



Childcare in Somerset

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019

Somerset County Council

Early Years Team

November 2019

Contents

Introduction	3
Local Authority Statutory Duties relating to Early Years and Childcare	
Introduction to the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019	
Part 1: Somerset – area context	4
1.1 Population 1.2 New housing and early years places	
Part 2: Childcare in Somerset	6
2.1 Number of providers 2.2 Funded providers 2.3 Quality of childcare	
2.4 Availability of childcare 2.5 Childcare costs	
Part 3: Sufficiency of childcare places	12
3.1 Whole county demand and supply 3.2 Occupancy and vacancy rates	
3.3 Children entitled to funded childcare 3.4 Childcare required by working parents	
3.5 Children covering irregular hours and during holidays 3.6 Brokerage	
3.7 Actions to ensure sufficient childcare	
Part 4: Early Years Community information	
Population and deprivation Supply and demand of childcare places Quality of childcare provision New housing Summary	
4.1 Ansford & Wincanton.....	16
4.2 Bridgwater.....	17
4.3 Burnham & Cheddar.....	19
4.4 Chard, Crewkerne & Ilminster.....	21
4.5 Frome & Shepton Mallet.....	23
4.6 Huish Episcopi.....	25
4.7 Street, Glastonbury & Wells.....	27
4.8 Taunton.....	28
4.9 Wellington & Wiveliscombe.....	30
4.10 West Somerset.....	32
4.11 Yeovil.....	34
Part 5: Local Authority activities	36
Raising the profile of Early Years as a career Childminder recruitment campaign	
Parent engagement campaign Capital investment programme	
Appendix 1: Early Years and childcare definitions	37
Appendix 2: Calculating the demand and supply of childcare places in Somerset	38

Introduction

Local Authority Statutory Duties relating to Early Years and Childcare

The Childcare Act (2006) requires Local Authorities in England to ensure sufficient childcare, where reasonably practicable, for working parents and those parents studying or training for employment. Sufficient childcare should be available for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs.

The Act also requires Local Authorities to ensure funded places are available free of charge for eligible children (the universal entitlement of up to 570 funded hours per year for all 3- and 4-year olds and the most disadvantaged 2-year olds).

The Childcare Act (2016) placed a duty on Local Authorities to secure places free of charge to parents for the extended entitlement (an additional 570 hours of funded childcare per year for 3- and 4-year olds in eligible working families).

More detailed information about the legislation regarding the provision of funded childcare can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk.

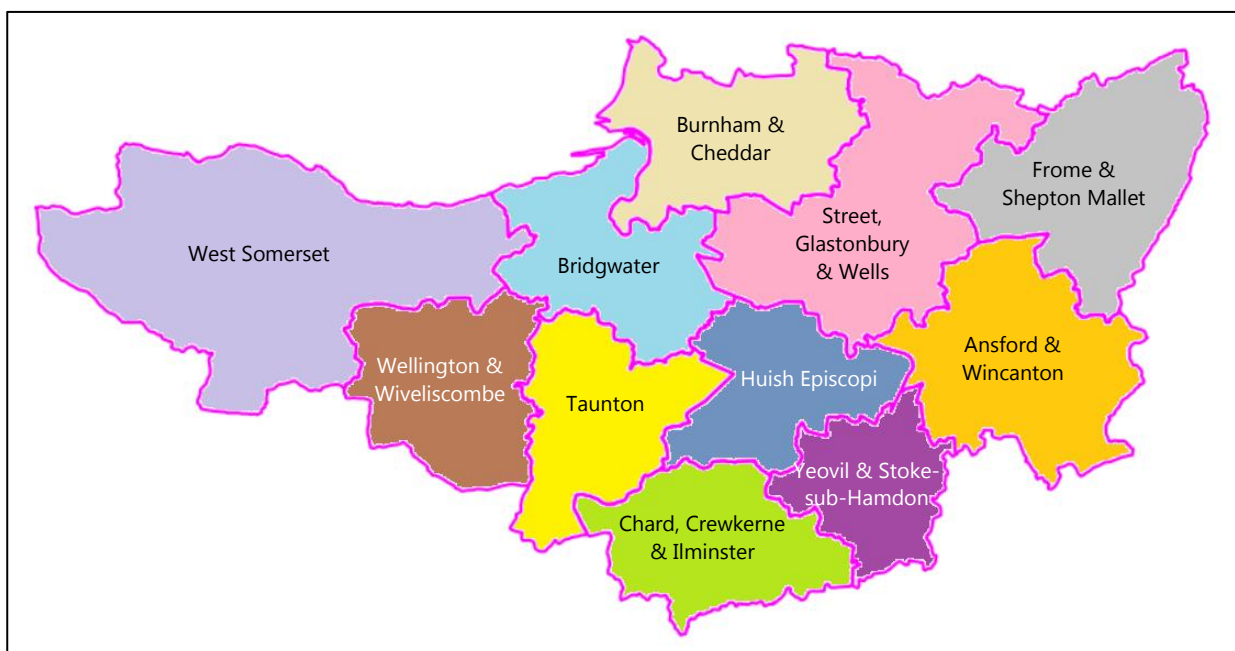
The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019

Since the publication of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018, a network of Early Years Communities (EYCs) has been set up across the county. These are geographical communities of childminders and group childcare providers and are designed to provide mutual support and training opportunities in an area.

There are 11 EYCs, the areas being aligned with the county's School Organisation Plan (SOP) areas. The detailed sufficiency data presented in this report is now by EYC, rather than by district, allowing more focussed information for an area.

The data on the demand and supply of places included in this report is intended as the basis for deciding where in the county additional EY places may need to be commissioned.

Map of Somerset showing the Early Years Communities areas



Part 1: Somerset – area context

1.1 Population

Since 2018 the number of 0-4 year olds has increased slightly - by 175 or 0.6% - and is now around 28,114. Mendip, South Somerset and Somerset West & Taunton all saw an increase in the 0-4YO population whereas Sedgemoor had a slight decrease. Population projections suggest that the number of 0-4 year olds in Somerset will remain more-or-less unchanged for the next 20 years.

Early Years population by age

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	5045*	5438	5611	5974	6046	28114

Source: NHS Somerset GP registrations January 2019

*Delays in registering some babies means the actual number could be around 10% higher at 5550.

Early years population by district 2018 & 2019

District	Population 0-4YO 2018 ¹	Population 0-4YO 2019 ²	Population change 2018-19	Percentage population change
Mendip	5583	5690	107	1.9%
Sedgemoor	6408	6284	-124	-1.9%
South Somerset	8387	8455	68	0.8%
Somerset West & Taunton	7561	7685	124	1.6%
<i>Taunton Deane area</i>	<i>6283</i>	<i>6385</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>1.6%</i>
<i>West Somerset area</i>	<i>1278</i>	<i>1300</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>1.7%</i>
Somerset	27939	28114	175	0.6%

¹GP Registration figures January 2018

²GP Registration figures January 2019

1.2 New housing and early years places

Bridgwater, Taunton and Yeovil are the main focus of development in the county with around 20,000 new homes expected across these areas over the next 10-15 years. All the smaller towns in the county also have house-building programmes and some development is taking place in the rural areas. The urban areas will be where a significant number of additional early years places will be required.

When new housing developments are approved, contributions are sought by the LA towards the provision of additional early years places. Where primary schools are provided as part of a development, a nursery is included.

In August 2019, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People took the key decision to increase the number of EY places that developers are expected to fund to nine places per 100 dwellings. Research suggested that more children lived in new housing developments than expected, and the number of funded childcare hours that children are entitled to has increased.

Part 2: Childcare in Somerset

2.1 Number of providers

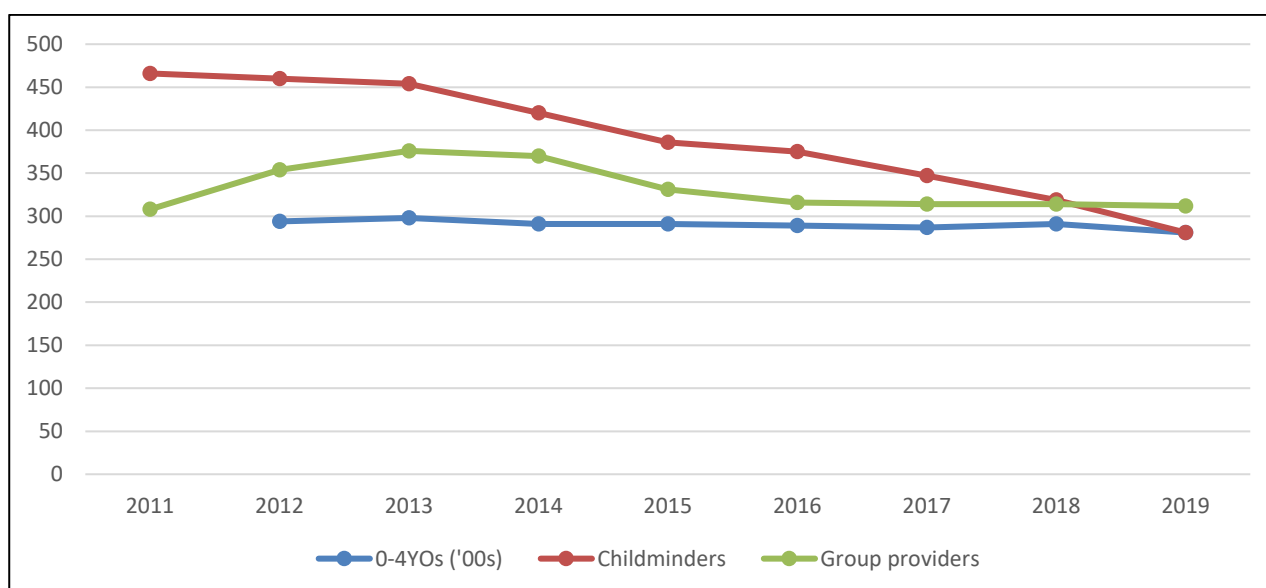
Currently there are 276 childminders and childcare on domestic premises (CDP) and 307 group childcare settings, a net reduction of 11 childminders/CDPs and eight group providers since August 18. See Appendix 1 for definitions of the different types of childcare.

