



Rutland
County Council

Annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Report

2016-17

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

Introduction

Rutland County Council has a statutory duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to secure “as far as is reasonably practicable”, sufficient childcare to meet the requirements of working parents or parents undertaking education or training that will lead to paid employment.

The Council is required to complete an annual report which assesses the sufficiency of childcare in the local authority area. The assessment must also consider whether sufficient childcare is available to meet the needs of disabled children. Further information relating to matters such as local labour market characteristics must also be included.

The assessment is based on evidence gathered during the period June 2016 – June 2017. The findings of this assessment are used to develop a local authority strategic action plan to be implemented 2017-18.

Aims

To provide an understanding of:

- Different types of childcare places available
- The range of data collected to complete the 2016-17 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
- How parents and carers are supported in accessing childcare provision

Objective

- To identify any gaps that may exist and consider how they may be addressed in the future

NOTE:

The focus areas of this report are provision for early education, wraparound and holiday childcare.

Early education relates to children aged birth to five years of age.

Wraparound and holiday childcare refers to school age children and those children who are aged four to twelve years.

1. Findings

Rutland County Council has met the childcare sufficiency duty in 2016-17 by:

- Ensuring there is sufficient early years and childcare provision across the county. Information has been collated through direct contact with providers, invitation for parental response and views of the Rutland business sector.
- Ensuring that there is access to high quality early years and childcare provision for all children including access to the funding entitlement for two, three and four year olds.
- Ensuring there is sufficient early years and childcare provision for children from families taking up the childcare element of the working tax credit, children with additional needs, school-aged children and children needing care through school holidays.

During May 2017, a thorough assessment of occupancy of childcare places concluded that there was 23% vacant capacity of childcare places across the authority with no setting at 100% capacity. The normal pattern of capacity would indicate occupancy may increase towards the end of the summer term and that a high number of vacant places will be created during the autumn term when a majority of four-year olds join reception classes in a primary school.

Although not impacting on this year's assessment, it is worth taking in to account the introduction of the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement on 1st September 2017 which may significantly impact on the current levels of vacant capacity. However, the Learning and Skills Service is working pro-actively with providers to address this and, in 2016-17, Rutland's County Council's Early Years' service has received enquiries from three potential childcare providers considering opening additional provision across Oakham. The Early Years' Service continues to liaise with all providers and undertakes regular sufficiency monitoring of current providers, to ensure that sufficiency is maintained.

To ensure the continued sufficiency of high quality early years and childcare provision in 2017-18, Rutland County Council will:

- Continue to focus on ensuring providers are offering consistently high quality educational opportunities through regular review, as identified within the Learning and Skills Prioritisation and Entitlement guidance 2017-18. This will enable identification of provision which is vulnerable to failure of the delivery of high expected outcomes for Rutland children
- Continue with annual visits to all Early Years providers, offering advice and support and giving prioritisation in reverse proportion to success, guided through regular liaison with the Regional Early Years Ofsted team

The Learning and Skills Service has not, historically, been responsible for undertaking routine monitoring of the availability of, and accessibility to, wraparound and holiday childcare available to children in Rutland. However, in order to meet the increasing demands of working parents, or those in education or training, this will be included in the Learning and Skills Service delivery plan for 2017-18.

Recommendations to be addressed in the 2017 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Action Plan:

- Continue to market and promote the free education entitlement for two, three and four year olds to ensure parents/carers are accessing the high quality provision to which they are entitled
- To further explore the availability and reach of wrap-around and holiday provision to meet the needs of Rutland families
- Continue to monitor childcare sufficiency data through the implementation of the new Open Objects System to support the introduction of the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement
- If childcare quality and sufficiency concerns are identified, this is to be followed by a comprehensive approach to planning for additional provision to meet the needs of all Rutland children and their families

The actions to achieve this are detailed in the Early Years and Childcare Action Plan 2017-18 and reflect the intention of Rutland County Council Education Framework 2017-20.

2. Entitlement and Outcomes of Children and Families in Rutland

This data is gathered from the Early Year Census (January 2017).

2.1 Two Year Old Entitlement

The two year old entitlement (15 hours per week) of free Early Education is not a universal offer and is only accessed by meeting national eligibility criteria to support the 40% most disadvantaged children across the county. Each eligible child is entitled to receive a maximum of 15 hours of free early learning per week over no fewer than 38 weeks per year (totalling 570 hours per year) until the term after they turn three years of age. Then like all children, they will become eligible for the universal free entitlement for three and four year olds.

Parents/carers and childcare providers are able to access, free of charge, an eligibility check via Visions Children's Centre.

2.2 Three and Four Year Old Entitlement

At the time of the assessment, all three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free Early Education for 38 weeks of the year, until they reach compulsory school age (the term following their fifth birthday). The free entitlement is available for 570 hours per year (15 hours per week over 38 weeks of the year or 11.2 hours over 51 weeks of the year).

2.3 Take-up of the Two, Three and Four Year Old Entitlement

The latest Rutland Early Years Census took place in January 2017 and identified that a total of 601 children were accessing a funded Early Education place, of those children, 17 accessed provision between two different settings.

Numbers of funded children:

- 31 x 2 year olds
- 420 x 3 year olds
- 150 x 4 years olds

Of those children 323 were boys and 278 were girls.

In addition, there were 237 two year old children accessing a non-funded place

3. Early Education and Childcare Provision across Rutland

CONTEXT

Early Education and childcare in Rutland is provided by a large number of different which include schools and private, voluntary or independent day nurseries, pre-schools and childminders. This provision is registered and regulated by Ofsted.

At the time of the Assessment, Rutland providers offer a total of 1,118 places. Since the 2016 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) one nursery provider in Oakham has closed with a loss of 28 places and five providers have increased their capacity giving an overall increase of three places from 1,115 to 1,118. The closure therefore has not added pressure to sufficiency of places at this time.

3.1 Childcare Providers

The twenty two Early Years childcare providers consist of eighteen nurseries and pre-schools registered with Ofsted on the Early Years Register, and four nurseries which operate under the Governing Body within primary schools.

In addition Rutland has one Independent School and one Special School for nursey aged children.

There are twenty four childminders in Rutland who are registered with Ofsted. During 2016-17, Rutland Early Years Agency Limited (REYAL), which is registered with Ofsted, has worked in partnership with Rutland County Council Early Years' Service to help recruit and support childminders in Rutland. As a consequence, a further four childminders have registered with REYAL. REYAL is responsible for monitoring the practice of childminders registered directly with them.

Rutland also has five 'child-carers' who have voluntarily registered with Ofsted.

Provision	Number of places
22 Childcare Providers	945
1 Independent School	24
1 Special School	9
24 Ofsted registered Childminders Early Years Register	120
4 Childminders registered with REYAL	20
Total number of registered childcare places	1,118

All providers offer inclusive practice to meet the needs of children with disabilities. The requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage ensure that childcare providers have arrangements in place to support children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). Additional advice and support to meet the individual needs of children is offered by the Local Authority Early Years Inclusion Team, Visions Children's Centre, the Early Help Team and Aiming High.

3.2 Information on Occupancy of Childcare Places

Information on occupancy is collected from settings three times a year – autumn, spring and summer. Latest data for this report was collected during the week beginning 7th May 2017.

A childcare place describes the number of children that can attend the provision at any one time. However, each place may be utilised by numerous children during the day. For example one place could be accessed by up to four children in any one day, therefore creating four sessions from one single place.

All providers were contacted to assess their current level of occupancy. This information was then collated and concluded that, at that time, there was a 77% take up of childcare places across Rutland leaving a surplus capacity of 23%.

Nationally the number of childcare places has remained broadly stable since August 2012 and this is reflected in Rutland. A current total of almost 1.3 million places are delivered by 81,800 childcare providers nationally.

The School Admissions Code allows parents and carers of summer born children (born between 1 April and 31 August) to request that their child is admitted out of their normal age group (into reception in the September following their 5th birthday i.e. a year later than their peer group). In the 2016 academic year only three parents opted to defer entry of their children into primary school. This number will not have an impact on childcare sufficiency.

CONCLUSION

Although a Rutland nursery closed in 2016, this has not had a detrimental effect on the number of places available for children in Rutland with the overall number of places slightly increasing. This is largely due to the extension of provision at two nurseries and an increase in the number of Rutland childminders.

Through routine monitoring, the Early Years' service will continue to carefully assess childcare provision available and to work with Early Years' providers and Rutland Early Years Agency Limited to promote further childminding facilities as required.

4. Wraparound and Holiday Childcare Provision across Rutland

4.1 Wraparound and Holiday Childcare

The 2016 Annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report highlighted the need to clarify the sufficiency of 'wraparound and holiday childcare'. Wraparound childcare refers to 'before' and 'after school' childcare. Holiday childcare refers to the provision available to children during school holiday periods. Within the 2016 report, parents requested to see an increase in childcare provision during holiday periods. This became a focus of the subsequent action plan. The 2017 parental survey did not raise access to holiday childcare as a major issue.

Research in to the availability of this provision was undertaken by the Early Years' Service and included identification of how each provision is registered and regulated, with further evaluation to identify gaps between supply and demand of places.

It was identified however, that holiday childcare was largely centred around Oakham and Uppingham (Appendix 1) with less on offer in rural villages and did not always meet the hours requested by parents. This will continue to be a focus area for the Early Years' Service in 2017-18.

