

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

October 2024



Contents

Executive summary

Introduction

Guidance and tools for local authorities

Demographics of North Somerset

Childcare places

Type of childcare funding

Quality of childcare in North Somerset

Supply and demand of childcare places and take up of funding

Information, advice, and guidance

Early years places for expansion

Appendices:

Appendix 1: North Somerset postcode map.

Appendix 2: distribution of provider types.

Appendix 3: North Somerset ward map.

Executive Summary

This assessment shows a ward-by-ward overview of the childcare market as at October 2024. The Childcare market changes on a frequent basis, not only as the academic year progresses but as childcare providers open, close or make changes to their provision.

In the Spring budget of 2023 the Conservative government, announced reforms to childcare for parents, children, the economy, and women, which meant new entitlements to childcare funding were introduced.

The new entitlements were to be introduced in phases:

- From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours funded childcare a week.
- From September 2024, eligible working parents of children from age of 9 months will be able to access 15 hours funded childcare a week.
- From September 2025, eligible working parents of children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours funded childcare a week.
- It is expected that by September 2026 most primary schools will be able to provide their own before and after school care, 8am to 6pm, known as 'wrap around care'.

Both April and September reforms have been met by North Somerset providers and we have seen new provision open, and others expand to meet the demand. We are working with providers around both the early years 2025 expansion and wraparound care.

A few Early Years providers are working below their capacity due to staffing and recruitment issues which are not only local, but also a national issue. The government has launched a national recruitment campaign to try and address the situation around recruitment for both early years and wraparound childcare, it is called 'Do something big, work with small children' <https://earlyyears Careers.campaign.gov.uk/>

Most families in North Somerset are using their childcare funding entitlement in their chosen childcare provider. Some children have dual placements (attend more than one childcare setting) for example children with special educational needs and disabilities. There is parental choice for childcare provision for example a parent may travel for work and therefore their child attends provision in the area where the parent works rather than where the parent lives. Therefore, the local childcare provision for local children may look different for early years children, than for school aged children.

Early years providers operate differently than schools in many ways; operational, business model, flexibility opening times, etc. The model schools have of one place equals one child does not reflect how early years provider's work. The Ofsted registered numbers of providers only reflect number of actual children allowed to attend at any one time for example a childminder may be registered for up to 6 children, but this does not mean that a childminder will use or allocate all 6 places. Division of age range numbers will depend on providers staffing, space, parental demand etc. The provider can and does change the number of children per age range periodically throughout the year. This will accommodate children as they move through different age ranges too. Some providers may only offer a limited number of childcare places verses paid places although they must remain within their Ofsted registered places.

Early years providers can offer a variety of and have different sessions, so numbers can vary quite a lot in a day; Full day (e.g., 8-6), short day (e.g., 9-4), morning / afternoon, funded session/hours only, breakfast session (7.30am start), different children can attend am and then pm so providers can be registered for 20 children but can claim early education funding for 40.

Early years providers have a constant intake of children throughout the year unlike a school intake in September.

In July 2024 there was a general election, and a Labour Government was elected. The new government has a plan to deliver 3,000 nurseries by upgrading spare spaces in primary schools will begin in October 2024. This is to support the 2025 expansion of childcare places.

The Local Authority has received no formal complaints regarding lack of funded or non-funded childcare places in their local area.

Introduction

The Childcare Act 2006 (sections 7, 12 and 13) and 2016 (sections 1 and 2) place a duty on every local authority to ‘secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children)’. Under these duties, we are required to undertake an annual childcare assessment and report this to Council Members to demonstrate that the duty is being met. This report provides an analysis of this assessment to inform decisions about North Somerset’s current or future childcare needs.

The childcare landscape is complex, with different types of provision and a wide range of government funding schemes. Parents pay for all childcare for children under the age of three years old, unless they are entitled to government funding from 9 months, and many make a financial contribution to supplement government funded hours.

