

# **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment**

**Brighton & Hove City Council**

**November 2018**

This Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) was undertaken in accordance with the Department for Education's [Early Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities, March 2018](#). 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.

A city-wide parental childcare demand survey was carried out between July and September 2018 and supply data was collected from childcare providers between April and September 2018.

The previous CSA was published in 2016.

This CSA supports Brighton & Hove City Council's [Early Years Strategy](#).

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## 1. Main Findings

There is a good supply of and demand for childcare in Brighton & Hove and the childcare market is relatively buoyant, although a number of early years settings have closed since the last which was CSA published in 2016.

Childcare is high quality and take-up of early years free entitlements for two, three and four year olds is higher than national averages.

Parents are generally satisfied with childcare, but have concerns about its cost and would like it to be more flexible. Parents of school-age children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are more dissatisfied with childcare than those with a child or children without SEND.

### 1.1 Childcare demand

In general parents are satisfied with childcare particularly its quality, but levels of satisfaction in all areas have fallen since 2016.

The parent survey found that

- Those using childcare had a reasonably high level of satisfaction with their childcare arrangements overall with 73.6 per cent very or fairly satisfied
- There were higher levels of satisfaction<sup>1</sup> with
  - childcare quality (86.6)
  - location (81.9)
  - the way children's individual needs are catered for (77.3)
  - childcare opening hours (75.6)
- There were lower levels of satisfaction with
  - childcare choice (51.0)
  - affordability (49.3)
  - flexibility<sup>2</sup> (46.8)
- The majority of those using childcare found it easy to find (63.2 per cent), but this proportion was down from 73 per cent in 2016
- Most of those using childcare did so because they went to work (86.3 per cent of respondents)
- The most commonly used type of childcare by respondents was family and friends (other than partner) followed by a day nursery
- Certain groups of respondents were less satisfied with childcare than others; this was particularly the case for parents of a school-age child or children with SEND, who also reported it harder to find childcare compared with parents with a child or children without SEND
- There was a higher level of satisfaction with childcare for pre-school children (82.7),<sup>3</sup> compared with childcare for school-age children (62.7)<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The figures are per cent of respondents very or fairly satisfied

<sup>2</sup> Such as a child being able to attend different sessions to match working patterns

<sup>3</sup> Per cent of respondents with a child up to the age of four very or fairly satisfied with childcare arrangements overall

<sup>4</sup> Per cent of respondents with a child aged five to 11 very or fairly satisfied with childcare arrangements overall



- Respondents using the early years free entitlement (EYFE) for two, three and four year olds were generally satisfied; however, some commented on the difficulty in accessing completely free sessions
- Most of those not using childcare stated that this was because they were at home with their children; however half of respondents gave cost as one of the reasons
- Of respondents making comments about childcare, 38 per cent noted the high cost of childcare and the impact on family life

## 1.2 Childcare quality

- Childcare quality, based on Ofsted inspection judgements,<sup>5</sup> is high in Brighton & Hove in comparison with the south east and England as a whole
- Childcare quality continues to improve with the percentage of early years providers rated outstanding or good at 97 per cent, compared with 88 per cent in 2016
- Quality remains high in the council's children's centre nurseries which are mainly located in the city's more disadvantaged areas, and take a large proportion of two year olds for EYFE
- Two year olds in receipt of EYFE attend high quality settings, with all children attending a setting rated outstanding or good<sup>6</sup>
- Three and four year olds also attend high quality settings for EYFE, with 97 per cent attending one rated outstanding or good<sup>7</sup>

## 1.3 Childcare supply

- Since 2016 there has been a reduction of 4.5 per cent in number of places for children under the age of five, largely because of a reduction in the number of registered childminders and the closure of four maintained nursery classes as well as a number of private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers
- However, a reduction in the number of young children in the city means that there are now fewer children per full day care place compared with 2016 (3.8 children per child care place in 2016, compared with 3.4 children per full day care place in 2018)
- The number of places in full day care settings has increased by 7.2 per cent since 2016
- All Ofsted-registered early years providers offer EYFE and 95.5 per cent of these also offer the extended entitlement (also known as 30 hours free childcare), either alone or in partnership with other providers
- There has been an increase in childcare provision for school-age children at mainstream primary schools
- There is high take-up of all free entitlements in the city, compared with regional and national take-up, with a continued high take-up of EYFE by eligible two year olds (84 per cent),<sup>8</sup> although the regional and national gap has closed
- Take-up of the extended entitlement varies by ward from 55 per cent in Hanover & Elm Grove to 27.1 per cent in East Brighton
- Compared with 2016 more full day care settings offer early morning opening, but weekend and overnight provision is limited to a small number of childminders and at home childcarers

<sup>5</sup> Ofsted data to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

<sup>6</sup> DfE early years census January 2018

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

- The price of all types of childcare continues to increase with the average price of a full day care place £54 a day, and while the price of a nursery place for a child under the age of two is slightly lower than the south east average, the price of all other childcare types is higher

## **1.4 Childcare sufficiency overall**

### **EYFE for two year olds**

There is currently sufficient EYFE for eligible two year olds.

### **Universal EYFE for three and four year olds**

There is currently sufficient universal EYFE for three and four year olds.

### **Extended EYFE for three and four year olds**

There is currently sufficient extended EYFE (30 hours free childcare) for working parents of three and four year olds. However some parents reported it difficult to find standalone free provision.

### **Early years childcare outside EYFE**

There is currently sufficient early years childcare outside the funded entitlements. However parents find childcare expensive, and would like childcare to be more flexible.

### **Childcare before and after school**

There is currently sufficient childcare before and after school.

### **Childcare during the school holidays**

There is currently sufficient childcare during the school holidays.

### **Childcare for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

There is insufficient childcare for school-age children with SEND, particularly for those at secondary school.

### **Childcare during a-typical hours (outside 8 am to 6 pm on weekdays)**

There is insufficient childcare during a-typical hours, particularly for school-age children, and for parents who need childcare at weekends and overnight.

## **1.5 Plans for childcare**

- Publicise CSA findings to providers, in particular to encourage a more flexible offer to parents
- Continue to support the recruitment and retention of high quality childminders, and encourage them to offer the extended entitlement, and childcare at a-typical hours
- Continue to support the recruitment and retention of Family Information Service at home childcarers
- Encourage childcare providers to offer tax free childcare
- Review and re-publish information for parents with a specific focus on childcare for children with SEND and children living in more disadvantaged families, including where parents are returning to work or starting work for the first time
- Review additional support and inclusion funding for children with SEND for 2019/20

## 2. National Context

The most recent development in childcare policy is the introduction (from September 2017) of 30 hours free childcare for three and four year olds who have working parents. This is known as the “extended entitlement” and is an additional 570 hours a year of free childcare, on top of the universal entitlement of 570 hours.

In addition parents can now apply for tax free childcare worth up to £2,000 per child each year, (£4,000 for disabled children) to support their childcare costs.

Parents on Universal Credit can claim support for up to 85 per cent of their childcare costs. A new website, [Childcare Choices](#), sets out options for parents and links to [GOV.UK](#) which includes a childcare costs calculator and an online application portal.

### 3. Local Context

Early Years and Childcare which is part of Families, Children and Learning, has an [Early Years Strategy](#) for 2017 to 2019 which details how the city is meeting its duty to improve outcomes for all young children, reduce inequalities, and ensure that there is sufficient high-quality early years provision and childcare. The strategy sets priorities for the future, focussing on the most disadvantaged children and families.

#### 3.1 Support for childcare providers

This includes

- Business support for new childcare providers and those requesting guidance regarding sustainability
- A comprehensive workforce development training programme including workshops, courses and elearning<sup>9</sup>
- Support and challenge regarding childcare quality for new childcare providers and those with an Ofsted inspection judgement of less than good
- Wide-ranging information, advice and guidance on current developments in early years, including termly network meetings, email bulletins, dedicated web pages and social media accounts
- Expert advice on safeguarding policy and practice
- Support for out of school childcare providers and schools to set up and run breakfast and after-school clubs and holiday playschemes
- An early years jobs advertising and recruitment guidance service<sup>10</sup>
- Information and support for those wanting to become a childminder
- Support and information for early years providers wishing to offer EYFE to parents, as well as guidance on claiming funding from the local authority
- Funding for additional support to enable providers to include pre-school and school-age children with SEND
- Support from the Brighton & Hove Inclusion Support Service (BHISS) with an allocated specialist teacher enabling early years settings to fulfil the requirements of [the Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25](#) and the Equality Act 2010
- Support from the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service (EMAS) team of specialist teachers, bilingual assistants and home school liaison officers for children who have English as an additional language including the city's most vulnerable and disadvantaged black and minority ethnic children. This includes training early years providers to support children with EAL and to achieve and demonstrate good equalities and inclusive practice

#### 3.2 Childcare support for parents

This includes

- A Family Information Service (FIS) which provides extensive information about childcare, early education and services for families (and those supporting them) on its website, through social media and by phone. This includes
  - universal and targeted marketing of childcare
  - a comprehensive online directory and help finding childcare

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<sup>9</sup> A charge is made for most training courses

<sup>10</sup> A charge is made for this service

- information about the benefits of EYFE
- information on help with childcare costs
- checking entitlement to EYFE for two year olds and assisting in proof of eligibility
- follow-up support to find a place through brokerage where a child is not attending
- an at home childcare service
- Information and support to parents regarding EYFE, ensuring that they are receiving it in accordance with the council's terms and conditions
- Five council-run full day care nurseries and two sessional care nurseries as part of the city's children's centre offer

## 4. Childcare Definitions

### After-school club

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 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 which are not specifically intended as childcare, including those run by independent schools.

### At home childcarer

Childcare providers on the Ofsted voluntary register who offer childcare in the child's own home. The Family Information Service has an at home childcare service, and the at home childcarers on its list also have an interview, references and safeguarding children training, in addition to Ofsted voluntary register requirements

### Breakfast club

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

### Childminder

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.

### Full day care

Care for children aged from birth to five open for at least eight hours a day, most of which are open all year round.

### Holiday playscheme

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

### Maintained nursery school/class

Standalone nursery schools maintained by the local authority, and nursery classes which are part of maintained infant or primary schools.

### Sessional care

Care for children aged two to five open fewer than eight hours a day. Most 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 independent schools.

## 5. Local Demography and Employment

There are 288,200 people living in Brighton & Hove of which 45,400 are aged under 15. This is 15.8 per cent of the population, lower than the England average of 19.1 per cent.<sup>11</sup>

### 5.1 Child population by age band

The percentage of young people in the city is slightly lower than the Great Britain average.

Area	Under 1 year	1 to 4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	15 to 19 years	0 to 19 years total
Brighton & Hove	1.0	4.0	5.1	4.8	6.1	21.0
Great Britain	1.2	4.8	6.2	5.6	5.6	23.4

The number of live births per year in the city is around 2,800, lower than the 3,000 reported in the 2016 CSA. However, the population of children aged 0 to 14 is projected to increase slightly in the next five years, with the population of children aged 0 to 4 projected to increase by 2 per cent.

### 5.2 Population change children aged under five since 2016 by ward<sup>12</sup>

Ward	2018	2016	Per cent difference
Brunswick & Adelaide	377	426	-11.5
Central Hove	429	478	-10.3
East Brighton	750	789	-4.9
Goldsmid	895	944	-5.2
Hangleton & Knoll	873	878	-0.6
Hanover & Elm Grove	781	853	-8.4
Hollingdean & Stanmer	742	739	0.4
Hove Park	549	552	-0.5
Moulsecoomb & Bevendean	742	736	0.8
North Portslade	667	661	0.9
Patcham	788	849	-7.2
Preston Park	739	885	-16.5
Queen's Park	586	624	-6.1
Regency	308	333	-7.5
Rottingdean Coastal	530	581	-8.8
South Portslade	609	638	-4.5
St. Peter's & North Laine	624	721	-13.5
Westbourne	544	599	-9.2
Wish	620	624	-0.6
Withdean	692	830	-16.6
Woodingdean	537	552	-2.7
<b>Brighton &amp; Hove</b>	<b>13,382</b>	<b>14,292</b>	<b>-6.4</b>

<sup>11</sup> ONS 2017

<sup>12</sup> Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

77 per cent of the city's residents are economically active, which is lower than the economic activity rate in Great Britain (78.4 per cent) and the south east (81.3 per cent). The difference is largely explained by the number of students in the city.<sup>13</sup>

There is a smaller percentage of children living in out of work households in Brighton & Hove (12.4 per cent) compared with England as a whole (14 per cent).<sup>14</sup>

While there is a greater proportion of people in Brighton & Hove in management, professional, technical and associated occupations (58.2 per cent) than in the south east (50.8 per cent) or Great Britain (45.8 per cent),<sup>15</sup> gross average weekly pay at £577.90 is lower than in the south east (£596.80) though higher than in Great Britain (£552.70).<sup>16</sup> A higher percentage of people in Brighton & Hove work part-time (36.5 per cent) compared with the south east (32.7 per cent) or in Great Britain (32.2 per cent).<sup>17</sup>

Ethnicity data from the 2011 census shows that 10.9 per cent of the population is black and minority ethnic, with the largest group (3,351 people or 1.2 per cent of the population) being mixed white and Asian. In the south east 9.4 per cent of the population is black and minority ethnic, the largest non-white group being Asian/Asian British, and in England 14.3 per cent is non-white, with the largest group also being Asian/Asian British.

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<sup>13</sup> ONS Annual Population Survey (April 2017 to March 2018)

<sup>14</sup> DWP 2016

<sup>15</sup> ONS Annual Population Survey (April 2017 to March 2018)

<sup>16</sup> ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2017

<sup>17</sup> ONS Business Register and Employee Survey 2016



## 6. Childcare Demand

### 6.1 Parent survey main findings

In general parents are satisfied with childcare particularly its quality, but levels of satisfaction have fallen since 2016. The main concerns are

- The high cost of childcare and the impact of this on work and family life
- The lack of flexibility in childcare provision
- The lack of provision for secondary school-age children
- Difficulty in finding childcare for school-age children with SEND

### 6.2 Parent survey method

Parent survey data was collected online through the council's consultation portal open between 5<sup>th</sup> July and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018.<sup>18</sup>

The survey is attached as appendix 1.

The survey was publicised through 13,000 postcards (attached as appendix 2) delivered to the city's maintained nursery (two), primary (54) and secondary (10) schools with a request that they be distributed to children in selected year groups in order to obtain responses from parents with a wide age range of children.<sup>19</sup> In addition postcards were sent to the city's seven special schools asking that they be given to all children. The survey was also publicised on the schools' bulletin.

All the city's private, voluntary and independent childcare providers (pre-school and out of school, a total of 111 settings) received supplies of postcards for distribution to parents, as did the city's seven children's centres. The city's 14 libraries received postcards, with additional copies to the two main libraries in Hove and central Brighton.

Amaze<sup>20</sup> shared the survey through its Compass database.<sup>21</sup> The survey was frequently shared through social media (Facebook and Twitter) including being regularly re-tweeted by the council.

Postcards were sent to a wide range of community organisations and groups with a focus on those in more disadvantaged areas of the city, as well as those supporting black and minority ethnic families and women; a list of these is attached in appendix 3.

While the online survey was publicised to a wide number of people and organisations, a self-selecting sample of respondents has an unavoidable bias. There was also a high proportion of parents of children with SEND (particularly school-age children) completing the survey, compared with the general child population.

Full parent survey data tables are in appendix 4.

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<sup>18</sup> The original closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 was extended to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to increase the number of responses

<sup>19</sup> Up to the age of 14, or 18 if disabled

<sup>20</sup> Amaze is a charity that gives information, advice and support to families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Brighton & Hove and Sussex

<sup>21</sup> The statutory disability register for Brighton & Hove City Council

Two other recent consultations included

- A survey of parents in one area of the city not taking up their EYFE for their two year
- Consultation with parents participating in the PACE<sup>22</sup> project

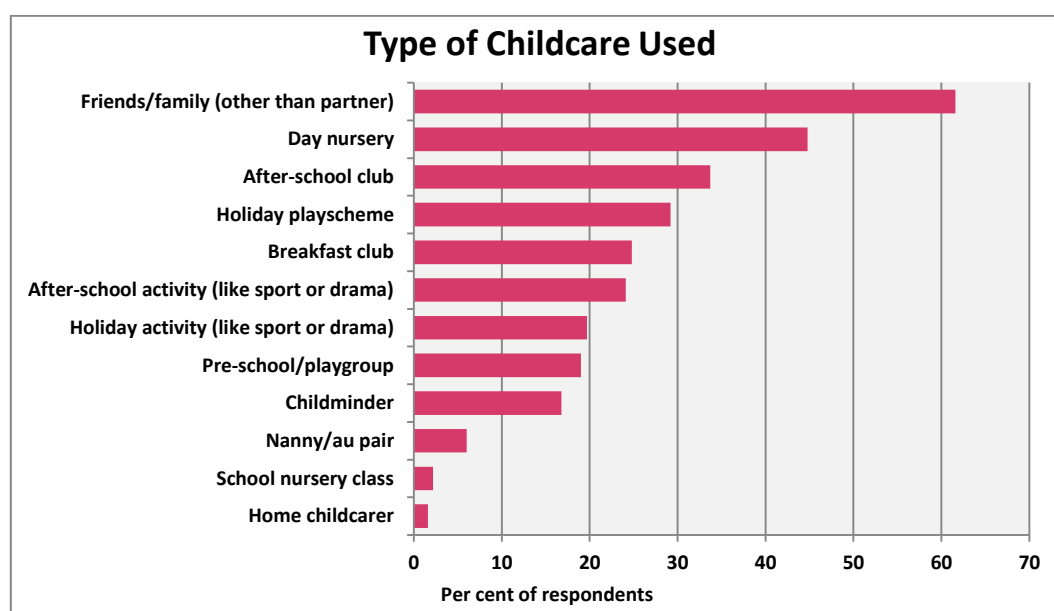
### 6.3 Responses to the survey

450 people completed the survey, significantly fewer than the 805 in 2016.

