



Leicester  
City Council

# **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019**

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# 1. Aims and objectives

## Introduction

The duty on English local authorities to secure sufficient childcare and be instrumental in shaping the childcare market to meet the needs of parents and carers, is set out in The Childcare Act 2006, sections 6 and 7.

The Early Education and Childcare statutory guidance outlines the requirement for local authorities to produce a report on the childcare market with particular responsibility for assessing the sufficiency of early year's free entitlements for two, three and four year olds. The key purpose of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report is to map the profile of childcare at a sub-locality level and determine if the LA has secured sufficient childcare for those eligible and for parents and carer who require childcare.

The statutory duty requires the local authority to secure sufficient childcare, as far as reasonably practicable, for working parents or parents studying or training for employment, for children aged 0 – 14 (or up to 18 years for disabled children).

The statutory duty requires the LA by law to 'report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare and make this report available and accessible to parents.

## Methodology

In this report, we have assessed sufficiency using various sources of data which inform the LA about the quality, supply (amount) and the demand (need) for childcare and evaluate the feedback from local parents about their ability to find suitable childcare in a particular locality.

Data collection methods include:

- Parent survey
- Provider survey
- Childcare Provider profiles
- School survey

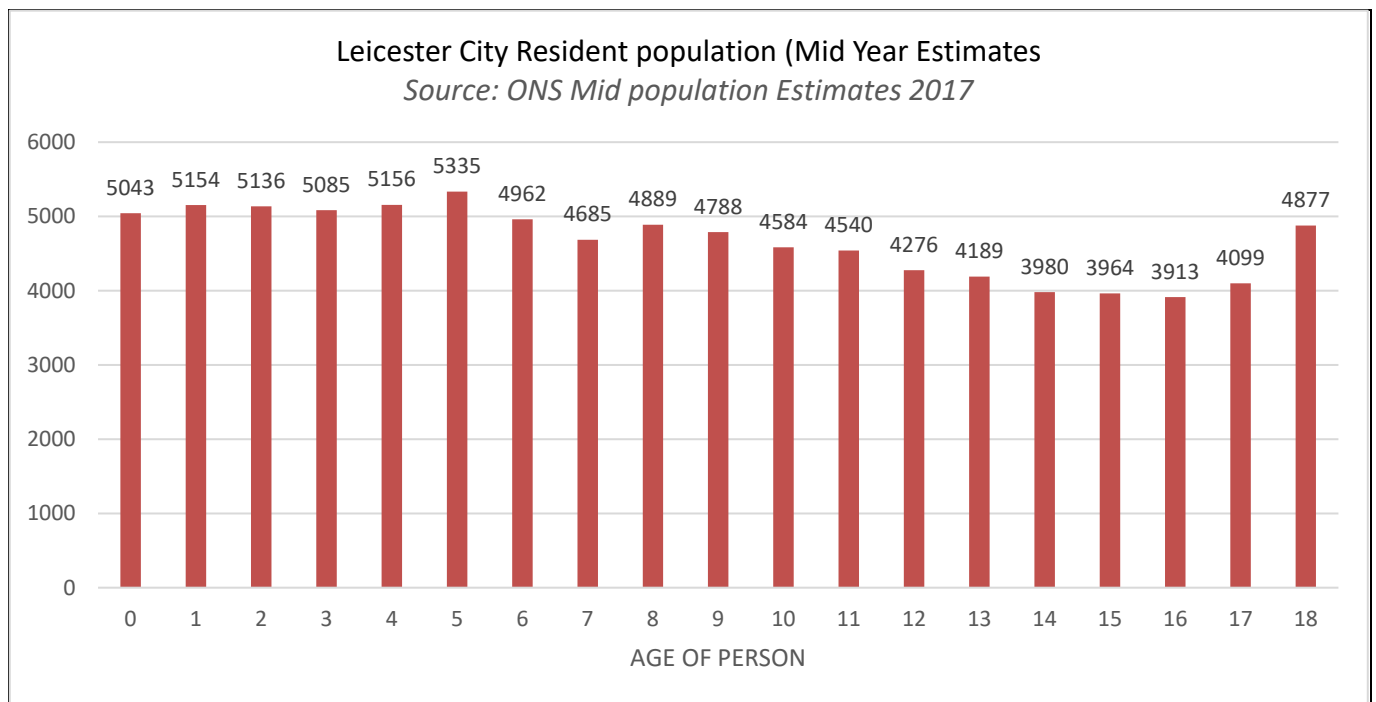
The evaluation will determine gaps in the childcare market, with particular focus on 2, 3 and 4 year Funded Early Education Entitlement, which will be illustrated in the Market Position Statement and mapping of the city.

## 2. Demand for Childcare

### Leicester city Overview - Population of Children in Leicester City

Analysing and understanding the Population data for children is essential to place planning for early years and childcare provision. The data is collated into population size by age group 0-18 years (Table 1). For the purposes of strategic planning and leadership reporting we analyse population of children at sub locality level, at ward (Table 2).

**Table 1- Leicester City Ward Residents Population (Mid-Year Estimates 2017) Source: Office of National Statistics (ONS) Mid population Estimates 2017**



The national population data is analysed to establish patterns in population growth and decline, these variations are monitored at a mid-point and on an annual basis. It's important to recognise that the national data presented below is an indicator at a specific point. Local data and intelligence of other socio-economic factors that impact fluxes in population are also key, to understanding and informing the place planning and market management of early years and childcare places across the city.

Leicester has 21 ward areas. Table 2 provides a breakdown of where in the city children live at a sub locality level. The ward areas with the highest population of children and young people are:

- North Evington
- Stoneygate
- Western
- Braunstone and Rowley Field
- Humberstone and Hamilton
- Beaumont Ley
- Abbey

Accounting for 45% of the total population of Children and Young people in the city.

**Table 2 – Population size by age group 0-18 in ward area (ONS *Mid population Estimates 2017*)**

WARD	Age 0 - 1	Age 2	Age 3 & 4	Age 5 -7	Age 8 -10	Age 11 -14	Age 15 - 18	TOTAL
Abbey	631	313	673	915	841	934	888	5195
Aylestone	343	166	313	537	431	497	427	2714
Beaumont Leys	586	300	578	924	838	993	826	5045
Belgrave	465	218	419	612	589	848	844	3995
Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields	661	309	680	1042	1000	1165	1049	5906
Castle	306	136	249	304	249	217	760	2221
Evington	480	257	496	734	674	822	852	4315
Eyres Monsell	346	167	397	564	533	690	562	3259
Fosse	540	255	498	648	520	555	521	3537
Humberstone and Hamilton	619	337	699	1021	935	1070	1001	5682
Knighton	403	191	389	587	565	728	761	3624
North Evington	777	379	679	999	1018	1244	1277	6373
Rushey Mead	330	166	385	600	660	832	833	3806
Saffron	341	188	350	539	501	575	651	3145
Spinney Hills	412	230	392	570	600	864	813	3881
Stoneygate	630	327	597	934	967	1156	1251	5862
Thurncourt	319	168	341	539	519	584	526	2996
Troon	392	191	424	644	637	776	722	3786
Westcotes	420	203	356	404	324	327	416	2450
Western	661	357	766	1081	998	1171	1001	6035
Wycliffe	535	278	560	784	862	937	872	4828
<b>LEICESTER CITY TOTALS</b>	<b>10197</b>	<b>5136</b>	<b>10241</b>	<b>14982</b>	<b>14261</b>	<b>16985</b>	<b>16853</b>	<b>88655</b>

The aim of this section is to provide a picture of children and young people in Leicester city, therefore in this section the information comes from a variety of sources including national information and local data. The local data is educational data and therefore does not include all children in Leicester. This data specifically applies to information about children aged between 3 – 4 years old (early education funding entitlement data) and 5 – 16 years old (education data).

Limitations of the data:

- SEND data, is based on census information for children who have an EHC plan in place, data for children with emerging needs or in the process of assessment will be missing.
- 2, 3 and 4 year old data is based on take up data for non-compulsory entitlement, and therefore those choosing not to access the early entitlements are missing from the take-up data.

### **Population of early years children**

In total, there is 88,655 children and young people aged between 0- 18 years old, 29% of which are children under five living in our local authority. (Table 2a) These children may require early years childcare.

**Table 2a- Number by age (Source: ONS mid-year 2017)**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Number of children</b>
0 (birth) – 1	10,197
2	5136
3	5085
4	5156
<b>Total under 5's Population</b>	<b>25,574</b>

### **Population of school age children**

In total there are 33,783 children aged 5- 11 and 12,445 children aged 12-14 living in our local authority, which represents 52% of total population of children aged 0-18 years old. These children may require childcare before and after school, and/or during the school holidays. (Table 2b).

**Table 2b - Number by age (ONS 2017 mid-year)**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Number of children</b>
5	5335
6	4962
7	4685
8	4889
9	4788
Age 10	4584
Age 11	4540
Age 12	4276
Age 13	4189
Age 14	3980
<b>Total population for children aged 5 - 14</b>	<b>46,228</b>

### **Population of Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

The national data (Table 3- SEN2 2010-2018) shows the total number of children (0-19) that had a statement or EHC in place over a two-year period. In 2017 total number of children and young people were 1,824 children, with a slight increase in 2018 to 2,097.

**Table 3: Children and young people with a statement or EHC plan<sup>1</sup> by local authority**

Years: January 2010 - 2018

Coverage: England

LA code	LA name	2017			2018		
		Statements	EHC plans <sup>2</sup>	Total	Statements	EHC plans <sup>2</sup>	Total
<b>ENGLAND</b>		<b>112,057</b>	<b>175,233</b>	<b>287,290</b>	<b>34,097</b>	<b>285,722</b>	<b>319,819</b>
<b>EAST MIDLANDS</b>		<b>7,434</b>	<b>13,332</b>	<b>20,766</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>20,471</b>	<b>22,926</b>
E06000015	831 Derby	1,119	366	1,485	627	1,056	1,683
E10000007	830 Derbyshire	2,234	1,231	3,465	1,247	2,130	3,377
E06000016	856 Leicester	612	1,212	1,824	36	2,061	2,097
E10000018	855 Leicestershire	645	2,705	3,350	84	3,619	3,703
E10000019	925 Lincolnshire	915	3,001	3,916	4	4,556	4,560
E10000021	928 Northamptonshire	1,284	2,331	3,615	384	3,489	3,873
E06000018	892 Nottingham	176	643	819	9	924	933
E10000024	891 Nottinghamshire	404	1,700	2,104	64	2,435	2,499
E06000017	857 Rutland	45	143	188	0	201	201

Source: SEN2 2010-2018

**Notes:**

1. Only statutory EHC plans are recorded in collections from 2015 onwards; non-statutory EHC plans issued by pathfinder local authorities are not incl.
2. Includes a very small number of children and young people with statements not yet transferred to EHC plans.

