

Spring 2023

Childcare Sufficiency Duty Report



Annual Childcare Sufficiency Duty Report Spring 2023

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Please note any reference to 'parents' in this report reflects parents, carers or those with parental responsibility for children.

The Rutland Early Years Childcare Sufficiency Duty contributes to Rutland's Corporate plan and to the achievement of Rutland Children's Offer. The priority themes within this plan include emotional health and wellbeing, protecting children at risk of harm, tackling domestic abuse and supporting children who may become vulnerable in their education, including children with SEND.

Through this duty we promote the vision for all children and young people in Rutland to be happy, safe and successful. They will be supported and empowered to be the best they can be.

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1. Rationale for Childcare Sufficiency Duty

The Childcare Act 2006¹ requires all Local Authorities (LA) in England to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). The statutory duty requires Rutland County Council, by law, to report annually to Elected Council Members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare, and the report must be made available and accessible to parents.

The Childcare Acts 2006 and 2016 place a duty on English Local Authorities to secure funded childcare for qualifying 2-, 3- and 4-Year-Olds². Whilst Rutland County Council is not responsible for providing childcare itself, it is responsible for managing the market to ensure that these duties are met.

Summary

At the time of reporting, Spring 2023, Rutland continues to maintain sufficient childcare places with 72% (598) of places accessed and 28% (238) vacant places.

The Coronavirus global pandemic has impacted greatly on families since 2020 resulting in a changed demand for early education and holiday childcare places. Whilst the slow recovery from the pandemic continues, the current impact of an increased cost of living crisis, along with a national early years' practitioner Recruitment and Retention crisis, is a challenge for the sector. Providers need to ensure they can viably continue to supply early education and childcare places at a time of economic uncertainty and a market that has yet to re-stabilise.

In the Government's 2023 Spring Budget, the Chancellor announced a range of measures to support early education and help parents with childcare so they can return to work more easily. The programme of reforms aims to begin in autumn 2023, with further actions implemented over the following 2 years.

Autumn 2023:

- Childminder grants will become available to attract people to childminding, with £1200 for those who register with a childminder agency and £600 for those who register with Ofsted
- There will be an increase in the hourly 2-year-old and 3- and 4-year-old funding rate for providers.
- Staff to child ratios will change from 1:4 to 1:5 for 2-year-olds in England to provide option of greater flexibility for providers

April 2024:

- Eligible working parents of 2-year-olds in England will be able to access 15 hours of free childcare per week, for 38 weeks of the year (although parents can use fewer hours over more weeks of the year)

September 2024:

- Eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3 years old will be able to access 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year (although parents can use fewer hours over more weeks of the year)

September 2025:

- Eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3 years old will be able to access 30 hours free childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year (although parents can use fewer hours over more weeks of the year)

The government will support parents of primary school age children with wraparound childcare provision. From September 2024, the government will invest £289m over two academic years to enable schools and local areas to set up wrap around childcare provision. This funding will be for schools and local authorities to introduce or

¹ [Childcare Act 2006](#)

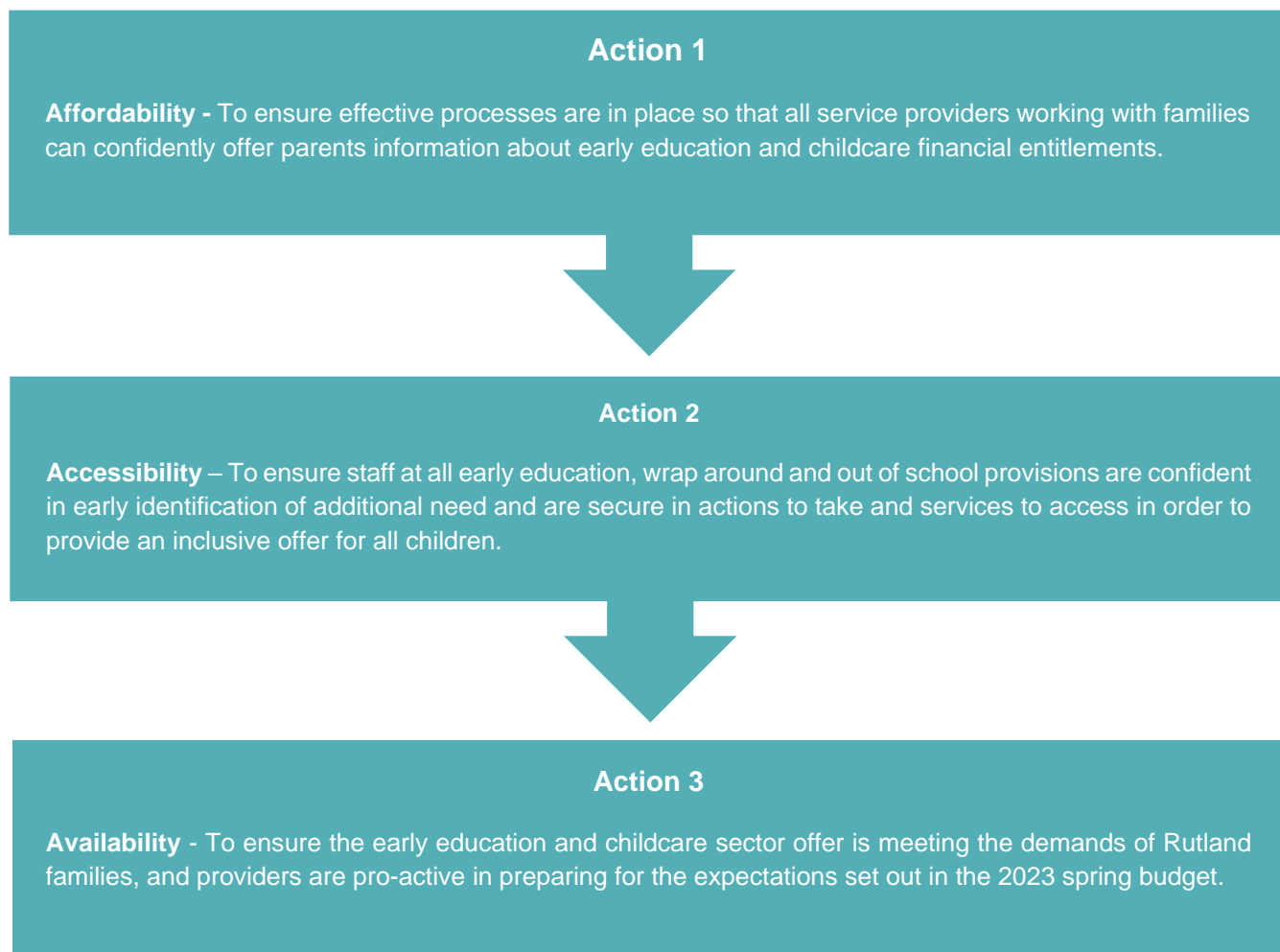
² [Childcare Act 2016](#)