### 6.4 Type of childcare used

70 per cent of respondents (315 people) used childcare. Respondents were asked about their experience of childcare for their two youngest children. Of these, 50.6 per cent were under the age of five, and 42.5 per cent aged five to 11. All children over the age of 12 who were using childcare had SEND.

Aside from family and friends the most commonly used type of childcare was a day nursery (44.8 per cent) followed by an after-school club (33.7 per cent), which is consistent with the age of children in the survey.<sup>23</sup>



### 6.5 Ease of finding childcare

63.2 per cent of respondents stated that it was very or fairly easy to find childcare, down from 73 per cent in 2016.

### 6.6 Unable to find childcare at some point in last 12 months when needed

45.9 per cent of respondents stated that they had been unable to find childcare at some point in the last 12 months when they needed it.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>22</sup> The council is a partner in the Providing Access to Childcare and Employment (PACE) project, an Interreg, 2 Seas project part funded by the European Regional Development Fund, which aims to support families to access good quality early education and childcare to improve outcomes, enhance participation in society and reduce child poverty

<sup>23</sup> The number of responses and the fact that many were using more than one type of childcare (particularly those with older children who were using a breakfast club, an after-school club and a holiday playscheme), meant that in most cases it was not possible to analyse responses based on type of childcare used

<sup>24</sup> Question not asked in 2016

## 6.7 Overall satisfaction with childcare

In general respondents were satisfied with childcare, with 73.6 per cent very or fairly satisfied with their childcare arrangements overall (down from 81 per cent in 2016). The highest level of satisfaction was with childcare quality, and lowest with childcare flexibility.<sup>25</sup> Positive comments about quality often included a proviso about cost.

*Great choice, good quality, but very expensive which is fair enough when you consider the quality of the service, but costs are prohibitive to returning to work.*

*The quality of the child care provider is excellent, but childcare in general is very expensive.*

*It is available and seems of good quality but very expensive almost to the point of making working pointless.*

*It is very, very expensive. If I wanted to take a job on a typical Brighton salary it would not cover the cost of childcare (or only just) after tax. That's why everyone here commutes to London each day and rushes back on the messed up trains to get back in time to collect their children from nursery without getting fined for being late. Pay is so, so dire down here compared to the cost of living.*

*Extremely expensive and I can understand why people do not go back to work after having children. Support is awful especially the universal credit system. I feel as though I work just to pay child fees.*

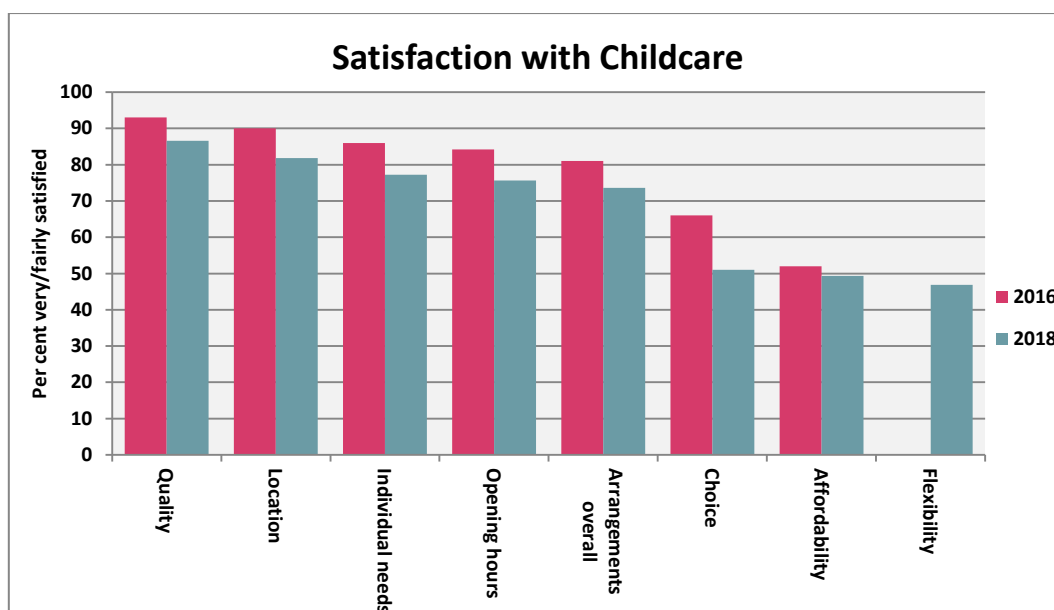
*There is a lack of childcare that caters to a flexible working pattern. I work daily from 8.30 to 2.30 and as we have no childminders locally my only option is to pay for full day care. This is not financially sustainable as I am paying for childcare as if I was working on a full time basis, however I work part time. Childcare needs to cater for the differing working patterns of the workforce.*

Satisfaction with childcare has fallen since 2016, with overall satisfaction<sup>26</sup> down by 7.4 per cent. The largest reduction in satisfaction was with the choice of childcare, with a 15 per cent reduction compared with 2016.

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<sup>25</sup> Flexibility includes a child being able to attend different sessions to match parental working patterns

<sup>26</sup> Based upon an average of scores for all satisfaction measures



## 6.8 Satisfaction with childcare by specific groups

Some groups found it easier to find childcare and were more satisfied than others. In particular parents of a child or children with SEND reported it harder to find childcare and were less satisfied than those with a child or children without SEND.

*Childcare for SEND children is very difficult to find and at-home childcare very expensive. It is almost impossible to get emergency childcare and extremely difficult to find childcare from 7 am so that I can work. It makes it stressful and difficult to work.*

### 6.8.1 Respondents with a child or children with SEND

Respondents with a child or children with SEND were 37.5 per cent less likely to report it very or fairly easy to find childcare compared with those with a child or children without SEND. On all satisfaction measures they were less satisfied and were 31.4 per cent less satisfied with their childcare arrangements overall.

*My son is 15 with SEND. There are no suitable clubs/social groups for him during the school holidays. Where is the equality and support for working parents of children with SEND?*

*There is very little childcare for SEND children.*

*I am deeply disappointed and frustrated by the lack of childcare, particularly in the holidays, for children with disabilities.*

### 6.8.2 Respondents who were single parents

Respondents who were single parents were 25.4 per cent less likely to report it very or fairly easy to find childcare compared with those in two parent households. On all but one satisfaction measure (childcare quality, with which they were 0.5 per cent more satisfied) they were less satisfied compared with those in a two parent household, and were 20.4 per cent less satisfied with their childcare arrangements overall.

*Being a single mother full-time without family and any benefit support for childcare, childcare is very expensive for me and although I have a good profession, I find it hard to pursue further due to limitations of childcare.*

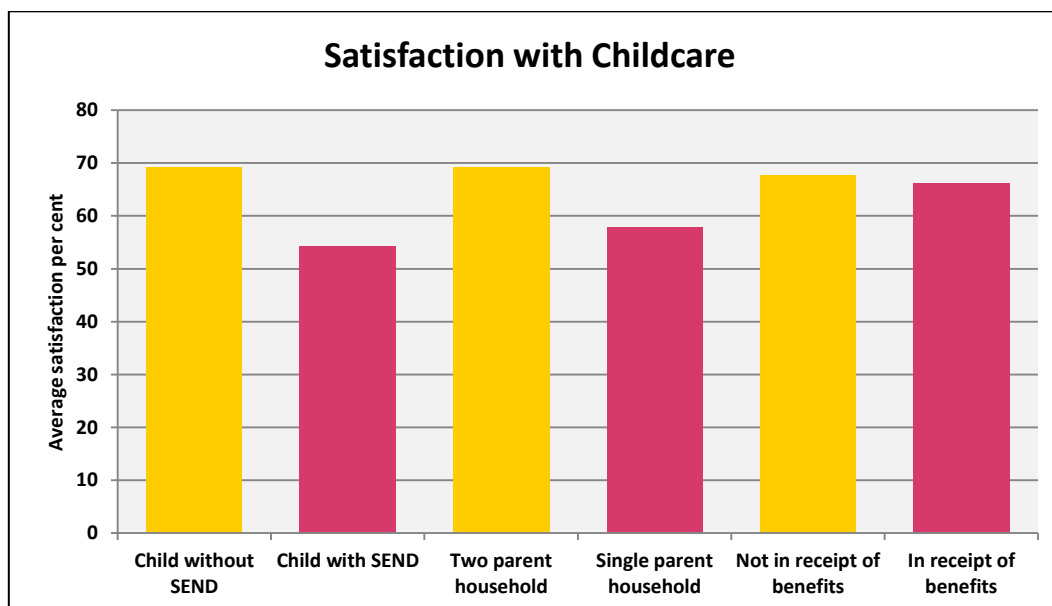
*I'm a single parent and a teacher. I can only survive because family help two days a week.*

### 6.8.3 Respondents in receipt of benefits

Respondents in receipt of benefits were 10.9 per cent less likely to report it very or fairly easy to find childcare compared with those who were not in receipt of benefits. On most measures they were less satisfied with childcare, with the exception of affordability with which they were 12.1 per cent more satisfied, flexibility, 5.1 per cent more satisfied and opening hours, 1 per cent more satisfied.

*The affordability is awful and if you are not on benefits ... forget accessible childcare!*

*I have three children and there have been a lot of activities their friends could attend as their parents receive UC or not working and they received a lot of extra financial help. I have to pay for everything and my children could not do a lot of activities as a result.*



### 6.8.4 Satisfaction with childcare by age of child

Respondents reported it harder to find childcare as children got older, with 70.2 per cent of respondents finding it very or fairly easy to find childcare for a child under five, compared with 58 per cent of respondents with a child aged five to 11.

Respondents with older children commented on difficulties.

*There is virtually nothing for children aged 12+ [and] I do not want to leave my children at home starting at computer screens ... children do NOT stop needing care when they move to secondary school, so why do all of the childcare options virtually dry up?*

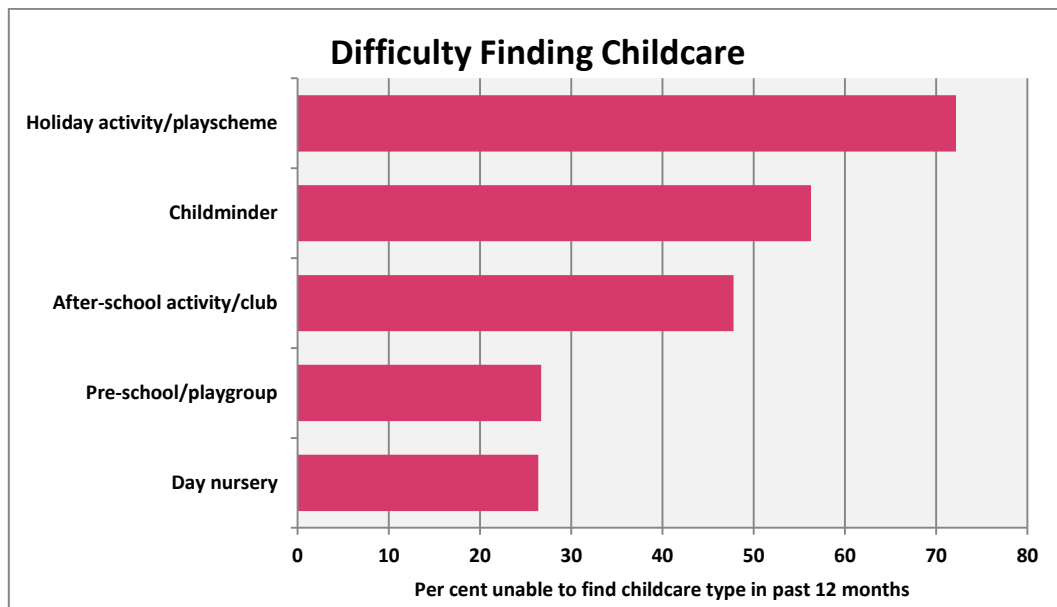
*My eldest is in her first year of secondary school, no real childcare options available. I have found this difficult.*

Those with younger children tended to be more satisfied with childcare compared with those with older children, with the exception of affordability with which they were 10.4 per cent less satisfied, and flexibility, 1 per cent less satisfied.

#### 6.8.5 Ease of finding childcare by childcare type

Those using day nurseries reported it significantly easier to find childcare than those using other childcare types. Respondents were significantly more likely to report difficulty finding a holiday activity or playscheme compared with other childcare types.

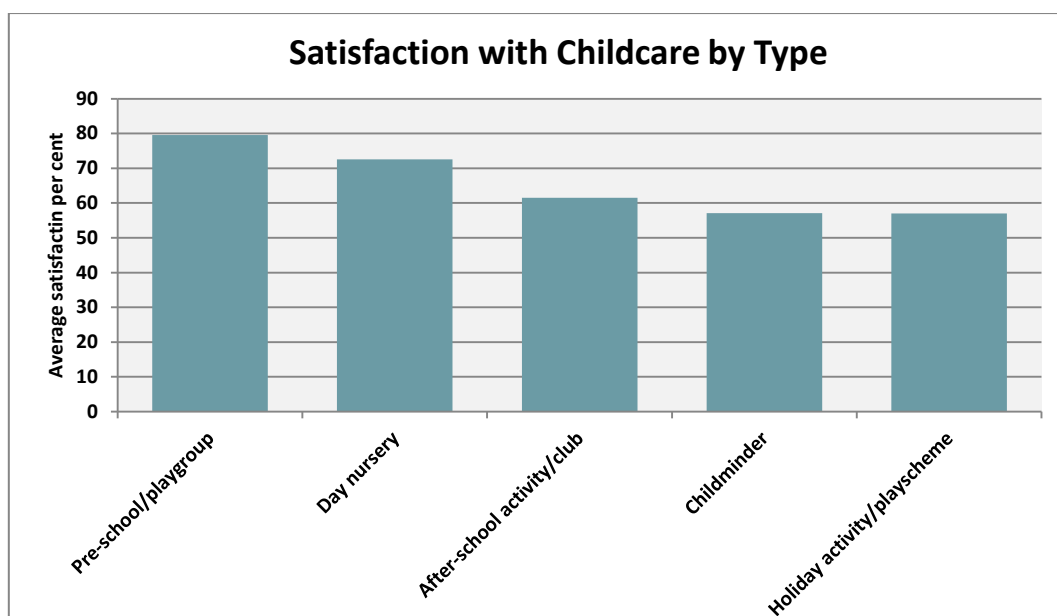
*During the school holidays trying to find suitable childcare for 11 to 15 year olds is very expensive and difficult. My kids are bored having to stay with their grandparent in the school holidays.*



#### 6.8.6 Satisfaction by childcare type

There was higher satisfaction with childcare for younger children compared with that for older children.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Note that a childminder can be for a child of any age



*There are quality childcare options available in Brighton and I am happy with the nursery as is my child.*

## 6.9 Childcare by ward

### 6.9.1 Ease of finding childcare

Respondents reporting childcare very or fairly easy to find ranged from 90 per cent of those living in Westbourne, to 30 per cent of those living in East Brighton.