The table 4 is data taken from (2020 Census for Leicester), it provides a breakdown of total number of children with an EHC plan or statement by age ranges, in 2020 there were a total 2,317 children and young people aged 0- 19 years. This data has its limitation as it does not include those children and young people who are currently in the process for EHC assessment or those with emerging special needs, particularly for those under 5 years of age.

**Table 4 – Number of children based on age ranges 0 – 25 years with EHC plans in 2020**

Age	Subcategory	Number of children with EHC plans in Leicester (Census 2020)
Under 5 years	Birth to school age	85
5-10	Primary school – reception to year 6	766
11-15	Secondary school – year 7 to 9	876
Aged 16-19	Secondary school year 10 -13.	590
Aged 20-25		317
<b>Total</b>		<b>2634</b>

### 3. Supply of places - Early years and childcare provision for children 0-4 years

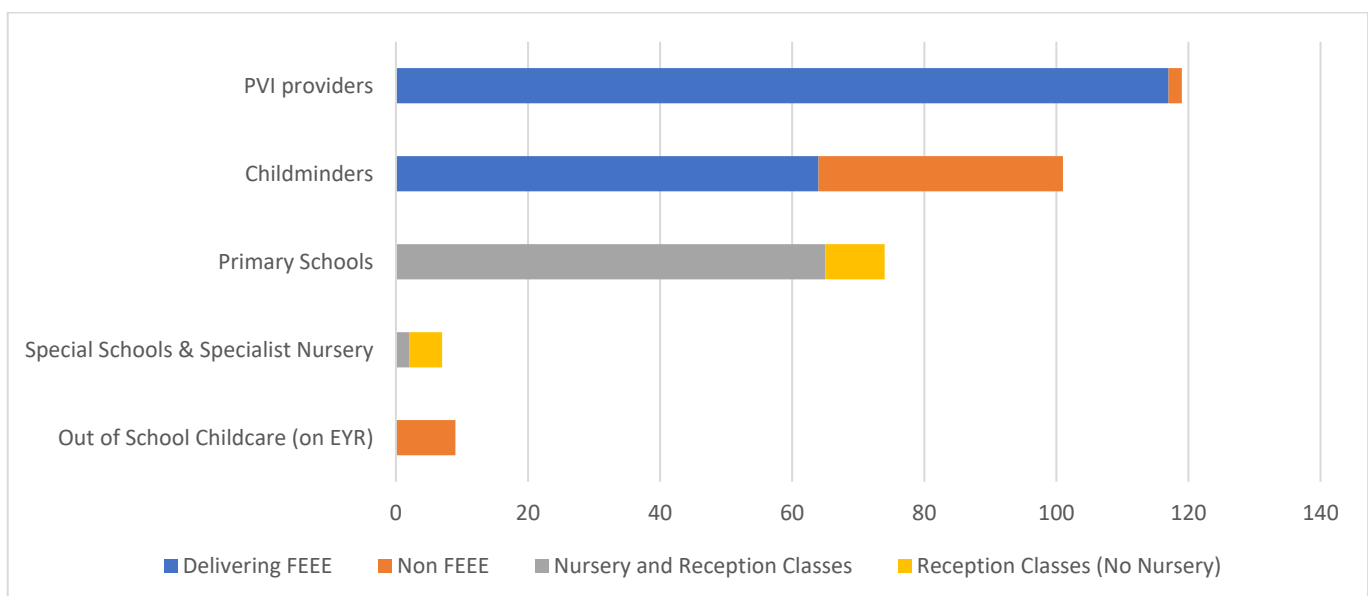
#### Early Years Provision for children 0 - 4 years.

In total, there are 294\* early years and childcare providers, including primary schools, in our local authority, offering 12,575\*\* early years places. The Private, Voluntary and Independent sector represents 40% of the total providers; Primary Schools represent 25% of the providers and Childminders represent 34% of the providers.

\*In addition to these, there are 6 Special Schools with Reception age provision (including 1 with Nursery age provision) and 1 Specialist Nursery for 0 – 5 year olds. There are also 9 Out of School Childcare Providers who are registered on the EYR but do not offer deliver early years or FEEE places.

\*\*Places counted as an equivalent of 30 hours or more per week (two 15 hour places counted as one 30 hour place).

**Figure 1 Number of Early Years Providers (Dec 2019)**



#### Key findings:

- Break down of types of early years providers; PVI providers: 119 (FEEE 117); Childminders: 101 (FEEE 64 and Non FEEE 37); Primary Schools: 74; Special Schools and Specialist Nursery: 7; Out of School Childcare 9 (all Non FEEE).
- PVI Providers: 65 are open all year round and 54 are open term-time only.
- PVI provider; Opening times range from 7am to 7pm with the majority opening at least 10 hours per day.
- Most childminders are open all year round.
- Childminders; Opening times range from 7am to 7pm but some would be able to offer more flexibility, earlier start; later finish.

The PVI sector offers 44% of the early years places; Primary Schools offer 53% of the early years places in their Nursery and/or Reception classes and Childminders offer 3% of the early year's places. (Table 5).



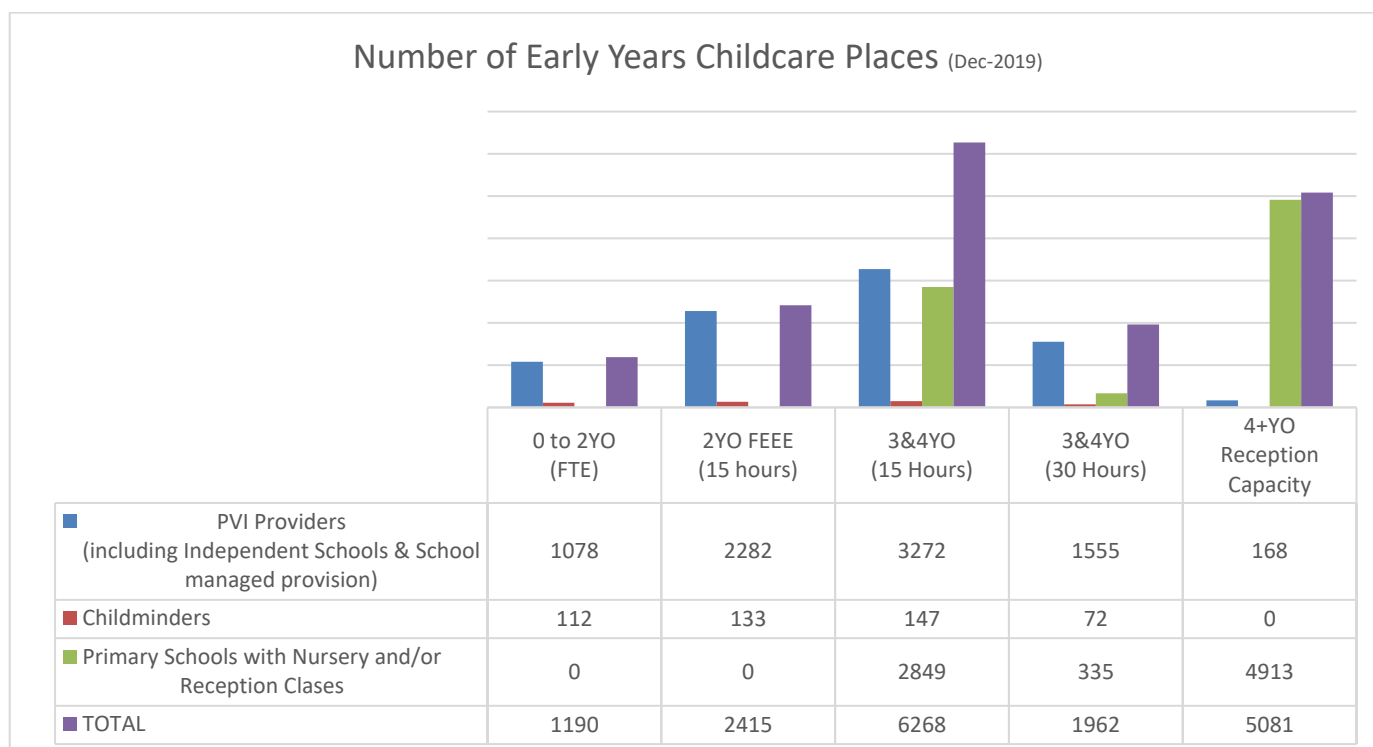
Leicester has seen a decline in the number of early years and childcare providers, this is a trend reflective both nationally and regionally. Since 2016 we have seen a decrease in the numbers of PVI (10) and Childminders (24), it's important to note that due to the fewer numbers of children that are able to be cared for by childminders on the Early Years Register, the reduction has not had a significant impact to sufficiency.

**Table 5: Number of Early Years Providers and Places 2019 and comparison closures (2016 to 2019)**

Type of provision	Number of providers (Dec 2019)	Number of early years places (equivalent of 30 hours or more per week)	Number of providers (Sept 2016)	Difference since 2016
Childminders*	101 (34%)	324 (3%)	125 (38%)	-24
Schools with Nursery classes and/or Reception classes	74 (25%)	6,673 (53%)	74 (22%)	0
Private, Voluntary and Independent providers	119 (40%)	5,578 (44%)	129 (39%)	-10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>294 (100%)</b>	<b>12,575 (100%)</b>	<b>328 (100%)</b>	<b>-34</b>

\*some childminders will also be offering places for older children not just in the early years age group.

**Table 6: Number of early years places to show analysis by 2, 3 and 4 year old FEEE (15 hour and 30 hour places) as per the FEEE Market Position Statement Dec 2019.**



The closures in the PVI sector (group care settings) have been significant in some areas of the city. However, overall, existing providers have adopted more flexible models of deliver and increased their capacity. These include offering stretched, three sessions a day and increased blended provision, to respond to the demand for childcare from working families.

Across the city we have a total of 74 mainstream primary schools (with Nursery provision 65 and without Nursery provision 9.) In addition to the above, there are 6 Special Schools with Nursery and/or Reception classes and 1 Specialist Nursery for 0-5 year olds.

There are also 3 School run pre-schools which come under their respective School's Ofsted registration but are run separately from the school's Nursery and/or Reception classes. These are included within the PVI sector providers.

There are 7 Independent Schools which offer Nursery and/or Reception classes and 3 of these have associated Ofsted registered pre-schools and full day care. These are all included within the PVI sector providers.

Table 7 below shows the differing models by which schools are governed, with the highest proportion 57% that are LA maintained schools, although it's evident there is an increase in the number of Academies across the city.

