

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

2018

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) is a statutory document that outlines how Norfolk County Council plans to 'secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children from birth to 14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).' The compiling and publication of this Childcare Sufficiency Assessment meets Norfolk County Council's statutory duty under sections 6, and 7 of the Childcare Act 2006, and is also in line with local authority statutory guidance.
- 1.2 This report focusses on two key areas of the childcare market in Norfolk:
- measuring the demand for, and supply of, childcare within the seven districts of Norfolk
 - identifying gaps in the market and planning how to support the market to address any shortfall
- 1.3 To assess the supply and demand, current levels of provision are compared with the predicted demand based on population data, so that any shortfall can be identified. More detailed analysis on key findings, demand and supply of childcare places for two, three and four year olds can be found in the 36 Childcare Sufficiency Area Profiles, available from: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/childcare-advice-and-guidance/childcare-sufficiency>.
- 1.4 The Childcare Act 2006 gives the local authority a key role in shaping the childcare market. Norfolk County Council is committed to working with providers from the Private, Voluntary and Independent sectors (PVI) and the Maintained sector, to create a strong, sustainable and diverse childcare market that meets the needs of parents/carers and supports children's learning.
- 1.5 The Local Authority is required to report annually to elected members and publish information for parents to see how the Authority is meeting its sufficiency duty. This includes specific information about:
- the supply of and demand for early education and childcare
 - affordability, accessibility and quality of early education and childcare provision
 - details of how any gaps in this provision will be addressed.
- 1.6 Whilst Local Authorities are required by law to ensure sufficient early years places, attendance by children from birth to five at any early childhood education and care setting is voluntary. There is no requirement for a child to attend early education provision until the term after a child's fifth birthday. Attendance at any setting before this point is the choice of the parent.
- 1.7 Settings delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) may be private, voluntary or independent organisations or schools. All provision is funded either by government entitlements or by parents.

- 1.8 The Childcare Act 2006 also requires the following actions and measures which set out the strategic role local authorities play. The local authority is required by government to support (though not directly provide) the following:
- Early education places for two, three and four year olds including eligibility, flexibility and quality
 - Distributing the funding for early education places
 - Securing sufficient childcare so far as is practicable in a free market
 - Providing information to parents
 - Providing information, support and training to early childhood education and care providers.
- 1.9 Local authorities are required to secure fully funded places offering 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year, and up to 52 weeks of the year, for every eligible child in their area, until the child reaches compulsory school age (the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday). Eligibility will depend on the child's age and whether they meet certain criteria.

Figure 1. Early Education and childcare eligibility

Funded early education		Criteria
All 3 and 4 year olds	15 hours per week for 38 weeks a year, equivalent to 570 hours. The 570 hours can be stretched over 52 weeks at approx. 11 hours per week.	Universal entitlement for all 3 and 4 year olds until they enter Reception class at a state funded school. If parents choose not to take up their child's right to a place in a state-funded school reception class in the September following their child's fourth birthday, they can choose to continue to take up their child's free place at a private, voluntary or independent childcare provider until their child reaches compulsory school age
Eligible 3 and 4 year olds	Up to an additional 15 hours per week for 38 weeks a year, equivalent to 1140 hours. The 1140 hours can be stretched over 52 weeks at approx. 22 hours per week.	Extended entitlement - Working lone parent or both parents earning over £120 per week
Eligible 2 year olds	15 hours per week for 38 weeks a year. The 570 hours can be stretched over 52 weeks at approx. 11 hours per week.	For parents on either low income or a range of benefits; the child is looked after by the local authority; has left care through special guardianship or through an adoption or residence order; is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or has a current statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan

Statutory Guidance for local authorities DfE June 2018

- 1.10 All 3 and 4-year-olds in England are entitled to 15 hours a week, or 570 hours a year of free early education. Since September 2017, 3 and 4-year-olds may be entitled to 30 hours free childcare, or an extra 570 hours of free childcare a year, so 1,140 hours in total. The additional 15 hours is available to families where both parents are

working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), and each parent earns a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage or living wage, and less than £100,000 per year. This also includes self-employed parents.

2. Key findings

Some of the key findings of the Norfolk Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018 are summarised below. More detailed analysis on key findings, demand and supply of childcare places for two, three and four year olds can be found in the 36 Childcare Sufficiency Area profiles, available from: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/childcare-advice-and-guidance/childcare-sufficiency>.

Norfolk is growing and changing

- Over the coming ten years, according to baseline forecasting figures from Cambridge Econometrics, using the 2017 East of England Forecasting Model (EEFM), the Norfolk population will increase by 68,600, 17,600 more jobs will be required for the working population and 39,300 more homes will be required <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/EEFM/>. The number of early years children however seems to be reducing, see section 5, figure 4

Across the county there is sufficient 0-5 childcare to meet demand, but this varies by area

- From the childcare sufficiency profiles the areas requiring additional childcare include:- Norwich (Catton Grove, Eaton, Thorpe Hamlet, Heartsease, Earlham, Bowthorpe and Costessey) Attleborough, Great Yarmouth and Kings Lynn (Vancouver)

The quality of early education and childcare in Norfolk is high

- 97% of providers were judged Good or Outstanding at the end of August 2018, comparing favorably with the national average of 95%, see section 10
- The percentage of Norfolk children achieving a good level of development at the end of the Foundation Stage is in line with the national average, see section 10

The cost of childcare remains below national averages.

- The average charge by providers for daycare childcare in Norfolk is £4.20 per hour. The national average according to The Family and Childcare Trust Childcare Survey 2018 for children aged three and four is £4.94. <https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/childcare-survey-2018>.
- From September 2018 80% of funded providers in Norfolk offer the extended hours for the 30 hour entitlement

The childcare landscape in Norfolk is changing

- There has been a higher than national decline in the numbers of childminders in Norfolk during the last 5 years, 35% compared to 24% nationally. Over the last year Norfolk has seen a 9% drop in childminder numbers

- The number of sessional and full daycare settings closing this year (16) has been offset with several schools opening new provision taking over governance of committee run settings on their sites
- The number of baby places available equates to 1 place per 10 children, the same as last year
- Out of school provision appears to meet demand, although the sustainability of more rural settings has led to closure due to the small number of children attending, see section 13
- Many families adapt their work pattern or use informal care such as grandparents or friends to manage their childcare

3. Childcare Sufficiency - Areas for Development

To ensure sufficient high quality early years and childcare provision, Norfolk County Council will:

Data/Sufficiency

- Undertake termly place availability audits on line through the Provider Portal, with follow up from Early Years Development Workers, so that any sufficiency issues are addressed as quickly as possible
- Encourage creative partnership working between registered providers to develop childcare places in areas of unmet need or where the current offer does not meet parental demand
- Target new place development in areas of housing development and community growth, aligned with school place planning
- Continue to monitor the number of childminders to ascertain potential reasons for decline in registration numbers and identify actions to address, including active recruitment in areas of identified need
- Develop more detailed analysis of sufficiency within market towns, i.e. Swaffham to understand differences in supply and demand across districts
- Ensure award of sustainability and start-up funding reflects both identified and emerging shortfall in provision
- Encourage take up of funded places, particularly 2 year old places, in areas where take up rates are lowest

Family Information

- Launch an outreach campaign using social media, commercials and the FI web page to widen access to information about early education and childcare and home learning
- Help parents (particularly vulnerable families) to understand the benefits of high quality childcare and early learning for their children
- Develop specific information for fathers and male carers
- Note the views of parents to inform plans e.g. explore reasons why some families choose not to use funded early education and childcare
- Ensure all professionals working with families are regularly updated about the early education and childcare entitlements
- Monitor the impact of marketing the entitlements as measured by: increased awareness, satisfaction and increase in the take up of places because of contact with the Service

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEN&D)

- Improve the quality of existing web-based information and extend the number of topics available for providers to access including Special Educational Needs, behaviour, English as an Additional Language, funding, equalities
- Ensure all information is accessible via the Norfolk County Council schools & Special Educational Needs Local Offer website.

- Using data from the Early Identification Notice (EIN) ensure all children identified with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are accessing their early education entitlement and that support is in place
- Improve the skills & knowledge of the Early Years providers to meet the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities through training or practical hands on advice

Quality/Workforce Development

- Evaluate and extend the system leaders peer support network
- Allocate an Early Years Adviser and/or Development Worker to all settings, schools and childminders with an Ofsted grade of Requires Improvement or Inadequate, who will signpost to relevant training, give advice, support with action planning and monitor improvement
- “Thinking of becoming a childminder” briefings to be delivered in areas where places are needed
- Provide focused support and/or training for providers to develop their business model

4. Support for Parents

4.1 Affordability

For childcare to be sustainable providers need to ensure their operating costs are met by the income generated. At the same time, childcare needs to be affordable to parents and carers.

The local authority does not determine the business models of childcare providers as the childcare sector is influenced by market forces. Nevertheless, the local authority has a legal duty to ensure there is sufficient affordable childcare for parents who need it and stimulate the market where a gap is identified.

Legislation stipulates that local authorities should not intervene in providers' private businesses outside of a child's funded place.

4.2 Help with childcare costs

There are many systems available to parents and carers to help with childcare costs. Parents and carers must select the arrangement that is best suited to their personal circumstances as, for example, employee childcare vouchers may affect the amount of tax credits payable.

Tax credits

The childcare element of Working Tax Credit can help cover some of the cost of childcare. Up to 70% of childcare costs can be claimed (a maximum of £122.50 a week for one child or £210.00 a week for two or more children) but is dependent upon income, hours worked and childcare costs. To be eligible parents/carers must be working over 16 hours per week and use an Ofsted registered childcare provider. <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/send-local-offer/money/tax-credits>

Universal credit

Universal Credit is the new benefit system that will eventually replace tax credits and other benefit schemes and is being phased in between April 2013 and December 2018. Universal Credit will be paid as a single monthly payment that will include a standard allowance plus other 'elements' one of which will be childcare and managed by district, borough and city councils. Parents/carers may be eligible for up to 85% of their childcare costs per month, which is up to £646.35 for one child and £1,108.04 for 2 or more children. (<https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>)

Childcare voucher scheme (salary sacrifice schemes)

Employers can still offer financial support to employees with children in approved childcare through a childcare voucher scheme. This allows parents/carers to pay their childcare costs directly from their salary before tax and national insurance deductions are made. This saves the employee money by reducing the amount of tax payable. A maximum of £55 per week or £243 per month can be claimed in childcare vouchers depending on how much the parent/carer earns and when they joined the scheme. This scheme will eventually be replaced by the Tax-Free Childcare Scheme and was closed to new entrants in April 2018.

Tax free childcare scheme

The Government introduced a new tax-free childcare scheme in 2017 which is replacing childcare voucher schemes. To qualify, parents will have to be in work, and each earning at least £115 a week and not more than £100,000 each per year.

Under this system 20% of annual childcare costs will be paid for by the Government. Parent/carers can open an online account through the gov.uk website and pay into it to cover childcare costs. For every 80p paid into this account the Government will pay in an additional 20p, up to a maximum contribution of £2,000 a year per child (or £4,000 per year for a child with disabilities).

