

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Brighton & Hove City Council

November 2016

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1. Introduction

This Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) was undertaken in accordance with the Department for Education's *Early Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities, September 2014*. Local authorities are required to report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare in accordance with Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 (as amended), and make this report available and accessible to parents. Local authorities no longer have a duty to assess childcare sufficiency in their area as Section 11 of the Childcare Act 2006 has been repealed. However Brighton & Hove City Council has found the practice of assessing childcare supply and demand to be extremely useful in informing the childcare market and therefore the content of this report is similar to that of previous published CSAs.

The last CSA report was published in 2014 and the last report including a parental survey was published in 2011. Brighton & Hove City Council does not have the resources to publish a CSA annually.

The supply data for this CSA was collected from childcare providers between April and August 2016. A city-wide parental childcare demand survey was carried out between August and September 2016. In addition a separate survey of the city's parents about their views on 30 hours free childcare¹ was carried out in May to June 2016. Childcare providers were surveyed about 30 hours free childcare in November 2015.

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¹ Working parents of three and four year olds will become entitled to 30 hours free childcare from September 2017

2. National Policy Context

Providing children with good quality education and care in their earliest years can help them succeed at school and later in life. The government has stated its aim to provide more good quality and affordable childcare which is easily accessible to parents in order to create more opportunities for parents who wish, or need, to work and raise children at the same time.

To this end there have been recent changes to childcare policy and legislation including

- extending free early learning places to around 40 per cent of all two year olds from September 2014
- allowing parents to pay a neighbour or relative not registered with Ofsted for up to three hours of childcare a day
- introducing childminder agencies as an alternative to childminders registering individually with Ofsted
- allowing childminders to work 50 per cent of their time away from their home
- encouraging more school nursery classes to lower their age range to include two year olds, and schools in general to extend provision from 8 am to 6 pm
- introducing early years pupil premium for disadvantaged children from April 2015
- removing specific ratio requirements for children in out of school provision as well as removing staff qualification requirements
- increasing childcare support available to lower-income families from April 2016, as part of Universal Credit
- consulting on the introduction of a national funding formula for the early years free entitlement from April 2017, as well as revised new early years and childcare statutory guidance for local authorities
- the introduction of a tax-free childcare scheme from April 2017 worth up to £2,000 per child each year, and £4,000 for disabled children
- planning a new workforce strategy for early years and childcare.

In addition to the above there will be a significant increase in eligibility for free childcare from September 2017 when three and four year old children of working parents will be entitled to an additional 15 hours of childcare a week (called “30 hours free childcare”).

Brighton & Hove City Council has been awarded “Early Innovator” status for 30 hours free childcare and is offering support to providers from all sectors to meet this entitlement as well as undertaking specific projects around children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), sufficiency, parental engagement and flexibility to prepare for September 2017.

Brighton & Hove City Council is developing an early years strategy for 2017.

3. Main Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Findings, Childcare Gaps and Recommendations

There is a good supply of and demand for childcare in Brighton & Hove and the childcare market is relatively buoyant. Childcare is of high quality and take-up of the early years free entitlement for two, three and four year olds by parents is higher than national averages, particularly by parents of two year olds. Parents are generally very satisfied with childcare, although some are concerned about its cost. Parents welcome the introduction of 30 hours free childcare from September 2017, but it is not clear whether there will be sufficient supply.

3.1 Childcare Demand

From the 2016 parental survey it was found that

- Parents using childcare had a high level of satisfaction with their childcare arrangements overall, with 81 per cent very or fairly satisfied
- There were high levels of satisfaction with childcare quality, location, the way children's individual needs were catered for as well as childcare opening hours
- The majority of parents using childcare found it very or fairly easy to access (73 per cent) Most parents (98 per cent) using childcare reported that their childcare arrangements met their needs either fully or partly
- Most parents using childcare did so because they went to work
- Parents in Brighton & Hove using childcare appeared to spend more per week than parents nationally
- Childcare affordability is a concern for parents with 32 per cent fairly or very dissatisfied. Many parents (both users and non-users of childcare) commented on their need for affordable childcare
- While levels of dissatisfaction with childcare were generally very low, there was more dissatisfaction from parents using childcare for school-age children than amongst those using childcare for pre-school children
- Some parents said they would like childcare to be available at different times, most commonly during school holidays (19 per cent) between 7 am and 8 am (18 per cent) and after 6 pm (14 per cent). Only three per cent of parents wanted overnight childcare
- Most of those not using childcare stated that this was because they were at home with their children
- When parents not using childcare were asked about the consequence of lack of available childcare, in the majority of cases parents reported that this prevented them from returning to work
- In terms of future childcare services needed, parents indicated that they wanted childcare which was affordable and flexible, both to make it worthwhile working and to fit in with flexible and changing work schedules
- There was not a high enough response from parents of disabled children regarding childcare in order to make a clear assessment of their demand for and satisfaction with childcare

- There is a high level of demand for 30 hours free childcare with many parents (42 per cent) indicating that they would increase their hours of work or look for another job in order to become eligible.

3.2 Childcare Quality

- Childcare quality, based on Ofsted inspection judgements, is high compared with quality both regionally and nationally
- Childcare quality has improved since 2014, with the percentage of early years providers rated good or outstanding increasing from 85 to 88 per cent
- Quality is also high in the council-run children's centre nurseries, which tend to be located in the more disadvantaged areas of the city
- Two year olds in receipt of Early Years Free Entitlement (EYFE) attend high quality settings with 97 per cent having attended one rated good or outstanding
- Brighton & Hove has very high take-up of EYFE for two year olds, which is 20 per cent higher than the national average
- Three and four year olds also attend high quality settings with 95 per cent having attended one rated good or outstanding.

3.3 Childcare Supply

- Childcare supply for children aged from birth to five has shown a small increase
- The reduction in the number of childminders in Brighton & Hove is greater than the national reduction
- The reduction in the number of childminders has been balanced by an increase in the number of full day care providers
- There has been a small reduction in the number of places for school-age children; however in some cases new provision is under development
- The vast majority of primary schools offer before and after-school care, in some cases this being through a pick-up/drop off service away from the school site
- Childcare is not distributed evenly throughout the city, there being a lot more choice in some neighbourhoods than in others
- EYFE for two, three and four year olds is available at a wide variety of childcare settings including with childminders; the majority of three and four year olds attended privately-run provision
- While the maintained sector in the form of Brighton & Hove's children's centre nurseries and the two maintained nursery schools are a large provider of EYFE for two year olds, it is only offered in one primary school nursery class
- Children with SEND appear to have good access to childcare
- Childcare costs have increased by approximately five per cent in the past two years
- The cost of full day care in has increased by six per cent and the cost is higher than the average for England as a whole, but it is lower than the average cost in the south east
- The cost of holiday playschemes is significantly higher in Brighton & Hove than in the south east and England as a whole
- Forthcoming changes in support for childcare costs may improve affordability for parents; however childcare providers anticipate increased operating costs

- The childcare market has adapted to meet changing parental entitlement
- It is not clear whether childcare providers will be able or willing to offer 30 hours free childcare from September 2017 as the rate the government plans to offer is not as much as providers state they will need.

4. Childcare Gaps

There do not appear to be any major gaps in childcare provision in Brighton & Hove. However, the following are of note:

4.1 Income Gaps

- By far the most significant issue for parents was childcare affordability, and therefore this might be seen as an “income gap”. The cost of childcare can be a real issue for parents in low wage jobs or those seeking to start or return to work, particularly those living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city.
- Forthcoming changes may improve childcare affordability, but this is by no means certain.

4.2 Type Gaps

- The need for flexible childcare and that offered during a-typical hours, that is childcare offered outside Monday to Friday 8 am to 6 pm, was identified most by parents as well as childcare during the school holidays. Parents also wanted more choice of childcare.
- Although provision for pre-school children before 8 am and after 6 pm has increased parental demand still exceeds supply.
- The number of childminders has fallen significantly in Brighton & Hove and although parents have not indicated a specific difficulty finding a childminder this option may offer flexibility which is important to parents. There were also generally high satisfaction rates with childminders amongst respondents to the parent questionnaire.

4.3 Age Gaps

- There is limited setting-based provision for older children with SEND.
- It is not yet clear whether there will be sufficient childcare for the 30 hours free childcare entitlement for three and four year olds of working parents from September 2017

5. Recommendations

In order to address childcare gaps, the following actions should be taken

- Publicise the CSA findings to childcare providers so that they can develop their provision to meet identified gaps
- Promote 30 hours free childcare, tax free childcare and entitlement to other support with childcare costs through welfare benefits, including linking with partner agencies
- Maximise the funding for the Early Years Free Entitlement (EYFE) from the early years block of the Dedicated Schools' Grant which is passed on to early years providers as part of the new funding formula from April 2017
- Continue to promote the right of parents to request wraparound care in schools, and work to support schools to ensure that there is sufficient quality provision for children where there are gaps
- Encourage childcare providers to offer holiday care for pre-school children, as well as childcare which wraps around sessional care
- Renew the strategy to recruit, support and retain childminders
- Continue to offer inclusion support and at home childcare services which in particular meet the needs of children with SEND
- Support early years providers, in particular maintained settings where there is spare capacity, and sessional providers, to develop and change to offer 30 hours free childcare
- Ensure that access to high quality childcare provision, particularly for disadvantaged children, is part of the city's forthcoming early years strategy.

6. Local Demographic and Employment Data²

In the 2011 census the resident population of Brighton & Hove was estimated at 273,369 people, an increase of 25,552 since the 2001 census. The latest estimate, for 2012, is 275,800 residents with further growth projections of five per cent by 2021. The latest available data estimated that in 2014 there were 59,000 children and young people living in Brighton & Hove. The number of children and young people living here is predicted to reach 62,000 by 2020, an increase of approximately six per cent over the 2012 figure; however the proportion is predicted to remain static at 21 per cent. For children under five the population projections are more stable with 15,000 children under five in 2014 and this is projected to be 15,200 in 2020.

In Brighton & Hove, the number of live births per year is around 3,000.

The city's population is diverse with 25 per cent of school children from an ethnic minority background. Thirteen per cent of school-age children have English as an additional language. Twenty-six per cent of births are to mothers born outside the UK. The greatest proportion in 2013 was to mothers born in Eastern Europe (18 per cent), Middle East and Asia (six per cent) and Africa (five per cent). Until 2001 the most common country of birth outside of the UK was Bangladesh, but in more recent years those born in Poland have a greater number of births.

Seventy-two per cent of the city's residents are economically active, which is similar to the economic activity rate in the south east and slightly higher than that found in England (70 per cent).

Despite the number of households in the city increasing by more than 7,000 since the 2001 census the number of households with no adult in employment has fallen by 5,233 or 13 per cent. Brighton & Hove with 30 per cent has proportionally a similar number of households with no adult in employment as the south east (31 per cent) but fewer than found in England (33 per cent).

In terms of employment by industry, wholesale and retail trade (14 per cent), human health and social work (13 per cent) and education (12 per cent) are the industries employing the greatest number of city residents with 40 per cent of all workers employed in one of these three sectors.

Nearly two out of five residents (39 per cent) work in professional, associate professional or technical occupations. This is significantly high than found in the south east (33 per cent) and in England (30 per cent) and is an increase of 46 per cent (17,462 people) since the 2001 census.

Nearly one third of all residents in work (44,169 people, 32 per cent) work part-time. This is higher than the south east and England (both 29 per cent). Female workers are twice as likely to work part time as male workers, 44 per cent compared with 20 per cent.

² Data from 2011 census

7. Childcare Demand

7.1 Parent Questionnaire

In order to assess demand for childcare, a self-completion questionnaire was put on the council's online consultation portal and publicised through the schools' bulletin, the children's centres contact list, local childcare providers, the council's partner organisations and also posted repeatedly on various social media accounts. Eight hundred and five parents of children aged from birth to 14 (and up to 18 for children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND)) completed the questionnaire.

As with any self-selecting questionnaire, those who responded might have done so because they had a specific interest in or something to say about childcare, while those who did not respond might have been those who did not. Therefore there may be a bias in the data in favour of those using or having strong views about childcare.

In this CSA parents survey data is compared with the Brighton & Hove CSA parent survey carried out in 2011 and where possible and relevant contrasted with national data from government research into parental use of childcare which is now undertaken every two years, the latest of which is the *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015* Research Report DFE-SFR09. This research involves face to face interviews with a large sample (6,198) of parents across the country and so there are methodological differences which need to be taken into account when comparisons are made.

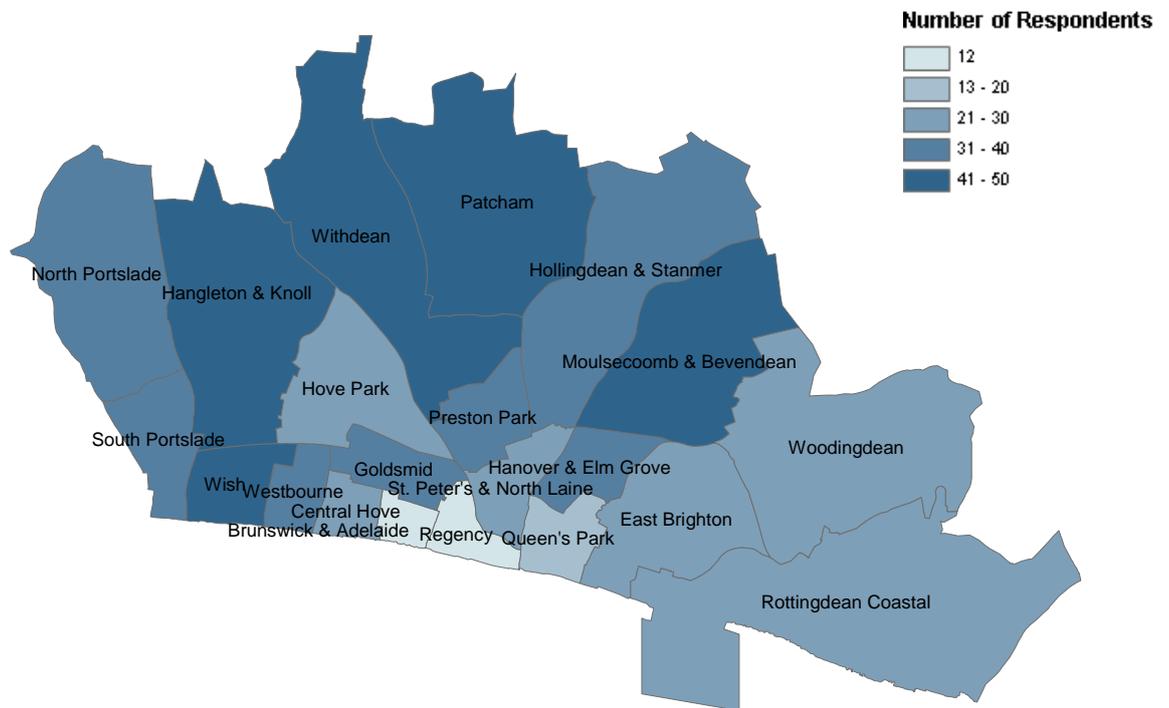
Data is analysed and presented by ward where appropriate. However it is acknowledged that parents will not necessarily operate within a ward alone; factors such as cost, judgements about quality and availability, as well as location-related factors will be considered by parents when they make childcare choices, including ease of travel, parking availability, bus routes, work places, siblings' schools, and natural and manmade features which may get in the way such as hills, main roads, and railway lines. The availability of public transport in Brighton & Hove means that parents may well be able to travel around the city to access childcare should they choose to do so. Therefore, although data is reported by wards, in some cases this has little relevance to actual childcare use or choice.

7.1.1 Number of Responses

Eight hundred and five parents completed the online questionnaire. This was less than half the number of responses from the 2011 CSA parent questionnaire (1,870), which was posted directly to the homes of 7,400 parents across the city. However, it is still a good rate of return for a self-completion questionnaire, particularly as the council had also publicised a government questionnaire on 30 hours free childcare for three and four year olds two months' earlier.

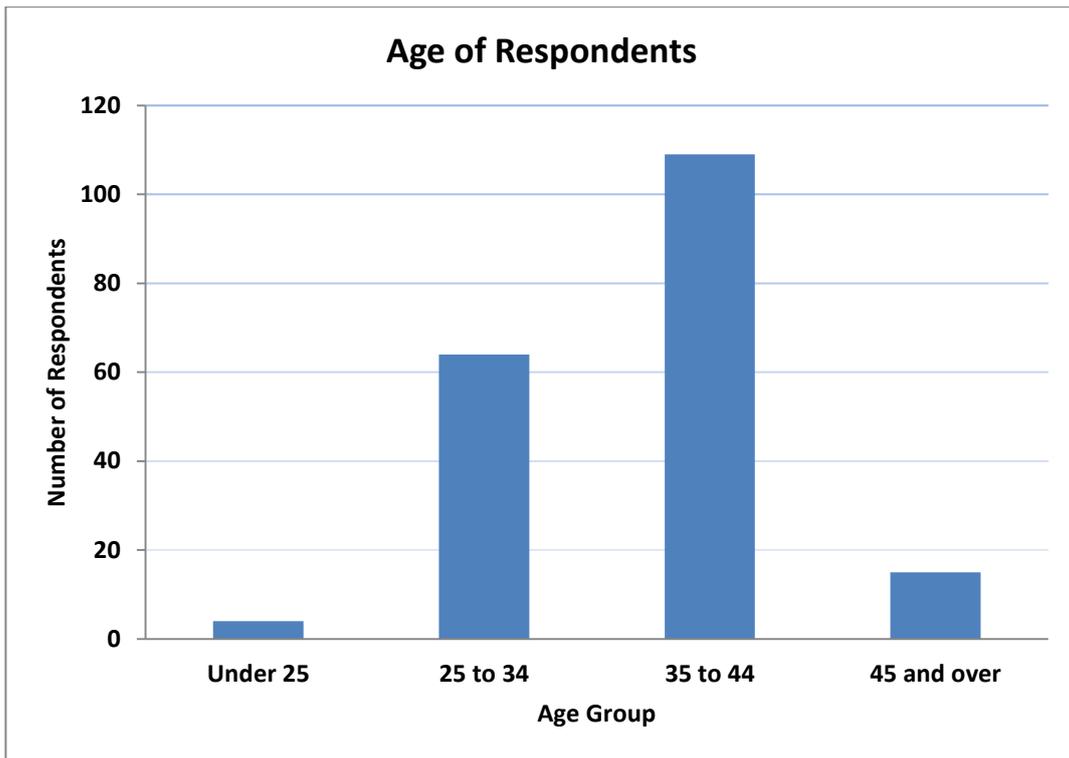
7.1.2 Location of Respondents

Responses came from parents across the city. Eighteen per cent did not give their postcode, or were unknown or out of area. Areas with higher response rates tended to be those areas of the city with the highest number of children aged under five.

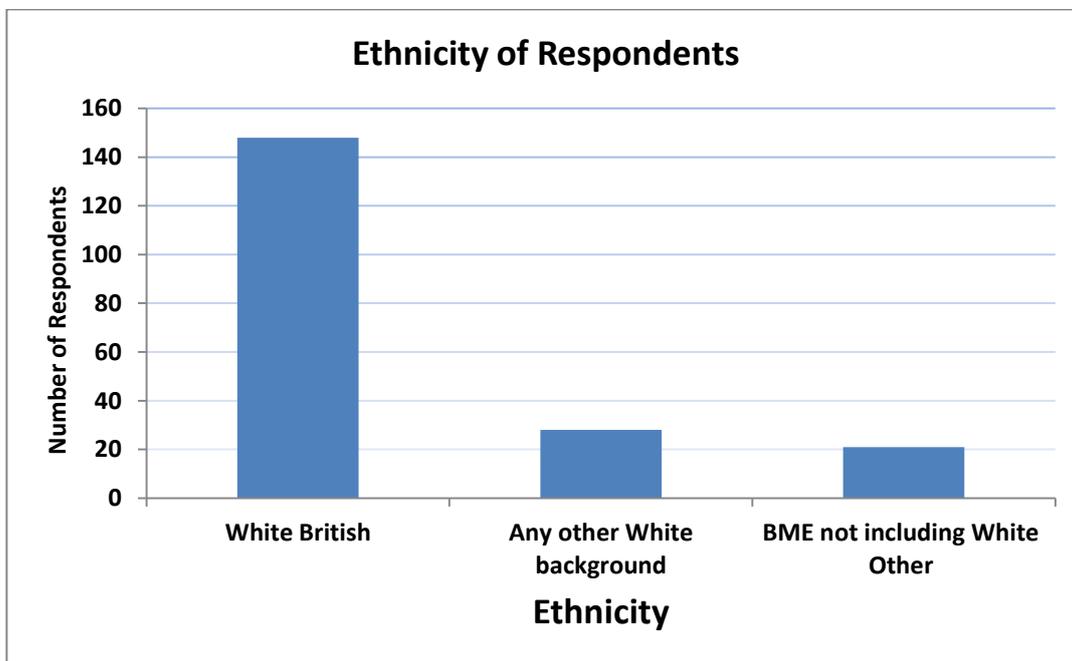


7.1.3 Profile of Respondents

Ninety-seven per cent of respondents who gave their gender identified as women. The majority (57 per cent) were aged between 35 and 44.



Seventy-five per cent gave their ethnicity as White British and 14 per cent gave their ethnicity as White Other. Eleven per cent gave their ethnicity as Black and Minority Ethnic (BME, not including White Other).



Five per cent of respondents described themselves as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual. Fifty-two per cent described themselves as having no religion. Twenty-seven per cent identified as Christian and one per cent identified as Muslim. All other religions were less than one per cent.

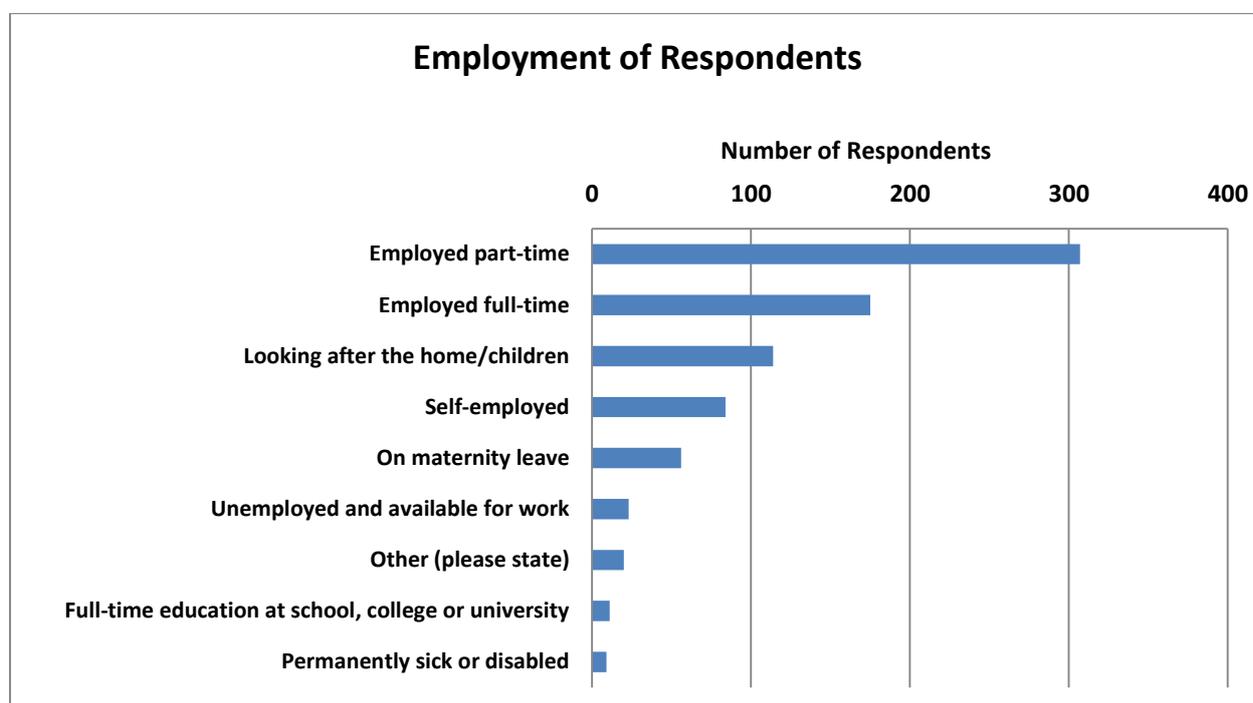
Fifteen per cent of respondents were lone parents. In Brighton & Hove 29 per cent of all households with dependent children are headed by lone parents³, and so they were under-represented in the survey.

Less than half of one per cent of respondents (four in total) were foster carers.

One per cent of respondents had a long-term illness or disability.

7.1.4 Employment of Respondents

The majority of respondents were employed part-time (38 per cent), followed by employed full-time (22 per cent). Fourteen per cent were looking after the home/children.



7.1.5 Respondents' Income

In order to get an indication of household income, respondents were asked whether they were in receipt of benefits including Working Tax Credit or Income Support.

Fourteen per cent of those who responded were in receipt of Working Tax Credit, with five per cent in receipt of Income Support. According to the most recent HMRC data (2015), nine per cent of lone parent families and one per cent of two parent families in Brighton & Hove receive the childcare element of Working Tax Credit.

The majority of families in receipt of Working Tax Credit used childcare which is likely to explain the large response from this group. The number of respondents in receipt of Income Support was quite low but these families are less likely to use childcare as they are either not working or working few hours.

