

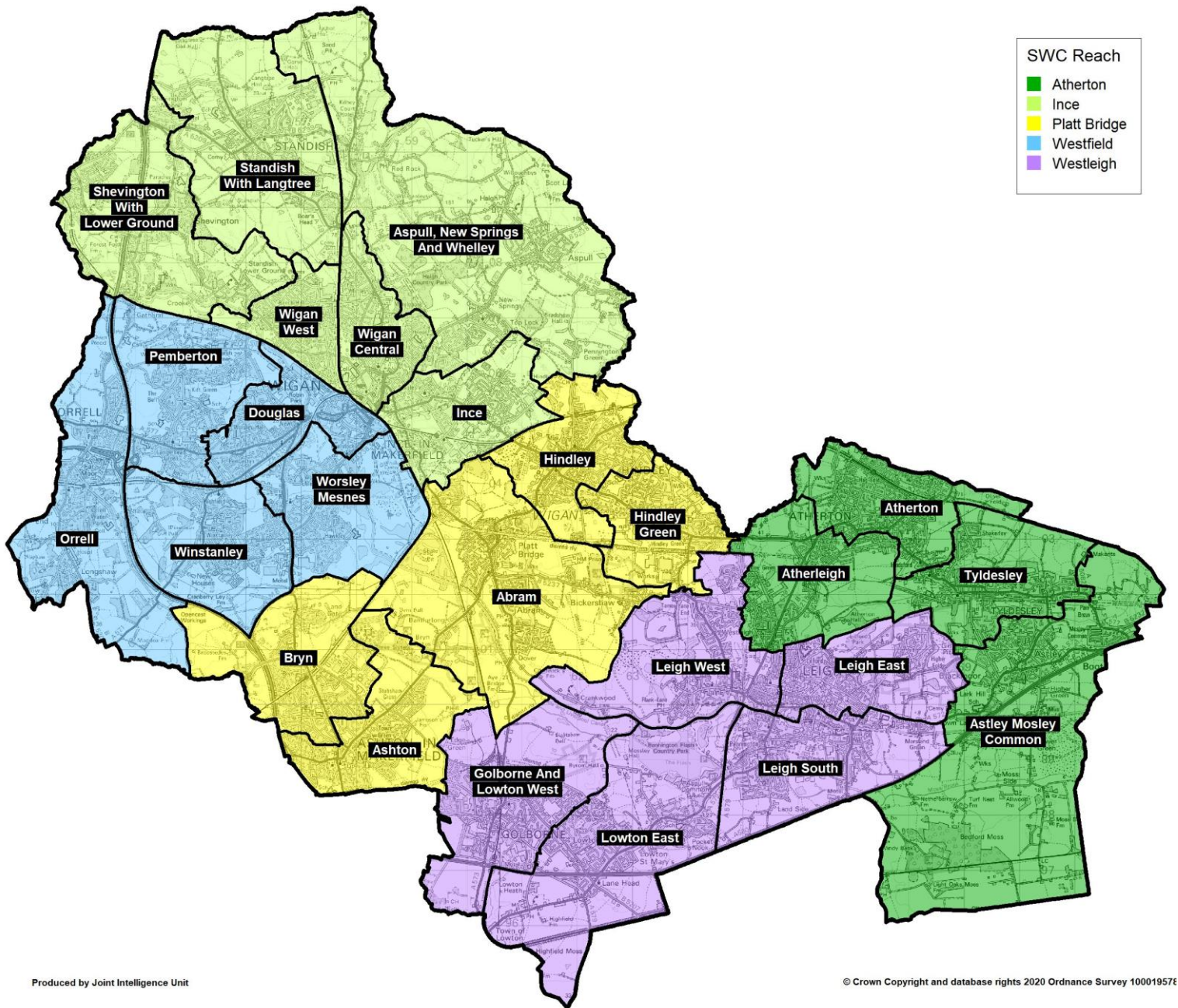
# **Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Report 2021**



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# Map of the Wigan Borough, Including Wards and Start Well Family Centres



# 1 - Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of The Report

This report provides baseline data to assist the Council in its duty to manage the local childcare market. To ensure there is sufficient, high quality, flexible and affordable provision to meet the needs of parents and carers. It also provides a helpful resource for existing and potential Early Education and Childcare providers in planning to meet any increased demand for services.

The data cited in the report was captured during the Summer term 2021, and as such provides a snapshot of the position at this time. Summer term is the point in the academic year when the demand for childcare is at its highest, therefore, providing a more accurate indicator of overall sufficiency.

Each ward has been RAG rated to reflect if there is sufficient provision or any shortfalls.

## 1.2 Childcare Sufficiency Duty

Under the terms of the Childcare Act 2006 and subsequent amendments set out in The Childcare Act 2016 and the Department for Education statutory guidance, Local Authorities are required to:

- Secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 25 for disabled children)
- Secure early years provision free of charge for all three- and four-year olds and eligible two-year olds (570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year)
- Secure the equivalent of 30 hours free childcare available for working parents who meet the eligibility criteria
- Publish information and provide advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area

The statutory guidance states that Local Authorities should produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare to Cabinet, and that this should also be made available to the public.

## 1.3 Local Strategic Priorities

Wigan's priority in relation to early education and childcare is identified with the following strategic priorities from the Excellence in Education Strategy 2020-2030 and SEND Transformation Plan:

- 1) Ensuring a high quality of Education
- 2) Good levels of health and wellbeing for all children
- 3) An education system that is inclusive of all children
- 4) Developing a Child Friendly Borough through strong partnerships
- 5) Preparing young people for successful careers and adulthood

These priorities are underpinned by the Deal 2030 for children and young people which is:

All children and young people in the Borough, whatever their age, ability background or setting, will receive an outstanding Education. This vision is part of the wider Wigan Deal 2030 to ensure the best start in life for all children and young people.