The scheme is open to families with children under 12 (and children with disabilities up to the age of 17) who are not already claiming tax credits to help with childcare costs. It is estimated that two million families will benefit from this new system as, unlike the voucher system it is not reliant on employers offering the service and can be accessed by self-employed parents/carers.

5. Population

- 5.1 According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2017 Mid-Year Population estimates Norfolk's population is around 898,390. This is approximately 1.6% of the population of England. The population is projected to increase by 7% by 2024.

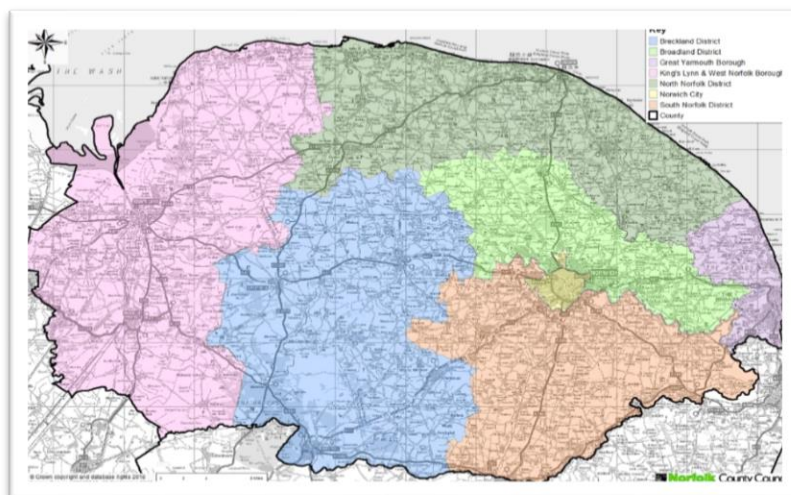
Figure 2. Projected population increase from 2024 and 2039 from ONS 2014 sub national population projections

District	2014	2024	2039	2014-24 increase		2014 - 39 increase	
				Number	%	Number	%
Breckland	134,000	143,600	155,800	9,600	7.2	21,800	16.3
Broadland	126,000	132,200	141,900	6,100	4.8	15,800	12.5
Great Yarmouth	98,100	102,000	108,000	3,900	4	9,900	10.1
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	149,900	154,800	168,600	8,500	5.7	18,700	12.5
North Norfolk	102,800	108,600	117,400	5,800	5.6	14,600	14.2
Norwich	137,500	148,100	148,100	10,600	10.6	23,900	17.4
South Norfolk	129,100	145,400	162,100	16,300	16.3	33,000	25.6
Norfolk	877,500	938,300	1,015,200	60,800	6.9	137,700	15.7

ONS sub national population projections 2014

- 5.2 Over the decade from 2007, Norfolk's population has increased by 6.9%.
- 5.3 It is estimated that there are approximately 174,000 children aged 0-17.
- 5.4 Norfolk comprises of seven district council areas; Norwich, North Norfolk, Breckland, Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, Broadland, Great Yarmouth and South Norfolk District Councils. South Norfolk, Norwich and Breckland are projected to be the fastest growing districts in the county.

Figure 3: Norfolk Districts



Norfolk County Council CS E-
Publishing Team September 2018

5.5 The table in Figure 4 shows the breakdown of numbers of children aged 0 to 14 and disabled 15-18 year olds living within each of the 7 districts, shown by age.

Figure 4 - Table of population of children age 0 - 14 and disabled children age 15 – 18

Age	Breckland	Broadland	Great Yarmouth	King's Lynn and West Norfolk	North Norfolk	Norwich	South Norfolk	Norfolk
0	1,418	1,125	1,105	1,552	775	1,647	1,299	8,921
1	1,518	1,197	1,101	1,650	784	1,664	1,412	9,326
2	1,545	1,221	1,104	1,716	837	1,559	1,411	9,393
3	1,537	1,213	1,108	1,693	899	1,682	1,409	9,541
4	1,622	1,340	1,119	1,803	819	1,664	1,601	9,968
5	1,575	1,386	1,164	1,767	990	1,774	1,514	10,170
6	1,648	1,367	1,142	1,776	985	1,579	1,633	10,130
7	1,596	1,314	1,246	1,680	971	1,542	1,653	10,002
8	1,551	1,394	1,078	1,676	919	1,590	1,649	9,857
9	1,614	1,376	1,200	1,731	973	1,566	1,591	10,051
10	1,507	1,465	1,131	1,675	932	1,457	1,531	9,698
11	1,462	1,294	1,033	1,592	945	1,366	1,556	9,248
12	1,391	1,407	1,041	1,485	929	1,355	1,469	9,077
13	1,373	1,307	1,031	1,508	930	1,200	1,563	8,912
14	1,309	1,340	1,019	1,468	925	1,144	1,488	8,693
disabled 15-18	102	60	114	120	75	93	91	655
Totals	22,768	19,806	16,736	24,892	13,688	22,882	22,870	143,642

Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland Mid 2017-ONS Revised 28/06/2018

5.6 There are approximately 47,150 children aged from birth up to four years

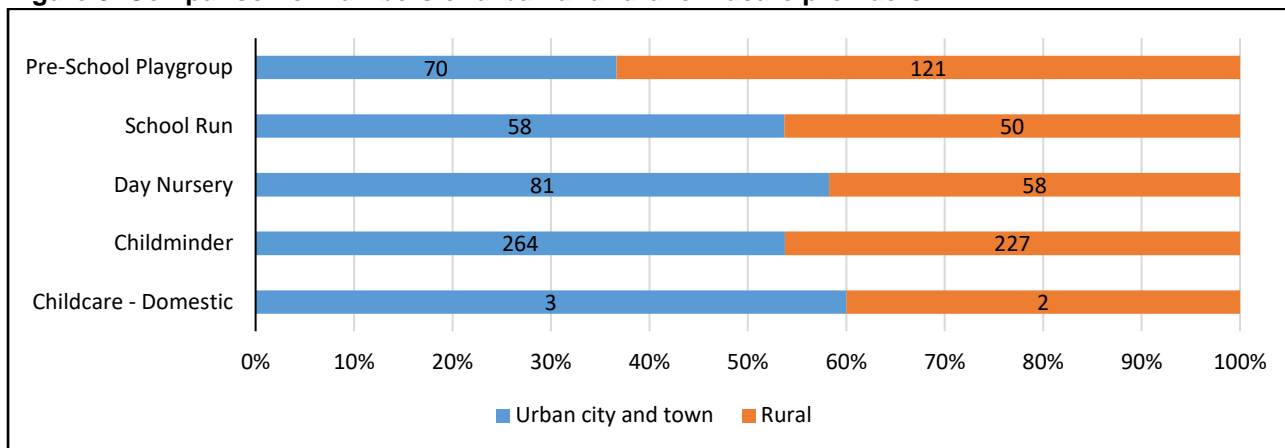
5.7 There are 35,930 children in Norfolk age 11 – 14.

5.8 According to the gov.uk website (Official Statistics, Disability facts and figures, Published 16 January 2014), around 6% of children/young people are disabled

5.9 While Norfolk's land area is around 93% rural, just over half of residents live in an environment that can be classed as urban. Over the past six years, there has been a shift in where people live in Norfolk, with an increase in numbers of people living in urban settings and a corresponding reduction of people living in rural settings. All districts except North Norfolk have at least a third of their population living in urban areas and none of Norfolk's districts is wholly rural. (Norfolk Story, 2017)

5.10 Just under half of families in Norfolk live in a rural area with these children being largely served by voluntary pre-schools and childminders

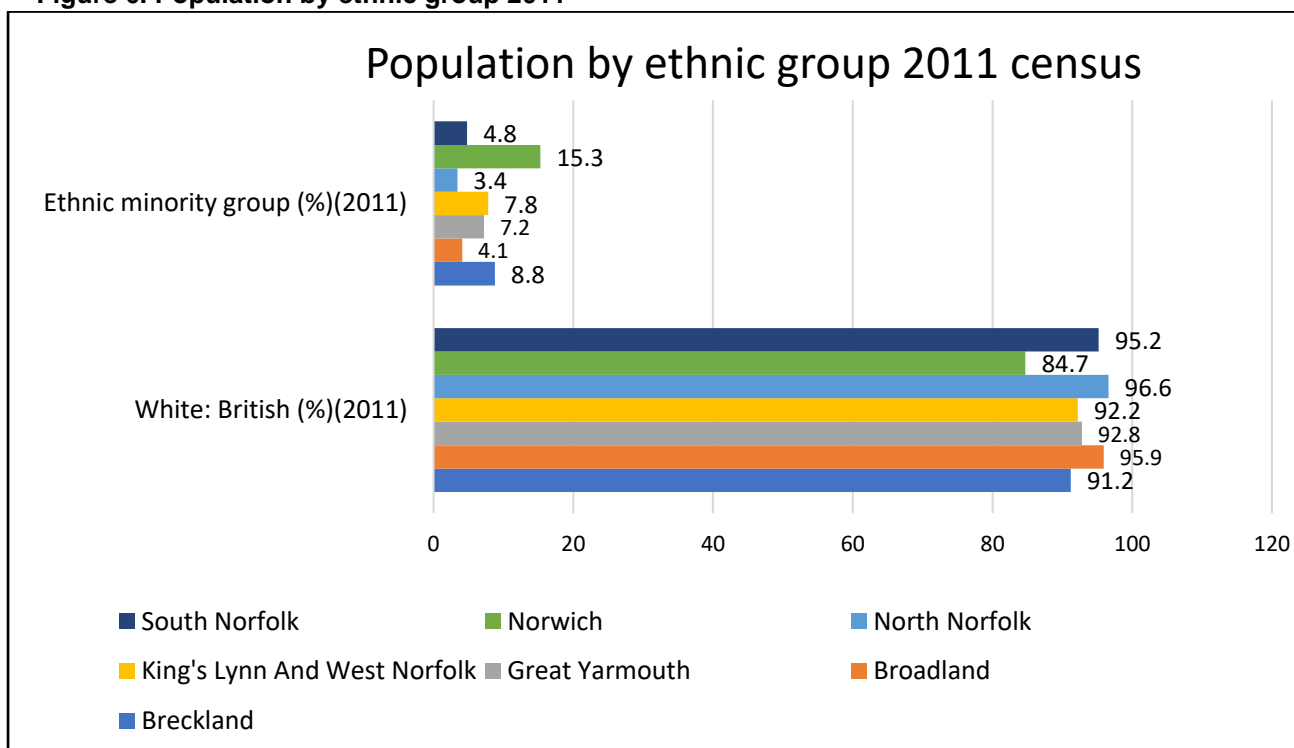
Figure 5. Comparison of numbers of urban and rural childcare providers



NCC Postcode Gazetteer & Synergy Education Live September 2018

5.11 Population in Norfolk is characterized as predominately White British, with Norwich having the highest levels of other ethnicities