Ofsted is the sole arbiter of quality, and both inspect and regulate the Early Years sector. If settings receive an inadequate Ofsted judgement, the local authority is required to consider withdrawing Early Years funding. This is disruptive for children as parents may need to move a child to an alternative provider. It may also render the inadequate setting financially unviable.

It is a statutory requirement for all childcare providers to complete the DfE annual Early Years Census in January. The co-ordination of this is through the North Somerset Education Funding team via claims by Early Years providers and data is taken from the census for the annual assessment.

North Somerset Council takes the strategic lead in its local childcare market by planning and supporting childcare through working with the local private, voluntary and independent (PVI) childcare providers.

To secure sufficient childcare places, local authorities consider what is ‘reasonably practicable’ when assessing what sufficient childcare means in their area. This includes reviewing:

- the state of the local childcare market, including the demand for a specific type of provider in a locality and the amount and type of supply that currently exists.
- the state of the labour market
- the quality and capacity of childcare providers and childminders registered with a childminder agency, including funding, staff, premises, experience, and expertise.
- encouraging schools to offer out of hours childcare from 8am to 6pm (wraparound)
- encouraging existing providers to expand their provision and new providers to enter the local childcare market.

Guidance and tools for Local Authorities

<p>Childcare Act 2016</p>	<p>Sections 6, 8-11 & 13 of the Childcare Act 2006 require local authorities to assess the local childcare market and to secure sufficient childcare for working parents. Childcare will only be deemed sufficient if it meets the needs of the community in general and those families on lower incomes and those with disabled children.</p>
<p>Early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework</p>	<p>Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets the standards that all Early Years providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well • ensures children are kept healthy and safe • ensures that children have the knowledge and skills they need to start school
<p>Early Education and childcare – Statutory guidance for local authorities on the provision of early education and childcare</p>	<p>Local authority guidance for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • free entitlements for 9 months, 2, 3 and 4- year-olds (both universal and extended entitlement) • sufficient childcare places • information and advice for parents and childcare providers
<p>Childcare Choices</p>	<p>Information to families and providers regarding childcare options and childcare benefits.</p>
<p>Gov.uk website</p>	<p>Information regarding help with childcare costs.</p>

North Somerset School Place Planning Strategy 24-27	A strategy for planning for sufficient school places 2024 - 2027
Pupil Projections 2023-2027	Pupil-forecasting statistics to identify needs for future provision across North Somerset.
North Somerset Profiles	Local statistics and data.
North Somerset statistics	Access to North Somerset Council statistics and data
North Somerset Early Years and Childcare Strategy	Strategy for Early Years and childcare across North Somerset along with an action plan

Demographics of North Somerset

North Somerset is classified ‘urban with significant rural’ areas. The total population of North Somerset is shown as approximately, 216,733 in 2021. (21 Census)

There are contrasts between the North and South of the district, with pockets of significant social deprivation in central and south wards of Weston-Super-Mare. Many of our residents commute to work in other areas, particularly Bristol. Overall, North Somerset is a prosperous area

Data from the [Office for National Statistics](#) states:

Employment rate 83.9% (ages 16-64)

Employment in North Somerset has increased compared with the previous year. North Somerset's employment rate was higher than across the South West as a whole in the year ending September 2023.

Unemployment rate 2.7% (ages 16+)

Unemployment (people looking for work) has risen since a year earlier. The most recent unemployment rate for North Somerset was higher than across the South West as a whole.

Claimant Count 2.5% (ages 16 to 64)

Claimant Count was higher in December 2023 compared with a year earlier. The Claimant Count measures the number of people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits.

Economic inactivity 12.0% (ages 16 to 64)

Economic inactivity has decreased since the previous year. These are people who are neither employed nor seeking work.

Since the new labour government came into power it has been calculated there will be a need for 23,805 dwellings in North Somerset over the next 15 years, almost 9,000 dwellings more than our current Local Plan target. This will have an impact on the number of children requiring childcare in our area.