Ensuring we have enough Early Years and Childcare provision for children and their families is pivotal in realising our priorities.

#### **1.4 Methodology and Structure of The Report**

Demand for places in early years can be unpredictable making it difficult to predict the number of places need:

- Parents can choose whether they take up an early education place or not
- They can choose where they take up the place, which can be outside of the Wigan Borough
- Whether they take up a place near to where they live, close to their workplace or on their commute to work
- Most families use all the hours available to them (i.e.15 or 30), some choose to only access part of their entitlement

Childcare can be delivered by childminders, nurseries, pre-schools, school nurseries, breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday clubs. For the purposes of the report when we talk about childcare collectively, we will use the term “childcare providers”.

#### **How Sufficiency Is Calculated**

The LA calculate sufficiency by carrying out an assessment of the Early Education and Childcare supply and demand at ward level to identify any potential shortfall in childcare places. Consideration is given to the capacity and take-up of places for funded two, three- and four-year olds, the COVID-19 Pandemic has also been taken into consideration when producing this report.

The Borough is split into 25 wards and the purpose of the sufficiency report we have looked at the following at an individual ward level:

- Supply and demand of childcare places
- Flexibility of childcare
- Quality of provision

Data sources used to produce ward profiles include:

- Department of Health birth rate data
- Planning data for housing developments
- Department for Education data identifying 2-year-olds potentially eligible for free childcare
- Headcount returns from private and voluntary providers (PVI)
- School census returns
- Demographic data from the Council’s Joint Intelligence Unit
- Provider and parental questionnaires

## 1.5 Sufficiency Analysis Assumptions

Calculation of demand for places has been based on the following assumptions:

[Table 1]

Under 2's	% of children requiring a place	Rationale	Data Source
Funded Childcare	NA	NA	NA
Paid Childcare	37%	The number of children taking up a place as a % of number of children under 2 in the borough	Children taking up places - Provider survey returns Under 2's population - Joint Intelligence Unit
2 year olds	% of children requiring a place	Rationale	Data Source
Funded Childcare	40%	DfE's estimate of 40% of children will meet the eligibility criteria	DfE - Lists of eligible families received 7 times a year, list used March 2021 as children on this list would be eligible in summer 21 term
Paid Childcare (additional hours to free entitlement)	20%	Based on take up figure from provider survey	Provider survey
Paid Childcare (families not eligible to funded childcare)	35%	Based on take up figure from provider survey	Provider survey
3 & 4 year olds	% of children requiring a place	Rationale	Data Source
Funded Childcare (Universal)	100%	All 3 & 4-year-olds are eligible to universal funded childcare	Birth data - number of children eligible this term calculated from births in following academic terms autumn 16 to spring 18
30 hours for eligible working parents	55%	Based on upward trend from DfE's original estimate of 50%	Headcount returns School Census
Parents eligible to 30 hours buying additional hours	20%	Some working parents will require more than 30 hours childcare	Headcount returns School Census

These assumptions are used to calculate the data in tables 5, 6 and 7.

## 2 - Summary and Action Plan

Based on our assumptions (Table 1) we have analysed the data around available childcare and demand for places. As a result, we can confirm no immediate action is required by the Local Authority, based on analysis of the data we predict that we will be sufficient for childcare places in all wards. However, there are some areas that we will continue to monitor based on the results of our RAG rating exercise (please see below table no. 2).

### 2.1 Sufficiency RAG rating

[Table 2]

Green	Amber	Red
No shortfall in places	Shortfall of places -1 to -23  (Monitor)	Shortfall of -24 or over  (Consider opportunities to increase capacity in line with demand for example, is there option for existing provision to expand, increase childminder place – 50/50 rule, explore space in maintained schools or develop new provision)

All wards have been identified as green with the exception of Ince which is amber for 2 year old places in Spring 2022 where it has been identified there may be a minor shortfall, we could avoid this potential shortfall by asking providers in the ward to convert a number of existing 3 & 4 year old places to 2 year old places as we have a significant surplus of these places.

However, whilst we have identified that we are sufficient for childcare across the Borough we will continue to monitor:

- Impact of COVID 19 on business sustainability and sufficiency of childcare
- Ofsted inspection outcomes that could impact on providers ability to deliver funded childcare places
- Unpredicted closure of businesses
- The number of childminders (decreasing trend)
- Birth rates trends
- Impact of regeneration attracting new residents into the Borough
- Legislation changes that could lead to increase demand for childcare

### 2.2 Business Sustainability

To avoid the loss of existing high quality childcare provision the Local Authorities will take the following action:

- Ensure businesses are aware of financial support available to them from government and the LA
- Promote training offer including marketing, leadership, and digital opportunities
- Conduct business health checks considering COVID 19 impact
- Signpost to funded external training offers
- Provide/signpost to accessible online resources and materials to support business planning e.g. cashflow templates and how to guides

## **2.3 Workforce Recruitment and Retention**

In order to support recruitment of new people into the sector and encourage the workforce to access further training and qualifications the Local Authority will take the following action:

- Promote government funded level 3 adult offer
- Promote early years apprenticeships
- Promote early years kickstart programme
- Work with Kingsbridge Institute of Learning and Warrington Teaching Hub to promote career pathways

## **2.4 Quality**

To maintain the good and outstanding childcare provision the Local Authority will take the following action:

- Provide professional development and advice for practitioners and deliver key Early Years and Government messages through training, events, and visits
- Early Years providers are given the opportunity to participate in projects, share in good practice and are supported with children's assessment
- Additional guidance is given to targeted providers to help them obtain good or better Ofsted ratings through supportive visits, focused improvement plans, self-evaluation, guidance on effective leadership and management and support within the learning environment.