Number of childcare providers by type 2018 & 2019 (source: SCC 2018 & 2019)

Type of childcare	2018 (as 07.08.18)		2019 (as 09.09.19)	
	Number of providers	Number of places	Number of providers	Number of places
Childminder	281	1124	271	1074
CDP	6	130	5	87
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>287</i>	<i>1254</i>	<i>276</i>	<i>1161</i>
Nursery / pre-school: private or voluntary run	208	6818	193	6488
Nursery / pre-school: maintained school run	57	1624	52	1320
Nursery / pre-school: academy run	37	1087	50	1372
Nursery / pre-school: independent school run	13	462	12	410
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>315</i>	<i>9991</i>	<i>307</i>	<i>9590</i>
All provisions	602	11245	583	10753

Note: The number of places data is not available for all childminders

Number of 0-4YOs ('00s), childminders and group providers 2011-2019 (source: SCC)



Points of interest

- The number of childminders continued its downward trajectory over the last year. One Childcare on Domestic Premises provider is now registered as a day nursery.

- The number of group providers also decreased over the last year with a number of settings across the county closing without replacement. These were for various reasons including retirement, sustainability and quality issues.
- As a result of the fall in the number of providers, the number of childcare places available also decreased over the last year.
- The trend for schools and academies taking over the management of previously private or voluntary groups on their sites has continued: the proportion of private and voluntary groups has decreased from to 66% in 2018 to 63% this year.

2.2 Providers offering funded childcare places

Providers can choose whether to register to offer funded childcare places for the universal and extended entitlements for eligible two-, three- and four-year olds.

Proportion of providers offering entitlements 2018 & 2019 (source: SCC 2018 & 2019)

Type of provider	Proportion of providers offering entitlements			
	Universal 2018	Extended 2018	Universal 2019	Extended 2019
Childminder	67%	62%	70%	66%
CDP	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>67%</i>
Nursery / pre-school: private / voluntary run	100%	92%	100%	94%
Nursery / pre-school: maintained school run	100%	100%	100%	100%
Nursery / pre-school: academy run	100%	95%	100%	94%
Nursery / pre-school: independent school run	100%	77%	100%	75%
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>94%</i>
All providers	85%	79%	86%	81%

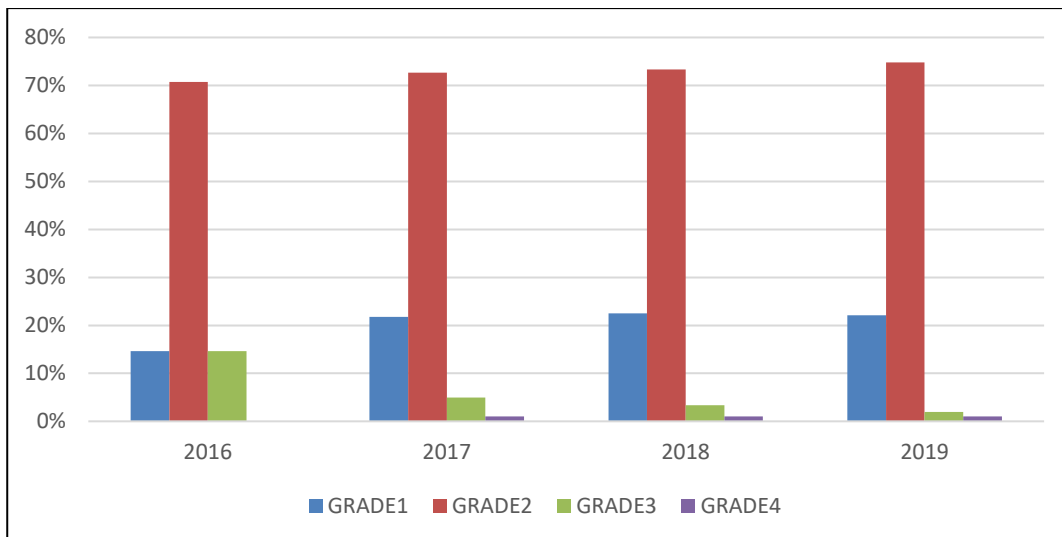
Points of interest

- The proportion of childminders / CDPs offering the universal entitlement has increased to 70%, from 68% in 2018. The proportion of childminders offering extended entitlement hours has also increased - to 67% - from 63% last year.
- All group childcare settings offer universal entitlement places. All maintained school nurseries offer extended entitlement places, along with 94% of academy run and private or voluntary settings. 75% of independent school nurseries offer the extended hours. Overall, 94% of nurseries / pre-schools offer extended entitlement places.

2.3 Quality of childcare

In Somerset, as at 09 September 2019, 438 of the 452 providers that had been inspected were rated Good or Outstanding (97%). This is up slightly from 96% in August 2018. There are nine providers (2%) rated Requires Improvement and five (1%) rated Inadequate.

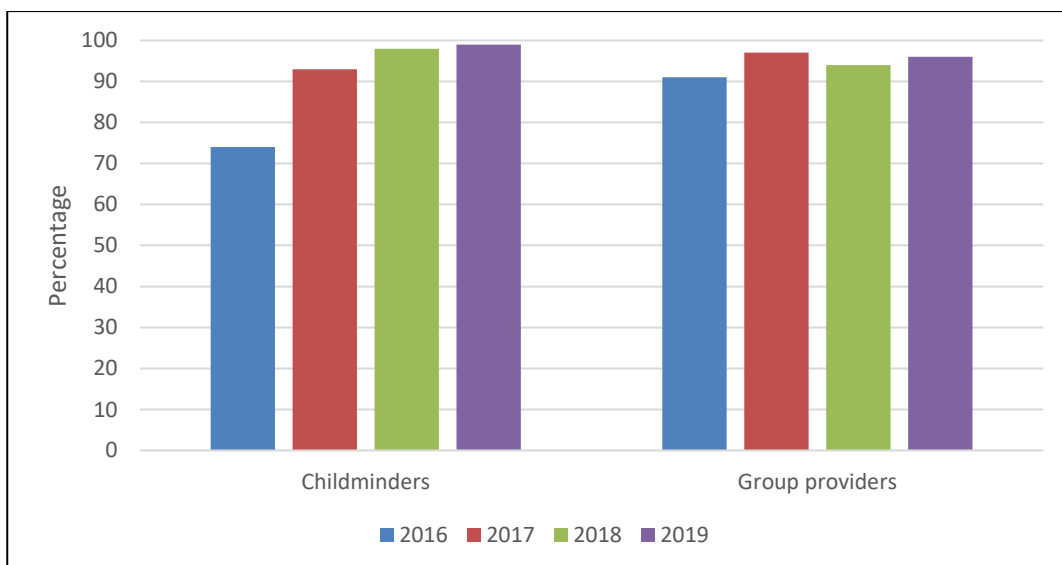
Proportion of providers by Ofsted grade 2016 – 2019 (source: SCC 2019)



Points of interest

- Since last year there has been a slight increase in the number of providers rated Good or Outstanding (up from 96% to 97%). The number rated Requires Improvement has dropped, and the number rated Inadequate has stayed the same.
- The number of providers without an Ofsted grade has dropped over the last year, down from 83 to 55. Many of the new academies formed in the past few years will now have been inspected.

Percentage of providers graded Good or Outstanding by type of provider 2016 - 2019 (source: SCC 2019)



Points of interest

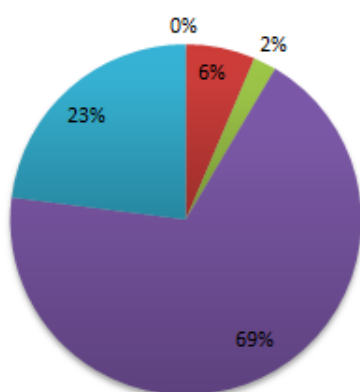
- The improvement in the quality of both childminders and group providers has resulted in the overall increase in quality of providers in Somerset over the last year.
- The proportion of Good and Outstanding settings in Somerset (97%) is the same as that across the south-west and above that of England (96%) (source: Ofsted Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 March 2019).

2.4 Availability and flexibility of childcare

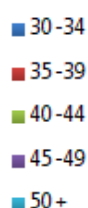
The availability and flexibility of childcare includes the number of weeks a year and the number of hours per week the settings are open. Also important is the hours of opening; there is a small but significant demand for childcare outside 'normal' working hours because of shift work and an increasing demand for flexible working patterns.

Weeks open per year: percentage of providers by type 2019 (source: SCC 2019)

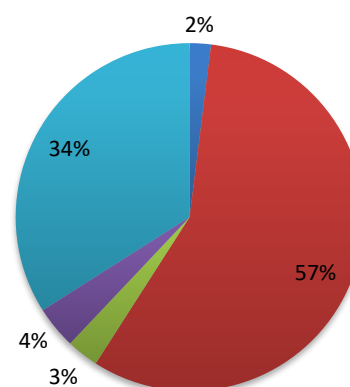
Childminders



Weeks open



Group providers

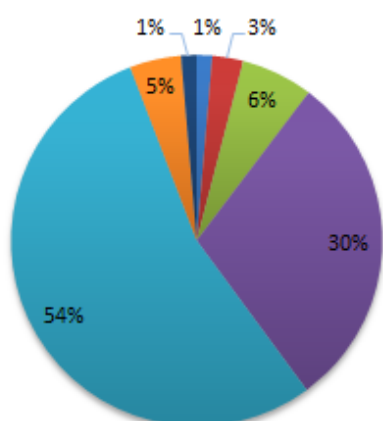


Points of interest

- The majority of childminders (around two-thirds) are open for most of the year. Around a quarter are open all year round. Just 6% are open term time only.
- The majority of group providers are open term time only. The proportion doing this has increased slightly since 2018 (by 1%) and may reflect the increase in school- or academy-run settings. The majority of the rest are open all year round.

