0
Spare Places	3	3	5	4	3	3	4	4	5	5	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0

Daycare Provision (including day nurseries, school 2 year old provisions and pre-school playgroups)

Greater Eston Area Childcare Provision

	Under 2 years		Age 2 years		Age 3-4 universal		Age 3-4 extended		Age 3-4 Holiday		Age 5-7		Age 8-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17 (Disabled Only)	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Available Places	82	80	141	133	83	79	75	74	79	79	52	52	31	31	0	0	0	0
Occupied Places	50	50	106	94	57	52	53	59	24	24	13	13	4	4	0	0	0	0
Spare Places	32	30	35	39	26	27	22	15	55	55	39	39	27	27	0	0	0	0

School Provision

Greater Eston Area Childcare Provision

	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places	Breakfast Places	After-school Places
	3-4 years	3-4 years	5 – 10 years	5 – 10 years	8-11 years	8-11 years
Occupied Places	18	4	114	61	151	95

Holiday Provision (across all childcare types)

Available Places	491
Occupied Places	137
Spare places	354