## **2.5 Special Education Need and Disabilities**

To ensure all providers remain inclusive and follow the graduated response outlined in the SEND code of practice the Local Authority will take the following action:

- Work jointly with the Raising Attainment team to ensure children's places are maintained.
- Work collaboratively with other services such as SEND Service Manager, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language and Physiotherapy.
- Deliver SENCO Award to practitioners in Wigan.
- Provide training to support principals into practice.

## **2.6 Out of School Provision**

The following actions are required to ensure parents are aware of all available options to them:

- We will promote help with the cost of childcare and signpost parents to access information on the Governments 'Childcare Choices' website for example, tax free childcare
- Ensure parents are aware they can also use their 30 hours entitlement at a registered out of school provision
- Promote activities in the community and childcare via Family Information Service (FIS)

The Local Authority will also feedback to providers key messages from parents:

- To encourage to review their charging policies and operational hours.
- Work with providers to identify barriers preventing them from making changes to their operational hours.



### 3 Data and Information Used to Assess Sufficiency

#### 3.1 Birth Data

The number of births impacts directly on the amount of childcare required; in its simplest form the higher the birth rate the more childcare places will be required. Although other factors such as movement of families in and out of the Borough and housing developments have an impact on the number of childcare places, the birth rate is the major consideration when predicting the number of childcare places required.

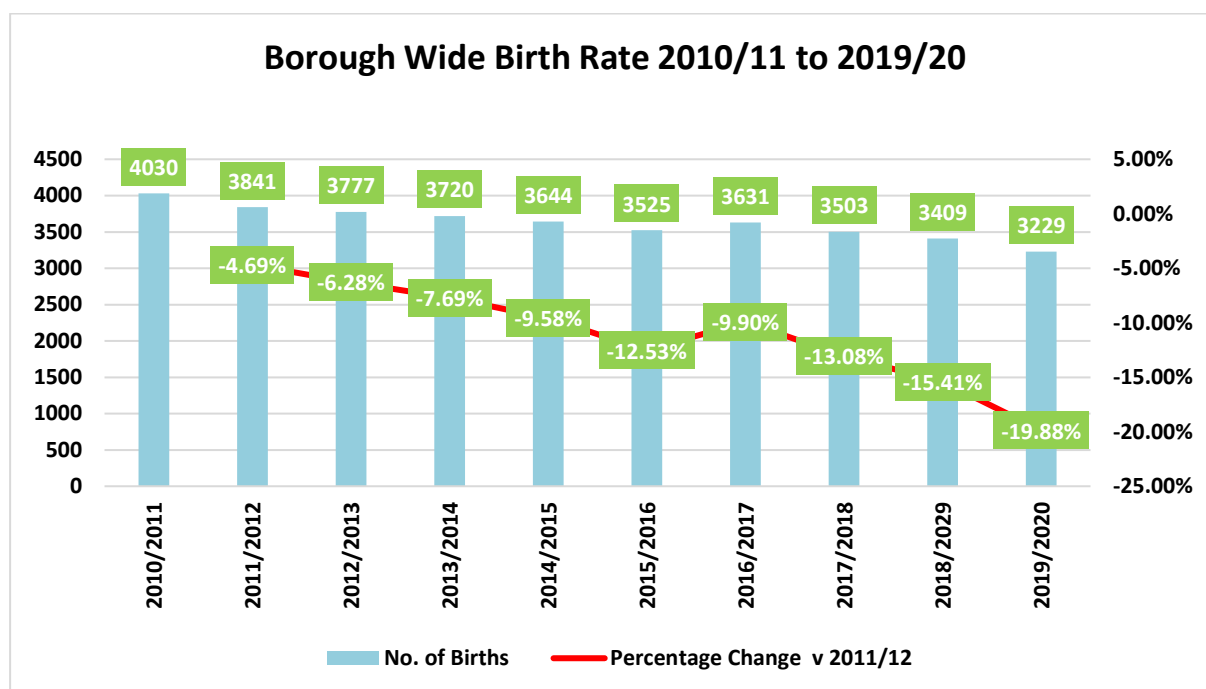
The following chart show the latest available data for birth rates.

[Table 3]

**Birth rate differences 2018/2019 against 2019/2020**

Ward	No of Births 2018/2019	No of Births 2019/2020	% increase / decrease
Abram	189	188	-0.53%
Ashton	94	120	27.66%
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	111	116	4.50%
Astley Mosley Common	121	136	12.40%
Atherleigh	131	137	4.58%
Atherton	184	189	2.72%
Bryn	91	78	-14.29%
Douglas	168	147	-12.50%
Golborne & Lowton West	113	106	-6.19%
Hindley	155	137	-11.61%
Hindley Green	97	91	-6.19%
Ince	167	141	-15.57%
Leigh East	133	134	0.75%
Leigh South	148	109	-26.35%
Leigh West	212	194	-8.49%
Lowton East	116	124	6.90%
Orrell	104	103	-0.96%
Pemberton	175	167	-4.57%
Shevington with Lower Ground	108	95	-12.04
Standish and Langtree	126	131	3.97%
Tyldesley	162	139	-14.20%
Wigan Central	105	96	-8.57%
Wigan West	156	140	-10.26%
Winstanley	123	89	-27.64%
Worsley Mesnes	120	122	1.67%
<b>Total by Borough</b>	<b>3409</b>	<b>3229</b>	<b>-5.28%</b>

The drop of 5.28% shown above reflects the ongoing trend of a decrease in birth rate which from 2010/11 has dropped by 19.88%.