Hours open per week: percentage of providers by type 2019 (source: SCC 2019)

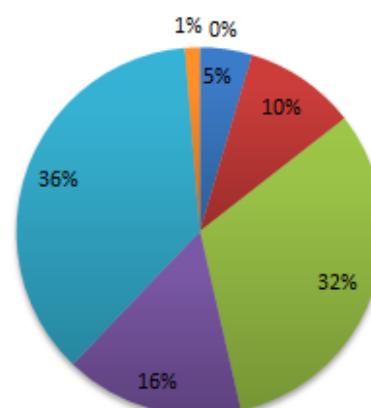
Childminders



Hours per week



Group providers

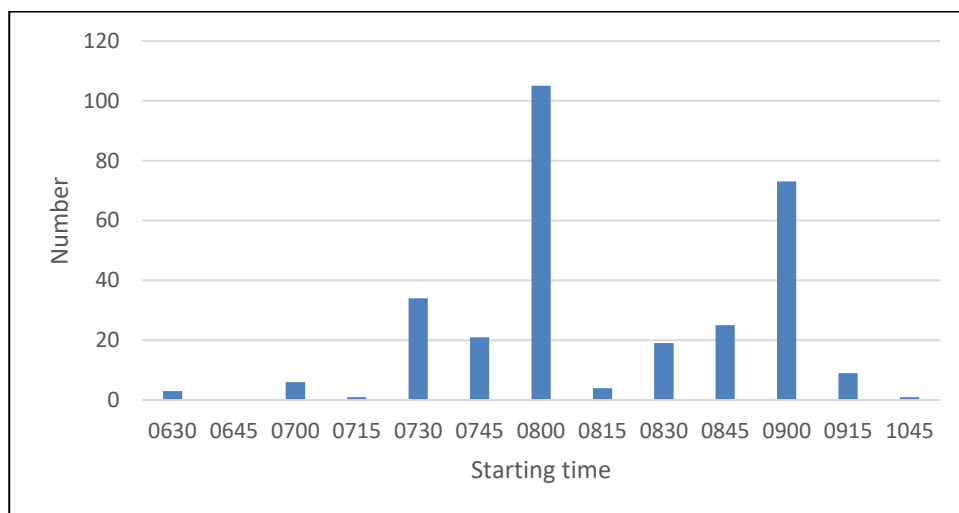


Points of interest

- A larger proportion of childminders are working fewer hours this year compared with last year.

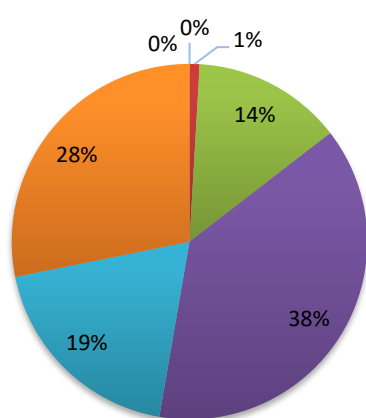
- The proportion of childminders open for 50-59 hours per week has decreased to 54% from 60% in 2018. The proportion open 40-49 hours a week has increased by the same amount (6%) in the last year.
- The proportion of group providers in each category has remained more-or-less the same since last year.
- There has been a slight increase in settings open all year (1%) and a slight decrease in the number of settings open for the fewest number of hours (1%). The smaller settings tend to be open for fewer hours and it is possible that these have closed as they are more vulnerable than larger settings.
- Only two settings in the county are truly sessional, i.e. offering a morning and afternoon session and closing in between these times.

The number of providers providing childcare from the various times shown
(source: SCC 2019)

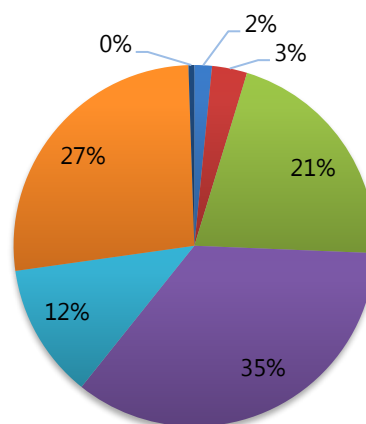
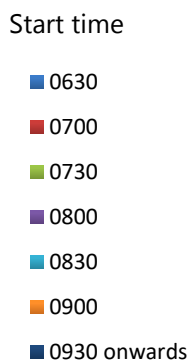


The proportion of providers who offer childcare from the times shown, by type of provider
(source: SCC 2019)

School / academy



Private / voluntary run

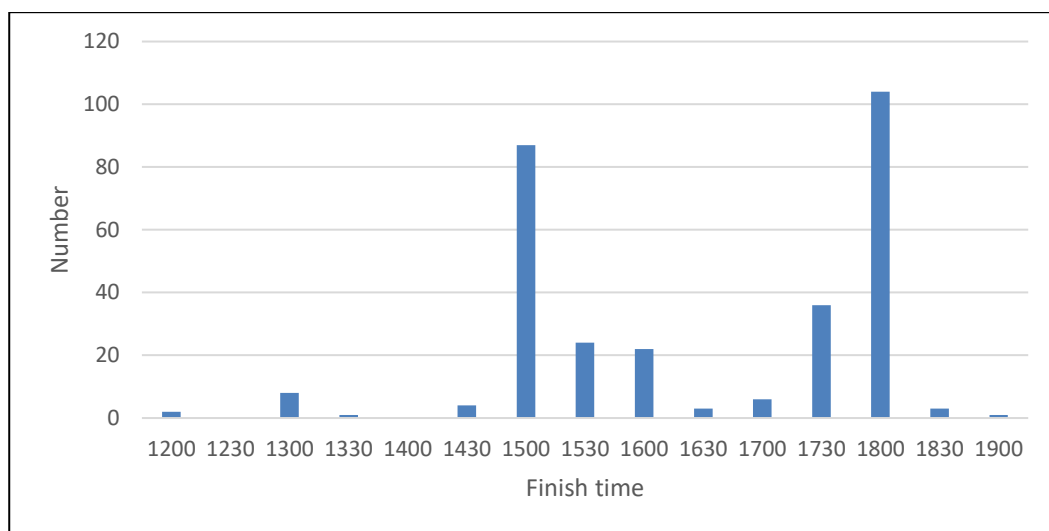


Points of interest

- The majority of providers start providing childcare from 8am in the morning. The next most common time to start providing childcare is 9am.

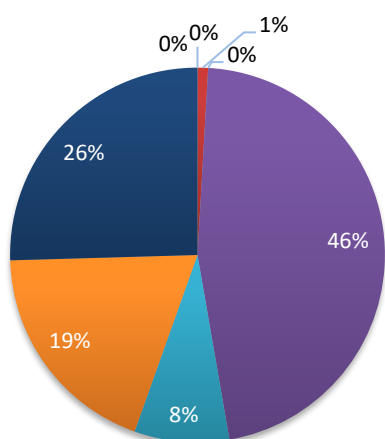
- Settings run by schools and academies are more likely to start later in the mornings than private or voluntary settings. Fewer school / academy run settings open between 0730 and 0800 than private or voluntary settings. Fewer private voluntary settings start their day between 0730 and 0800 than school / academy settings.
- The trend for schools and academies to take over the running of previously private or voluntary settings on their sites, or to open new pre-schools, may reduce the availability of childcare in the early morning.

The number of providers providing childcare until the various times shown (SCC 2019)

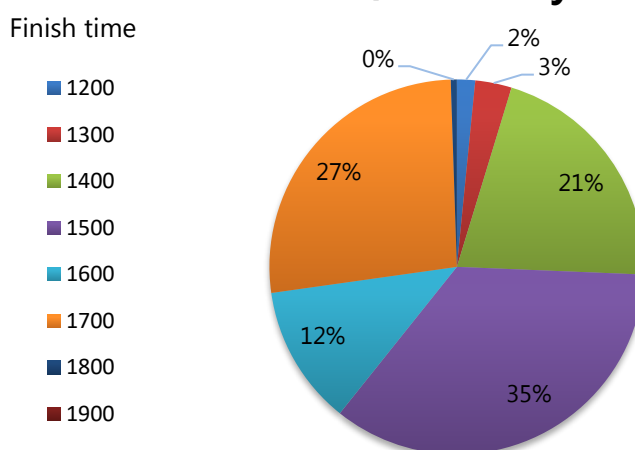


The proportion of providers who offer childcare from the times shown, by type of provider

School / academy run



Private / voluntary run



Points of interest

- The majority of providers finish providing childcare at 6pm in the evening. The next most common time to finish providing childcare is 3pm.
- A greater proportion of private & voluntary providers finish later than school / academy run settings. Almost half of school / academy run settings finish at 3pm, compared with only 32% of private / voluntary providers. Two-fifths of private / voluntary providers finish at 6pm compared with only a quarter of school / academy run settings.

- In rural towns and villages where a school run provision is the only one, parents may experience difficulties finding childcare outside school opening times.

Breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs

- Many schools run breakfast and / or after-school clubs which will extend the availability of childcare here. Many will also host holiday and holiday sports clubs.
- There are 76 known out-of-school and holiday clubs in Somerset (September 2019), down from 92 in 2018. All the districts except West Somerset saw a reduction in the number of out of school and holiday clubs from last year. However, there are also many clubs that are not registered with the LA.