Figure 6. Population by ethnic group 2011



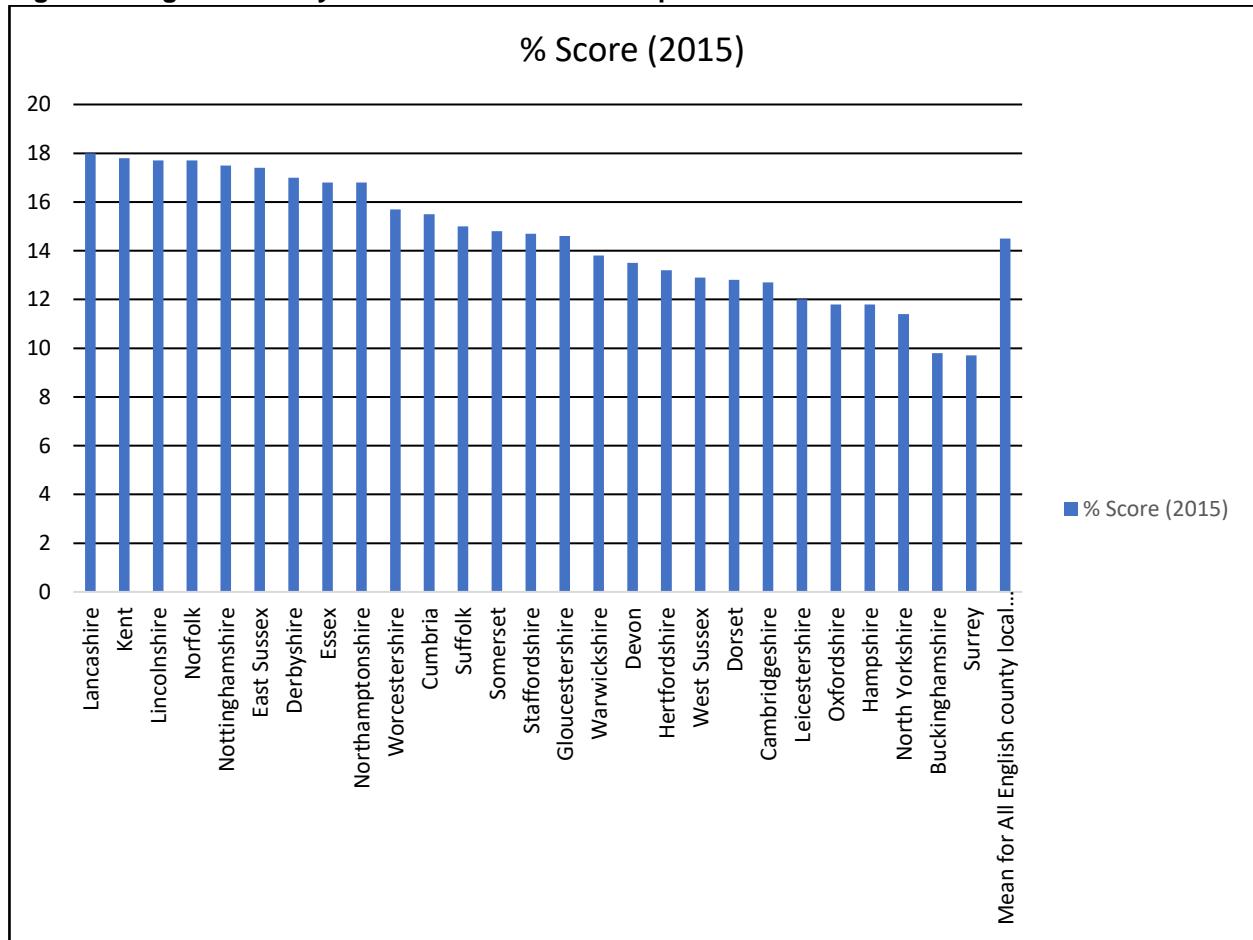
NCC Norfolk Insight, 2011 Census

5.12 There are around 130 languages spoken in Norfolk. English is not the first language of around 7,800 school children in the county and of these around a fifth are aged 0 to 5 years. Polish is the most widely spoken first language other than English across Norfolk’s school children, with Portuguese being the second and Lithuanian the third

5.13 The Indices of Deprivation 2015 show that Norfolk has experienced an increase in relative deprivation compared with 2010. The Income Deprivation Affecting

Children Index (IDACI) indicates Norfolk had the fourth highest score of the county councils in England in 2015

Figure 7. England County Council IDACI score comparisons



Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Indices of deprivation

- 5.14 Around 68,200 Norfolk residents live in areas which have been classified as being among the 10% most deprived in England. The most deprived areas in Norfolk are still concentrated in the urban areas of Great Yarmouth, Norwich, King’s Lynn and Thetford.
- 5.15 The labour market profile comparison between Norfolk, East of England and Great Britain shows Norfolk is performing better than nationally for being economically active but falls behind the Eastern average. Norfolk has a higher percentage of unemployed people than both the regional and national average.

Figure 8. Number of 16-64’s and percentage of population

Area	Economically Active	In employment	Employees	Self-employed	Unemployed
Norfolk	78.9%	78.9%	62.7%	12%	4.7%
East	81.1%	78.2%	66.3%	11.6%	3.6%
Great Britain	78.4%	79.7%	64.2%	10.6%	4.2%

NOMIS Jul 2017-Jun 2018

6. Projected Housing Growth

- 6.1 There are several major growth areas in Norfolk which will see future economic expansion, new housing, new schools and other infrastructure planning and investment. These are detailed in NCC's 2018 Local Growth and Investment Plan. New housing will attract the need for childcare provision that may be above the supply level of existing local provision.

Figure 9. Number of children aged 3 and 4 living in new housing

District	LGIP Projected Housing	Number of additional 3-4 year olds
Breckland	10,400	1,008
Broadland	14,700	1,426
Great Yarmouth	1,000	97
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	5,400	524
North Norfolk	600	59
Norwich	1,000	97
South Norfolk	9,850	956
Total	42,950	4,167

NCC LGIP 2018

- 6.2 The new housing is predominantly centered around the Greater Norwich Growth Triangle to the north and east of the city and growth in the urban areas along the A11 corridor towards Suffolk and Cambridgeshire
- 6.3 The NCC Place Planning Team comment weekly on infrastructure requirements for new planning applications received by the districts and county planning officers for sites over 20 mixed-bed dwellings. The district planning targets for housing growth are reported on within the 36 Area Childcare Sufficiency Profiles, available at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/childcare-advice-and-guidance/childcare-sufficiency>

7. Sufficiency of childcare places

- 7.1 Norfolk currently has 905 childcare providers across the county. Several providers operate more than one type of childcare, such as a school having a nursery class alongside a pre-school or EYFS Unit, reflecting that there are 916 provider types for December 2018 shown in Figure 10

Figure 10. Childcare provision in Norfolk

Childcare Provider Type	Sept 17	Dec 18	Difference
Day Nursery	137	135	-2
Pre-school Playgroup	180	166	-14
Childminder and Childcare - Domestic	534	486	-48
Nursery Units of Independent Schools	12	12	0
School Run (Nursery School, Nursery Class, Day Nursery, Pre-school & EYFS Unit)	110	117	+7
Total	973	916	-57

NCC Synergy Education Live December 2018

- 7.2 The number of early years and childcare provider types in the county continues to reduce marginally each year. In the 2017 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment the numbers of pre-schools, childminders, nursery classes, nursery schools and day nurseries were 984, this dropped to 973 (99%) in September 2017. From September 2017 to December 2018 numbers dropped again to 916 (94%). Childminders dropped 9% in the latter period.
- 7.3 Not all childcare providers offer the funded early education entitlement. Figure 11 shows the number of childcare providers offering free early education entitlement in both the private, voluntary and independent (PIV) sector and those run by local authority-maintained schools and academies sector, by District Council area.

Figure 11. Number of childcare providers offering funded places by District Council

District	Private, voluntary and independent				School run provision	Total
	Day nursery	Pre-school playgroup	Childminder and childcare - domestic	Nursery units of independent schools		
Breckland	23	27	45	3	15	113
Broadland	14	29	55	1	8	107
Great Yarmouth	14	7	24	0	12	57
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	23	28	51	1	29	132
North Norfolk	15	15	22	2	13	67
Norwich	16	18	25	4	22	85
South Norfolk	28	37	58	1	38	162
Norfolk Total	133	161	280	12	137	723

NCC Synergy Education Live December 2018

- 7.4 The number and distribution of funded childcare places being offered by childcare

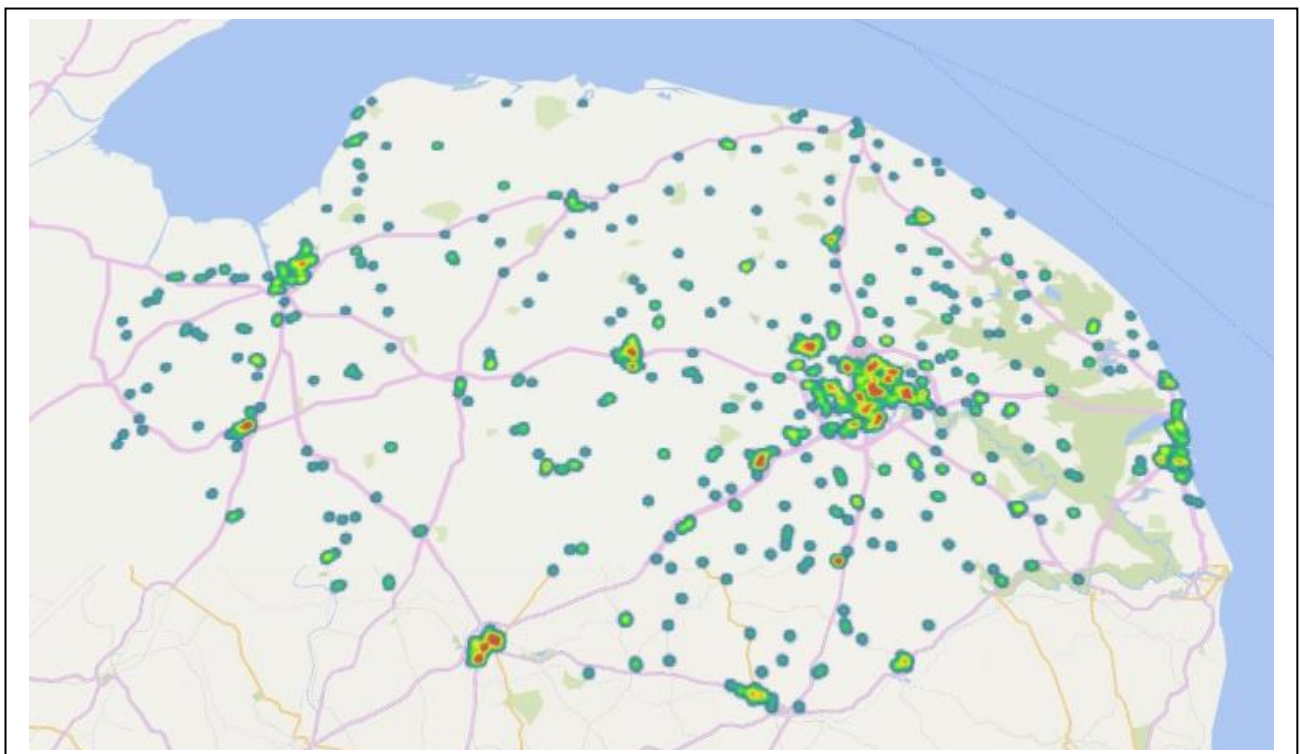
providers varies between each district, with most places located within urban areas. Whilst the overall number of places across the county meets need, for families living in rural areas the choice of type of provision is more limited.