### 3.2 Supply of Places

The overall number of Ofsted registered places in the Wigan Borough is 8854 (which is an increase 1159 from the previous sufficiency analysis), split between under 2's, 2 year olds and 3 & 4 year olds. The actual number of children that can be accommodated is greater than the number of registered places.

- Preschool and school nurseries – 2 children assessing 15 hours per place
- Full day care and childminders – 3 children assessing 15 hours per place
- Where children are accessing the 30 hour offer the ratio of children to places will drop.

### 3.3 Demand and Vacancies

To identify the level of demand for places during the Summer term we have asked providers to provide a percentage fullness figure across each age range. Percentage fullness and vacancy rates are a snapshot and vary throughout the year, with Autumn term having the lowest demand and increasing in the Spring and Summer terms, by using the Summer term as a benchmark we are reflecting the busiest time for childcare providers.

The table below demonstrates the surplus number of places for 0-2's in the Summer term 2021 for each ward. We are unable to project future demand for 0-2's as the latest birth data available at ward level is for the academic year 2019-2020 but we do know that the overall number of births in 2020/2021 does not exceed previous years.

## 0-2 Year Old Surplus/Shortfall In Places

[Table 5]

Ward	Summer 21
Abram	1
Ashton	7
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	7
Atherleigh	7
Astley Mosley Common	4
Atherton	23
Bryn	10
Douglas	3
Golborne & Lowton West	4
Hindley	44
Hindley Green	4
Ince	8
Leigh East	23
Leigh South	10
Leigh West	47
Lowton East	15
Orrell	17
Pemberton	15
Tyldesley	55
Shevington with Lower Ground	6
Standish with Langtree	13
Wigan Central	42
Wigan West	10
Winstanley	26
Worsley Mesnes	3

The surplus/shortfall in the following tables 6 and 7 have been calculated by predicting the number of childcare places required when children become eligible for funded childcare places based on their date of birth.

The table below demonstrates the surplus/shortfall number of places for 2 year old's in the current term 2021 and predicted surplus/shortfall for the next academic year by ward.

## 2 Year Old Surplus/Shortfall In Places

[Table 6]

Ward	Summer 21	Autumn 21	Spring 22	Summer 22
Abram	9	7	11	9
Ashton	41	40	42	41
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	25	29	26	25
Astley Mosley Common	86	100	104	86
Atherleigh	13	4	14	13
Atherton	21	22	13	21
Bryn	35	25	33	35
Douglas	2	12	4	2
Golborne & Lowton West	85	85	85	85
Hindley	23	29	14	23
Hindley Green	28	33	23	28
Ince	13	14	-6	13
Leigh East	51	49	45	51
Leigh South	1	11	20	1
Leigh West	149	150	149	149
Lowton East	34	34	34	34
Orrell	33	28	30	33
Pemberton	47	24	81	47
Shevington with Lower Ground	36	29	37	36
Standish with Langtree	58	51	35	58
Tyldesley	83	97	89	83
Wigan Central	74	70	74	74
Wigan West	6	25	12	6
Winstanley	65	55	60	65
Worsley Mesnes	17	17	13	17

The table below demonstrates the surplus/shortfall number of places for 3 & 4 year old's in the current term 2021 and predicted surplus/shortfall for the next academic year by ward.

### 3 & 4 Year Old Surplus/Shortfall In Places

[Table 7]

Ward	Summer 21	Autumn 21	Spring 22	Summer 22
Abram	13	35	1	13
Ashton	6	10	9	7
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	17	46	35	20
Astley Mosley Common	33	112	70	41
Atherleigh	-2	35	14	3
Atherton	42	79	72	44
Bryn	11	39	37	17
Douglas	42	65	54	41
Golborne & Lowton West	15	90	58	21
Hindley	27	63	53	29
Hindley Green	-3	28	10	0
Ince	84	135	99	75
Leigh East	35	88	73	39
Leigh South	-7	49	23	1
Leigh West	79	146	104	83
Lowton East	33	69	47	30
Orrell	40	82	59	41
Pemberton	-6	90	12	5
Shevington with Lower Ground	30	60	44	33
Standish with Langtree	58	124	69	61
Tyldesley	115	140	124	117
Wigan Central	43	77	72	45
Wigan West	9	51	23	10
Winstanley	54	90	63	48
Worsley Mesnes	18	45	31	21

### 3.4 Provision Type by Ward

[Table 8]

Ward	Nursery Schools & Classes / Section 27 / Academies	Private Voluntary & Independent Nurseries - Full Day Care	Private Voluntary & Independent Pre Schools - Sessional	Registered Childminders	Out of School Clubs	Holiday Schemes
Abram	2	1	4	6	8	1
Ashton	1	2	0	5	3	2
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	1	2	1	2	6	1
Astley Mosley Common	2	5	0	16	5	1
Atherleigh	1	4	0	2	7	1
Atherton	3	4	1	9	5	1
Bryn	1	4	0	1	4	3
Douglas	1	2	0	3	1	0
Golborne & Lowton West	2	6	0	5	5	3
Hindley	2	3	0	2	5	0
Hindley Green	1	1	0	5	2	0
Ince	4	3	1	1	5	2
Leigh East	2	4	1	4	2	0
Leigh South	1	3	3	5	3	0
Leigh West	3	9	0	4	4	2
Lowton East	1	1	1	13	7	2
Orrell	1	4	0	7	5	5
Pemberton	2	5	2	3	3	0
Shevington with Lower Ground	2	2	1	6	4	1
Standish with Langtree	2	4	0	5	3	1
Tyldesley	3	4	0	20	4	1
Wigan Central	1	5	2	2	4	3
Wigan West	2	2	0	5	4	2
Winstanley	4	1	2	14	8	2
Worsley Mesnes	3	1	0	7	3	0
<b>Total by Borough</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>34</b>

