

Freedom of information request deadline: Friday 12 January 2023

Please respond to this request by completing this form and sending it to:
childcare@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk

Alternatively, please submit the answers to this FOI request via the online system using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/T9GV36R>

We have used this Freedom of Information Act request to collect information from those local authorities who were not able to complete the Childcare Survey 2024 (sections A-C) by Tuesday 5 December. This is to make sure that our results are representative of the whole country.

The original survey was sent out by email to our local authority contacts (often a 'Family Information Service' or early years team) on Tuesday 7 November 2023.

Your answers are invaluable in enabling us to calculate average childcare prices, and availability levels, throughout Great Britain. The figures are used by the UK governments, by the media, by some providers and by other research organisations. We also use them to make sure that our work at Coram Family and Childcare is based on accurate data.

The responses you provide will only be used to calculate averages for your region, for England as a whole, and (where comparison is possible) for GB as a whole. We will not name your local authority without your permission. If you have any questions about the survey or queries about how to complete it, please email childcare@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk for support.

We will send you a copy of the Childcare Survey 2024 report before it is released to the public in early 2024.

Your details: We will only use these to contact you about the survey

<i>Local authority</i>	Herefordshire Council
<i>Name of person providing information</i>	Karen Knight
<i>Phone number of person providing information</i>	01432 383042

Note on terminology

By a 'nursery', we mean all Ofsted-registered childcare providers that look after groups of children under five on non-domestic premises for at least 25 hours per week. This includes pre-schools, day nurseries, nursery schools and schools with a nursery.

'Maintained' means provision run by the local authority or a state school/nursery.

'PVI' means provision run by the private sector, voluntary providers, or independent schools, including PVI provision in children's centres.

Section A: prices

- Please provide us with the average prices in your area for maintained and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) nursery places for the following provision:

- For 2 year olds and under

	25 hours per week		50 hours per week	
	Maintained	PVI	Maintained	PVI
A place in a nursery for children under 2 years				
A place in a nursery for children aged 2 (those who do not get the 15 hour free entitlement)				

Nurseries record their prices in different ways. Some have an hourly rate, while others have a weekly rate for 50 hours provision from 8am to 6pm. If the nursery does not have a 25 hour rate, please calculate the price of 25 hours provision by halving the 50 hour rate, or failing this, multiplying an hourly rate by 25.

- For 3 and 4 year olds

Please answer **ONE** of the following two questions

Either: Please provide us with the average prices of childcare **once the free entitlements have been taken into account.**

	Maintained	PVI
A place in a nursery for 25 hours a week where parents <i>receive the 15 hour free entitlement and pay for 10 hours</i>		
A place in a nursery for 50 hours a week where parents <i>receive the 30 hour free entitlement and pay for 20 hours</i>		

Or: Please provide us with the average prices of childcare **before the free entitlements have been taken into account.**

	Maintained	PVI
A place in a nursery for 25 hours a week		
A place in a nursery for 50 hours a week		

The service area have confirmed that this information is not held however the hourly rates for all provider types and ages are £5.04.

2. Some providers make additional charges for consumables for families using the free early education entitlements. We know that it can be challenging to gather information on these charges and so you may not be able to answer these questions.

a) How many providers make additional charges for consumables under the following entitlements?

	All or almost all	Around three quarters	Around half	Around a quarter	None, or very few	Not known
30 hours for three and four year olds						
15 hours for three and four year olds						
15 hours for disadvantaged two year olds						

b) What is the typical daily charge for consumables made by providers in your area under the following entitlements?

	Typical daily charge	Data not held
30 hours for three and four year olds		
15 hours for three and four year olds		
15 hours for disadvantaged two year olds		

c) What is the highest additional charge you are aware of in your area for a day of childcare?

d) What is the lowest additional charge you are aware of in your area?

e) How many providers require families to also buy additional hours when taking up the following entitlements?

	All or almost all	Around three quarters	Around half	Around a quarter	None, or very few	Not known
30 hours for three and four year olds						
15 hours for three and four year olds						

15 hours for disadvantaged two year olds						
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- f) Do you have any other comments on additional charges in your area for 15 and 30 hours entitlements?

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The service area have confirmed that this information is not held.

3. Please provide us with the price of 25 hours of childcare per week for a child under 2 at:

The most expensive nursery that you are aware of in your area	
The cheapest nursery that you are aware of in your area	

The service area have confirmed that this information is not held however the maximum and minimum hourly rates for all provider types and ages are £3.55 to £7.50.

4. Please provide the typical (average) price for a childminder in your area. *If your data does not fit into the age categories below, please provide your best approximations, including providing the same price for different age groups.*

	25 hours per week	50 hours per week
Children under 2 years		
Children aged 2		
Children aged 3 and 4		
Children at school, for pickup and care up to around 6pm (approximately <u>15 hours per week</u>)		

Childminders record their prices in different ways. Some have an hourly rate, while others have a weekly rate for 50 hours provision from 8am-6pm. If the childminder does not have a 25 hour rate, please calculate the price of 25 hours provision by halving the 50 hour rate, or failing this, multiplying an hourly rate by 25.

The service area have confirmed that this information is not held however the average hourly rates for childminders are £4.92 so 25 hours would equate to £123.

5. Please provide the typical (average) weekly price for a place in an after school club for 15 hours per week:

£	After school club, 15 hours per week
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The service area have confirmed that this information is not held.

Section B: numbers of providers

1. How many of these types of providers do you have in your local authority?

PVI nurseries	78
Maintained nurseries which can make charges to parents (even if they do not)	0

We also have 48 childminders and 25 school-based nurseries (we do not have any maintained nursery classes).

Section C: childcare availability

1. Does your local authority have enough childcare (childcare sufficiency) for the following groups?

	Yes: in all areas	Yes: in some areas	No	Data not held or cannot tell
2 year olds and under		x		
2 years olds entitled to 15 hours a week free early education		x		
3-4 year olds entitled to 15 hours a week free early education		x		
3-4 year olds entitled to 30 hours a week free early education		x		
5-11 year olds after school		x		
12-14 year olds after school		x		
Disabled children		x		
Parents working full time (9am to 5pm on weekdays)		x		
Parents working atypical hours (outside 9am to 5pm on weekdays)		x		
<i>Please leave this question blank if there are no rural areas in your local authority</i>				
Families living in rural areas		x		

2. What proportion of providers in your area are offering the 30 hour extended entitlement for at least some children? *If you do not have an exact figure, please provide an approximation.*

	%	Don't know or N/A
Childminders		x
Private and voluntary nurseries		x
Stand alone (maintained) nursery schools	0	
Nursery classes in schools		x

Thank you for completing our survey, we really appreciate your help.