expand childcare provision on either side of the school day, from 8am to 6pm, with the expectation that most schools will be able to deliver wrap around childcare that is self-financing and sustainable by September 2026.

Implications of the Government's 2023 Spring Budget are considered within the Rutland Childcare Sufficiency and Early Education Action Plan 2023-2024.

Proposed Actions

To support the local authority fulfilling its statutory childcare sufficiency duty the following actions are proposed following analysis of the 2023 survey outcomes:



2. METHODOLOGY

Between 13 February and 10 March 2023, childcare sufficiency questionnaires for Rutland families, businesses and Early Education and Childcare Providers were hosted on the online portal, Engagement Headquarters.

The purpose of the questionnaires was to:

- Measure the demand and supply of early education, wraparound and out-of-school childcare places in Rutland,
- Identify any significant gaps in the market which may impact on overall sufficiency, and
- Plan how to support the childcare market to address significant shortfalls.

The findings from the survey have been collated with areas for development recognised. Key information has been shared with providers which will support them to manage the future childcare market in its entirety.

3. FUNDED EARLY EDUCATION ENTITLEMENTS (FEEE)³

Whilst Government policy references ‘Free’ Early Education it is recognised that this terminology can be misinterpreted. Government funding is intended to cover the cost to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of high-quality early education. It is not intended to cover the costs of meals, consumables, additional hours or additional services which would be paid for by parents.

In this report, to avoid confusion the word Free will be replaced with Funded from this point forward.

The Funded Early Education Entitlements (FEEE) are available for eligible 2-year-olds and all 3- and 4-year-old children. Rutland County Council pays monthly early years funding claims directly to providers.

To offer funded places, providers must be registered with Ofsted; childminders may register with Ofsted or a Childminder Agency (CMA) which itself is registered with Ofsted. Providers must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and must meet the terms and conditions of Rutland’s FEEE Provider Agreement. Providers are not required to offer the funded hours, so parents may choose to use a different provider if they don’t.

The early years entitlements can be used flexibly either during term time or all year round as a stretched offer. This is arranged between the parents and their childcare provider. Parents can also use their funded hours across different settings to ensure they are able to get the most out of their entitlement if one provider can’t offer what they need. Parents and families are supported in accessing their entitlements through recommendation by Rutland County Council officers, health colleagues, social media⁴ and promotion materials.

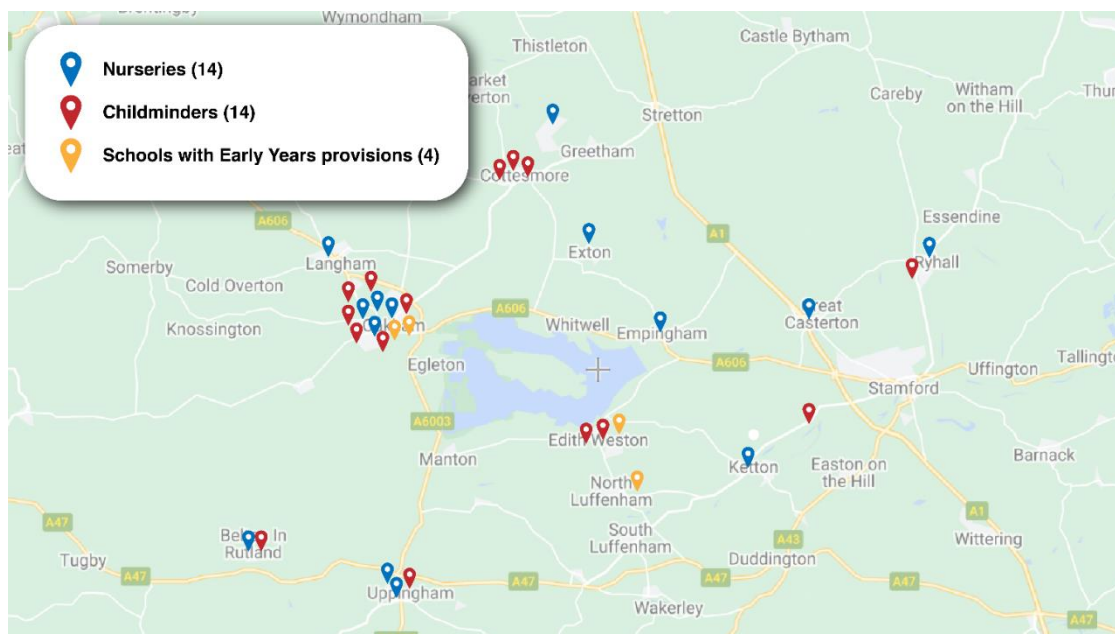
Rutland County Council also hosts funded entitlement information on the following link [Early education and childcare funding | Rutland County Council](#)

4. EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

Accessibility

Current early years provision is delivered by 32 registered providers across Rutland. Early years providers are often referred to as the Private, Voluntary and Independent sector (PVI) and is inclusive of childminders, pre-schools and day nurseries. There are no maintained nursery provisions in Rutland.

This map shows the locality of operational early education and childcare providers in Rutland May 2023.



The PVI sector offers a variety of childcare options with 43% (6) of nursery provisions and 43% (6) of childminders open for 51 weeks of the year. Operational hours are mainly through the week and between the hours of 8am and

³ [Early education and childcare - Statutory guidance for local authorities \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

⁴ [Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Free Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](#)

6pm. During the last year, to remain viable, some providers made changes to their business models, opening earlier and closing later on various days. Those that had made changes were unsure if the changes would be permanent and would reconsider operational times if required by parental demand.

Whilst in the last year, the total number of Rutland Childminders decreased by 3 this is not currently impacting on sufficiency of places. However, promoting childminding as a career is a crucial aspect of the early education and childcare offer, and the proposal of Government Grants available from Autumn 2023 is timely.

Details of providers and their operational times can be found at [Early Education and Childcare | Rutland information Service](#)

Availability

Childcare Place: Supply and Demand

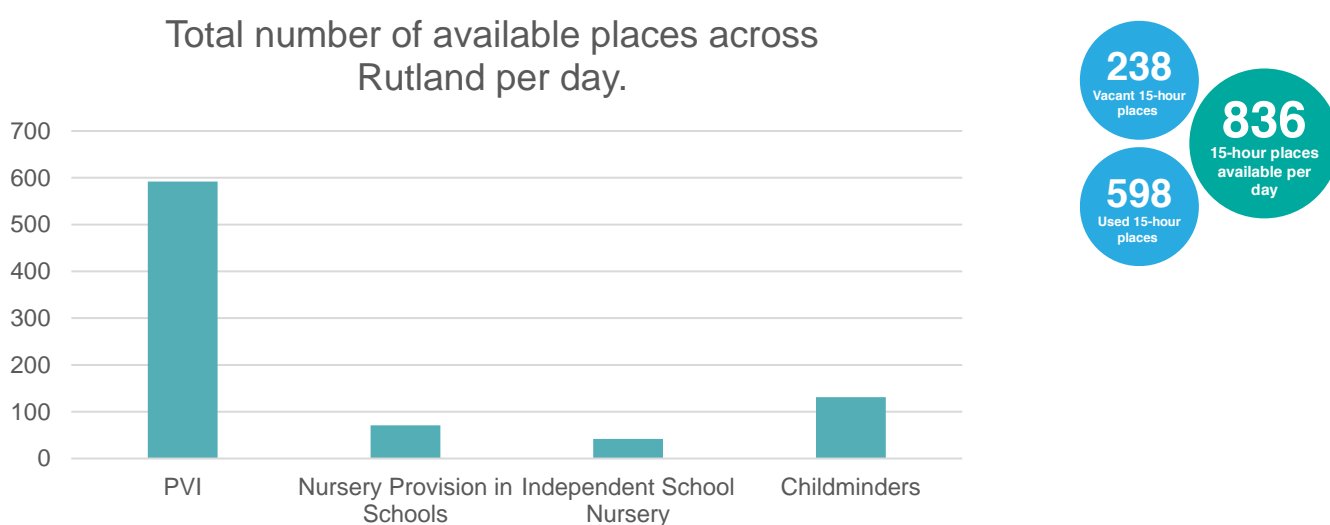
During the childcare sufficiency assessment period, each provider was asked to identify how many places within their current offer were accessed or vacant. A place that is available for one afternoon a week was not considered as a vacancy; availability of a minimum of 15 hours in total would be considered a vacant place because this would enable a parent to take up their Universal Entitlement.

A childcare place describes the number of children that can attend a provision at any one time. It is important to note that each place can be accessed by numerous children during the day for example one place could be accessed by up to 4 children.

Ofsted will confirm the number of places an individual provider can provide during the initial registration process. The registered number of places is the maximum number of places a childcare provider can offer at any one time; however, the actual number of available places a provider decides to offer may be lower. This is because, from an operational perspective, managers will take into consideration the demand for childcare, compliancy with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage⁵ and their overall business sustainability (Table A).