³ 2011 Census

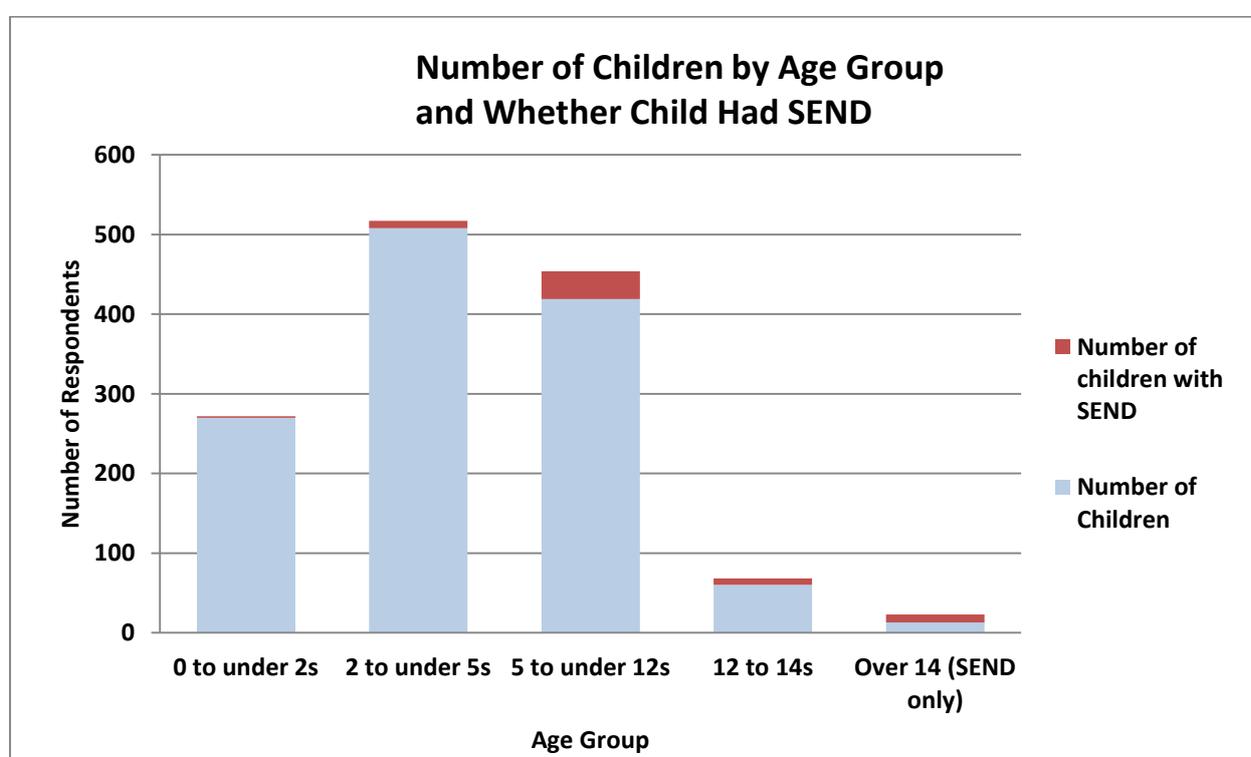
7.1.6 Respondents' Children

The average number of children of respondents was 1.7⁴ with the minimum one and the maximum five.

The total number of children of respondents was 1,338. Sixty-one per cent of all children were aged under five. Five per cent of children had a special educational need or disability (SEND). There was a very small number of children aged 14+ with SEND. This group has been omitted from the following analysis as it is statistically too small to draw meaningful conclusions.

7.1.7 Age of Respondents' Children

The distribution of respondents' children by age is shown below. The highest proportion was children aged two to four.



7.1.8 Use of Childcare by Respondents

Respondents were asked whether they were using any type of childcare, including that provided by friends or family (other than partner).

Eighty per cent of those who responded said that they used childcare. This is in line with national data (79 per cent)⁵, but a significant increase from the 65 per cent who said they used some form of childcare in the 2011 CSA parent survey.

Of those using childcare, 77 per cent were employed and 23 per cent were not employed.

⁴ The fertility rate in Brighton & Hove is 1.36 children per woman and 1.82 per woman in England and Wales (ONS, 2015)

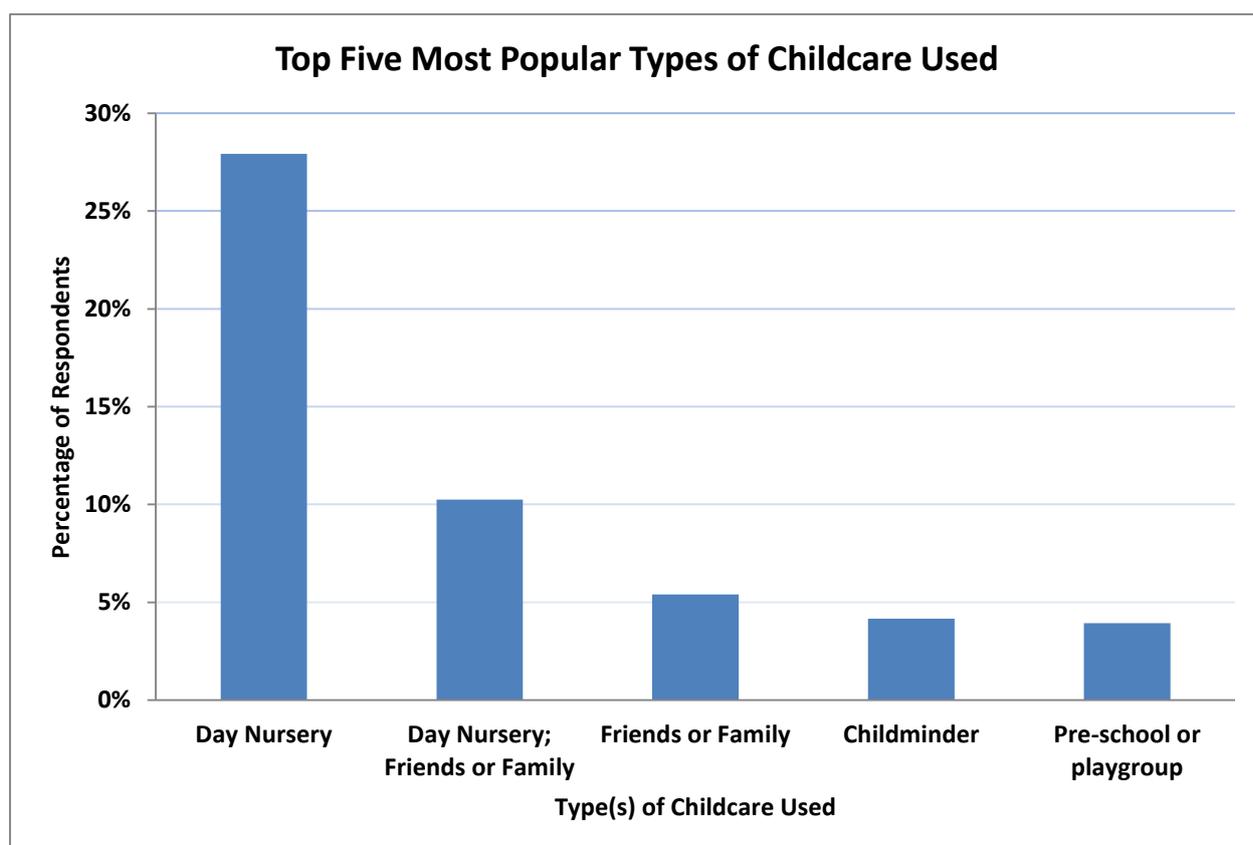
⁵ *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015* Research Report DFE-SFR09

Of those who were in receipt of a benefit, those receiving Working Tax Credit had the highest use of childcare (80 per cent), whilst those receiving Income Support had the lowest (55 per cent).

Those in receipt of Income Support who were using childcare tended to use a day nursery, followed by a pre-school or playgroup and then friends and family. For those in receipt of Working Tax Credit, they most commonly used a day nursery followed by friends and family.

The questionnaire did not ask respondents for their income. However, national data finds that families with higher incomes are more likely to use childcare, in particular formal childcare, compared with those on lower incomes.⁶

Respondents were asked to indicate all types of childcare used for their youngest, second youngest and third youngest child and where they chose more than one type, these have been grouped together in the analysis. The most frequent type of childcare used was a day nursery by 28 per cent of respondents. This compares with 35 per cent in 2011. The next most frequent type of childcare used was a combination of day nursery with friends or family (other than partner) used by 10 per cent, followed by friends or family used by five per cent.



⁶ National data shows a relationship between family income and the use of formal and informal childcare. Sixty per cent of children in families with an annual income of less than £10,000 received some form of childcare compared with 80 per cent of children in families with an annual income of £45,000 or more. *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014-2015* Research Report DFE-SFR09

Childcare use by the age of child is shown below. The most commonly used childcare for pre-school children was day nursery. For primary school aged children it was after-school club or childminder followed closely by friends or family. The most commonly used childcare for children aged 12 and over was friends or family.

National data shows the most commonly used formal childcare provision was after-school clubs or activities on a school site by 38 per cent of all parents.⁷ This data also shows that 40 per cent of all parents used informal childcare, most commonly grandparents (26 per cent).

The most popular types of childcare used by child's age are shown below.⁸

| Age Group | Three most popular choices (ranked highest first) |
|--------------------|---|
| Under Two | Day nursery |
| | Day nursery; Friends or family |
| | Friends or family |
| Two to Four | Day nursery |
| | Day nursery; Friends or family |
| | Pre-school or playgroup |
| Five to Eleven | After-school club |
| | Childminder |
| | Friends or family |
| Twelve to Fourteen | After-school activity |
| | Friends or family |
| | Holiday activity |

7.1.9 Main Reason(s) for Using Childcare

Respondents were asked their main reason(s) for using childcare and were invited to tick as many of the options as they wanted and could add other reasons.

Overwhelmingly respondents stated that they used childcare because they went to work, with this being the response in 65 per cent of cases. The next most common reasons for using childcare given were: "Social or learning benefits for my children" (28 per cent) and "So that my children can take part in different activities" (24 per cent).

Respondents were also given the option to state other reasons.

"So I can have one to one time with each child."

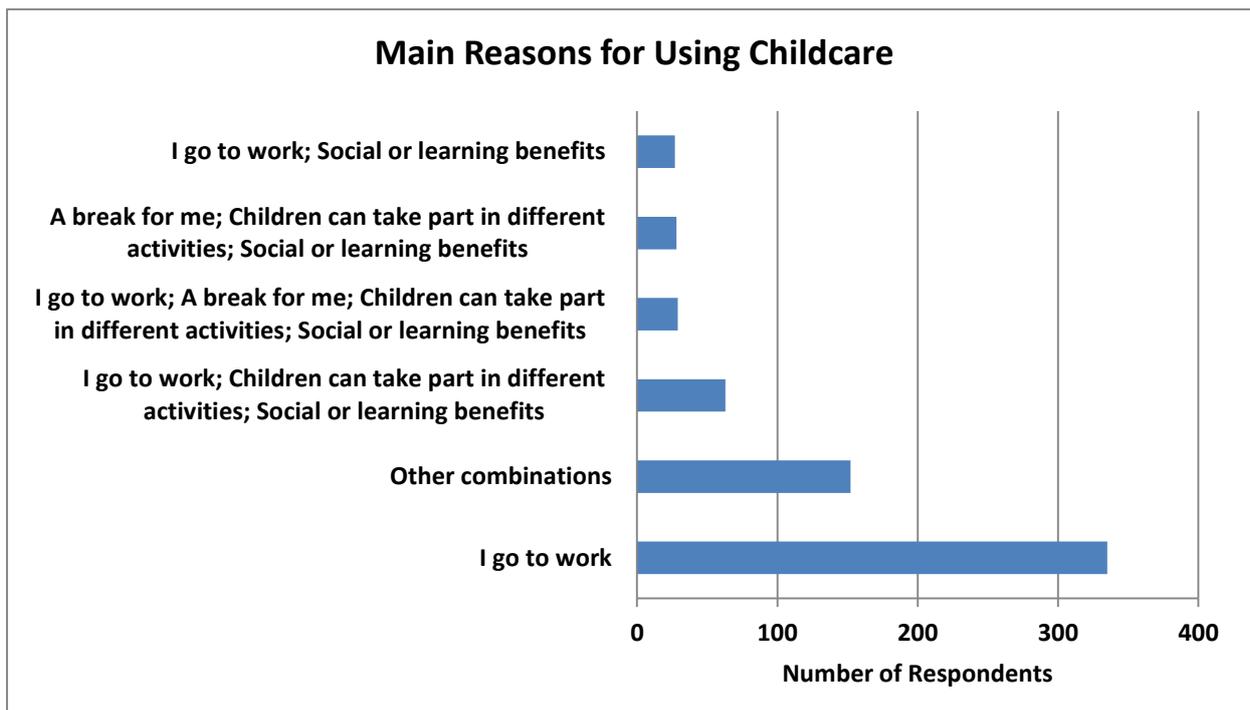
"Catch up on housework which is difficult to do with two toddlers."

"I'm disabled and I have to rest."

The top responses given are shown below, including where respondents had selected a combination of reasons.

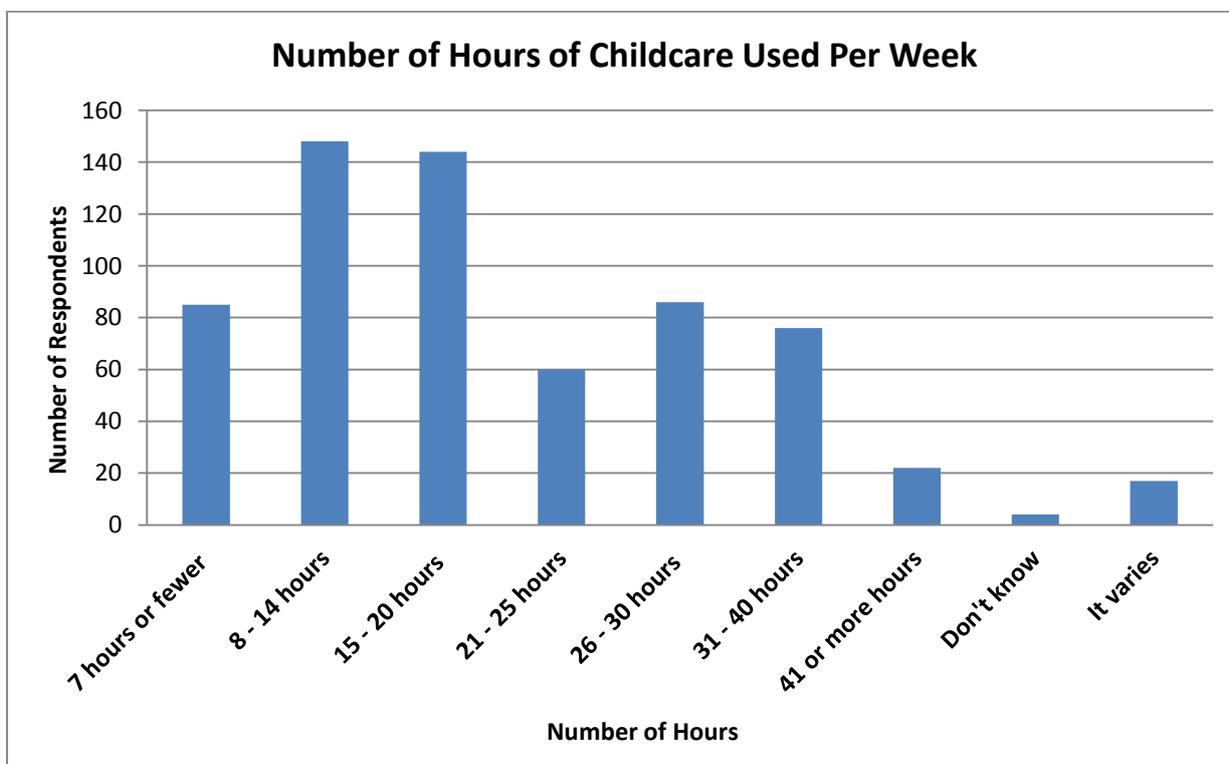
⁷ Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015 Research Report DFE-SFR09

⁸ Note that some parents used more than one childcare type



7.1.10 Number of Hours of Childcare

Most children were in childcare for 20 hours or fewer a week (65 per cent), with only 13 per cent of children in childcare for more than 40 hours a week. It should be borne in mind that this data includes care by friends or family (other than a partner).



The data showed that pre-school children were spending 15 to 20 hours a week on

average in childcare, primary school age children were spending eight to 14 hours a week in childcare and seven hours or fewer at age 12+. This is largely in line with the national trend which shows that children receiving some form of childcare spent on average 11 hours being cared for per week and this increases to 25 hours for children aged three to four.⁹

7.1.11 Distance from Home Travelled to Get to Childcare

Most respondents (56 per cent) reported that they travelled less than one mile to get to the childcare they used most, with 36 per cent reporting that they travelled one to three miles and seven per cent travelling more than four miles.

The top five wards where respondents travel less or more than a mile to access childcare are shown below.

| Less than a mile | Per cent | More than a mile | Per cent |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| Hanover & Elm Grove | 95 | Patcham | 73 |
| Queens Park | 93 | North Portslade | 70 |
| Brunswick & Adelaide | 78 | Woodingdean | 63 |
| Westbourne | 74 | South Portslade | 60 |
| Goldsmid | 73 | Rottingdean Coastal | 56 |

7.1.12 Satisfaction with Childcare

Respondents were asked about satisfaction with the following elements of their childcare: affordability, location, quality, opening hours, the way their child's individual needs were catered for and the amount of choice available. They were also asked about their level of satisfaction with their childcare arrangements overall.

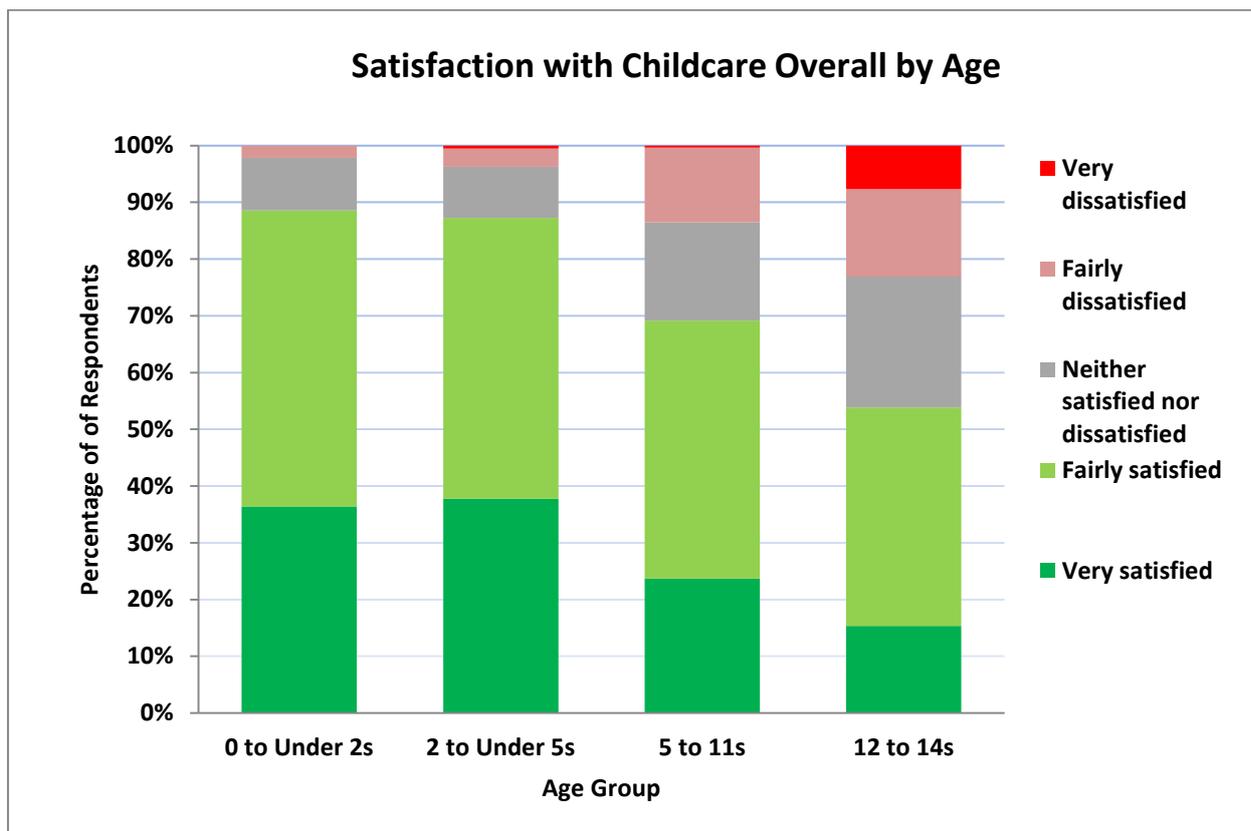
Respondents reported their satisfaction on a Likert scale of very satisfied, satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, fairly dissatisfied and very dissatisfied.

Eighty-one per cent of respondents were very or fairly satisfied with their childcare arrangements overall (six per cent less than the 2011 survey which was 87 per cent), with seven per cent very or fairly dissatisfied.

The aspects of childcare that respondents were most satisfied with were the quality (93 per cent), location (90 per cent) and the way in which their child's individual needs were catered for (86 per cent). They were least satisfied with affordability of childcare (52 per cent) and choice (66 per cent).

The percentage of respondents who were satisfied with their childcare arrangements overall by child's age group is shown below. The least satisfied group were parents with children aged 12 to 14 but no meaningful conclusion can be drawn since the sample size for this group was statistically too small. However, it does show that respondents with children aged five to 11 were less satisfied than those with children aged under five.

⁹ *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015 Research Report DFE-SFR09* found that children aged three to four were in childcare (both formal and informal) for an average of 25 hours per week



Satisfaction in relation to childcare type is shown below. Where childcare type is reported upon parents may have been using more than one kind of childcare and so their reported level of satisfaction was with their childcare overall, not with a particular type. For example, a parent may have used a day nursery and a childminder but their response relating to childcare quality related to all types that they used.

| Fairly satisfied more than 50 per cent (light green) Very satisfied more than 50 per cent (dark green) | Affordability | Location | Quality | Opening hours | Individual needs | Choice |
|--|---------------|----------|---------|---------------|------------------|--------|
| Day nursery | | | | | | |
| Day nursery; Friends or family | | | | | | |
| Friends or family | | | | | | |
| Childminder | | | | | | |
| Pre-school or playgroup | | | | | | |
| School nursery class/nursery school | | | | | | |
| Childminder; Friends or family | | | | | | |
| After-school club | | | | | | |
| After-school club; Breakfast club; Friends or family | | | | | | |

| Fairly dissatisfied more than nine per cent (light red), Very dissatisfied more than nine per cent (dark red) | Affordability | Location | Quality | Opening hours | Individual needs | Choice |
|---|---------------|----------|---------|---------------|------------------|--------|
| Day nursery | | | | | | |
| Day nursery; Friends or family | | | | | | |
| Friends or family | | | | | | |
| Childminder | | | | | | |
| Pre-school or playgroup | | | | | | |
| School nursery class/nursery school | | | | | | |
| Childminder; Friends or family | | | | | | |
| After-school club | | | | | | |
| After-school club; Breakfast club; Friends or family | | | | | | |

Areas with the highest satisfaction¹⁰ were the location of childminders (84 per cent for childminders compared with 50 to 60 per cent “very satisfied” for other types of childcare), the quality of childminders (73 per cent compared with 50 to 60 per cent “very satisfied” for all other types of childcare), childminder opening hours (86 per cent compared with 40 to 60 per cent “very satisfied” for all other types of childcare) and the way in which childminders catered for the child’s individual needs (86 per cent compared to 20 to 60 per cent for all other types of childcare). Generally respondents seemed satisfied with quality of provision across all types of childcare.

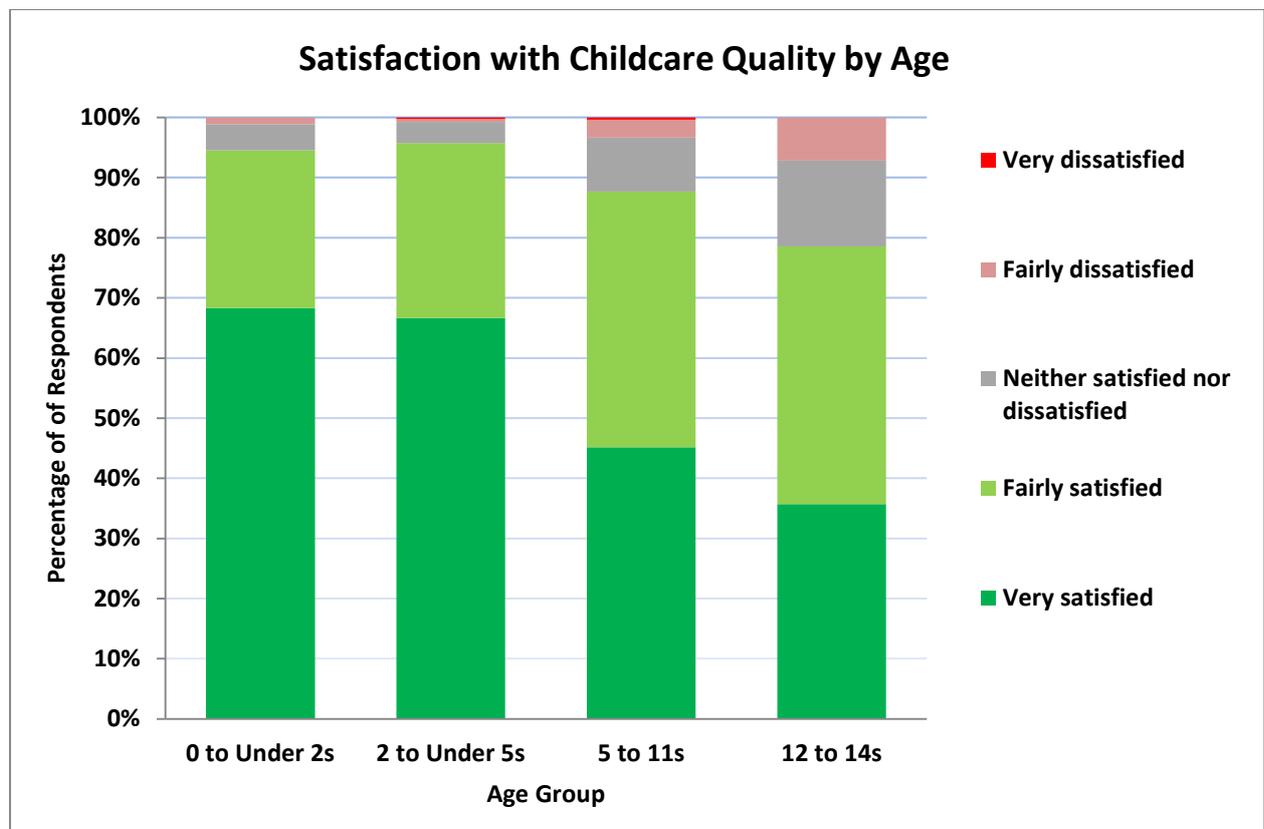
¹⁰ Respondents reporting that they were “very satisfied”

Areas with the least satisfaction were affordability of day nurseries, the location of childminders and the amount of choice of provider for those who used after-school and breakfast clubs.