2.5 Childcare costs

Average hourly rates of childminders and group settings by children's age and district
(source: SCC 2019)

District	Child-minders	Group settings		
		0-1YOs	2 YOs	3&4 YOs
Mendip	£4.31	£4.83	£4.63	£4.53
Sedgemoor	£4.19	£4.66	£4.52	£4.35
South Somerset	£4.14	£4.75	£4.37	£4.27
Somerset West & Taunton	£4.14	£4.83	£4.49	£4.34
<i>Taunton Deane area</i>	<i>£4.15</i>	<i>£5.02</i>	<i>£4.60</i>	<i>£4.43</i>
<i>West Somerset area</i>	<i>£4.00</i>	<i>£4.13</i>	<i>£4.07</i>	<i>£4.02</i>
SOMERSET	£4.19	£4.77	£4.48	£4.36

Points of interest

- The average cost of a childminder in Somerset has increased from £4.11 per hour in 2018 to £4.19 per hour this year. The majority of childminders charge the same regardless of the age of the child; a few charge less for 3 and 4 year olds. The cost ranges from a minimum of £2.30 to a maximum of £6.67 per hour, with the most common charge being £4 per hour.
- Group childcare settings tend to charge different rates depending on the age of the child, usually the younger the child the higher the cost. In Somerset, the average cost at a group setting is £4.48 per hour for 2 year olds (up from £4.31 last year) and £4.36 per hour for 3 & 4 year olds (up from £4.25 last year). The cost ranges from £2.20 per hour to a maximum of £6.39 per hour, with the most common charge also £4 per hour.
- The cost for a group place for 0-1 year olds costs between £2.60 and £6.36 per hour, with an average of £4.77 per hour and the most common charge being £5 per hour.
- The independent school nurseries tend to charge more than the private, voluntary and maintained nurseries. The average cost of an independent school nursery place is £5.16 per hour for 3 & 4 year olds, up from £5.03 last year.

Part 3: Sufficiency of childcare places

3.1 Whole county demand and supply

The estimated demand is that for the proportion of 0-2 and 3-4 year olds who use childcare and is expressed in 30 hour full time equivalent (FTE) places (a working week of five six-hour days = 30 hours per week). The supply of places is those available for 0-2 and 3-4 year olds and is also expressed in 30 hour FTE places. See Appendix 2 for methodology.

Due to delays in some babies being registered the number of 0-year olds will be higher than indicated. Therefore, the demand for childcare places could be an underestimate and should be treated as the minimum number required.

The sufficiency assessments in this report are categorised as follows:

Sufficiency	Description
Sufficient	Sufficient and at least 10% surplus places
Sufficient	Sufficient but fewer than 10% surplus places
Insufficient	Supply of places less than demand

Surplus places in an area should allow for parental choice and the ability of parents to choose the childcare that meets their needs. However, too many surplus places could threaten the viability of some settings.

Based on national usage rates, the current demand and supply of places for the whole county is shown in the table below (Sept 2019).

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	3753	7017	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	5374	9297	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	7128	9297	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	8872	9297	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 409 children into county to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

The picture across the county will mask differences between regions and between urban and rural areas. Providers tend to be concentrated in the urban areas and parents in rural areas may have to travel some distance to access the childcare that meets their needs.

3.2 Occupancy and vacancy rates

Data on occupancy and 'live' vacancy rates is not yet collected in Somerset. For sufficiency purposes, full occupancy is assumed when calculating the supply of places. Therefore, the following data may be influenced by factors such as parental preference between providers in each community, the number of staff employed at providers to fulfil ratios, the occupancy policies of individual providers and when parents are able to access funded places.

3.3 Children entitled to funded childcare

Funded childcare for two-year olds

The most deprived 2 year olds are currently eligible for 15 hours a week of funded childcare for 38 weeks a year (or 570 hours stretched across the year). The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) produces a list of potentially eligible children several times a year. The number of children who subsequently apply for and take up a funded place is monitored.

Proportion of 2YOs eligible for funding in settings spring 2019 (source: DWP/ SCC 2019)

District	DWP estimate of no. of eligible 2YOs	No. of 2YO apps received	No. of eligible 2YO apps	No. of funded 2YOs in settings	% of 2YOs in settings cf DWP estimate	% of 2YOs in settings cf eligible apps
Mendip	309	250	236	207	67%	88%
Sedgemoor	504	413	379	329	65%	87%
S Somerset	461	429	400	340	74%	85%
SWT	457	399	364	319	70%	88%
<i>Taunton Deane</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>316</i>	<i>288</i>	<i>251</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>87%</i>
<i>West Somerset</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>90%</i>
Somerset	1731	1491	1379	1195	69%	87%

Points of interest

- The proportion of 2-year olds taking up a funded place increased slightly from 86% in the autumn term 2018.

Funded childcare for three- and four-year olds

The majority of three and four year olds in Somerset take up a funded place with a group provider or childminder for at least some of their entitlement hours. In 2018, 96% of 3- and 4-year olds in Somerset took up a funded place which is in line with similar authorities. This compares with 94% across England as a whole and 97% in the south-west.

The proportion of providers offering funded places increased from 85% in 2018 to 86% in 2019 with the proportion offering the extended entitlement increasing from 79% to 81% in this time (see section 2.2).

There is some evidence that the proportion of two-year olds taking up a funded place decreased in some areas and in England as whole between 2018 and 2019. One reason for this could be the introduction of the extended entitlement for eligible three- and four-year olds, reducing the number of places available for two-year olds.

3.4 Childcare required by working parents

Parents working full time will often require childcare all day and all year. Although many group childcare providers and childminders provide full time care, many are run by or based at schools and are open school hours and term time only. These settings are unlikely to meet some parents' childcare needs although childminders and out-of-school and holiday clubs may be available to cover some of the evening and holiday care required.

The proportion of settings run by schools or academies has increased since 2018 with the proportion of private or voluntary run settings having decreased (see section 2.1).

3.5 Childcare covering irregular hours and during holidays

Providers operating outside standard hours

Some providers are open outside standard opening hours, which will help parents requiring childcare at unusual times. For the purposes of this report, outside standard hours means opening before 8am in the morning or after 6pm in the evening, and providing care at weekends or overnight.

Number and proportion of providers open outside standard hours (source: SCC 2019)

Out-of-hours care	Childminders		Group childcare	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Providers open before 8am	139	131	61	65
Providers open after 6pm	33	41	4	5
Providers open at weekends	5	5	1	1
Providers offering overnight care	19	14	0	0

Points of interest

- Fewer childminders are open earlier than in 2018 although more are open later. Fewer childminders offer overnight childcare than last year.
- A few more group providers open early than last year and one more opens later. The group provider now open at weekends is a workplace nursery and so only for use by the employees there.
- Many schools run before- and after-school clubs which will be used to extend the hours available for childcare here.

Providers operating during holidays

In addition to childminders and group providers who operate all year round, there are a number of clubs and groups that operate in the holidays.

Number of registered out-of-school and holiday clubs (source: SCC 2019)

District	2018	2019
Mendip	13	12
Sedgemoor	23	20
South Somerset	17	14
Som West & Taunton	39	30
<i>Taunton Deane</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>West Somerset</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>
Somerset	92	76

Points of interest

- There appears to be fewer registered before- and after-school and holiday clubs in Somerset this year compared with last year. This could be a result of a decrease in the number of provisions or it could be an increase in the proportion of school run clubs and groups which don't have to be separately registered.

3.6 Brokerage

SCC publishes information about providers (who have given permission for their information to be shared) on the Somerset Choices website, and parents can search for childcare using their postcode to identify their nearest providers. For those parents unable to find childcare that suits their needs, the LA provides a brokerage service.

Between September 2018 and August 2019, 120 requests for brokerage were received.

Number of brokerage requests received by district Sept 18 – August 2019 (source: SCC 2019)

District	No. of requests	Min age Months	Max age Years	Number of requests by type (requests can be for more than 1 type)		
				Childminder	Nursery	Hol / OoS*
Mendip	21	6	8	12	13	5
Sedgemoor	32	6	10	18	15	10
South Somerset	32	5	11	19	10	9
Som W & Taunton	32	3	10	14	17	8
<i>Taunton Deane</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>West Somerset</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
Out of County	2	n/a	2	1	1	0

*Holiday and out-of-school clubs / care

The LA received brokerage requests for a wide age range of children, from 3 months to 11 years old. Many requests were for either a childminder or a nursery / pre-school, whichever was available at the times required. A significant number of requests were for holiday or out-of-school care, including a number for the 'gap' between school ending and parents finishing work. Three requests were specifically for children with special needs; one was for holiday care and one was for a childminder; the third was for an older child.

3.7 Actions to ensure sufficient childcare

Through the sufficiency assessment and through field knowledge, including the brokerage service, we know where our gaps are. Where a gap is identified, there are a number of processes we will follow to ensure sufficient childcare places, for example additional childminder recruitment campaigns, exploration of expansion of existing settings to provide additional places and, where necessary, Section 106 monies and/or an application can be made to provide capital funds for a new setting. Sustainability monies and support can also be used to support settings that are struggling to remain financially viable. Where sufficiency of places in rural areas is a risk then sustainability for existing setting will always be explored and considered.

Part 4: Sufficiency by Early Years Community

4.1 Ansford & Wincanton EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 1591 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 1619.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	276 (304)	329	346	291	349	1591 (1619)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 there are no areas of deprivation here. However, parts of Henstridge, Templecombe, Castle Cary and Milborne Port are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	222	305	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	265	503	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	366	503	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	470	503	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 21 children out of community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Ansford / Castle Cary

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

Wincanton

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Sufficient

New housing

There are a number of new housing developments either approved or pending approval here, plus further possible developments over the next ten years.

Number of places required for new housing

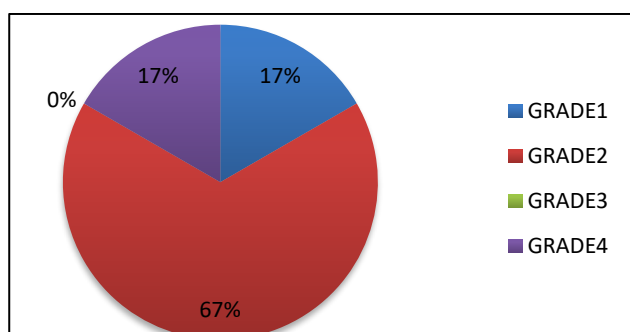
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Bruton	60	5	33	3	30	3
Castle Cary	220	20	331	30	60	5
Henstridge	10	1	50	5	80	7
K Mandeville	59	5	21	2	n/a	n/a
Milborne Port	67	6	95	9	n/a	n/a
Templecombe	28	3	67	6	n/a	n/a
Wincanton	153	14	103	9	n/a	n/a

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

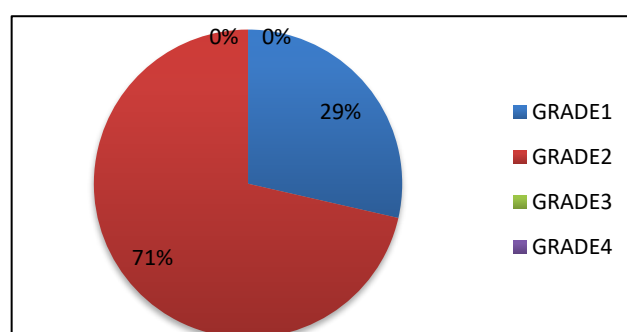
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 95% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All the group providers are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 84% of group providers. One childminder is rated Inadequate.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

Overall, the Ansford & Wincanton EYC appears to have a sufficient number of childcare places, although the proportion of surplus places in the summer term is less than 10%. However, the data suggests that the town of Ansford / Castle Cary may be short of places for 3-4 year olds in the summer term when demand is at its highest. If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places – particularly for 3-4 year olds – are likely to be required.

