

Telford and Wrekin Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) 2023



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Scope of the assessment

This assessment is a snapshot and provides a picture of the overall supply of and potential demand for childcare and early years provision in Telford and Wrekin as at 1st December 2023.

Families can obtain help in finding childcare using the LiveWell Telford service directory [LiveWell Telford](#)

Information with regards to childcare funding can be found by following this link: [Financial support and help with childcare costs](#)

We understand that families' childcare needs, alongside the availability of places are constantly changing and we welcome feedback if there are difficulties in finding suitable childcare provision. Telford and Wrekin cannot guarantee a childcare place in a specific area, but it is our ambition that:

- parents/carers are able to find the childcare that they need to be able to work,
- parents/carers are able to find the childcare they need to enable them to undertake training that will lead to work,
- families who wish to access their child's entitlement to a funded childcare place can do so.

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Background and Sufficiency Duties

The Childcare Act (2006) requires local authorities in England to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents, parents studying or training, and for disabled children. Childcare sufficiency relates to the provision of registered childcare for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs.

The duties in the Act (section 6) require local authorities to shape and support the development of childcare in their area in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. This role is described as a market management function, supporting the sector to meet the needs of parents, children and young people and stakeholders.

The requirement to undertake a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (Section 11 of the Act) was repealed in the Children and Families Act (2014) however, the Sufficiency Duty remains in statute. Local Authorities are required to report annually to elect council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare. The annual report should demonstrate an understanding of the local early years and childcare market as a pre-requisite to ensuring, 'as far as is reasonably practicable', the childcare sufficiency duty is being met, that early years provision is being secured free of charge, and that information is available to support parents, carers and providers.

About Telford and Wrekin

Telford and Wrekin is a place of contrasts, a distinctive blend of urban and rural areas, with green open spaces alongside contemporary housing developments and traditional market towns. On the face of it, the Borough is a prosperous place but there are clear differences across the Borough. Some neighbourhoods and communities in the Borough are among the most deprived areas nationally, whereas equally some communities are amongst the more affluent in England.

The population of the Borough continues to grow at above national rates – driven by the expansion of the local economy and record levels of housing growth. As the population grows, it has continued to change, with the population becoming more diverse and ageing. Telford & Wrekin no longer has a population that is younger than the average in the region. The borough saw one of the largest increases in population aged 65 plus in England between the 2011 and 2021 Census, with an increase of 35.7%. Natural change (the difference between the number of births and the number of deaths) has decreased since 2011 and internal migration has become the key driver of population change in the borough.

There were around 45,504 people aged 0-19 in Telford and Wrekin based on the 2021 ONS population estimate, and around 56,351 in the 0-24 age bracket. Although the overall population is predicted to increase, our demography is changing. Between 2018 and 2032, the percentage of children aged 0 to 15 in the borough is expected to decrease by 1.8%. The number of young people aged 0-24 is projected to be around 60,123 by 2023. The projected population percentage growth for ages 0-24 is above the national average, at 7.2% compared to 2.2%. Natural change (the difference between the number of births and the number of deaths) has decreased since 2011 and internal migration has become the key driver of population change in the borough.

The number of births has been decreasing in recent years, although still higher than the national birth rate. Between mid-2019 and mid-2020 the borough saw the lowest annual number of births (1,989) in the ten-year period 2011-2020 (source: ONS Population Estimates 2020). Infant mortality rate in the Borough has remained similar to the national rate since 2014-16.

Around a third of households in Telford and Wrekin (30%) contained dependent children during the 2021 census- higher than the England rate (28.5%).

For more detailed information please access the following link to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA):

[Telford and Wrekin Insight - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

New housing and employment opportunities:

There are plans for the delivery of approximately 17,280 dwellings in the borough by 2031 and an associated amount of employment land of at least 76 hectares. New housing development is focused in three distinct areas: Telford (approximately 14,950 new homes up to 2031); Newport (1,330 net new homes); and rural area (1,000 net new homes). New housing and employment opportunities will require the availability of good quality early years and childcare provision, these requisites are considered when S106 funding to support capacity development opportunities are made available.

Data from the 2021 Census indicates that 57.4% of the Telford & Wrekin population are in employment (full or part time). These families may be able to apply for 15 or 30 hours childcare depending on the age of their child.

