



## Estimate of demand and potential gaps in childcare places for the expanded entitlement for under 2-year-olds from September 2024

### Introduction

The new entitlements will mean that **eligible working parents** in England will be able to access 30 hours of funded childcare per week for 38 weeks each year from the term after their child turns 9 months old to when they start school. This new entitlement is being rolled out as follows:

- From April 2024 - 15 hours for 2-year-olds
- From September 2024 - 15 hours will be extended to 9-month-olds and above
- From September 2025 - all eligible working parents of 9-month-olds and above will be able to access 30 hours of childcare per week (38 weeks a year).

The impact of the extension of the entitlement is still evolving locally and nationally. Take-up of the expanded entitlement in September 2024 is expected to come from a mix of parents already using childcare services and parents who may be returning to work after maternity leave. Over time parent's habits may start to change, hence creating new and increased demand.

### Childcare places and estimated demand

At July 2024 there were 9,428 Ofsted registered places for 0-4 year olds in private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings across Kirklees, of these places 7,616 are currently staffed, referred to in the data tables on [page 5](#) as 'Operational Places'. 2,695 of these places are identified as part-time places for children under the age of 2. A part-time place is defined as 15 hours, in the summer term 2024 there were 745 part-time vacant places for children under the age of 2.

To estimate the demand for places from eligible families with children under the age of 2 the following data has been used:

- Population of under 2-year-olds using GP registrations, dated May 2024, (date of birth range 1.9.22 to 30.11.23)
- Percentage of 2-year-olds accessing the new entitlement for working parents of 2-year-olds in the Summer term 2024
- Estimated number of under 2 year olds attending settings in the Summer term 2024

Based on these data, there are 5,521 children aged between 9 months old and 2 years old, of these it is estimated that 1,893 will be eligible for a free entitlement place. However, based on occupancy data collected from childcare providers in the summer term 2024, 1,949 children are already attending a setting which means overall across Kirklees it is unlikely that there will be a significant increase in demand for places in September 2024.

### Conclusion

The overall estimated surplus of places for under 2-year-olds is 802. When taking into account 'spare capacity', which is the difference between the number of Ofsted registered places and the number of

operational places (or in other words places currently offered by providers), the estimated surplus increases to 1,708.

Although it is estimated there are surplus places overall in Kirklees when analysing the data at ward level the data indicates that the following ward areas may have a shortfall of places:

- Crosland Moor and Netherton
- Holme Valley North
- Kirkburton
- Lindley

The ward map on [page 4](#) illustrates the estimated number of surplus places and potential gaps at ward level. Although a few ward areas are estimated to have a potential gap, the neighbouring wards have surplus places, for example, in Crosland Moor and Netherton Ward there is an indication of a potential gap of 46 but, in the Newsome Ward, the estimated surplus is 93.

Estimates of demand and potential gaps in provision for the expansion phase in September 2024 and the data used to calculate the estimates can be found in the table on [page 5](#).

When analysing take-up data from the 2-year-olds accessing the new entitlement for working parents in the Summer term 2024, shown on [page 6](#), this shows that in certain wards a large percentage of parents access childcare places in a different ward to which they reside, the reason for this could be linked with the location of their workplace and where their extended family reside. So, whilst it is helpful to consider local supply and demand, parental choice is much more complex than this.

Take-up of the new entitlement and changes in the childcare market will be monitored closely in the Autumn term 2024, updates will be published when available including early estimates of demand and potential gaps in provision for the final phase of the expanded entitlements in September 2025.

Whilst there is limited evidence of the need for additional places for September 2024, early indications suggest this is likely to change for September 2025.

#### **Data sources:**

- Ofsted - Number of funded childcare places registered with Ofsted at July 2024.
- Childcare Providers - Number of funded operational childcare places collected in the summer term 2024.
- Childcare Providers - Childcare vacancies for under 2-year-olds collected in the summer term 2024. This includes all vacancies in day nurseries and extended pre-schools and one third of vacancies in childminders. One part-time vacancy is counted as 15 hours, one full-time vacancy is counted as 30 hours.
- Childcare Providers – Early education and care funding claims (new entitlement for working parents of 2-year-olds) – summer term 2024.
- GP registrations of children aged 0–4-year-old, dated May 2024.

Refer to the table on [pages 7 and 8](#) for an explanation of the data and methodology used to estimate demand and potential gaps in provision.