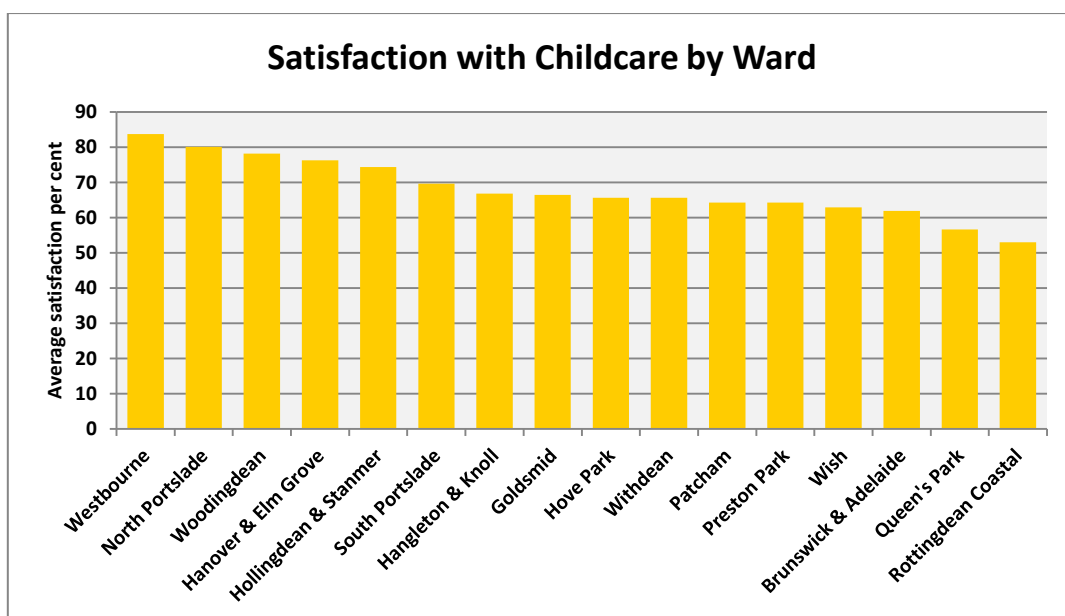
### 6.9.2 Unable to find childcare at some point in last 12 months when needed

Respondents stating that they had been unable to find childcare at some point in the last 12 months when they needed it ranged from 70 per cent of those living in East Brighton to 29.2 per cent of those living in Withdean.

### 6.9.3 Satisfaction with childcare

Respondents living in Westbourne were the most satisfied with childcare, with respondents living in Rottingdean Coastal least satisfied.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Insufficient responses from people living in Central Hove, East Brighton, Moulsecomb & Bevendean, Regency, and St Peter's & North Laine



## 6.10 Childcare at a different time

45.2 per cent of respondents wanted to use childcare at a different time

- 21.8 per cent wanted childcare during the school holidays,
- 19.6 per cent wanted childcare between 7 am and 8 am.

*Very difficult to find a nursery that takes children before 8 am; not very helpful if you have to commute far to work*

Respondents with younger children (up to the age of four) wanted childcare early in the morning (50.6 per cent wanting it between 7 am and 8 am), and 32.1 per cent wanted it after 6 pm. 57.6 per cent of respondents with a child aged five to 11 wanted childcare during the school holidays.

*Few places offer early mornings and later evenings.*

*Very hard to find late opening past 6pm; I struggle to pick up by 6pm.*

*Holiday childcare for early secondary, and older juniors which they WANT to go to, is virtually non-existent.*

## 6.11 Childcare information

- 60 per cent of respondents found childcare information from friends and family,
- 46.9 per cent used the internet,
- 22.1 per cent found childcare information from the council's Family Information Service.

## 6.12 Reasons for using childcare

- 86.3 per cent of respondents used childcare so that they could work,
- 52.1 per cent used childcare so that their child or children could take part in different activities.



### 6.13 Help with childcare costs

60.0 per cent of respondents received some help with childcare costs,

- 47.9 per cent had free childcare for two, three and four year olds (EYFE),
- 45.8 per cent received employer childcare vouchers.

### 6.14 Free childcare for two, three and four year olds (EYFE)

Respondents were asked about free childcare for two, three and four year olds.<sup>29</sup> For free childcare for all three and four year olds there were only three respondents eligible but did not use the entitlement. For 30 hours free childcare (the extended entitlement) there were 10 respondents not aware of the entitlement.

#### 6.14.1 Satisfaction with free childcare

- 73.6 per cent of respondents were happy<sup>30</sup> with the free childcare session times they had been offered,
- 70.2 per cent said it was easy for them to find free childcare,
- 64.6 per cent were happy<sup>31</sup> with the choice of providers of free childcare,
- 69.9 per cent paid for additional hours in addition to the free ones,
- 43.7 per cent stated that this was because the way that their childcare provider, offered the sessions meant that they needed to purchase additional hours in order to get the free ones.

*The sessions need to be more flexible when using the free childcare!*

*It is very difficult to find FREE childcare. I receive the 30 hour funding and although I have more free hours my additional fees have still increased by £20 per week.*

*It shouldn't be called free childcare as it isn't free so it's very misleading. When I qualified for 30 hours I thought it was great and we would be a lot better off but we only save about £150 a month as we still have to pay for the extra hours we get charged.*

*15 hours of FREE childcare should mean 15 hours FREE!*

- 70 per cent of respondents said that 30 hours free childcare had improved their family's finances,
- 42.3 per cent stated that it had enabled them to increase their hours of work,
- 30 per cent said that it had enabled them to start work.

*Both me and my husband work full time and we have really benefited from the free 30 hour of child care for our youngest child since she turned 3.*

Eleven respondents used more than one provider for their free hours.

*My provider cannot afford to offer 30 hours as it is not financially sustainable. I have had to split my child's week between two providers. This does not seem to be the right way to deal with funding.*

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<sup>29</sup> Data for two year olds not reported because of low number of responses

<sup>30</sup> Respondents stating that they strongly agreed or tended to agree

<sup>31</sup> Ibid

Some respondents mentioned the level of funding for providers offering the free hours.

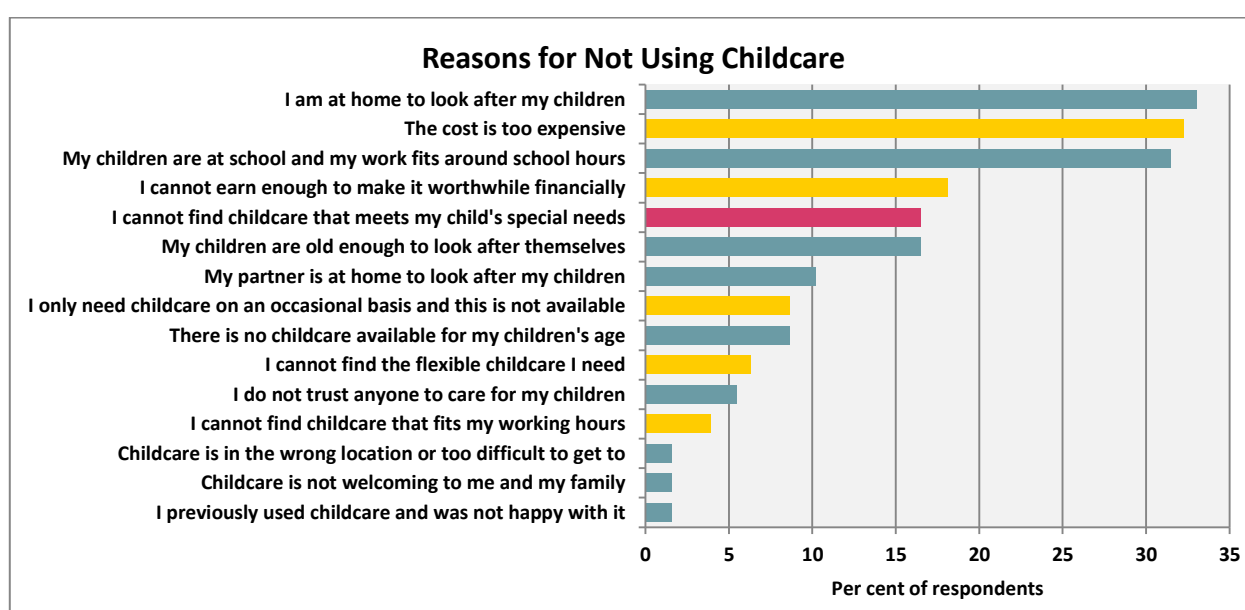
*Childcare in Brighton & Hove is extremely expensive and local providers get less funding than those in other parts of the country.*

*Funding the 30 free hours has negatively impacted the nursery as they aren't paid enough by the council to support the children.*

### 6.15 Respondents not using childcare

133 respondents did not use childcare,

- 50.4 per cent because cost,
- 18.9 per cent because of lack of flexibility,
- 16.5 per cent could not find childcare to meet their child's special needs.



Comments regarding reasons for not using childcare included

*It is so expensive and the waiting lists are long. I want to go back to work but I don't know if it will make financial sense.*

*It's too expensive. I cannot return to work once the Maternity Leave is over because the nursery costs more than I earn.*

*Both my husband and I work shifts. It is impossible to find child care to accommodate this. I wish there was something that could work for us.*

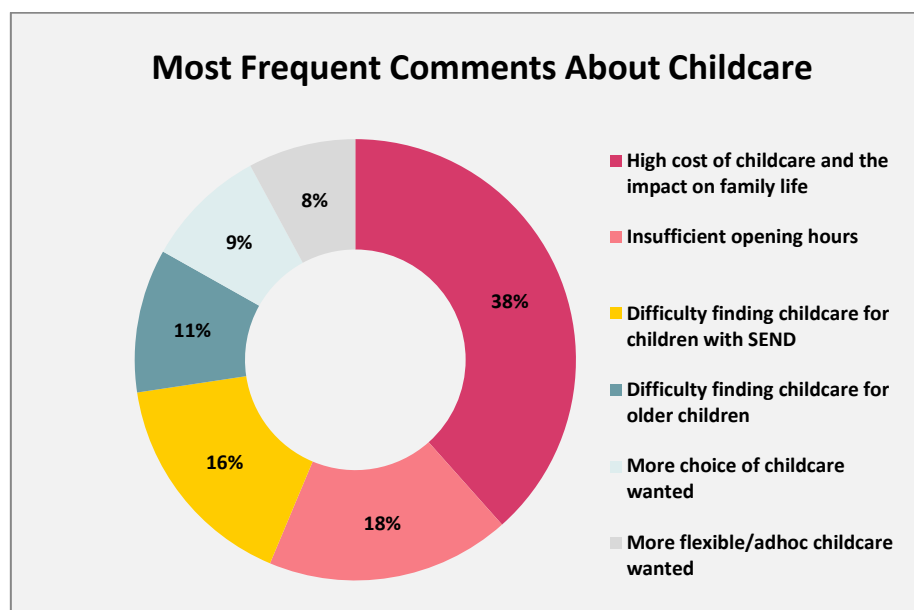
*The limited amount of free hours available makes it almost impossible to look/go to work, as the standard offering is three hours per day, generally between 1pm and 4pm. There are very few roles that employers would be able to provide for such a small amount of time.*

## 6.16 Consequence of lack of childcare

- 51.2 per cent of respondents stated that a lack of childcare prevented them from working longer hours,
- 31.7 per cent said that it prevented them from returning to work,
- 29.3 per cent said that it prevented them from working more flexibly.

## 6.17 Comments about childcare

178 respondents made comments about childcare.



*Mostly it is expensive. I found a nursery which offers 10% discount for six months but when it goes up it will be very difficult. I am earning just over the threshold so I don't get 15 hours free when my son turns two. It won't be until he's three in January 2020 that I'll get help.*

*Holiday schemes are really expensive - £60 to 70 per day for two kids. Even though I get 70% off with tax credits this is too much.*

*Childcare in Brighton and Hove needs to be affordable. During the holidays I pay £69 a day for two children aged 5 and 10. My husband and I do not qualify for help, we earn £160 per day, and over a third goes towards childcare.*

*Childcare needs to be open long enough for the average working pattern. Too many options are open 10 am to 3 pm, which is impossible when we work 9 to 5.*

*The childcare available for children with SEND is very limited in Brighton and Hove. The only option is to use Extratime and this means that I can't put both my children in the same place as my daughter does not have SEND.*

*I struggle to find appropriate care for my 10 year old with SEND.*

## **7. Survey of Parents in One Area of the City not Taking up Their EYFE for Their Two Year Old**

In summer 2018 a survey was carried out of eligible parents not taking up their two year old's EYFE in one area of the city where there was lower engagement. All parents had previously been sent information regarding the scheme.

Of 34 families who were contacted

- 11 stated that they thought that their child was too young to attend childcare and wanted to wait until they were three,
- 10 asked for the information to be sent again,
- six did not think that they were eligible,
- three were about to start at a childcare setting,
- two were moving out of the city shortly,
- two were not interested but did not give a reason.

## **8. Consultation with Providing Access to Childcare and Employment (PACE)**

### **Parents**

PACE parents attended a focus group in June 2018 regarding work and childcare. Many reported challenges finding childcare and the fact that available jobs do not match childcare and school hours.

They also emphasised their need for flexible and ad hoc childcare, and their difficulty finding this.

## 9. Family Information Service

### 9.1 Information for parents about childcare

Local childcare information is provided to parents through the [Family Services Directory](#). FIS also publishes information and a range of childcare factsheets on the [council's website](#).

Average per month	November 2016 – October 2017	November 2017 – October 2018
Hits to the Family Services Directory	16,460	21,000
Email enquiries	409	550
Telephone enquiries	204	280

## 10. Childcare Supply

### 10.1 Childcare supply main findings

In general there is a buoyant childcare market in Brighton & Hove with a good choice of provision for children of all ages, and a high take-up of free entitlements. Childcare quality is also high. However

- A number of early years childcare settings have closed, and the number of childminders continues to fall
- Childcare costs remain high and in most cases are higher than regional and national averages

### 10.2 Childcare supply method

Childcare supply data was collected from childcare providers through an online survey and follow up telephone calls between April and September 2018. Supply data relates to Ofsted-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.

A small number of group-based providers did not supply information and in these cases an assessment was made based on information from Ofsted and from providers' websites. There was a lower response from childminders and at home childcarers. The same methods were used to collect data; however for at home childcarers there was very little supplementary information which means that data is based on a smaller sample size than the number registered.

Limited data was provided on childcare vacancies as providers state that these change frequently.

Data for breakfast and after-school club provision relates to that for primary school age children only.

National data from the DfE [Survey of Childcare and Early Years Providers 2018](#) is added for comparison where relevant.

Full provider data tables are in appendix 5.

### 10.3 Early years free entitlements – take up

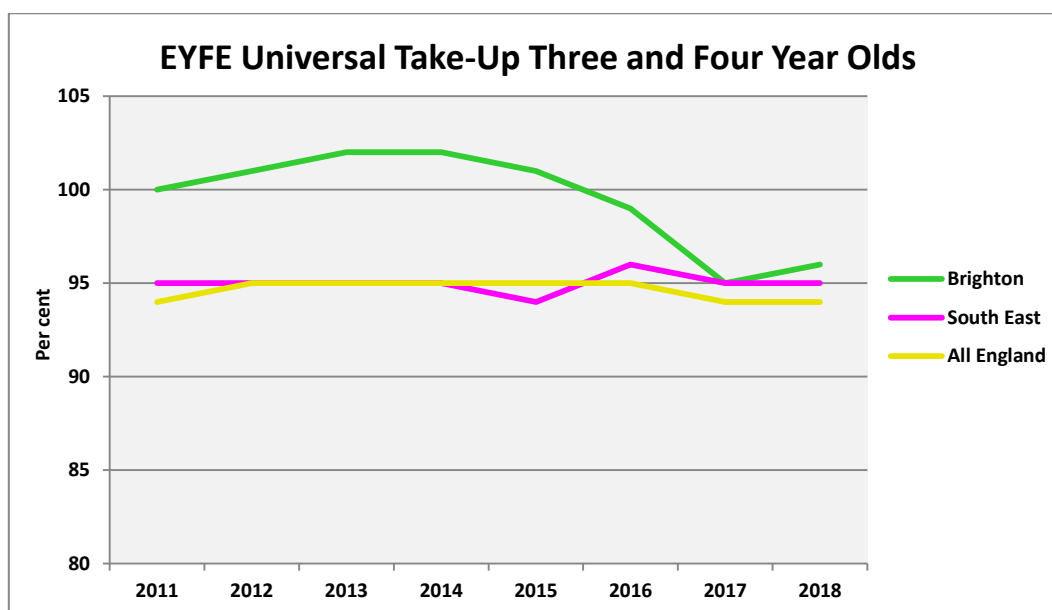
All three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours a week of free early learning (the early years free entitlement, EYFE) for 38 weeks a year (or 570 hours if the entitlement is taken all year round). This universal entitlement starts from the term after the child's third birthday. Since September 2017 three and four year olds of working parents can have an extended entitlement of an additional 15 hours a week provided they satisfy eligibility criteria. This is also known as "30 hours free childcare". In addition two year olds from low income households, who are disabled, in the care of the local authority or adopted from care are also eligible for 15 hours a week of EYFE from the term after their second birthday.<sup>32</sup>

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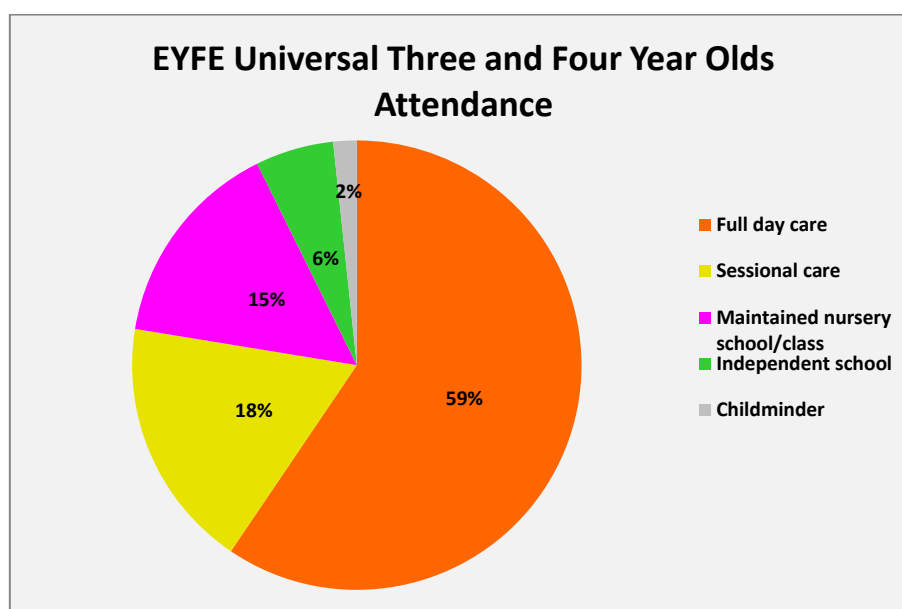
<sup>32</sup> Full criteria are set out in [Early education and childcare statutory guidance for local authorities, June 2018](#)

## 10.4 Three and four year olds benefiting from universal EYFE

While the gap has reduced, Brighton & Hove retains its higher take-up of universal EYFE compared with the south east and England.<sup>33</sup>



The majority of three and four year olds access EYFE at full day care settings. Although a large number of childminders offer EYFE, in terms of children's attendance they take the lowest percentage.