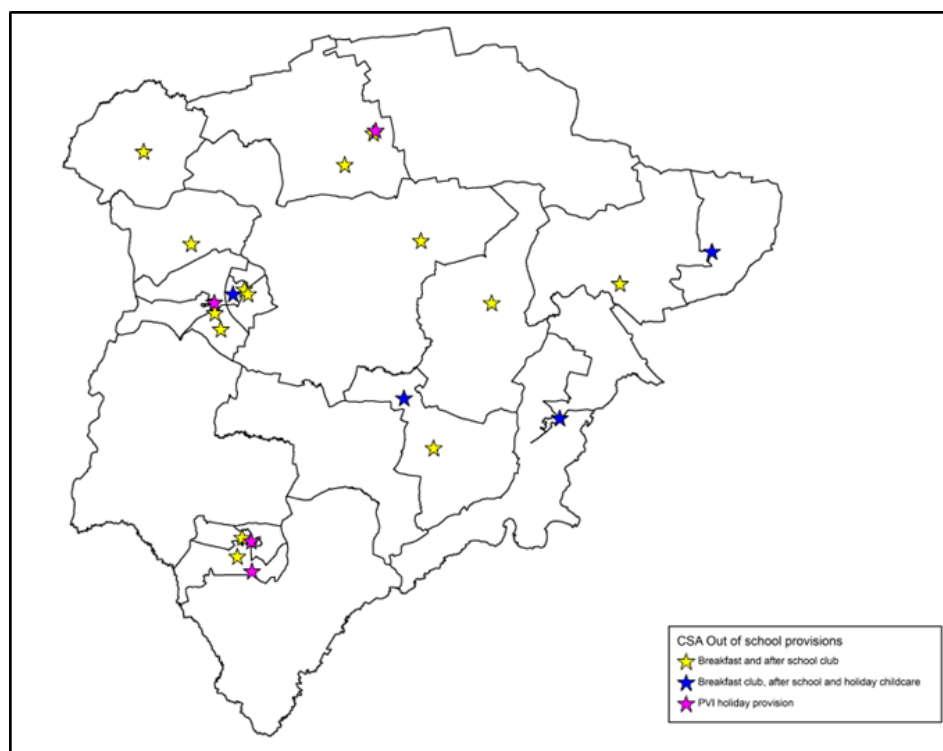


Fig 1 A small scale research project identified venues of wraparound and holiday childcare.

4.2 Wraparound and Holiday Childcare Information

The Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector support several schools by facilitating wraparound clubs and holiday childcare. Most providers are registered with Ofsted. Providers may be exempt from Ofsted registration if sessions operate for less than two hours.

During term time, breakfast clubs tend to commence from 07:30 until the start of the school day. At the end of the school day children access 'after school' provision which generally finishes at 18:00.

Seven providers are actively involved in facilitating holiday clubs; appendix 1 within this report provides an overview of holiday childcare provision during summer 2017. Although there are opportunities to access additional holiday provision across Rutland, it is important to note these activities are limited to identified dates and not necessarily for the whole of the school holiday periods.

Holiday childcare providers confirmed that age ranges were capped at eleven years although older siblings would be welcomed. Provision for older children was not always appropriate. All providers said they offer an inclusive service for children with disabilities and would ensure staffing ratios were amended to ensure safeguarding requirements are met and also enable opportunities to deliver quality experiences for all children.

CONCLUSION

The Local Authority fulfils its statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of childcare places through undertaking the annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and through a weekly update from Ofsted of new registrations, as well as providers that have been de-registered or are not continuing to offer provision. Until recently, this information was gathered and distributed through Rutland Information Service (formerly Family Information Service). However, the responsibility for collation is now being moved to the Learning and Skills Service. The Early Years team will continue to monitor the availability of provision through this approach.

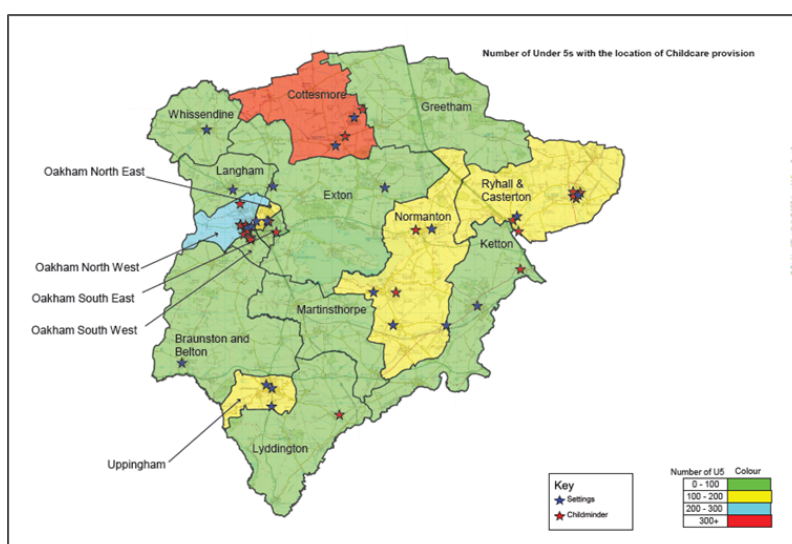
The Local Authority will continue to monitor the sufficiency of childcare and use the Ofsted inspection outcomes of all providers as the benchmark of quality. However, if local intelligence indicates that a provider is not meeting the 'Safeguarding and Welfare' or the 'Learning and Development' requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the Local Authority will report any issues of concern directly to Ofsted.

5. Location of childcare providers

5.1 Childcare Match to Population

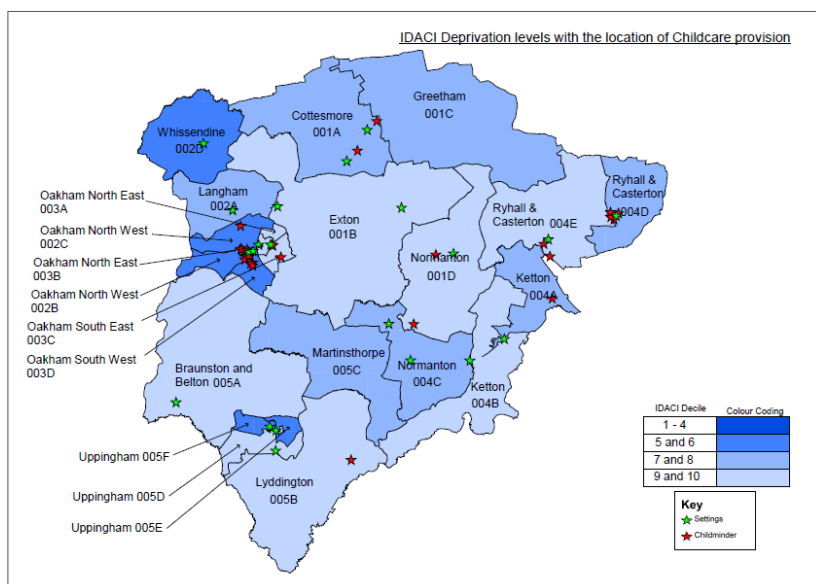
The provision of childcare is spread across Rutland as shown in the map below. Green and yellow areas are lower density of population; red and blue the highest. The provision of places largely reflects the population distribution.

Of the 130 responses, 46% of parents chose childcare due to the proximity of their homes. Only 11.6% of parents reported that the current childcare provision does not meet their individual needs citing high costs or current opening hours not covering working patterns. The Rutland Information Service website, which provides childcare information to parents, will offer current information on childcare places and will support individual families to access services which best meet their needs. This tailored support will be monitored over the next year and the effectiveness reported in the 2018 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.



5.2 Childcare Match to Deprivation

The location of childcare provision also generally matches the differing levels of deprivation within the county. Where deprivation levels are higher, childcare is more locally available. In the map below, the darker shading indicates the areas that are more deprived. With the exception of Whissendine, the childcare mirrors areas of deprivation. The Early Years' Service will continue to monitor this carefully to ensure that vulnerable children are not being disadvantaged by insufficient childcare.



Locality of Childcare Providers

Locality Areas	Childminders/ childcare on domestic premises	Full daycare	Sessional/ part-time daycare	Wraparound childcare	Holiday Clubs
Oakham and Barleythorpe	13	3	3	6	3
Uppingham	2	2	1	3	3
Ryhall, Great Casterton and Tinwell	7	1	1	2	1
Whissendine	0		1	1	
Cottesmore and Greetham	3	1	1	1	
Langham	0		1	1	
Empingham	1		1	1	
Exton	0		1	1	
Normanton	0			0	
Martinthorpe	0			0	
Ketton	0	1	1	1	1
Belton	0		1		
Edith Weston, North Luffenham	2		2	1	
Total	28	8	14	18	8

CONCLUSION

Childcare largely meets the needs of the Rutland population and currently there is surplus capacity across all areas of the county. Through regular monitoring of available provision and promotion of childcare activities, the Early Years' Service will

continue to monitor the availability of places against parental need and support the development of the market in meeting need.

Continued monitoring of location of provision remains a priority to ensure that the needs of all families are met, and that families are not disadvantaged by lack of provision readily accessible within their locality.

6. Quality

6.1 The Quality of Provision in Rutland

6.11 The quality of provision in Rutland as judged by Ofsted inspection and overall outcomes for all children are high.

- At the time of the Child Care Sufficiency Assessment 2016-17, 100% of Rutland Early Years settings are rated as good or outstanding by Ofsted and Rutland has the highest percentage of good and outstanding Early Years settings in the East Midlands.
- The Local Authority works closely with Ofsted through regular communication including regular meetings at three points within the year. This enables the Early Years team to be kept updated on Ofsted inspection expectations and focus areas and to share where concerns about EYFS provision have been raised.