Figure 12. Number of funded places available for 2, 3 & 4 year olds by District

District	Day nursery		Pre-school playgroup		Childminder and childcare -domestic		Nursery units of independent schools		School run provision		Total
	3 & 4's	2YO's	3 & 4's	2YO's	3 & 4's	2YO's	3 & 4's	2YO's	3 & 4's	2YO's	
Breckland	1,044	342	975	254	215	53	88	0	660	28	3659
Broadland	588	232	1,126	294	265	55	45	0	449	50	3,104
Great Yarmouth	1,183	497	328	116	113	29	0	0	684	92	3,042
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	1,193	412	868	386	227	48	48	12	665	68	3,927
North Norfolk	557	207	498	176	116	22	56	0	490	84	2,206
Norwich	700	229	734	255	121	32	244	0	919	170	3404
South Norfolk	952	283	1,106	384	266	60	80	0	474	8	3,613
Total	6,217	2,202	5,635	1,865	1,323	299	561	12	4,341	500	22,955

NCC Synergy Education Live December 2018

Figure 13. Location of childcare providers offering funded places



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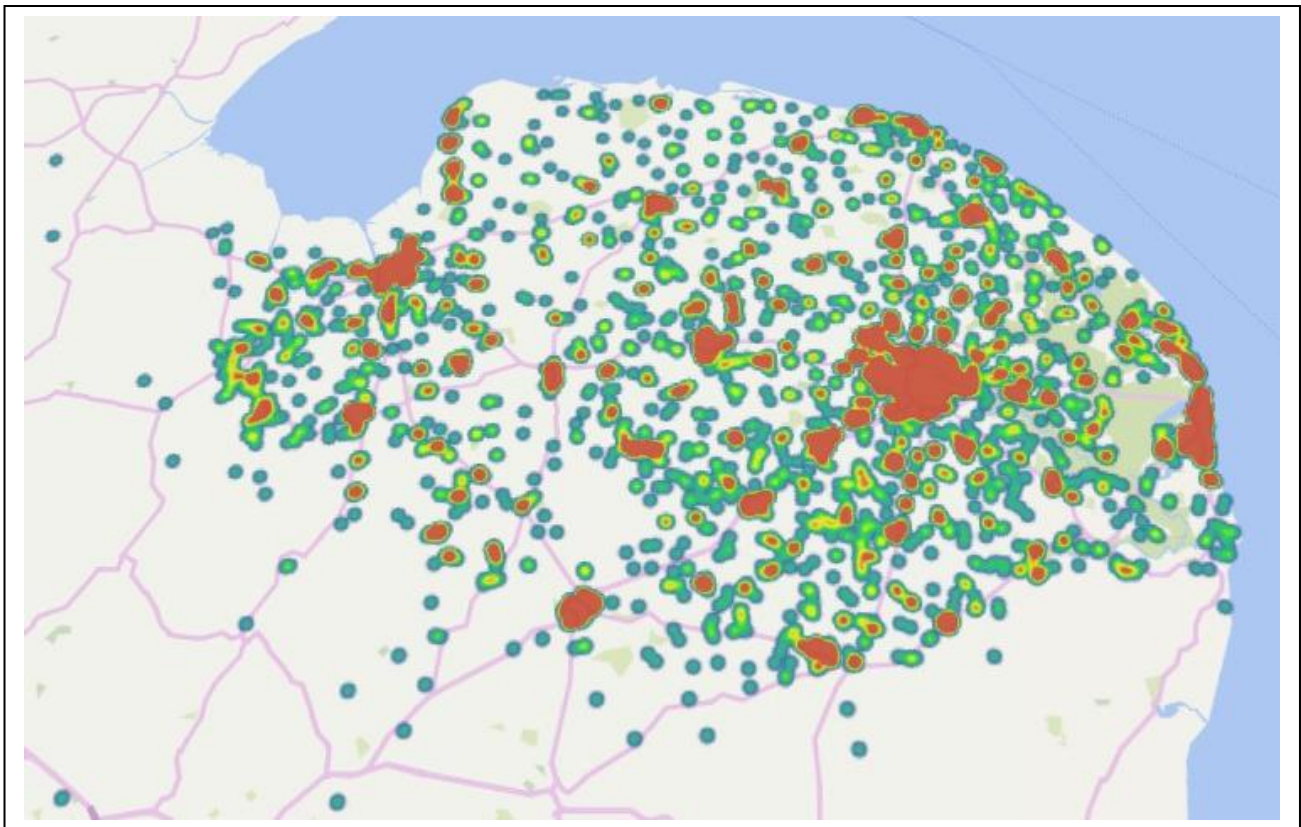
7.5 Take up of the 15 hour universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds is high across all areas of the county, the lowest take up being in Norwich. As part of the Norwich Opportunity Area strategy, take up is being encouraged through the provision of information provided to parents, and encouraging partnership working between different types of providers

Figure 14. Supply and demand for 15 hour funded places for 3 & 4 year olds by district

District	No of 3 & 4 year old children	Places available in PVI sector	Places available in schools sector	Total places available	% of children accessing a place
Breckland	3,015	2,322	660	2,982	99%
Broadland	2,559	2,024	449	2,473	97%
Great Yarmouth	2,213	1,624	684	2,308	100%
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	3,277	2,336	665	3,001	92%
North Norfolk	1,690	1,227	490	1,717	100%
Norwich	3,241	1,799	919	2,718	84%
South Norfolk	3,027	2,404	474	2,878	95%
Total	19,022	13,736	4,341	18,077	95%

NCC CHIS, eligibility and take up figures for summer claim period 2018

Figure 15. Location of funded 3 & 4 year olds, Summer 2018



NCC CHIS, eligibility and take up figures for summer claim period 2018

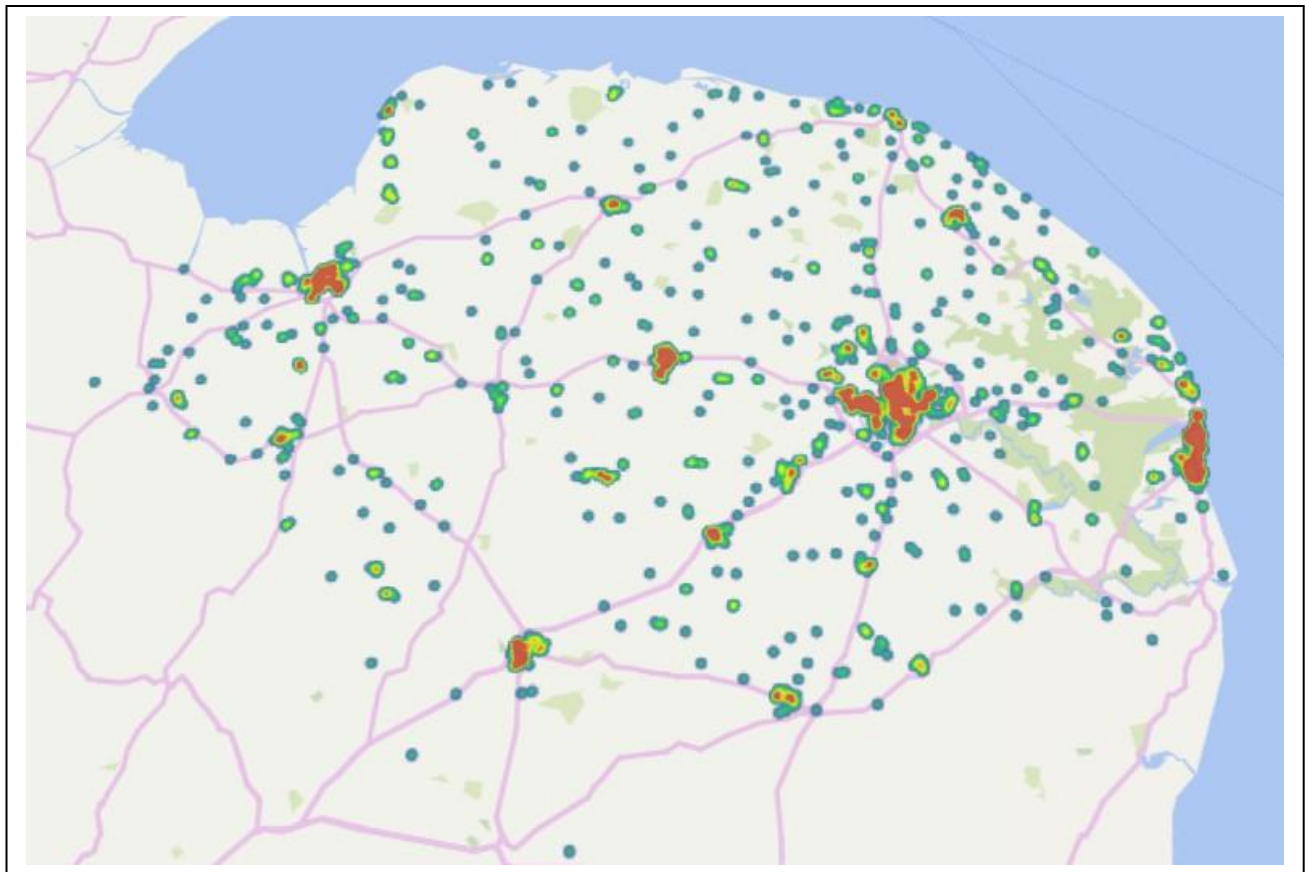
7.6 Analysis of the supply and demand of places for eligible funded 2 year olds shows that take up is lower than for the universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement. Take up rates are influenced by factors such as parental preference for keeping the child at home, which is particularly relevant for 2 year olds, not enough local childcare to meet parental preference and informal childcare being used instead.

Figure 16. Supply and demand for 15 hour funded places for 2YOs by district

District	Total 2YOs	No of eligible children	No eligible % of 2YO Population	total 2YOs accessing	% of children accessing a place
Breckland	1,421	418	29%	323	77%
Broadland	1,168	230	20%	190	83%
Great Yarmouth	1,131	258	23%	394	100%
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	1,620	534	33%	383	72%
North Norfolk	778	256	33%	235	92%
Norwich	1,727	648	38%	472	73%
South Norfolk	1,301	297	23%	239	80%
Total	9,146	2,641	29%	2,236	85%

NCC CHIS, eligibility and take up figures for summer claim period 2018

Figure 17. Location of funded 2 year olds, Summer 2018



NCC CHIS, eligibility and take up figures for summer claim period 2018

7.7 Nationally, the total number of children in a 30 hours place is equal to 94% of the eligibility codes issued to parents. In Norfolk, the number of children taking up the extended entitlement (30 hours) for the summer claim period 2018 is higher and equates to 97%.