4.2 Bridgwater EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 4140 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 4211.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	708 (779)	785	846	901	900	4140 (4211)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Bridgwater are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with rural areas around Woolavington, are also in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	540	935	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	808	1178	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	1063	1178	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	1319	1178	Insufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of five children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Bridgwater

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

North Petherton

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

There are a number of new housing developments either approved or pending approval here, plus further developments in the pipeline. Bridgwater in particular is a key site for meeting the Government's target for building new homes.

Number of places required for new housing

Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
BW Kings Down	261	23	702	63	500	45
BW Chilton Waters	249	22	393	35	648	58
BW Wilstock / Stockmoor	313	28	346	31	90	8
BW Durleigh Rd	126	11	103	9	n/a	n/a

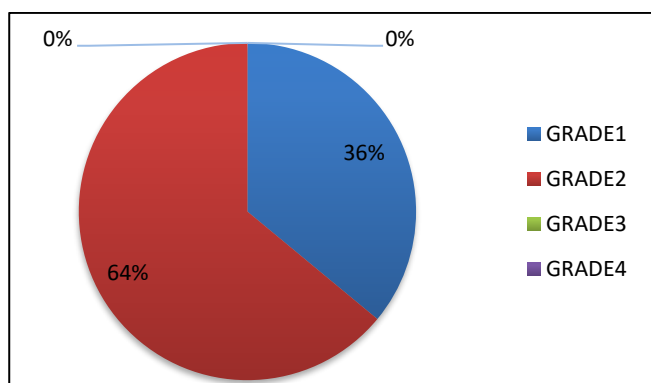
Cannington	n/a	n/a	43	4	30	3
Puriton	83	7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Westonzoyland	25	2	34	3	n/a	n/a
Woolavington	3	-	65	6	60	5

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

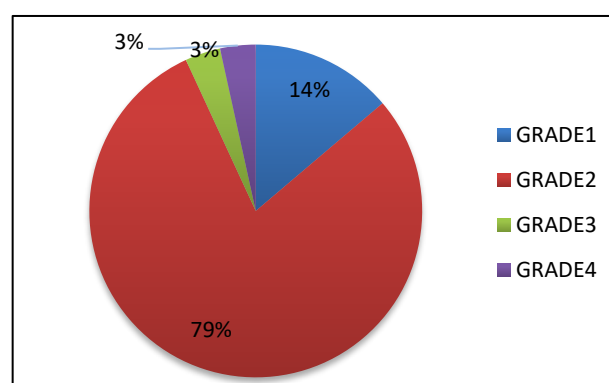
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 96% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All childminders are rated Good or Outstanding along with 93% of group providers. One group provider is rated Requires Improvement and one is rated Inadequate.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Bridgwater EYC has a sufficient number of places for 0-2 year olds and for 3-4 year olds in the autumn and spring terms (although with fewer than 10% surplus places in the spring term), with not enough places in the summer term when demand is at its highest. This pattern is repeated in Bridgwater itself and North Petherton is also predicted to have a shortfall in 3-4 year old places in the summer term.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places – particularly in Bridgwater and for 3-4 year olds – are likely to be required.

4.3 Burnham & Cheddar EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 2027 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 2060.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	332 (365)	391	419	429	456	2027 (2060)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Burnham and Highbridge are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with several others across these towns and in East Huntspill, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	265	577	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	387	798	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	520	798	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	652	798	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 61 children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Burnham & Highbridge

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

Cheddar

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Insufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Insufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

There are a number of new housing developments either approved or pending approval here, plus further developments in the pipeline.

Number of places required for new housing

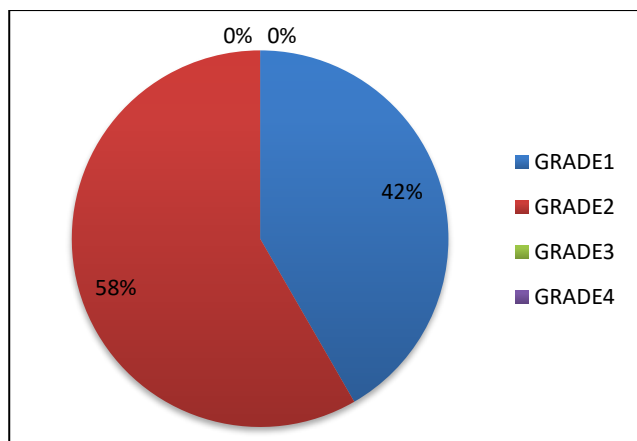
Location	2019-21		2021-24		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Axbridge	5	-	95	9	n/a	n/a
Berrow	40	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cheddar	80	7	420	38	135	12
Highbridge	176	16	361	32	428	39
West Huntspill	48	4	130	12	11	1

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

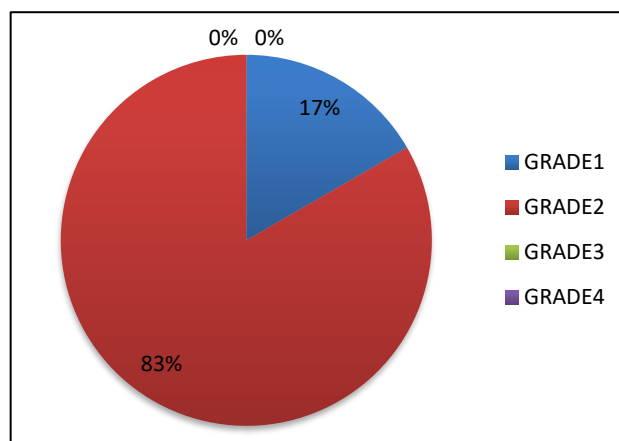
Quality of childcare provision

All graded providers in the Burnham & Cheddar EYC are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019).

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

Overall, the Burnham & Cheddar EYC appears to have a sufficient number of childcare places for all ages and in all terms. However, the data suggests that Burnham & Highbridge is short of places for 3-4 year olds in the spring and summer terms and Cheddar is short of places for all ages in all terms.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places – particularly in Burnham and Cheddar – are likely to be required.

To ensure sufficient childcare in Burnham & Highbridge, the existing provisions will be maintained and supported (ongoing monitoring and review) and the recruitment of childminders will be actively promoted.

In Cheddar, the LA is providing funding to support the expansion of an existing provision to increase its capacity and provide baby places.

4.4 Chard, Crewkerne & Ilminster EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 2160 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 2203.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	432 (475)	442	438	419	429	2160 (2203)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Chard and Crewkerne are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with several others across the towns and in Ilminster, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	303	553	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	374	827	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	496	827	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	623	827	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 90 children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Age	Chard	Crewkerne	Ilminster
0-2YO	Sufficient	Insufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient	Insufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Sufficient	Insufficient	Sufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

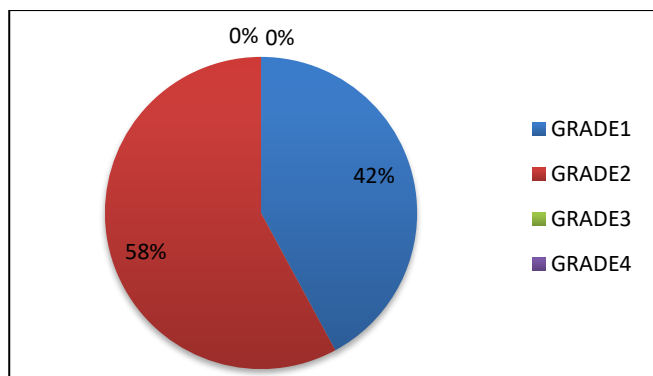
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Ashill	12	1	32	3	n/a	n/a
Broadway	35	3	44	4	n/a	n/a
Chard	239	22	602	54	397	36
Crewkerne	82	7	222	20	367	33
Ilminster	127	11	211	19	275	25
Ilton	57	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Merriott	13	1	132	12	n/a	n/a

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

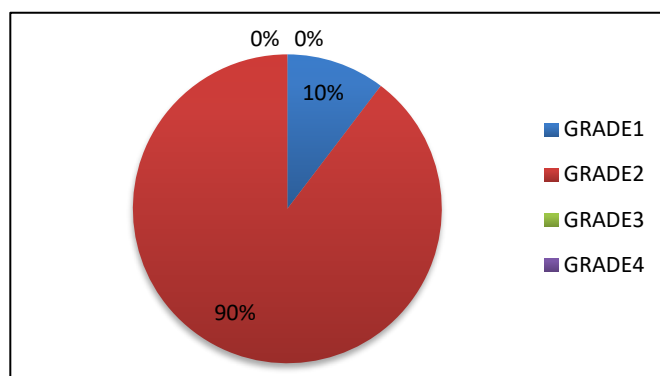
Quality of childcare provision

All graded providers in the Chard, Crewkerne & Ilminster EYC are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019).

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

Overall, the Chard, Crewkerne & Ilminster EYC has a sufficient number of childcare places for all ages and in all terms. Of the three main towns, the data suggests that Chard and Ilminster have a sufficient number of places but Crewkerne does not. Here, there appears to be a shortfall in places for 0-2 year olds, and 3-4 year olds in the spring and summer terms.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places are likely to be required.