### 3.5 Take Up of Funded Childcare

The take up figures are based on the following:

- 2 year olds, children accessing 2 year old funded places against the number of eligible children predicted by the DfE
- 3 & 4 year olds, all children within the age range as the universal 15 hour offer applies to all 3 & 4 year olds

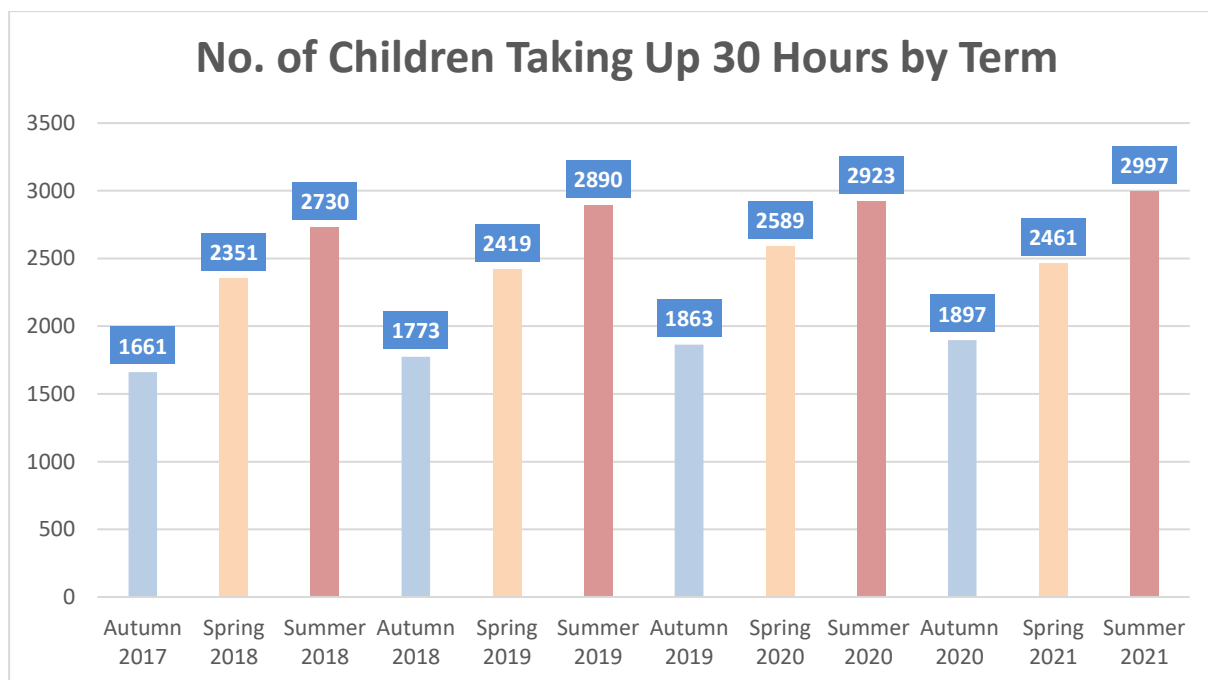
The table below shows the percentage take up by age range for the Summer 2021 term.

[Table 9]

Ward	No. of 2 Year Old Children on DfE List	No. of 2 Year Old Children Take Up	2 Year Old Children Percentage Take up	No. of 3 & 4 Year Old Children from Birth Data	No. of 3 & 4 Year Old Children Take Up	3 & 4 Year Old Percentage Take up
Abram	90	76	82.22%	331	298	90.03%
Ashton	17	14	82.35%	182	154	84.62%
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	30	23	76.67%	182	154	84.62%
Astley Mosley Common	19	19	94.74%	195	200	102.56%
Atherleigh	55	51	92.73%	266	220	82.71%
Atherton	75	65	81.33%	271	239	88.19%
Bryn	28	27	89.29%	147	135	91.84%
Douglas	78	75	93.59%	336	284	84.52%
Golborne & Lowton West	29	26	86.21%	224	190	84.82%
Hindley	56	58	100.00%	258	195	75.58%
Hindley Green	34	30	73.53%	164	164	100.00%
Ince	91	77	80.22%	288	251	87.15%
Leigh East	62	53	80.65%	224	228	101.79%
Leigh South	52	51	98.08%	239	243	101.67%
Leigh West	86	83	90.70%	329	287	87.23%
Lowton East	28	29	100.00%	130	180	138.46%
Orrell	16	11	56.25%	181	155	85.64%
Pemberton	86	80	94.19%	317	304	95.90%
Shevington with Lower Ground	18	14	77.78%	173	145	83.82%
Standish with Langtree	19	16	78.95%	176	205	116.48%
Tyldesley	57	55	92.98%	248	239	96.37%
Wigan Central	35	20	65.71%	173	162	93.64%
Wigan West	51	46	86.27%	257	215	83.66%
Winstanley	8	8	100.00%	196	198	101.02%
Worsley Mesnes	41	34	82.93%	234	232	99.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>89.66%</b>	<b>5735</b>	<b>5284</b>	<b>92.14%</b>
Out of Borough*		41			211	3.68%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>1082</b>	<b>93.20%</b>	<b>5735</b>	<b>5495</b>	<b>95.82%</b>

The table below shows the take up of the 30 hours childcare offer for working families, this reflects, the trend is that the take up of this offer is increasing year on year.

[Table 10]





## 4 Quality and Ofsted Outcomes

### 4.1 Quality

All childcare providers are subject to inspection by Ofsted who judge providers to be either Inadequate, Requires Improvement, Good or Outstanding.