Figure 18. Number accessing extended entitlement and take up of those eligible

District	verified validation codes	claiming extended hours	not claiming	% of eligible children accessing extended hours
Breckland	727	715	12	98%
Broadland	683	652	31	95%
Great Yarmouth	337	328	9	97%
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	746	729	17	98%
North Norfolk	429	422	7	98%
Norwich	441	427	14	97%
South Norfolk	741	713	28	96%
District unknown	130	126	4	97%
Total	4234	4112	122	97%

NCC Early Years Finance December 2018

7.8 Data regarding cost of childcare is gathered annually by via the Early Years Census in January and via provider portal updates. The current average costs of childcare will be a combination of these figures depending on when and if the provider updated their details with any changes.

Figure 19. Average costs per hour for early years childcare by type and district September 2018

District	Childminders and childcare -domestic	Day nursery (full daycare)	Pre-school playgroups (sessional)
Breckland	£3.74	£4.42	£3.84
Broadland	£4.10	£5.03	£4.06
Great Yarmouth	£3.79	£4.23	£3.63
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	£3.91	£4.43	£3.75
North Norfolk	£4.11	£4.73	£3.52
Norwich	£4.56	£4.65	£4.54
South Norfolk	£4.20	£5.09	£3.97
Norfolk average	£4.06	£4.65	£3.90

NCC Synergy Education Live, September 2018

7.9 Childcare for younger children is often the most expensive due to factors such as staff/child ratios etc. Most parents find that their childcare costs reduce as their child grows and all children are entitled to some form of funded nursery education from the age of three, meaning childcare fees for parents fall.

7.10 The average prices in Figure 19 have been compared to figures for September 2016 in Figure 20 below showing the percentage increase.

Figure 20. Percentage price increase per hour across childcare types

	Childminders & childcare-domestic	Day nursery (full daycare)	Pre-school playgroups (sessional)
Average price September 2016	£3.93	£4.45	£3.55
Average Price September 2018	£4.06	£4.65	£3.90
Average % price increase	3.2%	4.3%	8.97%

NCC Synergy Education Live September 2018

7.11 The average UK inflation rate for the same periods referred to above indicate prices have increased above the rate of inflation

Figure 21. UK inflation rate

UK Inflation Rate	
Average inflation rate September 2015-16	0.27%
Average inflation rate September 2017-18	3%

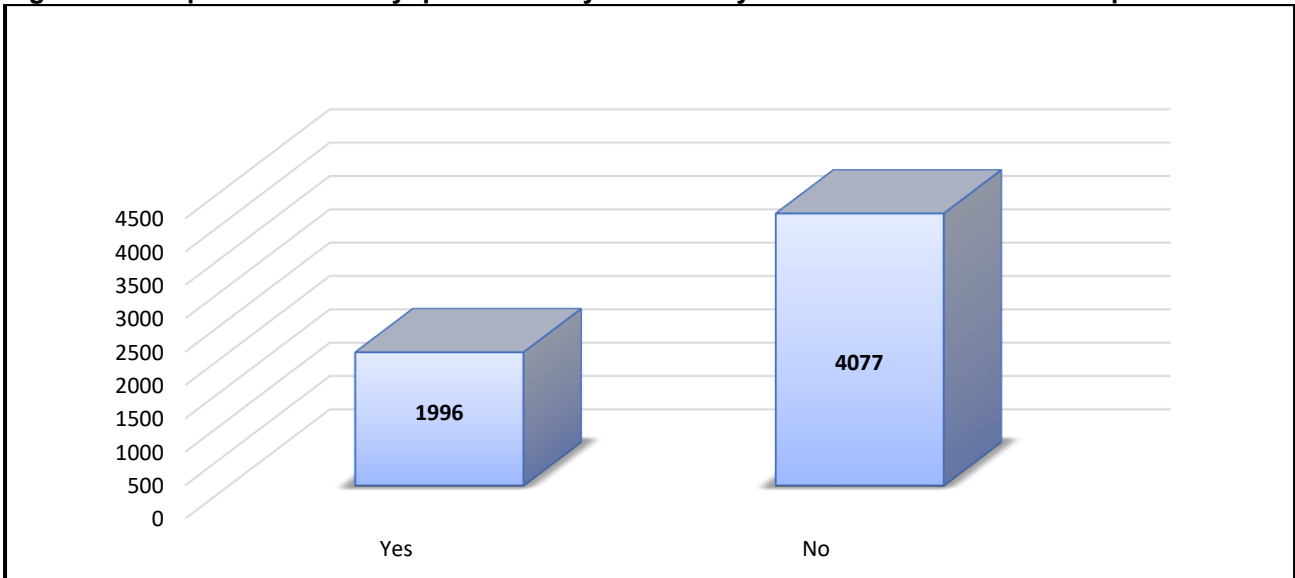
<https://www.rateinflation.com/inflation-rate/uk-historical-inflation-rate>

8. Consultation with parents

8.1 Consultation with parents and carers is an important part of establishing the demand for childcare. Parents were invited to complete a survey during autumn 2017 via the Children’s Centre Parental Satisfaction Survey. There was a 14% response rate (6,500 parents).

8.2 Figure 22 shows 6,073 parents replied to the question ‘Do you currently use a free/funded childcare place?’

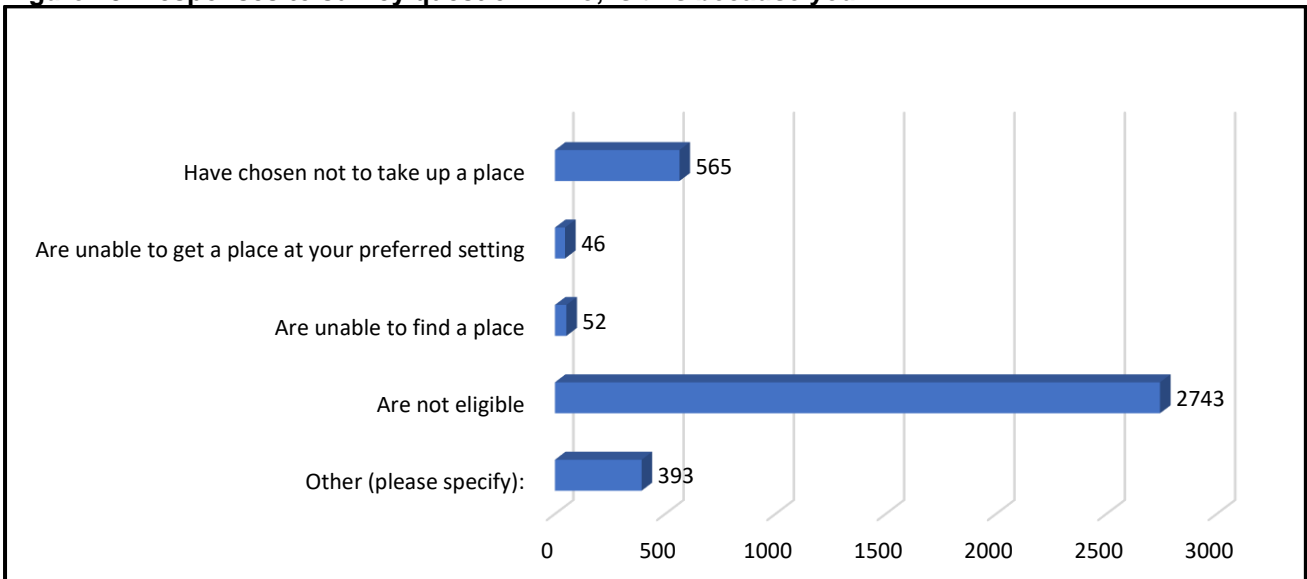
Figure 22. Responses to survey question ‘Do you currently use a free/funded childcare place?’



NCC Early Years Team Children’s Centre Parental Satisfaction Survey Autumn 2017

8.3 Figure 23 shows the responses of those not taking up a childcare place.

Figure 23. Responses to survey question ‘If no, is this because you...’



NCC Early Years Team Children’s Centre Parental Satisfaction Survey Autumn 2017

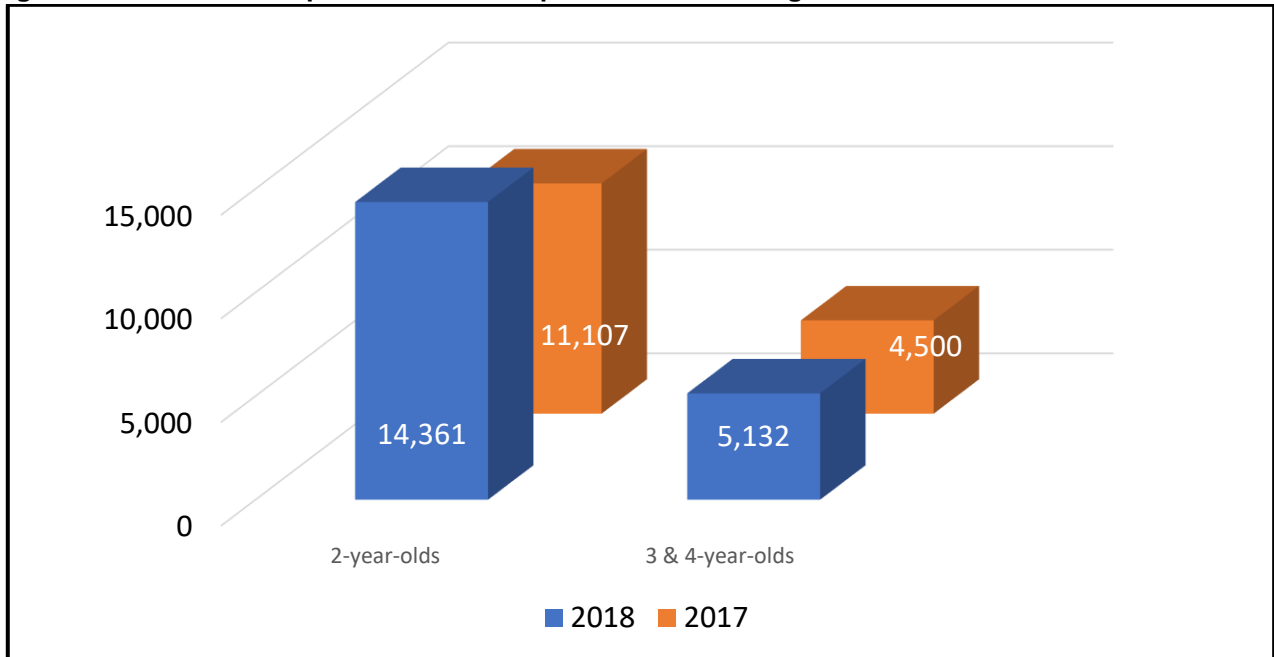
8.4 393 parents specified other reasons for not taking up a childcare place which were not captured by the survey options;

- Child too young
- The child is not born yet
- Don't know if we're eligible or not
- I don't need to work
- Don't have access to transport
- We have employed a nanny
- Grandparents support with childcare
- I am not sure if I am eligible plus I don't have enough information
- I'm a stay at home mum

