

Childcare sufficiency assessment for the expanded entitlement for 2year-olds and under in September 2025

Produced by: Childcare Sufficiency Team October 2024

Table of Contents

Background	2
Introduction	2
Conclusion	2
Data sources	3
Caveats	3
Disclaimer	4
Appendices	5
Map A: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – North Kirklees	5
Map B: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – South Kirklees	6
Map C: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – All Kirklees	7
TABLE A: Supply and estimated demand for childcare places - 2-year-olds and under - September 2025	
TABLE B: Estimated surplus and potential gaps in childcare places, plus other indicators - 2 year olds and under - September 20251	0
TABLE C: Number of working parents with an eligible 2-year-old that accessed a 15- hour place in the summer term 2024	2
TABLE D: Data, methodology and indicators used to estimate demand and potential gaps in childcare provision for the expanded entitlement for 2-year-olds and under in September 2025	4
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Background

The new entitlements 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 to when they start school. This new entitlement will be rolled out as follows:

- From April 2024 15 hours for 2-year-olds
- From September 2024 15 hours will be extended to children aged 9-months to 2 years old
- From September 2025 all eligible working parents of children aged 9-months to 2 years old will be able to access 30 hours of childcare per week for 38 weeks a year.

Introduction

Sufficiency assessments for the first two phases of the rollout were published in October 2023 and July 2024. Take-up of the expanded entitlement for working parents is still evolving and initially came from parents already using childcare services. Now the second phase has begun, parent's habits may start to change, hence creating new and increased demand.

The ward data used in this model (Table A) 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 Table C. 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.

The data contained in this document relates to the assessment of places for children aged between 9 months and 2 years old that are eligible to the new entitlements for working parents. References to 2-year-olds exclude 2-year-olds eligible to the legacy entitlement for less advantaged families. References to 1-year olds include children eligible to a free place from the term after turning 9 months old up to being aged 2 years old.

Conclusion

Two indicators show the estimated surplus places or gap in provision at ward level for 2-yearolds and 1-year olds. The first indicator uses current vacant places in childcare settings and the estimated new demand for places, the second indicator uses these data plus considers the spare capacity in childcare settings. Spare places are the difference between OFSTED registered places and places offered by settings. Across Kirklees it is estimated that there are sufficient places overall however there are some pressures at ward level. For example, in the Crosland Moor and Netherton Ward, for 2-year-old places the surplus is estimated at 32, or 39 when taking into account spare places, and for 1 year old places the gap is estimated at 44, or 37 when taking into account spare places. The cross-ward analysis in Table C shows that only 49% of parents living in this ward accessed childcare for their 2-year-old this summer term in the same ward. This could be due to choice i.e. parents may access childcare closer to their workplace or it could be due to a shortage of places in this area. However, the indicators for 2-year-old places in September 2025 suggest there are sufficient places, this may not have been the case in the summer term 2024, a new daycare provider opened in September 2024 thus increasing the number of places available.

In the Birstall and Birkenshaw Ward, for 2-year-old places the gap is estimated at 29, or 17 when taking into account spare places, and for 1 year old places the gap is estimated at 13, or 1 when taking into account spare places. Further analysis in this ward shows that in the summer term 31 children accessed their free place in a childcare provider outside Kirklees and only 2 children residing outside Kirklees accessed a place in this ward hence the net movement over the Kirklees border was 29 children. This could be due to parental choice for example parents using childcare closer to their workplace or it could be due to a shortage of places in this area.

Pressures are also indicated in the following wards: Almondbury, Dewsbury East, Holme Valley North and Lindley. There are potential pressures in Cleckheaton, Dalton, Dewsbury West, Kirkburton where estimates show a small gap in places.

Data sources

- Ofsted Number of childcare places registered with Ofsted at September 2024.
- Childcare Providers Number of childcare places offered (i.e. operational places) in the Summer term 2024.
- Childcare Providers Vacant childcare places collected in the Summer term 2024.
- Childcare Providers Early Education and Care Funding Claims Working parents with 2-year-olds and under Summer and Autumn terms 2024.
- Number of eligible applications (i.e. codes issued to parents) Working parents with 2year-olds and under – Autumn term 2024.
- GP Registrations dated May 2024

Caveats

- The estimated demand and potential gaps are based mainly on information collected from childcare providers, for example operational places (i.e. places currently offered), vacant places and funding claims. These can change frequently although updates are only collected on a termly basis.
- Children currently attending settings and their hours of attendance could vary between the date of publication and September 2025.
- Supply data excludes childminders not currently registered to deliver funded early years places; these childminders provide 247 full time equivalent Ofsted registered places.