A Childcare on Domestic Premises provider relocated from South Petherton and opened as a Nursery in the old school in Barrington.

To ensure sufficient childcare in Crewkerne, the existing provisions will be maintained and supported (ongoing monitoring and review) and the recruitment of childminders will be actively promoted.

4.5 Frome & Shepton Mallet EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 3267 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the total population to around 3328.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	607 (668)	624	639	742	655	3267 (3328)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 one area of Frome and one of Shepton Mallet are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with several others across these towns and in Coleford, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	434	656	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	659	1043	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	850	1043	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	1041	1043	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of six children into EYC (summer term 2019)		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Frome

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

Shepton Mallet

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

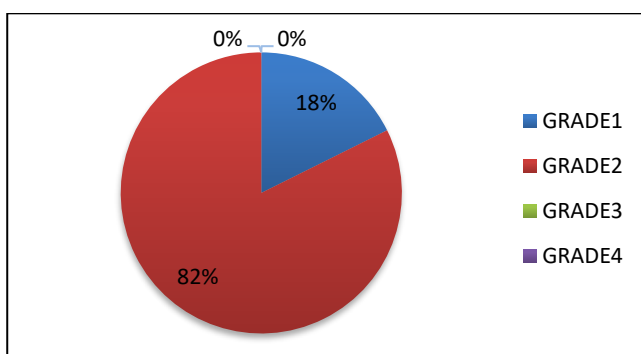
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Frome Welshmill Ln	11	1	88	8	n/a	n/a
Frome Southfield Fm	170	15	240	22	30	3
Rode	54	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shepton Mallet	29	3	376	34	345	31

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

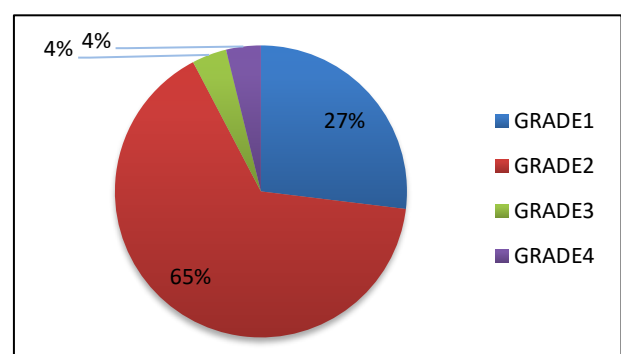
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 97% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All the childminders are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 92% of group providers. One group provider is rated Requires Improvement and one is rated Inadequate.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

Overall, the Frome & Shepton Mallet EYC has a sufficient number of childcare places for all ages and in all terms. Of the three main towns, the data suggests that Chard and Ilminster have a sufficient number of places but Crewkerne does not. Here, there appears to be a shortfall in places for 0-2 year olds, and 3-4 year olds in the spring and summer terms.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places are likely to be required.

To ensure sufficient childcare in Frome, the existing provisions will be maintained and supported (ongoing monitoring and review) and the recruitment of childminders will be actively promoted.

To ensure sufficient childcare in Shepton Mallet, the existing provisions will be maintained and supported, and a private nursery is planning to expand. The recruitment of childminders will be actively promoted.

4.6 Huish Episcopi EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 843 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 857.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	140 (154)	163	159	195	186	843 (857)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 one area of Curry Rivel is in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. This area, along with one covering Curry Mallet and its surrounding villages, is in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	116	165	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	186	259	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	240	259	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	297	259	Insufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of four children out of community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Langport / Huish Episcopi

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

Somerton

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

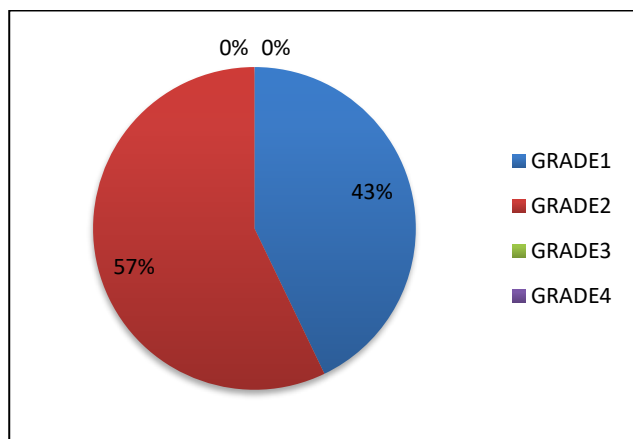
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Curry Rivel	25	2	24	1	n/a	n/a
Huish Episcopi	74	7	111	10	n/a	n/a
Somerton	144	13	160	14	121	11

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

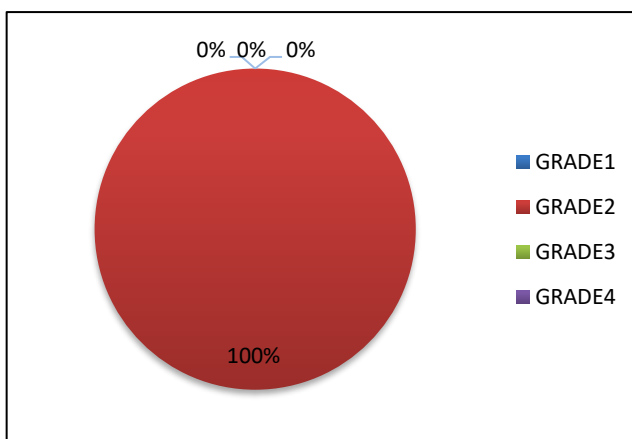
Quality of childcare provision

All graded providers in the Huish Episcopi EYC are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019).

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Huish Episcopi EYC has a sufficient number of places for 0-2 year olds and for 3-4 year olds in the autumn and spring terms (although with fewer than 10% surplus places in the spring term), with not enough places in the summer term when demand is at its highest. This pattern is repeated in both Langport / Huish Episcopi and Somerton.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places are likely to be required.

4.7 Street, Glastonbury & Wells EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 2350 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 2391.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	407 (448)	446	458	516	523	2350 (2391)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Street and Glastonbury are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with others across these towns and in Wells and Walton, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	312	730	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	468	903	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	619	903	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	764	903	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 83 children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Age	Street	Glastonbury	Wells
0-2YO	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Ashcott / Catcott	26	2	5	-	n/a	n/a
Baltonsborough	n/a	n/a	52	5	n/a	n/a
Chilcompton	21	2	9	1	n/a	n/a

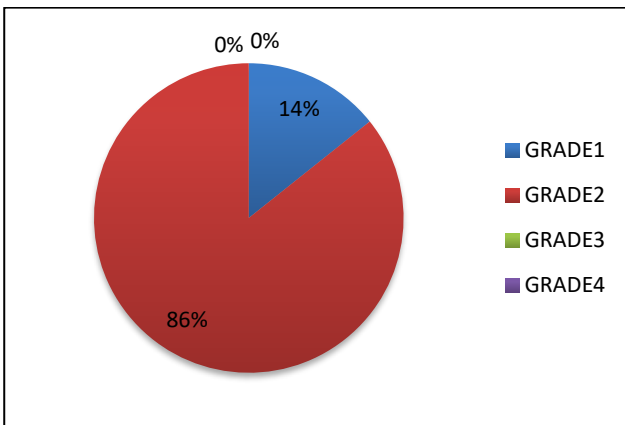
Glastonbury	99	9	114	10	n/a	n/a
Street / Walton	39	4	59	5	n/a	n/a
Wells	219	20	261	23	28	3

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

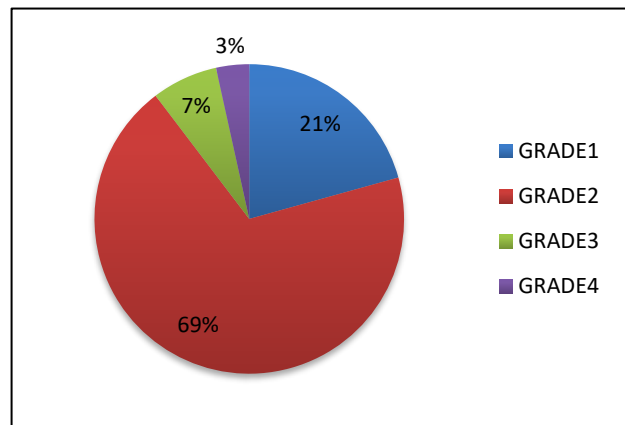
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 94% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All the childminders are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 90% of group providers. Two group providers are rated Requires Improvement and one is rated Inadequate.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Street, Glastonbury and Wells EYC has enough early years places to meet the demand required. The data suggests that there is sufficient childcare available in the towns of Street, Glastonbury and Wells.

Two nurseries in this EY have closed since January 2019: one in Street and one in Meare. The children from the setting in Street were accommodated in a sister nursery in the town.