For an explanation on the role of Ofsted, the inspection framework and a description of the Ofsted judgements please see Ofsted Early Years' inspection handbook available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-inspection-handbook-from-september-2015>

6.12 The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is the statutory assessment completed at the end of the Reception year. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-profile-handbook>

The EYFS Profile 'Good Level of Development' (GLD) (the expected standard) validated results in 2016, show that although there is a slight decline in outcomes, these remain above national and regional levels. At the time of this report, provisional data for 2017 indicates an upward trend at a rate higher than seen nationally but it must be noted that this is early release data and, as such, has potential to change.

	2015	2016	2017 Initial indications
Rutland	75%	72%	76.3%
England	66%	69%	70.7%
East Midlands	64%	68%	69.4%

Early indications are that early years outcomes in Rutland schools, as measured by GLD, are amongst the highest in the East Midlands.

6.2 Early Years support from April 2017

Rutland County Council offers a package of comprehensive support for both existing Early Year childcare providers and those wishing to set up new provision.

This support is delivered through:

- Initial support visits to new practitioners
- Early Years networks
- Annual Early Years Foundation Stage visits by LA specialists to all settings
- Early Years managers' training day with 95% attendance
- Early Years training programme

- Ongoing email and telephone support to ensure issues and concerns are dealt with quickly

Rutland Early Years' Service has a proactive approach to evaluating the impact of training and support to ensure that providers can remain well-informed and continue to offer high quality education. Where concerns are identified, these are shared with the provider and a programme of additional support offered; if concerns remain this information would be shared with Ofsted. Further detail is provided in Rutland County Council's Education Provider Prioritisation and Entitlement 2017-18.

CONCLUSION

All areas of the county have access to high quality early years provision. At the time of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, 100% of Early Years providers were judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding.

It is recognised that, despite the level of support offered through the Early Years' Service, some provision may be identified as less than good through Ofsted or local intelligence gathering and that inspection outcomes are liable to change. In this case, the Early Years' Service will ensure that children are not disadvantaged by provision that is less than good and will act swiftly to work with the provider to address identified issues. Where slower than expected progress is noted, the Early Years' Service will work proactively with Ofsted and the appropriate agency as required.

7. Childcare Costs and Funding

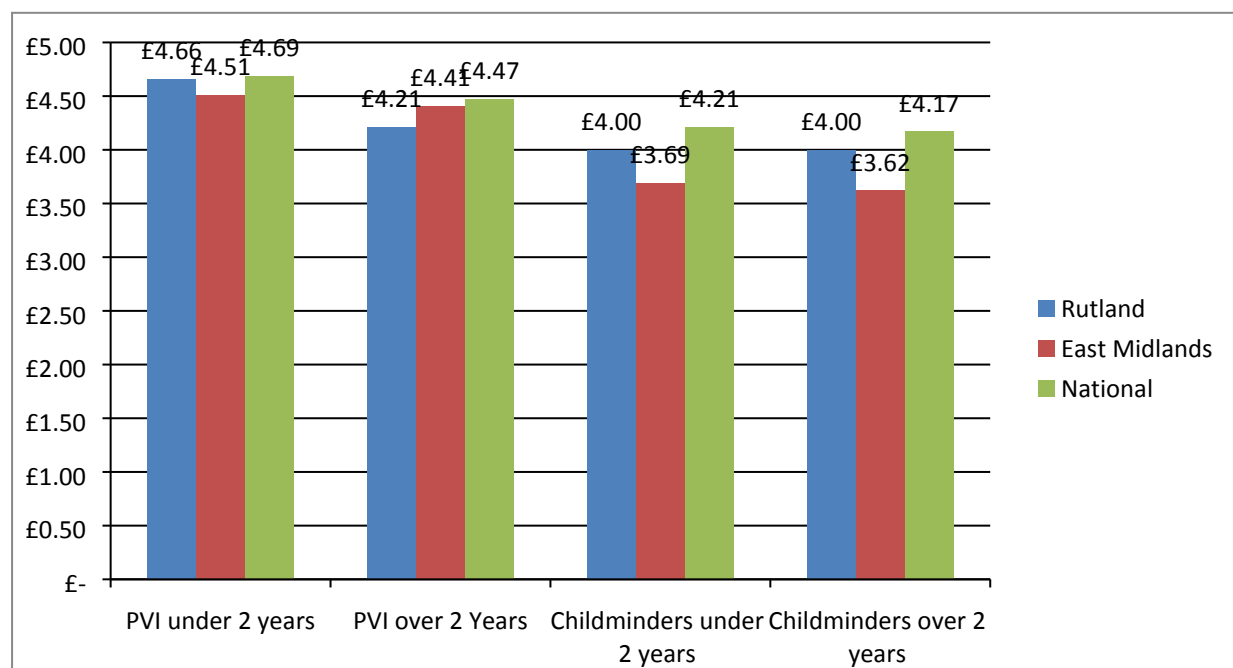
7.1 Average Costs

The average cost for parents of a childcare place in Rutland is:

- nursery for children under 2: £4.66
- nursery for children over 2: £4.21
- childcare place with a childminder in Rutland: £4.00

<https://www.onefamily.com/hub/finance/childcare-calculator/>

Average Cost (Per Hour) for Childcare June 2017



7.2 Payment to Providers of Childcare

Rutland County Council pays the providers of the 15 hours free universal educational entitlement for 38 weeks of the year (or 11.2 hours if stretched over 51 weeks), totalling 570 hours per child. From 1st September 2017, children of working parents meeting the eligibility criteria for the extended 30 hour entitlement will be able to access a total of 1140 hours free childcare per year.

The levels of payment to providers are as follows:

- 2 year olds: £5.20 per hour
- 3 and 4 year olds: £ 4.40 per hour

In line with the provider agreement, an indicative budget is set for the financial year and payments are made to providers once a term in advance. The payment is based on an estimation of the numbers of eligible children expected to attend the early years setting for the forthcoming period, any under or over payments are adjusted in the following funding period.

The provider agreement also requires the setting to inform the Local Authority immediately if it falls into financial difficulties which might threaten its viability. Additional funding will be sent out early in the autumn term to cover the additional funding for the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement.

CONCLUSION

Childcare costs remain broadly in line when compared both regionally and nationally. However, providers accessing government funding for places have taken a significant financial cut from April 2017. Funding levels will once again be reduced in April 2018 although Rutland County Council is paying their providers at a slightly higher rate than other local authorities in the East Midlands.

The Local Authority must monitor the viability of settings and work with providers to ensure the statutory duty of 'securing sufficient childcare' to meet the needs of parents who meet the eligibility criteria for Early Education of two, three and four year olds' is fulfilled. Schools Forum has requested that a working party is set up to develop a solutions-focused approach to supporting early years providers to deliver cost efficiencies as well as considering activities to support income. The Early Years' Service is contributing to this activity.

8. Parental Views of Childcare Provision

8.1 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Consultation

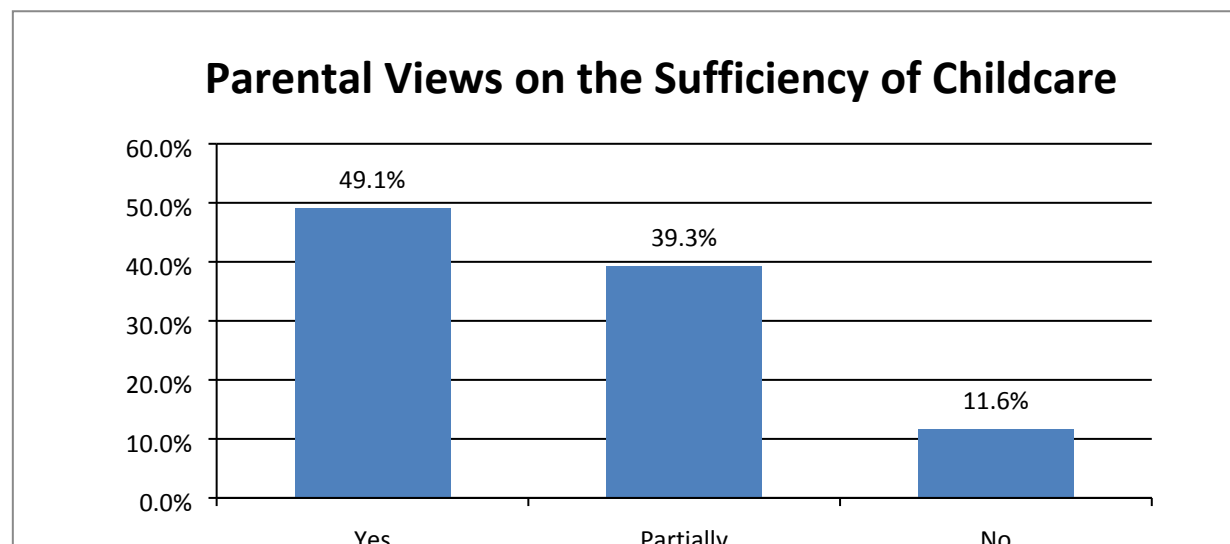
The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) consultation with Rutland families took place in March 2017 and 130 responses were received. This was lower than in the previous year when 235 responses were received and the Early Years' Service will take this in to account when promoting the 2018 parental survey to ensure greater engagement.

The consultation was promoted via schools, settings, childminders, and colleagues in the health services and through other Rutland County Council service areas. Families were encouraged to respond electronically although other response methods were also made available.

Of the 109 parents who responded to this question, 86 (78.9%) of those parents reported they heard about the survey through their child's school or early years setting and 15 (13.8%) of those parents through Visions Children's Centre. Consideration must be given to other routes to parental engagement with this survey.

- 120 respondents (93%) currently use Rutland based childcare
- 91% were females; 9% were males
- 9% indicated that they are a 'lone parent'.