Telford and Wrekin has recently launched the first two Family Hubs in August 2023. Silver Birch Family Hub covers the Sutton Hill area, and Walnut Family Hub covers Woodside. More Family Hubs will be launching.

Areas that have the highest proportion of 0-4 year olds (Wards data) Woodside: 630 (8.3%)

- Horsehay & Lightmoor: 641 (8.3%)
- Arleston: 281, Malinslee & Dawley Bank: 534, Ketley & Overdale: 889 (7.7%)

Areas that have the highest proportion of 0-19 year olds (Wards data)

- Woodside: 2723 (35.7%)
- Arleston: 1245 (34.1%)
- Brookside: 2010 (30.4%)

Other ward info:

Woodside

- 35% population experiencing income deprivation (15.6% borough average) (12.9% national)
- 44.2% children in poverty (21.3% borough average) (17.1% national) 941 children

Arleston

- 19.1% income deprivation
- 22.2% children in poverty (231 children)

Brookside

- 27.4% income deprivation
- 38.6% children in poverty (577 children)

Population (Early Years Children)

Population of early years children

In total, there are 10,506 children under the age of five living in our local authority. These children may require early years childcare.

Some four-year-olds will have started reception

Population Projections (rounded to nearest 100)

Year	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total 0-14 years
2022	10,600	12,200	12,800	35,600
2023	10,500	12,100	13,000	35,600
2024	10,500	11,900	13,200	35,600
2025	10,500	11,800	13,100	35,400
2026	10,500	11,700	13,000	35,200
2027	10,500	11,500	12,900	35,000
% Change 2022-2027	-0.3%	-5.1%	-1.9%	-1.5%

Source: Telford & Wrekin JSNA: Population Projections

Number of children with special educational needs and disabilities

Children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) are entitled to support with childcare up to the age of 18 (age 14 for children who do not have a special need or disability). The number of children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan in our local authority is:

Year Group	Number of children
Year 3	81
Year 2	91
Year 1	82
Reception	64
Total	318

Information supplied by SEND & Inclusion May 2023

Age	Number of children
Birth to school age	26
Primary school (reception to year six)	648
Secondary school (year seven to thirteen)	599

EY Settings in Telford and Wrekin

	Area	Babies	1 – 2	Funded 2 Year Olds	30 Hours	Breakfast	After School
Abc Day Nursery Ltd - Hadley	Hadley	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Abc Day Nursery Ltd - Hollinswood	Hollinswood	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
Abc Day Nursery Ltd - Hoo	Preston Upon The Weald Moors	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x
Abc Day Nursery Ltd - Lightmoor	Lightmoor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Allscott Meads Primary School & Nursery	Allscott	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Aqueduct Little Learners	Aqueduct	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bears Den Pre-School	Donnington	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
The Bridge	Hadley	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brookside Community Pre-School	Brookside	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Busy Bees Day Nursery at Telford	Priorslee		x	✓	✓	x	x
Captain Webb Primary School	Dawley	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Castle House School Nursery & Pre-School	Newport		✓	✓	✓	x	x
Central Park Nursery Ltd	St George's	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Chec Mates Day Care - Nursery and Pre School	Madeley	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Childrensworld Newport	Newport	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Chipmunks Nursery Osc Ltd - Brookside	Brookside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chipmunks Nursery Osc Ltd - Lakeside	Stirchley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Church Street Day Nursery Ltd	Wellington		✓	✓	✓	x	x
Club 0-5 Ltd	Halesfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Coalbrookdale & Ironbridge Nursery	Coalbrookdale	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Daisy Chain at Old Hall	Wellington	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Dawley CE Primary Academy	Dawley	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Donnington Wood Infant School & Nursery	Donnington	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x
Dothill Pre School And Childcare	Wellington	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Early Milestones	Leegomery	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Earlyworld Nursery - Hadley Park	Hadley	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Earlyworld Stafford Court	Malinslee	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Family Nurseries Ltd	Newport	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Grange Park Primary Academy	Stirchley	x	x	x	✓	✓	x