## 10.5 Three and four year olds benefiting from extended EYFE

There is no data on the percentage of eligible children taking up their extended entitlement; rather national data reports the percentage of HMRC-issued eligibility codes validated. In Brighton & Hove 93 per cent of 30 hour codes issued have been validated, compared with

<sup>33</sup> DfE early years census January 2018



88 per cent in both the south east and England.<sup>34</sup> On average 1,506 children have taken up the extended entitlement each term since the scheme started, less than the 1,890 estimate of the number of eligible children given by the DfE prior to its commencement.

The percentage of three and four year olds accessing their universal entitlement who also access their extended entitlement has increased each term.

Term	Per cent
Autumn 2017	40.7
Spring 2018	42.9
Summer 2018	43.1

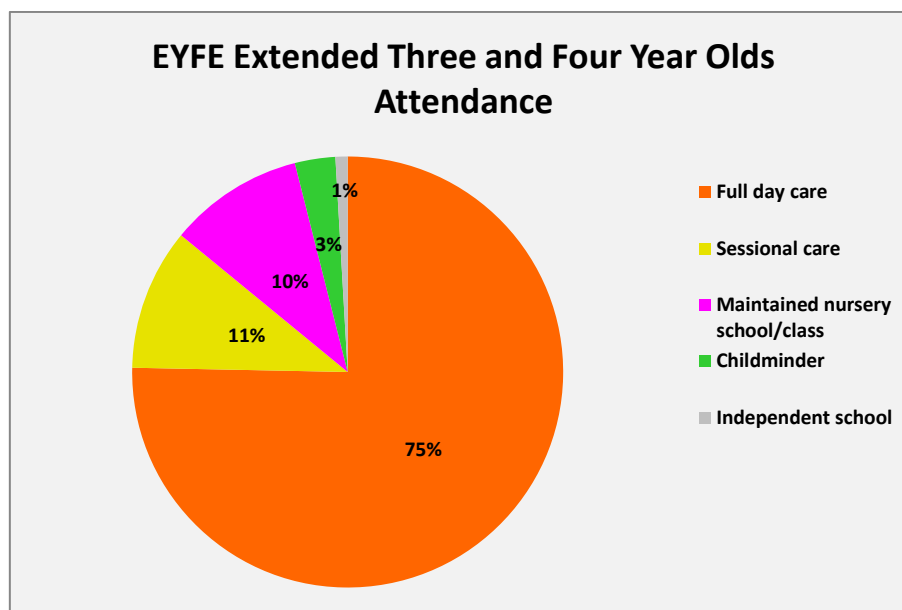
Take-up of the extended entitlement varies by ward and data for summer 2018 shows Hanover & Elm Grove having the highest percentage of three and four year olds taking up this offer (55 per cent), with the lowest in East Brighton (27.1 per cent).

Ward	Per cent of children taking extended entitlement
Hanover & Elm Grove	55.0
South Portslade	52.6
North Portslade	51.4
Patcham	50.2
Withdean	49.4
Preston Park	49.0
Queen's Park	46.3
Goldsmid	43.1
Hove Park	41.7
Brunswick & Adelaide	41.5
Wish	40.8
St. Peter's & North Laine	40.6
Central Hove	40.3
Regency	38.7
Westbourne	37.2
Rottingdean Coastal	36.7
Woodingdean	36.5
Hangleton & Knoll	34.4
Hollingdean & Stanmer	32.9
Moulsecoomb & Bevendean	30.2
East Brighton	27.1
<b>Brighton &amp; Hove</b>	<b>43.1</b>

<sup>34</sup> DfE 30 hours free childcare: eligibility codes issued and validated 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018

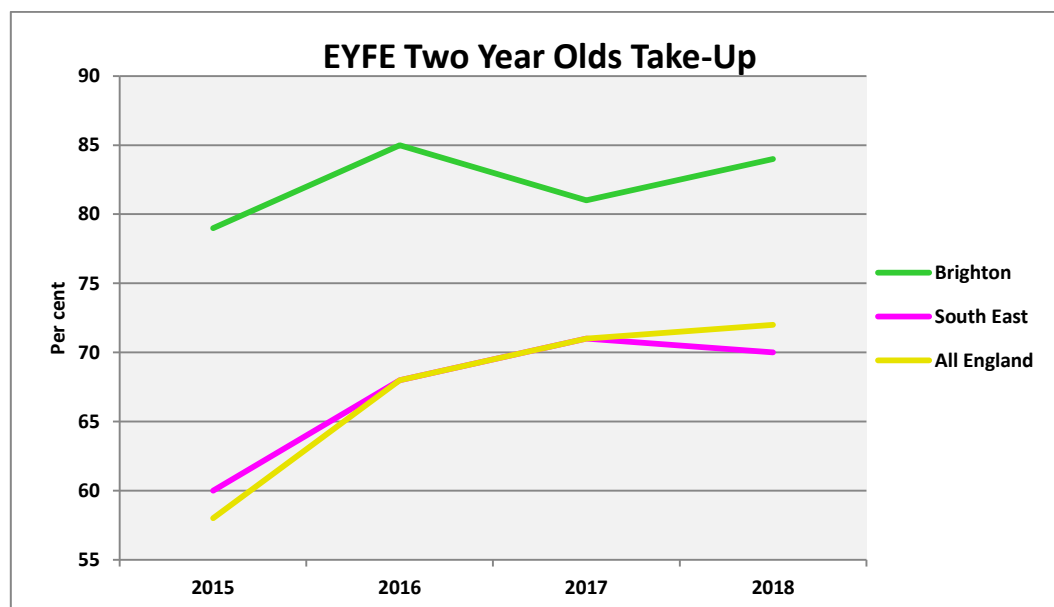
Of children coming into the city for their EYFE, 58.4 per cent of those from West Sussex and 50 per cent of those from East Sussex took the extended entitlement.

Compared with the universal entitlement, a greater percentage of three and four year olds take their extended entitlement with full day care providers.



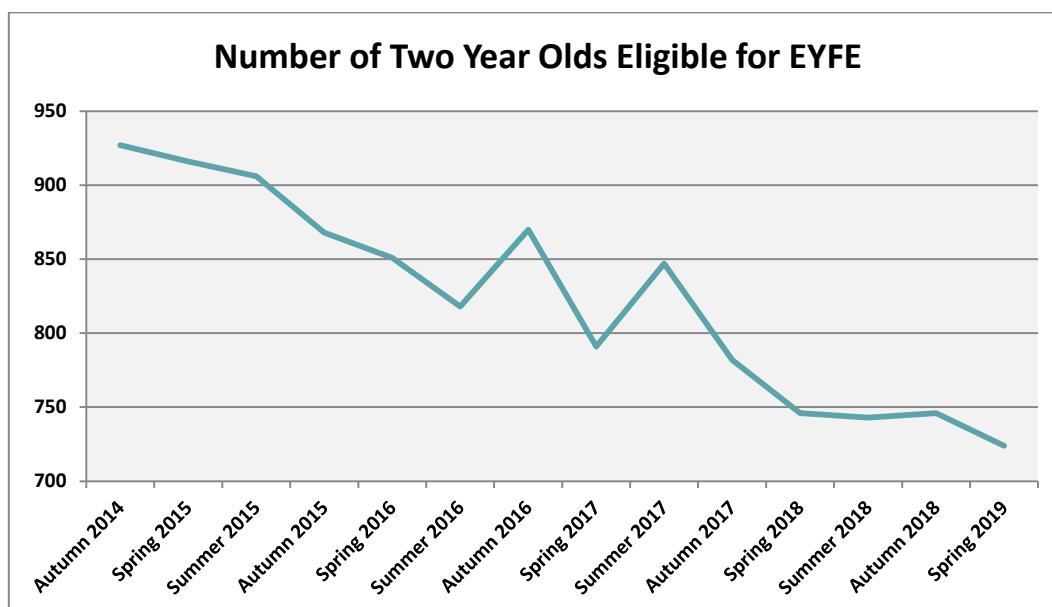
## 10.6 Two year olds benefiting from targeted EYFE

While the percentage of eligible two year olds taking up EYFE has increased in the south east and in England, Brighton & Hove still out-performed the national average in 2018 by 12 per cent.<sup>35</sup>

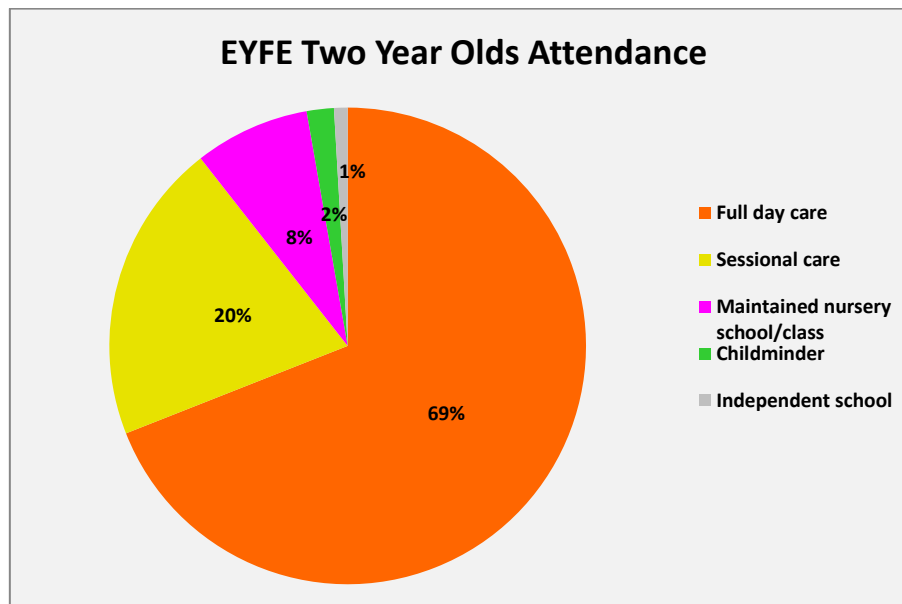


<sup>35</sup> DfE early years census January 2018

Between autumn 2014 (when entitlement to EYFE became statutory for up to 40 per cent of two year olds) and spring 2019, there has been a 22.9 per cent drop in the estimated number of eligible children.

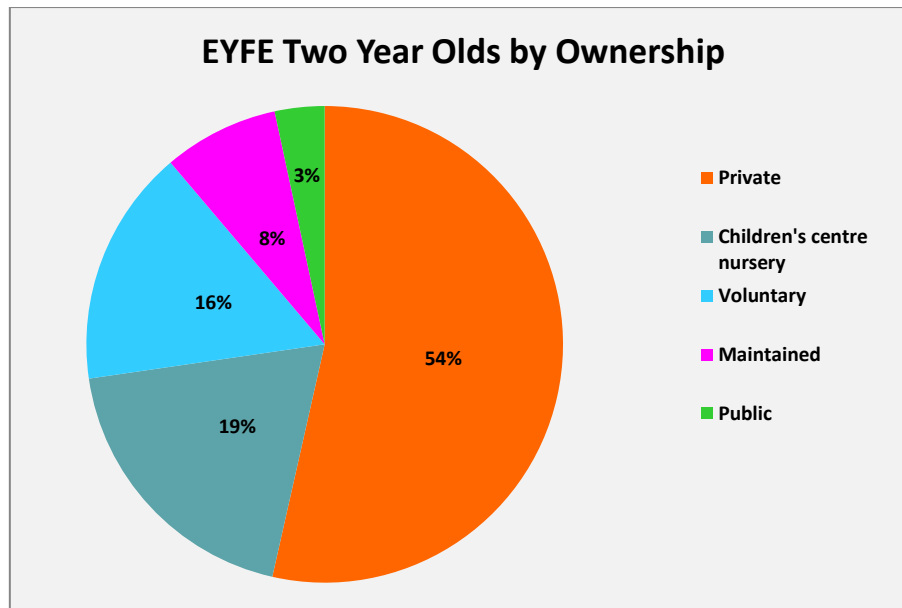


Most eligible two year olds take their EYFE in a full day care setting. Although 25 per cent of those offering places are childminders, in terms of attendance they account for only 2 per cent of children.



Children's centre nurseries play an important role in provision of EYFE for two year olds, providing for 125 children, 19.2 per cent of the total.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>36</sup> Summer 2018

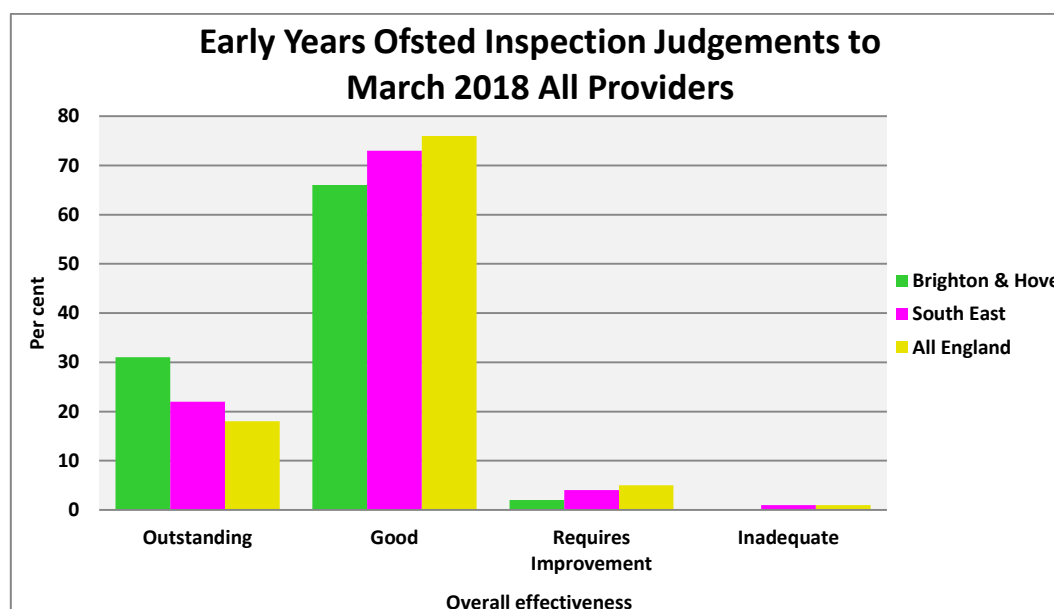


## 11. Early Years and Childcare Quality

Childcare quality, based upon Ofsted inspection judgements, is high in Brighton & Hove.

### 11.1 Early years Ofsted inspection judgements

31 per cent of early years providers are rated outstanding, compared with 22 per cent in the south east and 18 per cent in England as a whole.<sup>37</sup>



For childcare on non-domestic premises (that is nurseries and pre-schools, excluding childminders and childcare on domestic premises), Brighton & Hove also compares very favourably, with 43 per cent outstanding (compared with 27 per cent in the south east and 22 per cent in England).

### 11.2 Ofsted inspection judgements for out of school childcare providers

Out of school childcare providers receive a quality judgement from Ofsted if they offer care for early years children, and are not part of school provision. In Brighton & Hove all out of school providers are judged outstanding or good.<sup>38</sup>

### 11.3 Childcare quality in children's centre nurseries

Childcare quality in Brighton & Hove's council-run nurseries and pre-schools is also high, with four judged outstanding and three good. These settings are mainly located in the city's most disadvantaged areas and take a large number of two year olds in receipt of EYFE.