4.8 Taunton EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 4847 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 4936.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	887 (365)	952	975	984	1049	4847 (4936)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Taunton are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with several others across the town, are also in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	647	1368	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	879	1489	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	1184	1489	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	1490	1489	Insufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 183 children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Taunton

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

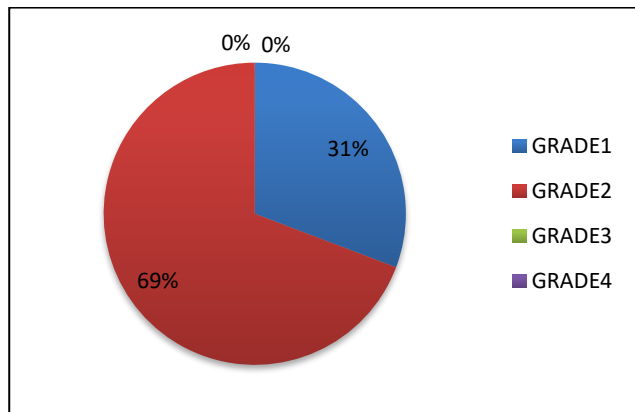
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
North Curry area	24	2	57	5	n/a	n/a
Taunton Amingford Grange	43	4	664	60	1126	101
Taunton Firepool Lock	57	5	168	15	61	5
Taunton Killams	149	13	200	18	44	4
Taunton Langford Mead	100	9	127	11	n/a	n/a
Taunton M Heathfield	114	10	152	14	58	5
Taunton Nerrols Farm	139	13	176	16	348	22
Taunton Staplegrove	55	5	534	48	967	87

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

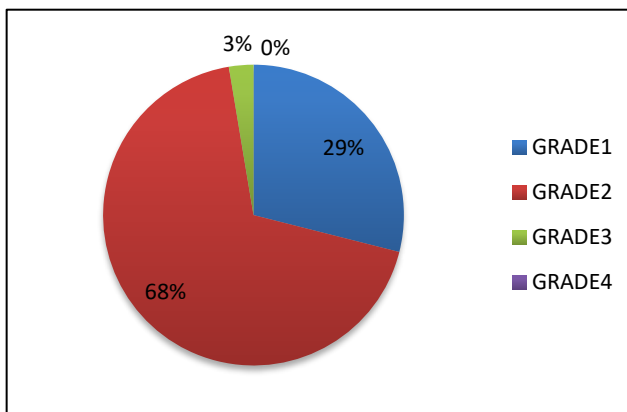
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 98% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All the childminders are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 97% of group providers. One group provider is rated Requires Improvement.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Taunton EYC has enough early years places to meet demand, apart from for 3-4 year olds in the summer term (although the shortfall here is very small). The same pattern is found in the town of Taunton.

There is a significant amount of new housing being built in Taunton, particularly on the eastern edge. Here a new school was completed which included a nursery (Nerrols) and a nursery opened in the expanded and relocated West Monkton school.

In 2019, provider in Taunton closed and a setting in a rural village is likely to close at the end of the year.

4.9 Wellington & Wiveliscombe EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 1538 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 1566.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	276 (304)	282	286	357	337	1538 (1566)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 one area of Wellington is in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. This area, along with several others across the town and in Wiveliscombe, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	198	348	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	322	503	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	417	503	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	511	503	Insufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 27 children out of EYC (summer term 2019)		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Wellington

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Insufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Insufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

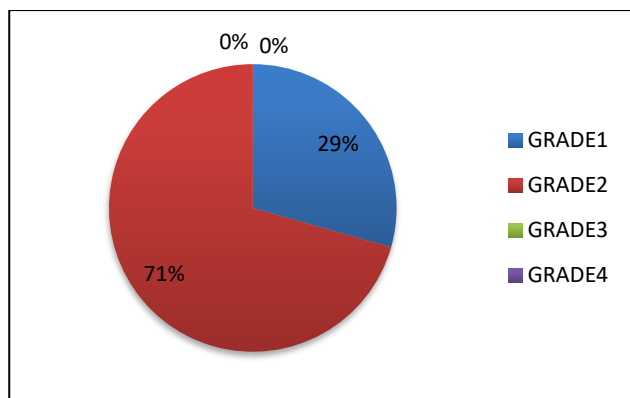
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Bishops Lydeard	37	3	84	8	102	9
Cotford St Luke / Oake	78	7	24	2	6	1
Rockwell Green	14	1	50	5	155	14
Wellington: Cades Farm	137	12	180	16	300	27
Wellington: Longforth Farm	148	13	117	11	69	6
Wiveliscombe	47	4	108	10	128	12

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

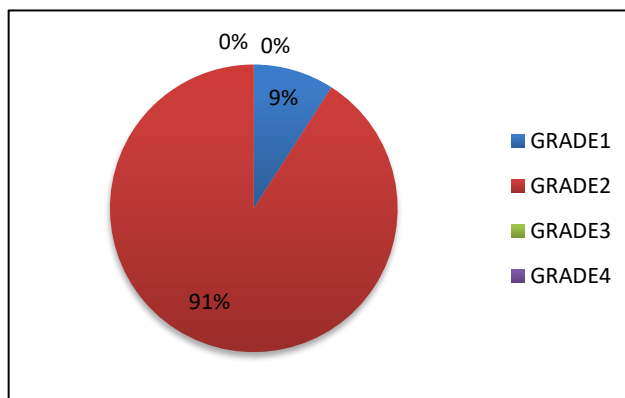
Quality of childcare provision

All graded providers in the Wellington & Wiveliscombe EYC are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019).

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Wellington & Wiveliscombe EYC has enough early years places to meet demand, apart from for 3-4 year olds in the summer term (although the shortfall here is very small). However, it appears that Wellington may be short of places.

A provider in the rural village of Lydeard St Lawrence closed in 2019.

There is a considerable amount of new housing being constructed around Wellington. To ensure sufficient childcare in Wellington, a nursery will be part of the new primary school planned here, due to open in September 2020.

4.10 West Somerset EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 1221 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 1244.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	228 (251)	225	243	259	266	1221 (1244)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Minehead and Watchet, plus the rural towns and villages of Dunster, Dulverton and Simonsbath, are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with others across these towns and in Williton, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	168	338	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	238	415	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	316	415	Sufficient

3-4YO (summer)	394	415	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 22 children into community area to access funded places in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Age	Minehead	Watchet	Williton
0-2YO	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient	Sufficient	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient	Insufficient	Insufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Sufficient	Insufficient	Insufficient

New housing

There are a number of new housing developments either approved or pending approval across West Somerset, including some in rural areas and in and around the National Park. Minehead and Watchet / Williton are the main focus for new housing.

Number of places required for new housing

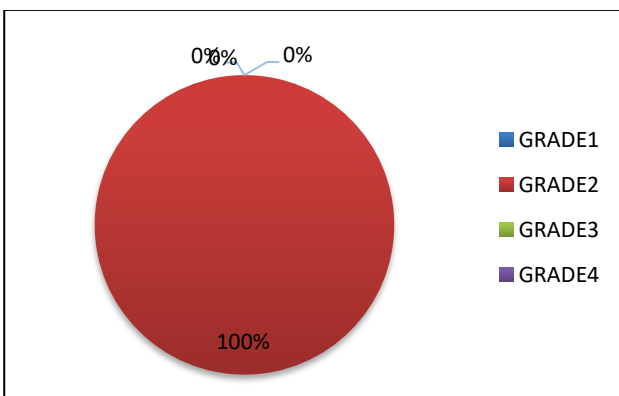
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
Exmoor incl. Dulverton	21	2	27	2	5	-
Minehead	113	10	143	13	n/a	n/a
Old Cleeve	13	1	5	-	n/a	n/a
Watchet	48	4	204	18	261	23
Williton	38	3	81	7	n/a	n/a

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

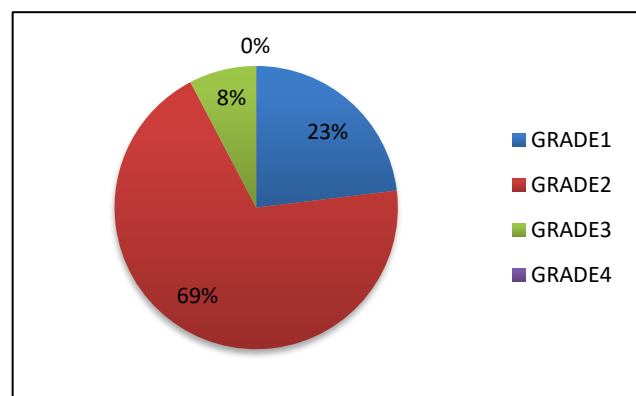
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 93% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). All the childminders are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 92% of group providers. One group provider is rated Requires Improvement.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

Overall, West Somerset has a sufficient number of childcare places, although with few surplus places for 3-4 year olds in the summer term. The data suggests that there is sufficient childcare in Minehead but not in Watchet or Williton.

If all the proposed and pipeline housing is built, additional early years places are likely to be required, particularly in Watchet and Williton. To ensure sufficient childcare in Watchet and Williton, the LA is looking to secure Section 106 funding to expand a number of existing provisions.

4.11 Yeovil EYC

Population and Deprivation

Population of 0-4YOs = 4130 (GP registrations, January 2019). The number of 0YOs is likely to be around 10% higher due to delays in some babies being registered, bringing the population to around 4205.

Age	0	1	2	3	4	Total
Population	752 (827)	799	802	881	896	4130 (4205)

According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 some areas of Yeovil are in the 30% most deprived areas of the country. These areas, along with several others across the town and in the rural areas of Barwick, Norton-sub-Hamdon, Martock and Tintinhull, are in the 30% most deprived areas in the county according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 2019.