Hadley Learning Community Primary Academy	Hadley	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Hadley Under & Over Fives	Hadley		x	✓	✓	x	x
Halesfield Day Nursery Centre	Halesfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
High Ercall Day Nursery	High Ercall		✓	✓	✓	x	x
Hollinswood Primary School & Nursery	Hollinswood	x	x	x	✓	x	x
Honeybuns Nursery	Wellington	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
John Randall Primary School	Madeley	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Kids Planet Apley	Apley		x	✓	✓	x	x
Kids Planet Lawley	Lawley		✓	✓	✓	x	x
Ladygrove Primary School	Dawley	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Lantern Academy	Ketley	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Lilleshall Pre-School	Lilleshall	x		✓	✓	x	x
Little Chicks Pre-school	Shawbirch	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Little Dragons Daycare Centre	Oakengates	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓
The Learning Tree Pre-School	Muxton	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Longford Pre-School Playgroup	Newport		x	✓	✓	x	x
Madeley Nursery School	Madeley	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Meadows Primary School	Ketley	x	x	x	✓	x	x
Millbrook Primary School	Leegomery	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newdale Primary School	Newdale	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newport Infants Nursery	Newport	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nic And Tim Childcare	Newport						
Oakengates Nursery	Oakengates	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Oakengates United Church Pre-School	Oakengates	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
The Old Hall School	Wellington			x	✓	✓	✓
Old Park Primary School	Malinslee	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓
Play-Days Corporation Ltd	Newport	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Priorslee Primary Academy	Priorslee	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Priorslee Pre-School	Priorslee		x	✓	✓	x	x
Puddleducks Under Fives Ltd	Lawley	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Randlay Primary School	Randlay	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Redhill Primary School and Nursery	Priorslee	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Shortwood Primary School	Wellington	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Sir Alexander Fleming Primary School	Sutton Hill	x	x	x	✓	x	x

Small Talk Nursery Telford	Dawley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smiley Faces DCN Ltd	Wellington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
St Georges Ce Primary School	St George's	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
St Matthews Ce Primary School	Donnington	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
St Patricks Catholic Nursery And School	Wellington	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
St Peter's Ce Primary School And Nursery	Newport	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Teagues Bridge Pre-School	Trench	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Tiggys Montessori Nursery	Newport	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Tortoise Nursery	Wellington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Trench Tots Neighbourhood Nursery	Donnington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Twiggy's Day Nursery Donnington	Donnington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Twiggy's Day Nursery Madeley	Madeley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Twiggy's Day Nursery Sutton Hill	Sutton Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
William Reynolds Primary School	Woodside	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Windmill Primary School Academy	Brookside	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Wooden Tops Day Nursery	Woodside		✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Woodlands Primary School	Madeley	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Wrekin View Primary School and Nursery	Wellington	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wrockwardine Wood Infant School And Nursery	Oakengates	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗

Supply of Childcare

Number of early years providers and places

In total, there are 160 registered childcare providers (not including OOS) in our local authority, offering a maximum of 5,080 early years (0-5) places:

Type of provision	Number of Providers			Number of registered places
	Hadley Castle	The Wrekin	Lakeside South	
Childminders*	33	28	16	390
Nursery classes in schools	9	6	6	1,227
Maintained nursery schools	1	0	1	178
Academy	4	2	3	419
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	23	15	13	2,866

The data in this table was correct in October 2023 and will be subject to changes of circumstance. Some childminder places may also be available for older children.

For private, voluntary and independent nurseries and childminders, the number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many providers choose to operate below their number of registered places.

Children may attend childcare full time or part time. This table records places for children who are attending full time, or for as many hours as the setting is open. In some cases, two or more children attending part time may use one full time equivalent place. For example, one child may attend in the morning and one child may attend in the afternoon.

Maintained School and Academy Extended Provision

Club Type	No. Places
Breakfast	2192
Afterschool	1521
Holiday	208

We deliver a HAF Programme called Happy Healthy Active Holidays (HHAH) <https://hhah.telford.gov.uk/>

During Winter 2023 delivery, 1408 primary children and 604 secondary children attended provision with 31 providers.