However, satisfaction for these types of childcare was generally high overall, which was consistent with high satisfaction rates in the 2011 survey.

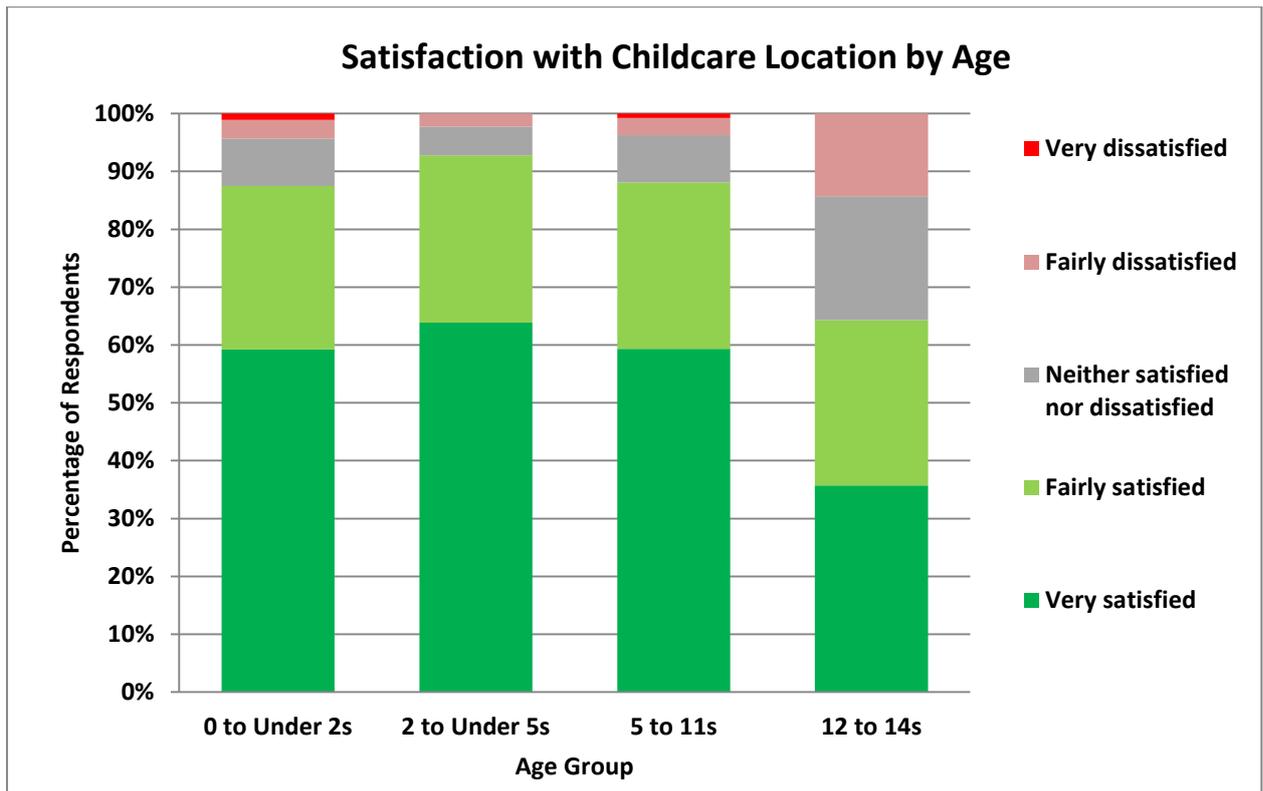
7.1.13 Childcare Quality

Ninety-three per cent of respondents reported that they were very or fairly satisfied with the quality of their childcare (the same as the 2011 survey), with only two per cent fairly or very dissatisfied. Those with children aged under five were the most satisfied.



7.1.14 Childcare Location

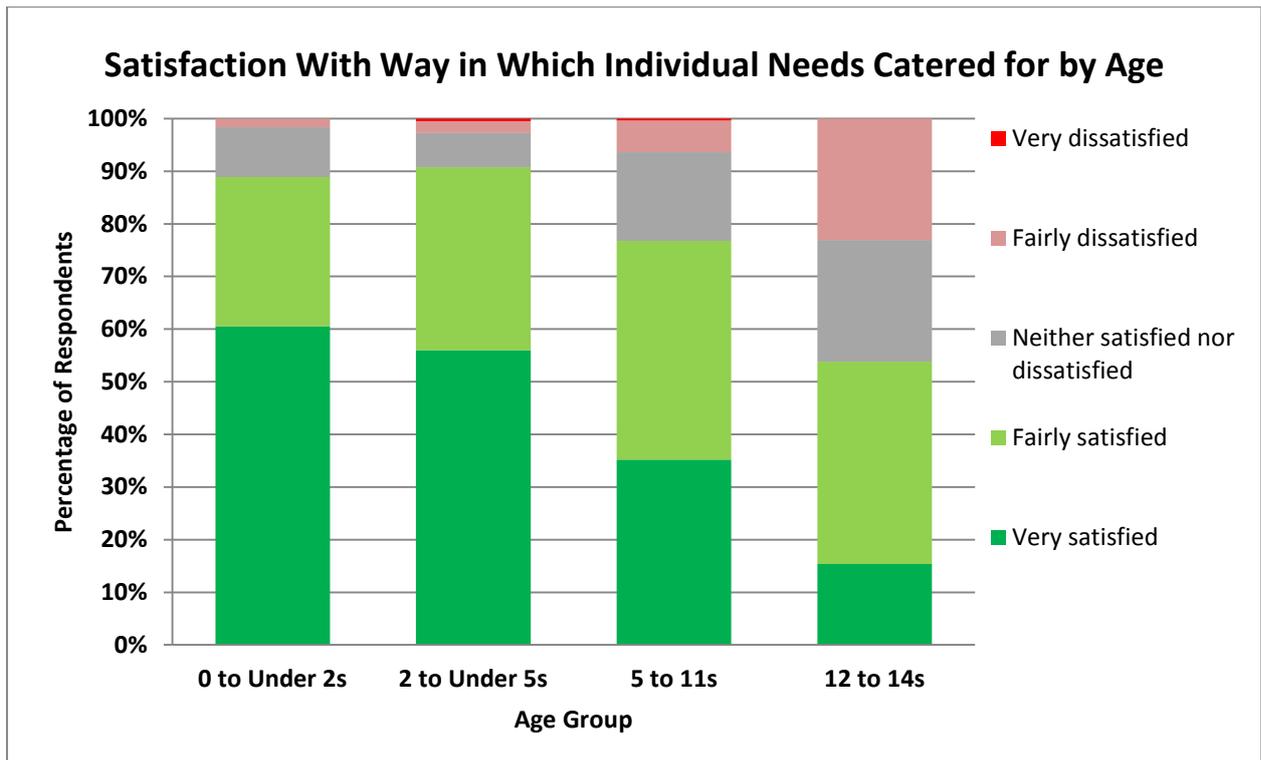
Ninety per cent of respondents were very or fairly satisfied with the location of their childcare (similar to the 92 per cent who were satisfied from the 2011 survey), with only three per cent fairly or very dissatisfied.



7.1.15 The Way in Which Child’s Individual Needs are Catered For

Eighty-five per cent of respondents were very or fairly satisfied with the way in which their child’s individual needs were catered for, with four per cent fairly or very dissatisfied.

Satisfaction was highest with pre-school children (90 per cent), reducing for primary school age children (77 per cent) and lowest for those with children aged 12 to 14 (53 per cent).

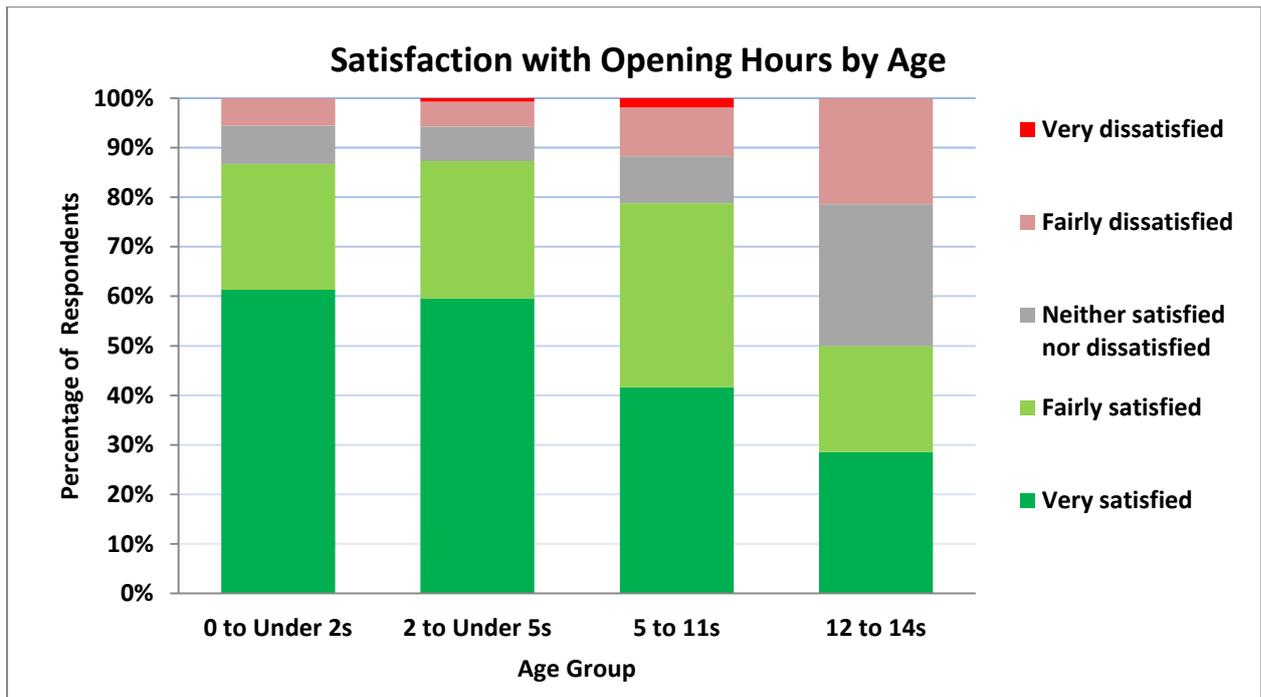


7.1.16 Childcare Opening Hours

Eighty-four per cent of respondents were very or fairly satisfied with childcare opening hours, with eight per cent fairly or very dissatisfied. This was a slight decrease in satisfaction from the 2011 parent survey (very or fairly satisfied 87 per cent and fairly or very dissatisfied six per cent).

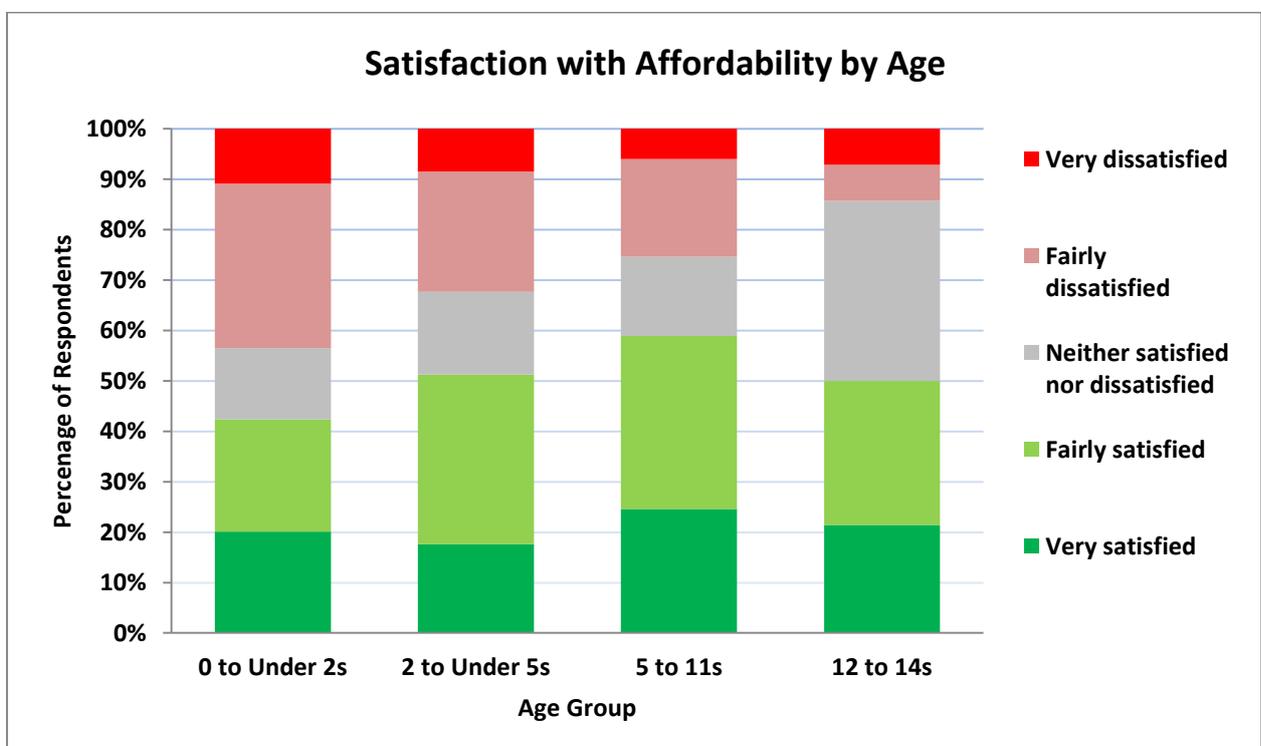
Satisfaction was highest for pre-school children (87 per cent), reducing for primary school age children (79 per cent) and lowest for those with children aged 12 to 14 (50 per cent).

“The childcare provision once your child starts school is limited. Breakfast clubs start very late 8am or 8.15am and some only have limited places. I start work at 7.30am so it is problematic.”



7.1.17 Childcare Affordability

Fifty-two per cent of parents were very or fairly satisfied with childcare affordability, with 32 per cent fairly or very dissatisfied. Generally, affordability was the main issue causing dissatisfaction as evidenced in both the statistics and the comments made by respondents.



A large number of parents who did and did not use childcare made comments at the end of the questionnaire about the cost of childcare.

“I would love to go back to work but just can't afford the childcare.”

“I had to give up my job after having my child as I would have been working to pay for someone else to bring him up. The cost of living is ever-increasing, wages are not going up really, and I would have been left with £30 after paying nursery fees and bus fare.”

“In general good provision but hugely expensive! There should be larger sibling discount.”

“It's exorbitantly expensive. My husband and I earn good salaries and due to the costs of nursery (over £100 per day for them both) we are projecting a deficit each month by the time we have paid mortgage and other bills.”

“More pre and after-school clubs available free or heavily discounted.”

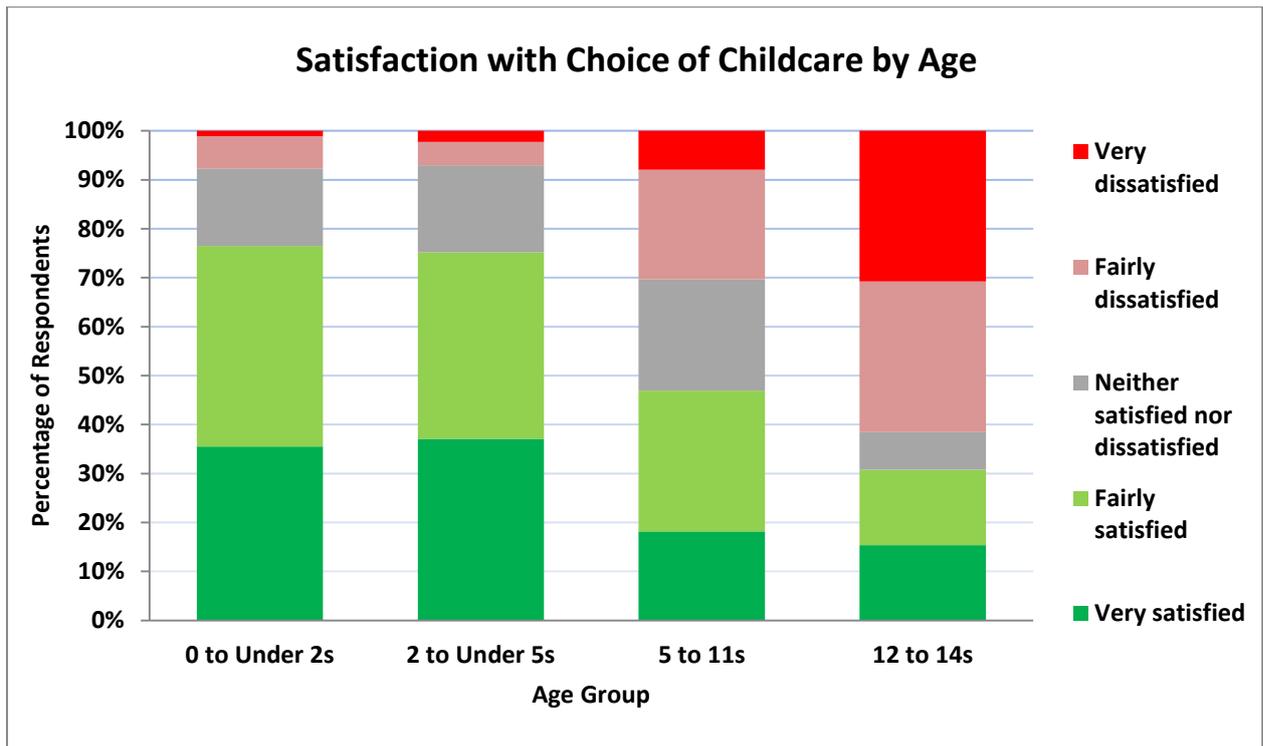
7.1.18 Childcare Choice

Sixty-six per cent of respondents were very or fairly satisfied with the amount of childcare choice available, with 15 per cent fairly or very dissatisfied (similar to the 2011 survey).

“Overall very satisfied with the nurseries I found in Brighton and Hove. We had a lot of choice for day nurseries.”

“More drop-in sessions such as PE etc after school around the Kemptown/Whitehawk area would be good. Most classes seem to be more so towards Hove.”

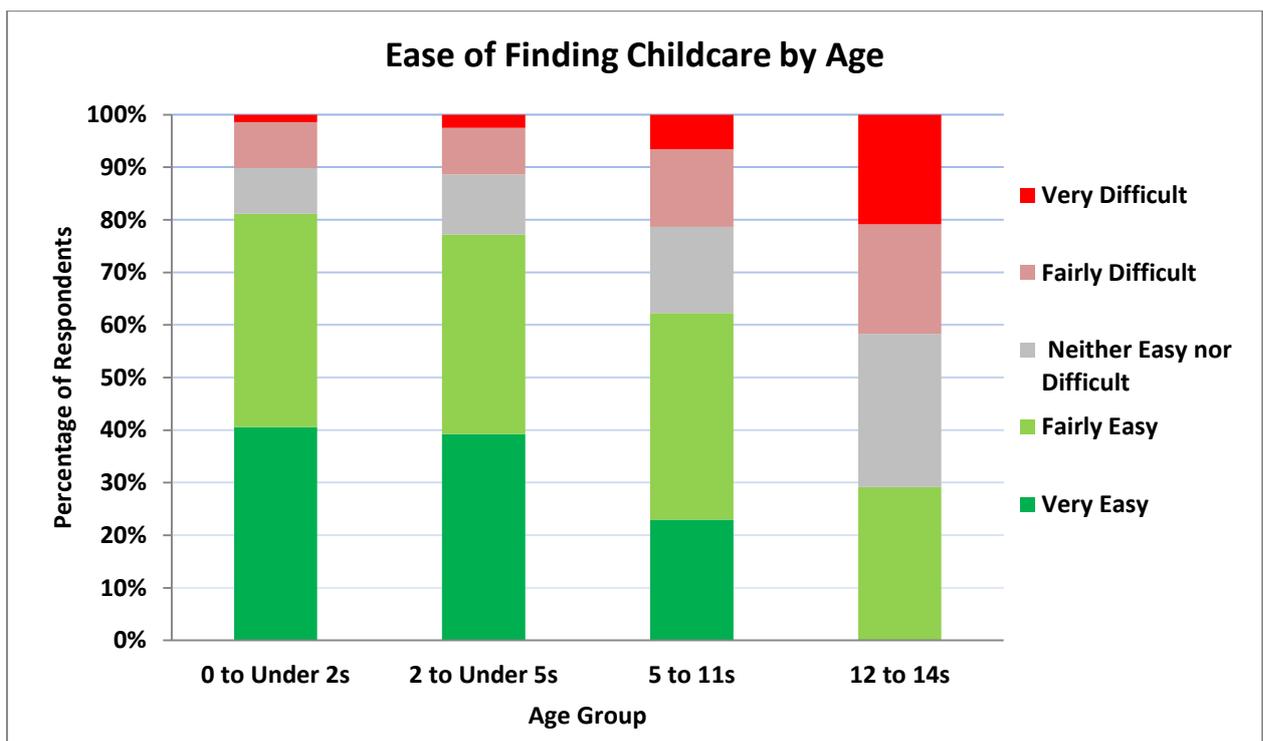
Satisfaction with choice was highest for pre-school children and dropped significantly for the primary school age group.



7.1.19 Ease of Finding Childcare

Seventy-three per cent of respondents found it very or fairly easy to find childcare. However 14 per cent reported that it had been fairly or very difficult.

The ease of finding childcare was analysed by child's age group. Those with pre-school children said it was easier to find childcare. Those with children aged 12 to 14 found it least easy to find.

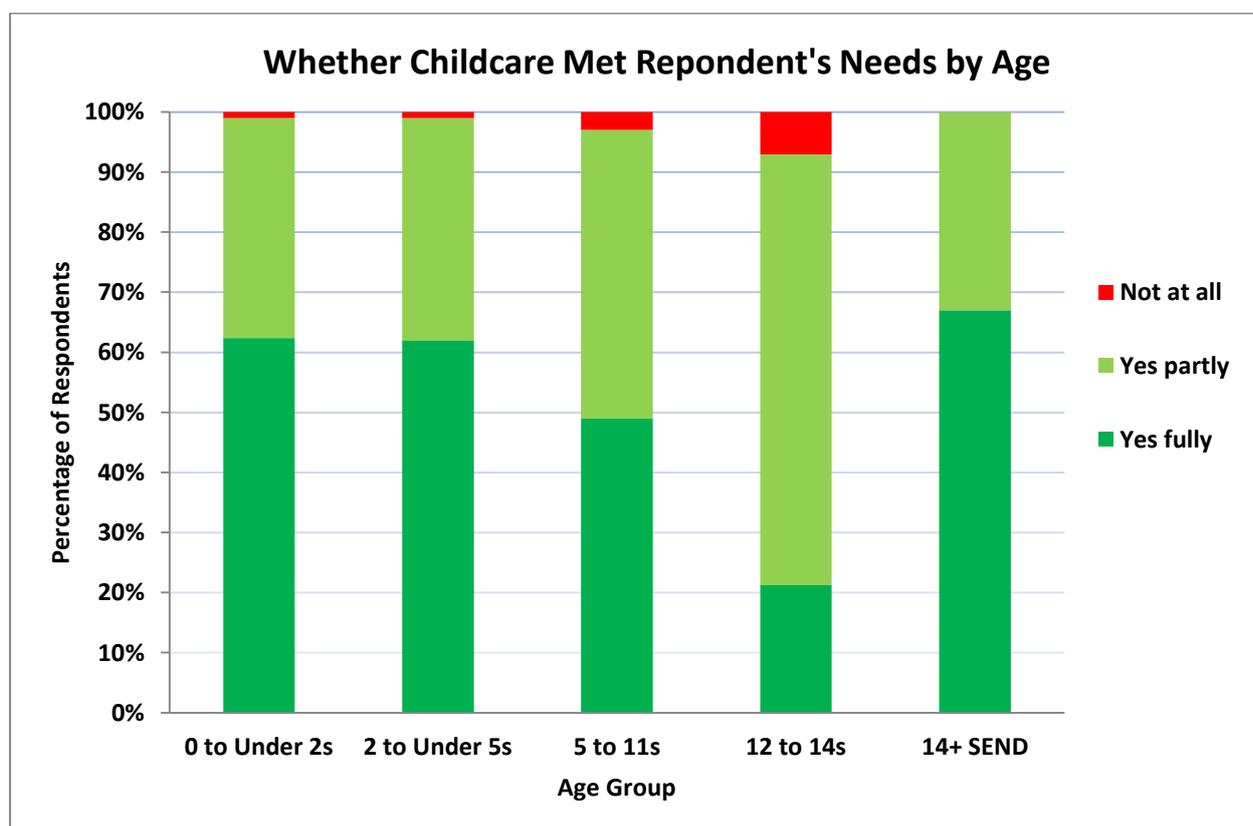


7.1.20 Whether Childcare Arrangements Met Respondents' Needs

Fifty-seven per cent of respondents reported that their childcare arrangements met their needs fully (seven per cent lower than the 2011 survey) with 41 per cent stating that they met their needs partly (seven per cent higher than the 2011 survey). Only two per cent reported that their childcare arrangements did not meet their needs (similar to the 2011 survey).