From September 2021 a new Early Years Foundation Stage framework was introduced, and the overall effectiveness of a provision will be judged on the following:

- Quality of education
- Behaviour and attitudes
- Personal development
- Leadership and management

Childcare providers that receive an Inadequate judgement would not be allowed to continue with funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year old children and parents would be given the option of moving children to an alternative provider.

Childcare providers that receive a Requires Improvement judgement would be allowed to continue to provide funded childcare places for 3 & 4 year olds and for any 2 year olds that were currently receiving funding.

Ensuring that providers maintain Good and Outstanding outcomes is essential to ensure that we have sufficient childcare in Wigan to meet the needs of working parents and to provide the best start for our children. Currently we have no full day care or sessional providers in the private or maintained sector that have an Inadequate outcome.

In response to COVID 19, the team have focused on areas largely impacted, including early communication and language development and children's well-being. The team continue to work in partnership with parents/carers, Early Years providers and partner professionals to develop high quality early learning and care.

### 4.2 Ofsted Outcomes

Currently across all provider types we have 274 providers who have been inspected by Ofsted of these:

- 214 of our providers rated as good which equates to 78.1% of total providers
- 55 of our providers are rated as outstanding which equates to 20.1% of our
- 5 providers are rated as requires improvement which equates to 1.5% of our total providers.
- We have no providers rated as inadequate.

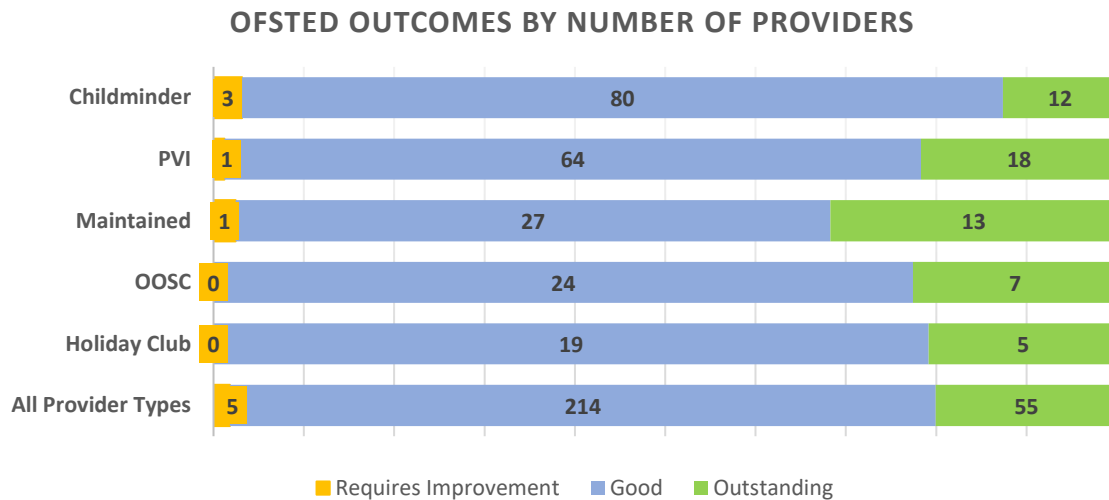
The above figures exclude any providers waiting their first Ofsted inspection, this includes a number of newly registered PVI providers, schools with nursery classes that have converted to academies and 35 childminders.

Please note Ofsted suspended routine inspections due to COVID 19 at the beginning of the COVID 19 outbreak. Routine inspections resumed 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

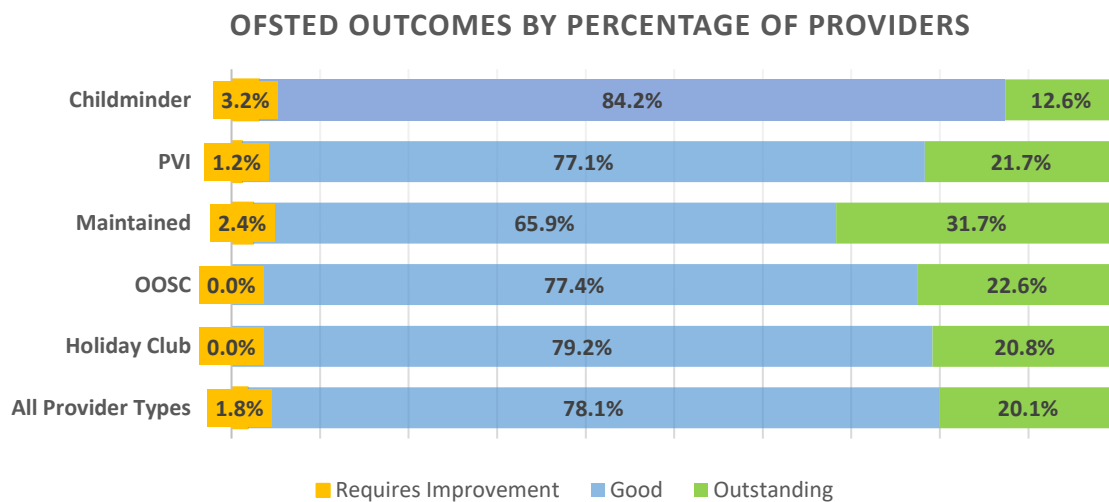
### Childminders and independent out of school clubs

- Childminders registered on the Early Years Register – no children present on day of inspection will only be awarded a Met or Not Met grading.
- Childminders registered on the Childcare Register - do not provide care for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage age range and would not receive a full inspection outcome and would be awarded a Met or Not Met grade
- Out of School Clubs will only be awarded a Met or Not Met grading regardless of which register they are on.