• A new application for daycare in the Crosland Moor and Netherton ward submitted to Ofsted recently has been excluded from this analysis; It should be noted that an application submitted to Ofsted does not necessarily result in registration being granted.

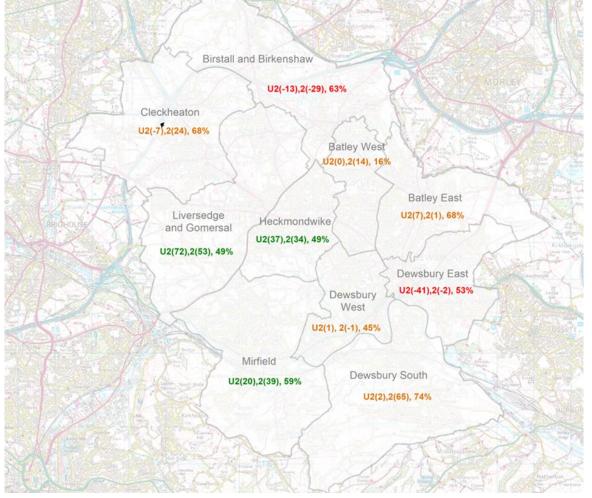
Disclaimer

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 will not be held 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.

Appendices

Map A: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – North Kirklees

Figures are based on operational vacant places (i.e. places currently offered) and estimated demand



Map key explained

U2 – The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 9 months up to 2 years old.

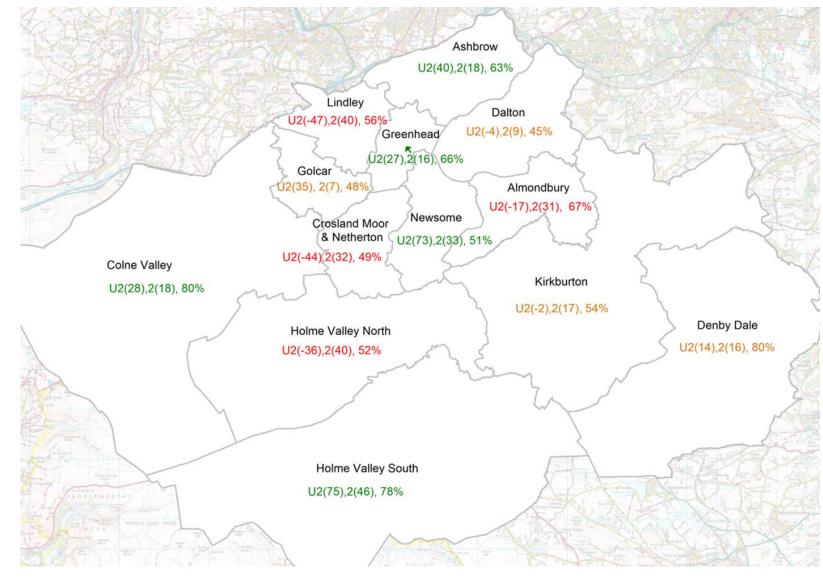
2 - The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 2 years old.

A minus figure denotes an estimated gap in provision, a positive figure denotes an estimated surplus in provision.

% - The percentage of 2-year-olds accessing their free place in the same ward that they reside (working parent criteria).

Map B: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – South Kirklees

Figures are based on operational vacant places (i.e. places currently offered) and estimated demand



Map key explained

U2 – The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 9 months up to 2 years old.