**Table 7 shows the number of Primary Schools with Nursery and/or Reception (breakdown of those delivering 3 and 4 year FEEE)**

Type	Total	Number offering Nursery provision
LA run - Community and voluntary controlled schools	42	40
Academies	28	24
Free schools	2	0
Voluntary aided schools	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>65</b>

### Number of Childcare places for 0- 2 year old children

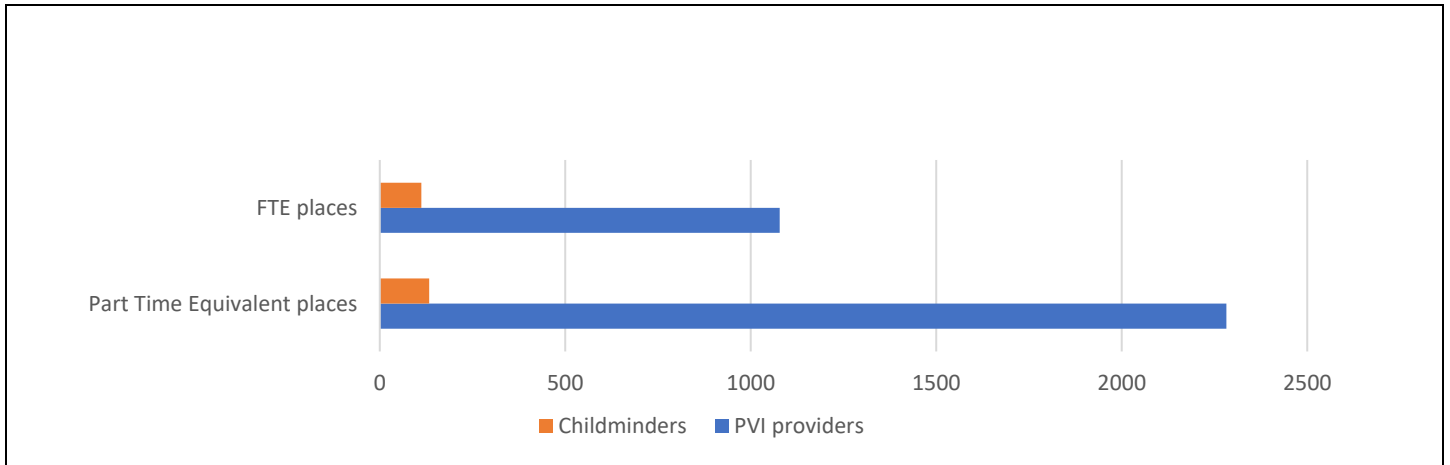
The population of 0-2 year olds who do not qualify for 2 year old FEEE\* is around 13,000 (based on the DWP lists of qualifying families around 45% of 2 year olds in Leicester are eligible for FEEE).

The number of full-time equivalent places of 1,190 work out to be around 1 place for every 10 children in the 0 to 2 age group who do not qualify for funding. Our Market Position Statement for funded places indicates a surplus of part-time equivalent places for funded 2-year olds. Some of this capacity will, in practice, be available for part-time and full-time places for non-funded 0-2 year olds and therefore the numbers of places available for 0–2 year olds will be higher than indicated. There is no evidence from parents or providers to suggest that there is a significant shortfall of places for non-funded 0–2 year olds, (Table 8 and Fig 2.)

**Table 8: Breakdown of places for under 2, and 2 year olds by type of early years provision. Full time equivalent places for 0 to 2 year olds and part-time equivalent places for funded 2 year olds.**

Type of provision	Full time equivalent places for 0-2 year olds	Part time equivalent places (available for Funded 2 year olds but can be accessed by non-funded 2 year olds)
Childminders	112	133
Private, Voluntary and Independent (and School run) – Nurseries and Pre-Schools	1078	2282
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1190</b>	<b>2415</b>

**Fig 2: Number of Childcare Places for 0-2 year olds**



## Childcare provision for children over 5 years

### Out of School Childcare Provision

There are also the following numbers of registered providers who are not on the Early Years register (table 9):

**Table 9: Numbers of out of school provider (on Childcare Register and / or Voluntary Childcare Register)**

Type	Total
Childminders (Not registered on the EYR)	9
Adventure Playgrounds	9
VCR ONLY – Group Providers – mainly Tuition Centres	9

### PVI providers Out of School Provision

Of the 119 PVI settings the following offer Out of School Services (mainly for the 5-10-year age group - table 10):

**Table 10: A breakdown of showing the number of PVI offering different types of over 5's Out of school services**

Source: Providers Survey for CSA 2019	Breakfast Clubs	After School Clubs	Holiday Clubs
Number of PVI's offering some level of the service	28	33	37
Percentage of total number of 119 PVI's offering the service	24%	28%	31%

**Tables 11: Shows further breakdown of PVI settings offering Out of school services by Ward and Cluster area** (PVI providers mainly offer out of school childcare and activities for the 5 – 10 years age group):

<b>Number of PVI settings Offering Service by Ward in each Cluster</b>	<b>Breakfast Club</b>	<b>After School Club</b>	<b>Holiday Care</b>
<b>CENTRAL</b>			
Castle	3	3	4
Spinney Hills		1	1
Stoneygate	1	1	
Wycliffe			1
<b>CENTRAL Total (out of 37 PVI settings)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>EAST</b>			
Evington	1	2	3
Humberstone & Hamilton	1		
Thurncourt	1	2	1
<b>EAST Total (out of 9 PVI settings)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>NORTH</b>			
Belgrave	3	3	4
North Evington	3	3	3
Rushey Mead		1	1
Troon	1	2	3
<b>NORTH Total (out of 20 PVI settings)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>NORTH WEST</b>			
Abbey			2
Beaumont Leys	3	3	3
Fosse	1	1	2
<b>NORTH WEST Total (out of 15 PVI settings)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>SOUTH</b>			
Aylestone		1	1
Eyres Monsell		1	1
Knighton	5	4	1
Saffron		1	1
<b>SOUTH Total (out of 20 PVI settings)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>WEST</b>			
Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields	3	3	2
Westcotes			2
Western	2	1	1
<b>WEST Total (out of 18 PVI settings)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>Grand Total (out of 119 PVI providers)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of PVI's</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>31%</b>

## SCHOOL BASED PROVISION FOR Children over 5 YEARS

### 3.10 Primary School Out of School Provision

**Table 12 Primary schools offering out of school services (Of the 74 Primary Schools)**

Source: Schools Survey for CSA 2019	Breakfast Clubs	After School Clubs	Holiday Clubs
Number of Schools offering some level of the service	56	54	9
Percentage of total number of 74 Primary Schools offering the service	76%	73%	12%

Further details of After school Clubs and Activities (Source: Schools Survey for CSA 2019):

- The services are for children from the respective school. Only 2 schools offer some services to children from other schools.
- There is a vast range of activity clubs, other than after school childcare, offered by the schools. These include activities relating to sports, arts & crafts, other skills, cooking and mindfulness (this list of categories is not exhaustive).
- Costs, where applicable, range from 50p per session to £6 per session depending on the type and duration of activity and many schools offer free clubs and activities.

**Table 13 Breakdown by duration the number of Schools offering After School and Activities:**

Duration	0-1 hour	1-2 hours	2-3 hours
Number of Schools offering service	53	22	8
Percentage of the 54 Schools offering the service	98%	41%	15%

**Table 14 Further breakdown of numbers of Schools and Age Ranges for the Services by Ward and Cluster areas.**

Number of Primary Schools Offering Service by Ward in each Cluster	Breakfast Club		After School Club		Holiday Care	
	3 - 4 years	5 - 10 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 10 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 10 years
<b>CENTRAL</b>						
Castle	1	1	2	2		1
Spinney Hills	1	1				
Stoneygate	1	3		2		
Wycliffe	2	3	1	3		
<b>CENTRAL Total (out of 12 Schools)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>EAST</b>						
Evington	2	3	2	1		
Humberstone & Hamilton	2	5	2	4	1	1
Thurncourt	1	2		2		
<b>EAST Total (out of 11 Schools)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>NORTH</b>						
Belgrave	1	2	2	3		1
North Evington	1	2	1	3		
Rushey Mead	2	3	1	2		
Troon	1	3		2		
<b>NORTH Total (out of 16 Schools)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>NORTH WEST</b>						
Abbey		5		3		1
Beaumont Leys	1	4	1	4		1
Fosse				2		
<b>NORTH WEST Total (out of 13 Schools)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>SOUTH</b>						
Aylestone		2		2		2
Eyres Monsell	2	4	2	3		
Knighton		1		1		1
Saffron	3	3	2	3		
<b>SOUTH Total (out of 11 Schools)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>WEST</b>						
Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields	3	3	1	5		
Westcotes	1	1	1	1		
Western	4	4	3	5	1	1
<b>WEST Total (out of 11 Schools)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Grand Total (out of 74 Schools)</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Percentage of total number of Schools</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>12%</b>

Summary	Breakfast club	After school club
Number offering service	56	54
Percentage of total number of Schools	76%	73%

Key findings:

- Primary Schools offer activities mainly up the end of Year 6 by which time some children are 11 but these are included in the 5 – 10 years age group.
- 76% percentage of primary schools offer Breakfast club and 76% of which offer Afterschool services for working parents and carers.
- Significantly fewer Holiday based services in Primary school for children across all age ranges 3 -11 years old.

**Junior and Secondary School Out of School Provision**

Of the 29 Junior and Secondary Schools the following numbers offer some Out of School Services:

**Table 15 – number of Junior and secondary schools providing out of school services**

<b>Source: Schools Survey for CSA 2019</b>	<b>Breakfast Clubs</b>	<b>After School Clubs</b>	<b>Holiday Clubs</b>
Number of Schools offering some level of the service	21	21	4
Percentage of total number of 29 Junior and Secondary Schools offering the service	72%	72%	14%

Further details of After school Clubs and Activities (Source: Schools Survey for CSA 2019):

- The services are for children from the respective school. Only 2 schools have one club each open for children from other schools.
- There is a vast range of activity clubs, other than after care, offered by the schools. These include activities relating to sports, music, arts and crafts, performing arts/drama, martial arts, other skills, cooking, yoga, Duke of Edinburgh award (this list of categories is not exhaustive).
- Costs, where applicable, range from £1 upwards and many are run by external providers who charge the market rate for clubs depending on the type and duration of activity. The schools offer a range free clubs and activities too.