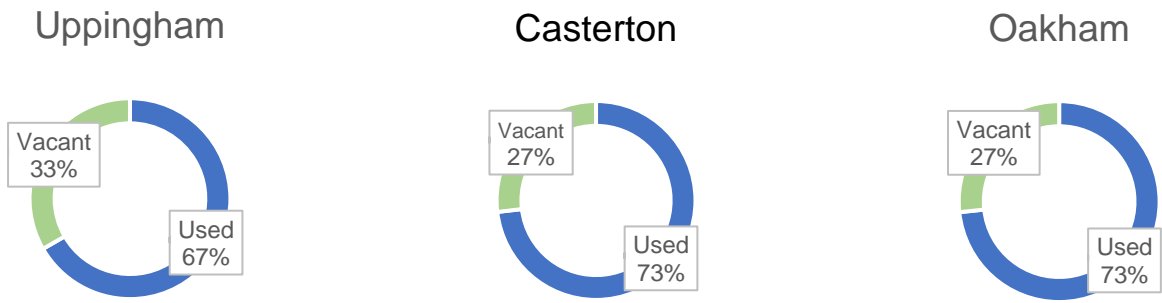
Since the last reporting period (March 2022), the overall sufficiency duty has not been affected despite the closure of a 64-place nursery, resignation of 7 childminders and 3 childminders no longer offering places to under 5s. 4 new childminders have joined the childminder register / registered their provision

Table A



⁵ [Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

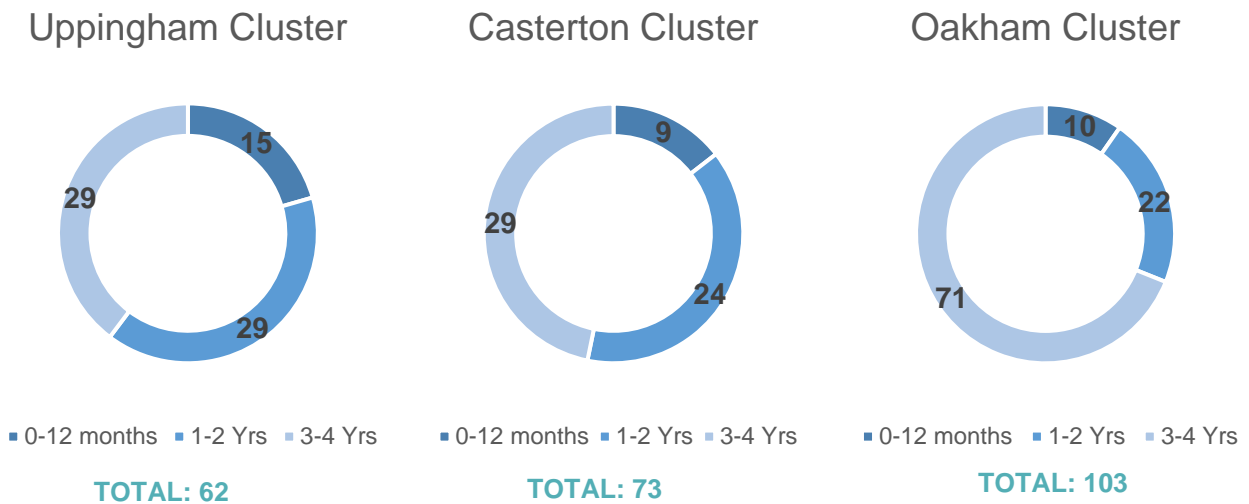
Used and vacant PVI places for each cluster area:



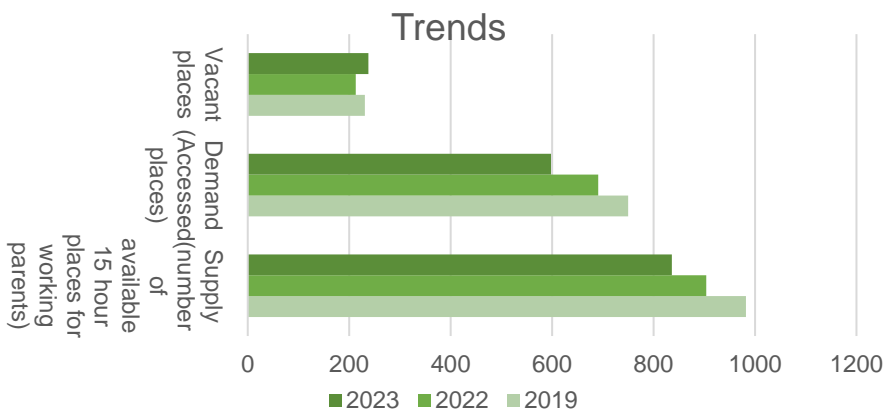
Vacancies

Vacancy information is changeable and therefore difficult to track; some providers have a vacancy which is only available for a specific age group, or for a particular part-time arrangement. Generally, there are more vacant places in the autumn term because 4-year-old children attending pre-schools begin school therefore creating more places at the pre-school. The information provided in this report is a Spring 2023 snapshot. Each identified place would allow a child to attend for 15 hours.

The following illustration show the 238 vacant 15-hour places for specific age groups of children:



Trend of Supply and Demand of 2019-2023



During 2020 and 2021, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, close monitoring of sufficiency was undertaken but no formal reporting was made.

At the time of the Early Years Census (January 2023) a total of 548 funded children accessed an early education place. The Early Years Census does not capture the 95 children accessing a school based nursery provision.