“The nursery we use is mostly to our liking which is good. There are also many nurseries to choose from in this area. On the downside, they are very expensive and only open 8 till 6. My husband and I both work full time in London so a nursery with the option of a later pick up or earlier drop off would be welcome.”

The extent to which childcare met respondents' needs was analysed by child's age group. More respondents with pre-school children tended to report that their childcare arrangements met their needs than those with primary school age children. Only 21 per cent with children aged 12 to 14 reported that childcare met their needs.

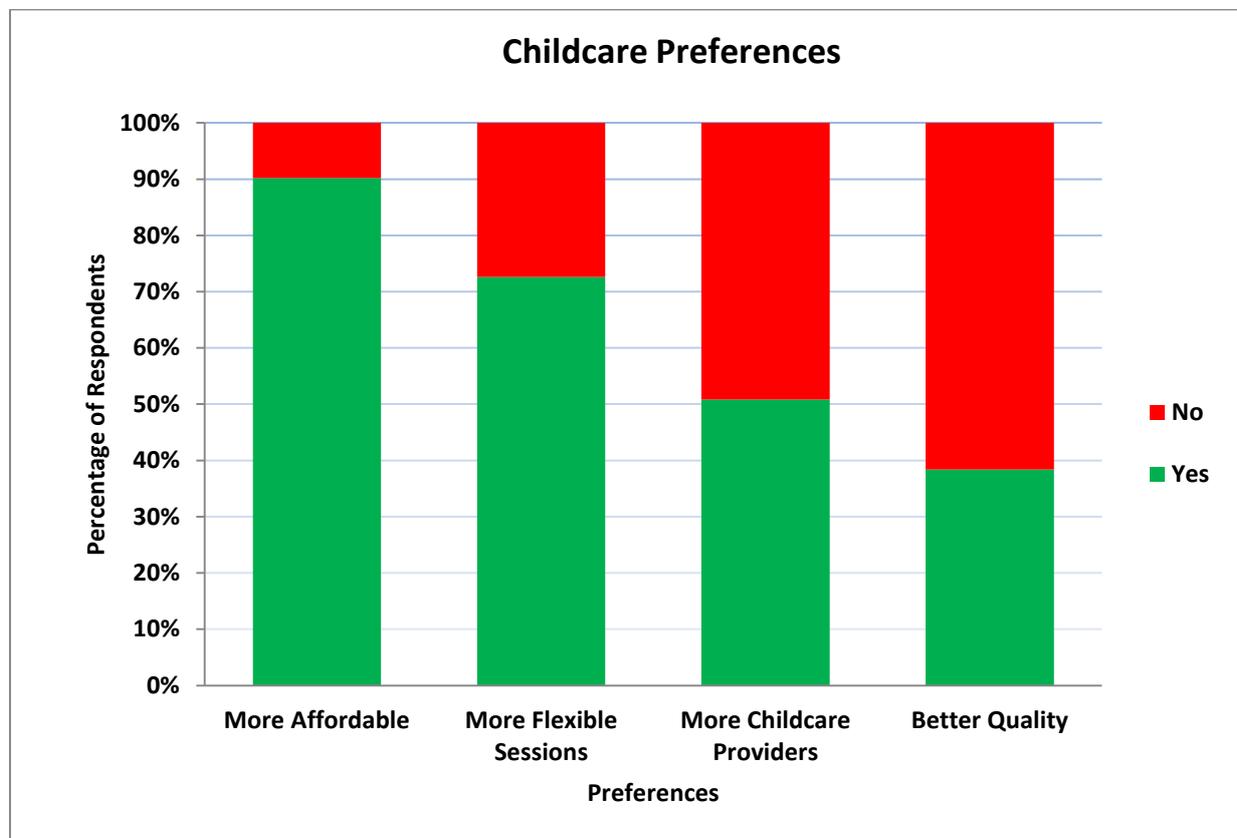


Similar to 2011, the types of childcare that respondents reported as least meeting their child's individual needs were after-school and breakfast clubs.

7.1.21 Childcare Arrangements Overall

Respondents were asked whether they would like any of the following: more flexible sessions, childcare to be more affordable, better quality childcare or more childcare providers to choose from. Respondents could select any of the choices.

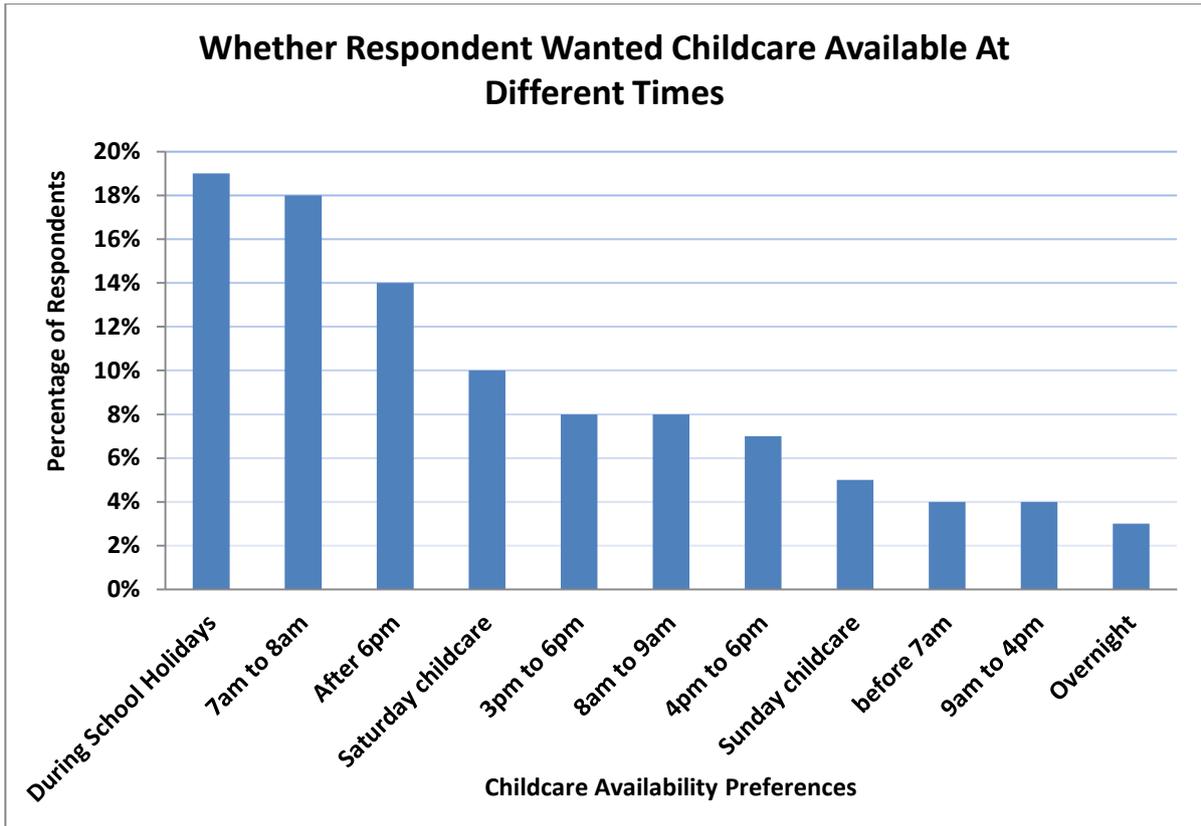
Ninety per cent of respondents wanted more affordable childcare, 73 per cent wanted more flexible sessions, 51 per cent wanted more childcare providers to choose from and 38 per cent wanted better quality childcare.



Respondents were asked if they would like their childcare to be available at different times and, if so, to tick all options that applied.

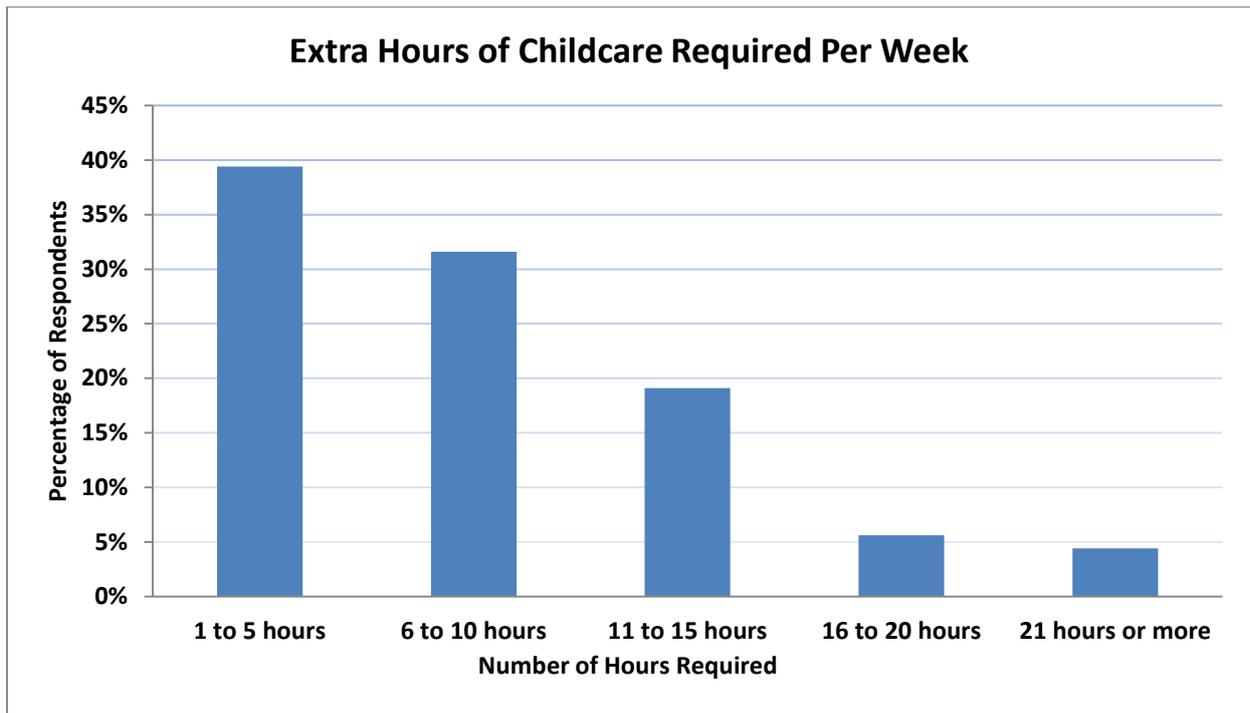
“Whatever is available now doesn’t suit workers on shift pattern.”

The number of responses for all options are shown below. The highest response was for childcare to be available during school holidays (19 per cent), followed by childcare between 7 am and 8 am (18 per cent) and childcare after 6 pm (14 per cent). The least popular options were overnight childcare (three per cent) and childcare from 9 am to 4 pm (four per cent). It is assumed the response to childcare from 9 am to 4 pm is low because parents are already using childcare between these times.



Thirteen per cent of respondents wanted childcare to be available at a different location and of these 64 per cent wanted childcare closer to home. Fourteen per cent wanted childcare closer to work or study and 10 per cent wanted childcare closer to a sibling's school.

Thirty-seven per cent of respondents wanted to use more childcare. Of those the majority (40 per cent) wanted an extra one to five hours per week followed by six to 10 hours per week (32 per cent). Few wanted 21 hours or more per week.

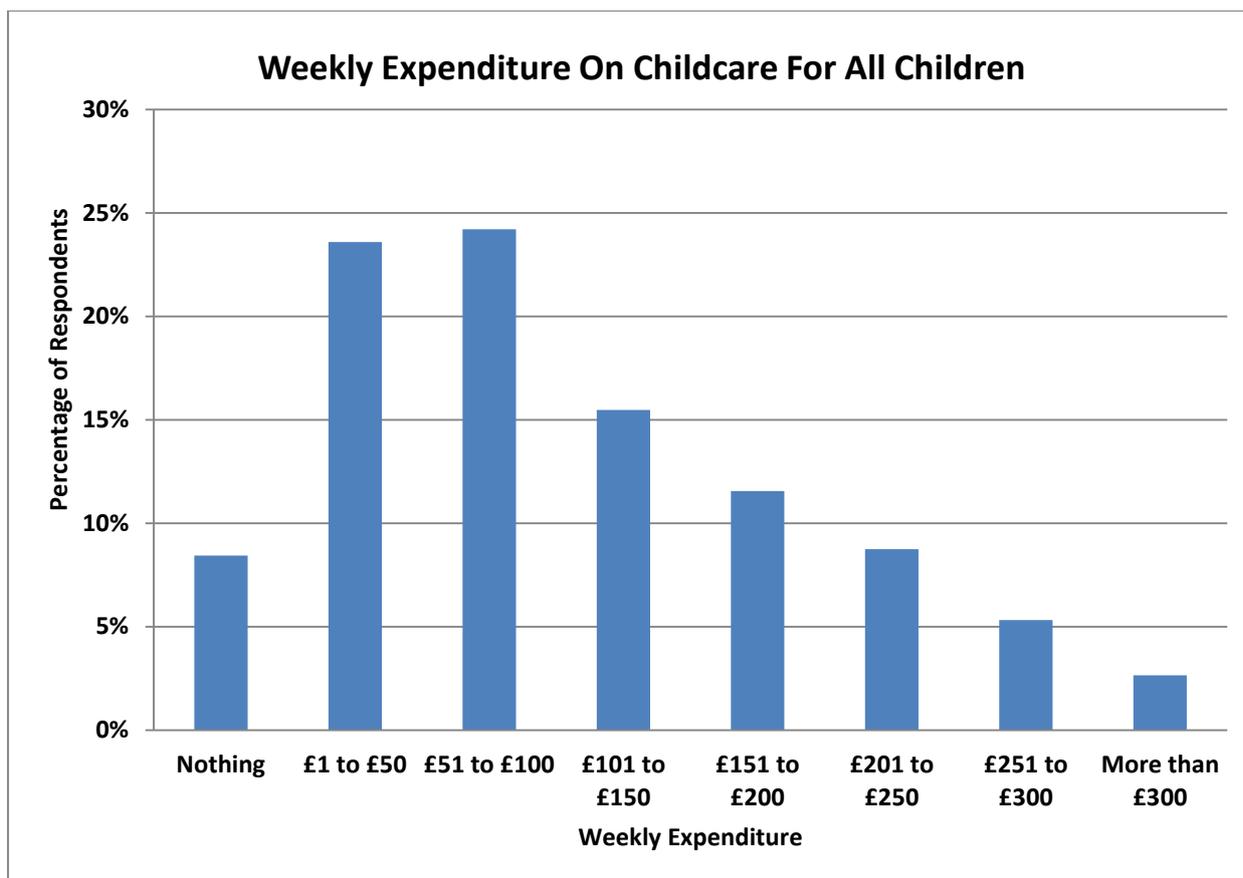


7.1.22 Paying for Childcare

Respondents were asked how much they spent on childcare in a typical week. Forty-eight per cent of respondents were paying less than £100 a week for childcare for all their children. This is considerably less than the maximum amount of £300 per week which can be claimed as the childcare element of Working Tax Credit.

These responses are only from those *using* childcare, but this may include informal childcare provided by friends and family for which parents are less likely to pay. It also includes parents of two, three and four year olds eligible for the early years free entitlement.

Twenty-nine per cent of respondents were paying more than £150 a week for their childcare. Eight per cent were paying more than £250 a week.



In terms of average cost paid, the mean average per week was £125 and the median was £75. This has increased since 2011 when the mean average was £78 and the median was £58 per week. National data shows that the mean average amount that parents pay per week for childcare is £53, whilst the median is £23.¹¹

This year's questionnaire offered cost ranges to choose from whereas the 2011 CSA survey provided a text box to put the exact amount. Therefore, it was not possible to calculate an exact mean average and median for comparison and instead mid ranges have been given.

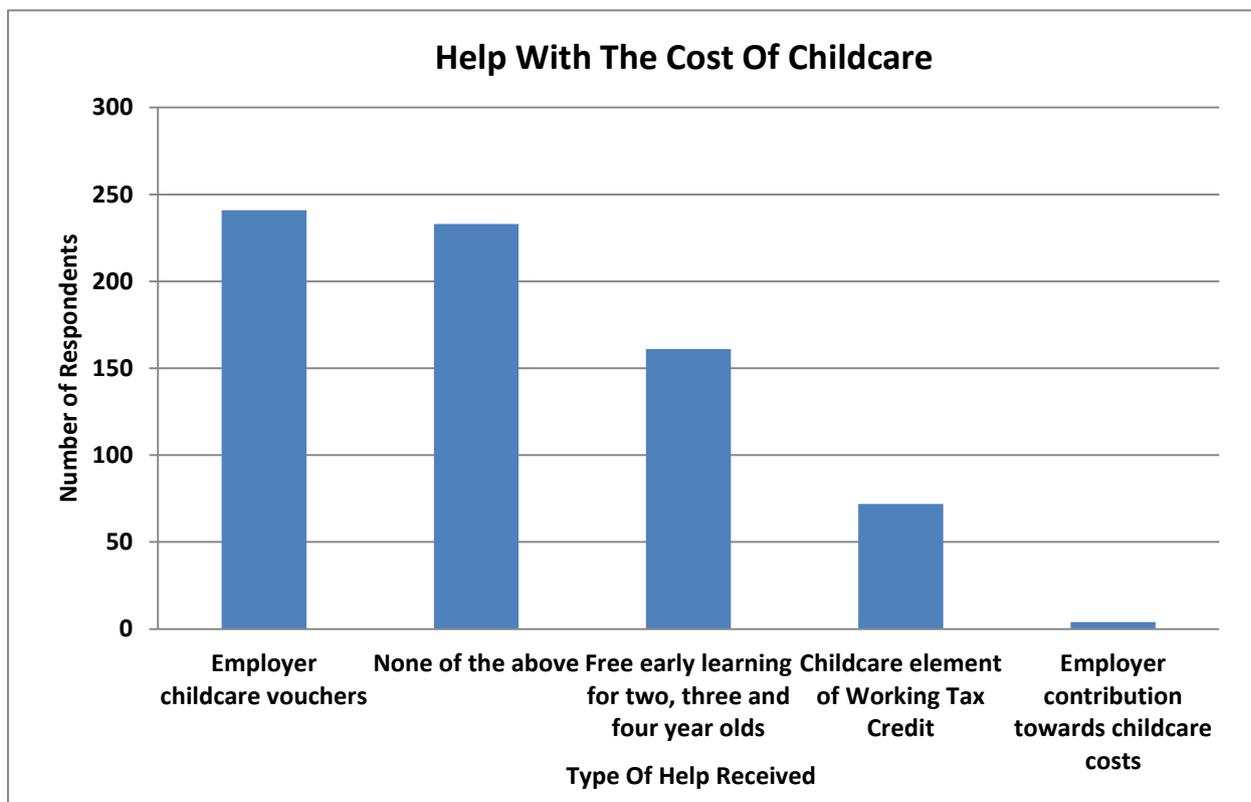
From this data it would appear that parents in Brighton & Hove are paying more each week for their childcare than is the case nationally. However, data for Brighton & Hove includes a larger percentage of younger children than the national data and this may partly account for the higher childcare costs. The number of respondents spending "Nothing" on childcare are likely to be under-represented in the results because these parents are less likely to respond to a self-selection survey about childcare.

7.1.23 Help with Childcare Costs

Thirty-three per cent of respondents did not get any help with childcare costs. However, 67 per cent did and of those, 34 per cent received employer childcare

¹¹ The mean weekly payment is much higher than the median because some families spend a very large amount on childcare (the mean is more influenced by outlying values than the median). *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015* Research Report DFE-SFR09

vouchers,¹² 23 per cent received early years free entitlement for two, three and four year olds, 10 per cent received the childcare element of Working Tax Credit, and one per cent received an employer contribution towards childcare costs. No respondents said that they were in receipt of Care to Learn.¹³



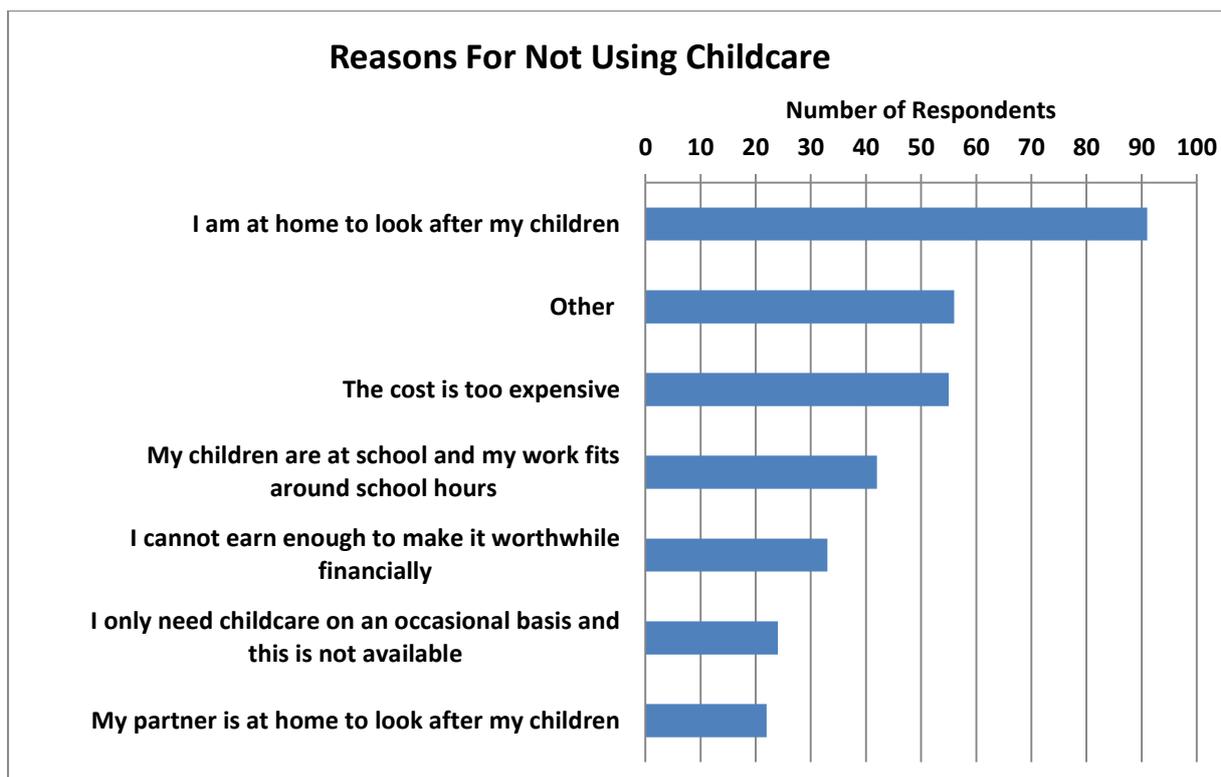
7.1.24 Reasons for Not Using Childcare

Respondents were asked about their reasons for not using childcare and were given a list of reasons and asked to tick up to three and rank in order of priority.

The most frequent response given was “I am at home to look after my children”. The next most common answers were “The cost is too expensive” followed by “My children are at school and my work fits around school hours”. Trends are similar to those in the 2011 CSA parent survey. Other answers selected by fewer than ten respondents have been added to those who selected “Other”.

¹² If an employer provides childcare vouchers which can be used by employees to pay for Ofsted registered childcare the employee does not have to pay Income Tax or National Insurance contributions on the first £55 per week. Childcare vouchers will eventually be replaced by tax free childcare

¹³ Care to Learn is for young parents (aged under 20) who are studying and helps towards childcare costs



National data indicates parental preferences and choice were the key factors in deciding whether or not to use childcare. Around two-thirds of parents said that they preferred to look after their children themselves rather than to use childcare. The most commonly cited barrier to using childcare, relating to constraints, was the cost of childcare.¹⁴

The Brighton & Hove survey did not distinguish between parents who were at home looking after their children through choice or because of a restriction such as the cost of childcare. In the national survey 12 per cent of parents stated that they were not using childcare because they could not afford it, which is less than the 17 per cent in Brighton & Hove who said that they did not use childcare because it was too expensive.

7.1.25 Reasons for Not Using Childcare Responses for Children of All Ages

For those with pre-school children, by far the most frequent response was “I am at home to look after my children”. This was followed by “The cost is too expensive”.

For those with children aged five to 11, the most frequent answer was “I am at home to look after my children”, followed by “The cost is too expensive” and “My children are at school and my work fits around school hours”.

7.1.26 Consequences of Lack of Available Childcare

This section looks at the consequences of lack of available childcare and the data is for those not using childcare.

¹⁴ *Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2014 to 2015* Research Report DFE-SFR09

Respondents were given a list of options and could tick all that applied to them. Options included whether lack of childcare was preventing return to work, working longer hours, changing jobs, working more flexibly, from entering education or training, or other.