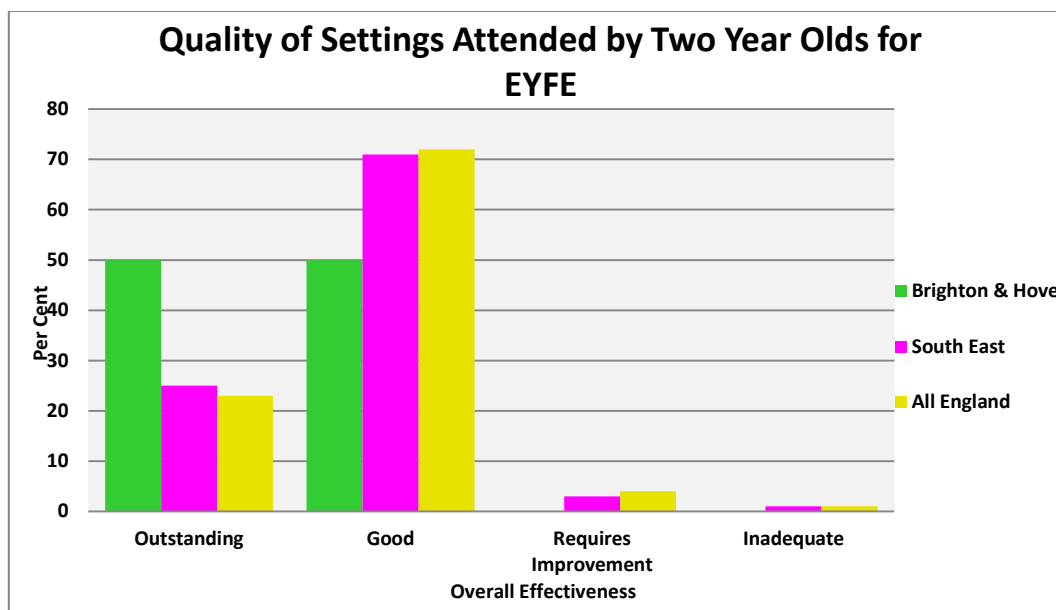
### 11.4 Quality of EYFE for two year olds

Two year olds in Brighton & Hove attend high quality settings for their EYFE with all children attending a setting rated outstanding or good.<sup>39</sup> This compares well with regional and national data.

<sup>37</sup> Based on "overall effectiveness" of active early years registered providers at their last Ofsted inspection

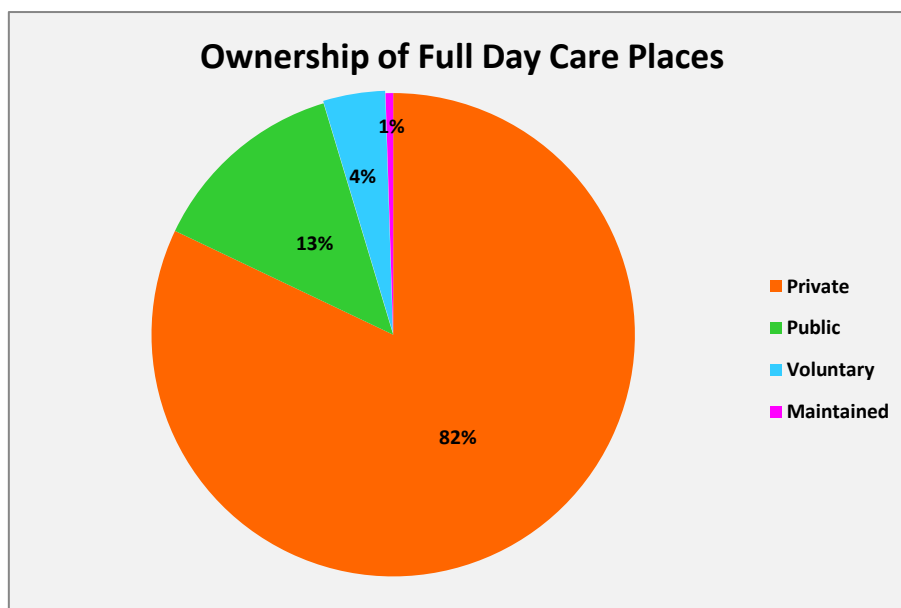
<sup>38</sup> Excludes providers offering holiday care only, and providers which have not yet had a full inspection and so are without a quality judgement. There is no national data with which to compare as out of school judgements are not reported separately from all childcare on non-domestic premises inspections

<sup>39</sup> DfE early years census January 2018

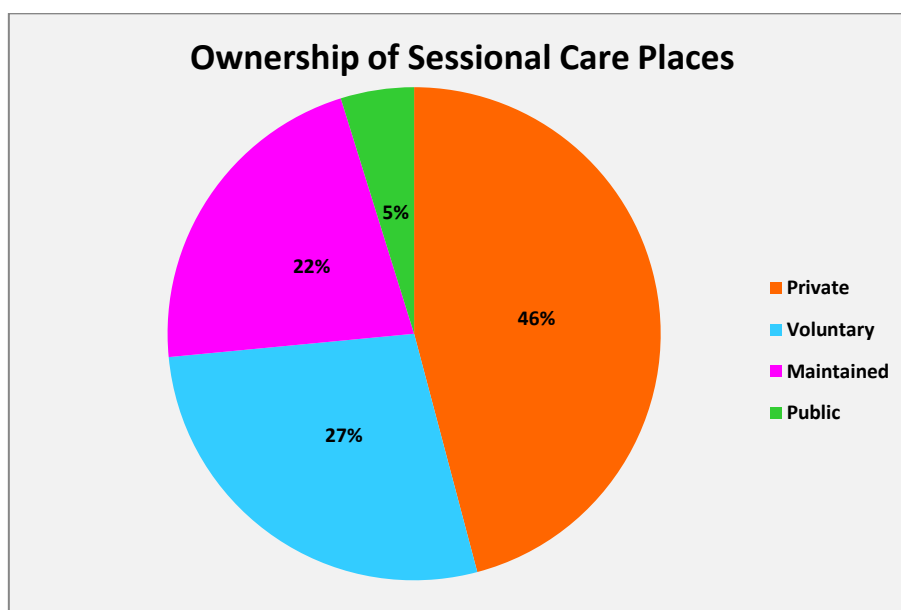


## 12. Childcare Ownership

Most full day care is privately owned.

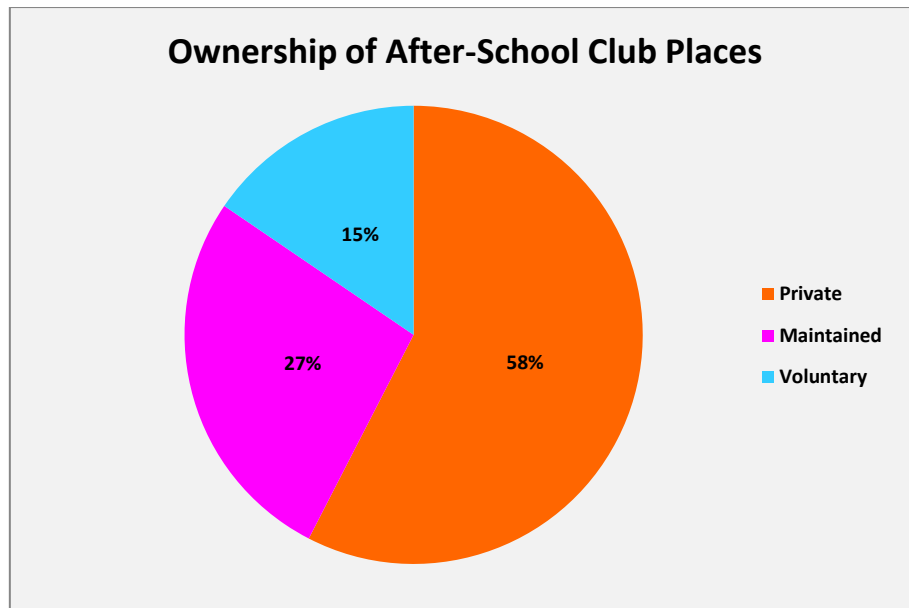


There is more sessional care in the voluntary, maintained and public<sup>40</sup> sectors, but there has been a significant reduction in the number of places in the maintained sector (from 44 to 22 per cent of places) because of the closure of four maintained nursery classes.



While most after-school club places are privately owned there has been an increase in the number of places in the maintained sector (from 15 to 27 per cent) because of an increase in the number of schools running their own provision.

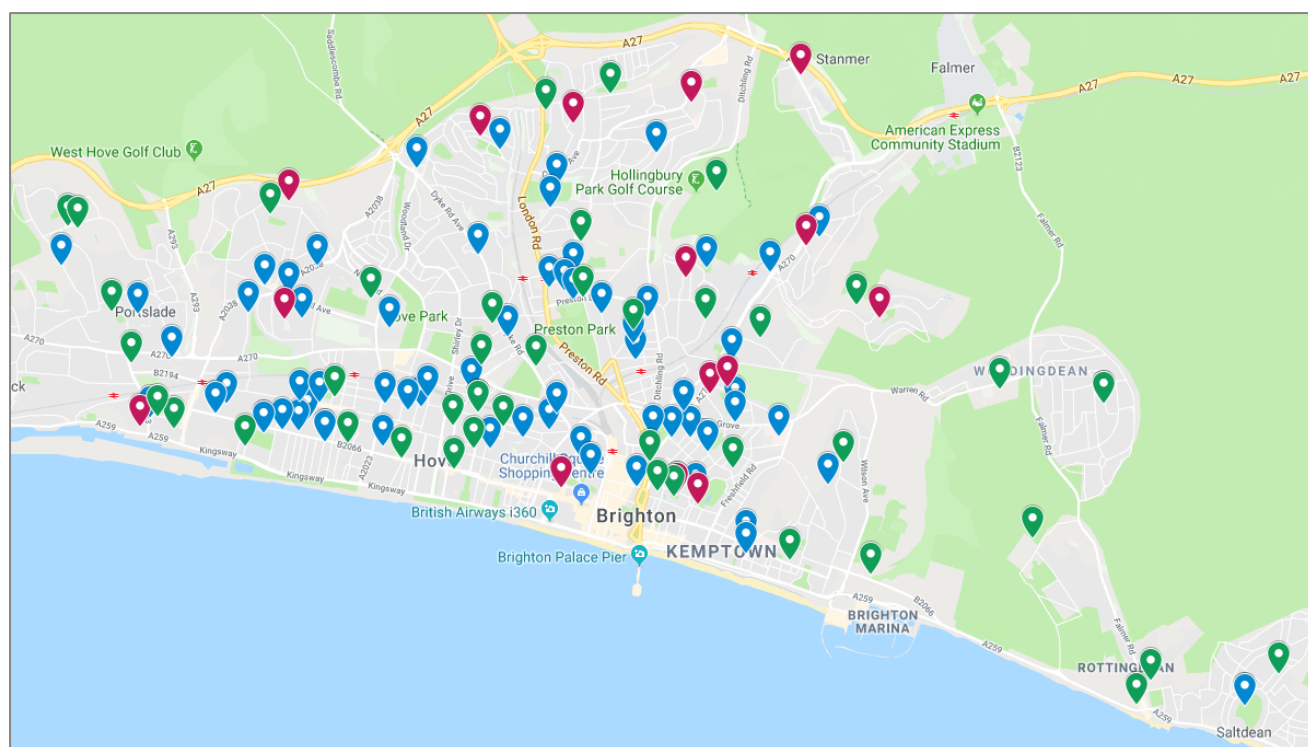
<sup>40</sup> Public refers to ownership by the local authority, NHS and universities








## 13. City-Wide Childcare Supply

The map below shows the city's early years childcare settings.<sup>41</sup>



-  Full day care
-  Maintained nursery school/class
-  PVI sessional care

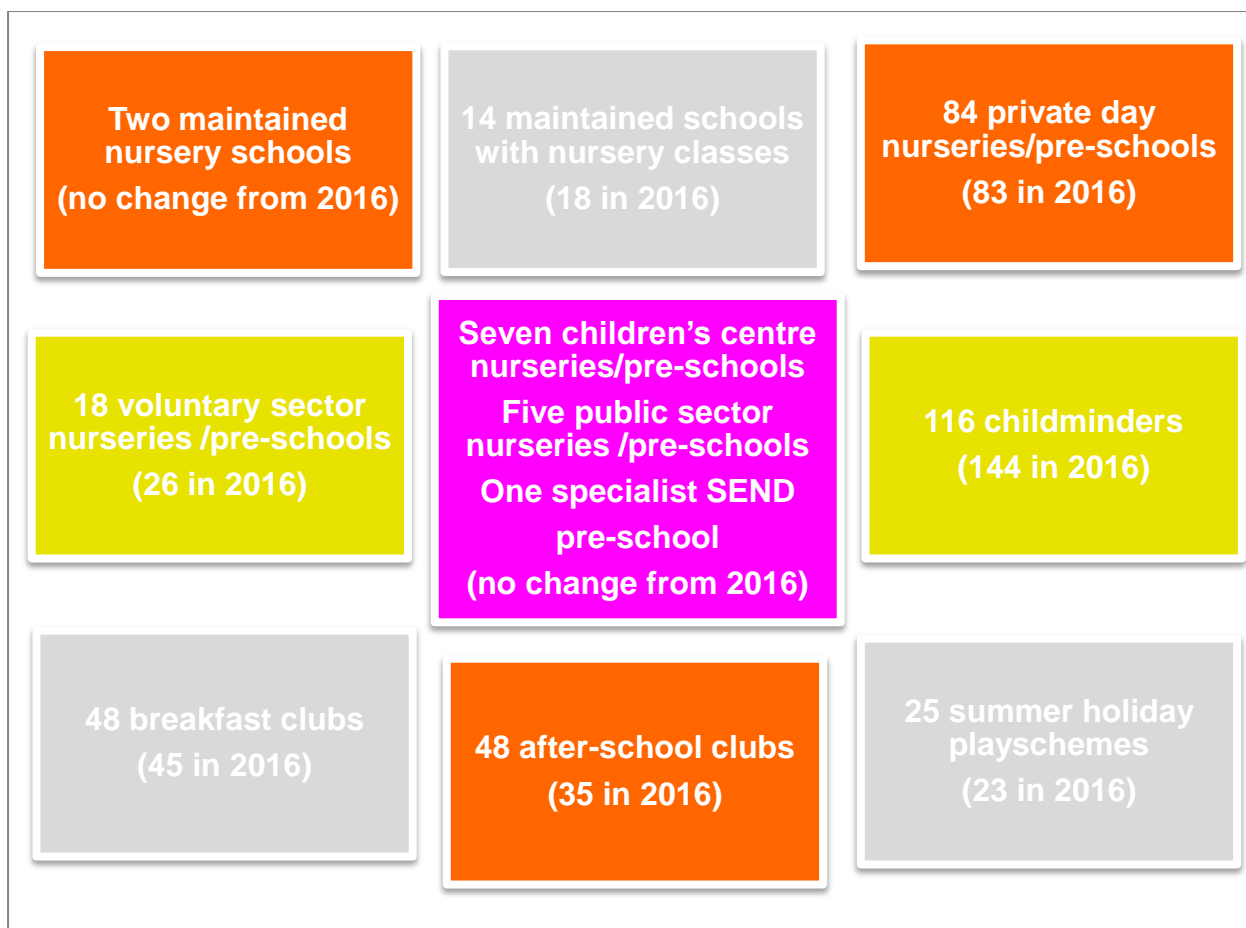
Childcare supply ward profiles can be found by copying the following link into Google Chrome.

<https://infogram.com/ward-1h1749ro9zrl4zj?live>

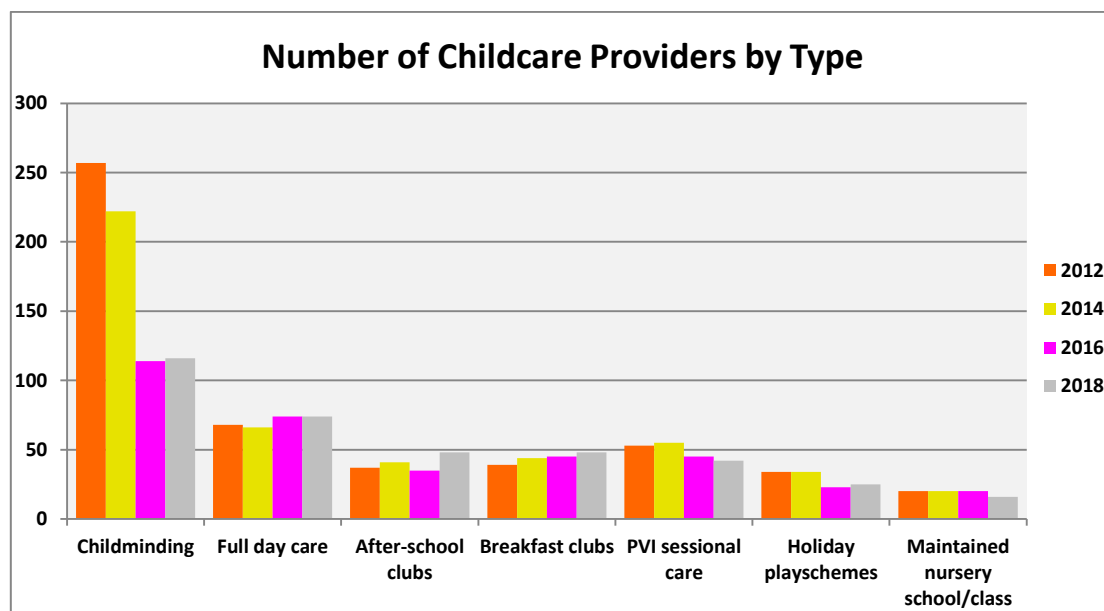
### 13.1 Childcare providers

Significant changes since 2016 are an increase in the number of after-school clubs and a reduction in the number of childminders and voluntary sector pre-schools.