8.2 Parental Views of Sufficiency of Childcare

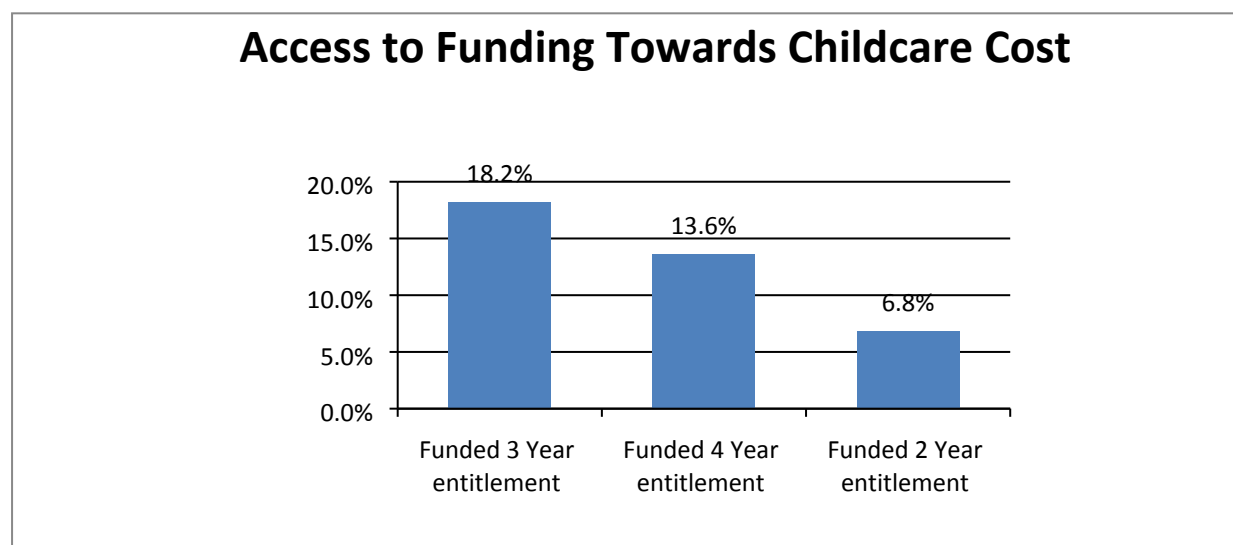


When asked if they felt there was sufficient childcare in Rutland to meet families' needs, the views of 112 parents' were:

- 55 respondents (49.1%) stated there was sufficient childcare
- 44 respondents (39.3%) partially met
- 13 respondents (11.6%) felt that there is not sufficient childcare

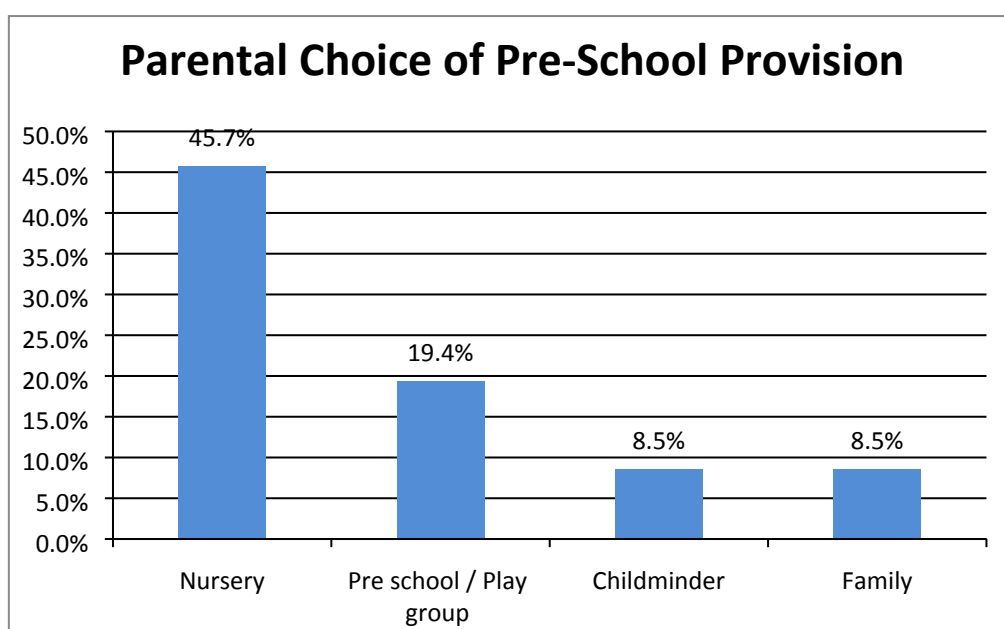
The number of parents who feel there is insufficient childcare to meet their needs has fallen by 10.6% since 2016. This may be impacted by fewer parents completing the 2017 survey.

8.3 Take-up of Childcare Funded by Government

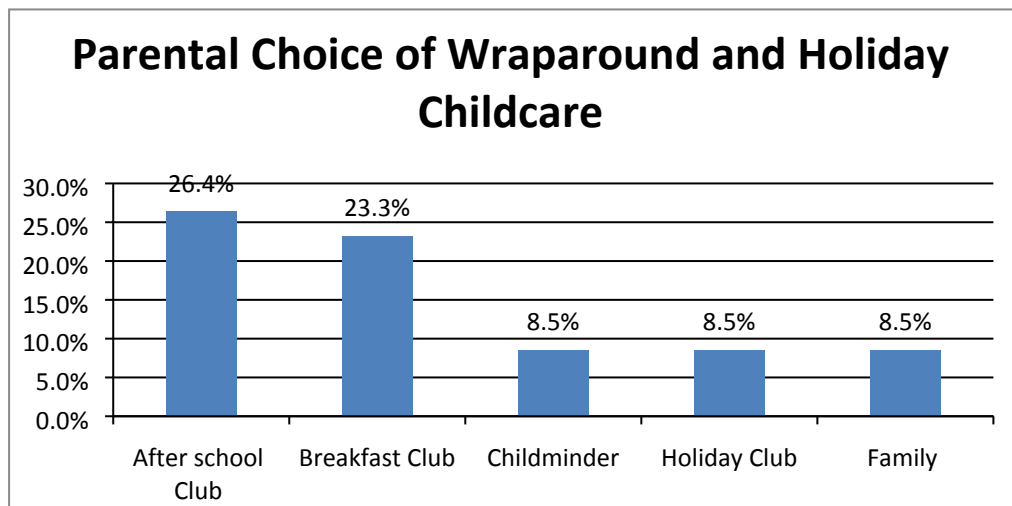


Of the 88 parents who responded to this question, 34 (38.6%) currently claim government funding to access the two, three and four-year-old entitlement. Parents also access financial support through childcare vouchers, tax credits and tax free childcare.

8.4 Types of Childcare



Of the 129 responses to this question, nursery provision is the most utilised form of pre-school childcare with 59 (45.7%) of parents accessing a nursery place. This may be due to working parents choosing nurseries because they are open throughout the year and for longer hours in contrast to pre-school and play groups whose opening times are often term time and sessional.

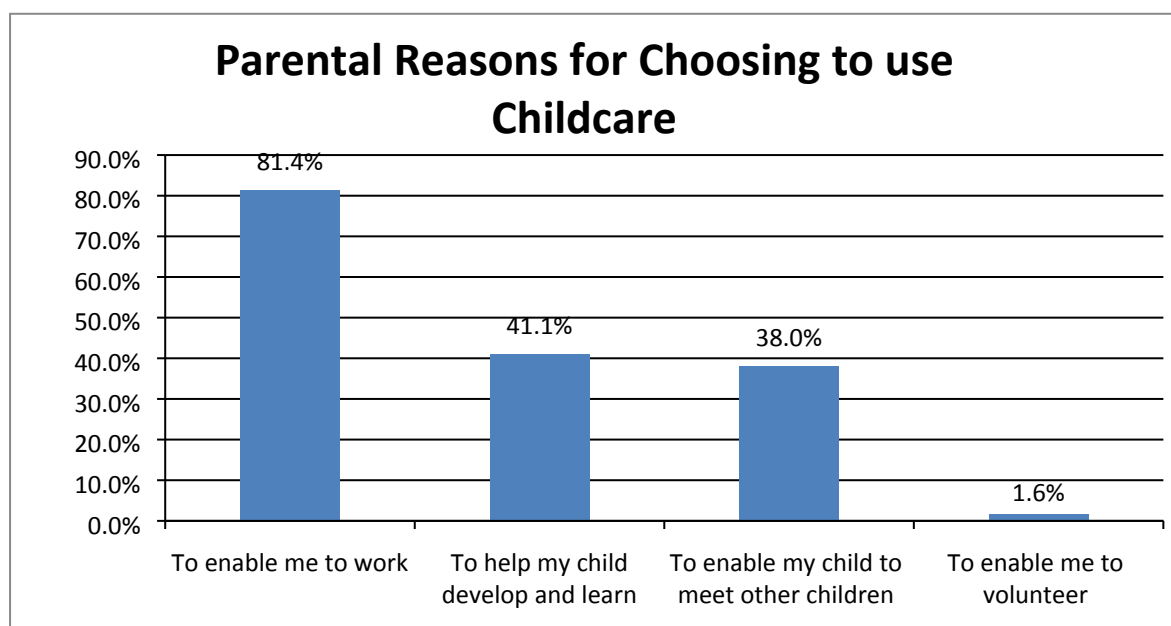


After-school clubs are the most popular form of wraparound childcare with 34 of the 129 responses (26.4%) from parents indicating that they use this provision. The use of holiday clubs is lowest with 11 (8.5%) parents indicating their child(ren) access provision.

During an academic year, school holidays account for 13 weeks. For many families working parents do not have 13 weeks annual leave. Holiday childcare can be deemed as expensive. In Rutland the cost is approximately £20-£35 a day per child.