The most common answers were preventing parents from returning to work, working more flexibly and working longer hours.

“I am on maternity leave but when I return to work my partner will leave his job to look after our child as the cost of childcare exceeds his wage after tax and commuting costs are taken into account.”

“I can't work or attend training in London as that starts at nine and I need childcare from the time I would need to get on the train. My husband works nights in order to pick child up from school so can't also be there early in the morning.”

7.1.27 Future Childcare Needs

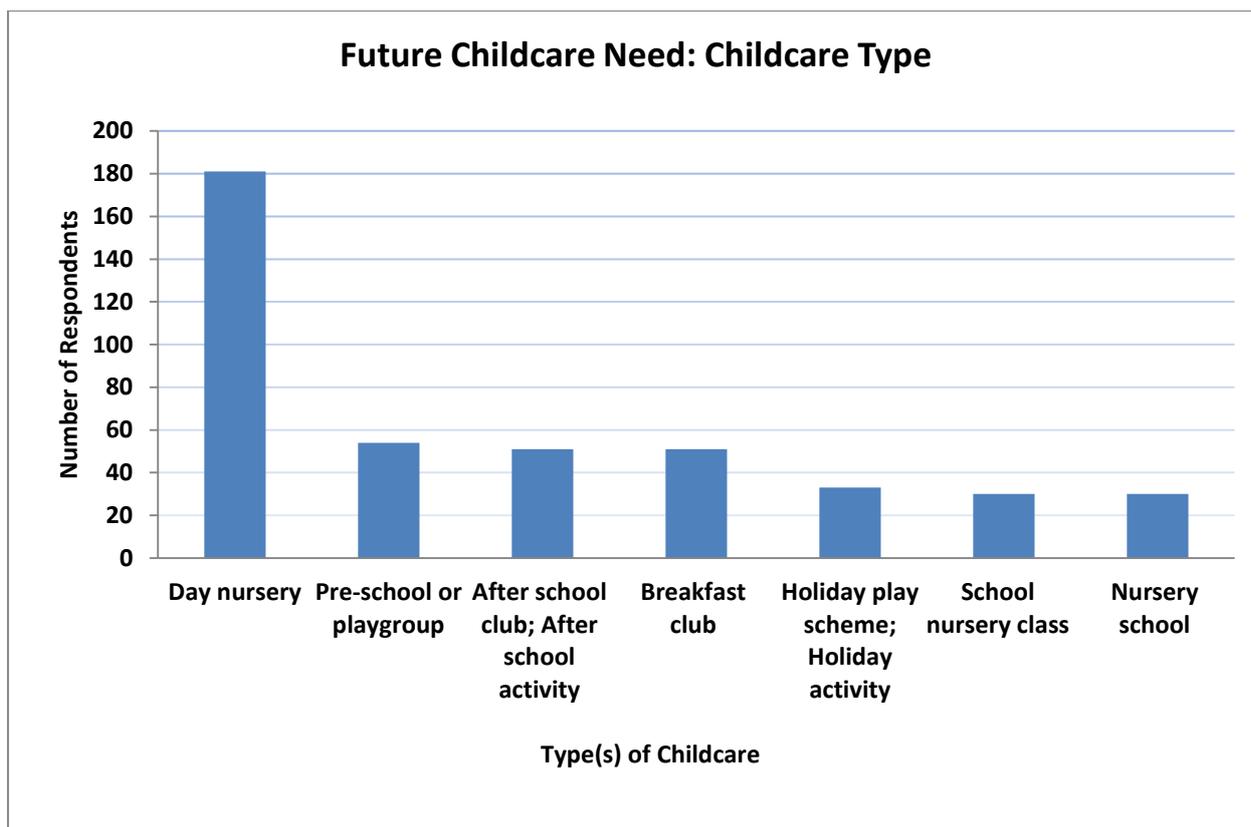
The responses to this section are from all respondents, including those who currently used childcare. The intention was to discover childcare needs in the next 18 months.

The data gives some indication of future demand for childcare. However, it does not indicate whether that childcare will be available to the parent in the future. For example, a parent with a four year old currently in full day care may know that they will need an after-school club in the next 18 months when their child starts school. They may already have secured a place in such a club at their child's future school. On the other hand, a parent may already have a school-age child and indicate their need for an after-school club because there is not one at their child's school, or there are no spaces available.

To a large extent, future childcare need will be determined by children growing older, rather than parents needing something that they cannot currently obtain.

7.1.28 Future Childcare Need: Childcare Type

Respondents were asked “Which of the following type(s) of childcare do you think you may need over the next 18 months?” Respondents could tick as many types as applied. The most popular selection was “Day nursery” (42 per cent).



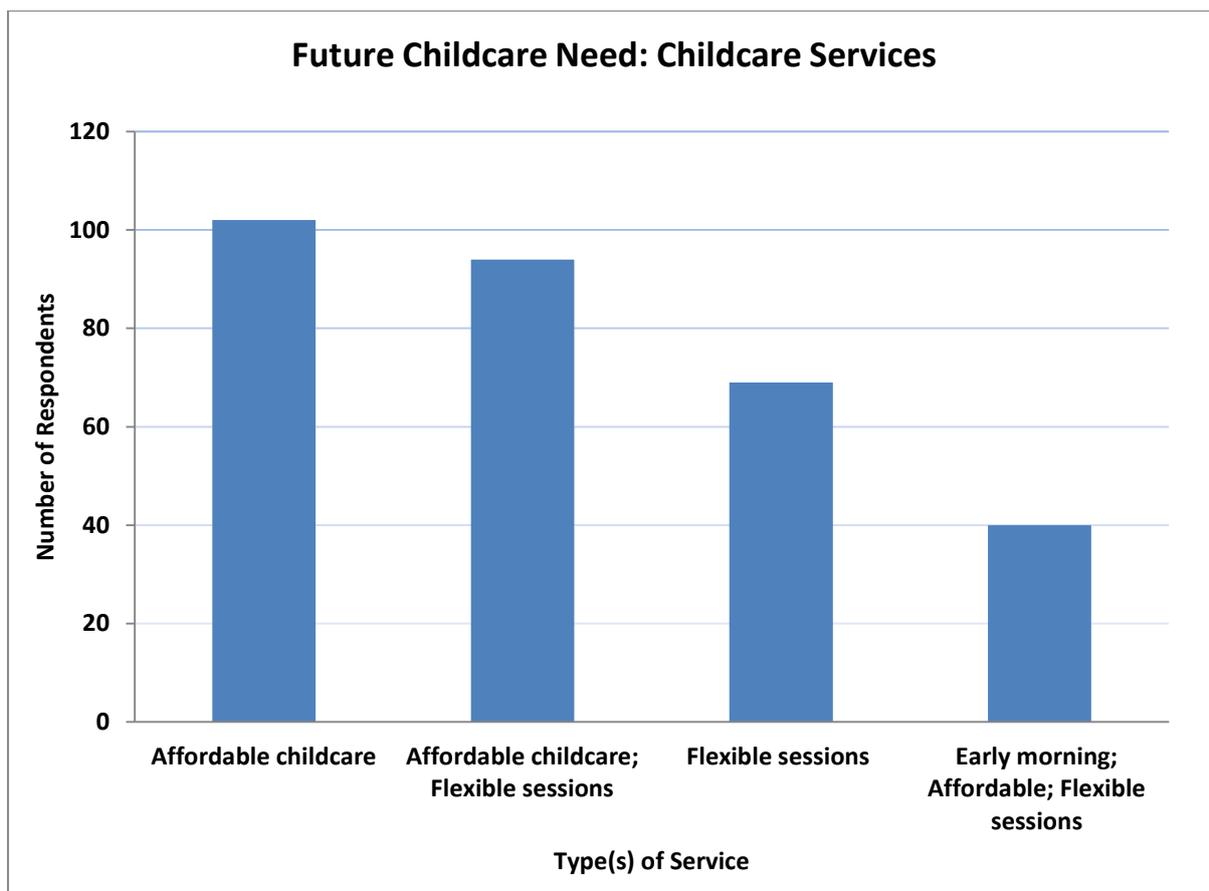
In the 2011 CSA parent survey, the most frequent response was after-school club in 39 per cent of cases followed by day nursery in 34 per cent of cases and after-school activity in 33 per cent of cases. In this survey the majority of respondents had pre-school-aged children which would account for this difference.

7.1.29 Future Childcare Need: Childcare Services

Questionnaire respondents were also given a list of possible childcare services that they might need over the next 18 months. Again they could tick as many types as applied.

The highest number of responses were for “Affordable childcare” followed by “Flexible sessions, i.e. drop-ins or a few hours” and “Early morning childcare (before 8am)”. More than 100 respondents selected each of these.

“Flexible or drop in childcare would be very beneficial for myself. I am about to start college (evening) and will have placements to attend during the day for a couple of weeks here and there throughout the year. It is very difficult to arrange childcare for short periods of time.”



Respondents mentioning any future childcare need, by type, are shown below.

| Type of childcare | Total Number | Per Cent |
|---|--------------|----------|
| Affordable childcare | 381 | 47 |
| Flexible sessions e.g. drop in or a few hours | 304 | 38 |
| Early morning childcare before 8 am | 183 | 23 |
| Evening childcare after 6 pm | 121 | 15 |
| Saturday childcare | 83 | 10 |
| Sunday childcare | 51 | 6 |
| Overnight childcare | 48 | 6 |
| Care for a child who is disabled or has special needs | 23 | 3 |
| Care which meets my child's religious or cultural needs | 10 | 1 |

7.2 Family Information Service

7.2.1 Information for Parents About Childcare

Local childcare information is provided to parents through the Family Information Service directory at <http://www.familyinfobrighton.org.uk>. FIS also publishes information and a range of factsheets about childcare on the council's website; these pages received more than 10,000 visits in 2015.

Parents can also telephone FIS for additional information or for brokerage where they cannot find the childcare they need. FIS received more than 1,700 telephone calls about childcare during 2015.

7.2.2 FIS Brokerage

FIS operates a brokerage service to help parents who have difficulty finding childcare. Enquiries came from parents who could not find childcare to meet their needs, particularly if they were working irregular or long hours, or an unusual shift pattern. There were also some cases where the parent wanted after-school provision but there were no places available in the school's club or in clubs which picked up from the school, or with local childminders.

Brokerage is particularly provided to parents where at home childcare is the best option to suit their needs. This may be because they have a child with SEND whose needs can best be met at home, if they work irregular hours or have a number of children with different schedules. Brokerage is also offered to all parents who have not taken up EYFE for their two year old.

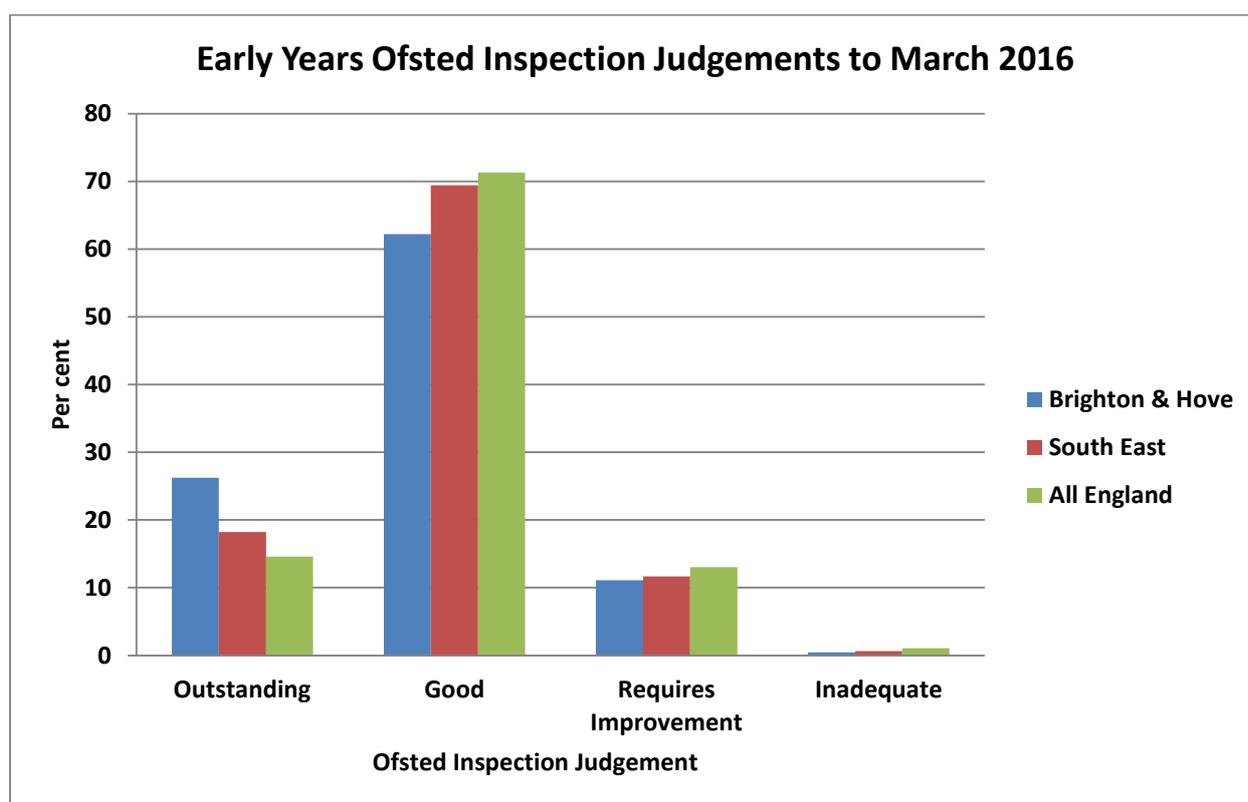
In 2015 FIS offered additional support to 67 parents seeking at home childcare. In addition, they supported 20 referrals from the local children's safeguarding team, in the main to facilitate parents attending meetings in connection with social services' support or child protection.

8. Childcare Quality

8.1 Childcare Quality and Ofsted Data

This section looks at childcare quality in Brighton & Hove based on Ofsted inspection judgements. Where possible and relevant data has been compared with national data, and data reported in the 2014 CSA.

8.1.1 Early Years Ofsted Inspection Judgements¹⁵

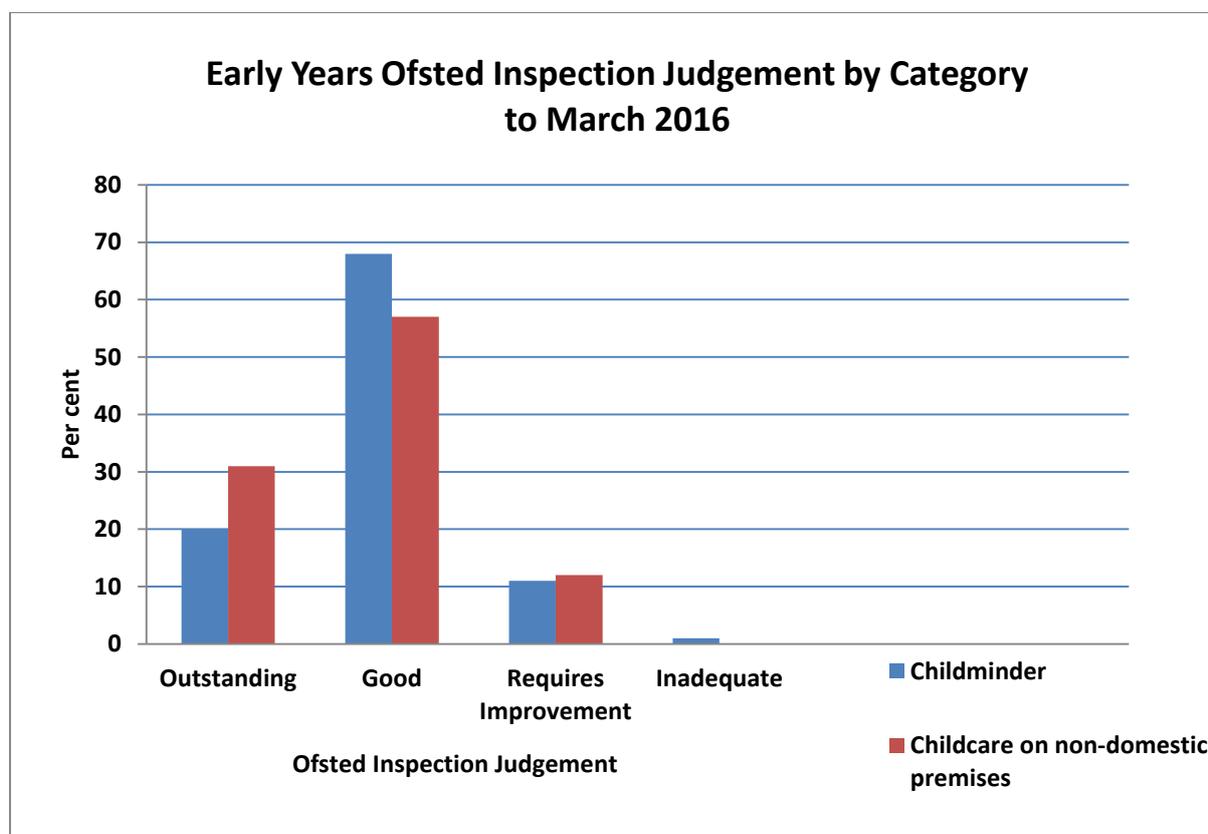


Brighton & Hove's figure of 26 per cent of providers outstanding compares favourably with the equivalent figure for the south east (18 per cent) and England as a whole (15 per cent). Providers who are outstanding and good in Brighton & Hove amount to 88 per cent, the same as the figure for the south east, and two per cent higher than the figure for England.

In 2014 the outstanding and good figure for Brighton & Hove was 85 per cent, and so this is a three per cent improvement on the last CSA.

¹⁵ Based on "overall effectiveness" of active early years registered providers based upon their last Ofsted inspection

8.1.2 Early Years Ofsted Inspection Judgements in Brighton & Hove by Category¹⁶



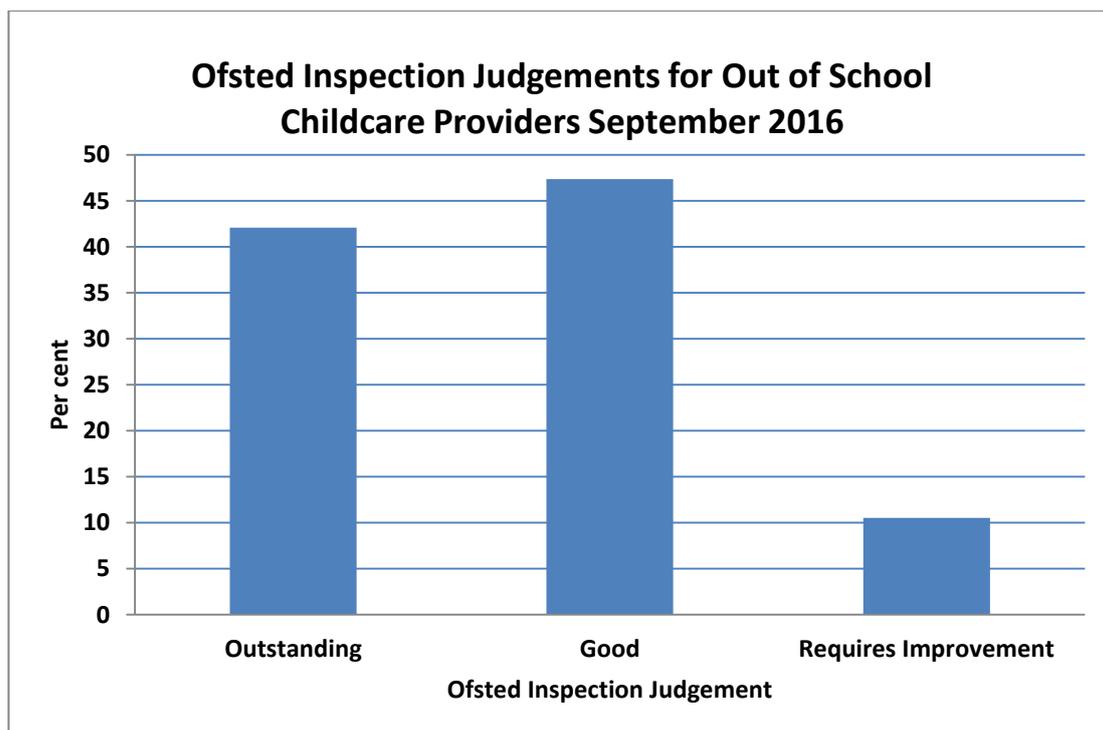
Ofsted inspection judgements for childminders in Brighton & Hove compare favourably with those in the south east and England as a whole with 88 per cent outstanding and good (south east 86 per cent and England 83 per cent). With 20 per cent of its childminders outstanding Brighton & Hove is in the 88th percentile.

8.1.3 Ofsted Inspection Judgements for Out of School Childcare Providers

Out of school childcare providers will receive a quality judgement from Ofsted if they offer care to early years children, and are not part of school provision. In Brighton & Hove 89 per cent of out of school providers are outstanding or good.¹⁷

¹⁶ Separating childcare on non-domestic premises and childminders

¹⁷ Excludes providers offering holiday care only. There is no national data with which to compare as out of school judgements are not reported separately from all childcare on non-domestic premises



8.1.4 Childcare Quality Children’s Centre Nurseries

Childcare quality in Brighton & Hove’s council-run nurseries and pre-schools is also high, with all judged good or outstanding (86 per cent in 2014). This is significant as they tend to be located in the most disadvantaged areas of the city and take a large number of two year olds in receipt of Early Years Free Entitlement.

8.2 Early Years Free Entitlement Quality Two Year Olds¹⁸

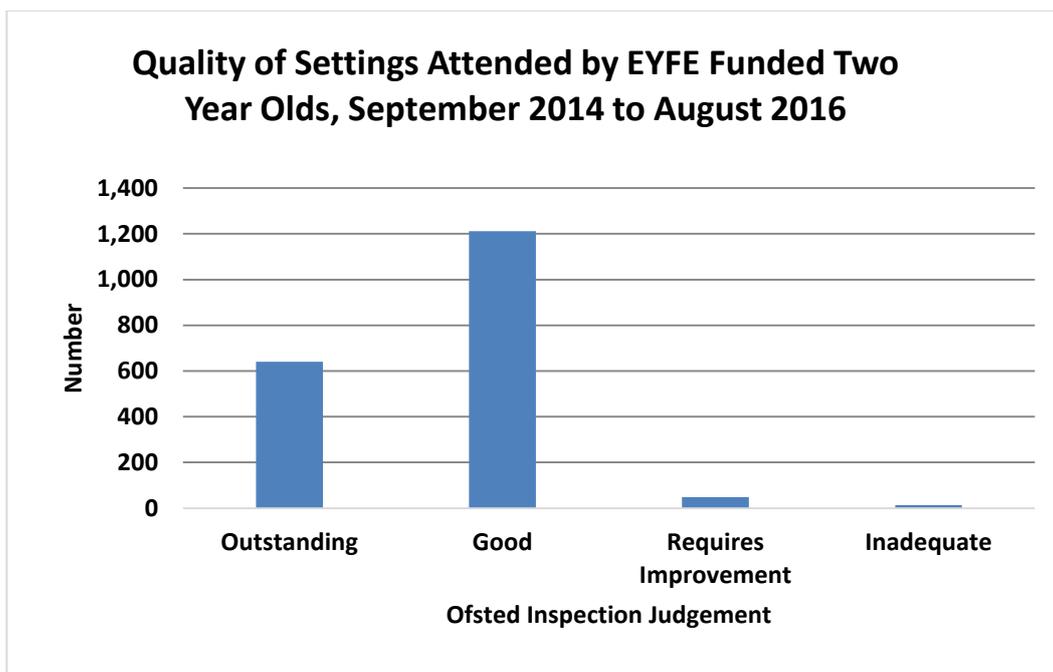
Since 2009 some two year olds from low income families have been entitled to a free childcare place or early years free entitlement (EYFE). From September 2014 this has been a statutory entitlement for approximately 40 per cent of two year olds nationally.

Between September 2014 and the end of August 2016 2,068 two year olds received EYFE at 151 different childcare settings (102 in 2014). In total 97 per cent of funded two year olds attended a setting which was good or outstanding¹⁹ (95 per cent in 2014).²⁰

¹⁸ Early years free entitlement is for 15 hours a week 38 weeks a year (or 570 hours all year round). All children are entitled to this from the term after their third birthday. In addition two year olds in low income households, who are disabled, in care of the local authority or adopted from care are also eligible from the term after their second birthday

¹⁹ A small number of children started at a setting rated good which subsequently received an “inadequate” Ofsted inspection judgement. Children then moved from these settings

²⁰ Data excludes children at a setting which has not yet received an Ofsted quality inspection judgement



Children’s centre nurseries play an important role in providing EYFE for two year olds. Between September 2014 and August 2016 they provided places for 417 children, 22 per cent of the total number.

Brighton & Hove has performed well nationally in terms of the take-up of EYFE by eligible two year olds. Data from the January 2016 census showed that 88 per cent of eligible two year olds took up a childcare place, compared with 68 per cent nationally. This placed the city seventh of 152 local authorities in England.