[Table 11]



[Table 12]



## Number of Children Taking Up Funded Childcare by Ofsted Outcome

The Chart below shows the number of children accessing funded early education and childcare based on the Ofsted Inspection Outcome of the providers.

Ofsted Outcome	No of 2 Year Old Children	No of 3 & 4 Year Old Children
Provider Not Yet Inspected	182	661
Inadequate	0	0
Requires Improvement	13	100
Good	667	3350
Outstanding	219	1378
Met*	1	2
Not Met*	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1082</b>	<b>5495</b>

\*Where a funded child is attending at a childminder with a met or not met outcome the provider is registered on the early years register and registered with the local authority to deliver funded childcare but did not have any children in the EYFS age range present at their last Ofsted Inspection.

## 5 Supporting Children With Special Educational Needs or Disability To Access Childcare

All early year's providers are required to have arrangements in place to identify and support children with Special Education Needs or Disabilities and to promote equality of opportunity for children in their care as defined in the SEND Code of Practice 2014.

There is an increased number of children referred into the Early Learning and Childcare Team who are accessing our Portage service and support with our Early Year's providers.

The early years team provide training, advice, and guidance to support providers to follow the graduated approach to meet need of child with SEND. Targeted Individual Support is available where eligibility criteria are met.

Children with SEND are supported with additional resources if appropriate in the form of:

Targeted Individual Support (TIS support) – this is provided either by a Targeted Support Worker who supports the child and provider using a modelling and coaching approach and/or funding depending on the needs of the child and the provider.

Early Years Additional Resources - This resource enables the Local Authority to consider funding for a child who is due to access mainstream school and is provided up to the first term of Y1. As part of this application consideration is also made for an Education, Health and Care plan assessment.

Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH) - Funding is available through DCATCH for working families whose children have SEND and are accessing Out of School Club provision, including holiday club. It provides the provision with additional funding to enable them to put in place support required to meet the child's needs. This does not cover the cost of the place. DCATCH is for children aged 4 to 11.

Disability Access Funding (DAF) - Funding to support children with disabilities or special educational needs. The DAF aids access to Early Years places by, for example, supporting providers in making reasonable adjustments to their provision.

Three and four-year old children may be eligible for the DAF if they meet the following criteria:

- The child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and
- The child receives universal or extended free early education and childcare entitlement.
- The DAF is payable as a lump sum once a year per eligible child.
- Funding is paid at the fixed annual rate of £615 per eligible child.

If a child who is eligible for DAF, is splitting their universal hours across two or more providers, the parent must nominate one of the providers to receive the DAF funding as this cannot be split.

# 6 Supplementary Information

## 6.1 Flexibility of Places Offered

Childcare providers can be flexible in how they use the space within their provision and can increase or decrease the number of places offered in each age range providing they meet Ofsted space and staffing ratios. This gives childcare providers flexibility to meet the changing demands of parents.

The opening times of childcare providers varies across providers with some offering full day care and some morning and afternoon sessions that are more in line with school opening hours:

- Most full day care providers operate between 07:30 and 18:00
- The earliest start time for a nursery provision is 06:30 and the latest finish time is 18:30
- Full day care provisions are open for an average of 10.5 hours per day and sessional providers are open for an average of 6.5 hours per day.
- Childminders have a range of opening hours with the majority operating between 7:30 and 18:00
- Childminders are open for an average of 10 hours per day.

The Local Authority encourages providers to consult with parents and consider their requests where possible.

Wraparound care supports flexibility by offering childcare outside of conventional school opening hours, this may be in the form of:

- breakfast clubs
- after school clubs
- wraparound care offered by childminders.

## 6.2 Out of School Provision

The Local Authority does not have access to the numbers of children accessing out of school clubs across the Borough. However, a recent survey with residents identified the following responses:

83 responses in total

- 52 indicated their childcare needs were being met
- 31 indicated their needs were not currently met - common themes included:
  - Opening times
  - Cost
  - Availability

Please refer to actions to be taken in action plan in section 2.6.

Type	Average Cost
Breakfast club	£4.89 per session
Afterschool club	£8.68 per session

[Table 14]

Holiday club	£124.60 per week
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[Table 15]

Type	Average Open Hours
Breakfast club	1.5hrs
Afterschool club	2.75hrs
Holiday club	10.1hrs

Holiday activities and food programme 2021 – Government has provided the Local Authority with funding to co-ordinate free holiday provision for eligible children, the programme has provided healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children.

### 6.3 Cost of Childcare

#### National Costs of Childcare

Every year the Coram Family and Childcare (formerly the Family and Childcare Trust) gathers information from every local authority on the cost of childcare in their area. The Annual Childcare Cost Survey is then published and highlights how the cost of childcare varies across the country.

#### **Price of 50 hours a week childcare for children under three at nurseries and childminders**

[Table 16]

Area	Nursery		Childminder	
	Under 2's	2 & over	2 Year olds	2 Year olds
<b>Wigan</b>	<b>£223.64</b>	<b>£214.67</b>	<b>£192.64</b>	<b>£192.33</b>
England	£268.06	£258.08	£228.77	£230.06
Northwest	£231.86	£221.86	£200.07	£199.33
London Inner (Most Expensive)	£321.75	£310.45	£303.33	£320.77

Source: Childcare Survey 2019 – Coram Family & Childcare 2021 childcare costs for 50 hours per week

#### **Price of 25 and 50 hours a week childcare for three & 4 year olds**

[Table 17]

	25 hours a week, including universal entitlement (paying 10 hours)	50 hours a week, including universal entitlement (paying 20 hours)
<b>Wigan</b>	<b>£48.60</b>	<b>£90.29</b>
England	£52.44	£101.58
Northwest	£50.57	£91.66
London Inner (Most Expensive)	£67.81	£135.29

Source: Childcare Survey 2021 – Coram Family & Childcare 2019 childcare costs for 25 & 50 hours per week

The Northwest offers the lowest childcare costs of all the 10 regions in England across all age ranges.