In May 2016, DfE published a policy entitled 'Wraparound and Holiday Childcare'. The overall aim of this policy is to help parents to work, or work for longer, if they chose to do so, by making more quality childcare available during the week and school holidays. The Family and Childcare Trust discuss the disappointment that this new policy is yet to achieve its potential in increasing the supply of wraparound and holiday childcare in a local area. Rutland Local Authority is working in collaboration with providers to ensure more accessible and affordable childcare particularly during holiday times.

8.5 The main reason for using childcare:



Of the 129 responses to this question, 105 parents (81.4%) stated the prime reason for using childcare was to enable them to work. This far exceeds the second most important reason – “to help my child develop and learn” 53 (41.1%)

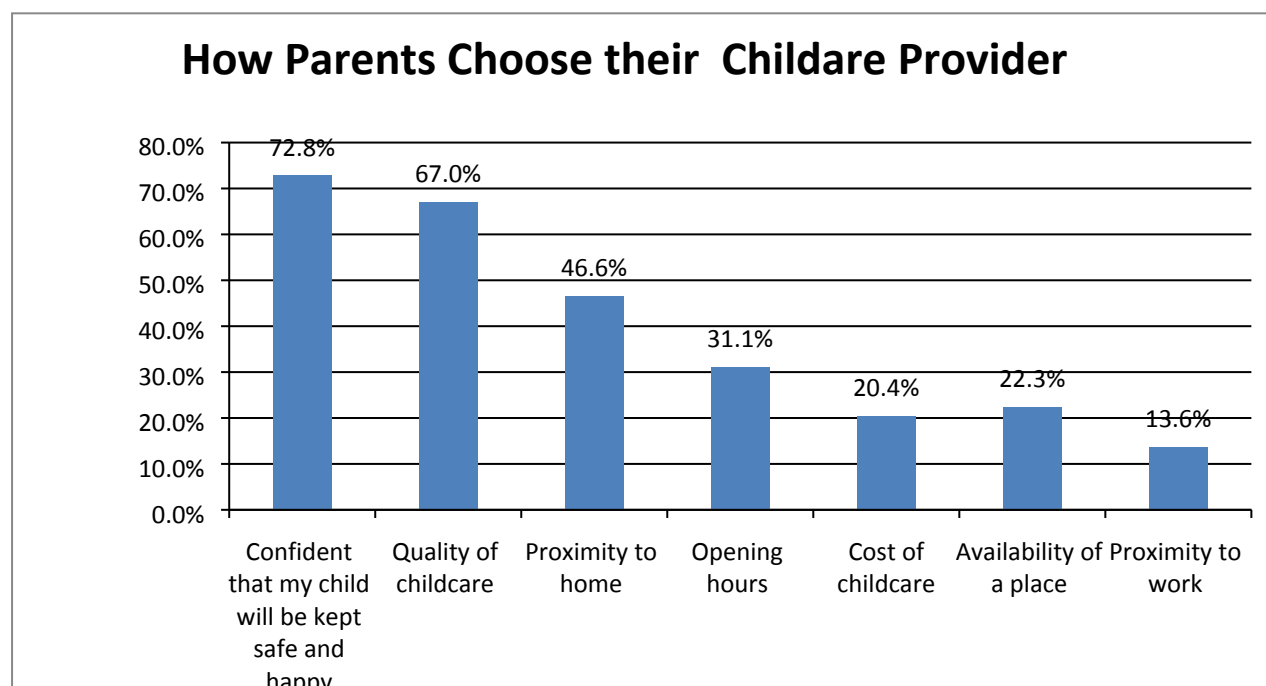
8.6 Hours Worked by Parents who Choose Childcare

Of the 108 parents who responded, 44 reported that they work in the region of 40 hours per week or more. Of this group of parents, they have also responded, that their partner is also employed for a similar number of hours per week.

Of all 109 responses 56 (51.4%) parents indicated that they may be eligible to access the 30 Hours Extended Entitlement from September 2017. Of the 75 parents who responded to this question, 22 parents (29.3%) were already accessing 30 hours of childcare.

This representation of parental feedback will need to be closely monitored following the introduction of the 30 hour extended entitlement in September. The additional hours may entice more parents into work resulting in the increased take up of childcare places.

8.7 The key considerations of parents in choosing childcare



The response to this question has changed from previous years where the quality of provision had been the most popular response. However, 75 (72.8%) of parents have indicated that ‘being confident that my child is being kept safe and happy’ is now the prime reason for parental choice of childcare. This may be due to media coverage and increased parent awareness of the safety of their child in their absence.

8.8 Finding Childcare

This survey revealed that of the 96 responses to this question, 56 (58.3%) of parents choose childcare based on recommendation. 16 (16.7%) parents have indicated that

they find information about providers from Ofsted outcomes and 5 (5.2%) parents from Rutland Information Service (RIS). The low number of parents using RIS is a concern and this will be addressed through greater promotion of this service following a revision in autumn 2017 which will enable a more co-ordinated approach to developing this as a promotion tool.

Parents also identified:

- Difficulties in finding a childminder in the Uppingham area
- The limited hours of 'out of School' provision, highlighting that no service available before 7:30am and likewise usually closes at 6pm, with an impact for parents who work longer hours or have additional travel time on top of their working day
- A number of parents also identified increased challenges when their children attend Early Years provision in Rutland and live in a neighbouring authority when school holidays are not aligned

The Rutland County Council website has been updated to ensure parents and prospective parents can access up-to-date, online information about childcare and early education, including free places in the area and in future will publicise venues to access wraparound and holiday childcare provision. The Early Years' Service will also feedback concerns about current opening hours to providers and discuss potential options for extending provision.

CONCLUSION

The number of parents completing the consultation this year was significantly lower than previous years; outcomes of the survey were from a smaller representation of parents. Of parents responding, a greater number indicated they used childcare to enable them to work. This is a 3.4% increase from the 2016 report and will need to be closely monitored following the introduction of the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement from September 1st 2017.

From 112 responses, 99 (88.4%) parents reported that their childcare needs are partially or fully met with only 13 (11.6%) parents indicating there was insufficient childcare to meet their needs. This is a 1% increase from 2016 which is broadly in line taking account of small numbers. The 2017-18 action plan includes promotion of more accessible childcare provision across Rutland.

A thorough evaluation of current wraparound and holiday childcare provision has been undertaken since last year's report and concludes that 18 wraparound childcare providers operate across the county while holiday care in the summer of 2017 was more limited with only 8 available schemes. The October 2017 half term break offers a wider availability with 10 schemes available.

9. Future Population Predictions

9.1 Population Information

At the time of the last census in 2011, there were 37,369 residents in Rutland. The current population is now 38,600; this is a 3% growth since the 2011 census.

The 2011 census identified:

- 7,373 children were under the age of 16
- 26% of all households in Rutland included dependent children (including 16-18 if still in full time education)
- 35% of these were pre-school aged children

9.2 Live Birth Data – Impact on Childcare

Retrospective birth data for Rutland is tracked year on year and a forecasting method is used to predict the number of births in the coming years. These are given in the tables below:

Retrospective Live Birth Data 2006-2016		
Calendar Year	Actual Birth Data	% Difference year on year
2007	330	-12.0
2008	341	3.3
2009	333	-2.3
2010	307	-7.8
2011	291	-5.2
2012	314	7.9
2013	318	1.3
2014	291	-8.5
2015	335	15.1
2016	339	1.2

The birth rate figures show a little variation over time when comparing actual numbers of births. However, when viewed on calendar years, supported by a standard calculation, future predictions and trends can identify possible sufficiency issues allowing time to adjust capacity to reflect predictions.

Approximately 60 of the children in the 2016 birth data are part of a Service family and are liable to redeployment.

9.3 Service Families and Children

Changing numbers of service personnel at Kendrew and St George's Barracks, due to redeployment, can cause fluctuations to childcare requirements in Rutland.

It is anticipated that troop movements in Rutland will increase over the next few years. However, family movements in and out are usually similar in size and so the total number of children at any one time is expected to remain roughly stable. Current information indicates that approximately 106 children under 5 years of age will be moving into Rutland during summer 2017. This information will be confirmed upon the final arrival of all military families. The Local Authority work in partnership with the MOD to identify numbers of children moving into and out of Rutland to ensure childcare sufficiency needs are identified and addressed early.

9.4 Large Scale Housing Developments

A number of large scale housing developments are taking place in Rutland. These are taken into account in assessing childcare sufficiency. Forecasts of the impact of housing developments are based on the number of 0-4 year olds living in recently-built developments in Rutland.

The projected number of new-build completions in Rutland from 2016 to 2026 is 1319.

Assumption	No. of new build completions April 2016-March 2026	Estimated increase in 0-4 year olds based on recent new build completions	Number of sessions needed based on 15 hours per week per child	Number of sessions needed based on 30 hours per week per child
2016-2026 Housing Trajectory	1319	196	980	1960

Given the current level of vacancies of childcare places there are sufficient places in Rutland to match the housing growth. The actual build rate and occupancy is liable to variation and will be monitored to assess childcare demand

CONCLUSION

There is a slight increase in the birth rate over recent years although this is unlikely to have significant impact on the overall population and associated implications for childcare sufficiency.

The troop movement in and out of Rutland may have a significant impact on capacity and this will need to be closely monitored.

Similarly, the impact of the 30 hour Extended Entitlement will need to be monitored to ensure choice for parents. The Early Years Services predicts that the Local Authority will exceed the Government allocation of 104 full time equivalent 30 Hour Extended Entitlement places. Although 22 (29.3%) working parents are already accessing and paying for 30 hours of childcare, we anticipated more parents may choose to increase the hours of childcare they currently used once the funding becomes available.