Early Years Census Comparative January 2021 – 2023	Total number of children accessing a funded early education place.		
	2021	2022	2023
Eligible 2 Year Olds (15 hours)	28	38	31
*3 & 4 Year Olds Universal funding (access to maximum of 15 Hours)	408	363	321
3 and 4 Year Olds Extended Entitlement (30 hours in total) (15 Universal hours plus 15 additional hours)	213	207	196
*Note the first 15 hours are captured in the Universal figure as shown above			
Total	649	608	548

What Providers Told Us: Key Findings.

What providers told us	Sufficiency Duty Implications	Actions required
All providers confirmed they do not have children aged between 3 and 4 years of age on a waiting list to access an early education place.	Meeting sufficiency requirements.	Continue to monitor
More families are registering babies with an early years' provider (March 2023), 2 nurseries and 4 childminders hold a waiting list for 19 babies under the age of 1	No current sufficiency implications; however need to consider that families may be planning to return to work in the future.	Prepare for September 2024 when eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3-year-olds will be able to access up to 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year.
Two nurseries and one childminder hold a waiting list for 12 children aged between 1 and 2 years of age.		Prepare for September 2025 when eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3 years old will be able to access up to 30 hours of funded early education and childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year.
Current cost of meeting statutory EYFS ratios is high. Recruitment and Retention of staff across all age groups is a challenge	Currently not impacting on sufficiency of places. However, potential to impact on availability of childcare places along with an affordability challenge in recruiting experienced high-quality staff.	Promote ratio flexibility as announced in the Spring budget Staff to child ratios to change from 1:4 to 1:5 for two-year-olds in England from September 2023. There will be an increase in the hourly 2-year-old and 3- and 4-year-old funding rate for providers from September 2023 Business Planning Support
Current physical buildings may not have enough space to provide additional places for babies and 2-year-olds.	Currently not impacting on sufficiency of places. However, potential to impact on availability duty.	Refer providers to potential grant funding which may be available to expand on current provision

Affordability

The Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) aims to ensure that early years' funding is distributed fairly and transparently across England. Central government allocates early funding to local authorities and the allocation Rutland receives for all the Funded Entitlements is set through the National Funding Formula⁶ and agreed through Rutland's Schools' Forum. Local authorities are required to pass-through to providers at least 95% of their 3- and 4-year-old funding from the Government with the remainder being retained by the local authority to ensure that it meets the statutory duties. 2-year-old funding is passed on in full to providers.

The Early Years' Service continue to work closely with Rutland County Council Finance Team to support the sector in a proactive and equitable way. This work is further supported through the Early Years' Working Group which discusses specific issues for consideration at the Schools' Forum.

See below the hourly Early Years Funding rate which is paid to registered providers delivering the Funded Early Education Entitlements. The Government is responsible for the Early Years funding rate; typically, changes are made at the beginning of the financial year commencing April 1st. At the time of reporting, the local authority has not been made aware of indicative funding allocations effective from September 1st 2023 following the Spring Budget announcement.



Rutland County Council does not have a duty to intervene where parents choose to purchase additional hours of provision over and above a child's funded hours or the costs of additional services, providing that this does not affect the parents' ability to take up a funded place and as long as the rules with the statutory guidance are adhered to⁷.

Providers are not obliged to share their charges for private arrangements. The information below has been drawn from the information submitted through the sufficiency questionnaire.



⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-funding-2021-2022>

⁷ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718179/Early_education_and_childcare-statutory_guidance.pdf

The Quality of Early Years Provision in Rutland

The quality of early education and childcare provisions in Rutland continues to be high. 100% of early years providers were judged by Ofsted as good or better in their most recent Ofsted inspection. New providers will normally be inspected within 30 months of their registration date and are not included in this data.

Childminders may choose to register with a Childminding Agency (CMA) or Ofsted. Agency childminders are graded by the agency in which they are registered; the agency itself is inspected by Ofsted

Providers on the Early Years register will normally be inspected at least once within a 6-year timeframe. More information on the inspection process can be found in the Ofsted Early Years Inspection Handbook⁸

[Click this link to find an Ofsted report](#)

5. SEND and Inclusion

In response to the 2022 childcare sufficiency action plan there continues to be a significant programme of training and resources to promote inclusive practice across Rutland's early years and childcare provisions. The impact of this will be recognised through improved provider confidence and capacity to offer a wider choice of places for children with additional needs. Feedback on the local authority's programme of professional development for providers so far includes:



Early Years providers who receive government funding from the local authority are required to have due regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2015).

The Parks school is an LA maintained specialist provision based in Oakham and for children aged 2-5 years; whilst there isn't any dedicated specialist SEND provision in Early Years settings, many practitioners are highly skilled and experienced in supporting children with SEND and in promoting inclusion. The recent appointment of a specialist SEND Early Years teacher to support these settings and their staff is further enhancing the SEND and inclusion support available to children.

6. WRAP AROUND AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDCARE INCLUDING THE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME - Childcare for 5-14 Years

Wrap around childcare is childcare that is provided outside of normal school hours for school-aged children and often referred to as breakfast and afterschool clubs. Out of School provision refers to holiday childcare and is an option for working parents outside of term time when schools or early years settings are closed. The provisions are either organised through school provision or privately run.

The cost of out-of-school childcare delivered by the PVI sector averages at £32 per day and £160 per week. Rutland has 9 Ofsted registered out-of-school of which 4 are judged by Ofsted as good or better and others are waiting for their first inspection.