Source: Telford and Wrekin (Early Years and Childcare)

Opening hours

Type of provision	6am-7am	7am-7.29am	7.30am-7.59am	8am-8.59am	9am and later
Childminding	2%	32%	27%	29%	10%
PVI	0%	0%	34%	53%	13%
Maintained settings	0%	0%	12%	84%	4%
Overall	1%	12%	26%	51%	10%

Source: Telford and Wrekin provider audit 2023. Percentages rounded

Closing times

Type of provision	12noon-12.59pm	1pm-2.59pm	3pm-3.59pm	4pm-4.59pm	5pm-5.59pm	6pm-6.59pm	7pm and later
Childminding	0%	0%	7%	15%	46%	27%	5%
PVI	0%	5%	32%	5%	13%	45%	0%
Maintained settings	0%	0%	80%	4%	4%	12%	0%
Overall	0%	2%	34%	9%	24%	30%	2%

Source: Telford and Wrekin provider audit 2023. Percentages rounded

Weeks per year settings are open

Type of provision	Term-time only 38 weeks a year	Term-time only fewer than 38 weeks a year	39-45 weeks a year	46-48 weeks a year	49-52 weeks a year
Childminding	27%	0%	17%	40%	17%
PVI	21%	0%	17%	3%	59%
Maintained settings	59%	0%	35%	0%	6%
Overall	32%	0%	21%	17%	30%

Source: Telford and Wrekin provider audit 2023. Percentages rounded

Early Years atypical hours

Childcare is most commonly delivered during the typical working day – between 8am and 6pm on weekdays. Some parents require childcare outside these times in order to fit with their work or other responsibilities.

The number of providers offering childcare for atypical hours in our local authority are:

Type of provision	Number of providers	Available before 8am weekdays	Available after 6pm weekdays	Available weekends ¹
Childminders	77	24	13	1
Academy	9	1	0	
Nursery classes in schools	21	2	0	
Maintained nursery schools	2	0	0	
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	51	13	0	

Funded Early Education

Introduction to funded early education

Some children are entitled to free childcare, funded by the government. These entitlements are for 38 weeks per year.

- All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week until they start reception class in school
- Children aged 3 and 4 where both parents are working, or from lone parent families where that parent is working, are entitled to 30 hours per week until they start reception class in school²
- Children aged 2 where both parents are working, or from lone parent families where that parent is working, are entitled to 15 hours per week
- Children aged 2 whose families receive certain benefits (including low income families in receipt of in-work benefits), or those who meet additional non-economic criteria, are entitled to 15 hours per week. Nationally, about 40% of 2 year olds are entitled to this offer, but the proportion varies by area.

Parents do not have to use all the hours of their funded entitlement. They may choose to split them between providers. With the agreement of their provider, parents may also spread them across the year – for example, rather than taking 15 hours for 38 weeks a year they could take just under 12 hours for 48 weeks a year.

Proportion of 2-year-old children entitled to funded early education

- In our local authority, 81% (Summer 2023) of 2 year olds who are entitled to funded early education currently access.

Take up of funded early education

The proportion of eligible children taking up their funded place (for at least some of the available hours) in our local authority is:

Age	% of eligible children
Age 2	81%
Age 3 and 4	98.6%

3 and 4-year-old funded entitlement applications

Working parents who think they are entitled to a 15 hour or 30 hour place apply for this online through the Government's [Childcare Choices](#) website. The same website is used to apply for tax free childcare and parents can apply for either or both. If a parent is eligible, the system creates a code which they can use with their chosen childcare provider. If they are ineligible, they will still be entitled to the universal 15 hours of early education and childcare if their child is aged 3 – 4 (starting from the term after their 3rd birthday).

Percentage of registered settings offering early years funded places by locality area

Number (and percentage) of registered settings offering early years funded places	Hadley Castle	Lakeside South	The Wrekin	Overall * (total registered for funding)
PVI settings	23 (100%)	13 (100%)	14 (93%)	50 (98%)
Childminder	28 (85%)	14 (88%)	24 (86%)	66 (86%)
Maintained School/Academy	14 (100%)	10 (100%)	8 (100%)	32 (100%)
All registered settings	65 (93%)	37 (95%)	42 (82%)	144 (90%)

Source: Telford and Wrekin

Take-up of early learning entitlements 2021 to 2023

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/statistics#current-releases> Percentages rounded

* Data collected in 2021 (and to a lesser extent 2022) was affected by the impact of COVID-19 uncertainty on providers and parents.