<sup>41</sup> At November 2018

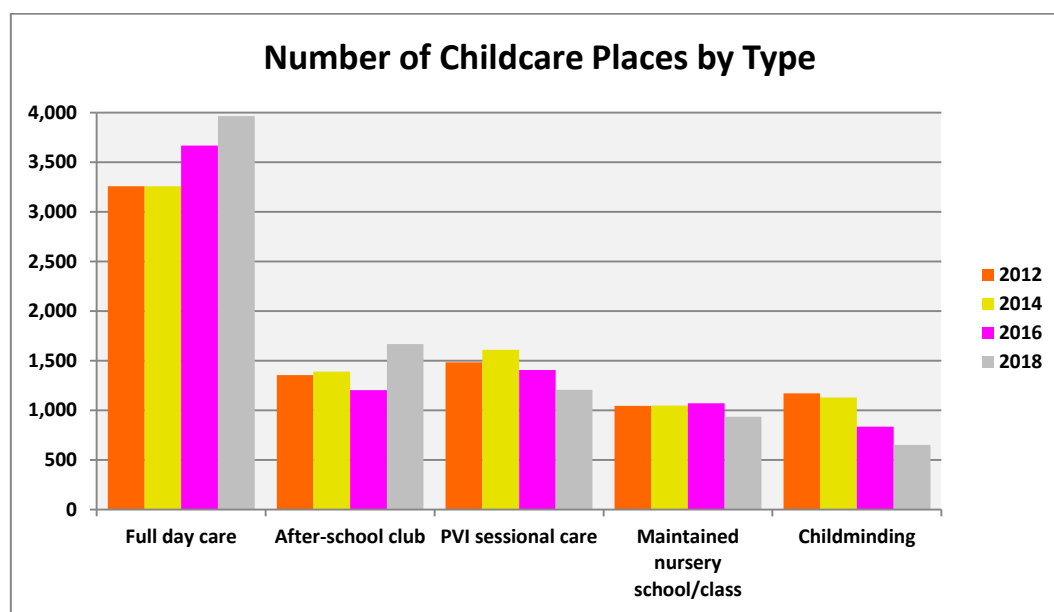


The change in the number of childcare providers by type of provision is shown below.



### 13.2 Childcare places for children of all ages

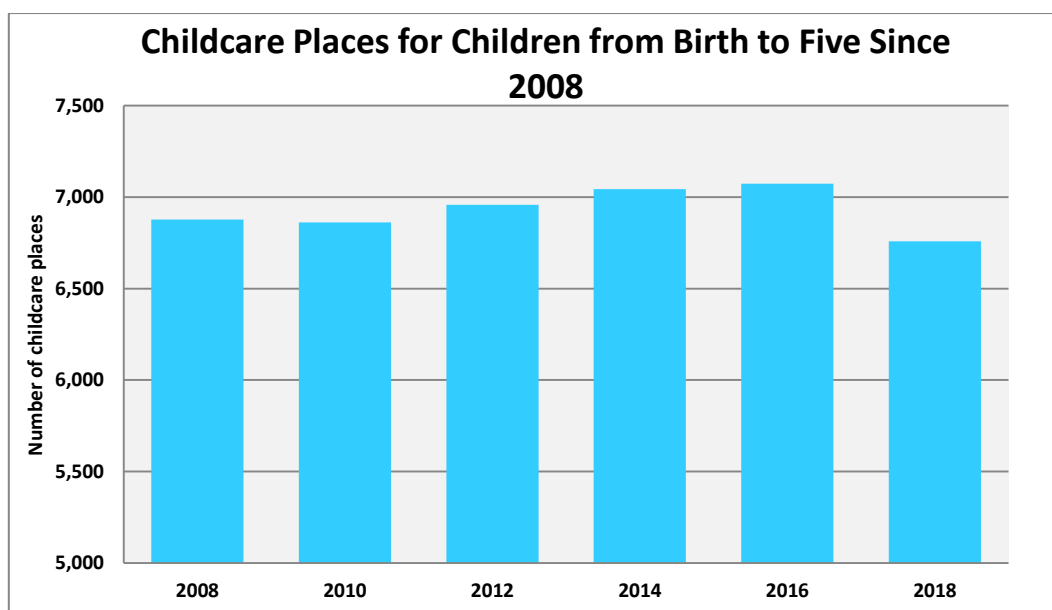
Since 2016 there has been an increase in the number of full day care and after-school club places, but a reduction in sessional care and maintained nursery class places. The most significant reduction (22.1 per cent) has been in the number of childminding places. There has also been a fall in childminding places nationally, but the reduction is not as large as that in Brighton & Hove.<sup>42</sup>



### 13.3 Places for children from birth to five

There has been a 4.5 per cent reduction in the number of childcare places for children from birth to five since 2016, mainly because of the reduction in number of childminding places, as well as the closure of four maintained nursery classes over this period.

<sup>42</sup> Ofsted data shows between March 2016 and March 2018 a drop of 4.5 per cent in the number of childminding places in Brighton & Hove, compared with a 3.2 per cent reduction nationally. The difference between the CSA figures and Ofsted figures relates to the way in which childminders report their places to the council compared with how they are recorded by Ofsted



### 13.4 Settings opening and closing between November 2016 and November 2018<sup>43</sup>

Since the last CSA 15 early years settings have closed with the loss of 538 places; seven settings have opened resulting in a gain of 190 places. Most closures have been of sessional care providers, and most settings which have opened are full day care.

	Number of settings	Number of places	of which	Sessional	Full day care
Opened	7	190		2	5
Closed	15	538		11	4

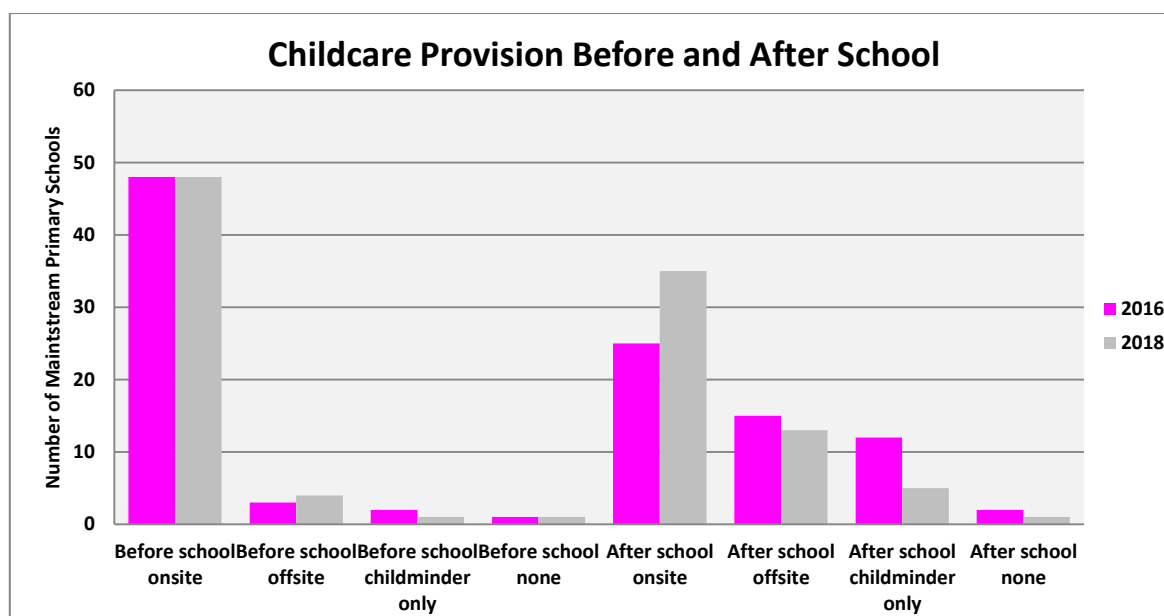
### 13.5 Childcare for school-age children

Children in maintained primary schools are generally well-served; of 54 maintained primary schools 35 have onsite after-school clubs,<sup>44</sup> an increase of 40 per cent from 2016. Most of the others have access to childcare on other sites, or through childminder pick-up.

88 per cent of maintained primary schools have onsite breakfast clubs, with all but two of the remaining schools having offsite provision.

<sup>43</sup> Excluding change of ownership

<sup>44</sup> Some schools have a pick-up service from other providers, as well as onsite provision



Few after-school clubs indicated their childcare vacancies and so there is no data to report.

Many secondary schools run breakfast clubs for their students as well as after-school activities which may be used as childcare.

Children at special schools have access to inclusive after-school club and holiday playscheme provision run by a voluntary sector organisation. Extended day provision is under development for the new special school hubs.

### 13.6 Holiday playschemes

In summer 2018 25 Ofsted registered playschemes ran in the city. Most of these are also run at during the Easter holidays and half terms.

Holiday	Number of clubs
Summer	25
Easter	17
Half term(s)	17
Christmas	5

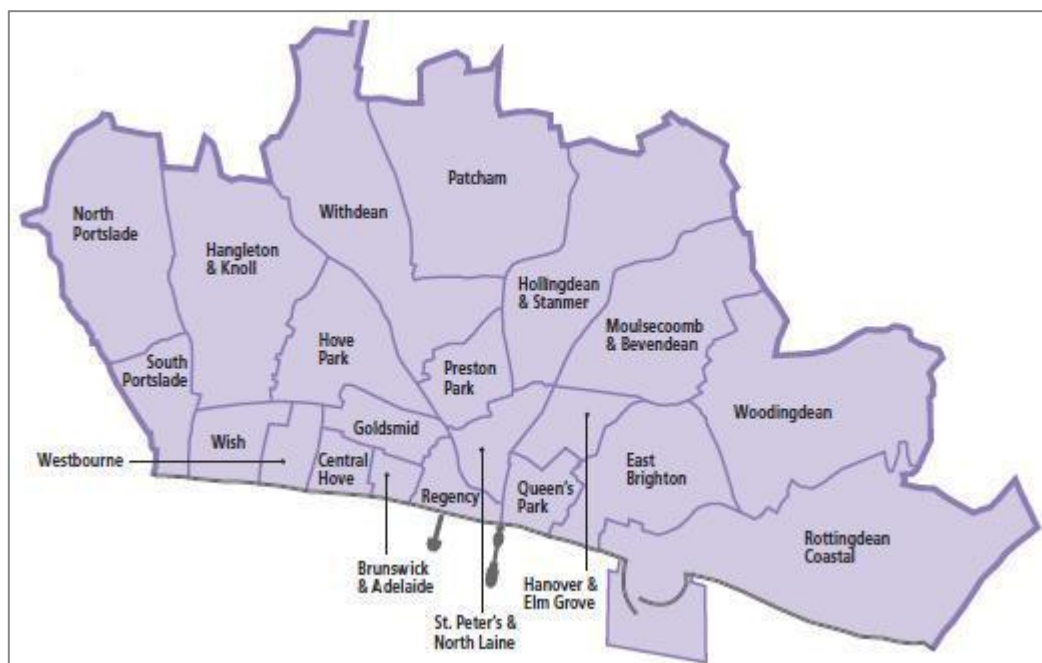
The majority of playschemes take children from age four, although two take children from age three.

### 13.7 Childcare provision penetration rates

The childcare penetration rate refers to the number of children per childcare place. A low figure is good as it means that there are fewer children per childcare place and so more choice for parents. Conversely a higher number of children per childcare place means that there is less choice for parents.

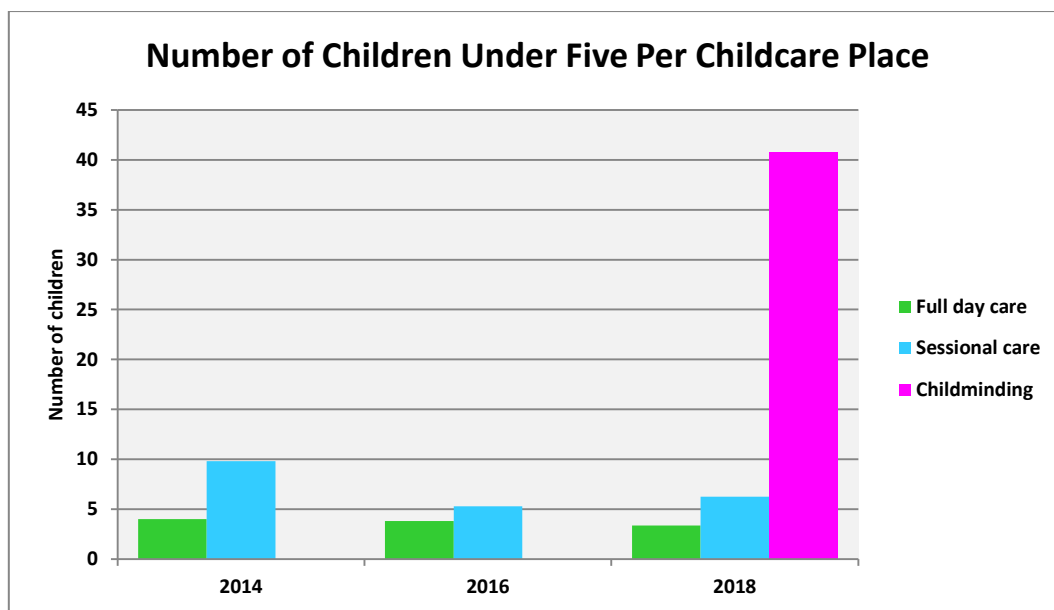
A childcare place for full day care is normally a place available for 10 hours a day, five days a week. Given that most parents use childcare for less than this, one childcare place may be shared by a number of children.

Parents do not necessarily access childcare in the ward in which they live; in addition although there may be a high number of children per childcare place in one ward, the situation may be reversed in a neighbouring ward, for example in the number of children per full day care place in North Portslade (12.8 children per full day care place) compared with Hangleton & Knoll (4.8 children per full day care place).



Across the city there has been a reduction in the number of children per full day care place but an increase in the number of children per sessional care place.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Data for childminding is reported differently this year as it only includes places for children up to the age of five, and so a comparison with previous years cannot be made



For full day the care number of children per place ranges from 12.8 in North Portslade to 0.9 in Wish. There is no full day care in Brunswick & Adelaide, Regency or Woodingdean.

Sessional care ranges from 25.8 children per place in Wish to 2.3 children per place in Queen's Park. There is no sessional care in St Peter's & North Laine.

Childminding ranges from 143 children per place in Central Hove to 18.2 in Hanover & Elm Grove. There are no childminders in Westbourne.