Supply and demand of childcare places

Based on national usage rates, the current situation is:

Age	Number of places required	Number of places available	Sufficiency
0-2YO	548	1042	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	788	1379	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	1057	1379	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	1311	1379	Sufficient
Funded 3-4YOs	Net movement of 11 children into EYC in the summer term 2019		

Sufficiency in selected towns

Yeovil

Age	Sufficiency
0-2YO	Sufficient
3-4YO (autumn)	Sufficient
3-4YO (spring)	Sufficient
3-4YO (summer)	Sufficient

New housing

Number of places required for new housing

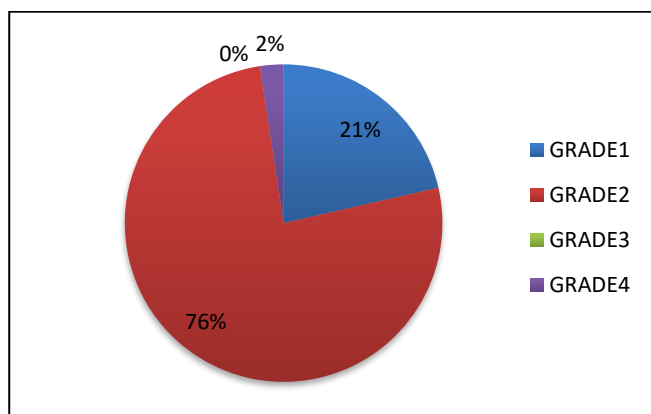
Location	2019-2021		2021-2024		2024-2029	
	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places	No. of houses	No. of places
East Coker	46	4	25	2	n/a	n/a
Ilchester	26	2	92	8	45	4
Martock	75	7	205	18	n/a	n/a
South Petherton	69	6	37	3	n/a	n/a
Yeovil Brimsmore	194	17	263	24	37	3
Yeovil Lufton	170	15	209	19	n/a	n/a
Yeovil Wyndham Park	172	15	232	21	500	45
Yeovil Urban Extension	164	15	474	43	520	47

Source: SCC Infrastructure Growth Plan 2019

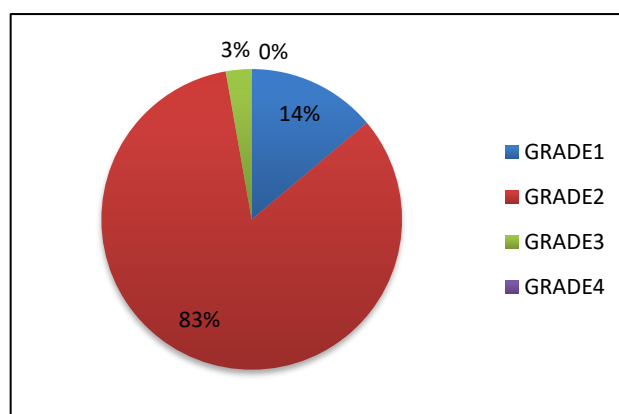
Quality of childcare provision

Overall, 97% of graded providers are rated Good or Outstanding (Sept 2019). 98% of childminders are rated Good or Outstanding, along with 97% of group providers. One childminder is rated Inadequate and one group provider is rated Requires Improvement.

Childminders



Group providers



Summary

The sufficiency data suggests that the Yeovil EYC has enough early years places to meet demand, apart from for 3-4 year olds in the summer term. The same pattern is found in the town of Yeovil.

Yeovil is the focus for more new housing and additional early years places may be required as a result.

Two providers in Yeovil closed in 2019. In one, the children transferred to a sister setting.

Part 5: Local Authority activities

The Early Years Team has organised various campaigns over the last year, to address issues such as the falling number of childminders and to increase parental awareness of their childcare entitlements.

Raising the profile of Early Years as a career

The EY Team attended – or are attending – several career fairs this year to raise the profile of Early Years as a career. The team also commissions support from SCIL who advertises and runs apprenticeship programmes and other routes into childcare.

Childminder recruitment campaign

The EY Team continuously publicises and supports anyone thinking about becoming a childminder and supports them through the process of registration. The team also uses social media to promote childminding as a career and provides business support sessions for new and potential childminders. Telephone support is offered to anyone interested in childminding via the Early Years Team contact line.

For the first time this year the Early Years Team have included a section on our annual Database Update Form asking providers questions about the challenges they are facing in recruitment and retention of staff.

Parent engagement campaign

New promotional material has been created including business cards explaining the various childcare funding offers available and signposting parents to the Childcare Choices website. These postcards will be available for the first time at the registration of birth, deaths and marriages office for new parents. The Childcare Choices website is also promoted via the Early Years Team's social media outlets.

The Early Years Team regularly engages with health visitors at their termly team meetings to update them about any changes and ensure they have the required materials to distribute to parents.

The Early Years Team is currently looking, alongside public health, at a joint parental social media site where key messages can be shared with parents. This is likely to be launched in early 2020.

Capital investment programme

The Early Years Team annually reviews the need for capital investment bids to Cabinet to create new Early Years places in the county.

This capital bid is based on knowledge about new developments, plans for new schools, updates from sufficiency reports and local knowledge about the availability of Early Years places.

The Early Years Team also supported one school in a successful bid for the school nursery capital bid from the DfE. This project will commence in 2020.

Appendix 1: Early Years and childcare definitions

Childminders

Childminders are self-employed childcare professionals. They provide play, care and learning for children in the childminder's own home. Many can take children to and from school, pre-schools and drop-in group activities. Childminders must be registered by Ofsted if they look after children up to eight years old for more than two hours a day, in their own home for pay or reward.

Childcare on Domestic Premises

Childcare on Domestic Premises is the term for four or more childminders working together to care for children on domestic premises.

Day Nurseries

Day nurseries provide play, care and learning for children aged up to five. Typically, they open from 8am to 6pm, but some are open longer hours to suit working parents, and offer a choice of full or part-time places. Day nurseries are registered with Ofsted and operate all year round, usually with the exception of bank holidays.

Pre-schools / Playgroups

Pre-schools provide play, care and learning normally for children aged between two and five years old and they usually open term times. The majority offer sessions in the mornings and / or afternoons. Some offer a lunch club to allow children to stay all day.

Wrap-around care

Childcare at the before or after the school day and during school holidays. This can be delivered by a range of different providers, including breakfast and after-school clubs and holiday sports or play schemes. They could be linked to a child's school or based in the community.

Appendix 2: Calculating the demand and supply of childcare places in Somerset

Introduction

Under the Childcare Act 2006, Local Authorities in England have a duty to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents. It states that LAs 'must secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare ... is sufficient to meet the requirement of parents in their area who require childcare in order to enable them (a) to take up, or remain in, work, or (b) to undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work'.

The Act also requires Local Authorities to 'ensure early years provision of a prescribed description is available free of charge to each young child that is eligible'. Currently, all children aged 3 and 4, and the most disadvantaged 2-year olds, are eligible for 570 hours of funded childcare per year. The Childcare Act 2016 extended this entitlement to include an additional 570 hours of funded childcare per year for 3- and 4-year olds in working families. LAs have a duty to secure funded childcare places for qualifying children.

In order to assist with these duties, and for the strategic planning of places, Somerset County Council estimates the demand for childcare places for 0-4 year olds across the county and in local areas. The estimates use data published by the Department of Education on the take-up rates of various types of childcare in England. The demand is compared with the availability of places in the same area.

$$\text{Sufficiency} = \text{Availability of places} - \text{Estimated demand}$$

Calculating the demand for places

The estimated demand is that for the proportion of 0-2 and 3-4 year olds who use childcare and is expressed in 30 hour full time equivalent (FTE) places¹.

$$\text{Number of places required} = \left[\text{population using childcare}^2 \times \text{average number of hours used per week by age of child}^3 \right] \div 30$$

¹A working week is calculated as five six-hour days giving a total of 30 hours per week.

²0-2 year olds: the number of 0, 1 and 2 year olds multiplied by the use of childcare by this age group (41%)⁴.

3-4 year olds: autumn term = all 3 year olds; spring term = all 3 year olds + $\frac{1}{3}$ of 4 year olds; summer term = all 3 year olds + $\frac{2}{3}$ of 4 year olds.

Population of 3-4 year olds eligible for the extended entitlement: autumn term = 56%⁵ of all 3 year olds; spring term = 56% of (all 3 year olds + $\frac{1}{3}$ of 4 year olds); summer term = 56% of (all 3 year olds + $\frac{2}{3}$ of 4 year olds).

³DfE Childcare & Early Years Survey of Parents 2019 Table 1.5 Hours of childcare used per week (by age of child) (median of formal childcare: 0-2 year olds = 17 hours; 3-4 year olds

= 21 hours): <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-and-early-years-survey-of-parents-2019>

The hours used by 3&4-year old children eligible for the extended entitlement is the difference between the maximum hours (30) and the average hours currently used (21), i.e. $30 - 21 = 9$.

⁴DfE Childcare & Early Years Survey of Parents 2018 Table 1.6 Use of childcare providers (by age of child) (percentage use of formal childcare: 0-2 year olds = 41; 3-4 year olds = 89): <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-and-early-years-survey-of-parents-2019>

⁵OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS (2018) Annual Population Survey Household Data Sets Table C1 LA: Children by combined economic activity status of household members January-December 2017 (percentage of working households with children in Somerset = 56.0%): <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/datasets/childrenbythecombinedeconomicactivitystatusofhouseholdmembersbylocalauthoritytablec1la>

Assumptions / basis for calculations

Population using childcare

The population of 0-1YOs using childcare is taken to be the total population of 0- and 1-year olds multiplied by 0.41 (the proportion of this population who use childcare).

The population of 2YOs using childcare is taken to be the total population of 2-year olds multiplied by 0.41 (the proportion of this population who use childcare).

The population of 3-4YOs using childcare in the autumn term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds (all 4-year olds will be in school).

The population of 3-4YOs using childcare in the spring term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds plus one third of the population of 4-year olds (the remaining 4-year olds will be in school).

The population of 3-4YOs using childcare in the summer term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds plus two thirds of the population of 4-year olds (the remaining 4-year olds will be in school).

The population of 3-4YOs using extended childcare in the autumn term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds multiplied by 0.56 (the proportion eligible for this entitlement).

The population of 3-4YOs using extended childcare in the spring term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds plus one third of the population of 4-year olds multiplied by 0.56 (the proportion eligible for this entitlement).

The population of 3-4YOs using extended childcare in the summer term is taken to be the total population of 3-year olds plus two thirds of the population of 4-year olds multiplied by 0.56 (the proportion eligible for this entitlement).

Hours of childcare used per week: 0-2 year olds = 17 hours; 3-4 year olds = 21 hours.

The hours used by 3-4 year old children eligible for the extended entitlement is the difference between the maximum possible hours (30) and the average hours currently used (21) = 9 hours.

Calculating the availability of places (supply)

The supply of places is those available for 0-4 year olds and is expressed in 30 hour full time equivalent (FTE) places.

$$\text{Number of places available} = \left[\frac{\text{hours open per week}^1}{30^2} \right] \times \text{capacity by age of child}^1$$

¹From information provided annually by childcare providers via Database Update Forms.

²The number of hours open per week is divided by 30 to standardise the hours to full time equivalent places (one full time equivalent place is 30 hours per week).

Assumptions / basis for calculations

A working week is calculated as five six-hour days giving a total of 30 hours per week.