Currently our own Business Intelligence team has projected population of the following age bands for 2024

Ward	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Backwell	22	35	50	48	51	60	59	63	86	77	65	84
Barwell and Winscombe	77	71	95	86	92	85	98	92	96	101	94	114
Blagdon and Churchill	26	42	40	51	55	52	38	59	57	62	50	60
Clevedon East	41	44	59	60	69	50	63	46	63	54	61	48
Clevedon South	36	39	49	41	45	51	35	48	48	45	49	53
Clevedon Walton	14	22	25	31	28	33	33	43	35	27	40	41
Clevedon West	19	25	33	21	39	28	30	32	43	37	49	45
Clevedon Yeo	31	45	43	36	47	48	41	40	55	37	44	54
Congresbury and Puxton	28	44	36	33	42	37	53	42	55	46	38	43
Gordano Valley	21	36	33	31	36	40	42	36	57	42	42	43
Hutton and Locking	81	93	88	83	105	91	81	107	86	91	116	103
Long Ashton	65	86	69	90	102	118	134	126	128	134	128	137
Nailsea Golden Valley	22	29	32	34	27	37	37	39	48	33	47	37
Nailsea West End	31	22	25	17	39	21	41	46	38	50	47	45
Nailsea Yeo	28	22	32	30	38	37	43	46	39	43	48	35
Nailsea Youngwood	26	19	20	29	29	38	41	33	42	47	49	48
Pill	41	50	50	43	48	57	49	60	49	44	47	51
Portishead East	65	91	86	90	107	121	90	122	111	117	134	154
Portishead North	29	27	35	38	46	42	45	70	63	57	59	64
Portishead South	16	27	32	39	36	35	54	43	54	51	57	47
Portishead West	53	64	92	95	98	98	122	95	128	112	118	103
Weston-super-Mare Central	86	88	72	82	79	82	92	104	80	67	93	75
Weston-super-Mare Hillside	68	48	58	71	59	47	64	68	75	57	61	63
Weston-super-Mare Kewstoke	50	52	54	58	67	81	71	58	91	83	77	102
Weston-super-Mare Mid Worle	27	30	40	36	40	33	42	51	42	41	45	52
Weston-super-Mare Milton	70	76	74	90	98	95	80	105	125	105	119	107
Weston-super-Mare North Worle	61	74	99	83	79	100	88	95	92	113	108	113
Weston-super-Mare South Ward	102	122	138	131	148	159	141	174	157	155	141	178
Weston-super-Mare South Worle	83	100	100	100	120	89	111	132	118	138	137	133
Weston-super-Mare Uphill	60	74	81	72	72	68	91	64	69	80	88	93
Weston-super-Mare Winterstoke	127	166	158	173	194	187	160	197	162	173	166	179
Wick St Lawrence and St Georges	48	48	55	57	48	63	58	62	47	66	80	83
Winford	43	48	52	48	37	60	42	64	62	72	55	63
Wrington	27	41	43	32	50	46	48	53	49	64	55	57
Yatton	81	106	124	102	111	99	93	102	110	108	130	131

The childcare market continues to evolve as parents’ demands continually change.