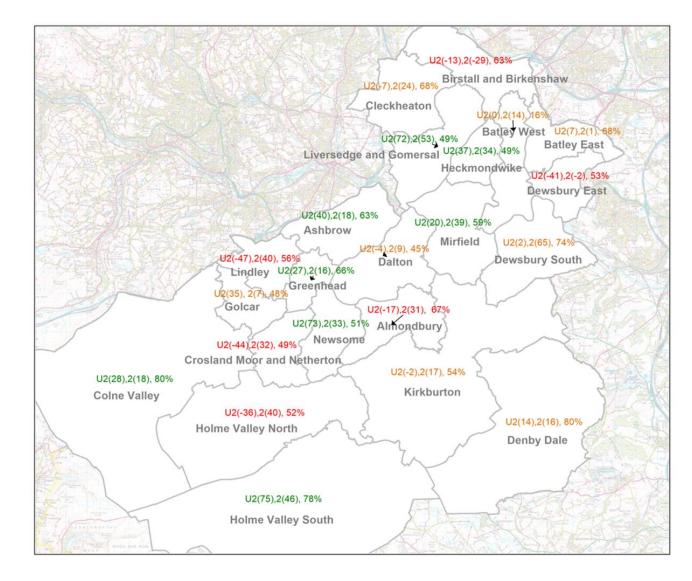
2 - The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 2 years old.

A minus figure denotes an estimated gap in provision, a positive figure denotes an estimated surplus in provision.

% - The percentage of 2-yearolds accessing their free place in the same ward that they reside (working parent criteria).

Map C: Estimated surplus places and potential gaps in provision for 2-year-olds and under – All Kirklees

Figures are based on operational vacant places (i.e. places currently offered) and estimated demand



Map key explained

U2 – The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 9 months up to 2 years old.

2 - The figure following in brackets is the estimated surplus or gap in provision for children aged 2 years old.

A minus figure denotes an estimated gap in provision, a positive figure denotes an estimated surplus in provision.

% - The percentage of 2-year-olds accessing their free place in the same ward that they reside (working parent criteria).

TABLE A: Supply and estimated demand for childcare places - 2-year-olds and under -September 2025

Ward	OFSTED Registered Places 0 - 4-year- olds September 2024	Operational Full-time Places 0 - 4-year-olds Summer term 2024	Spare Full- time Places 0 - 4-year- olds Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 0-5 year- olds in Child- minders Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 2-year-olds in Group based providers Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 1-year olds in Group based providers Summer term 2024	Number of eligible application s 2-year- olds Autumn term 2024	Number of eligible application s 1-year- olds Autumn term 2024	Number of 2-year-olds attending settings in Summer term 2024	Number of 1-year-olds attending settings in Summer term 2024	Estimated new demand for 2-year- old places Autumn Term 2025	Estimated new demand for 1-year- old places Autumn Term 2025
Reference	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	н	L	J	к	L
Almondbury	300	300	0	2	17	13	79	104	92	74	-13	30
Ashbrow	450	384	66	10	22	27	71	65	64	76	7	-11
Batley East	427	284	143	1	14	10	51	49	37	46	14	3
Batley West	372	249	123	5	30	14	85	75	67	59	18	16
Birstall and Birkenshaw	340	291	49	4	8	4	92	116	54	98	38	18
Cleckheaton	395	350	45	3	18	17	79	119	84	94	-5	25
Colne Valley	437	365	72	4	13	4	100	116	104	138	-4	-22
Crosland Moor and Netherton	250	222	28	2	36	12	73	66	68	10	5	56
Dalton	321	206	115	12	20	15	64	64	49	41	15	23
Denby Dale	268	218	50	2	13	5	85	112	87	120	-2	-8
Dewsbury East	340	286	54	2	31	11	91	110	57	57	34	53
Dewsbury South	349	360	-11	4	70	9	59	67	53	59	6	8
Dewsbury West	374	334	40	5	12	17	59	47	45	30	14	17
Golcar	414	351	63	4	16	15	110	137	100	155	10	-18