**Table 16 Breakdown by duration the number of Schools offering After School and Activities:**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>0-1 hour</b>	<b>1-2 hours</b>	<b>2-3 hours</b>
Number of Schools offering service	21	5	2
Percentage of the 21 Schools offering the service	100%	24%	10%

## 4. Funded Early Education Entitlement

### Two Year Old Funded Children for Early Education Entitlement

Some two year olds are eligible for up to 570 hours per academic year of government Funded Early Entitlement Education (FEEE). The entitlement can be taken by 15 hours a week during the 38 weeks of the term time period alternatively stretched throughout the year over a 48 or 51 week of a year. There are two possible routes to becoming eligible for two year FEEE, the economic route or non-economic route.

Economic route involves eligibility checks based on earnings and benefit, to be eligible the parent/carer must be in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) or income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA).
- Universal Credit if the household income from work is less than £15,400 a year after tax.
- Tax credits with an income under £16,190 before tax
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment received when no longer eligible for Working Tax Credit).

Non-Economic route is based on a two year old child being entitled to a place if they are:

- Looked After by the Local Authority
- No longer Looked After by the Local Authority following adoption, special guardianship or residence order.
- Has an Education, Health Care Plan (EHC) or a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Receives Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Extended Eligibility from September 2019 also entitles:

- Children of Zambrano carers
- Children of families with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on the grounds of private /family life under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights.
- Children of the subset of failed asylum seekers (supported under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Seekers Act 1998 – The 1999 Act).

### Universal Offer for three and four year olds (15 hours)

This government funded entitlement provides all three and four year olds with up to 570 hours of FEEE per year following the child's third birthday.

The universal FEEE entitlement is provided by Private, Voluntary, Maintained and Independent early years providers, which include schools, day nurseries, preschool and childminders.

### Extended Entitlement for three and four year olds (30 Hours)

The Extended Entitlement (EE) for three and four year olds, was rolled out nationally in September 2017, the entitlement provides an additional 570 hours to working families. Working families must meet earning criteria to benefit from the additional hours, taking them from the universal offer of 570 hours, to an increased maximum entitlement of 1140 hours per year.



Working is defined as employed, self-employed and parents on zero hours who meet all the following eligibility criteria:

- Both parents are working (or sole parent), that is the weekly equivalent to 16 hours at National Living Wage (NWL) or National Minimum Wage (NMW); and
- Neither parent earns an annual income of more than £100,000.

Eligibility can still apply in circumstances where:

- Both parents are employed but one or both is temporarily away from their work on maternity, paternity or adoption leave or is on statutory sick pay.
- One parent is employed and the other (or both) is in receipt of specific benefits for their caring responsibilities.
- One parent is employed and the other (or both) is in receipt of specific disability benefits.
- A 'parent' in this instance is any adult living in the child's home that has a parenting role. This can mean the partner of the child's parent whether they are married or not or have official parenting responsibility.

In September 2018 foster children were also entitled to the Extended Entitlement if their Foster carers were working an additional job to their Foster caring role and met the specific criteria as outlined by the Local Authority.

### **Models of Delivery for FEEE**

Leicester City Council supports three models that early years providers can choose to use to deliver any of their FEEE Places, which are categorised as the term time or stretched offer (with two options). The standard 'term time' model is for 15 or 30 hours (dependant on the eligibility of the child) per week for 38 weeks per year, this equates to 570 hours (15 hours) or 1140 hours (30 hours). Parents do not have to use all the hours of their funded entitlement. They may choose to split the hours between providers.

The stretched offer is a flexible model often suited to working parents, who want to spread their funded entitlement of 570 hours or 1140 hours across the year.

For children in Leicester parents can choose to stretch their entitlement over either 51 weeks or 48 weeks of the year. <https://families.leicester.gov.uk/media/1975/provider-agreement-print.pdf>

It's important to note that providers are not required to offer the stretched offers, and therefore a provider's ability to offer this will be dependent on parental demand and their own business sustainability.

However, a large number of the private full day care nurseries do offer one of the stretched offer models of 48 weeks or 51 weeks. As at December 2019 there were 67 providers (PVI 44 & CM 23) signed-up to deliver stretched FEEE. Of these, 36 providers (PVI 31 & CM 5) were delivering a stretched FEEE in the Sum-2019 term.

**Table 17 – Number of PVI and CM providers offering either term time or stretched offer**

<b>Model of delivery</b>	<b>No of providers signed up to deliver</b>
Term time	181
Stretched 48 OR 51 weeks	67

## Proportion of 2 year olds entitled to FEEE

In our local authority in 2019 an average of 2,293\* two-year olds were entitled to funded early education (source DWP data for Spr-19, Sum-19 & Aut-19). This equates to 45% of 2-year-old population. Population 0-2-year olds not eligible for FEEE is approximately 13,000 on the assumption that around 55% of 2-year olds are not eligible for FEEE.

\*the number of eligible children is steadily decreasing mainly because increases in the national living wage/minimum wage effectively takes some families above the eligible income threshold. The average of the DWP lists is 2,293 but the target for the Aut-19 term based on the Jun-19 DWP list was 2,127

## Take- up of 2 year old FEEE

**Table 18: The proportion of eligible children taking up their funded places in our local authority in Autumn 2019 and the previous two terms is as follows**

2-year-old FEEE take-up	Take-up number (ONE headcount)	Eligible number of children (DWP list)	% Take up
Aut-19	1397	2127 (Jun-19 list)	65.7%
Sum-19	1335	2358 (Mar-19 list)	56.6%
Spr-19	1394	2393 (Nov-18 list)	58.3%

The average take-up percentage is 60%

## Trends of take-up

We have been monitoring take-up trends since 2015, trends suggest that the highest take-up is in the Autumn term, this can be attributed to the following two factors:

- There are more 2 year olds qualifying for the first time in Autumn term (turning 2 in the 5 months from Apr to Aug) than in the Spring term (turning 2 in the 4 months from Sep to Dec) and Summer term (turning 2 in the 3 months from Jan to Mar).
- Almost all 4-year olds will transition to a School Reception class in the Autumn term and a significant number of 3-year olds will transition to a School Nursery class place. As a result, the PVI sector will have a significant number of vacancies and will be able to readily meet the demand for places for 2-year olds for children qualifying for the first time and also for children who qualified earlier but have not taken up a place previously.

The 2 year FEEE take-up number have historically been lower than the national and regional averages, feedback from children centre outreach work suggests the following:

- parents feeling like their child is too young
- in the east and central parts of the city, where culturally mothers are not working, they believe that the child should be at home.
- want childcare in close proximity of their home 'pram pushing distance'

Leicester had its highest take-up numbers in autumn 2017, with 1,397 (66%) of children taking up 15 hours or less of their FEEE entitlement, take-up trends over the last three years show a decline year on year, which is reflective to national take-up levels also declining and can partly be attributed to the declining numbers of potentially eligible children.

**Table 19 Take up of 2 year FEEE (Autumn 2017, 2018 and 2019)**

Autumn	2 year take-up	Eligible Numbers	% take-up
<b>2019</b>	1397	2127	<b>65.7%</b>
<b>2018</b>	1555	2388	<b>65.1%</b>
<b>2017</b>	1656	2509	<b>66%</b>

**Ward level breakdown of take-up**

The highest numbers of eligible children reside in the North Evington, Western, Braunstone and Rowley Fields and Abbey ward areas which are located in East, West and North West cluster areas of the city.

**Table 14** shows the take-up level at sub-locality ward and cluster areas, this is variable between terms and ward areas. The data analysis is utilised by Children Centre staff to target eligible families on the DWP list to increase take-up towards the target of 70%, as well to support strategic priorities; school readiness and improve outcomes for children.

Table 20 Comparison of take-up over 3 terms at sub-locality ward level

Leicester City 2YO FEE TAKE-UP		AUTUMN- 2019		SUMMER- 2019		SPRING- 2019		AUTUMN- 2018	
Cluster	Ward	DWP list (Jun-19) for Autumn Term 2019	% take-up	DWP list (Mar-19) for Summer Term 2019	% take-up	DWP list (Nov-18) for Spring Term 2019	% take-up	DWP list (Aug-18) for Autumn Term 2018	% take-up
CENTRAL	Castle	42	50.0%	54	46.3%	59	39.0%	58	41.4%
	Spinney Hills	96	63.5%	109	52.3%	109	56.0%	99	65.7%
	Stoneygate	115	64.3%	151	53.6%	148	59.5%	160	68.8%
	Wycliffe	122	79.5%	146	68.5%	166	75.3%	168	77.4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>67.5%</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>61.6%</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>67.8%</b>
EAST	Evington	97	68.0%	114	62.3%	108	61.1%	111	67.6%
	Humberstone & Hamilton	129	61.2%	130	52.3%	140	56.4%	113	67.3%
	Thurncourt	59	74.6%	58	75.9%	56	57.1%	60	78.3%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>60.6%</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>58.2%</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>69.7%</b>
NORTH	Belgrave	97	85.6%	102	69.6%	95	69.5%	108	69.4%
	North Evington	167	76.6%	178	64.0%	192	70.3%	213	73.2%
	Rushey Mead	80	58.8%	88	51.1%	77	51.9%	69	55.1%
	Troon	92	67.4%	89	49.4%	79	49.4%	78	48.7%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>73.4%</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>60.0%</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>63.2%</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>65.6%</b>
NORTH WEST	Abbey	135	45.9%	143	42.0%	149	46.3%	155	60.0%
	Beaumont Leys	125	66.4%	146	61.0%	169	58.0%	162	67.3%
	Fosse	106	72.6%	122	49.2%	110	51.8%	90	64.4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>60.7%</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>50.9%</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>52.3%</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>63.9%</b>
SOUTH	Aylestone	61	67.2%	63	66.7%	66	72.7%	62	66.1%
	Eyres Monsell	105	55.2%	91	54.9%	98	51.0%	93	61.3%
	Knighton	33	51.5%	36	52.8%	33	60.6%	41	63.4%
	Saffron	104	70.2%	121	55.4%	120	55.0%	115	60.0%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>58.0%</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>62.1%</b>
WEST	Braunstone Park & Rowley	147	61.9%	156	57.7%	158	58.2%	183	59.0%
	Westcotes	57	63.2%	72	44.4%	66	65.2%	66	72.7%
	Western	158	61.4%	189	56.1%	195	49.7%	184	60.9%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>61.9%</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>54.7%</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>55.4%</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>61.9%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2127</b>	<b>65.7%</b>	<b>2358</b>	<b>56.6%</b>	<b>2393</b>	<b>58.3%</b>	<b>2388</b>	<b>65.1%</b>