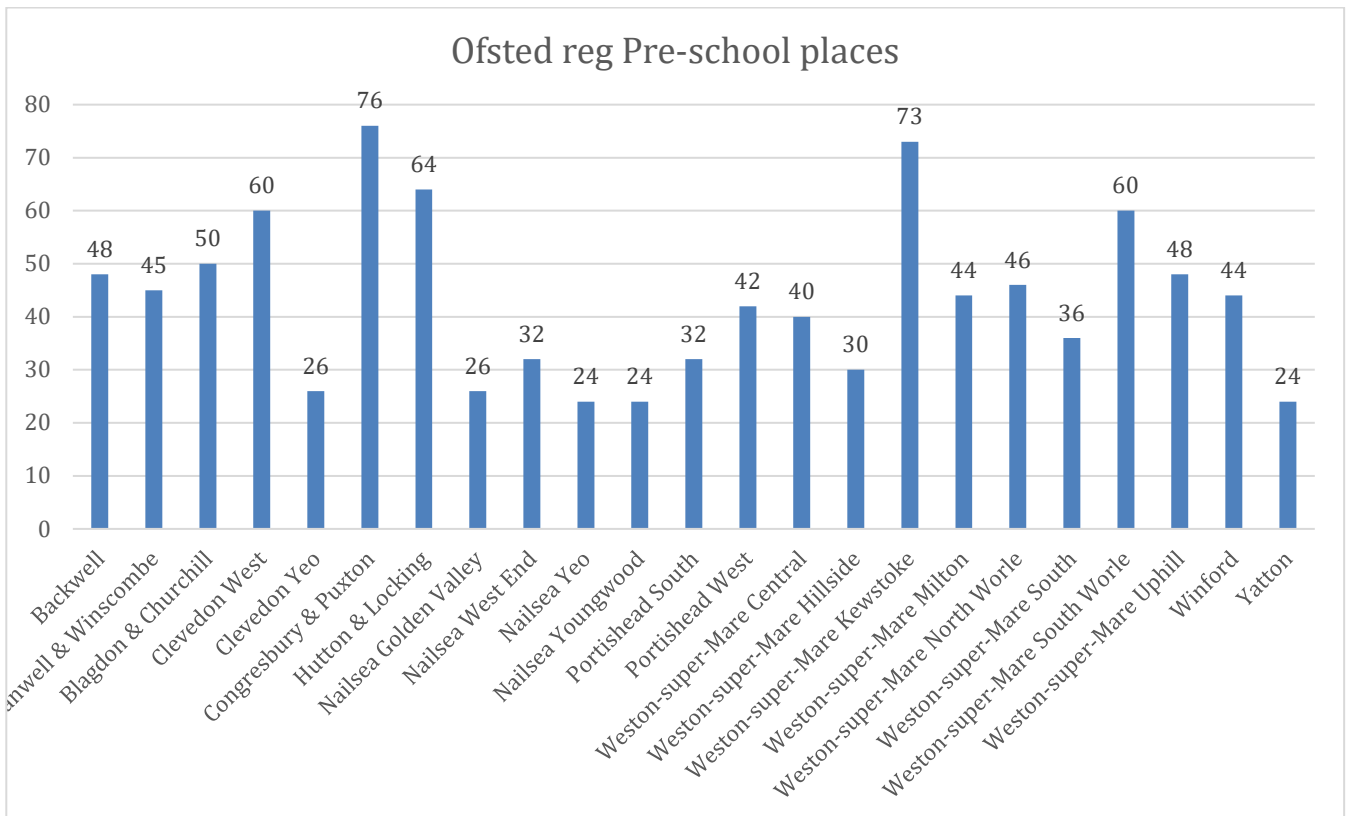
Childcare places

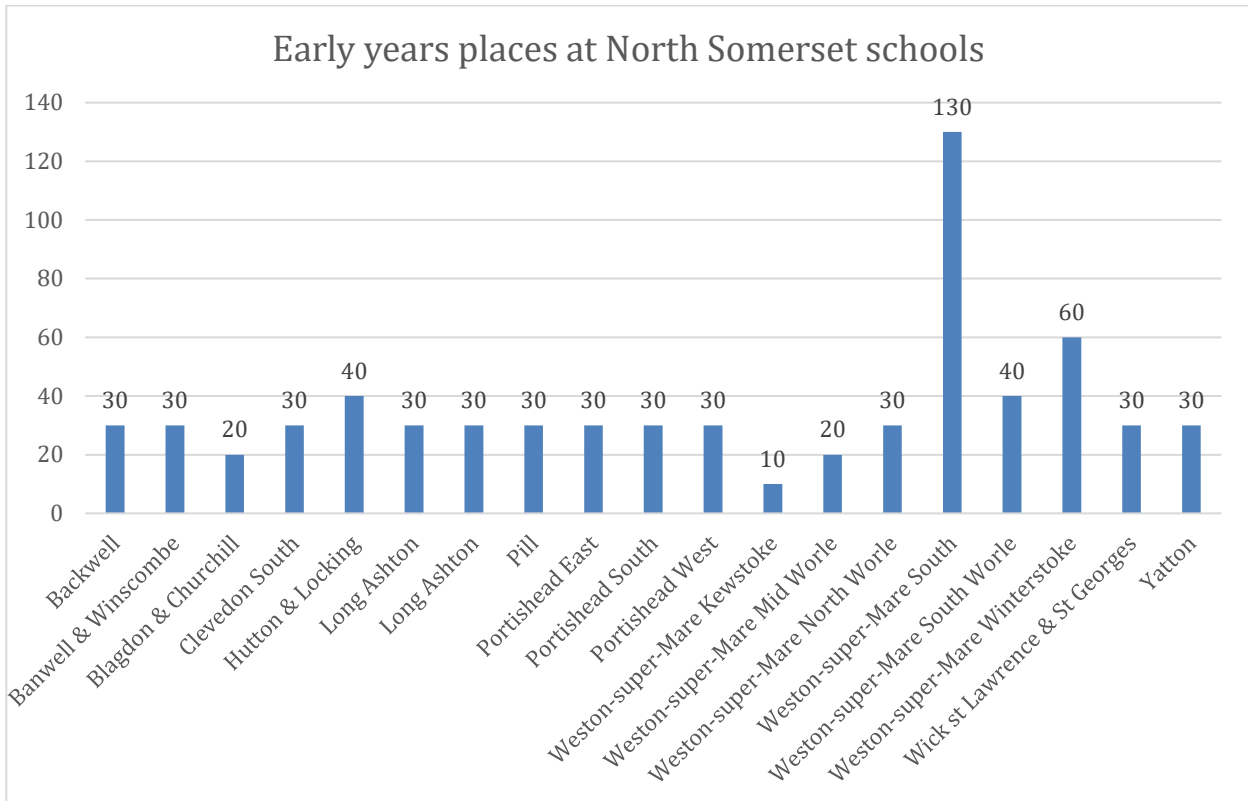
The number of childcare places will vary depending on how providers allocate their places according to parental demand, age of children and staffing available.

There are different Ofsted registered places offered by childcare settings:

Pre-schools and schools offer sessional care: Pre-schools or playgroups and some schools are aimed at children aged two to five years. Attending a school childcare provision does not guarantee a place at the school

They offer sessional care term time only, for example mornings or afternoons with a break at lunch time and offer sessions of between 2.5 and 4 hours. You can access funded early learning at schools, pre-schools and playgroups.