## Caveats

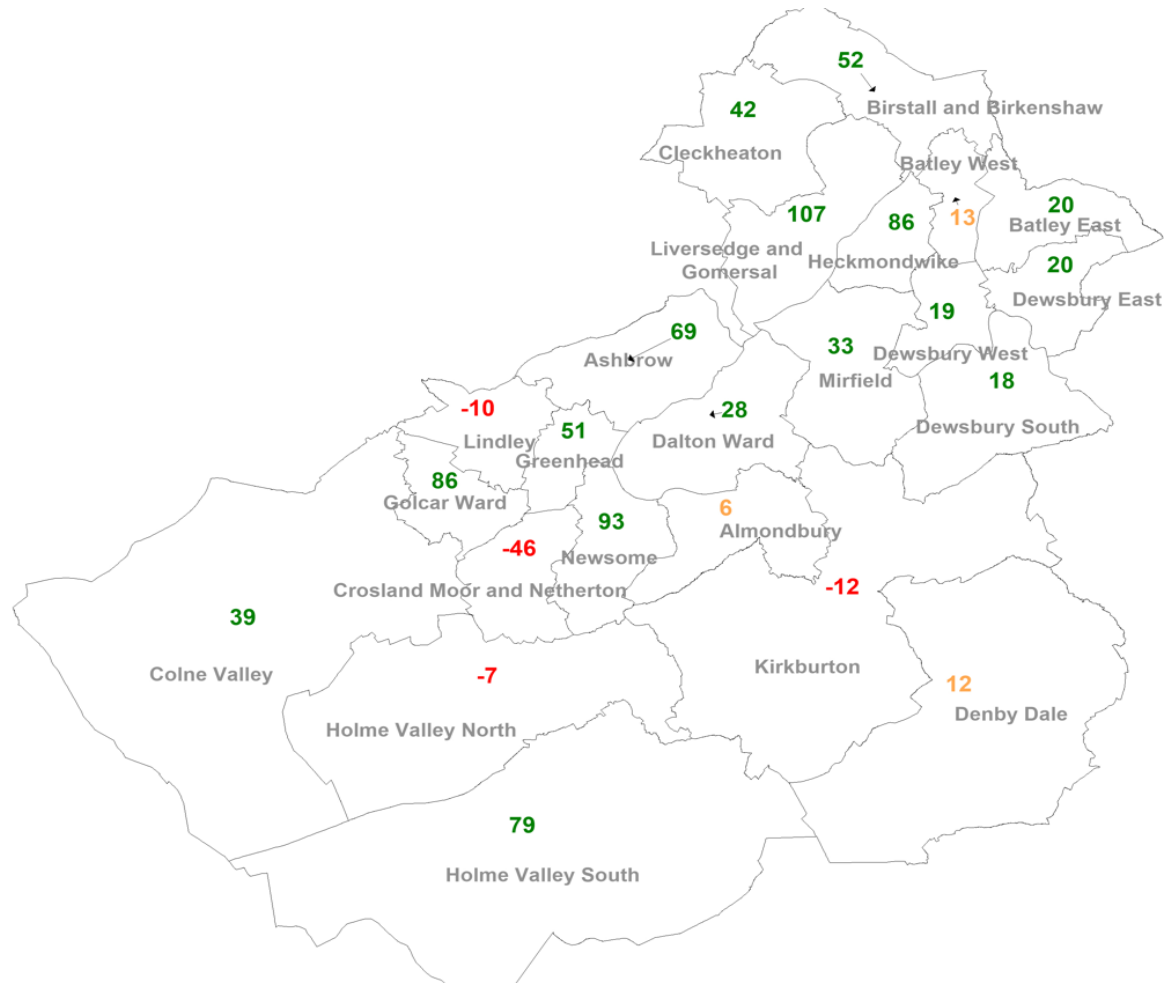
- The estimated demand and potential gaps are based mainly on information collected from childcare providers, i.e. operational places, vacancy data and funding claims. These can change frequently although updates are only collected on a termly basis.
- The estimated number of eligible under 2-year-olds is based on the assumption that this will match the percentage of working parents with a 2-year-old that were eligible and accessing 15 hours in the summer term 2024, in reality the demand for under 2-year-old places could be different.
- The number of eligible children not attending settings is unknown.
- Children currently attending settings may increase their hours in September 2024 – the number and impact is unknown.
- The ward data used in this model is based on the location of childcare providers however, the demand for childcare is more transient than this model can represent as some parents access childcare provision across ward boundaries. This is illustrated in the table on [page 6](#). This table shows the number of working parents with a 2-year-old that accessed a 15-hour place in the summer term 2024, analysed by the ward that they reside and the ward that their chosen childcare provider is located.
- Where no gap in places is indicated at ward level there may be more localised pressure and opportunities below ward level. It may be possible to provide analysis in the future at a more local level, but analysis of this nature can never provide absolutes regardless of the geographical boundaries used.
- Supply data excludes 41 childminders not currently registered to deliver funded early years places; these childminders provide 260 full time equivalent places.

## Disclaimer

The data used to assess the supply of and demand for early learning and childcare comes from a variety of sources, including many childcare providers, before being aggregated. Whilst care is taken to ensure accuracy, Kirklees Council are not liable for any inaccuracies. Data is collected at a fixed point in time therefore will change between collection and the date of publication. Data is used to indicate where there may be gaps in provision, however Kirklees Council would always recommend that, prior to establishing a new childcare business or expanding an existing business, thorough market research is carried out.