The Department for Education allocated Rutland County Council a small amount of funding early in 2017 to support the development of an IT system to administer the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement. The purchased system, Open Objects, will not only support the administration of funding but also help the team to monitor occupancy and sufficiency of childcare places.

10. Local Businesses' Views of Childcare Provision

10.1 Consultation with Businesses

To understand the childcare needs of shift workers and those with unusual working patterns the Local Authority contacted a sample of Rutland's small, medium and large businesses. One to one conversations with managers of small businesses highlighted a lack of knowledge in relation to the impending 30 Hour Extended Entitlement for working parents and the financial implications for their workforce. This was promoted by both the Government nationally and locally and is leading to a very high take up of the entitlement.

10.2 Key Comments from Larger Businesses

Many of the larger businesses who took part in the survey indicated that they offer family friendly flexible working wherever possible and identified that to cover all eventualities such as ill health or holiday care, parents often have backup childcare support in place.

10.3 Key Comments from Small and Medium Sized Businesses

The small and medium sized businesses did not identify any major childcare issues for their employees although this survey revealed that unexpected absences of employees, often through child illness, had a greater impact for smaller businesses.

CONCLUSION

Businesses taking part in this survey have received information about the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement with a suggestion of signposting their workforce to the Rutland Information Service for more information. However, the majority of businesses have concluded that childcare is not an issue for their employees. The Learning and Skills Service will continue to work with Rutland businesses to assess any further impact.

11. Policy Changes

11.1 Impact of Deferred Entry for Summer-Born Children

Parents of summer-born children now have the right to defer entry to primary school until the beginning of the academic year in which the child turns six years of age. Parents can also request for their child to remain a year behind their natural year group. In the 2016 academic year three children deferred entry.

67% of respondents in this year's survey said they would not defer their child's entry into school. It is unknown if the remaining 33% would defer entry due to limited information collated within the survey. Deferred entry into school must be closely monitored in view of the introduction of the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement as potentially a child could access continued free childcare with an early year provider for 51 weeks of the year as opposed to attending school for 38 weeks of the year.

11.2 The level of Government funding of childcare and the impact of new National Funding Formula for Rutland from April 2017

From 1st September 2017, Early Years Providers are being requested by the Government to extend the free childcare places they provide for 3 and 4 year olds from 15 hours per week to 30 hours per week for working parents meeting the prescribed criteria. This could have a significant impact on the viability of both Early Years Settings and Childminders in Rutland.

Prior to April 2017 the Local Authority paid £4.60 per hour for each child placed; this was reduced to £4.40 from 1st April 2017 and could be reduced even further to £4.25 in April 2018. As the majority of places are provided by private businesses, childminders are usually self-employed.

As a Local Authority we need to ensure that these businesses remain viable. This will be supported through Schools Forum and the setting up of a Schools Forum Working Party which includes representatives of providers and local authority officers in autumn 2017.

(Please see appendix 2)

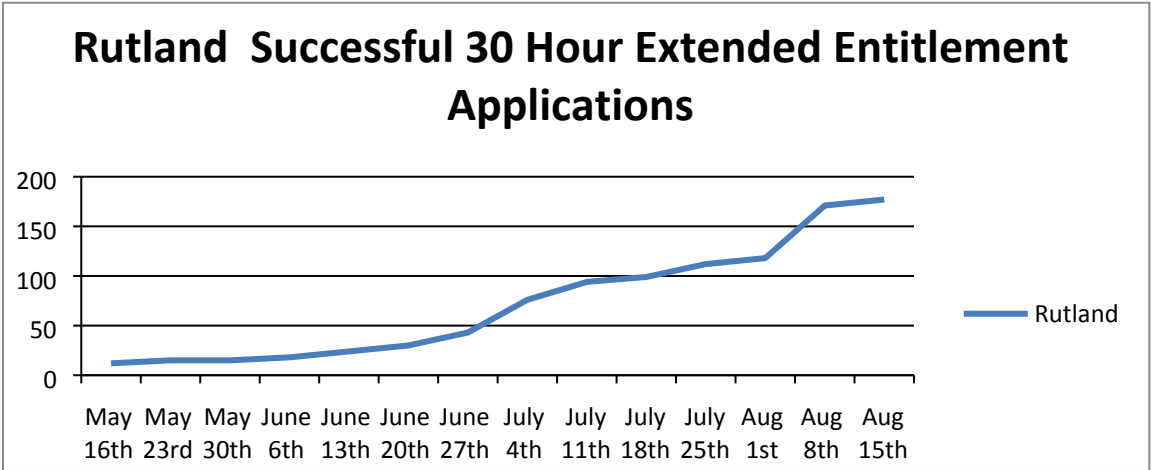
11.3 The 30 Hour Extended Entitlement

The government has committed to doubling the amount of free childcare from 15 to 30 hours a week for working parents of three and four year olds from September 2017. The Government want the 30 hours Extended Entitlement to have a real impact on the lives of families, supporting parents who wish to work, or to work more hours, to be able to do so.

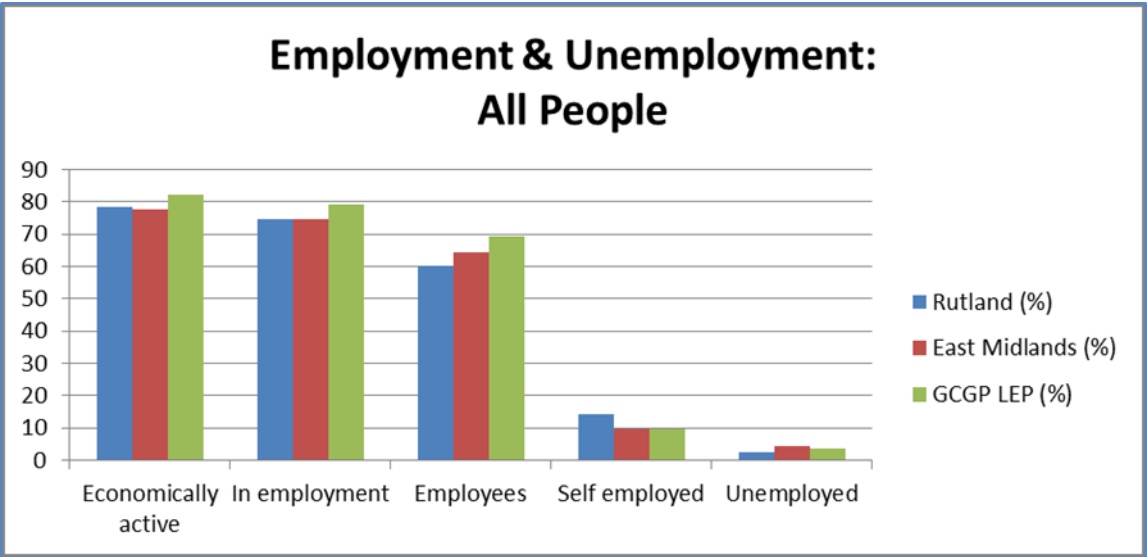
The purpose of this entitlement is to make sure that the cost of childcare is not a barrier to parents who want to work or who wish to work more hours. As stated in 3.2 the universal entitlement for all 3 and 4 year olds remains at 15 hours per week of free early education.

Rutland has been funded from 1st September 2017 for 104 full time equivalent which equates to approximately 178 30 Hour Extended Entitlement places. The number of successful parent applications, in September 2017, slightly exceeds the funding allocation. Funding from Department of Education (DfE) for the additional places will

be reassessed through the Early Year’s census in January 2018 and adjusted accordingly as shown below:



Rutland Key Statistical Data November 2016



Rutland has high levels of employment and therefore it is essential that childcare sufficiency is closely monitored to ensure insufficient local childcare does not impact on parents wishing to work or return to education or training.

Appendix 1 Overview of Holiday Childcare

Overview of Holiday Childcare Provision - Summer 2017					
	July 24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Churchill Summer Camp Multi Activities 4-14 years Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham 5-14 years					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					
Dodgeball Eshelby Leisure 6-14 years					
	31 st	August 1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Churchill Summer Camp Multi Activities 4-14 years Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham 5-14 years					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					
Rutland Water / Nature Detectives 7-14 years					
	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham 5-14 years					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					

Rutland Water / Nature Detectives 7-14 years					
	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					
Rutland Water / Nature Detectives 7-14 years					
	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham 5-14 years					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					
Dodgeball Eshelby Leisure					
	28th	29th	30th	31st	
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years	Bank Holiday			Back to school	
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ketton and Ryhall Primary School					

Overview of Holiday Childcare Provision - October Half Term 2017

	October 16th	17th	18 th	19th	20th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years delivered by Little Angels Uppingham					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham, Catmose sports centre					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Churchill Summer Camp Multi Activities 4-14 years Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham Community College					
Premier Sports at Ryhall Primary					
Kaleidoscope in Action (KIA) at Ryhall Primary School					
Dodgeball Eshelby Leisure at Whissendine Primary School					
Oakham Tennis Club					
One Touch Football Cottesmore					
Little Bloomers at Kendrew, Cottesmore					
	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Bright Spark Holiday Camp Uppingham 4-11 years delivered by Little Angels Uppingham					
Wild Camp 5-12 years Oakham					
The Ark Association Oakham					
Churchill Summer Camp Multi Activities 4-14 years Oakham					
Sports Camp Uppingham Community College					
Kaleidoscope in Action at Ryhall Primary School					
Kaleidoscope in Action Ketton					
Little Bloomers Cottesmore					
Just do Sport at Oakham CE Primary					



A Quick Guide to the 30 Hour Offer in Rutland

This document is designed to help early years professionals, across all sectors, plan for the implementation of the Department for Education's 30 hour offer in September 2017.

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What is the 30 hours offer?