9. Demand for childcare

- 9.1 Norfolk County Council's Customer Service Centre (CSC) takes initial enquires and provides general information to families while more complex enquiries are passed to Family Information, which is part of the Education and Early Years Achievement Service. This Service helps parents (particularly vulnerable families) to understand the benefits of high quality childcare and early learning for their children.
- 9.2 For the period 1st September 2017 – 31st August 2018, Family Information responded to 300 telephone enquiries handed over by CSC. The enquiry data showed that most of the customers were parents seeking clarification about funded early education and childcare, particularly 2-year-old funding.
- 9.3 Examples of handing-off from CSC to Family Information;
- 'Caller has made an online 2-year-old funding application which was successful for one of her twins but says she cannot input the same information twice to get a second reference number for the other twin as all the details are the same. How does she obtain a second reference number?' (CSA, October 2017)
 - 'R called today to see if she is eligible for the 2-year-old funding. R is on income support. Can someone get in touch with R to let her know about the funding code.' (CSA, April 2018)
 - 'S called today as she has lost her funding code letter - can we send a new one out please (CSC, August 2018)
- 9.4 Direct enquiries to CSC have decreased steadily over the last year, as more people are now using the Norfolk County Council childcare web pages and the Norfolk Community Directory to search for childcare and family support. In September 2017, the number of enquiries handed over by CSC to Family Information was 53 and in May 2018 the number was 16.
- 9.5 Most people are now accessing information about childcare online with most enquiries being received through email and Facebook. Family Information staff use social media to promote tax credits and to provide information relating to financial assistance for childcare. The top Facebook post in 2018 (ranked by engagement) reached 5.9k people, had 19 likes, 31 shares and 692 engagements. The second most engaging post about childcare reached 11.7k people, had 45 likes, 103 shares and 661 engagements.
- 9.6 The number of 'hits' to the NCC web pages about funded childcare have increased in the last 12 months and includes supporting information for parents and childcare professionals working with families.

Figure 24. Number of enquiries received September 2017 to August 2018



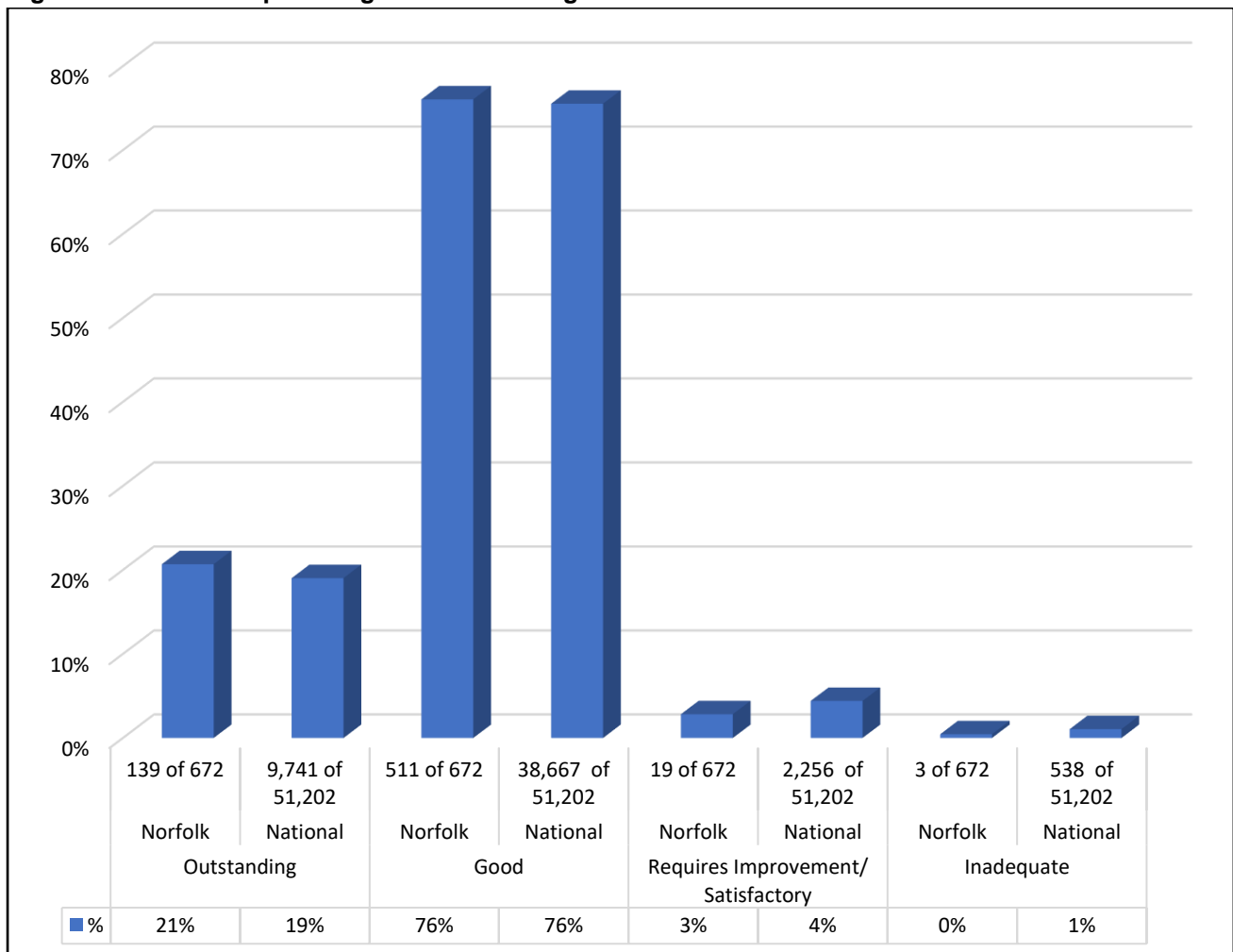
NCC Family Information December 2018

- 9.7 Family Information continue to develop innovative ways of communicating with parents to ensure up to date information is sent out to assist parents make informed choices regarding their childcare solutions.
- 9.10 Social media communication is being well responded to by parents seeking information though with the intermittent coverage of the broadband network it is recognised that web based communication doesn't suit all parents

10. Quality

- 10.1 Evidence shows that the quality of childcare is a significant factor affecting a child's future chances. High-quality early education improves children's school readiness and cognitive development, whilst poor-quality early education does very little to boost children's development. (2014 Joseph Roundtree Foundation, <https://www.jrf.org.uk/blog/30-hours-free-childcare-worth-fighting>).
- 10.2 The quality of early provision is measured through inspections undertaken by Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education). Ofsted is the sole arbiter of quality and through the inspection process, each setting will receive one of four grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate) depending on the inspection findings.
- 10.3 Data on the inspection outcomes of Norfolk based registered early years and childcare providers at their most recent inspection compared to the national picture shows the quality of provision across Norfolk is higher than the national average.

Figure 25. Ofsted inspection grades to 31st August 2018

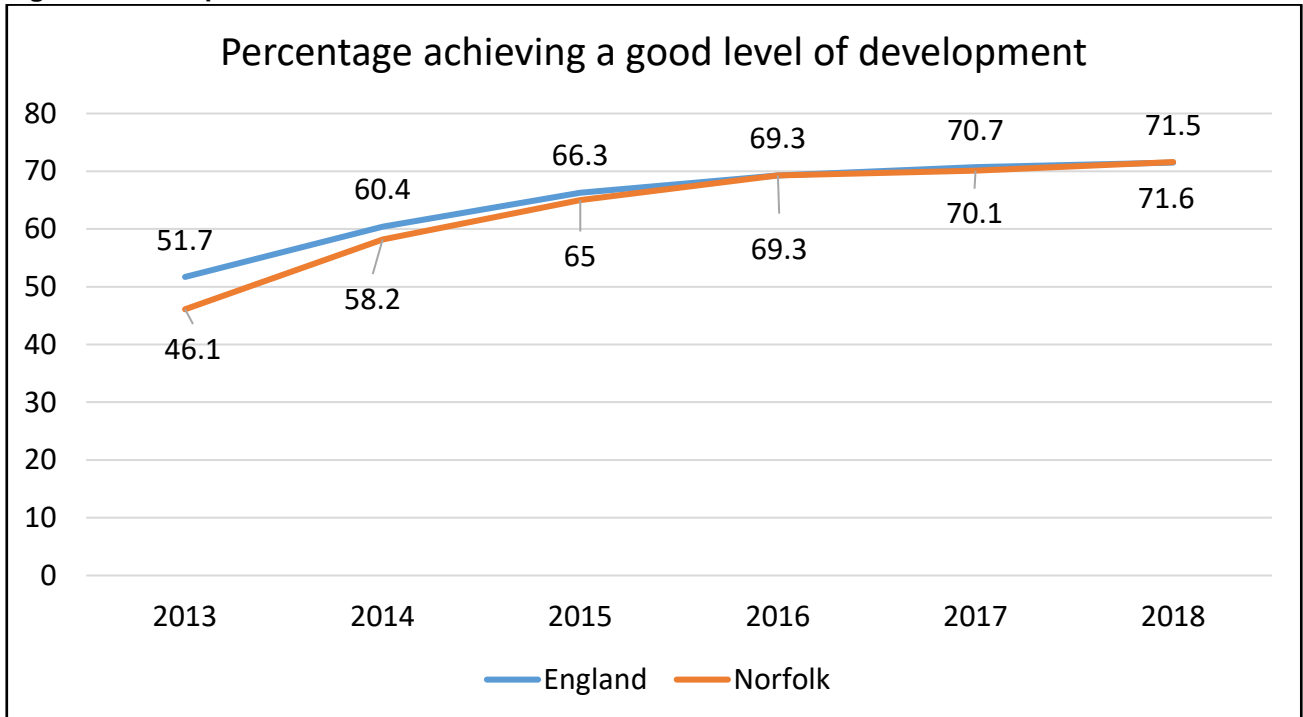


<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2018>

- 10.4 Support is available for providers to improve the quality of delivery and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Ofsted. The quality of provision plays an important part in the sufficiency of places.

- 10.5 All new childminders are offered a subsidised place on the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years' (PACEY) Level 3 Award in Home Based Childcare, covering every aspect of being a registered childminder. With the continued support offered through the registration process by the EAEYS most childminders and out of school providers achieve good or outstanding at their first Ofsted inspection.
- 10.6 In 2018, the percentage of children achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) was 71.6%, an increase of 0.9% from the previous year continuing an improving trend.