Ward	OFSTED Registered Places 0 - 4-year- olds September 2024	Operational Full-time Places 0 - 4-year-olds Summer term 2024	Spare Full- time Places 0 - 4-year- olds Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 0-5 year- olds in Child- minders Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 2-year-olds in Group based providers Summer term 2024	Full-time Vacant Places for 1-year olds in Group based providers Summer term 2024	Number of eligible application s 2-year- olds Autumn term 2024	Number of eligible application s 1-year- olds Autumn term 2024	Number of 2-year-olds attending settings in Summer term 2024	Number of 1-year-olds attending settings in Summer term 2024	Estimated new demand for 2-year- old places Autumn Term 2025	Estimated new demand for 1-year- old places Autumn Term 2025
Greenhead	688	455	233	5	23	18	64	72	56	80	8	-8
Heckmondwike	536	369	168	3	50	34	85	85	68	88	17	-3
Holme Valley North	299	237	63	6	25	10	86	126	99	79	-13	47
Holme Valley South	522	462	60	4	37	7	90	82	98	149	-8	-67
Kirkburton	301	267	34	3	22	3	98	88	92	81	6	7
Lindley	593	443	151	3	32	23	131	164	138	93	-7	71
Liversedge and Gomersal	516	450	66	1	52	27	83	89	83	133	0	-44
Mirfield	387	329	59	6	29	24	106	102	115	96	-9	6
Newsome	522	407	115	1	41	27	52	49	44	95	8	-46
Total	9,401	7,616	1,785	92	628	344	1,893	2,104	1,754	1,949	139	155

TABLE B: Estimated surplus and potential gaps in childcare places, plus otherindicators - 2 year olds and under - September 2025

Ward	Estimated surplus places or gap for 2- year-olds Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 2- year-olds including spare capacity Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 1- year olds Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 1- year olds including spare capacity Autumn Term 2025	Full-time vacant places for 3- and 4- year-olds in Schools and Academies Summer term 2024	OFSTED registered places for non-funded Childminde rs September 2024	Variance in the number of 3- and 4- year-old population from Autumn 2024 to Autumn 2025	Percentage of 2-year- olds accessing a place in the same ward that they reside Summer term 2024	Percentage of 1-year- olds accessing a place in the same ward that they reside Autumn term 2024	2-year-olds accessing their place in childcare provision outside of Kirklees Summer term 2024	Out of area 2-year-olds accessing their place in Kirklees childcare provision Summer term 2024	Net movement of 2-year- olds accessing their place across the Kirklees border
Reference	М	Ν	0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Х
Almondbury	31	31	-17	-17	15	6	-13	67%	72%	4	3	1
Ashbrow	18	35	40	57	7	12	25	63%	74%	13	7	6
Batley East	1	36	7	43	1	0	17	68%	59%	4	1	3
Batley West	14	45	0	31	48	6	37	16%	28%	5	4	1
Birstall and Birkenshaw	-29	-17	-13	-1	10	17	45	63%	54%	31	2	29
Cleckheaton	24	36	-7	4	12	12	-39	68%	63%	20	20	0
Colne Valley	18	36	28	46	18	24	-26	80%	56%	3	1	2
Crosland Moor and Netherton	32	39	-44	-37	6	18	-7	49%	28%	0	0	0
Dalton	9	38	-4	25	11	6	1	45%	39%	1	1	0
Denby Dale	16	28	14	26	16	0	-31	80%	64%	1	7	-6
Dewsbury East	-2	11	-41	-28	19	24	45	53%	48%	24	6	18
Dewsbury South	65	62	2	0	3	4	-20	74%	85%	5	6	-1
Dewsbury West	-1	9	1	11	5	0	51	45%	52%	0	1	-1
Golcar	7	23	35	51	4	12	18	48%	51%	2	1	1

Ward	Estimated surplus places or gap for 2- year-olds Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 2- year-olds including spare capacity Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 1- year olds Autumn Term 2025	Estimated surplus places or gap for 1- year olds including spare capacity Autumn Term 2025	Full-time vacant places for 3- and 4- year-olds in Schools and Academies Summer term 2024	OFSTED registered places for non-funded Childminde rs September 2024	Variance in the number of 3- and 4- year-old population from Autumn 2024 to Autumn 2025	Percentage of 2-year- olds accessing a place in the same ward that they reside Summer term 2024	Percentage of 1-year- olds accessing a place in the same ward that they reside Autumn term 2024	2-year-olds accessing their place in childcare provision outside of Kirklees Summer term 2024	Out of area 2-year-olds accessing their place in Kirklees childcare provision Summer term 2024	Net movement of 2-year- olds accessing their place across the Kirklees border
Reference	М	Ν	0	Р	Q	R	S	т	U	V	W	х
Greenhead	16	75	27	86	5	6	2	66%	50%	4	2	2
Heckmondwike	34	76	37	79	29	12	14	49%	56%	2	2	0
Holme Valley North	40	55	-36	-20	24	12	8	52%	67%	1	0	1
Holme Valley South	46	61	75	90	8	12	-14	78%	78%	0	5	-5
Kirkburton	17	26	-2	6	0	35	12	54%	52%	1	4	-3
Lindley	40	77	-47	-10	5	17	-22	56%	57%	10	5	5
Liversedge and Gomersal	53	69	72	89	12	0	-20	49%	43%	5	9	-4
Mirfield	39	54	20	35	17	0	6	59%	58%	4	4	0
Newsome	33	62	73	102	8	12	-9	51%	71%	1	1	0
Total	519	965	220	666	280	247	80			141	92	49