Produced by:  
**Childcare Sufficiency Team**  
**July 2024**

### Map of estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for under 2-year-olds Figures are based on operational (staffed) vacant places and estimated new demand



### Estimate of demand for the expanded entitlement for under 2 year olds from September 2024 and potential gaps in provision

	SUPPLY					DEMAND					Indicators	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Ward	OFSTED Registered FTE Places 0 - 4 yr olds July 2024	Operational FTE Places 0 - 4 yr olds Summer term 2024	Operational PTE Places Under 2s Summer term 2024	Spare PTE Places Under 2s Summer term 2024	Part time Vacancies (15 hr place) Under 2s Summer term 2024	Population of Under 2s (DOB Range 1.9.22 to 30.11.23)	Percentage of funded 2-year-olds (working parent) Summer term 2024	Estimated demand Under 2s	Estimated number of Under 2s attending settings Summer term 2024	Estimated new demand for Under 2-year-old places	Estimated surplus places or gap (PTE vacancies - New demand)	Estimated surplus places or gap (Spare Capacity + PTE vacancies - New demand)
				A-B x2 x25%				F x G	C - E	H - I	E - J	D + E - J
Almondbury	306	300	100	3	26	188	50%	94	74	20	6	9
Ashbrow	444	384	135	30	60	299	22%	66	76	-10	69	99
Batley East	427	284	66	71	20	280	16%	46	46	0	20	91
Batley West	372	249	91	61	32	318	24%	78	59	19	13	74
Birstall & Birkenshaw	352	291	109	30	10	205	28%	57	98	-42	52	82
Cleckheaton	395	350	130	22	36	196	45%	88	94	-6	42	64
Colne Valley	437	365	149	36	11	189	58%	110	138	-28	39	76
Crosland Moor & Netherpton	250	222	35	14	26	326	25%	81	10	71	-46	-32
Dalton	330	206	77	62	36	193	25%	49	41	8	28	90
Denby Dale	271	218	131	26	11	174	68%	119	120	-1	12	39
Dewsbury East	358	286	81	36	25	285	22%	62	57	5	20	56
Dewsbury South	358	360	80	-1	21	259	24%	62	59	3	18	17
Dewsbury West	374	334	66	20	36	401	12%	47	30	18	19	39
Golcar	429	351	188	39	33	243	42%	103	155	-52	86	125
Greenhead	688	455	119	116	39	383	18%	68	80	-12	51	167
Heckmondwike	536	369	157	84	69	230	31%	71	88	-17	86	170
Holme Valley North	299	237	101	31	23	183	59%	108	79	29	-7	25
Holme Valley South	564	462	165	51	17	138	63%	86	149	-63	79	130
Kirkburton	295	267	88	14	7	156	64%	100	81	18	-12	2
Lindley	593	443	141	75	48	266	56%	151	93	58	-10	66
Liversedge & Gomersal	516	450	189	33	55	176	46%	81	133	-52	107	141
Mirfield	378	329	146	25	50	195	58%	113	96	16	33	58
Newsome	456	407	149	25	53	241	23%	55	95	-40	93	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,428</b>	<b>7,616</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>5,521</b>		<b>1,893</b>	<b>1,949</b>	<b>-56</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>1,708</b>

## Number of working parents with a 2-year-old that accessed a 15-hour place in the summer term 2024

Analysed by the ward that they reside and the ward that their chosen childcare provider is located