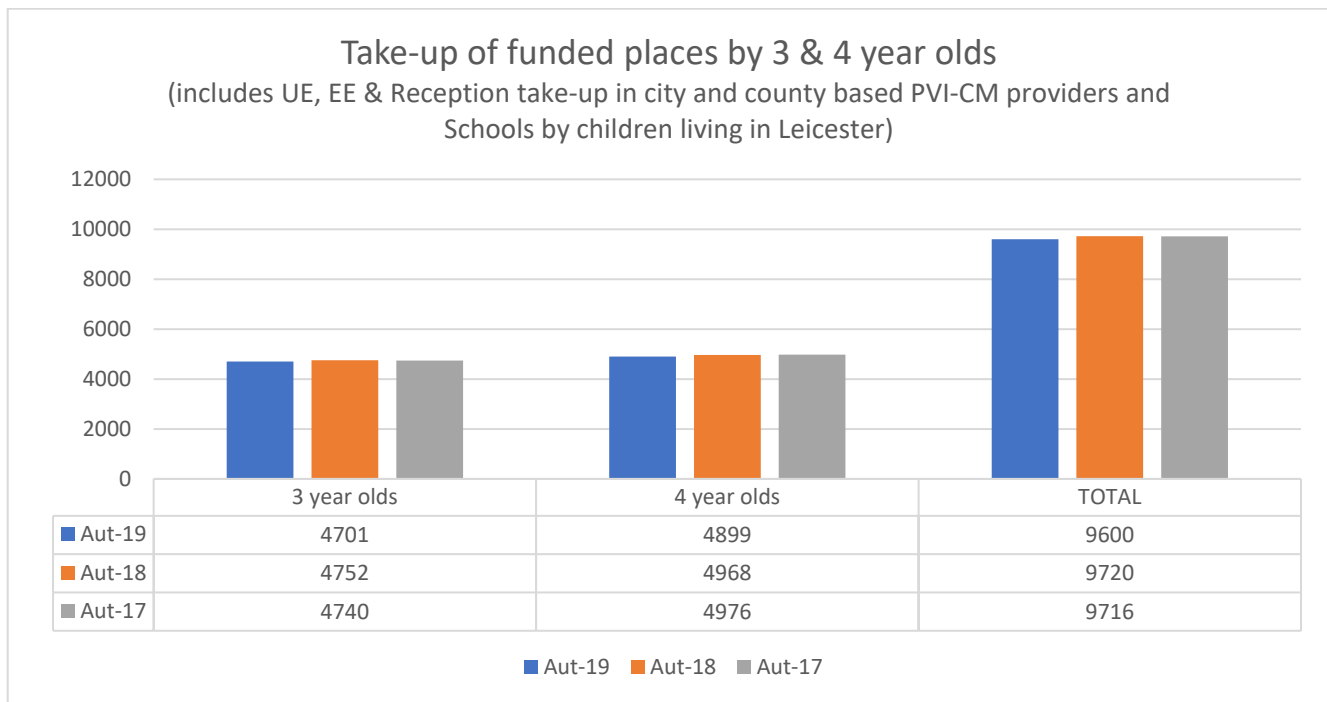
The average take-up in Leicester over the 3 terms is 60%.

This is lower than the average take-up of 70% or more in regional cities and Leicestershire County.

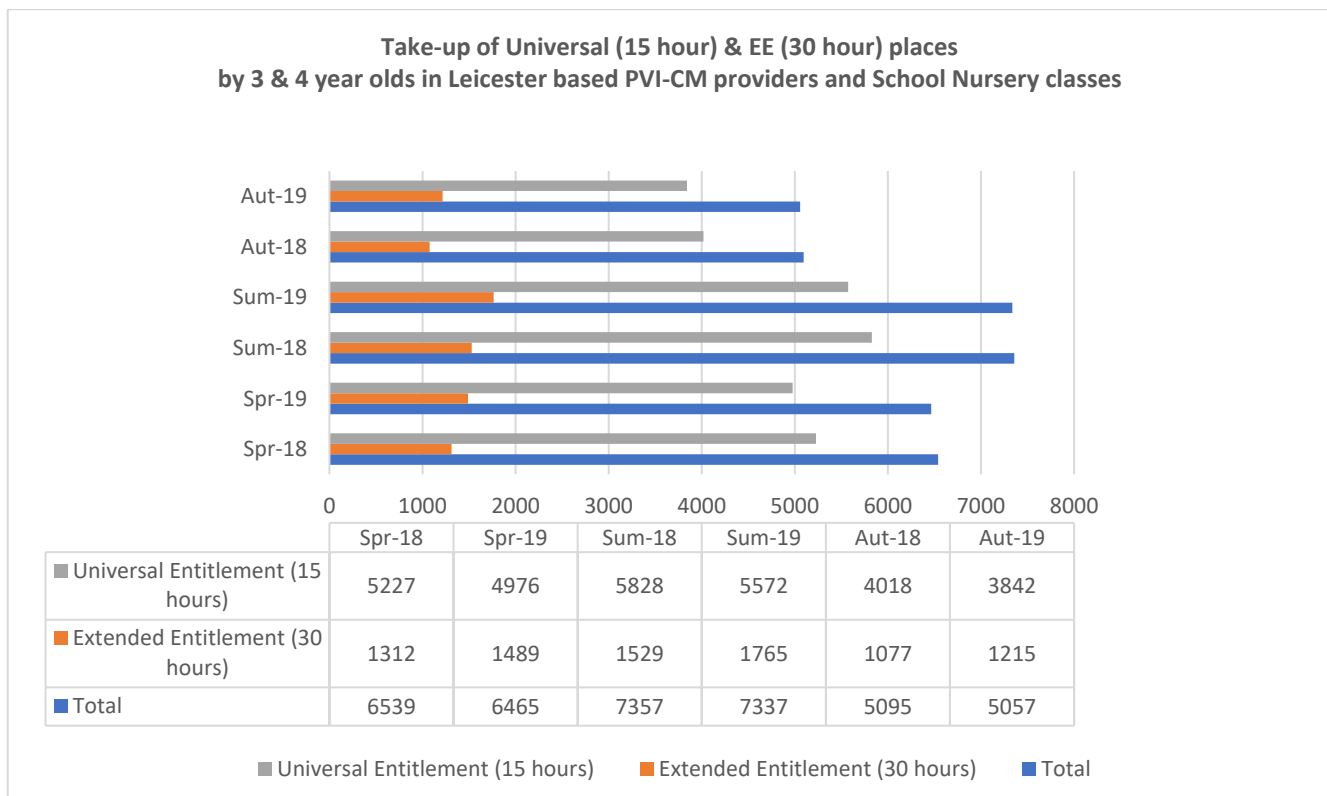
## Proportion of 3 and 4 year old FEEE children

### Take-up of 3 and 4 old (universal and extended)

**Table 21** shows take-up of UE, EE and Reception places by 3 and 4 year olds living in Leicester over 3 academic terms.



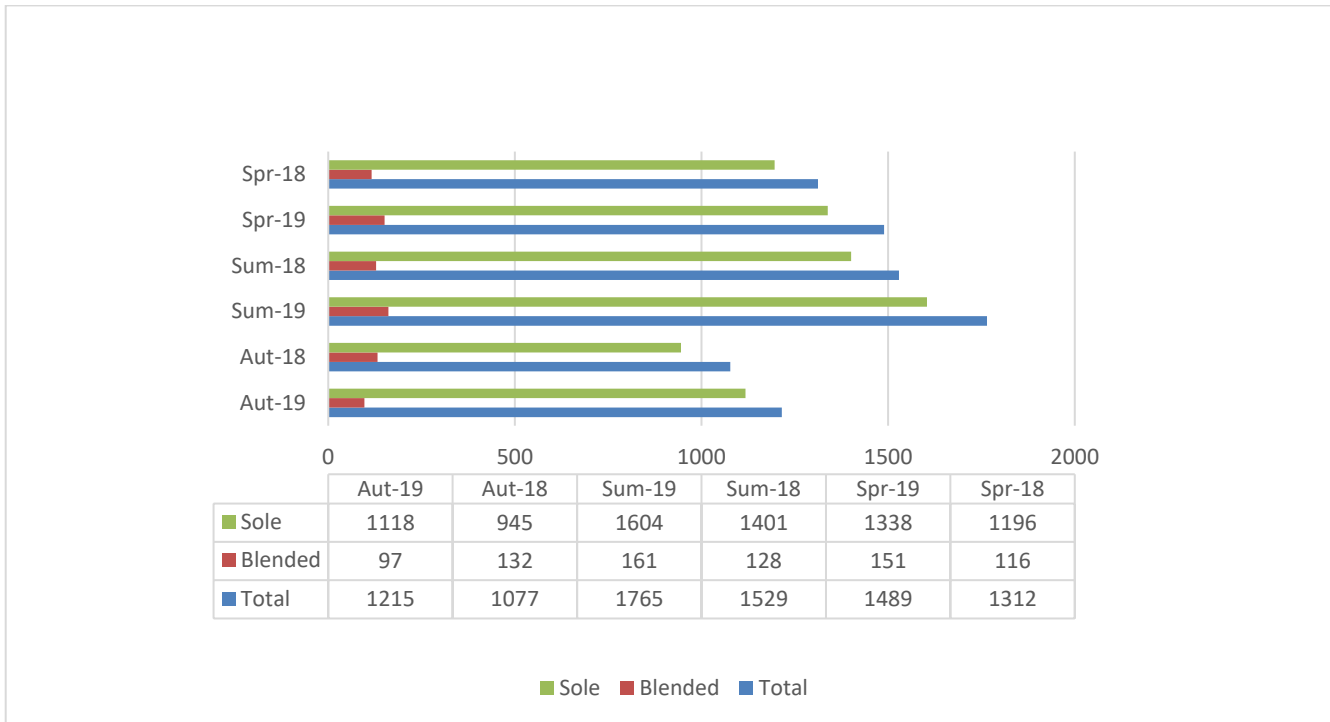
**Table 22** shows take-up of 3 and 4 year old places (UE & EE) in Leicester based PVI-CM providers and School Nursery classes (excluding take-up of Reception Class places).



### Key finding from Table 21 and 22

- shows a decrease in year on year take-up in equivalent terms. The year on year decline could be due to decline in population.
- The take-up is highest in the Summer term and drops in the Autumn term as almost all 4-year olds transition to school reception place and are not included in the numbers above.

**Table 23 Take-up of 30 hour places by 3 and 4 year olds in Leicester based PVI-CM providers and School Nursery classes**



### Key finding from Table 23

- shows an increase in year on year take-up in equivalent terms.
- The take-up is highest in the Summer term and drops in the Autumn term as almost all 4-year olds transition to school reception place and are not then within the scope of the extended entitlement.
- The decrease in Blended model numbers could be due to more Sole 30 hour places being made available in Schools.

### Proportion of 3 and 4 year old eligible for 30 extended entitlement

The government provided local authorities with estimated numbers of children and families that would be eligible for extended entitlement to ensure that LA's were putting in place the sufficiency plans to meet the target figure of 1,880 children in Leicester.