TABLE C: Number of working parents with an eligible 2-year-old that accessed a 15-hour place in the summer term 2024

Analysed by the ward of residence and the ward that their chosen childcare provider is located

Ward where childcare provider is located

Ward of Residence	Percentage of children that accessed their place in 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	Heckmondwike	Holme Valley North	Holme Valley South	Kirkburton	Lindley	Liversedge and Gomersal	Mirfield	Newsome	Total
Almondbury	67%	63	1						1	18	1					2			2	2	2			2	94
Ashbrow	63%	1	41						1	4					1	9	1				5		1	1	65
Batley East	68%			27	3							4	1	2			2					1			40
Batley West	16%			25	11	7	3					6	1	5			8					4			70
Birstall and Birkenshaw	63%				7	37	6										1					8			59
Cleckheaton	68%					5	59									1	4					18			87
Colne Valley	80%		1					89							7	5	1	3			3			2	111
Crosland Moor and Netherton	49%	1					1	2	36	1					7	1		4	1		5		1	13	73
Dalton	45%	9	2						1	23					1	5				2	1	1	1	5	51
Denby Dale	80%	4									72								5	7				2	90
Dewsbury East	53%			11	3	1						32	4	5			3					1			60
Dewsbury South	74%			1					1			5	46	4			1			2		1	1		62
Dewsbury West	45%			5	5							5	4	22			3					1	4		49
Golcar	48%	1						28	1						53	11		2			13			1	110
Greenhead	66%		5						1						3	38					10			1	58

Ward of Residence	Percentage of children that accessed their place in 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	Heckmondwike	Holme Valley North	Holme Valley South	Kirkburton	Lindley	Liversedge and Gomersal	Mirfield	Newsome	Total
Heckmondwike	49%			3	12	3	1					1		5			34					9	2		70
Holme Valley North	52%	2						5	11		1				2	3		53	18	2	2			2	101
Holme Valley South	78%	1						2	2							1		12	80	4					102
Kirkburton	54%	14									13		2					3	11	52			1		96
Lindley	56%		1					2		2					12	46					79				142
Liversedge and Gomersal	49%			1	2	6	17							1			14					43	3		87
Mirfield	59%	1	1		1		2						1	2		1	14					25	69		117
Newsome	51%	2	1					1	3	2	1	1			3	2		4	1		1		1	24	47
Total		99	53	73	44	59	89	129	58	50	88	54	59	46	89	125	86	81	118	71	121	112	84	53	1841

TABLE D: Data, methodology and indicators used to estimate demand and potential gaps in childcare provision for the expanded entitlement for 2-year-olds and under in September 2025

Reference	Data used	Description
A	OFSTED Registered Places 0 - 4-year-olds September 2024 9,401	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).
В	Operational FTE Places 0 - 4-year-olds Summer term 2024 7,616	The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) places for 0 to 4-year-olds that PVI settings are operating to (i.e. the number of places currently offered). For some settings this is less than the number of places registered with Ofsted.
C	Spare FTE Places 0 - 4-year-olds Summer term 2024 1,785 (A minus B).	The difference between the number of places registered with Ofsted and the number of places that PVI settings are offering (operational places).