Figure 26. Comparison of children's results at the EYFSP



DfE Early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP) results: 2018

- 10.7 The attainment of children eligible for FSM increased by 3 percentage points from 54% to 57%, compared to an increase for non-FSM pupils from 72% to 74%.
- 10.8 Norfolk County Council has a statutory duty in relation to provision of childcare training. The training programme delivered by the Achievement and Early Years Service aims to improve outcomes for children through the development of a highly skilled workforce. The training is available to practitioners working in any registered provision, as well as prospective childminders. Courses are subsidised for the private and voluntary sector.
- 10.9 Feedback from providers evidences that the training is needed and valued. Priority is given to providers who have received a 'Requires Improvement' or 'Inadequate' Ofsted grade to improve practice.
- 10.10 Recruitment of qualified and experienced practitioners remains a challenge for providers across the county, and this reflects a national issue. Norfolk County Council provides a recruitment website for use by providers to support the appointment and development of their workforce

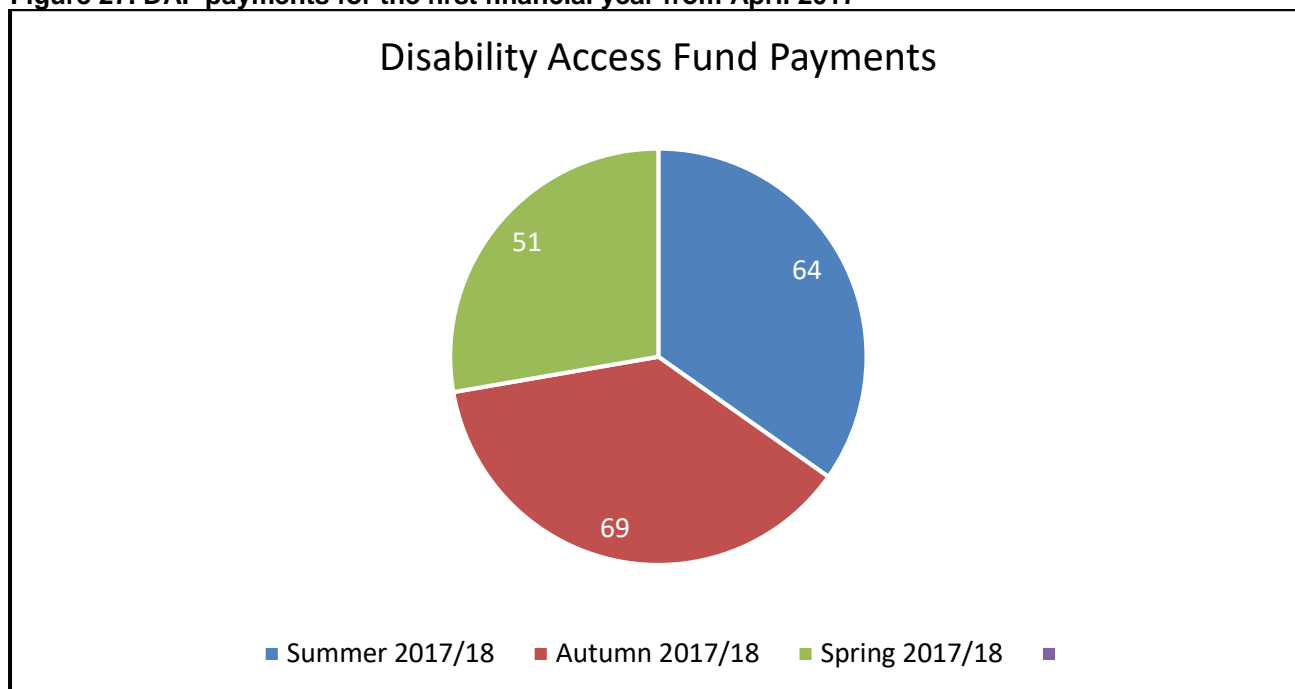
10.11 The Early Years Service are developing a Peer Support Network, which is part of our approach to enable the variety of providers – private, voluntary, childminders, independent, maintained and academy, to work together to deliver sustained improvements. Currently there is a focus on support and development of leaders and this has been enabled through several leaders from outstanding provision accessing peer support/mentoring training. Further work to develop partnership working between settings and schools, and best practice sharing will commence in the coming year.

11. SEN&D

- 11.1 Local Authorities have a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity for children with special educational needs and disability (SEN&D). Nationally it is recognised parents often find it difficult or challenging to access childcare, this may be due to parental confidence in the provider's ability to meet their child's individual needs.
- 11.2 All childcare settings are required to comply with the SEN&D Code of Practice and with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). A wide range of activities and clubs for young people with a disability or additional needs across Norfolk are listed on the Norfolk Local Offer pages at www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/send-local-offer.
- 11.3 Research suggests some childcare providers may not be as confident in their own ability to meet the needs of children with high level medical need, particularly if they are a lone worker, such as a childminder. Norfolk County Council offers providers subsidised training, specialist equipment and access to advice and guidance to support the inclusion of all children.
- 11.4 Information on childcare is available to all parents online. Additional information is available to parents of children with SEN&D via the Norfolk SEN Local Offer. Other services also offer support to parents to gain access to the free early years entitlement.
- 11.5 Since April 2017 there is a statutory duty for all Local Authorities to provide an SEN Inclusion Fund. This funding is for early years providers to meet the individual needs of children with low level or emerging SEN Eligibility is children who are in receipt of 3 and 4-year-old Early Education. 491 Norfolk children were in receipt of this source of funding during the summer term 2018 and attended 90 different providers. Data sources evidence a slightly higher figure for spring term 2018 with 510 children across 125 providers.
- 11.6 For children with more complex need, additional funding support is provided via the High Needs Block. In Norfolk, complex need is determined by those that have an issued or agreed Education Health Care Plan. 81 Norfolk children were in receipt of this funding during the summer term 2018.
- 11.7 Although there is not a statutory duty to provide additional funding for children who are in receipt of 2-year-old Early Education, Norfolk does make provision for them. Requests for additional funding can be made if a child has an identified need that is "additional to and different from". As a comparison during the spring term 229 awards were made as opposed to 200 awards during the summer term 2018.
- 11.8 In April 2017, the Disability Access Fund (DAF) was introduced for early years providers to support children with SEN&D. Its purpose is to remove 'barriers' which prevent children from accessing their free early education entitlement. To attract DAF, children must be receiving Disability Living Allowance and be in receipt of the 3 and 4 year early education entitlement. This funding is paid annually to the provider nominated by the parent/carer. In the first financial year Norfolk made DAF payment for 184 children. Figure 26 shows the payments on a termly basis. 56 payments

have been made during the first part of this financial year making an overall total of 240.

Figure 27. DAF payments for the first financial year from April 2017



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11.9 Since April 2015 childcare providers delivering the free nursery education entitlement for three and four year olds have been able to apply for additional funding of up to £300 per year, per eligible child, to support children from families on certain benefits. Children are also eligible if they are looked after by the local authority, adopted from care or have left care under a special guardianship or residence order.

11.10 During the summer 2018 term 14,109 three and four year olds claimed early education funding. EYPP payments were made for 2,297 children to childcare providers in both the PVI and maintained sectors across Norfolk. This represents 16.28% of the number of children claiming early years education funding. This represents a good level of take up.

11.11 The identification of eligible children relies upon parents making schools and settings aware so that they can apply for the funding. To ensure as many parents as possible talk with their childcare provider about possible eligibility, publicity work through the Family Information Team will continue to raise awareness and increase the take up rate. <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/free-childcare-and-learning/early-years-pupil-premium>

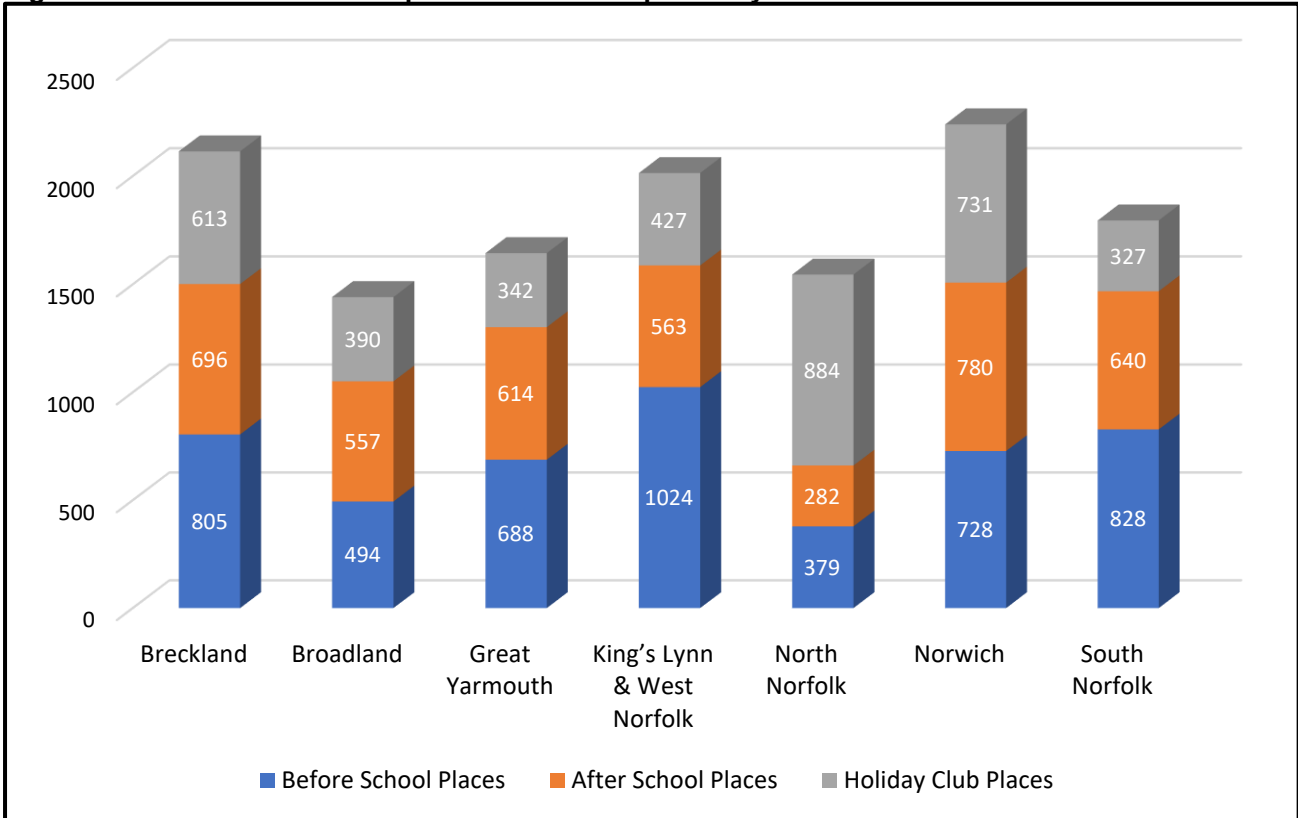
12. Looked after children

- 12.1 Looked after children are less likely than their peers to access early education.
- 12.2 In Norfolk 42 looked after children accessed a funded place with childcare providers during the 2018 summer term
- 12.3 Norfolk's Virtual School Looked After Children, Adoption and Special Guardianship Order Team is liaising closely with social workers and foster carers to promote the importance of accessing pre-school provision however it is acknowledged that childcare provision may not be suitable for all looked after young children.
- 12.4 From September 2018 some children in foster care have been able to be funded for the extended entitlement. In Norfolk, 2 children were funded under this criteria within the autumn term 2018.