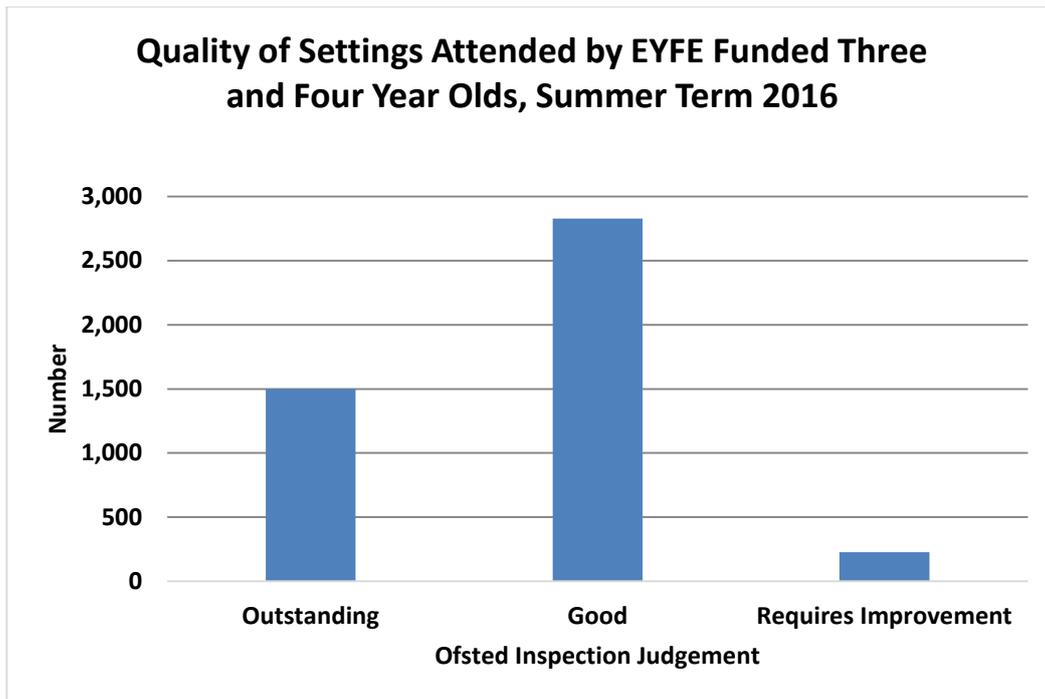
Two year olds also attend early years settings which are high quality based upon the qualifications of staff working directly with children. Of those going to settings in the private, voluntary and independent sectors²¹, 73 per cent attended a setting where there is a teacher²² working directly with children, compared with the national average of 44 per cent. This places Brighton & Hove fourth of 152 English local authorities.

8.3 Early Years Free Entitlement Quality Three and Four Year Olds

The quality of settings attended by EYFE funded three and four year olds in the summer term of 2016 is shown below.

²¹ Seventy per cent of two year olds in receipt of EYFE do so in the private, voluntary and independent sectors

²² Early Years Teacher, Qualified Teacher or Early Years Professional status



In the summer term of 2016 95 per cent of children attended a setting rated good or outstanding (93 per cent in 2014).²³

Three and four year olds also attend early years settings which are high quality based upon the qualifications of staff working directly with children. Of those going to settings in the private, voluntary and independent sectors²⁴, 75 per cent attended a setting where there is a teacher²⁵ working directly with children, compared with the national average of 44 per cent. This places Brighton & Hove third of 152 English local authorities.

²³ Data excludes children at a setting which has not yet received an Ofsted quality inspection judgement

²⁴ Seventy one per cent of three and four year olds receive their EYFE in the private, voluntary and independent sectors

²⁵ Early Years Teacher, Qualified Teacher or Early Years Professional status

9. Childcare Supply

This section of the CSA looks at childcare supply. Supply data was collected during the spring and summer of 2016.

Where actual data was not available supply data is based on an updated estimate of previous data. Vacancy information is not reported as accurate data cannot be obtained.

Supply data relates to formal registered childcare, as well as childcare provided by schools. It does not include after-school activities, extended days offered by independent schools for activities such as sports, or informal childcare such as that provided by family and friends.

Where possible and relevant data is compared with previous CSAs.

9.1 Childcare Definitions

The following childcare definitions have been used:

- **Full day care**

Care for children aged from birth to five open for at least eight hours a day. Most of these settings are also open all year round. Full day care includes that categorised by Ofsted as childcare on domestic premises, i.e. caring for children in a childminder's home with at least three other people.

- **Sessional care**

Care for children aged birth to five open fewer than eight hours a day. Most of these settings are open term time only and many offer separate morning and afternoon sessions. Sessional care includes provision of early education by maintained schools and nurseries, as well as that offered by independent schools. No sessional care in Brighton & Hove takes children under the age of two.

- **After-school clubs**

Provision for school-age children operating outside the school day, run by maintained primary schools and private and voluntary sector providers. Some full day care providers offer a limited number of after-school places, often for younger school-age children, through a pick-up service from local schools. This category does not include individual activity clubs run by schools or other organisations which are not specifically intended as childcare, including those run by independent schools.

- **Childminders**

Those taking care of children in a home that is not the child's own (usually their own) with up to two other people. Most childminders care for children under the age of five, but many also care for school-age children. Childminders may now also spend up to

half their time caring for children away from their (the childminder's home). Childminding can now also be offered through childminder agencies, but there are none of these in Brighton & Hove or in East or West Sussex.²⁶

- **Breakfast clubs**

Provision for children before school starts, usually on a school site and run by the school.

- **Holiday playschemes**

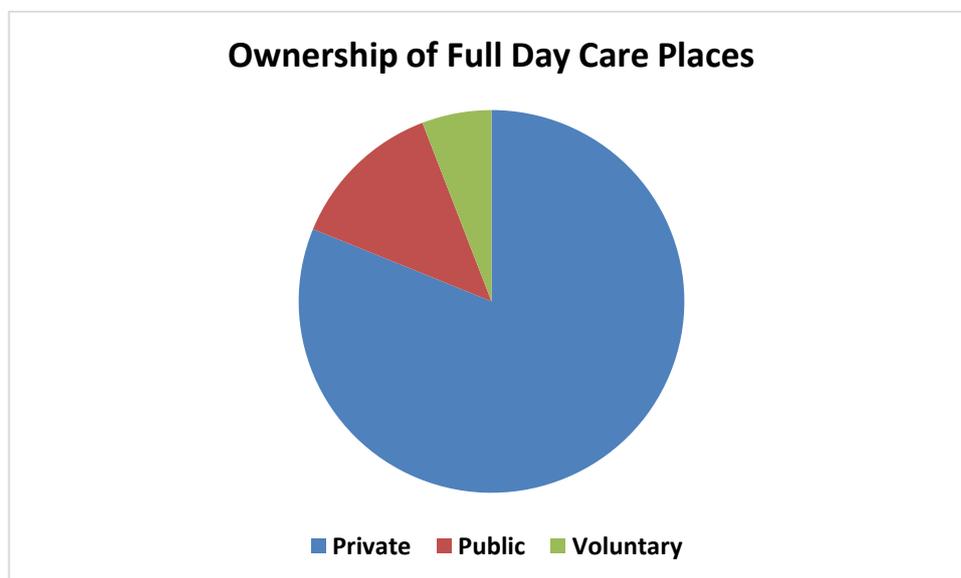
Provision for school-age children in all or some of the school holidays. Most are run by private, voluntary and independent providers, though they may also be run by schools themselves.

- **Maintained nursery school/class**

Standalone nursery schools maintained by Brighton & Hove City Council (there are two of these in the city) and nursery classes which are part of maintained infant or primary schools (there are 18 of these in the city).

9.2 Ownership of Childcare Provision

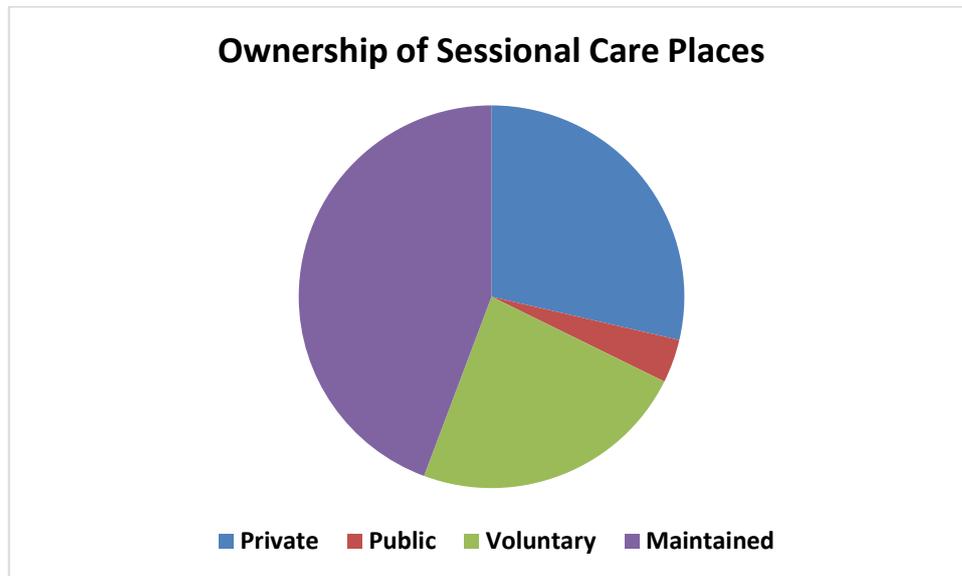
Ownership of full day care places by type is shown below. Public refers to settings owned by the local authority, universities or health trusts. Maintained refers to childcare run by local authority maintained schools.



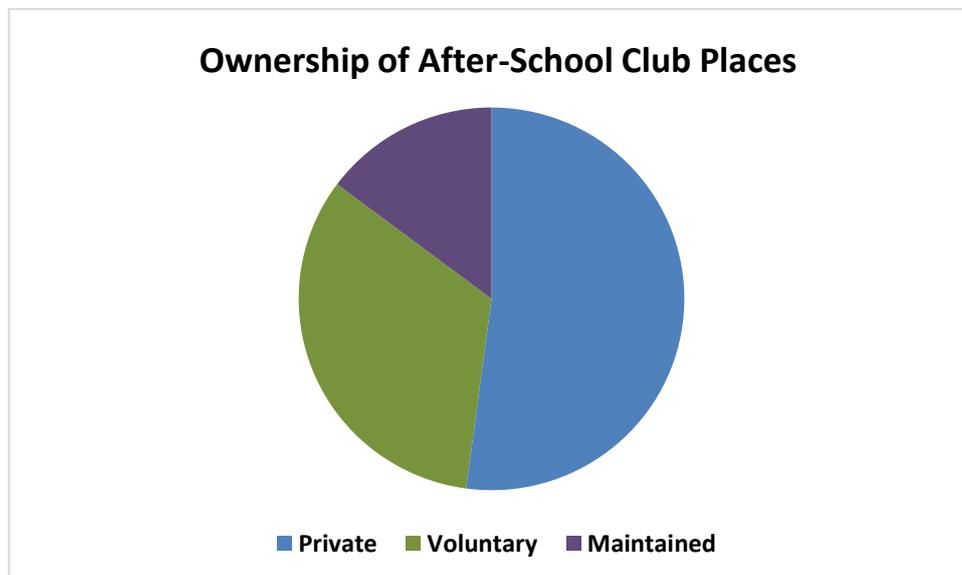
Most full day care in Brighton & Hove is privately owned; the proportion of places privately owned has increased since 2014.

²⁶ Childminder agencies register childminders and give training, business support, advice and help finding suitable parents

Ownership of sessional care places is shown below. Compared with full day care a far greater proportion of such places are in the maintained and voluntary sectors.



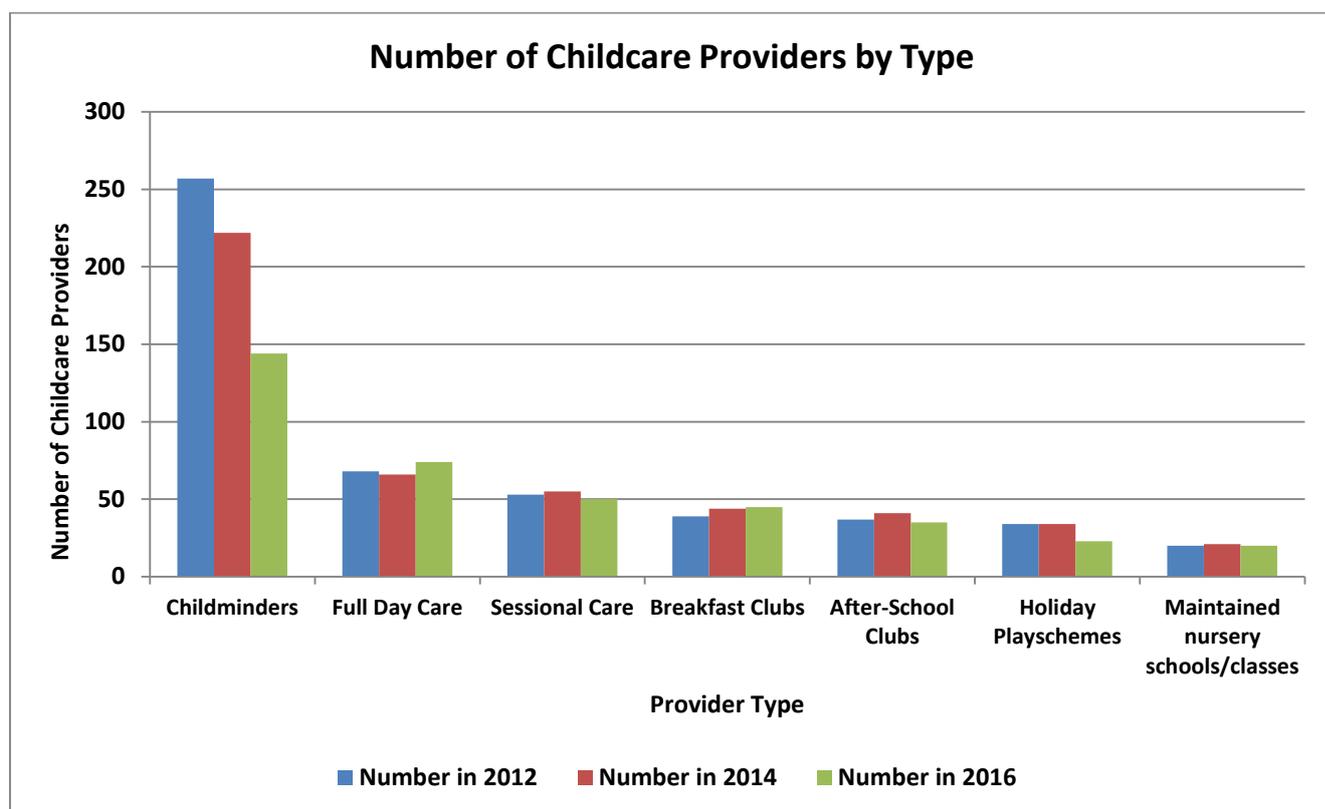
Since 2014 some after-school club places have moved from the private to the voluntary sector, with the closure of privately-run clubs in some schools and their re-opening by not-for-profit organisations.



9.3 City-Wide Childcare Supply

City-wide childcare supply is shown below in terms of both providers and places, by provider type.

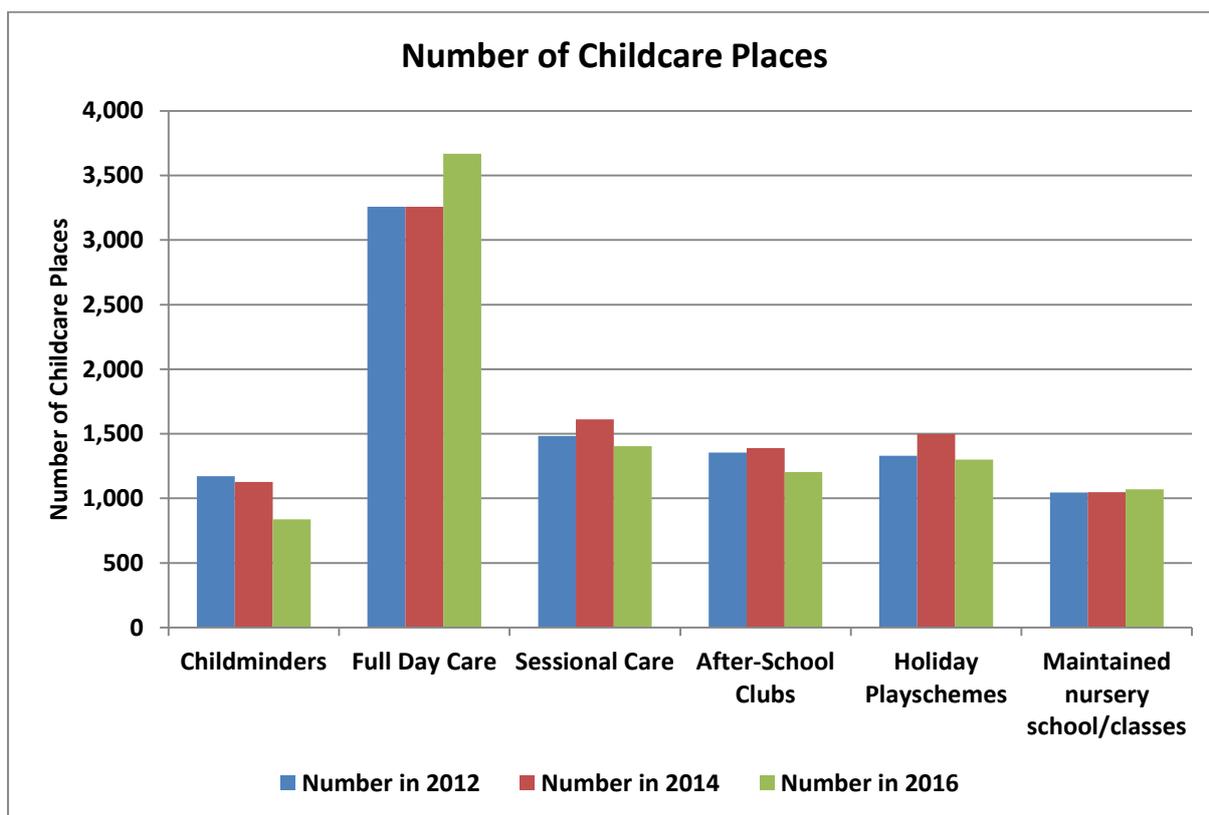
9.3.1 Childcare Providers, by Type



The most significant change since 2012 has been the reduction in the number of childminders. This is partly because a small number have converted to childcare on domestic premises, and hence categorised as full day care. National data shows a fall in the number of childminders on the early years register of 15 per cent between March 2014 and March 2016; the equivalent figure for Brighton & Hove is 22 per cent, and so a more significant decrease. In the south east the reduction in childminders on the early years register has been 17 per cent over this period; all 19 south east authorities have seen a reduction in the number of childminders ranging from eight to 25 per cent.

There has been an increase in full day care provision, as well as breakfast clubs. There has been a reduction in after-school clubs, holiday playschemes and sessional care. However some new after-school clubs are now in development, and in many cases schools offer activities after school which parents may use as childcare.

The change in the number of childcare places (as opposed to the number of childcare providers) is shown below. There has been an increase in the number of full day care places and a very small increase in the number of maintained nursery school/class places. There has been a reduction in all other childcare type places. It should be noted that Ofsted no longer publish a “registered number” of places for a childcare provider and therefore there can be a significant variation in the number of places a childcare provider offers, depending on demand. This is particularly the case for out of school care, that is holiday playschemes and after-school clubs, particularly since staff:child ratio requirements have been relaxed. The drop in childminder places is consistent with the drop in childminder numbers.



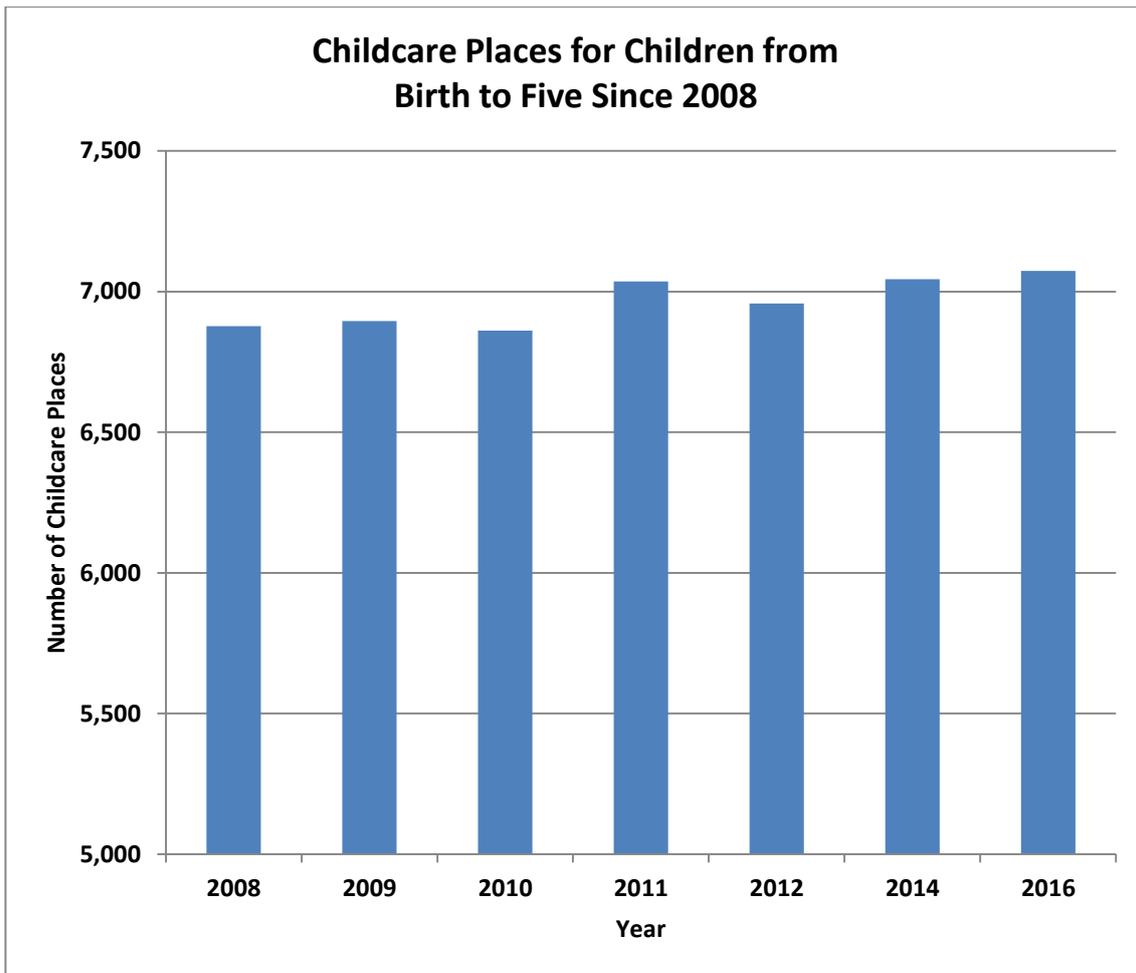
Nationally there has been a fall of 13 per cent (from 29,458 to 25,547) between March 2009 and March 2016 in the number of childcare providers²⁷ on the early years register. Over the same period there has been an increase of 10 per cent (from 134 to 148) in Brighton & Hove, which suggests that the childcare market in the city may, in places, be different from the national picture.

There is no clear information on the reason why the fall in the number of childminders has been greater in Brighton & Hove than the national reduction.

9.3.2 Places for Children from Birth to Five

The change in the number of places for children aged from birth to five since 2008 is shown below. All childminding places have been included (although some of these are offered for children over five) as they are generally more available to pre-school children.

²⁷ No national data on childcare places from 2008 was found



Since 2008 there has been a three per cent increase in the number of childcare places in Brighton & Hove for children from birth to age five.

9.3.3 Access to Childcare for School-Age Children

This section looks at before and after-school childcare for children attending maintained schools.

Of 54 primary²⁸ schools, 48 have onsite breakfast clubs, with an additional three offering provision at a neighbouring schools with a drop off service. Three do not have breakfast provision, though in two cases childminders state that they offer a drop-off service.

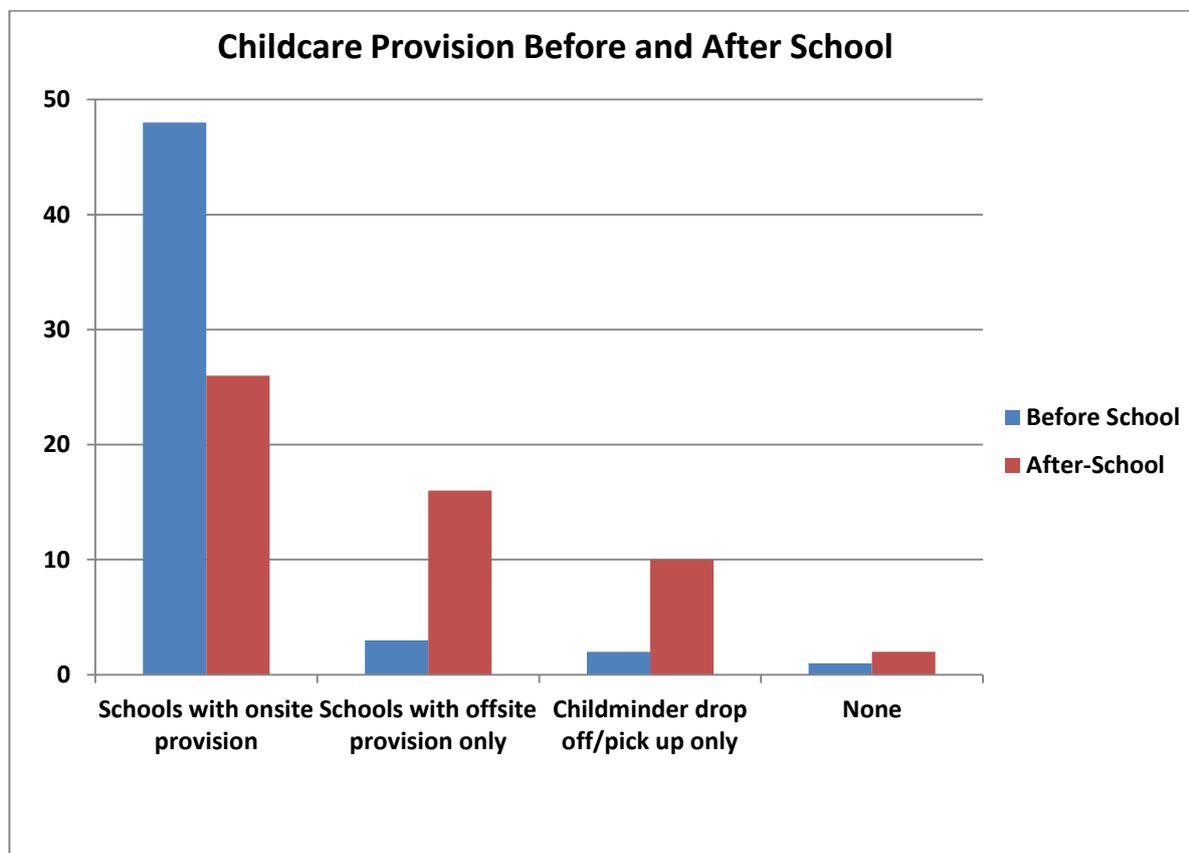
Twenty-six schools have onsite after-school clubs²⁹, and 16 have offsite provision, including pick-up services from local providers.³⁰ There are 10 schools where childminders state that they offer a pick-up service, but there is no on or offsite club.