Reference	Data used	Description
D, E & F	Full-time Vacant Places	One full-time vacancy is counted as 30 hours.
	Summer term 2024	What is included:
	1,064 (92+628+344)	 Under 2-year-old vacancies for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group providers 2-year-old vacancies from all provider types (including schools) 0-5-year-old vacancies from funded childminders (funded childminders are registered to offer the free entitlement places). 2-4- or 3-4-year-old vacancies for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group providers where separate 2-year-old vacancies have not been specified
		What is excluded:
		 School/Academy 3–4-year-old vacancies
G & H	Number of eligible applications Autumn term 2024	Number of eligibility codes issued by the national eligibility checking service to parents applying for a place in the Autumn term 2024.
	2-year-olds and under	
	2-year-olds - 1,893	
	1-year olds - 2,104	
I & J	Number of 2-year- olds and under attending settings in the Summer term	The number of eligible 2-year-olds (working parent criteria) attending settings was derived from the Early Learning and Childcare Funding claims (summer term).
	2024 2-year-olds - 1,754	The number of 1-year olds attending settings was derived from the Sufficiency Data collection of places offered (i.e. operational places) in the summer term minus vacant
	1-year olds - 1,949	places.

Reference	Data used	Description
K & L	Estimated new demand for places - 2-year-olds and under	The estimated new demand for places has been calculated by subtracting the number of children attending settings in the Summer Term 2024 from the number of eligible applications for the Autumn Term 2024.
	Autumn Term 2025	
	2-year-olds - 139 (G minus I)	
	1-year olds - 155 (H minus J)	
M & O	Estimated surplus places or gap - 2- year-olds and under Autumn Term 2025	The estimated surplus or gap in provision has been calculated by subtracting the estimated new demand (K & L) from the vacant places (D, E & F).
		Vacant places for 2-year-olds include:
	2-year-olds - 519 (E + one third of D minus K)	 All 2-year-old vacancies from all provider types (including schools) One third of 0–5-year-old vacancies from funded
	1-year olds - 220 (F + one third of D minus L)	 childminders All 2-4- or 3–4-year-old vacancies for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group providers where separate 2-year-old vacancies have not been specified
		Vacant places for 1-year olds include:
		All under 2-year-old vacancies for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) group providers (currently no schools offer places for under 2-year-olds)
		One third of 0–5-year-old vacancies from funded childminders

Reference	Data used	Description
N & P	Estimated surplus places or gap including spare capacity	Spare places (C) (i.e. the difference between OFSTED registered places and places offered by settings) have been added to the estimated surplus or gap in provision (M & O)
	- 2-year-olds and under Autumn Term 2025	Assumption made: Settings utilise their spare places across each age group as follows: 3 and 4-year-olds 50% (892)
	2-year-olds - 965	2-year-olds 25% (446)
	(C x 25% + M)	1-year olds 25% (446)
	1-year olds – 666	Total 1,785
	(C x 25% + O)	
Q	Full-time vacant places for 3- and 4- year-olds	One full-time vacancy is counted as 30 hours.
	Schools and Academies	
	Summer term 2024 280	
R	OFSTED registered places non-funded childminders 0 - 4-year-olds September 2024	The total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) Ofsted registered places for non-funded childminders (0 to 4-year- olds). Non-funded childminders are not currently registered to offer the free entitlement places but may do so in the future.
	247	
S	Variance in the number of 3- and 4- year-olds	The variance is calculated comparing the predicted number of 3- and 4-year-old population in Autumn 2024 and Autumn 2025.
	80	Based on GP Registrations dated May 2024.

Reference	Data used	Description
Т	Percentage of 2- year-olds accessing their place in the same ward that they reside Summer term 2024	Percentage of 2-year-olds accessing the entitlement for working parents in the same ward that they reside.
U	Percentage of 1- year-olds accessing their place in the same ward that they reside Autumn term 2024 as at 26 September 2024	Percentage of 1-year-olds accessing the entitlement for working parents in the same ward that they reside.
V	2-year-olds accessing their place in childcare provision outside of Kirklees Summer term 2024 141	2-year-olds accessing their free entitlement place (working parent criteria) in childcare settings located in other local authorities.
W	Out of area 2-year- olds accessing their place in Kirklees childcare provision Summer term 2024 92	2-year-olds who reside in other local authorities and access their free entitlement place (working parent criteria) in childcare settings located in Kirklees.
X	Net movement of 2- year-olds accessing their place across the Kirklees border 49 (V minus W)	The net movement of 2-year-olds across the Kirklees border who access their free entitlement place (working parent criteria) in a different local authority to which they reside.