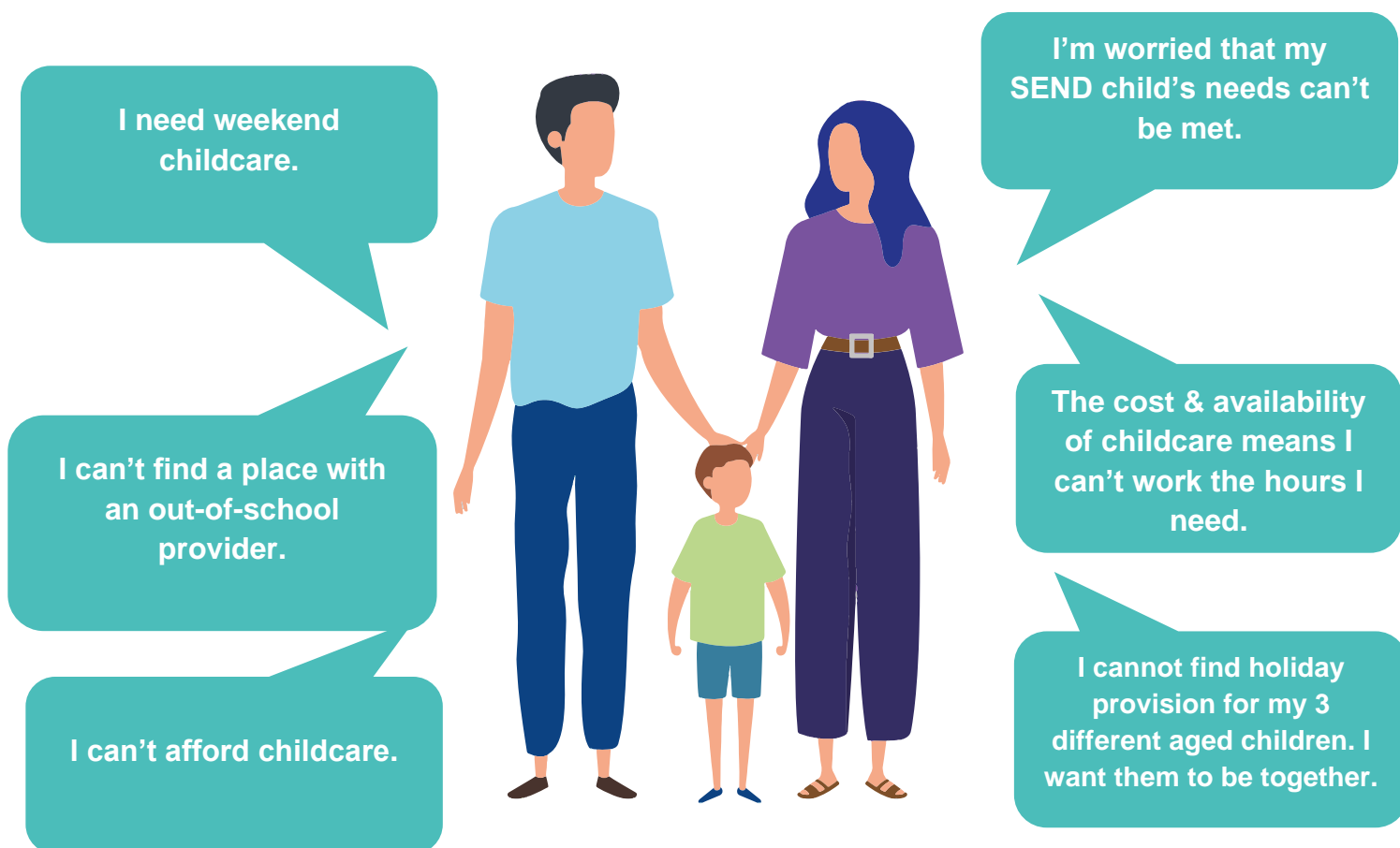
⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-inspection-handbook-eif/early-years-inspection-handbook-for-ofsted-registered-provision-for-september-2021>

Details of providers and their operational times can be found at https://www.rutland.gov.uk/rutland-information-service/directory?f%5B0%5D=ris_channel%3A247&ris_channel=247
 HOLIDAY Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Availability of holiday childcare for 5–14-year-olds has been augmented through the Department for Education (DfE) funded Holiday and Activities Food Programme (HAF) for children who receive benefits related Free School Meals.

	Easter 2022		Summer 2022		Christmas 2022	
Number of HAF providers for each holiday period	11		14		9	
HAF offer	4 days		16 days		4 days	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
Number of children accessing HAF Provision for each holiday period.	56	24	94	35	58	24
Attendance rate for each holiday period	168	72	1051	182	183	88

7. PARENTAL VIEWS OF CHILDCARE IN RUTLAND



274 parents responded to the parental questionnaire and key findings are illustrated above.

Nationally, the cost of childcare has increased. To support families to access affordable childcare, the local authority continue to promote Tax Free Childcare (TFC) by signposting families to Childcare Choices and the Childcare calculator. Families are able to learn more about which offers might be best for them, whether they are likely to be eligible and how to apply. 100% of Early Years providers accept TFC payments though not every school and out-of-school providers does at this time. A high majority of parents have an active TFC account

though in some cases may not be able to benefit from the 20% reduction to their childcare fees. Wraparound childcare that accepts tax free childcare payment is important to help make childcare affordable. Within the parental responses, it was noted that of the 12 parents who identified their child as having SEND and attending Secondary school, 7 reported that they require additional support to access wrap around and out-of-school childcare.