National statistics have been gathered termly over the last two years to assess the success of the Tax Free childcare scheme provided for government for working families.

In Leicester the take-up has been positive with 1,606 children in 30 hour place in the Summer term (2019) of the total number 1,902 Eligibility codes issued by HMRC, resulting in 97% of codes being validated. This is above the national England average of 94% codes validated.

**Table 24a Number of eligible codes issued by HMRC – Summer 2019**

Area	Eligibility codes issued	Number of Children in a 30 hour place	Codes Validated %
ENGLAND	419,130	378,774	94%
Leicester	1,902	1,606	97%
<i>Statistical neighbour</i> Nottingham	1,885	1,556	88%

**Table 24b Number of eligibility codes issued by HMRC – Spring 2019**

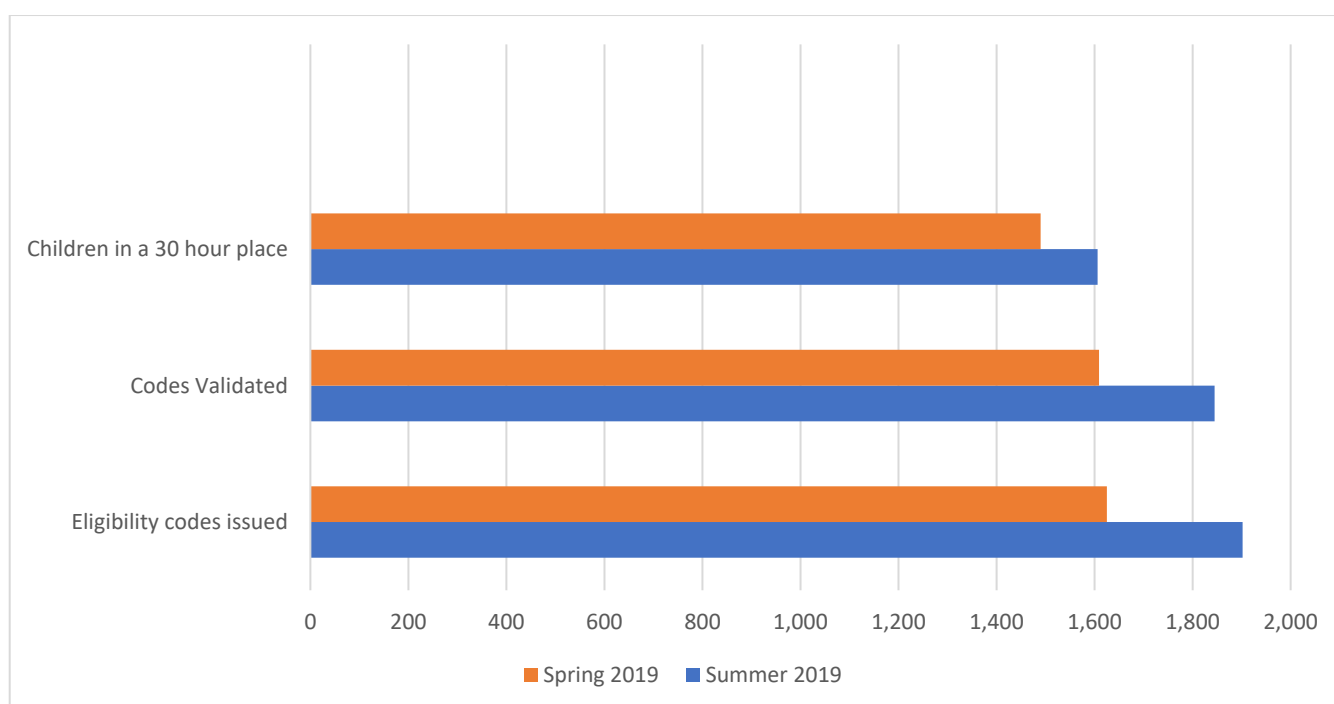
Area	Eligibility codes issued	Number of Children in a 30 hour place	Codes Validated %
ENGLAND	353,763	325,000	95%
Leicester	1,625	1,490	90%
<i>Statistical neighbour</i> Nottingham	1,575	1,389	90%

Sources:

[www.gov.uk/government/30-hous-free-spring-term-2019-tables](http://www.gov.uk/government/30-hous-free-spring-term-2019-tables)

[www.gov.uk/government/30-hours-free-summer-term-2019-tables](http://www.gov.uk/government/30-hours-free-summer-term-2019-tables)

**Table 25 Comparison of the number of 30 hour Eligibility codes issued, validated and children taking up an EE place in Leicester 2019.**



## 5. Market Position Statement - Funded Early Education Entitlement places for 2, 3 and 4 year old places (Dec 2019)

### Introduction

The early years' sector consists of the private, voluntary and independent group-care settings, childminders and the school sector. Together they provide a wide range of services for parents and carers, to support those wanting to return to work and are key services that support children in readiness to start school.

### Key priorities

Leicester's Social Care and Education Department working with partners to provide the best quality experiences for children and young people to be safe, learn, achieve and grow.

Achieve outcome to ensure - Efficient and effective use of resources:

- Deliver services that meet statutory responsibilities
- Ensure access to good school and childcare

### Securing sufficient childcare

Leicester City Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare places, as far as is reasonably practicable, to meet the requirements of working parents / carers, or parents/ carers who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

### Purpose

This report looks at the current market position of the funded early education entitlement (FEEE) places.

It is essentially a snapshot of Leicester City's supply and demand of FEEE places and a profile of the indicative surplus and deficit of places, by cluster and ward.

This has been developed to:

- Support the local authority to understand the market
- Support new and existing providers to understand demand and/or gaps in the market
- Ensure funding and growth is targeted appropriate to areas where there is need
- Enable a strategic approach both in the short and long term for planning and responding to need.

Appendices 1, 2 and 3 provide a visual illustration of the ward level analysis for sufficiency of 2, 3 and 4 year FEEE and Extended Entitlement (December 2019)

### Cluster and ward Sufficiency analysis

**Table 26a** shows a summary of wards which have been identified as having some gaps in 2, 3 and 4-year FEEE places (15 hours and 30-hours EE). Out of the 6 city clusters, 5 clusters have a ward or wards with some gaps identified and these are indicated in the table.

**Table 26b** shows the full Cluster and Ward analysis of sufficiency of FEEE places (December 2019). Out of the 6 clusters, 2 cluster have some gaps identified at whole cluster level. The table also indicates the RAG rating for the surplus/deficit at Ward and Cluster levels.



Table 26a – A summary of the 5 clusters where gaps have been identified in one or more wards

CLUSTER	WARD	Deficit of 2YO FEEE places	Deficit of 15 hour places for 3 and 4 YOs	Deficit of 30-hour EE places for 3 and 4 YOs
East	Humberstone and Hamilton	(30)		(41)
	Thurncourt			(53)
North	Rushey Mead	(28)		
North West	Fosse		(137)	(22)
South	Eyres Monsell	(6)		
	Saffron	(3)	(40)	(23)
West	Western	(17)		(69)

Table 26b Cluster and Ward analysis of sufficiency of FEEE places and RAG rating of the surplus/deficit of places.

Leicester City - Sufficiency of FEEE Places (as at Dec 2019) Cluster & Ward Analysis and RAG rating							KEY FOR RAG RATING			
CLUSTER	WARD	Number of 2YOs eligible for FEEE	Population of 3 & 4 years olds	Numbers of settings (signed up to deliver FEEE)			Surplus (Deficit) based on 70% of DWP data	Surplus (Deficit) based on Population per ONS Live Births data		
				PVI providers	Childminders	Schools	2YO FEEE places	15 hour places for 3&4 YOs	30 hour places for 3&4 YOs	Reception Class Places for 4YOs
CENTRAL	Castle	42	338	13	2	2	149	268	198	Adjustments are not made for any ward surpluses of Reception Class places. However, any ward deficits are adjusted and reflected in the workings for 3&4YO (UE & EE) places for that ward.
	Spinney Hills	96	482	4	0	3	47	97	20	
	Stonevgate	115	653	11	0	3	107	56	48	
	Wycliffe	122	514	8	0	4	131	228	40	
CENTRAL TOTALS		375	1,987	36	2	12	434	649	306	
EAST	Evington	97	493	3	4	4	14	13	0	
	Humberstone & Hamilton	129	654	4	4	5	(30)	1	(41)	
	Thurncourt	59	310	2	6	2	13	0	(53)	
EAST TOTALS		285	1,457	9	14	11	(3)	14	(94)	
NORTH	Belgrave	97	470	7	2	3	104	273	71	
	North Evington	167	773	6	5	5	58	246	10	
	Rushey Mead	80	330	2	2	5	(28)	69	0	
	Troon	92	423	5	3	3	110	94	79	
NORTH TOTALS		436	1,996	20	12	16	244	682	160	

Leicester City - Sufficiency of FEEE Places (as at Dec 2019) Cluster & Ward Analysis and RAG rating							KEY FOR RAG RATING			
							Deficit	Surplus 0 to 24	Surplus 25 & over	
CLUSTER	WARD	Number of 2YOs eligible for FEEE	Population of 3 & 4 years olds	Numbers of settings (signed up to deliver FEEE)			Surplus (Deficit) based on 70% of DWP data	Surplus (Deficit) based on Population per ONS Live Births data		
		Target for Aut-2019 per DWP data (Jun- 19)	ONS Live Births 2014/15 & 2015/16	PVI providers	Childminders	Schools	2YO FEEE places	15 hour places for 3&4 YOs	30 hour places for 3&4 YOs	Reception Class Places for 4YOs
NORTH WEST	Abbey	135	606	4	12	5	10	76	0	
	Beaumont Leys	125	646	6	3	6	60	37	0	
	Fosse	106	533	5	4	2	14	(137)	(22)	
<b>NORTH WEST TOTALS</b>		<b>366</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>(22)</b>	
SOUTH	Aylestone	61	333	3	3	2	35	18	5	
	Eyres Monsell	105	341	3	0	4	(6)	49	0	
	Knighton	33	373	11	2	2	41	151	37	
	Saffron	104	382	3	1	3	(3)	(40)	(23)	
<b>SOUTH TOTALS</b>		<b>303</b>	<b>1,429</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>19</b>	
WEST	Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields	147	679	5	4	5	23	88	0	
	Westcotes	57	409	8	1	1	94	68	76	
	Western	158	671	4	6	5	(17)	0	(69)	
<b>WEST TOTALS</b>		<b>362</b>	<b>1,759</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>CITY-WIDE TOTALS</b>		<b>2,127</b>	<b>10,413</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>1,655</b>	<b>376</b>	

Headline information for Cluster and Ward level sufficiency of places for 2YO FEEE, 3 and 4 YO (15 hour) FEEE and 3 and 4 YO (30 hour) FEEE.