On top of the universal 15 hours free provision that all 3 and 4 year olds receive currently, the government has committed to doubling this offer for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds from September 2017. The aim is to help families by reducing the costs of childcare and supporting parents to work.

Why is the Government introducing the 30 hour offer?

The government wants to see childcare that is good for families and children. The purpose of this entitlement is to make sure that the cost of childcare is not a barrier to parents who want to work or who wish to work more hours. Childcare in the early years must be a caring and happy experience that supports children's development and gets children ready to thrive at school and in later life. The Early Years Team are mindful that in order to give young children the best start in life provision requires well qualified, experienced staff and suitable facilities to deliver the 30 hour offer and are aware of the importance of a sustainable funding rate to support this.

Will this affect the 2 year old entitlement and the existing universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds?

No. The 2 year old entitlement to 15 hours per week of free early education will continue to be provided for children in the 40% most disadvantaged households as per the specified criteria. All 3 and 4 year olds will continue to be eligible for 15 hours per week of free early education. This is a universal entitlement for all children.

Eligibility

Which parents will be eligible to receive the 30 hours?

Eligibility for the 30 hours will include households where;

- Both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family) and each parent must earn a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage and less than £100,000 per year. This can include self-employment and parents on zero-hours contracts;
- Both parents are working (as above) and in receipt of tax credits and/or universal credit;
- Both parents are employed but one or both parent is temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave;
- Both parents are employed but one or both parent is temporarily away from the workplaces on statutory sick pay;
- One parent is employed and one parent is in receipt of carers allowance (or receives the carer element of Universal Credit); or
- One parent is employed and one parent is disabled or incapacitated (based on specific benefits)

'Parent' means a person who has parental responsibility for the child or care of the child. In cases where a parent has remarried or is living with a partner, the step-parent or partner must also meet the earnings threshold.

Parents who are studying will not qualify for the 30 hours, unless they meet the criteria outlined above.

Where grandparents or other family members have parental responsibility for a child aged 3 or 4 and they meet the eligibility criteria set out above, the child will have access to the 30 hours.

How will eligibility be checked?

The government has developed a single, seamless online childcare application system which will allow parents to apply for Tax Free Childcare and 30 hours of free childcare at the same time. Parents will need to declare that they expect to earn the equivalent of 16 hours national minimum or living wage on average each week over the next quarter. The quarterly declaration has been designed to help those on fluctuating incomes and zero hours contracts to meet the criteria. Parents will be required to confirm their eligibility on a quarterly basis from the time of application.

Parents will apply online with HMRC, who will make the eligibility decision as part of this application process. If eligible, parents will be issued with a verification code which they can present to any participating provider with availability. Providers will check with the local authority that the child is eligible for the 30 hours to enable the provider to offer the family a place and the local authority will ensure each provider is funded appropriately for the children they are caring for.

What happens if the parent falls out of the eligibility criteria?

The new system will see the introduction of a 'grace period'. This is intended to enable parents to retain their childcare place for a short period if they become ineligible for the 30 hours. This will provide continuity for the child, give the parents the opportunity to regain employment and give providers certainty that if they offer a place under the 30 hours they will not risk having an empty place immediately following a change in the parents' circumstances. The government will be setting a national grace period to ensure simplicity and clarity for parents and providers and will develop the existing national Eligibility Checking Service to automatically calculate the grace period to minimise administrative burdens on providers and local authorities.

Flexibility

The delivery of the 30 hour offer by providers is set out in the statutory guidance.

Delivery must be over no fewer than 38 weeks per year;

- Funded hours can be delivered between 6am and 8pm; all year round, including weekends
- Children can take their free entitlement at maximum of 2 sites in a single day to avoid any adverse impact due to transitions between multiple providers and a maximum of 3 providers
- There is no minimum session length that will be stipulated by government to count towards the free entitlement, but that the maximum session length will be no more than 10 hours in any one day.

Do all early years providers have to offer the 30 hours?

No. The 30 hour offer, like the 15 hour universal free entitlement, is optional for providers to deliver and the government will not penalise providers if they opt out of delivery. Providers who opt out of the 30 hour offer can continue to deliver the 15 hour universal offer if they wish to do so.

Providers unable to offer the extended entitlement may work in partnership with another local provider to ensure the parent has the opportunity to take up their entitlement flexibly should they wish to do so.

How flexible do providers need to be?

It would be unrealistic and unfeasible for providers to allow parents to access their 30 hour offer as and when they choose to. Whilst the government expect providers to be flexible, it is appreciated that this needs to be within your chosen business model and this is looked at in more detail later in this document.

Will quality requirements change?

No. The government is committed to retaining the existing EYFS ratios and qualifications across the 30 hour offer. The government is clear that the additional hours of childcare need to be of high quality. All childcare must be delivered in a way that makes a contribution to a child's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, without placing inappropriate strain on young children who might be spending a significant part of their day in childcare. The additional 15 hours need to supplement and complement the current early education entitlement. It will need to provide positive and stimulating experiences for children, and staff will need to have the right skills and knowledge to deliver this care as the main driver of quality in a setting.

If eligible parents want more than 15 hours but less than 30 is that an option?

Yes. Parents don't have to take up their full entitlement. Providers will receive proportionate to the number of hours that a child is taking up.

Who can deliver the 30 hour offer?

The entitlement can be delivered by all early years registered providers; this includes day nurseries, pre-schools, out of school clubs and childminders, as well as schools offering early years provision.

Understanding demand for the 30 hour offer

The majority of working families with 3 and 4 year olds already use more than 15 hours of childcare, which means many children will already be accessing a place and will not necessarily require a new one as part of the 30 hour offer.

The actual number of new childcare places that will be needed depends on;

- How many eligible parents we have locally
- How many eligible parents take up the new entitlement;
- The extent to which eligible parents already pay for additional hours of childcare over and above the existing 15 funded hours;
- How quickly eligible parents choose to make use of all of the additional 15 hours to which they would be entitled; and
- The level of vacant capacity in the system.

Nationally, new providers will be encouraged to enter the childcare market and existing providers to expand. Collaborative arrangements across different types of providers and increased flexibility for providers are important elements of this.

During spring 2017 the Local Authority intends to carry out a parental survey to establish parental needs of wishing to access and take up the 30 hour entitlement.

The Department for Education have estimated that there are a possible 509 3 and 4 year olds in Rutland who currently take up the 15 hour entitlement. Of those children 104 will be eligible to access the 30 hour entitlement. These predictions were based on the January 2016 Early Years Census information and will provide an approximate estimation of eligibility through 2017.

Over Spring 2017 we will undertake further data analysis to identify how these potentially eligible children are spread across the county and will be working with providers to map local delivery models so that we can match what different providers can offer, with parents differing needs, to ensure we have sufficient provision to meet local demand across the county.

Whilst the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment gives us an overview of parental demand, local childcare providers are those best placed, with a captive market, to identify what the anticipated demand is within their own setting. As such, it is recommended that you conduct some market research with existing parents and those on your waiting list to enable you to understand the needs of your families if they are likely to be eligible for the 30 hour offer, what their current arrangements are, and how they may wish to access the 30 hour offer at your setting.

This would give you a starting point for planning for implementation with current parents from September 2017 onwards, but providers obviously need to be mindful that this cohort of parents will change annually and building in some regular review and assessment of the 30 hour offer to accommodate for room for growth and participation would be advisable. If parent's needs aren't addressed, they may opt to take their business elsewhere.

There are lots of examples of parent surveys in the various business toolkits referred to later in this document.

Meeting the identified demand for the 30 hour offer

Feedback from such a parent survey may support you in identifying any increase in demand for places by identifying what hours, days or sessions parents mainly want, whether you have the capacity to meet such demand, what additional services are needed locally and how you could meet this need. It may be that you need to change your delivery model to meet an identified need, whilst keeping a balance between 30 hour, 15 hour, 2 year old and fee paying places. These changes could affect fee levels, number of funded places offered, staff and premises implications and overall business viability. It may be that you choose to offer your funded places differently, through what is being commonly referred to as a blended offer or partnership model, where you work in partnership with another local provider to offer 30 hours to local parents between you, or through a stretched offer where the 30 hours are stretched over longer than 38 weeks, at fewer hours per week by utilising the school holiday periods.

Once parental need has been established, a consideration as to how your setting can meet, or not, that need will support future plans to ensure your business remains effective and viable and meet the demand of your local market.

A business model to meet your needs

First and foremost you need to understand the needs of your business and identify ways to deliver the 30 hour offer which could involve looking at;

- Your admissions policy in terms of how many places you already offer and how many places you could offer and when?
- Will you keep a certain number of places for 30 hour places, 15 hour places, 2 year old funded places and fee paying children?
- How will you prioritise and deal with requests from parents?
- How will the 15 universal and the 15 additional hours be recorded so they can be easily identifiable in case of a dispute or if parents want to split them across more than 1 provider?
- The demand for these sessions
- The additional services you can provide
- Staffing implications – do you need to revise your staffing model?
- Can you maintain staff roles and ratios?
- Is additional training for staff needed?
- The impact of wages, holiday requests, workplace pension entitlements, staff contracts or working patterns
- Premises implications

- Your current hourly costs of delivering a place
- What your occupancy level and hourly rate needs to be to achieve your breakeven point
- If your fee structure allow you to achieve your breakeven point or make a surplus
- The trends in your occupancy levels and how this is monitored and subsequently reflected in your business planning
- How your costs, occupancy levels and fee structure impact on your cash flow forecasts and have budgets that are set realistically to enable you to manage and monitor this.