Parents said they need more flexibility in terms of daily operational times and that they would use in excess of 38 weeks of provision if it was available. The key findings of the parental survey will be shared with providers, in addition, parents are also urged to speak with their provider about their childcare needs which will present an opportunity for providers to manage their offer.

8. BUSINESS VIEWS OF CHILDCARE IN RUTLAND

The local authority welcomes feedback from employers and those that responded to the CSA survey indicated that access to childcare was not currently considered to be a significant issue but there was recognition that recruitment of new staff could be affected by access to or affordability of childcare. To continue to better understand employer preferences and to support the development of the childcare market across Rutland, further work is planned to engage with the business sector to establish whether there is a requirement for wider provision of childcare.

8. Conclusion

From analysis of responses to the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment activity, at the time of reporting Rutland continues to provide sufficient early education and childcare for working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment.

The implications of the Spring budget cannot yet be predicted and therefore the impact on sufficiency is unknown at this time; however, the local authority will continue to engage proactively with the sector to identify any potential reduction in sufficiency.

Appendix 1 Rutland Childcare Sufficiency and Early Education Action Plan 2022-23

Aim; to ensure sufficient, high quality early education and childcare places including wraparound and holiday childcare are available to meet the needs of all Rutland children and their families.

Outcome: Parents and carers report that there are sufficient childcare places available, accessible and affordable. Places are delivered flexibly in a range of high quality settings to meet the need of parents and enabling them to work or study.

1 Affordability - To reduce parental concerns raised over affordability of childcare by ensuring parents are well-informed, through a well-planned communication strategic approach, about the range of Early Education and Childcare financial entitlements that are available to them.				
Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Parents are not sufficiently well-informed of all Early Education and Childcare financial entitlements available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current communication processes and resources for families to ensure information on Early Education financial entitlements is accurate, relevant and readily accessible Implement a regular review of the content of Rutland Information Service (RIS) through a mystery shopper approach to ensure information remains current and readily accessible Develop and implement a parent advocate approach of advice and information sessions to be delivered termly. 	<p>Mystery shopper approach confirms information on education entitlements and packages of government led financial support to help pay for childcare is current and accessible.</p> <p>Feedback from parents that information is easier to understand and they have increased their knowledge.</p>	S: April 2022 E: July 2023	<p>Mystery shopper approach has resulted in a full review of currency and accessibility of content.</p> <p>Rutland Information Service and RCC Corporate website; these will continue to be reviewed and updated as necessary.</p> <p>Specific resources aimed at families moving into Rutland produced. Delivered to incoming MOD families, positive feedback received.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable Early Education and other service providers who work with families to become more confident in providing financial information to parents through training and regularly updated resource packs Refine the Rutland provider agreement processes to include compulsory attendance at least one of the termly funding training updates per financial year. 	Providers are confidently supporting families in accessing financial support for childcare.	S: April 2022 E: July 2023	<p>Attendance at training events enables providers to now promote the financial support available with evidence of increased take-up of the 2 year old entitlement.</p> <p>The Rutland Provider Agreement has been updated, 100% attendance at Compliancy training</p>

2 Accessibility - To increase accessibility to a childcare place for all children through a programme of support which provides confidence and capability to the sector so that there is a consistent approach to inclusion of children with additional needs within the Universal childcare offer.				
Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Parents are reporting that not all childcare providers can meet the needs of children with special educational needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a provider mapping activity to support parents in locating suitable childcare providers. Live links to provider websites and/or RIS will help to inform parents of individual offer • Promote an inclusive childcare offer, which is available during term time and holiday periods, through a programme of professional development, guidance and resources • Support SEND and Inclusion Service activities to promote inclusion of children with additional needs within the universal education offer when this can best meet need • Promote early identification of need through improved take up of the 2 year Healthy Child Programme and Early Years Foundation Stage Progress Check. • Develop a more robust approach to promoting an inclusive holiday childcare provision across Rutland • Promote HAF funding as an additional funding stream for early education providers to increase accessible holiday childcare for all children 	<p>Providers are confident in delivering an inclusive offer which is based on a good understanding of a child's needs and utilises additional funding streams as appropriate.</p> <p>Provision is supported through an effective multi-agency approach which reflects a child's individual requirements.</p> <p>Evidence of increased take-up of funded hours for children with additional needs.</p>	<p>S: April 2022 E: July 2024</p>	<p>By May 2023: RIS reviewed to include location and information to current providers. Programme of RCC and external training and guidance currently being delivered, good engagement across the Early education and childcare sector. HAF – increase of take up of SEND places. RCC engagement with the LGA Data Driven and SEND project to increase expertise across the early education Sector.</p> <p>Parent feedback on accessibility of childcare</p> <p>Census data (2023 & 2024) (hours of attendance)</p>

3 Availability - To mitigate risk of future insufficient Early Education and Childcare places through identifying and promoting opportunities which support Providers in developing their own business models which are financially viable and meeting the requirements of Rutland families.

Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Potential risk of future insufficient Early Education and Childcare places as a result of business failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and promote opportunities which support business development across the Early Education sector Ensure the Early Education sector is kept well informed of the take- up of places and hours accessed to enable businesses to be adjusted to reflect market need. Promote HAF funding as an additional funding stream for early education providers. 	<p>Evidence of early education and childcare providers developing their own financially viable business models which are meeting the requirements of working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).</p> <p>HAF activity is utilised by existing providers to augment childcare offer</p> <p>Sufficiency of places across Rutland is maintained</p>	<p>S: April 2022 E: Jan 2024</p>	<p>By May 2023: Schools' Forum Early Years Working Party has been proactive in promoting opportunities for business development</p> <p>Employer Engagement outcomes – CSA 2023</p> <p>HAF attendance data</p> <p>Parent feedback</p>

Appendix 2 Rutland Childcare Sufficiency and Early Education Action Plan 2023-24

Aim; to ensure sufficient, high quality early education and childcare places including wraparound and holiday childcare are available to meet the needs of all Rutland children and their families.

Outcome: Parents and carers report that there are sufficient childcare places available, accessible and affordable. Places are delivered flexibly in a range of high quality settings to meet the need of parents and enabling them to work or study.

1 Affordability - To ensure effective processes are in place so that all service providers working with families can confidently offer parents information about early education and childcare financial entitlements				
Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Parental feedback identifies concern over the cost of childcare. Not all parents are accessing all of their Early Education and Childcare financial entitlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and share effective communication processes and resources for families to ensure information on Early Education financial entitlements is accurate, relevant and readily accessible Develop directory of information for families with young children moving into Rutland to ensure smooth transition to funded entitled places Ensure information remains current and readily accessible on Rutland Information Service (RIS) through a programme of review 	<p>Mystery shopper approach confirms information on education entitlements and packages of government led financial support to help pay for childcare is current and accessible.</p> <p>Feedback from parents that information is easier to understand, and they have increased their knowledge.</p>	S: April 2023 E: July 2024	<p>Mystery shopper feedback</p> <p>Parental feedback through engagement activities.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver programme of information and advice to all Early Education and Childcare providers and other agencies who work with families to develop confidence in offering financial information to parents Ensure providers are confident in ensuring children receive additional funding streams (EYPP, DAF etc) Resources developed and promoted to support out of school childcare providers in promoting tax free childcare to support working families 	<p>Providers are confidently supporting families in accessing financial support for childcare.</p> <p>Wraparound and out of school childcare providers are reporting increased use of Tax Free Childcare</p> <p>Increase in uptake of Early Years Pupil Premium</p>	S: April 2023 E: July 2024	<p>Feedback from parents through childcare Sufficiency Duty (2024): parental engagement survey</p> <p>Data on numbers of Early Years Pupil Premium</p>

2 Accessibility – To ensure all Early Education and Childcare staff are confident in early identification of additional need and are secure in actions to take and services to access in order to provide an inclusive offer for all children				
Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Parents are reporting that not all childcare provision can meet the needs of children with special educational needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote confidence in providers offering an inclusive childcare offer, which is available during term time and holiday periods, through a programme of professional development, guidance and resources Utilise additional Grant funding to work in partnership with RCC SEND and Inclusion Service to promote inclusion of children with additional needs within the universal education offer when this can best meet need Work with out of school providers to promote a wider activity offer: ensure RIS reflects the full offer Utilise any Provider Agreements or Service Level Agreements to set expectation for a fully inclusive early education and childcare offer; set expectation for providers to engage in training, advice and guidance offer where relevant 	<p>Providers are confident in delivering an inclusive offer which is based on a good understanding of a child's needs and utilises additional funding streams as appropriate.</p> <p>Evidence of increased take-up of funded hours for children with additional needs.</p> <p>Evidence of increased take-up of wrap around and out of school childcare for children with additional needs.</p> <p>Provision is supported through an effective multi-agency approach which reflects a child's individual requirements.</p>	<p>S: April 2023 E: July 2025</p>	<p>Parent feedback on accessibility of childcare through childcare Sufficiency Duty (2024): parental engagement survey</p> <p>Early Education Entitlement Funding claims for children with additional needs</p> <p>Feedback from out of school childcare providers, including HAF providers</p>

3	To ensure the early education and childcare sector offer is meeting the demands of Rutland families and providers are pro-active in preparing for the expectations set out in the 2023 spring budget. Availability -			
Issue	Actions	Measurement of Success (Milestones)	Target Dates	Progress/ Evidence location
Parents report that they are not able to find childcare to fully meet their working, studying or training needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete sector mapping exercise to establish current operational availability • Undertake gap analysis based on parental feedback from CSA findings • Deliver findings to the sector highlighting potential for market development and expansion of provision • Introduce / instigate a campaign to encourage new providers to enter the local childcare market. • Maintain currency and accuracy of available childcare on RIS and through social media 	<p>Early education and childcare providers are adapting their operating models to reflect the requirements of working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).</p> <p>An increase in availability of childcare places which are delivered flexibly for 51 weeks of the year</p>	S: April 2023 E: July 2025	Parent feedback Childcare sufficiency assessment 2024 2025 Census data

Appendix 3 Acronym and Terminology Directory

Acronyms

CMA	Childminding Agency
DAF	Disability Access Funding
EYPP	Early Years Pupil Premium
EYNFF	Early Years National Funding Formula
FEEE	Funded Early Education Entitlements
HAF	Holiday Activities and Food Programme
HMRC	His Majesty's Revenue and Customs
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education
PVI	Private, Voluntary and Independent
RIS	Rutland Information Service
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Terminology

Out-of-School refers to Holiday Clubs

Wrap around refers to before and after school clubs

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