Ward	Number of under fives	Full day care	Sessional care	Childminding
Brunswick & Adelaide	377	none	9.2	125.7
Central Hove	429	5.1	19.5	143.0
East Brighton	750	3.5	6.9	125.0
Goldsmid	895	1.3	9.9	63.9
Hangleton & Knoll	873	4.6	6.8	41.6
Hanover & Elm Grove	781	3.1	7.5	18.2
Hollingdean & Stanmer	742	7.5	6.4	23.2
Hove Park	549	3.8	6.0	54.9
Moulsecoomb & Bevendean	742	10.8	3.2	67.5
North Portslade	667	12.8	11.1	29.0
Patcham	788	8.8	4.9	27.2
Preston Park	739	3.5	10.6	49.3
Queen's Park	586	5.7	2.3	97.7
Regency	308	none	5.9	51.3
Rottingdean Coastal	530	5.0	3.1	27.9
South Portslade	609	6.1	4.1	50.8
St. Peter's & North Laine	624	2.6	none	78.0
Westbourne	544	4.2	7.2	none
Wish	620	0.9	25.8	24.8
Withdean	692	1.5	6.5	33.0
Woodingdean	537	none	5.8	25.6
<b>Brighton &amp; Hove</b>	<b>13,382</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>40.8</b>

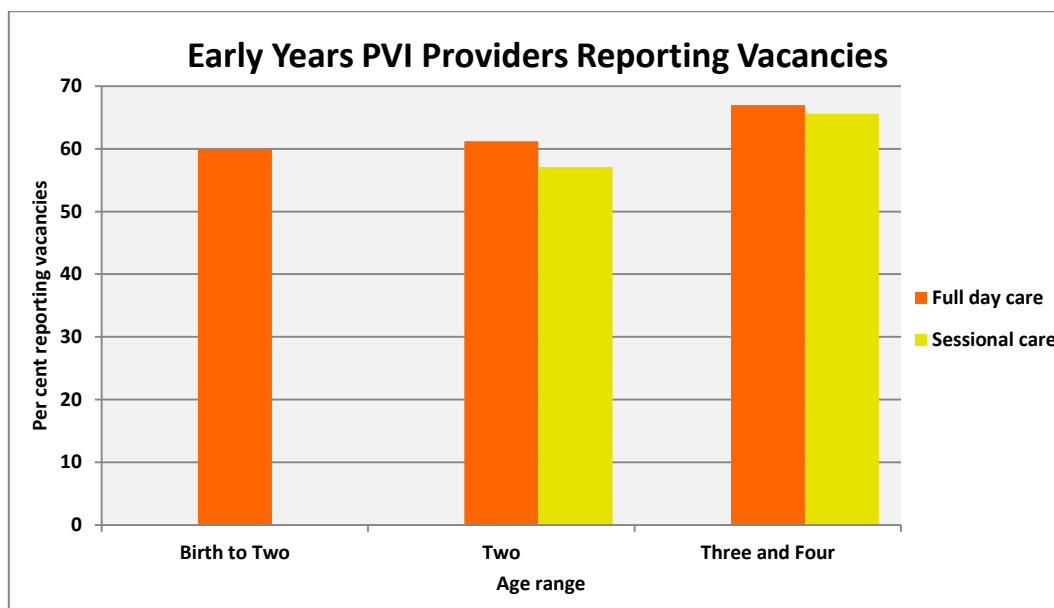


If full day care and sessional care are combined the penetration rates are as follows, with the lowest number of children per childcare place in Wish (0.9), and the highest in Brunswick & Adelaide (9.2).

Ward	Full day care and sessional care
Brunswick & Adelaide	9.2
Central Hove	4.0
East Brighton	2.3
Goldsmid	1.1
Hangleton & Knoll	2.8
Hanover & Elm Grove	2.2
Hollingdean & Stanmer	3.5
Hove Park	2.3
Moulsecoomb & Bevendean	2.5
North Portslade	6.0
Patcham	3.2
Preston Park	2.6
Queen's Park	1.7
Regency	5.9
Rottingdean Coastal	1.9
South Portslade	2.5
St. Peter's & North Laine	2.6
Westbourne	2.6
Wish	0.9
Withdean	1.2
Woodingdean	5.8
<b>Brighton &amp; Hove</b>	<b>2.2</b>

### 13.8 Childcare providers reporting vacancies

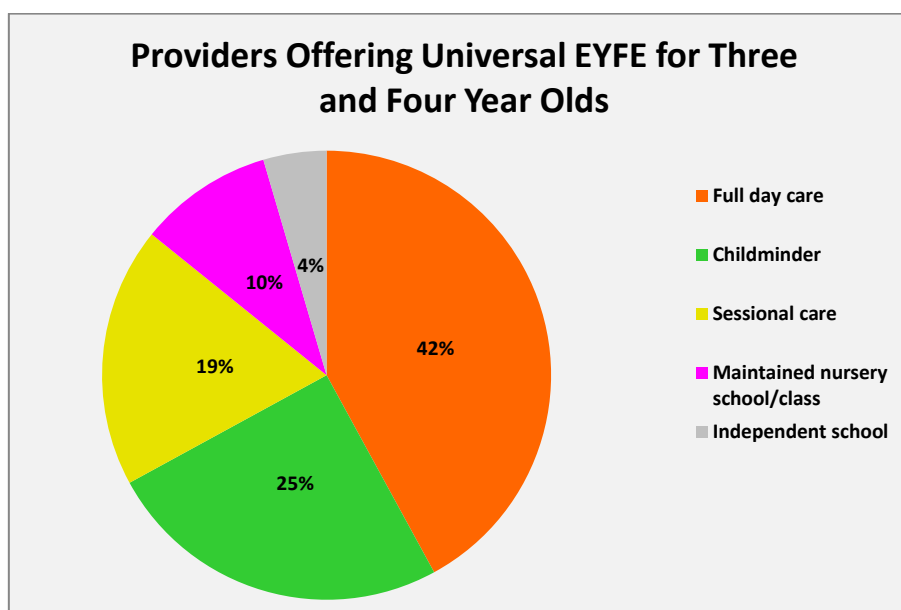
Of early years PVI childcare providers reporting, most had vacancies throughout the age groups.<sup>46</sup>



National data reports that 73 per cent of full day care and sessional providers had at least some spare capacity.

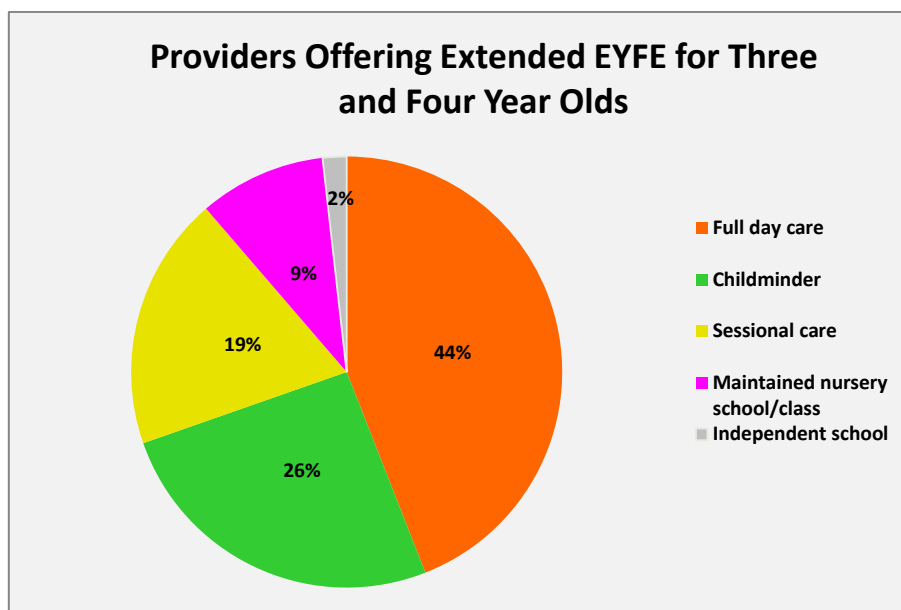
### 13.9 Early years providers offering EYFE for three and four year olds

176 providers offer universal EYFE for three and four year olds, which accounts for all Ofsted registered group-based early years providers in the city, with the addition of 37.9 per cent of registered childminders.



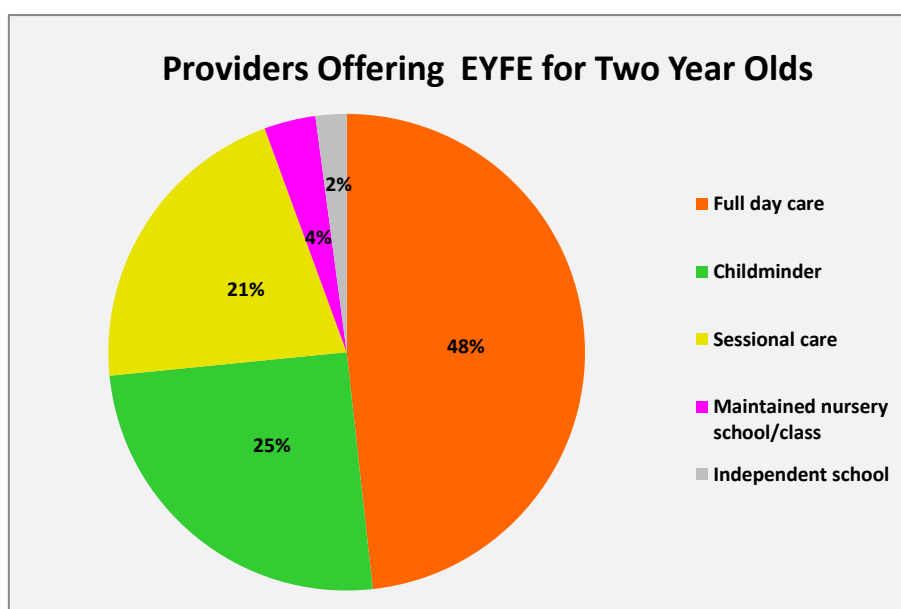
<sup>46</sup> All providers stated that their vacancies changed regularly

Of these, 168 (95.5 per cent) offer extended EYFE, either alone or in partnership with another provider. Those which do not offer the extended entitlement are mainly nursery units of independent schools. Nationally 90 per cent of group-based providers and 77 per cent of childminders offer the extended entitlement.



### 13.10 Early years providers offering EYFE for two year olds

143 providers offer EYFE for two year olds, including three maintained providers (no change from 2016).



### 13.11 Childcare available in non-traditional hours

Since 2016 there has been an increase in the number of full day care providers open in the early morning, with 41.9 per cent open before 8 am (37.3 per cent in 2016); the earliest

opening time is 7 am. 25.7 per cent of full day care providers are open after 6 pm (no change from 2016) with the latest closing time being 7 pm.

Parents wanting childcare after these times or at weekends may be able to use a childminder although only three stated that they offer weekend provision. Of 64 at home childcarers in the city, seven stated that they offered care at weekends.<sup>47</sup>

### **13.12 Childcare for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

Local authorities are required to have regard to the needs of parents in their area for childcare which is suitable for disabled children.<sup>48</sup>

Brighton & Hove is committed to ensuring that children with SEND have access to a wide range of childcare provision. All registered childcare providers are supported to welcome children with SEND and to make reasonable adjustments to enable them to attend their setting.

The average number of universal EYFE hours taken up by children with SEND in PVI provision is 13.8 per week, compared with 13.2 a week for children without SEND.<sup>49</sup> 46.7 per cent of group-based settings had one or more children with SEND, compared with 72 per cent of group-based settings nationally. For childminders the proportion was 6.7 per cent, compared with 19 per cent nationally.

Additional support funding (ASF) is offered to early years providers to meet any extra costs (such as additional staff or specialist equipment) for a child with SEND. Currently ASF matches EYFE hours<sup>50</sup> for two, three and four year olds. In 2017/18 ASF was paid for 26 two year olds and 107 three and four year olds.

Settings which take a three or four year old in receipt of Disability Living Allowance receive an annual Disability Access Fund payment of £615. In 2017/18 DAF was paid for 56 children.

Inclusion funding may be available to support school-age children to attend after-school clubs and holiday playschemes, up to maximum amounts. In 2017/18 this funded 59 children to attend a mainstream after-school club or holiday playscheme.

A one-off annual grant has been paid to a voluntary sector organisation providing inclusive after-school and holiday provision for children with SEND.

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<sup>47</sup> Based on data from 29 home childcarers

<sup>48</sup> Childcare Act 2006, s6.2.(ii)

<sup>49</sup> DfE early years census January 2018

<sup>50</sup> As needed to enable the child to access the full curriculum

## **14. Family Information Service Brokerage**

The Family Information Service offers brokerage to help parents who may have difficulty finding childcare that meets their needs, for example to cover shift work, unusual hours, where the child has SEND, or where the parent has difficulty finding provision in their chosen location.

Brokerage includes helping parents to look at alternative childcare provision, explaining options available, or liaising with childcare providers on the parent's behalf. The at home childcare service is also an option which can be explored with parents. Brokerage is also offered to eligible parents who have not taken up EYFE for their two year old.

Brokerage requests have included

- Work patterns, shift work, starting a new job, self-employed
- Parent study support time, attending a course or training
- Childcarer to assist with home schooling or school absence
- Court appearance
- Childcare fallen through or has come to an end
- New to Brighton & Hove
- Support for family following bereavement or parental illness

## 15. Childcare Prices

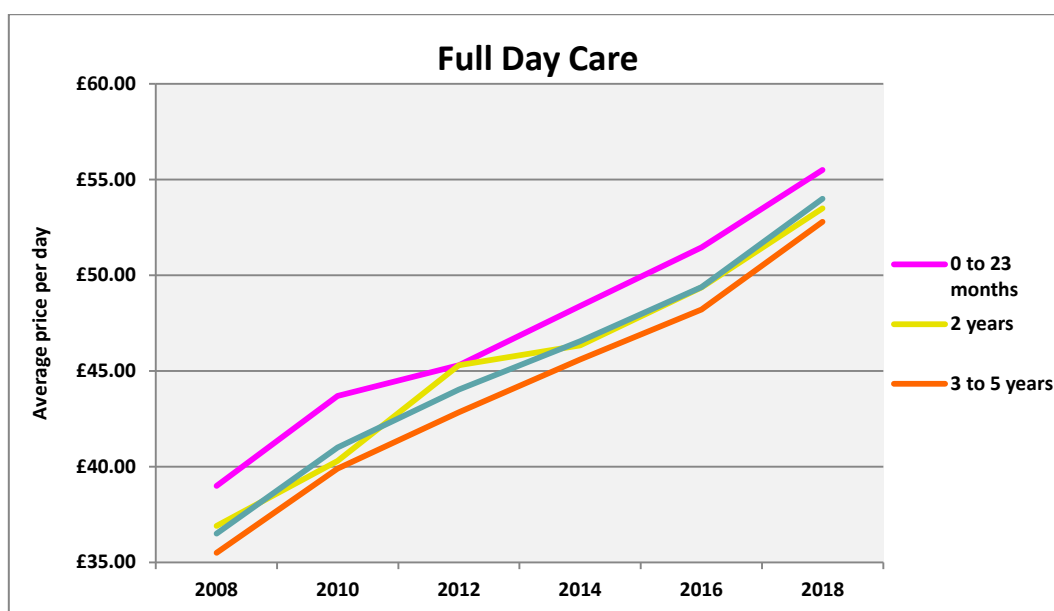
Childcare prices have been calculated using information supplied by providers, and where necessary have been extrapolated using the standard daily rate for a full day or a full session of care. Prices do not include any discounts, for example for siblings or where a parent purchases care over more days a week.

Some providers include a range of services in their fees such as food, wipes and nappies, for which others make an additional charge.

The prices shown are the fee charged to parents for a full day or a full session of care; prices are often higher as an hourly rate where parents have to purchase additional hours to wrap around those which are part of the EYFE.

### 15.1 Full day care

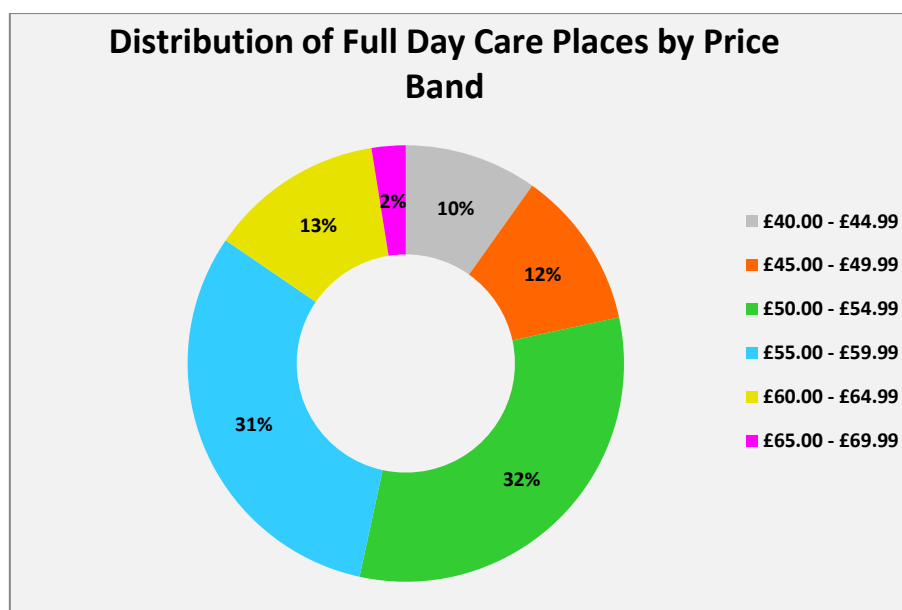
The average price for full day care is £54.00 per day,<sup>51</sup> and has increased by 9.4 per cent since 2016.



- Lowest in the city £41.00 per day
- Highest in the city £69.40 per day

63 per cent of full day care places were priced between £50 and £59.99 per day. In 2016 nearly 70 per cent of full day care places were priced between £45.00 and £54.99 per day.