Excludes 4 year olds in infant classes in primary schools

	2 year old entitlement			3 and 4 year old (universal) entitlement		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
ENGLAND	62%	72%	74%	90%	92%	94%
WEST MIDLANDS	59%	67%	71%	91%	93%	94%
TELFORD AND WREKIN	69%	79%	81%	93%	95%	99%

Settings delivering 30-hours childcare

Childminding	PVI	Maintained settings	Academy	Overall
66	49	22	8	145

Source: Telford and Wrekin provider audit

Take up by provider type 2021 to 2023

	2 year old entitlement			3 and 4 year old (universal) entitlement		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
ENGLAND						
Private & Voluntary	81%	80%	80%	59%	59%	59%
Childminders	5%	5%	5%	3%	3%	3%
Maintained	14%	14.5%	15%	35%	35%	35%
Independent Schools	<1%	1%	<1%	3%	3%	3%
Number accessing	124,542	135,407	124,208	800,108	809,512	800,129
WEST MIDLANDS						
Private & Voluntary	81.5%	81%	80%	58%	57%	56%
Childminder	4%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Maintained	14.5%	15%	16%	38%	38%	40%
Independent Schools	<1%	<1%	<1%	2%	2%	2%
Number accessing	15,263	16,748	15,439	85,711	87,724	86,769
TELFORD AND WREKIN						
Private & Voluntary	67.5%	70%	69%	52%	53%	53%
Childminder	9%	7%	7%	4%	4%	3%
Maintained	23.5%	22%	22%	42%	42%	42%
Independent Schools	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%
Number accessing	564	567	573	2,747	2,809	2,823

Vacancies

Vacancy rates are a snapshot, and often change rapidly. In some cases, providers may have a vacancy which is only available for a specific age group, or for a particular part time arrangement. In general, vacancy rates are higher in the autumn, when children move to school.

Early years 0-5 vacancies

Type of provision	Number of vacancies	Total number of vacancies
Childminders*	40	744
Academy	35	
Nursery classes in schools	87	
Maintained nursery schools	10	
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	572	

Information provided via our Synergy Provider Portal Provider Submissions this may not include all registered provision only funded provision and those childminders who provide us with updated information.

Cost of Childcare

Price of early years childcare

For early years childcare outside the funded entitlements, we report on average prices per hour, reported to us by settings.³ There may be variations to prices based on the number of hours a family uses, with reductions for longer hours, or discounts for sibling groups. There may be additional payments for additional services, e.g. lunch and other meals which are not included in these prices.

Fees

	Childminder	Full day-care	Maintained setting (including academy)	Overall
Average fee	£4.80	£5.87	£4.37	£5.16
Range from	£3	£2.20	£2	£2
Range to	£6.50	£11.10	£8	£11.10

Source: Telford and Wrekin borough council, Autumn 23 Term

Prices of school age childcare

None available

Quality

Ofsted inspection grades

All childcare providers must register with and be inspected by Ofsted, who give them an overall grade for the quality of their provision. Childminders and private and voluntary providers are on the Early Years Register, and schools and standalone maintained nursery schools are on the Schools register. The grades for both registers are equivalent. Schools with nurseries have an overall inspection grade for the whole school and a separate EYFS judgement.

Quality in early years settings in Telford and Wrekin – 2018 to 2021

Year	Percentage of early years settings achieving an Ofsted rating of:			
	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
31 st August 2018	19%	78%	4%	0%
31 st March 2019	18%	78%	3%	1%
31 st August 2020	13%	85%	2%	1%
31 st August 2021	13%	85%	2%	0%

Source: Ofsted Data View [Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 August 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/data-views/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2021)

Snapshot as at 31st August in the relevant year. Percentages rounded

Quality in early years settings in Telford and Wrekin compared to the West Midlands region and England as a whole as at August 2023

	Percentage of early years settings achieving an Ofsted rating of:			
	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
Telford and Wrekin	13%	85%	1%	2%
West Midlands	14%	82%	3%	1%
England	14%	83%	2%	1%

Source: Ofsted Data View

Snapshot as at August 2023 [Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 August 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/data-views/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2023)

Providers with no grade or met/not met grades

Some providers will not have an inspection grade this is because all providers have up to 30 months before a graded inspection occurs we have 20 childminders awaiting a first inspection and 11 Settings awaiting a first inspection.

When providers do not have any early years children on site at the time of their inspection, they are given an Ofsted grade of 'met' or 'not met'. This shows whether they are meeting the requirements for Ofsted registration. At present, we have 8 childminders with a Met grade and 1 with a not met grade.

Childminder Agencies

Childminders registered with a Childminder Agency are not registered with Ofsted, it is the Agency that is registered by Ofsted and the Agency that will assess the suitability of prospective childminders and the agency that assesses that the childminder is meeting the statutory requirements as set out in the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2024). The agency will be registered under the Early Years Register and the Compulsory part of the Childcare register.