²⁸ Primary includes infant and junior schools

²⁹ Some of these also have offsite providers who pick up from the school

³⁰ These can be provision on other local school sites, and in some cases at early years providers who also offer after-school provision. There is one provider on purpose-built standalone premises

Two schools have no provision. However, in many cases schools offer activity clubs at the end of the school day which parents can use as childcare.



Many secondary schools (although not all) run breakfast clubs for their students.

Children at three of Brighton & Hove’s six special schools have access to inclusive after-school club provision run by a voluntary sector organisation.

From September 2016 parents and childcare providers have had the right to request wraparound and holiday childcare. This means that

- Parents can request that the school that their child attends considers establishing wraparound and/or holiday childcare, and
- Childcare providers can request to use facilities for wraparound and/or holiday provision at times when the school is not using them.

“Wraparound childcare” means before school childcare (for example breakfast clubs) and after-school childcare (for example regular provision that runs until 6 pm or later). “Holiday childcare” means childcare that is available through schools during the school holidays. The right to request refers to children from Reception up to the end of Year 9. In handling requests schools must act reasonably and be transparent about the process. Schools must make parents aware of their right to request wraparound and holiday childcare.

Since January 2016 childminders have been able to apply to Ofsted to work for half their total operating time away from their home, that is on non-domestic premises.

This has opened the opportunity for childminders to work on school and other sites and hence in partnership with schools.

9.3.4 Childcare Provision Penetration Rates Pre-School Children

Provision of childcare in relation to the local child population (aged four years and under) is shown below, and indicates the number of children per childcare place by type and ward. Childminding places are included, although they may be available to children up to the age of eight, not just for children aged four and under. Parents frequently use childcare outside the ward in which they live and therefore this data does not necessarily indicate difficulty in finding childcare for those living in particular areas.

| Ward | Number of Under Fives | Full Day Care | Sessional Care ³¹ | Childminding |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Brunswick & Adelaide | 426 | n/a | 10.4 | 22.4 |
| Central Hove | 478 | 5.0 | 21.7 | 31.9 |
| East Brighton | 789 | 3.3 | 5.5 | 65.8 |
| Goldsmid | 944 | 1.3 | 10.3 | 23.0 |
| Hangleton & Knoll | 878 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 18.3 |
| Hanover & Elm Grove | 853 | 4.3 | 8.2 | 10.0 |
| Hollingdean & Stanmer | 739 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 11.0 |
| Hove Park | 552 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 19.7 |
| Moulsecoomb & Bevendean | 736 | 19.9 | 5.8 | 24.5 |
| North Portslade | 661 | 11.0 | 7.9 | 13.0 |
| Patcham | 849 | 7.7 | 5.7 | 11.8 |
| Preston Park | 885 | 4.0 | 13.6 | 16.7 |
| Queen's Park | 624 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 14.9 |
| Regency | 333 | 5.2 | 3.3 | 33.3 |
| Rottingdean Coastal | 581 | 5.8 | 4.3 | 21.5 |
| South Portslade | 638 | 7.2 | 3.8 | 10.8 |
| St Peter's & North Laine | 721 | 5.2 | 11.1 | 36.1 |
| Westbourne | 599 | 4.0 | 8.3 | 33.3 |
| Wish | 624 | 1.0 | 26.0 | 14.5 |
| Withdean | 830 | 2.9 | 7.7 | 17.3 |
| Woodingdean | 552 | n/a | 3.3 | 12.8 |
| Brighton & Hove | 14,292 | 3.8 | 5.8 | 17.2 |

This shows uneven distribution of different types of childcare. For full day care it ranges from one child per childcare place in Wish and 1.3 in Goldsmid, to 19.9 in Moulsecoomb & Bevendean, with no full day care in Brunswick & Adelaide and Woodingdean.

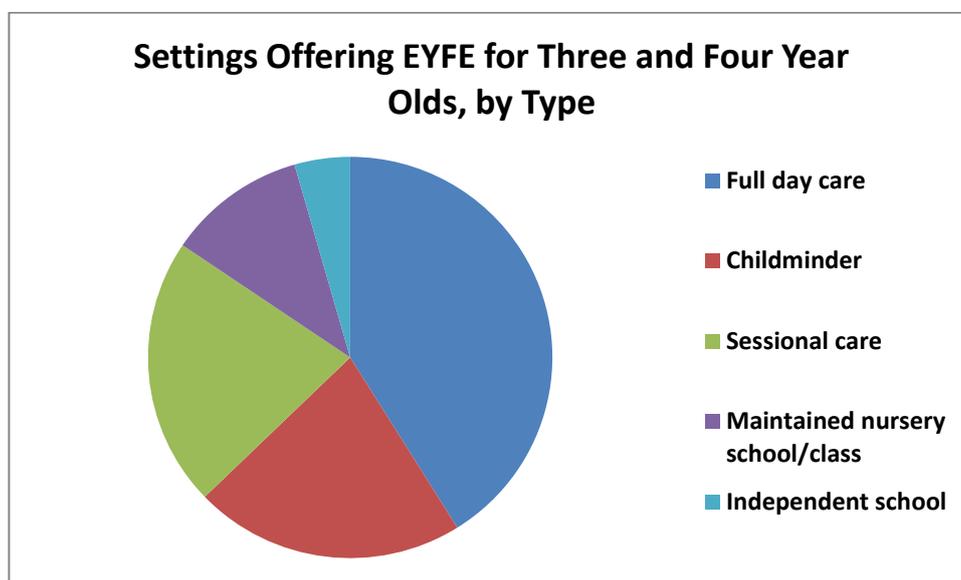
³¹ Including provision at maintained nursery schools and nursery classes

For sessional care the range is from 1.9 children per place in Queen’s Park, to 26 in Wish. The most childminding places per child are in Hanover & Elm Grove, with the fewest in East Brighton. However, the number of childminding places in East Brighton per child has increased since 2014 (from 199 children per place in 2014 to 65.8 now).

The average number of children per full day care place has reduced from four to 3.8 since 2014. The average number of children per childminding place has increased from 16.9 to 17.2. Sessional care places have been counted differently and so a direct comparison cannot be made.³²

9.3.5 Early Years Providers Offering EYFE for Three and Four Year Olds

There are 180 early years providers across the city offering early years free entitlement (EYFE) for three and four year olds.



Children’s attendance by type of setting is shown below.³³ Although 39 childminders offered EYFE, they provided places for one per cent of children. Full day care providers are by far the largest category with 57 per cent of children; the maintained sector provided for 19 per cent.

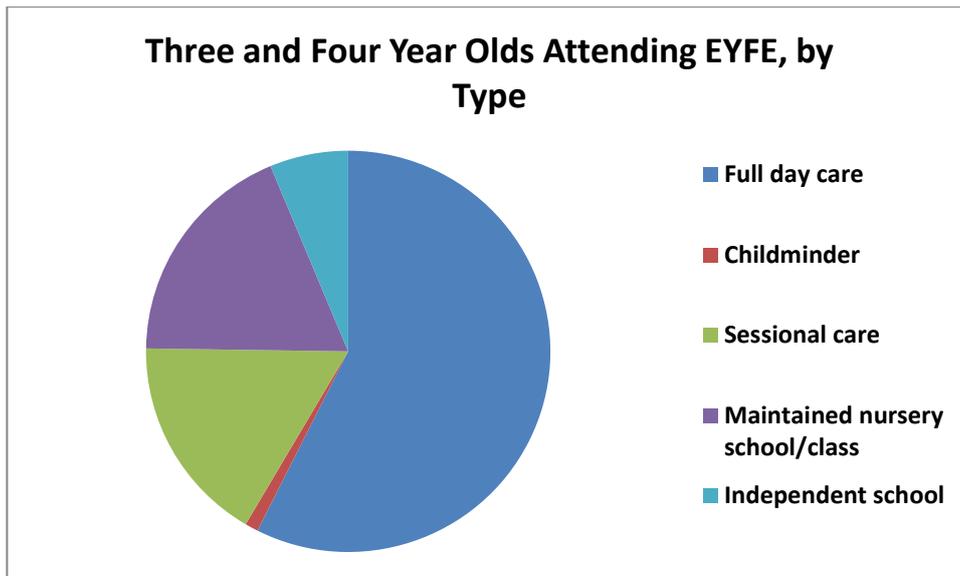
9.3.6 Three and Four Year Olds Children Taking up Their EYFE

Take up of EYFE by three and four year olds is very high at 99 per cent, compared with 96 per cent in the south east and 95 per cent in England as a whole. Brighton & Hove attracts children from East and West Sussex who come into the city to take up their EYFE.

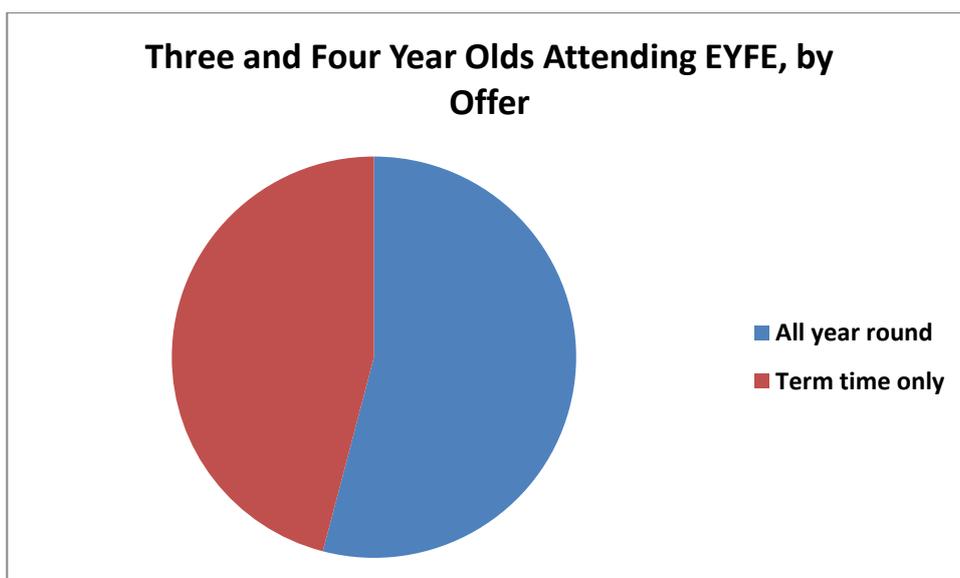
The types of setting children attend is shown below.

³² In this table sessional care includes that provided by maintained nursery schools and classes, which was omitted from the 2014 CSA

³³ Data from summer 2016



Both all year round and term time only providers offer EYFE. In some cases children go to a setting which is open all year round, but attend term time only. Of all year round settings, 82 per cent offer a “stretched” entitlement, meaning that children can take their 570 hours spread across the year.



In terms of attendance by ownership, 57 per cent of children attended a setting in the private sector (including independent schools and childminders), 29 per cent in the public sector (maintained nursery schools and classes, provision owned by the local authority and other public bodies) and 14 per cent in the voluntary sector. This has not changed since 2014.

Nursery classes in primary schools accounted for 15 per cent of children, and the two maintained nursery schools for four per cent. The equivalent national figures are 21 per cent and three per cent.

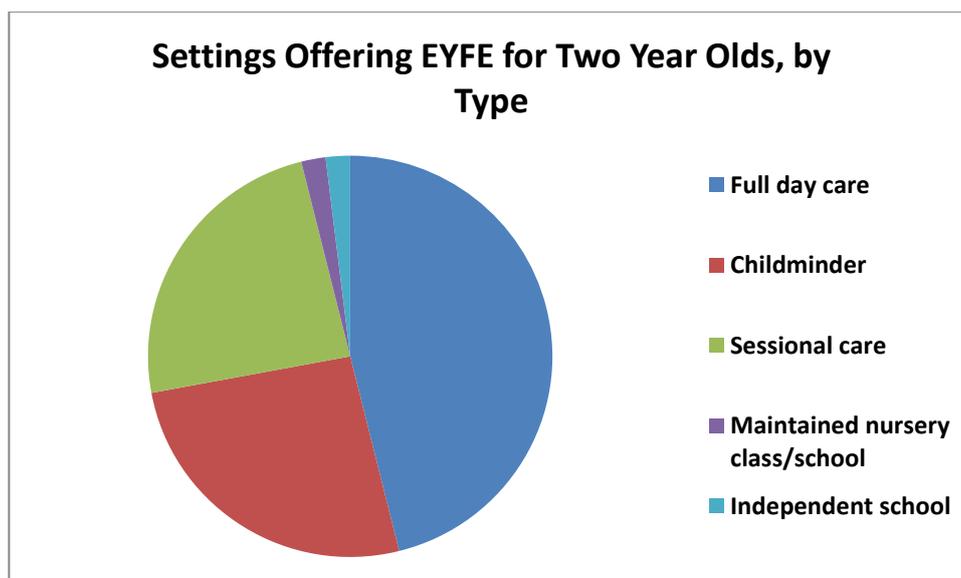
Of three and four year olds attending EYFE, 58 per cent took additional hours paid for by parents at the setting they attended. Forty per cent took four or more additional hours.

9.3.7 Early Years Providers Offering EYFE for Eligible Two Year Olds

In September 2016 there were 154 early years providers registered to offer EYFE to eligible two year olds (14 more than in 2014). Almost all full day care providers as well as those offering sessional care offer EYFE to eligible two year olds. In the maintained sector, as well as Tarnerland nursery school, Royal Spa nursery school and Rudyard Kipling primary school now provide for two year olds following premises expansion funded by early years capital.

This widespread availability of places has been a contributing factor to the success of the scheme.

Nationally 14 per cent per cent of maintained primary schools with nursery classes offer places for two year olds; the figure in Brighton & Hove is five per cent, as just one of the city's 18 primary schools with nursery classes takes two year olds.³⁴

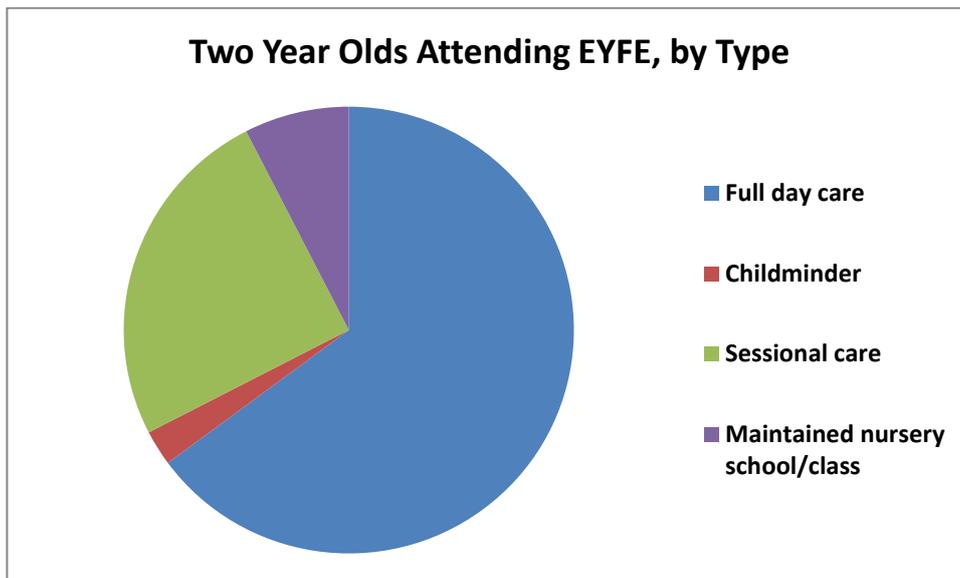


9.3.8 Two Year Old Children Taking up Their EYFE

EYFE for two year olds has been particularly successful in Brighton & Hove. National data from the January 2016 census shows 88 per cent of eligible children in the city taking up their entitlement, compared with 71 per cent amongst statistical neighbours, 69 per cent in the south east and 68 per cent nationally; Brighton & Hove ranks seventh of 152 English local authorities.

Two year olds' attendance by setting is shown below. There is higher attendance at childminders (three per cent) by two year olds, compared with three and four year olds (one per cent), indicating parental preference for this type of provision for younger children.

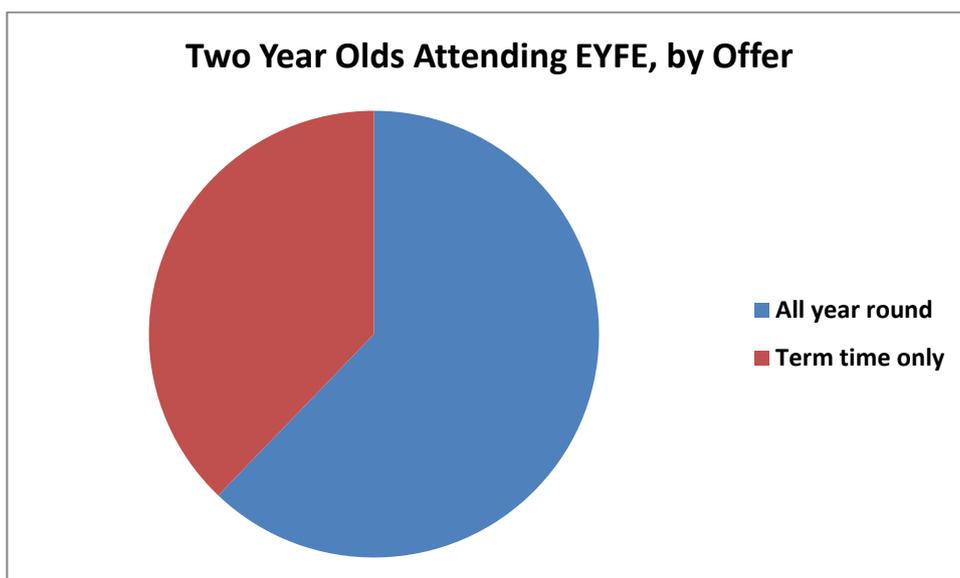
³⁴ Excluding Coldean Primary School which has separate governor-run pre-school provision which takes two year olds



Children’s centre nurseries in Brighton & Hove continue to be a large provider of EYFE for two year olds. Data from the summer 2016 headcount shows they provided for 19 per cent of children. Nationally the figure is around eight per cent.³⁵

Eight per cent of two year olds received their EYFE in a maintained nursery school/class compared with nine per cent nationally, and the three per cent attending a childminder is significantly higher than the 0.04 per cent nationally.

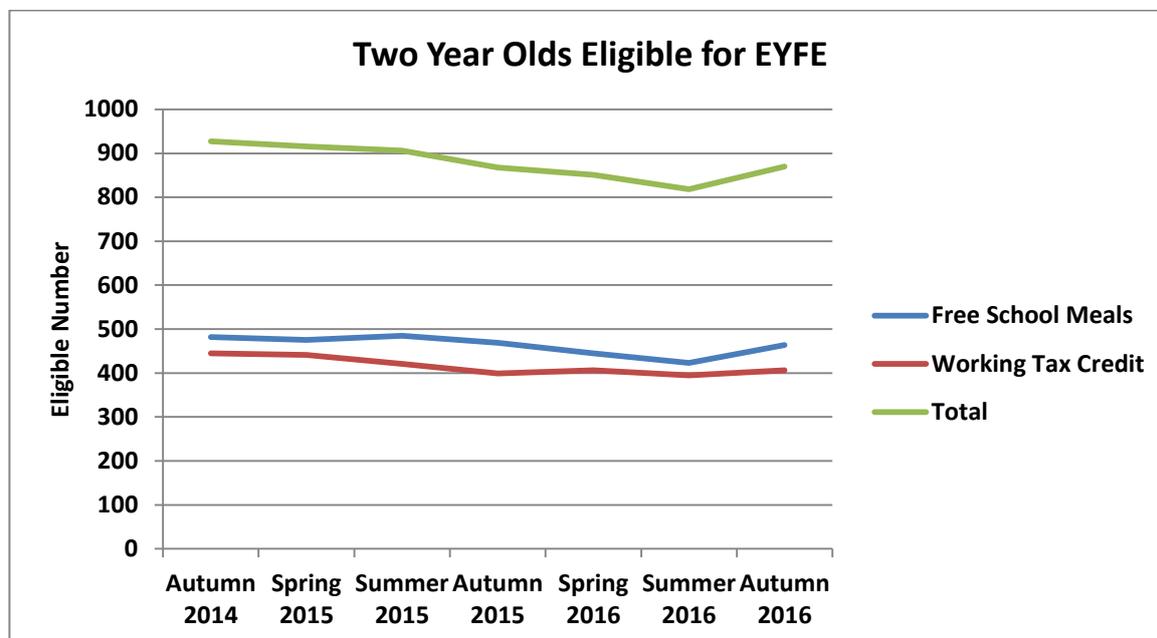
More two year olds attended settings open all year round, though as with three and four year olds many will only attend during term times.



³⁵ This includes children attending local authority day nurseries, nurseries in children’s centres and on sites linked with a children’s centre. The latter two are not necessarily local authority-run

9.3.9 Two Year Olds' Eligibility for EYFE

Data from the Department for Work and Pensions on the estimated number of two year olds in Brighton & Hove eligible for EYFE is shown below. Eligibility is based on either receipt of out of work benefits, equivalent as being eligible for free school meals for an older child, or receipt of Working Tax Credit and an income of less than £16,190 a year.³⁶



Between autumn 2014 (when entitlement to EYFE became statutory for up to 40 per cent of two year olds) and autumn 2016, there has been a 5.2 per cent drop in the estimated number of eligible children.

9.3.10 At Home Childcare

The Family Information Service (FIS) offers an “at home childcare” service. The scheme is promoted to experienced childcarers and FIS supports them to register on the Ofsted voluntary childcare register. As well as fulfilling the requirements for the voluntary register (a Disclosure and Barring Service check, a childcare qualification, public liability insurance and paediatric first aid training) FIS also requires childcarers to complete an initial interview and provide two references and attend safeguarding children training.

Any parent or carer looking for childcare at home can use the service. In particular the service may meet the needs of parents who work unusual hours, have a child who is disabled or has special educational needs and who need care at home, or need care for more than one child at a time. The service is also used by professionals (for example social workers) seeking emergency care for a child.

³⁶ Two year old children who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, have an Education Health and Care Plan, are in the care of the local authority or are adopted from care are also eligible for EYFE and may not be included in these figures

Parents can search for at home childcarers themselves on the local FIS directory; alternatively FIS can offer parents brokerage to find an at home childcarer to meet their needs.

There are currently 28 FIS at home childcarers. There are an additional 78 home childcarers in Brighton & Hove on the Ofsted voluntary register who are not part of the FIS scheme; some of these are also registered childminders.

9.3.11 Childcare Available in Non-Traditional Hours

Where care is needed for pre-school children by working parents outside traditional full day care hours of 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday, the most flexible provision is offered by at home childcarers and childminders. Some full day care providers are open earlier in the morning and later in the evening.

The only option for a parent needing overnight care is an at home childcarer.

| Type | Before 8 am | After 6 pm | Saturday and/or Sunday | Overnight |
|------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Childminder | 65 (47%) | 36 (27%) | 17 (12%) | 0 |
| FIS At Home Childcarer | 10 (39%) | 15 (56%) | 16 (62%) | 13 (52%) |
| Full Day Care | 28 (38%) | 19 (26%) | 0 | 0 |

There has been a significant increase in the number of full day care providers opening earlier in the morning and later in the evening compared with 2014; there has been an 18 per cent increase in the number open before 8 am and a 13 per cent increase in the number open after 6 pm.

9.3.12 Availability of Holiday Playschemes

While all holiday playschemes run in the summer, few do so at Christmas. Some summer schemes operate for four weeks rather than for the entire holiday.

| Holiday | Citywide total |
|--------------|----------------|
| Summer | 25 (100%) |
| Easter | 19 (76%) |
| Half-term(s) | 13 (52%) |
| Christmas | 5 (20%) |

9.3.13 Childcare for Disabled Children and Children with Special Educational Needs

Brighton & Hove is committed to ensuring that disabled children and those with special educational needs (SEND) have access to a wide range of childcare provision. All registered childcare providers are expected to welcome disabled children make reasonable adjustments to enable them to attend their setting. In addition the local authority is required to have regard to the needs of parents in their area for the provision of childcare which is suitable for disabled children.³⁷

³⁷ Childcare Act 2006, s6.2.(ii)

Inclusion funding is therefore offered to childcare providers to meet any extra costs (such as additional staff or specialist equipment) associated with a child with SEND (both pre-school and school-age children) attending their setting. Inclusion funding is offered at different maximum amounts depending upon whether or not the parent is working. This funding can be used to support older children with SEND with at home childcare if there is no suitable setting-based care available.