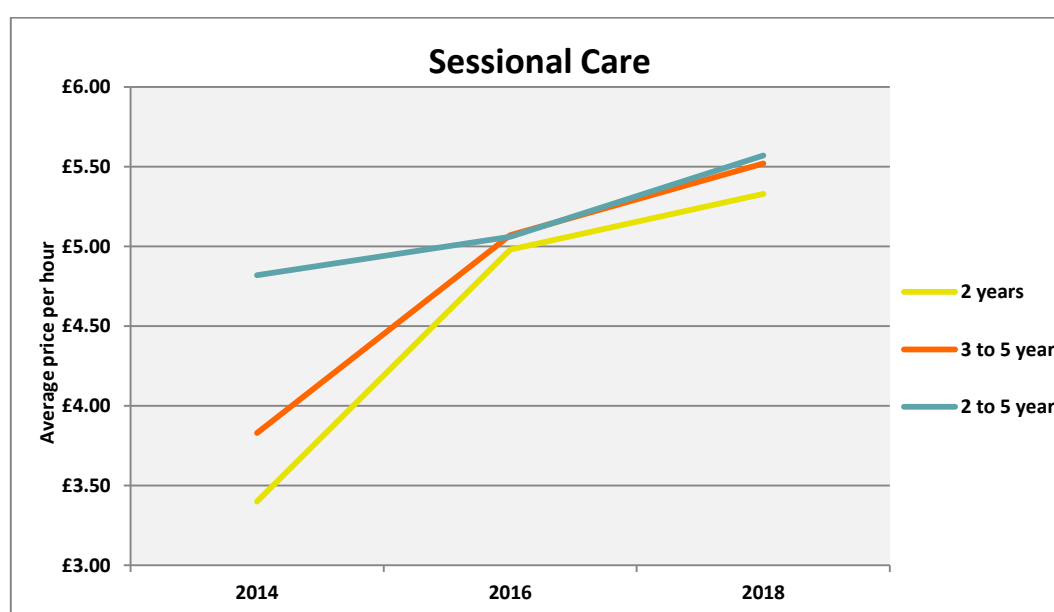
<sup>51</sup> Average price for a 10 hour day



Additional charges for hours at the beginning and end of the day range from £4.35 to £12.68, and average £8.38 per hour.

## 15.2 Sessional care

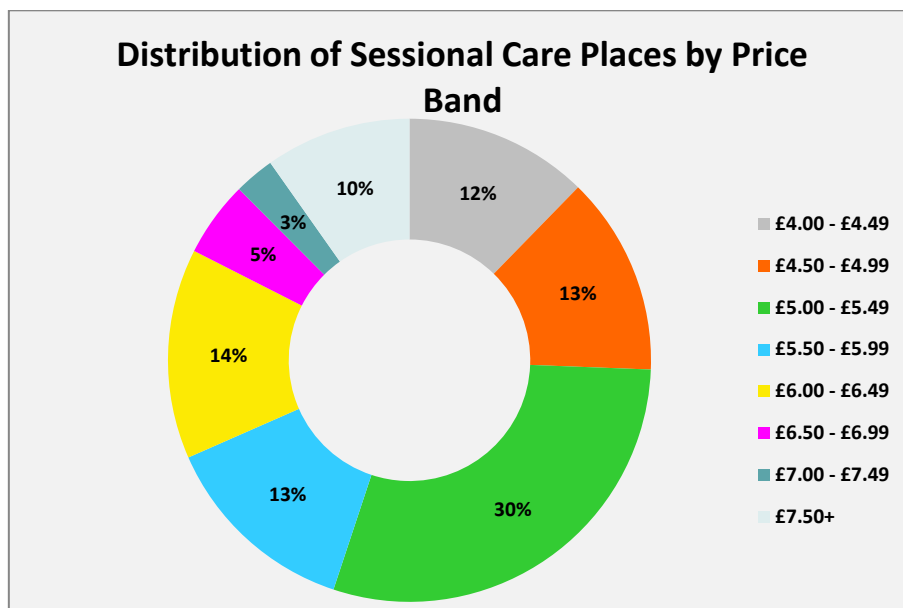
The average price for sessional care<sup>52</sup> is £5.57 per hour and has increased by 10.1 per cent since 2016.



- Highest in the city £10.51 per hour
- Lowest in the city £4.00 per hour

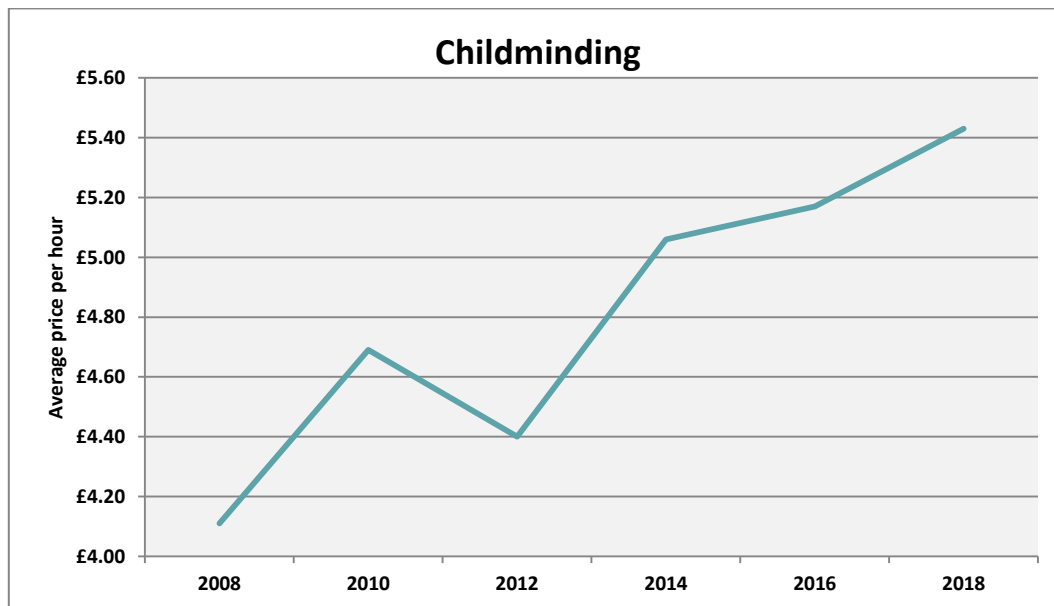
<sup>52</sup> Sessional care prices include independent school fees which are often significantly higher than those of sessional private and voluntary sector settings; when independent schools are excluded the average price is £5.26 per hour

The distribution of sessional care places by cost band is shown below. 57 per cent of sessional care places were priced between £5.00 and £6.49 per hour; in 2016 62 per cent of sessional care places were priced between £3.50 and £5.49 an hour.



### 15.3 Childminding

The average of price of childminding is £5.43 per hour and has increased by 5 per cent since 2016.

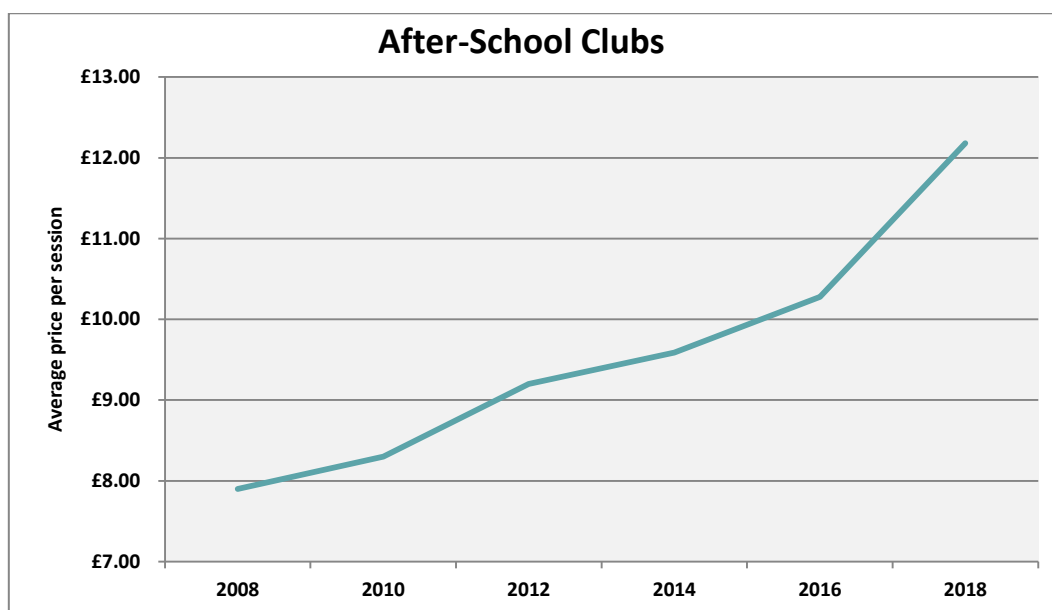


- Highest in the city £8.00 per hour
- Lowest in the city £4.00 per hour



## 15.4 After-school clubs

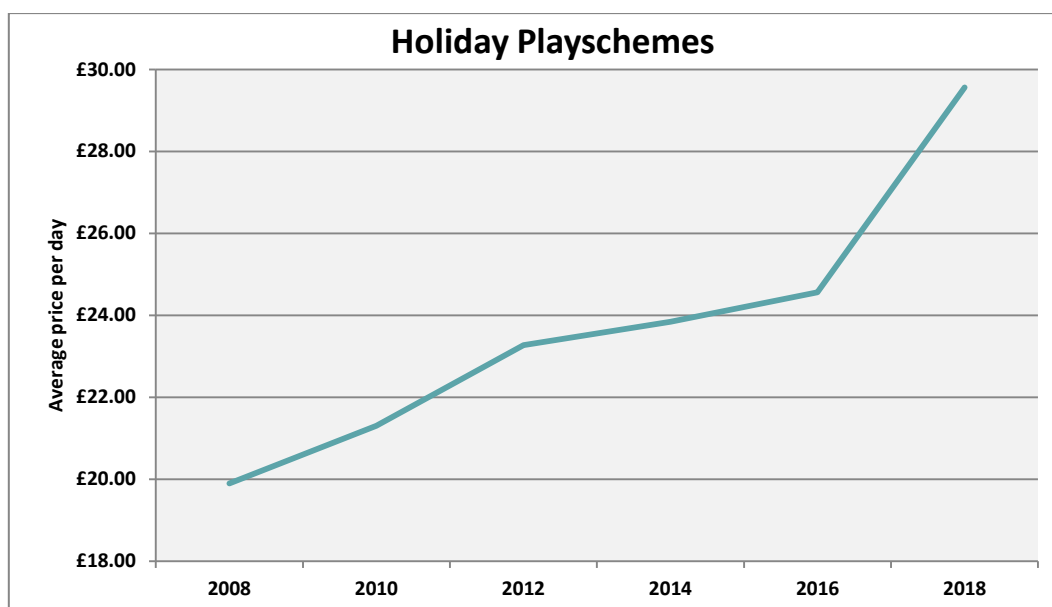
The average price of an after-school club session<sup>53</sup> is £12.18, an 18.5 per cent increase since 2016.



- Highest in city £15.00 per session
- Lowest in city £6.00 per session

## 15.5 Holiday playschemes

The average price of a holiday playscheme is £29.56 per day,<sup>54</sup> an increase of 20.4 per cent since 2016.



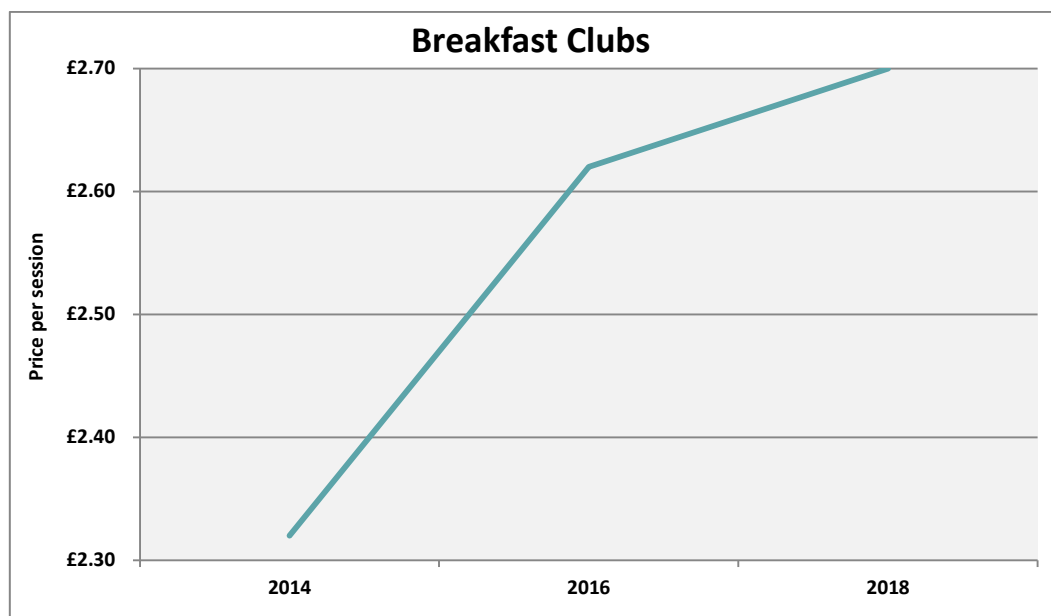
<sup>53</sup> On average an after-school club session last 2 hours 50 minutes

<sup>54</sup> The price is for a standard day, excluding any earlier or later hours that can be purchased; day lengths range from five to 10 hours

- Highest in the city £46.00
- Lowest in the city £23.50

## 15.6 Breakfast clubs

The average price of a breakfast club is £2.70, an increase of 3.1 per cent since 2016. Some breakfast clubs are free, and some do not include any food.



- Highest in the city £4.75
- Lowest in the city free

## 15.7 At home childcarers

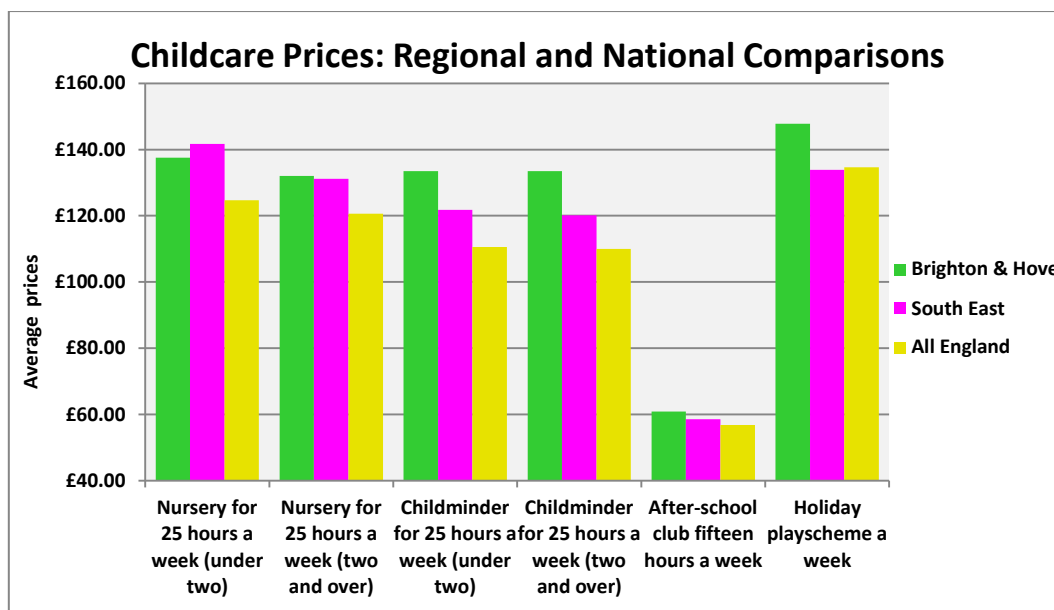
The average hourly price for an at home childcarer is £9.92,<sup>55</sup> an increase of 11.2 per cent since 2016. Most charge additional fees for weekend and overnight care, as well as for looking after more than one child.

## 15.8 Regional and national price comparisons<sup>56</sup>

All average childcare prices in Brighton & Hove are higher than those in England as a whole, with the greatest difference in the price of a childminder. Compared with regional prices Brighton & Hove's are also higher, except for the price of nursery provision for a child under two.

<sup>55</sup> Based on data from 29 at home childcarers

<sup>56</sup> Data from Coram Family and Childcare [Childcare Costs Survey 2018](#)



## 15.9 Help with childcare costs

In addition to EYFE parents can access support with their childcare costs, where the childcare is registered with Ofsted (including on the voluntary childcare register) through

- Tax free childcare – for children under the age of 12 parents can received up to £2,000 per child per year government support with childcare costs (or up to £4,000 if the child is disabled)
- Childcare element of Working Tax Credit – up to 70 per cent of childcare costs
- Childcare support through Universal Credit – up to 85 per cent of childcare costs
- Care to Learn – for parents under the age of 20 at the start of their course in school or college
- Childcare grant – for students in higher education who are eligible for student finance

## **16. Appendices**

### **16.1 Appendix 1 Parent survey**

### **16.2 Appendix 2 Parent survey postcard**

### **16.3 Appendix 3 List of community groups for parent survey**

### **16.4 Appendix 4 Parent survey data tables**

### **16.5 Appendix 5 Provider data tables**