#### Central Cluster

- There are no sufficiency concerns as all 4 wards have a surplus of places in each FEEE category.
- The Central Cluster as a whole has a surplus of FEEE places in each FEEE category and the geographical spread of provision and choice for families is adequate.

#### East Cluster

- 2 of the 3 wards have deficit of places in one or more of the FEEE categories.
- Humberstone & Hamilton ward has an indicative deficit of 30 places for 2YO FEEE and 41 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- Thurncourt ward has an indicative deficit of 53 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).

- The East Cluster as a whole has an indicative deficit of 3 places for 2YO FEEE and 94 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- We are aware of a new provision, awaiting Ofsted registration, in the Humberstone & Hamilton ward. When open the new capacity will help reduce the indicative deficit of places and the overall deficit of 2YO FEEE places at cluster level.
- Regarding the deficit of 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour) places in Thurncourt ward, we are aware from our data that children are accessing their entitlement in other areas of the city and the county and have had no concerns raised by parents. The 30 hour entitlement is for working parents and most are able to travel and access places outside of their home ward and many of them actively choose to do this even if there is capacity available with providers in their home ward.

### **North Cluster**

- 1 of the 4 wards has a deficit of places in one of the FEEE categories.
- Rushey Mead ward has an indicative deficit of 28 places for 2YO FEEE.
- The North Cluster as a whole has a surplus of FEEE places in each FEEE category and the surplus of places in the Belgrave ward helps balance the deficit of 2YO FEEE places in the Rushey Mead ward and we do not have any concerns being raised by parents.

### **North West Cluster**

- 1 of the 3 wards has a deficit of places in two of the FEEE categories.
- Fosse ward has an indicative deficit of 137 places 3 and 4 YO FEEE (15 hour) and 22 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- The North West Cluster as a whole has an indicative deficit of 24 places 3 and 4 YO FEEE (15 hour) and 22 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- The deficit of 3 and 4 YO FEEE places (15 hour) in the Fosse ward is largely balanced by the surplus of places in the other 2 wards. Regarding the deficit of 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour) places in Fosse ward, we are aware from our data that children are accessing their entitlement in other areas of the city and the county and have had no concerns raised by parents.
- The 30 hour entitlement is for working parents and most are able to travel and access places outside of their home ward and many of them actively choose to do this even if there is capacity available with providers in their home ward.
- Despite there being a surplus of 2YO FEEE places in all wards we have some concerns about the sufficiency of places in some localised areas in the cluster. This is because the geographical area of the cluster is vast and the distance to provision provides a barrier to access as parents of 2YO FEEE children are unlikely to have the means to travel far to access the provision.

### **South Cluster**

- 2 of the 4 wards have deficit of places in one or more of the FEEE categories.
- Eyres Monsell ward has an indicative deficit of 6 places for 2YO FEEE.
- Saffron ward has an indicative deficit in all FEEE categories, 3 places for 2YO FEEE, 40 places 3 and 4 YO FEEE (15 hour) and 23 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- The South Cluster as a whole has a surplus of FEEE places in each FEEE category and the surplus of places for 2YO FEEE in 2 of the 4 wards and surplus 3 and 4 YO FEEE places (15 hour and 30 hour) in 3 of the 4 wards helps to balance the indicative deficits in the other wards. Also, regarding the deficit of 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour) places in Saffron ward, we are aware from our data that children are accessing their entitlement in other areas of the city and the

county and have had no concerns raised by parents. The 30 hour entitlement is for working parents and most are able to travel and access places outside of their home ward and many of them actively choose to do this even if there is capacity available with providers in their home ward.

## **West Cluster**

- of the 3 wards has a deficit of places in two of the FEEE categories:
- Western ward has an indicative deficit of 17 places for 2YO FEEE and 69 places for 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour).
- The West Cluster as a whole has a surplus of FEEE places in each FEEE category and the surplus of places in 3 wards helps to balance the indicative deficits in the Western ward. Also, regarding the deficit of 3 and 4 YO FEEE (30 hour) places in Western ward, we are aware from our data that children are accessing their entitlement in other areas of the city and the county and have had no concerns raised by parents. The 30 hour entitlement is for working parents and most are able to travel and access places outside of their home ward and many of them actively choose to do this even if there is capacity available with providers in their home ward.

The sufficiency analysis in this report is based purely on the current market, supply and demand chain as at December 2019. However, as a city we do not look at sufficiency in isolation and consider quality of provision as part of the snapshot. As OFSTED outcomes determine a provider's ability to provide FEEE places particularly for 2 year FEEE. High quality childcare for all our children is key to reducing the learning gap of our most vulnerable children - a key factor contributing to school readiness and improved outcomes, particularly around speech, language and communication skills.

Therefore, it is important to highlight challenges:

- The market picture is a fluctuating picture impacted with setting closures, OFSTED quality outcomes below Good and changes to the demographic affect sufficiency needs.
- Low take –up of 2-year FEEE places 2019 (60%).
- There has been a decrease in numbers of 2-year olds accessing the entitlement since 2018 (Average Spr-19 to Aut-19 1,375 ; Spr-18 to Aut-18 1,493) but the percentage take-up has remained steady as the numbers of eligible children has declined too. However, as our percentage take-up is low in comparison to the national average and the regional local authorities, Leicester has to continue to prioritise increasing the take-up numbers and percentage of the 2YO FEEE entitlement.
- Year on year reduction of take –up of 3 and 4 year old FEEE 92% (autumn 2019) in comparison to 94% (autumn 2018).
- Long term impact of 30 EE on the early years sector, and in particular the impact on sustainability of school nursery class places.
- Our autumn 2019 FEEE take-up data shows an increase in take-up of 3 and 4 year old places in the PVI at 15 hour equivalent (counting one 30 hour place as two 15 hour places) and a corresponding decrease in numbers of funded 2 year olds in settings compared to Aut-2018 data.

Further work needs to be carried out on SEND inclusive FEEE places, mapping and finding out more about any unmet demand especially affecting eligible 2YO FEEE children from low income and non-working households.

## 6. Childcare Costs

This section of the CSA provides an updated picture of the average costs of childcare prices in the city, the range of costs have been compiled from information acquired directly from the Provider Survey 2019 and childcare provider profile held on the Family Information Directory. It is important to highlight, the data provides a snapshot in time and that variables such as the different opening times, length of sessions and discounts offered result in the information not always being completely comparable.

### Average Childcare Costs

For the purpose of this section we have differentiated between costs for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group care providers and childminders. The costs analysis shows the average cost for under 4 year olds before the FEEE elements have been considered. The data shows that on average there is little or no significant difference in the average cost structure for the differing age ranges from 0- 4 years and therefore the table reflects this.

**Table 27a Cost Analysis for Early Years Childcare Average childcare for under 4 years.**

PVI Costs	Per Hour	Per 3-hour Session	Per Half Day (5 hours)	Per Day (10 hours)	25 Hours per Week	50 Hours per Week
Average	£5.93	£15.13	£31.85	£49.29	£141.69	£220.50
Lowest	£4.00	£10.00	£20.00	£37.00	£100.00	£170.00
Highest	£10.00	£24.00	£45.00	£69.50	£200.00	£297.50

CM Costs	Per Hour	Per 3-hour Session	Per Half Day (5 hours)	Per Day (10 hours)	25 Hours per Week	50 Hours per Week
Average	£4.21	£12.67	£22.33	£39.22	£104.30	£199.69
Lowest	£3.25	£9.75	£17.00	£27.00	£81.25	£150.00
Highest	£7.00	£21.00	£25.00	£50.00	£150.00	£250.00

National and regional comparison do vary for age ranges and therefore this has been detailed below.

### Key finding on childcare cost in 2019 (source: Coram Family and Childcare Survey 2019)

Since the last CSA in 2016 the average cost has increased, as you would expect.

- the average price for a 25 hour (half day) of childcare a week for a 2 year old and under child in a PVI setting is £142.00. This is significantly higher than the national average of which ranges between £125.77 and £128.98 and regional averages which range from £113.48 to £113.22.
- the average price for 50 hours (full day) of childcare a week for a 2 year old or under in a PVI setting is £222.00. This is lower than the national average which ranges from £245.95 to £240.06, but Leicester average 50 hours childcare costs are higher than regional averages which range between £208.73 and £209.15.
- Parents are paying considerably less for childcare for children aged between 3 and four, as they are in receipt of universal FEEE and for those eligible Extended Entitlement. However, the average childcare costs for those 0-2 years in comparison to children aged 3 and 4 years old has little difference.

- With the introduction of the 30 hours EE and fewer parents paying for additional hours this has had a major impact on PVI group care providers.

## Help with Childcare Costs

The Government provides various schemes to help parents and carers towards paying for their childcare costs, if your child is under 16 (or under 17 for a child with a disability). The childcare provider must be a registered provider or an 'approved provider' (registered with Ofsted), these include a registered childminder, playschemes, nursery, preschool, or club, a nursery in a school or a homecarer or childminder working for a registered agency.

Parents and carers must select the scheme which best suits them and their own personal circumstances. The government website, [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) is a specifically designed to provide all the details of all the help available and tools to assess eligibility (childcare calculator) for those parents and carers working, studying or planning to return to work. These schemes include:

- Tax free Childcare (0-11 years old)
- Tax credits for childcare
- Universal Credit for childcare
- Salary sacrifice schemes
- Support whilst studying
- Two year Funded Early Education Entitlement
- Three and Four year Funded Early Education Entitlement
- 30 Hours Extended Entitlement for three and four year olds

Table 27b shows the national, regional and local figures of those families receiving help with childcare cost between 2017 – 2019, the data shows an year on year increase to more families benefiting in Leicester from Tax free childcare.