The Early Years and Childcare Team support childcare providers to advise parents on the different help with childcare costs schemes available.

Comparing childcare charges across different providers is made more difficult due to different charging patterns; some providers for example, charge by the hour; some by a fixed session cost, some by day and some weekly, Providers may also charge differential costs according to the time of day (before 8am, after 6pm, age of child or additional services offered, pick-ups drop off etc.) The Family Directory holds information on charges levied by different providers, across a number of charging patterns.

Providers may also offer discounts based on the hours a family uses and reductions for siblings.

Providers can also add charges for consumables including meals or snacks which may not be included in their hourly, daily, or weekly rate.

#### **6.4 Brokerage**

The Local Authority offers a brokerage service which aims to support parents to find childcare and overcome barriers in accessing childcare.

Potential barriers for parents finding childcare:

- Working hours/shift patterns
- Different ages of children requiring a mix of childcare options
- Specific needs of individual children
- Ad hoc childcare at short notice

From the beginning of the academic year 2020/21 we have received 13 requests for brokerage support ranging from:

- Parents looking for 2 year old funded places with childminders and nurseries
- Before and after school care for 1 or more children across different age ranges
- Parent looking for holiday care for school aged children
- One parent looking for before/after and holiday care for children aged 3 and 7

A number of parents have confirmed with us that they have now found suitable childcare after using the brokerage service.

#### **6.5 Impact of New Housing**

The table below outlines the potential number of housing developments in the Borough over the next five years and the potential nursery place required due to the developments.

School place planning methodology assumes a pupil yield of 3 x school places per school class per 100 x dwellings developed, we have reflected this approach to predict the number of potential nursery places needed based on these housing developments even though unlike school age children 0 to 5 year olds are not required by law to take up a childcare place

We do not have the year-on-year dates that the housing developments will be completed or become occupied. However, our sufficiency projections in tables 5, 6 and 7 forecasts available childcare places up to Summer 22, if all planned housing developments came to fruition within this timeframe, we predict we would have enough available vacancies to accommodate the potential childcare places required

due to the developments in all wards should we maintain the current number of available places.

[Table 18]

Ward	Housing Developments 2021 to 2026	Number of potential nursery places required due to developments
Abram	180	5
Ashton	47	1
Aspull, New Springs & Whelley	348	11
Astley Mosley Common	522	16
Atherleigh	103	3
Atherton	132	4
Bryn	169	5
Douglas	139	4
Golborne and Lowton West	188	6
Hindley	98	3
Hindley Green	32	1
Ince	288	9
Leigh East	260	8
Leigh South	420	13
Leigh West	671	20
Lowton East	362	11
Orrell	24	1
Pemberton	0	0
Shevington with Lower Ground	0	0
Standish with Langtree	672	20
Tyldesley	52	2
Wigan Central	134	4
Wigan West	194	6
Winstanley	0	0
Worsley Mesnes	14	0

## 6.6 Workforce

There is currently a national shortage of qualified early years and childcare practitioners in particular level 3. This is also the case in Wigan, a number of providers reporting back to us that they are struggling to recruit level 3 qualified



practitioners. To address this the Local Authority will promote available funded early years kickstart placements, apprenticeships, level 3 qualifications, and teacher career options.

Please refer to actions detailed in section 2.3.

## **6.7 Free Early Education and Childcare Places For 2, 3 & 4 Year Olds**

### **Eligibility**

All children who meet the prescribed criteria can take up a free place benefiting their personal, emotional, and social development and physical, communication and language development and outcomes, helping to prepare them for school. Evidence shows that attending high quality early education has a lasting impact on social and behavioural outcomes and educational attainment. The entitlements make childcare more affordable for parents and enables parents to train, work or increase their working hours if they wish to do so.

### **Two Year Olds**

A child will be entitled to the free hours from the term the following their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday and the family meets the eligibility criteria shown in the attached link.

[2-year-old funding information and eligibility criteria](#)

## **Three and Four Year Olds**

### **Universal Entitlement**

All three and four year old children are entitled to 570 hours free early years education and childcare a year This early education needs to be taken over no fewer than 38 weeks\* of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year starting the term after the child turns three.

In addition, some children will be eligible to an additional 15 hours per week under the extended childcare for three and four year olds of working parents

More details on 3 & 4 year old funding and the criteria for the extended 30 hours over can be accessed via the link below

[3 & 4-year-old funding information and eligibility criteria for 30 hours](#)

## **6.8 Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and Deprivation Funding**

All childcare providers who deliver early education to 3 and 4 year olds can claim extra funding through the EYPP and deprivation funding. EYPP and deprivation funding are designed to support eligible children's development, learning and care

and provides an extra 53 pence per hour (EYPP) and 33 pence per hour (Deprivation funding).

EYPP and Deprivation funding are payable on the universal 15 hours only and not on the additional 15 hours children may attend under the 30 hours scheme for working parents.

The following children are eligible for EYPP:

- children who meet the criteria for free school meals
- children looked after
- children who have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order.

Eligibility for deprivation funding is based on the postcode where the child lives as each postcode is given an ACORN rating based on level of deprivation, postcodes given a level 5 ACORN rating are deemed to be in the most disadvantaged areas and therefore, attract deprivation funding.

## **6.9 Help with Childcare Costs**

For more information on help with childcare costs, please see [Childcare Choices](#)