In 2015/6 mainstream childcare settings received inclusion funding to enable 46 pre-school and 57 school-age children with SEND to attend their provision.

Brighton & Hove City Council provides a sustainability grant to a specialist inclusive childcare provider to support the cost of provision for children with SEND.

All EYFE hours are covered by additional support funding, and this enabled 37 two year olds and 99 three and four year olds with SEND to access their full entitlement to free early learning.

In summer 2016 there were 330 children taking up EYFE who were noted as having SEND. These children took up an average of 14.7 hours a week of EYFE, compared with an average of 14.5 hours a week for children stated as having no SEND. Of children noted as having SEND, 93 per cent took 13 to 15 hours of EYFE, compared with 90 per cent of children without SEND. National Department for Education data from 2015 indicates that 43 per cent of three and four year olds with SEND received between 13 and 15 hours of early education compared with 60 per cent of all other children in this age group.

The Family Information Service offers brokerage to assist parents of children with SEND to find suitable early years and childcare provision.

9.4 Childcare Costs

This data relates to all childcare provision and gives an indication of childcare costs across the city. Childcare costs, for all types of childcare, have increased by approximately 4.5 per cent over the past two years.

When looking at childcare costs the following should be noted:

- Childcare providers sometimes offer discounts, for example for a child who attends all week. Many settings offer discounts for siblings. Conversely many settings charge more, on a pro-rata basis, for a half day, particularly for a morning session.
- Cost data does not take into account what the fee buys. This is particularly relevant for full day care where some providers include all food and supplies in their fee, while others will require parents to provide everything.
- Cost only matters to parents if they can find a vacancy at a price they can afford and the time and in a place where they want it. When a parent is looking for childcare it is irrelevant to them that there may be vacancies at a cheaper price in an area of the city they cannot get to, or there may be

nurseries with lower fees but all its places are full. It is also irrelevant to a parent who cannot find childcare at session times they need.

- Costs do not take account eligibility for EYFE for two, three and four year olds.
- The cost of a full-time place all year round for a child up to the age of two can be as much as £17,290 (or £332 per week).³⁸ However, very few parents use childcare to this extent. For a parent of a child up to the age of two using childcare all year round for 25 hours a week and paying the average fee of £51.45 the cost would be £6,689 a year, which is a seven per cent increase on 2014.
- Some voluntary sector and school-run breakfast clubs, after-school clubs and holiday playschemes offer significantly discounted fees to low income and non-working parents, particularly where children are in receipt of free school meals. However, the costs shown below are the highest cost the setting charged.

9.4.1 Cost of Full Day Care

The following table shows average³⁹ childcare costs and change over time. A day is at least eight hours and can be up to 12 hours. However, standard day charges have been used (for example if a parent can pay for additional hours to extend the day these charges have not been included). Many full day care providers charge different rates depending on the age of the child (higher rates for younger children because staff:child ratios are higher). The rate for children aged under five is shown below as an average of the different charges.

| Age of Child | Average cost per day 2016 | Average cost per day 2014 | Average cost per day 2012 | Average cost per day 2011 | Average cost per day 2010 | Average cost per day 2009 | Average cost per day 2008 |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0 to 23 months | £51.45 | £48.39 | £45.30 | £45.19 | £43.70 | £42.10 | £39.00 |
| 2 years | £49.36 | £46.34 | £45.30 | £45.19 | £40.30 | £39.40 | £36.90 |
| 3 to 5 years | £48.21 | £45.61 | £42.84 | £42.83 | £39.90 | £36.60 | £35.50 |
| 0 to 5 years | £49.38 | £46.56 | £44.03 | £43.88 | £41.00 | £39.40 | £36.50 |

The lowest cost per day⁴⁰ was £38.00 and the highest £59.83. For a child aged under two the highest cost in the city is £66.50 for a nine hour day, or £7.38 an hour.

The per cent change in cost of full day care since 2008 is shown below.

³⁸ Assuming the child attends ten hours a day for five days a week and the setting charges for 52 weeks a year

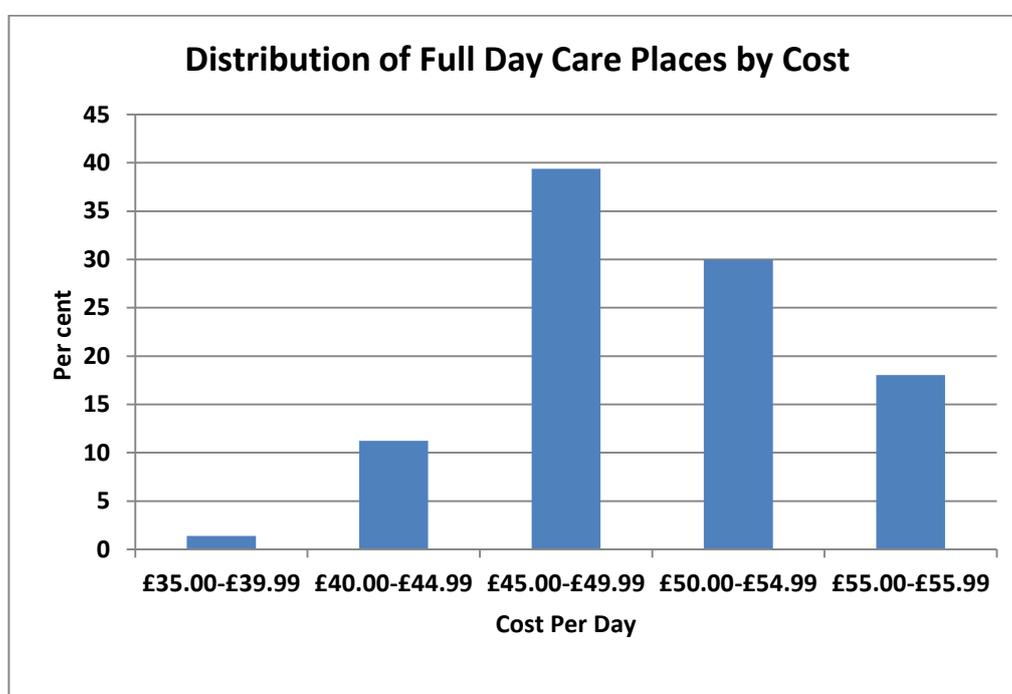
³⁹ All averages in tables are means

⁴⁰ Average cost for a child under five

| Age of Child | Per cent cost increase 2016 | Per cent cost increase 2014 | Per cent cost increase 2012 | Per cent cost increase 2011 | Per cent cost increase 2010 | Per cent cost increase 2009 |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0 to 23 months | 6.3 | 6.8 | 0.2 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 7.9 |
| 2 years | 6.5 | 2.3 | 0.2 | 12.1 | 2.3 | 6.8 |
| 3 to 5 years | 7.5 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 7.3 | 9.0 | 3.1 |
| 0 to 5 years | 6.0 | 5.7 | 0.3 | 7.0 | 4.1 | 7.9 |

The increase in the cost of a full day care place for a child aged under five between 2014 and 2016 was six per cent.

The distribution of full day care places for children aged under five by cost band is shown below.



Nearly 70 per cent of full day care places were priced at £45.00 to £54.99 per day. In 2014 the majority of places were £40.00 to £49.99 per day.

The number of full day places costing more than £55.00 per day has increased from 13 per cent in 2014 to 18 per cent in 2016.

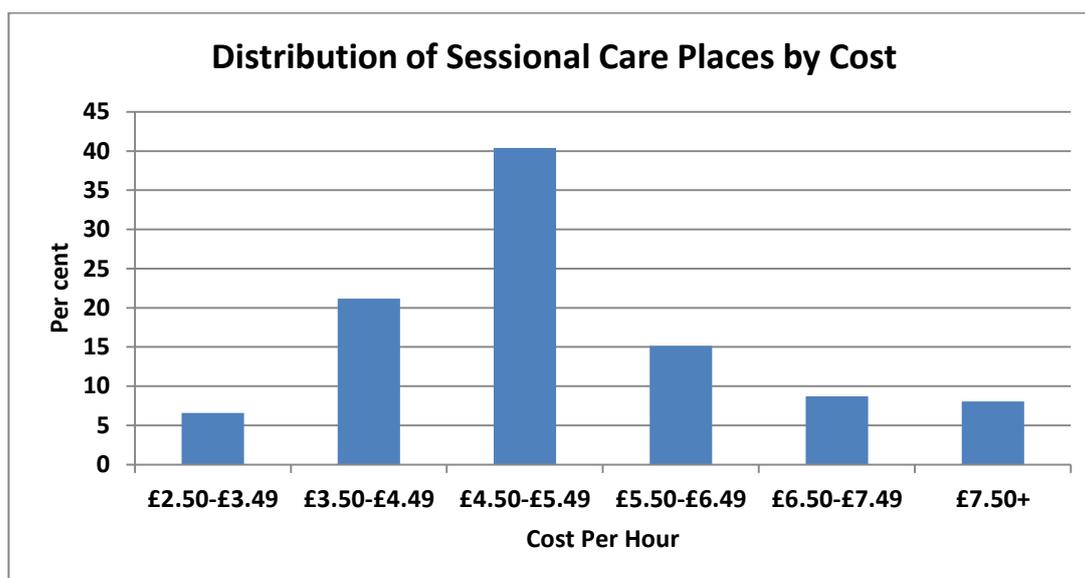
9.4.2 Cost of Sessional Care

The average cost of sessional childcare in pre-schools, playgroups and independent schools is £5.06 per hour, an increase of five per cent from 2014. The cost ranges from £2.88 to £9.01 per hour with the highest charges being made by independent schools.

| Age of Child | Cost per hour |
|--------------|---------------|
| 2 years | 4.98 |
| 3 to 5 years | 5.07 |
| 2 to 5 years | 5.06 |

The cost of care for an older child is higher than for a younger child because independent schools, which are more expensive, do not take children until they are three.

Distribution of sessional care places by cost band is shown below.



Sixty-two per cent of sessional care places are priced at between £3.50 and £5.49 an hour. This is similar to the distribution in 2014.

9.4.3 Cost of Childminding

Childminding costs are shown for children of all ages as rates tend to be the same.

| Childminding | Average cost per hour 2016 | Average cost per hour 2014 | Average cost per hour 2012 | Average cost per hour 2011 | Average cost per hour 2010 | Average cost per hour 2009 | Average cost per hour 2008 |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| All ages | £5.17 | £5.06 | £4.80 | £4.00 | £4.69 | £4.40 | £4.11 |
| Per cent change | 2.2 | 5.4 | 2.3 | 6.6 | 0 | 7.1 | n/a |

9.4.4 Cost of Holiday Playschemes and After-School Clubs

These are reported per day or per session. For holiday playschemes the length of days varies and so the rate for a standard day is shown, excluding any additional hours which parents may opt to purchase.

| Holiday playschemes | Average cost per day 2016 | Average cost per day 2014 | Average cost per day 2012 | Average cost per day 2011 | Average cost per day 2010 | Average cost per day 2009 | Average cost per day 2008 |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| All ages | £24.56 | £23.84 | £23.27 | £24.42 | £21.30 | £19.90 | £19.90 |
| Per cent change | 3.0 | 2.4 | -4.7 | 14.6 | 7.0 | 0 | n/a |

| After-school clubs | Average cost per session 2016 | Average cost per session 2014 | Average cost per session 2012 | Average cost per session 2011 | Average cost per session 2010 | Average cost per session 2009 | Average cost per session 2008 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| All ages | 10.28 | 9.59 | 9.20 | 8.99 | 8.30 | 8.40 | 7.90 |
| Per cent change | 7.2 | 4.2 | 2.3 | 8.3 | -1.2 | 6.3 | n/a |

9.4.5 Cost of Breakfast Clubs

Of breakfast clubs which make a charge the average cost per session was £2.62 which is a 13 per cent increase on the cost per session of £2.32 in 2014.

Some breakfast clubs are free to attend and some only charge for the food children consume.

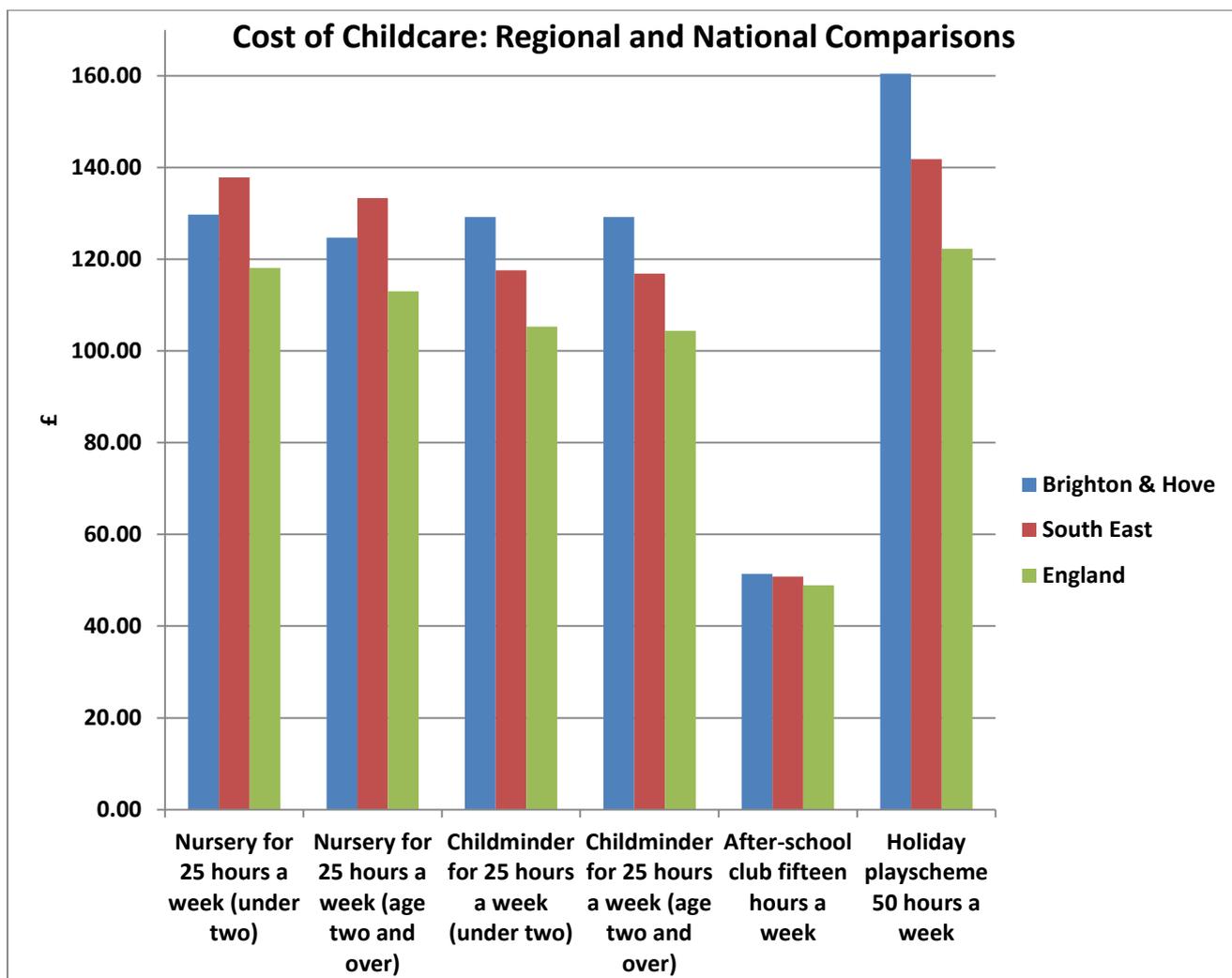
9.4.6 Cost of At Home Childcare

Most at home childcarers advertise a basic hourly rate for one child, which on average is £8.92 (no increase on 2014). In addition many charge a higher rate for evening and weekend hours, as well as for overnight care, and an additional fee for extra children.

9.4.7 Childcare Costs: Regional and National Comparisons

The Family and Childcare Trust publishes data in its annual childcare surveys⁴¹, and its figures are compared with Brighton & Hove's below.

⁴¹ 2016 Childcare Survey, Family and Childcare Trust and Holiday Childcare Survey 2016 Data is collected from local authorities, including through Freedom of Information requests



Childminders, after-school clubs and holiday playschemes are more expensive in Brighton & Hove than in the south east and England as a whole, but nursery costs for children aged under two and two to five are cheaper than the south east average but more expensive than in England as a whole.⁴²

In detail, in Brighton & Hove

- Childminders are 10 per cent more expensive than the south east average, and 23 per cent more than the England average
- After-school clubs are one per cent more expensive than the south east average, and five per cent more than the England average
- Holiday playschemes are 13 per cent more expensive than the south east average, and 31 per cent more than the England average
- Nursery for children aged under two is six per cent cheaper than the south east average, but 10 per cent more expensive than the England average
- Nursery for children aged two and over is six per cent cheaper than the south east average, but 10 per cent more expensive than the England average

⁴² The Brighton & Hove figures include all setting-based care for children of these ages, not just full day care

Childcare providers have experienced increases in their operating costs recently, though the increases in national living/minimum wages, pension contributions and other premises-related costs.

9.4.8 Help with Childcare Costs

FIS provides parents with information on paying for childcare through its Family Services Directory and telephone helpline.

All parents of three and four year olds receive 15 hours a week early years free entitlement (EYFE) for 38 weeks a year (a total of 570 hours a year). This will increase to 30 hours a week for working parents in September 2017 and this will be publicised widely through local and national campaigns.

Two year olds whose parents are in receipt of out of work benefits or on a low income also receive 570 hours a year EYFE and this continues until the child goes to school, even if the parents' circumstances change.

From April 2017 parents will be able to register for tax-free childcare and may be able to receive the equivalent of up to £2,000 support per child per year, with up to £4,000 for disabled children.

Parents in receipt of Working Tax Credit can claim its element for up to 70 per cent of childcare costs up to a maximum of £175 per week for one child or £300 per week for two or more children. This will increase to up to 85 per cent of childcare costs under Universal Credit. Parents can claim this help if the childcare they use is registered with Ofsted or run by a school on its premises and outside school hours.

9.5 30 Hours Free Childcare

From September 2017, working parents of three and four year olds will be entitled to 1,140 hours of childcare a year which is free of charge. This equates to 30 hours per week if the childcare is taken during term time only, or around 23 hours per week if spread across the year. This is double the 570 hours a year that three and four year old children currently receive.

The extended entitlement is being introduced to support working parents with the costs of childcare and to help parents who would like to work more hours.

To qualify both parents must be working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage, but less than £100,000 a year. Lone parents must be working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage, but less than £100,000 per year. Self-employed parents are also eligible if they have earnings over a set period of time that equate to at least 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage but do not exceed £100,000 per year.

There are exceptions if both parents usually work but one or both parents are away from work on statutory sick pay; if one or both parents are on parental, maternity,

paternity or adoption leave; if one parent is employed, but the other has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits for caring or is disabled or incapacitated based on specific benefits

9.5.1 Parental Demand for 30 Hours Free Childcare

Consultation was carried out in May and June 2016 in order to understand the potential demand for 30 hours free childcare in Brighton & Hove and which groups were more or less likely to take up the entitlement. A questionnaire was published on the council's website and staff also conducted face to face interviews with 25 parents who either identified as Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) or who were living in a disadvantaged neighbourhood.

The full report will be published separately, along with comparison with national research, but the main findings were as follows

- There was an overwhelmingly positive response to the consultation with 91 per cent of the 1,431 respondents saying they would take up the entitlement
- Seventy per cent of respondents said that they would use 11 to 15 hours a week of the entitlement
- Forty-two per cent of respondents said that they would increase their hours of work or look for another job if they were eligible for 30 hours free childcare
- Seventy-five per cent of respondents paid for childcare and a significant number paid for 26 hours or more (a quarter of those who paid)
- The more disadvantaged the area in which the respondent lived (based on the respondent's postcode), the more likely the respondent was to want to use *more* of the additional free hours per week
- Those who identified as White Other were most likely to want to use the additional free hours, followed by White UK, then Black and Minority Ethnic (excluding White Other)
- Forty-two per cent of respondents said they would increase their hours at work or look for a new job if they were eligible for the additional hours when their child became three
- Many respondents supplemented childcare with grandparents and more than 90 per cent of those who used grandparents in combination with day nursery or childminder would want to take up the additional free hours
- Those who categorised themselves as "looking after home" were 13 per cent less likely than the survey population as a whole to want to use the additional free hours

The percentage of respondents by ward who said that they would take up the 30 hours free childcare is shown below.

| Ward | Per cent of respondents who said that they would take up 30 hours free childcare |
|--------------------------|--|
| Hanover & Elm Grove | 97 |
| South Portslade | 97 |
| Goldsmid | 96 |
| Moulsecoomb & Bevendean | 96 |
| Withdean | 96 |
| East Brighton | 95 |
| Regency | 95 |
| Central Hove | 94 |
| Hangleton & Knoll | 94 |
| Rottingdean Coastal | 94 |
| Wish | 94 |
| Hove Park | 93 |
| North Portslade | 93 |
| Patcham | 93 |
| Preston Park | 93 |
| Queen's Park | 92 |
| Woodingdean | 92 |
| Brunswick & Adelaide | 90 |
| Westbourne | 90 |
| Hollingdean & Stanmer | 89 |
| St Peter's & North Laine | 89 |

9.5.2 Sufficiency of Provision for 30 Hours Free Childcare

The government estimates that 1,890 three and four year olds in Brighton & Hove will be eligible for 30 hours free childcare. Many of these will be children already attending childcare provision which is paid for by their parents, which instead will become free.

However, because of the cost of childcare the additional free hours will be worth on average £2,800 to parents and so parents may

- Increase their hours of work to become eligible for 30 hours
- Increase working hours and increase childcare use as more of it will be free
- Change childcare arrangements from free care provided by family and friends to formal care using the 30 hour entitlement

Childcare providers who claim EYFE also report the number of additional hours parents pay for when submitting data to the local authority. In summer 2016 40 per cent of three and four year olds attended an early years setting for four or more hours on top of their EYFE hours. It can be assumed that these parents paid for additional hours because they were working, and therefore will be entitled to the 30

hours free childcare. This amounts to 1,905 children which is similar to the government's estimated number.

However, this number does not account for growth in eligibility for 30 hours free childcare. In addition the data does not include parents paying for childcare with a provider not claiming EYFE for the child, for example using a childminder who does not offer EYFE as additional care, or using family and friends. This is particularly the case where children attend provision in the maintained sector where there are limited (or no) options to pay for additional hours.

The percentage of parents paying for four or more additional hours varies across the city as shown below. The data includes children who live in East and West Sussex and come into the city for their EYFE.

| Ward | Per cent of parents paying for four or more additional hours of childcare (summer 2016) |
|--------------------------|--|
| Wish | 56 |
| East Sussex | 55 |
| Preston Park | 55 |
| Westbourne | 55 |
| Withdean | 54 |
| Hove Park | 54 |
| Central Hove | 51 |
| Goldsmid | 50 |
| Brunswick & Adelaide | 50 |
| Rottingdean Coastal | 48 |
| West Sussex | 43 |
| South Portslade | 42 |
| St Peter's & North Laine | 41 |
| Regency | 40 |
| Hanover & Elm Grove | 33 |
| North Portslade | 32 |
| Woodingdean | 32 |
| Hangleton & Knoll | 32 |
| Patcham | 31 |
| Hollingdean & Stanmer | 27 |
| East Brighton | 22 |
| Queen's Park | 19 |
| Moulsecoomb & Bevendean | 14 |

This gives a broad indication of where the demand for 30 hours free childcare might come from. However parents do not necessarily take up childcare in the ward in which they live.

In November 2015 early years providers in Brighton & Hove were surveyed regarding their interest in offering 30 hours free childcare. While 89 per cent expressed a

general interest in doing so, 41 per cent stated that this depended on the rate that they would be paid. On average providers wanted £5.05 per hour to offer the additional hours. The government has since published indicative rates which are lower in Brighton & Hove than the national average and significantly less than £5.05 per hour.⁴³ In addition an increase in free childcare entitlement reduces the number of hours for which childcare providers can charge, which are likely to be at a higher rate than those for which they claim EYFE payments.

Some childcare providers both nationally and locally have expressed concerns about their ability to recruit sufficient qualified staff to expand to offer 30 hours, particularly in the light of maths and English GCSE qualification requirements.

Further work is being done on reviewing supply and demand for 30 hours free childcare, taking into account

- The capacity of some childcare providers to expand, along with their interest in and willingness to do so
- Childcare vacancies, particularly in the maintained sector
- Parental preferences for childcare types
- The outcome of the government's consultation on the new early years national funding formula, as well as local funding rates and distribution
- Forthcoming government statutory guidance for local authorities on early education and childcare

It is worth noting that the early years sector has expanded and adapted over time to meet changing parental entitlement to childcare, including the move from 12.5 to 15 hours a week, and two year olds' EYFE entitlement, and may also do so for 30 hours free childcare.

⁴³ The government estimates that under the new national funding formula which will come into effect from April 2017 early years providers in Brighton & Hove will receive on average £4.14 per hour. The average amount providers in Brighton & Hove received in 2016/17 was £4.22 per hour because a greater percentage of funding was passed on to providers, rather than held centrally, than the government estimates