It is also worth ensuring you are aware of additional funding which children may attract and how you can access it, such as Deprivation supplement, Early Years Pupil Premium, Disability Access Fund and SEN Inclusion Funding. Being aware of funding that parents can also access to pay for childcare, such as tax free childcare, childcare elements of tax credit and universal credit and employer support schemes, can also enable you to set your fees at realistic levels by sharing this information with parents.

Nationally, there is a wealth of resources and information that have been published by various agencies to support providers with the planning and delivery around the 30 hour offer. We appreciate the needs of each sector, and indeed each provider, are different in relation to the support required regarding this agenda, so we are providing the following links to enable you to establish the aspects of these resources that you may find helpful;

- The **DfE** has published an online business sustainability package for providers which can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-business-sustainability>
- The **Family and Childcare Trust** have developed a toolkit to support mixed model partnership approaches to delivering the extended free entitlement. It is designed to help childcare providers set up or join a partnership, maximise the benefits of working together and tackle the challenges joint working can bring. This toolkit includes getting started guides, frequently asked questions, planning supply to meet demand and a focus on delivery in partnership. It can be accessed at <http://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/access-dfes-30-hour-mixed-model-partnership-toolkit>

They have also produced a toolkit for the delivery of the extended and flexible hours in school nurseries, which can be found at <http://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/free-toolkit-delivering-extended-early-education-hours-school-nurseries>

- Focusing on helping providers ensure their business remain sustainable with a document of key insights from successful providers, case studies of efficient business practices, guidance on marketing and managing finances and business planning and an online directory of organisations that can provide business and finance support, the **Foundation Years** toolkit can be accessed at <http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/business-sustainability/>
- The **Pre-School Learning Alliance** have also produced 'A Guide to Early Years Funding and Delivery Changes' which may be of particular interest to our pre-schools and playgroups and can be accessed at <https://www.pre-school.org.uk/EYguide>

Different delivery model options

Remember that you won't be able to meet the needs of all parents, but having undertaken parental demand surveys and assessed your current business model for how the universal 15 hour entitlement is offered you will need to identify how you could offer the 30 hours in your setting and there will be numerous options available to you;

Partnership Working – A 'blended' offer

- Continue with your existing provision, making no provision for the 30 hour offer, but work in partnership with other local providers to offer a 'blended' offer to parents of 30 hour provision across more than 1 provider. This will work particularly well where the free places don't fit into your viable business model, where you may be restricted by premises and where there are other providers who can also offer part of the 30 hour offer to enable you to work together
- Providers across 2 different sites can claim funding for a single child but it will need to be agreed with parents and providers which are the universal 15 hours and who are claiming for what as the additional 15 hours could be withdrawn if they become ineligible.

Direct delivery

- Offer the 30 hour provision by making the necessary changes within your setting to accommodate parental needs

'Stretching' the offer

- Eligible parents will be entitled to a total of 1140 hours per year. If using all their entitlement during term time this would equate to 30 hours per week of early education funding over 38 weeks. Alternatively, this can 'stretched' over the year. For example, a parent using a nursery 51 weeks of the year could receive 22.4 hours per week of early education funding.
- Offer extra weeks during school holidays as part of holiday provision or before or after school during term time.

Delivery Model Example of a 'blended offer' between a school and local childcare provider

Neither the school nor the childcare provider is able to accommodate the 30 hour offer for local parents so opt to work together.

During term time, this may equate to 6 funded hours a day, across 2 sites (or 1 site if the childcare provider is located on the school site) and could look like;

Opening – 9.00	9.00 – 12.00	12.00 – 3.00	3.00 – Close
Childcare Provider	School	Childcare Provider	Childcare Provider
Paid for hours	3 funded hours	3 funded hours	Paid for hours
Or			
	School	Childcare Provider	
	3 funded hours	3 funded hours	

Funding

What is the Early Years National Funding Formula?

Government recognises that the cost of delivering childcare varies across the country so not every provider will be paid the same rate. However, the government has introduced a new national funding formula to help ensure that as much funding as possible reaches providers and that funding is fairly distributed between different types of providers. The new Early Years National Funding Formula will come into effect from April 2017.

	Current 2016/17 Budgets	Proposed 2017/18 allocations	Proposed 2018/19 allocations
Hourly rate to LA	£4.98	£4.72	£4.48
3&4 year olds (PTE)	508.9	508.9	508.9
Total budget	£1,445,000	£1,371,955	£1,299,442
Allocated to providers	£1,340,500	£1,275,918	£1,234,470
Maximum held centrally	£104,500	£96,037	£64,972
Hourly rate to providers	£4.60	£4.40	£4.25

The 2 year old entitlement will see uplift from £4.85 per hour to £5.20 per hour from April 2017.

Can providers charge top up fees?

The additional 15 hours must be free at the point of delivery and meet the same regulatory requirements as the existing hours. You should use government funding for childcare to provide 15 or 30 hours a week of high quality, flexible early education and childcare. The entitlement doesn't cover the cost of consumables so providers can charge for additional services such as nappies, milk, drinks, meals and additional services as long as parents don't have to pay for them in order to access a place, so for example, they can choose to provide their own at no extra cost if they wish to do so.

Will there be any changes in the way the local authority pays providers for these funded places?

This is an area we are currently reviewing and will be confirmed at a later date.

What next?

Considering all the information in this document, you will need to decide on how you will support the 30 hour offer within your setting and who you could work collaboratively with. Use your market research to develop a business plan that is viable and sustainable for your setting and produce an action plan that will move your business plan objectives, and delivery of the 30 hour offer, towards implementation for September 2017.

Whilst it is expected there will be a national marketing campaign, don't forget to communicate and promote how you will be offering the 30 hour offer to existing and potential families. You may need to change or develop certain

documentation for parents and may find it helpful to nominate key members of staff as liaison points for parents about the extended entitlement

Our thanks to colleagues in Nottingham City for their support in the development of this document

Appendix 3

Rutland Early Years' Service Childcare Sufficiency and Early Education Action Plan 2017

Aim:

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

Outcome:

Parents and carers report that, because childcare places are available, accessible and affordable and delivered flexibly in a range of high quality settings, it is sufficient to meet needs so that they are able to study or work.

1. MAINTAIN SUFFICIENCY OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE ACROSS RUTLAND

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Timescale	Completed and evaluated
Systematic processes for childcare sufficiency data collection, to include information to ensure sufficiency for the 30 Hour Extended Entitlement, are implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none">ensuring accurate data is readily availablesufficiency of provision ensured	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Organise programme of training and guidance for LA staff and early years providers to ensure confident use of Open ObjectsCalculate the number of additional hours accessed by eligible 30 hour entitled children following the Head count data collection process	Early Years adviser, Childcare officer Early education and childcare co-ordinator	September 2017 Autumn 2017 Spring 2018 Summer 2018	

<p>The Open Objects System is implemented and monitoring in place to ensure it is providing an effective data resource and evaluation tool for 30HEE so that the system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meets the needs of both the LA and all Early Years providers • supports the effective allocation and audit of the Early Years funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise promotional materials to ensure all Early Years providers sign up to and use Open objects • Continue to market and promote the free education for two, three and four-year olds to ensure parents/ carers are accessing the high quality provision to which they are entitled 	<p>Early education and childcare co-ordinator</p> <p>Early Years adviser, Childcare officer</p>	<p>January – March 2018</p> <p>On-going</p>	
<p>A comprehensive approach to support the generation of additional provision to meet the requirements of all Rutland children and their families is planned with stakeholders and providers and implemented in a timely manner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor take up of places using Open Objects three times annually. • Confirm and evaluate information collected above to assess overall sufficiency to report to elected members annually. • Work with LA officers and childcare representatives to explore and develop processes to support viability of existing providers and increase the number of new providers within Rutland 	<p>Early Years Adviser and Childcare officer</p> <p>Early Years Adviser and Childcare officer</p> <p>Early Years Adviser and Childcare officer</p>	<p>September 2017- May 2018</p> <p>September 2017- May 2018</p> <p>September 2017 – April 2019</p>	

2. ASSURE QUALITY OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Timescale	Completed and evaluated
Sufficiency of good or better quality of childcare is assured through systematic monitoring of performance and promoting of good practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Ofsted inspection outcomes and identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengths; work with Providers to provide opportunities for sharing good practice Areas for improvement: offer support and guidance to bring about rapid improvement. Monitor for evidence of sustained impact 	Early Years adviser	September 2017- August 2018	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routinely complete the Early Years priority assessment process to identify any issues relating to quality or sufficiency; implement appropriate actions to address identified issues 	Early Years adviser and Childcare officer	3 times per year	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a cohesive programme of training and guidance for all pre-school childcare providers, focusing on high quality early education, safeguarding and meeting the needs of all young children in preparation for readiness for school 	Early Years adviser and Childcare officer	April 2018 to April 2019	

3. ENSURE SUFFICIENCY AND QUALITY OF WRAPAROUND AND HOLIDAY CHILDCARE TO MEET PARENTAL NEEDS

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Timescale	Completed and evaluated
Accurate data on wrap-around and holiday childcare maintained; information readily available to parents and carers on RCC/ Rutland Information website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake regular monitoring of provision to include providers added to and removed from register; update RCC website and link to neighbouring authority websites for parents attending provision outside Rutland. Develop a plan to support increased local authority partnership with wrap-around and holiday providers to include systematic audit of need and provision, updated to ensure information is current at key school holiday times; signpost through publication and website Confirm strategic policy in relation to monitoring of wrap-around and holiday childcare beyond LA statutory duty; potential to include increased levels of data collection, programme of provider training and support, quality assurance of provision. 	<p>Early Years and Childcare Co-ordinator</p> <p>Early Years officers</p> <p>Head of Learning and Skills</p>	<p>Weekly from October 2017</p> <p>December 2017 to March 2018</p> <p>March 2018</p>	