At present we have 1 childminder registered with Tinies agency.

Methodology

This childcare sufficiency assessment (CSA) draws on a number of activities:-

1. Data held on the Synergy online portal.
2. Information taken from the 'Understanding Telford and Wrekin 2019' Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
3. Desk research to ensure that demand for childcare takes account of future trends including new housing and employment opportunities.
4. Data held by Ofsted and the Gov.uk website
5. Local intelligence and local knowledge of the childcare market.

Summary and Action Points

One childcare provision has closed this year due to building issues. The number of childminders has decreased this year with 11 childminder settings closing and only new 3 ones opening. Nationally on the 31st August 2022 there were 48% fewer childminders than those registered in 2012 this decline is due to more providers leaving than joining.

Main findings: [Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 August 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Currently we have 1 prospective childminder who has started the Ofsted Registration process.

Based upon the analysis of the information reviewed, we would conclude that there is sufficient good or better quality registered provision to meet the needs of younger children (under 5 years) to deliver the early years entitlements, although this may not always be in the setting of first choice. Most recent local intelligence has indicated an increase in the number of children with identified SEND who are unable to secure a place quickly. There has been one area flagged up where parents/carers have not been able to access a place close to their home and this is carried forwards from last year's sufficiency assessment in the Lawley area. A new nursery on Lawley Academy site will be built within the 24/25 period. Several schools with maintained nursery places have identified low numbers as parents/carers are choosing PVI settings where their children can access the full day care needs of working families. We have a new nursery at Allscott Mead that offers nursery places and a private provider provides Wrap-around care. A larger nursery has been built on the site of Redhill primary academy building capacity in that developing area. A new nursery is due to open in September 2024 operated by the Co-operative group in the Apley area. The implications of the new extended entitlements will become more apparent moving through 2024 as 2 year olds and babies come forwards to take up their places as from April 2024/September 2024. Recruitment and retention of staff in both PVI and the maintained nursery sector is affecting the number of children that settings can take.

Work has commenced to support schools and PVI settings to accommodate the new funding and wrap-around care initiatives, which will commence in April 2024. See [Early years entitlements: operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) and [Wraparound childcare: guidance for local authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Data provided by the DfE Local Authority Readiness document supports this assessment, however it utilises Ofsted registered places, which settings may not be offering at present due to staff shortages. Wrap around provision data includes information about clubs on school premises rather than true childcare provision. [Local Authority Readiness](#)

Action Points for 2024

Action point		Action	Impact	Update 2023/24
1	To hold accurate and full data on extended school provision.	Collect data annually	We will have a greater understanding of extended childcare available to enable strategic planning of provision across the borough.	The action plan for wraparound provision will be implemented in line with DfE guidance

2	Early Autumn 2019 figures indicate that more children are accessing their 30 hour offer in PVI settings.	Work with schools to develop flexible funded childcare offers to meet the needs of working parents.	There will be an increase in places available to meet the needs of working parents/carers.	In Autumn 2023, 72% of children with a 30-hour code are accessing hours in PVI settings (some of these children may share their hours between settings) We will work with schools to review a more flexible delivery to maintain their sustainability has commenced.
3	To monitor the cost of childcare for school aged children.	Collect data termly via synergy online portal.	We will have a greater understanding of the cost of childcare for school aged children which will inform the market.	The new action plan for wraparound provision will be implemented in line with DfE guidance
4	Vacancy information held on synergy online portal only includes funded provision.	All registered providers to be added to Synergy online portal. Providers all trained to upload data to portal or/Funding consultant to update annually via remote update.	Vacancy information will be more robust and enable more efficient signposting for parents.	Extended entitlements will mean that all providers will need to complete this to access funding therefore enabling us to assess sufficiency more accurately.
5	To develop childcare provision in areas showing limited capacity.	Promote childminding as a career, develop further school based flexible childcare and highlight as area of need for new suppliers of childcare.	Improved offer for parents/carers within identified areas.	New termly sufficiency to be implemented from April 2024
8	To develop a childcare workforce strategy.	To support recruitment and CPD for the Early Years and Childcare workforce	Staffing levels improve to enable settings to provide sufficient places.	Promotion of childcare as a career is now integral to our team's role