### Ward in which Free Early Education is accessed – Summer 2024

Child's Ward of Residence	% of children accessed free entitlement within their ward of residence	Almondbury	Ashbrow	Batley East	Batley West	Birstall and Birkenshaw	Cleckheaton	Colne Valley	Crosland Moor and Netherton	Dalton	Denby Dale	Dewsbury East	Dewsbury South	Dewsbury West	Golcar Ward	Greenhead Ward	Heckmondwike Ward	Holme Valley North Ward	Holme Valley South Ward	Kirkburton Ward	Lindley Ward	Liversedge and Gomersal Ward	Mirfield Ward	Newsome Ward	Grand Total
Almondbury	67%	62	1						1	17	1					2			2	2	2			2	92
Ashbrow	65%	1	41						1	2					1	9	1				5		1	1	63
Batley East	68%			26	3							4	1	2			1					1			38
Batley West	16%			25	11	7	3					6	1	3			7					4			67
Birstall & Birkenshaw	64%				5	34	5										1					8			53
Cleckheaton	68%					5	57									1	4					17			84
Colne Valley	82%		1					85							6	5	1	2			2			2	104
Crosland Moor & Netherton	52%	1						2	35	1					6	1		4	1		3		1	12	67
Dalton	43%	9	2						1	21					1	5				2	1	1	1	5	49
Denby Dale	79%	4									69								5	7				2	87
Dewsbury East	52%			10	3	1						29	4	5			3					1			56
Dewsbury South	75%			1					1			3	40	4			1			2		1			53
Dewsbury West	45%			5	4							5	3	20			3					1	3		44
Golcar	49%	1						25	1						49	10		2			11			1	100
Greenhead	63%		5						1						3	35					10			2	56
Heckmondwike	48%			3	13	2	1					1		5			33					9	2		69
Holme Valley North	52%	2						5	11		1				2	3		52	18	2	2			2	100
Holme Valley South	78%	1						2	2						1			12	75	3					96
Kirkburton	52%	13								1	13		2					3	11	48			1		92
Lindley	56%		1					2		2					11	45					77				138
Liversedge & Gomersal	49%			1	2	6	17							1		12						41	3		83
Mirfield	59%	1			1		2						1	2		14						25	68		115
Newsome	49%	3	1					1	3	2	1				3	2		4	1		1		1	22	45
Out of area		3	7	1	4	2	20	1		1	7	6	6	1	1	2	2	4	1		4	9	4	1	91
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>101</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1842</b>

## Data and methodology used to estimate demand and potential gaps in provision for the expanded entitlement for under 2-year-olds from September 2024

	Data	Description
A	<b>OFSTED Registered Places 0 - 4-year-olds at July 2024</b>  9,428	The total number of places for 0 to 4-year-olds registered with Ofsted. This is the maximum number of places available within private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings (schools & academies are excluded).
B	<b>Operational FTE Places 0 - 4-year-olds (Summer term 2024)</b>  7,616	The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) places for 0 to 4-year-olds that PVI settings are operating to, which for some settings is less than the number of places registered with Ofsted.
C	<b>Operational PTE Places Under 2-year-olds (Summer term 2024)</b>  2,695	The total number of part-time equivalent (PTE) places for under 2-year-olds that settings are operating to. Includes baby places in day nurseries, extended pre-schools and one third of places in childminders (Assumption made: childminders split their registered places equally across each age group).
D	<b>Spare PTE Places Under 2-year-olds (Summer term 2024)</b>  906	The difference between the number of places registered with Ofsted and the number of places that PVI settings are operating to. Assumption made: PVI settings would split their spare places equally across each age group. (A minus B x2 x25%).
E	<b>Part time Vacancies (15-hour place) for Under 2-year-olds (Summer term 2024)</b>  745	One part-time vacancy is counted as 15 hours. Includes baby place vacancies in day nurseries, extended pre-schools and one third of places in childminders. Assumption made: childminders split their registered places equally across each age group.
F	<b>Population of Under 2-year-olds (dated May 2024) (Date of Birth Range 1.9.22 to 30.11.23)</b>  5,521	Based on GP Registrations, born between 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022 and 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2023 plus adjustments for 3 months for September to November 2023 births.
G	<b>Percentage of 2-year-olds accessing the new entitlement for working parents of 2-year-olds in the Summer term 2024</b>	Population of 2-year-olds accessing the new entitlement for working parents of 2-year-olds in the summer term 2024 shown as a percentage.
H	<b>Estimated demand for the Under 2-year-old entitlement based on Working Parents of 2-year-old take-up percentage rates Summer term 2024</b>  1,893	The percentage of 2-year-olds accessing the new entitlement for working parents of 2-year-olds in the summer term 2024 and the estimated number of children aged between 9 months and 2 years was used to estimate potential demand for the under 2-year-olds. (F x G)
I	<b>Estimated number of Under 2 year olds attending settings in the Summer term 2024</b>  1,949	The number of PTE operational places for under 2-year-olds in the summer term 2024 (C) minus the number of PTE vacancies for under 2-year-olds (E) is the estimated occupancy of under 2 year olds in the summer term. (C – E)

	<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>Estimated new demand for Under 2-year-old places</b>  -56	Estimated demand for the under 2-year-old entitlement (H) minus estimated number of under 2-year-olds attending settings in the summer term 2024 (I). (H – I)
<b>K</b>	<b>Estimated surplus places or gap between PTE vacancies for Under 2-year-olds and estimated new demand for Under 2-year-olds in September 2024</b>  802	Part time vacancies (15-hour place) for under 2-year-olds (Summer term 2024) (E) minus estimated new demand for under 2-year-old places (J). (E - J)
<b>L</b>	<b>Estimated surplus places or gap between Spare Capacity and estimated new demand for Under 2-year-olds in September 2024</b>  1,708	Spare PTE places under 2-year-olds summer term 2024 (D) plus part time vacancies (15-hour place) for under 2-year-olds summer term 2024 (E) minus estimated new demand for under 2-year-old places (J). (D + E - J)