13. Childcare for children over 5

- 13.1 Out of School childcare includes Breakfast clubs, After School clubs and Holiday Playschemes. This form of childcare can operate either on or off a school site and may be run by the school directly or by Private, Voluntary or Independent partners (PVI).
- 13.2 In addition, many schools provide extra-curricular after school activities such as sports clubs, gardening clubs, film clubs etc. Although these may not be formally classed as childcare they still provide a safe learning environment for children whilst parents/carers are at work or studying. However, these types of clubs may not operate consistently throughout the school year or may vary from term to term and are often only an hour in duration.
- 13.3 It is recognised that good quality Out of School childcare has a positive effect upon children's outcomes. Research has shown that this type of good quality childcare can improve a child's behavioural, social and emotional skills as well as impacting upon academic performance. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds that attended After School Clubs on average achieve a two points higher score in their Key Stage 2 assessment in English, Math's and Science than those who did not take part in After School clubs. (Wraparound and holiday childcare, Parent and childcare provider 'rights to request', Guidance for local authority maintained schools, academies and free schools, May 2016, p5, paragraphs 12 – 14)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525135/Rights_to_request_guidance.pdf
- 13.4 Dependent upon specific criteria, not all Wraparound provision has to be Ofsted registered and there is no legal requirement to inform the local authority of operation. A provider who only delivers to children age eight or over, or who does not operate for more than two hours a day or provides two activities or less is not legally required to register with Ofsted. A setting may however, choose to join the voluntary part of the childcare register to allow parents to claim childcare vouchers. In addition, providers do not have to meet specified child/adult ratios if they are caring solely for children over the age of eight.
- 13.5 It is, therefore, difficult to determine the exact number of places. Many non-registered holiday activities are run by local leisure centres or sport centres which may also not be represented in the figures. Figure 28 shows the numbers of places reportedly available by all registered providers in Norfolk, by district.

Figure 28. Total number of Wraparound childcare places by district



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- 13.6 It should be noted that demand for childcare will be significantly lower for young people of secondary school age (11 years and over) as many parents/carers feel their children are independent enough to not require childcare outside of school hours. Therefore, when calculating the number of places, the calculation has only considered the number of children in school aged 4 – 11 and 11 years plus with a disability.
- 13.7 Figure 28 shows the number of Wraparound childcare places across Norfolk is approximately 12,816. Norfolk has 96,609 children and young people aged 4 – 11 in the primary school phase and disabled young people aged 11 – 18 years, giving an overall figure of approximately 13 childcare places for every 100 children/young people.
- 13.8 Norwich has the highest number of wraparound childcare places across all Out of School provision than all other districts whilst Broadland has the fewest. Where provision in the maintained sector (schools) is high the PVI sector is generally low.
- 13.9 45% of schools in the primary phase run their own Breakfast Club on site and 44% of private, voluntary or independent breakfast clubs are located on school sites.
- 13.10 Approximately a quarter of schools in Norfolk provide an After School Club on their site where as a third of PVI run After-School Clubs are located on school sites. This data refers only to Ofsted registered childcare provision and does not consider extra-curricular after school activities such as gardening clubs, film clubs etc. which many schools also run after the end of the school day.

13.11 A much smaller percentage of schools provide pupils with school run Holiday Playschemes on site (4.5%). PVI providers double this percentage to 9% of school site locations offering Holiday Playschemes in Norfolk. School sites account for 44% of the Holiday Playschemes offered to parents in Norfolk indicating that this area of childcare is provided in the main by PVI providers both on and off school sites.

13.12 In 2016 parents were given the ‘right to request’ that their child’s school should consider establishing wraparound childcare or allowing PVI providers to use the school facilities to deliver childcare at times when the school is not using them. Whilst it is not compulsory to offer wraparound childcare at parental request, schools should not refuse a request without reasonable justification.

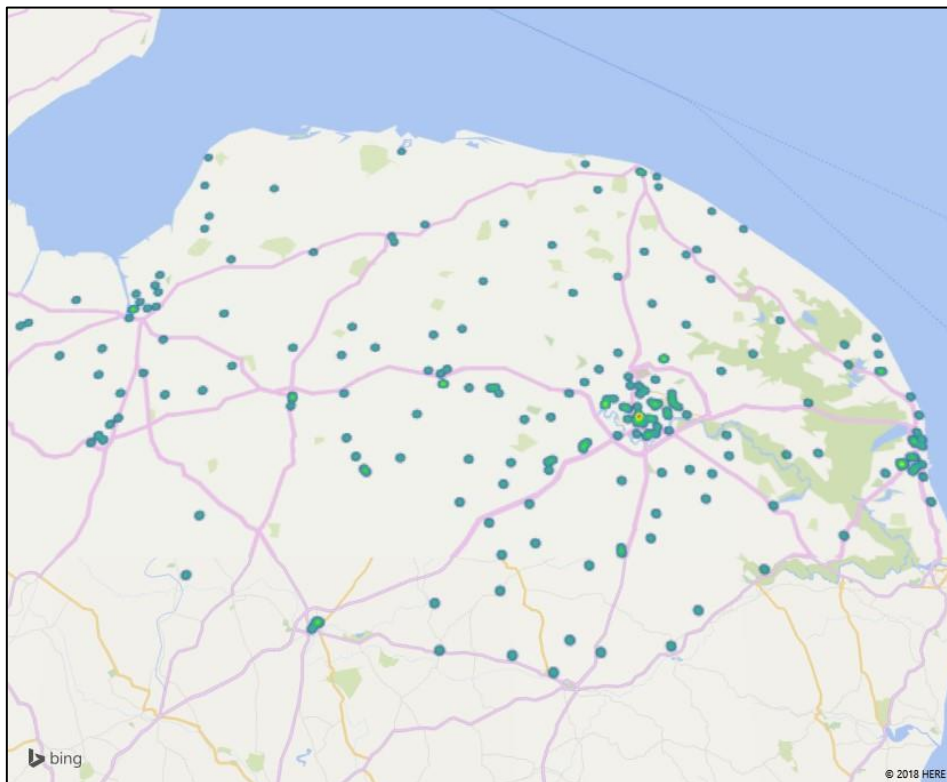
13.13 Figure 29 shows the current average costs of Out of School care for district and for the county.

Figure 29. Average costs for Out of School childcare by provider type and district

District	Breakfast Club Session (cost per hour)	After School Session (cost per hour)	Holiday Playscheme Session (cost per day)
Breckland	£3.39	£8.16	£25.82
Broadland	£3.43	£7.48	£24.31
Great Yarmouth	£2.44	£6.48	£29.90
King’s Lynn & West Norfolk	£2.53	£8.19	£32.87
North Norfolk	£2.94	£7.52	£26.16
Norwich	£2.24	£7.69	£26.65
South Norfolk	£3.68	£9.80	£25.61
Norfolk average	£2.95	£7.90	£27.33

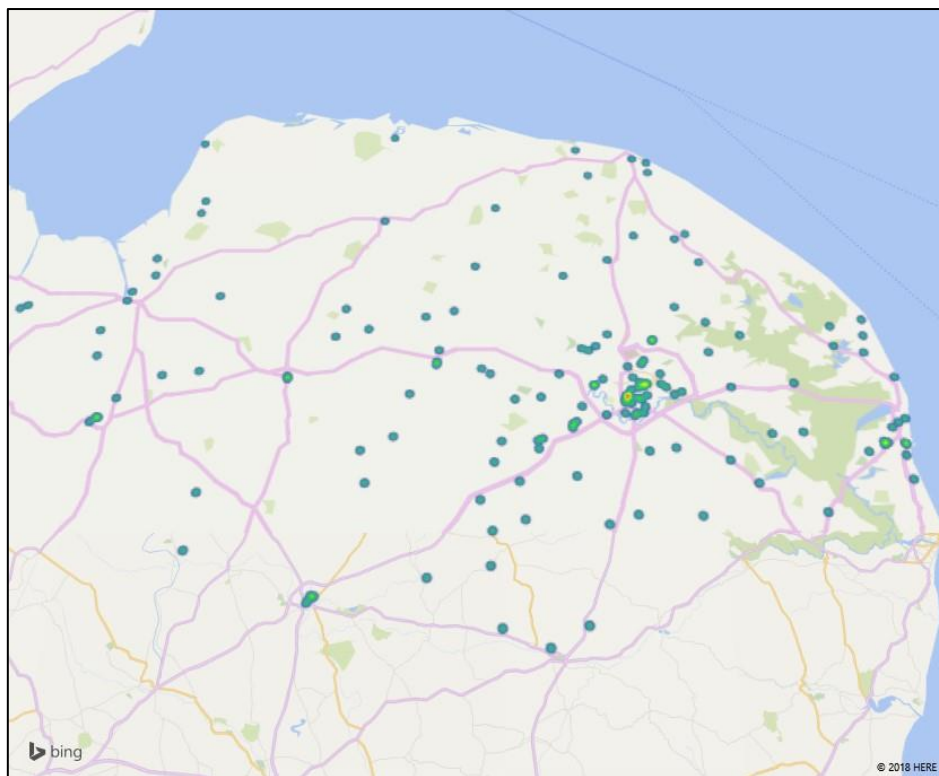
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Figure 30. Location of Breakfast Clubs



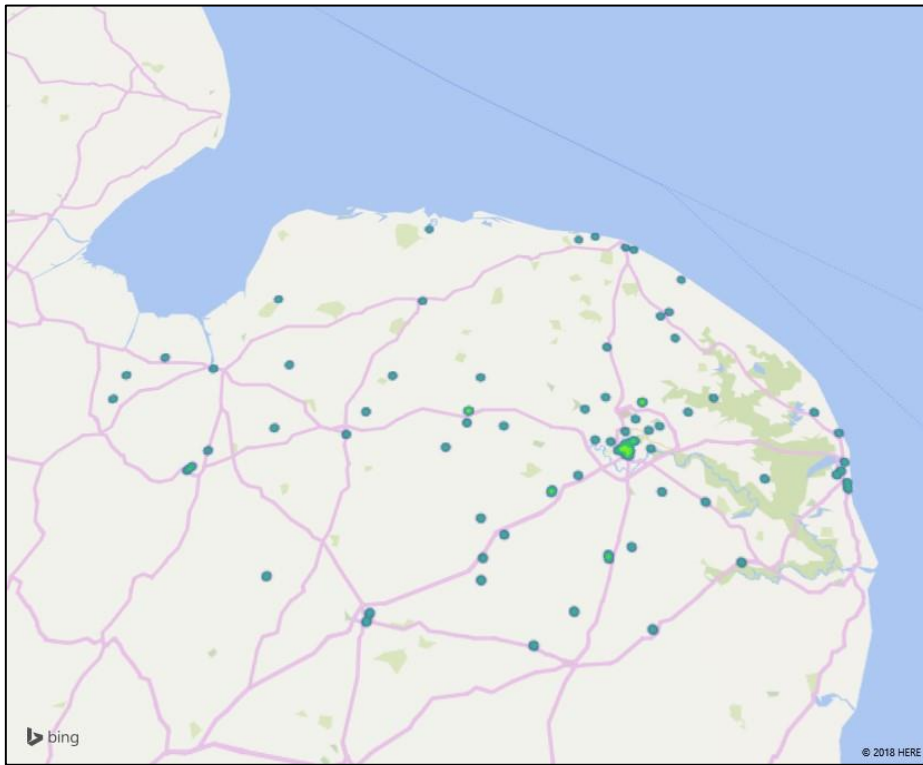
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Figure 31. Location of After School Clubs



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Figure 32. Location of Holiday Playschemes



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