**Table 27b National and local data on families accessing help from Tax free childcare scheme (2017 –2019 HMRC data)**

Year	Region	Families with Open Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) Accounts <sup>2</sup>			Families with Used Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) Accounts <sup>3</sup>			Government Top-up <sup>6</sup> (£m)
		TFC only	TFC and 30 Hours	Total	TFC only	TFC and 30 hours	Total	
2017-18	United Kingdom	47,560	224,755	<b>272,315</b>	28,105	28,895	<b>57,000</b>	32.2
	East Midlands	4415	6072	<b>10487</b>	3384	4273	<b>7657</b>	
	Leicester	140	199	<b>339</b>	98	128	<b>226</b>	0.08
2018-19	United Kingdom	107,260	342,095	<b>449,355</b>	81,755	78,430	<b>160,185</b>	117
	East Midlands	4949	8248	<b>13197</b>	4680	3824	<b>8504</b>	
	Leicester	154	374	<b>528</b>	145	162	<b>307</b>	0.32

Year	Region	Children with Open Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) Accounts <sup>2</sup>			Children with Used Tax-Free Childcare (TFC)Accounts <sup>3</sup>			Government Top-up <sup>6</sup> (£m)
		TFC only	TFC and 30 hours	Total	TFC only	TFC and 30 Hours	Total	
2017-18	United Kingdom	81,950	231,800	<b>313,750</b>	42,725	28,790	<b>71,515</b>	32.2
	East Midlands	5444	7147	<b>12591</b>	3749	4534	<b>8282</b>	
	Leicester	169	240	<b>409</b>	100	140	<b>240</b>	0.08
2018-19	United Kingdom	174,100	362,600	<b>536,700</b>	123,100	80,100	<b>203,200</b>	116.9
	East Midlands	5503	8781	<b>14284</b>	4935	3820	<b>8755</b>	
	Leicester	<b>170</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>0.32</b>

## 7. Quality of childcare in our city (Ofsted grading)

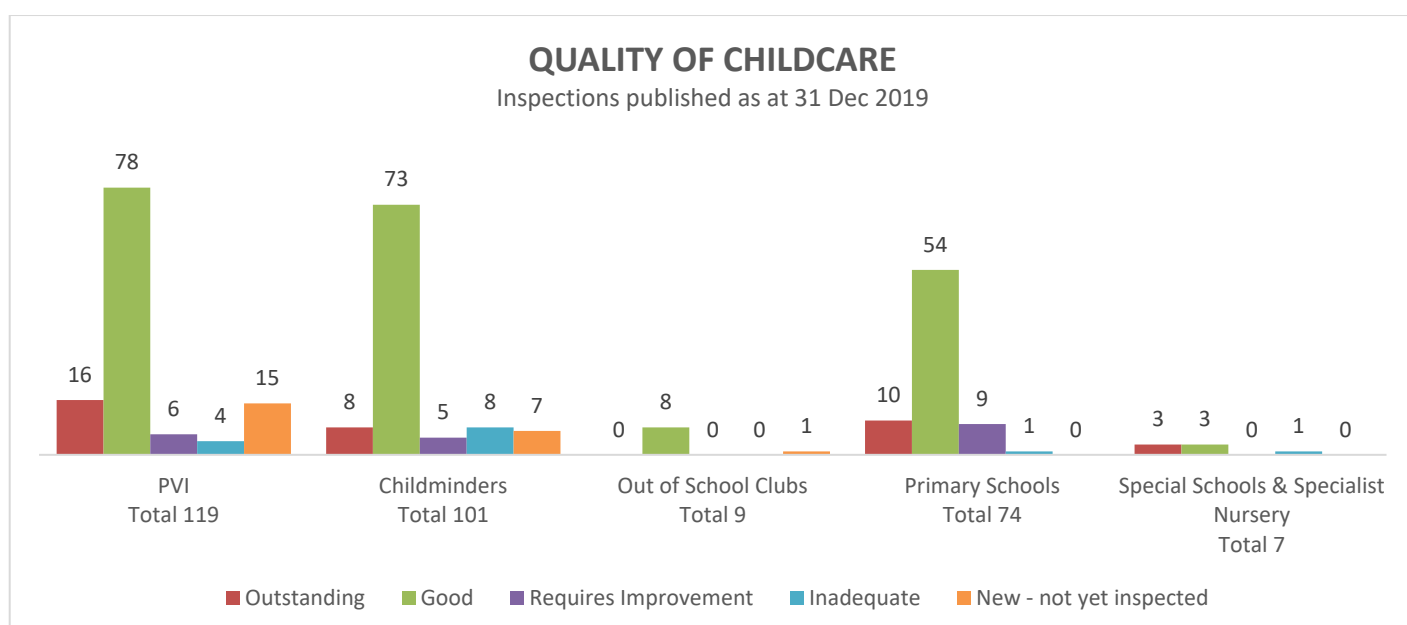
As outlined in the statutory duties for Early years and childcare the LA has a duty to ensure that FEEE places are offered by providers meeting minimum quality standards, as judged by Ofsted i.e. A3.2 Fund places for two-, three- and four-year-old children at any provider judged 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted<sup>12</sup> or at any childminder registered with a childminder agency judged 'effective' by Ofsted.

A3.3 Fund places for three- and four-year-old children at any provider judged 'satisfactory' (prior to 2014) or 'requires improvement' by Ofsted<sup>13</sup> or at any childminder registered with a childminder agency judged 'effective' by Ofsted.

If a provider does not maintain the quality judgements required, the LA initiates a non-compliance process which freezes FEEE funding for any new places until the setting evidences the required quality improvements to address the actions set by Ofsted.

This therefore impacts on the number of FEEE places available with the given provider and the number of places available in the given area of the city.

**Table 28 QUALITY OF CHILDCARE – OFSTED Inspections published as at 31 Dec 2019**





- **PVIs:** include FEEE, Non FEEE and Independent Schools
- **Childminders:** include FEEE and Non FEEE childminders registered on the EYR
- **Primary and special schools:** where recent Academy convertors have not had an Inspection, the last Ofsted Inspection Outcome of the predecessor school has been used.

## 8. Parents views on childcare

### Parental Survey

A parental survey was carried out in Oct 2019, it was anticipated that the finding from the survey would highlight parent's childcare needs, identifying specific gaps in provision. In total 139 responses were received, which provided some anecdotal information about the need for holiday care for school aged children. Unfortunately, the response rate was low and did not provide robust information on parental needs for the City.

## 9. Actions arising from the CSA 19 findings

The findings of the CSA 2019 identify key areas of work to be focused on by the local authority going forward

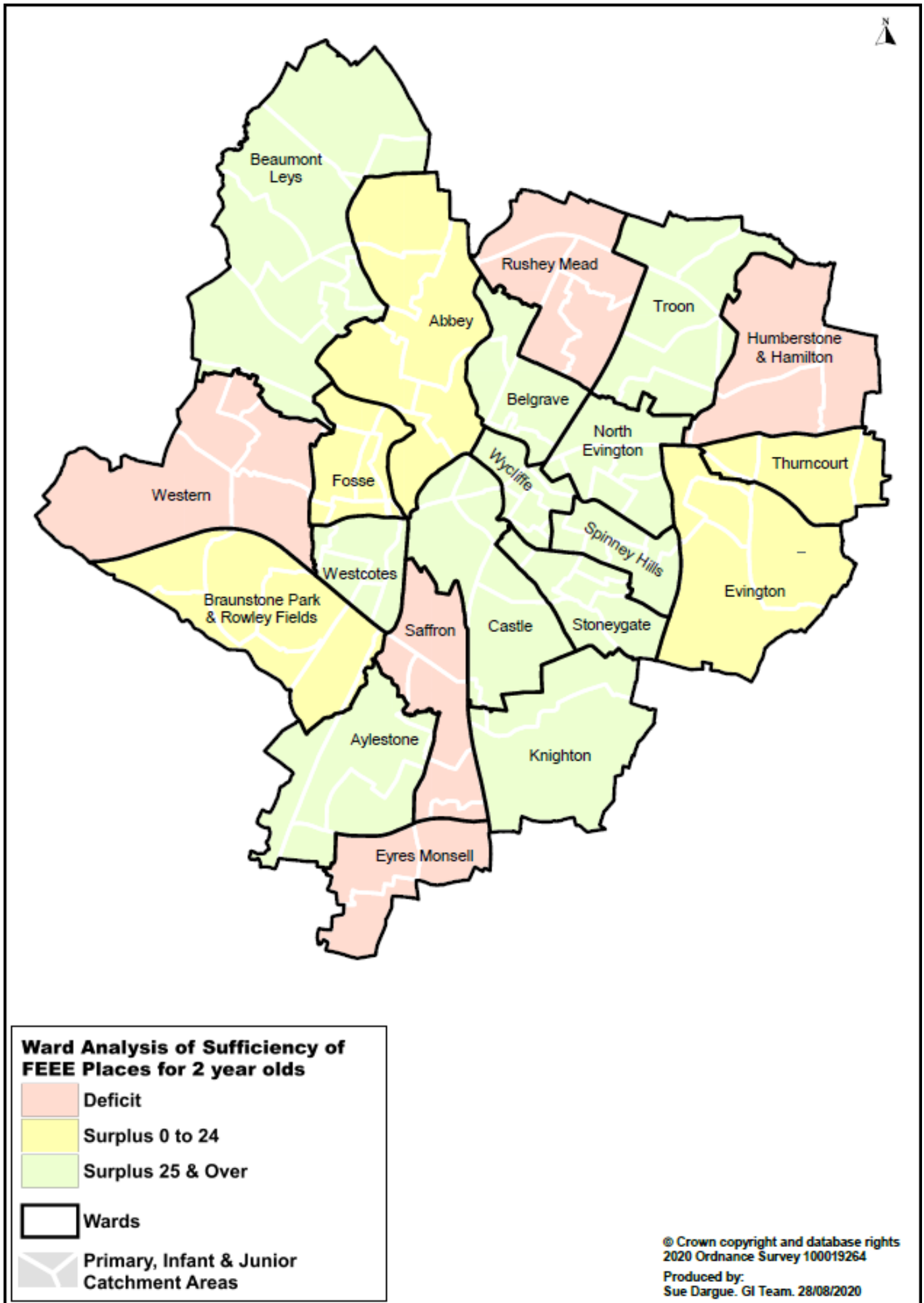
- Work across services and with partners to agree a two year old take up strategy; this will be to work with parents to encourage take up of their funded early education entitlement and promote the value to school readiness
- Continue quality improvement work with the sector to secure availability of high quality places across the city
- Continue partnership work with schools around delivery of 30 hour FEEE places to respond to demand and manage the market to prevent a negative impact on accessibility of places, particularly for 2 year olds, in early years settings across the city
- Work across services to develop accessibility of inclusive provision and availability of places for children with SEND, including mapping of provision and securing data on unmet demand; particularly for 2 year FEEE places.

## 10. Sources of information and data

- Statutory Guidance on local authorities for Early Education and Childcare, effective from 1 June 2018.
- DWP and HMRC Eligibility Data
- Leicester Early Education Headcount data
- Ofsted Data
- Census data
- CSA 2019 survey data
- Coram Family and Childcare survey data
- ONS population data
- ONE headcount data 2018-19



## Appendix 1 – Ward Analysis of sufficiency 2 year FEEE



## Appendix 2 – Ward analysis of 3 and 4 year FEEE (universal entitlement)



# Appendix 3 – Ward analysis of sufficiency of 30 Extended Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds