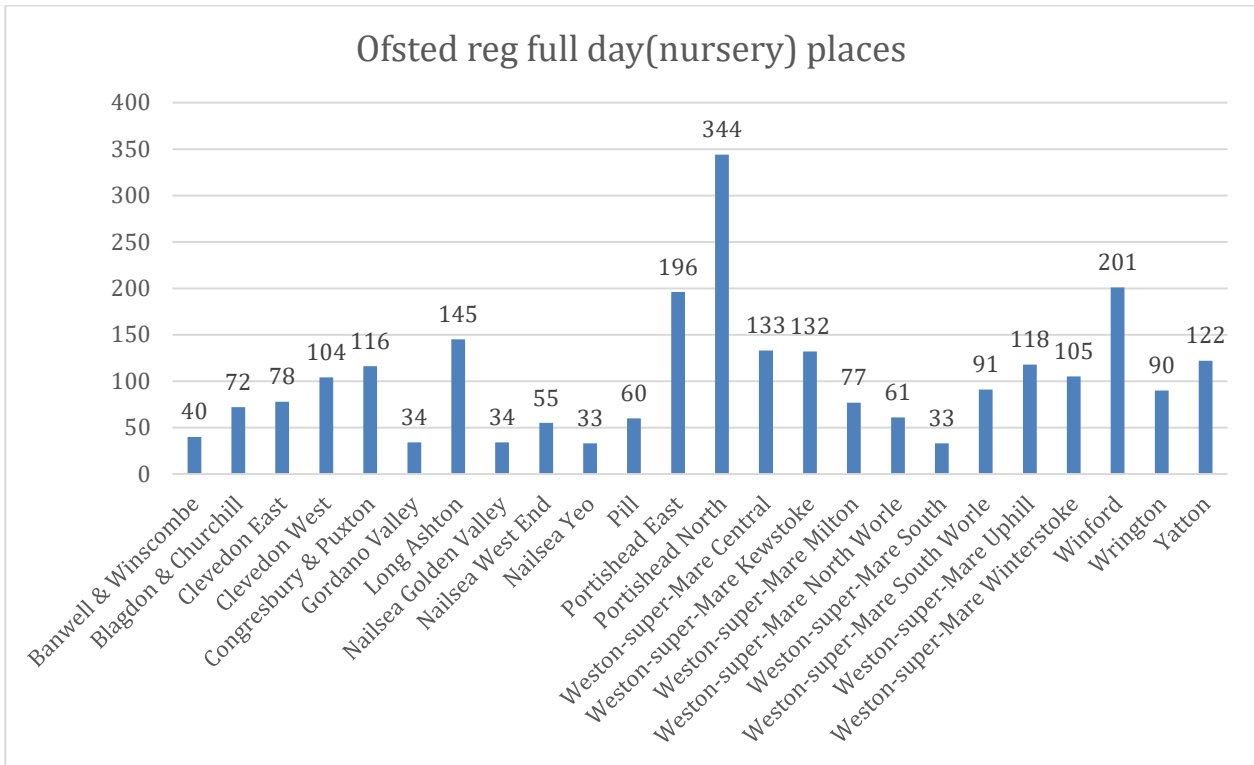




Nurseries offer full day care, all year round. Opening hours vary but are usually from 8am to 6pm. Nurseries care for children aged from birth to five.

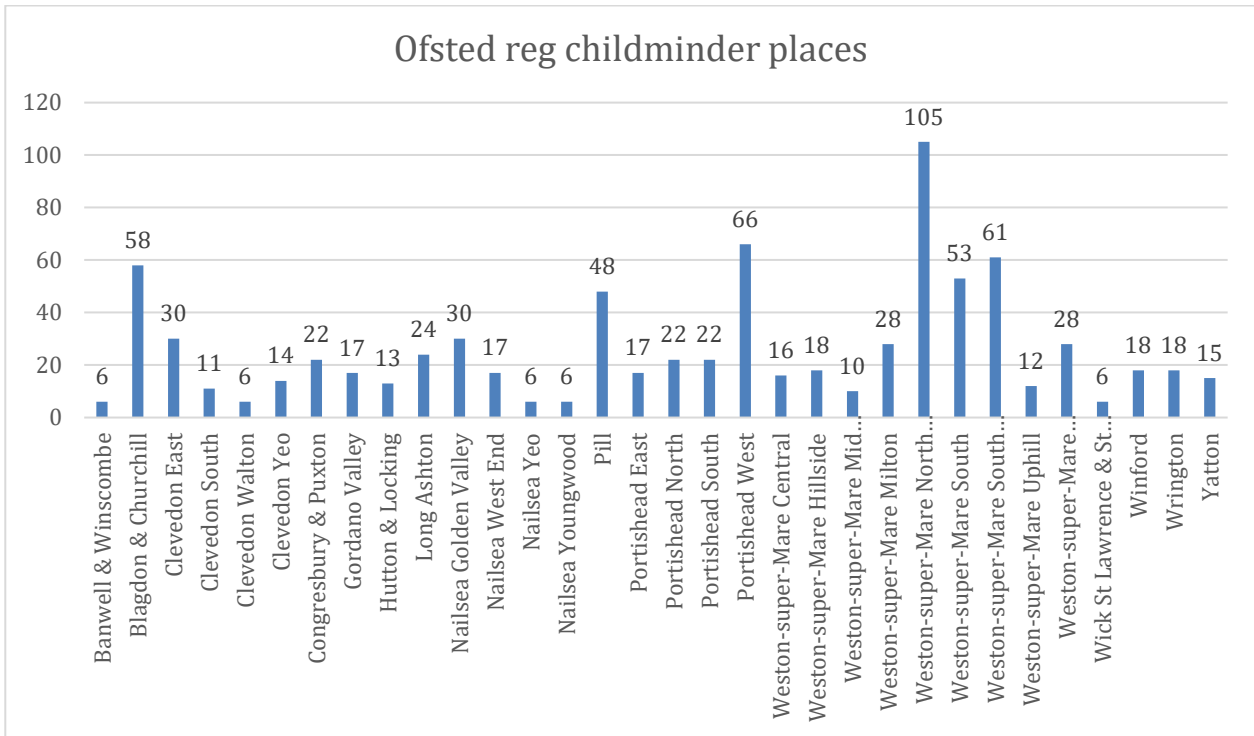
Nurseries tend to be organised around the ages of children and will often be split into rooms for different aged children. Each room will have a lead staff member, and the staff team will tend to remain with the same children.

Nurseries can be privately owned or run by the local authority. You can access 15 and 30 hours of free early education per week at nurseries.

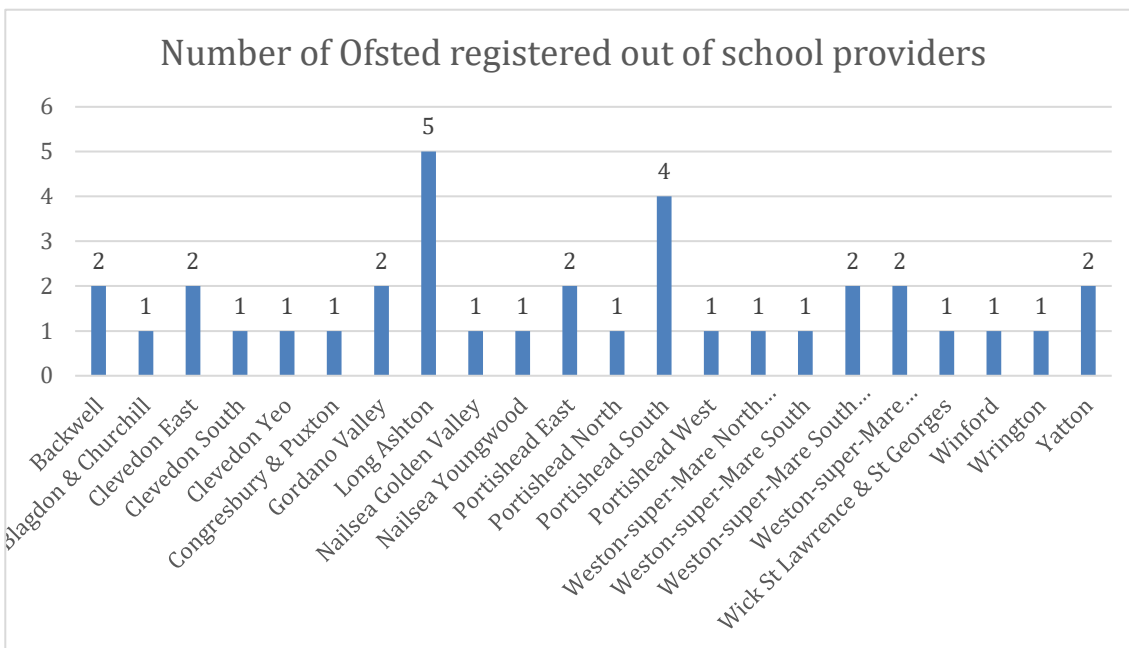


Nurseries can also offer sessional care, term time only for children and they can stretch funding over 47.5 weeks of the year, meaning that less hours will be offered to parents and carers.

Childminders can offer both sessional (term time only), and all year round places the same as nurseries. They can also offer before and after school (wraparound) and holiday places in a home environment. Some childminders work with assistants,



Out of school providers, these childcare providers can offer before and after school places (wraparound) as well as places during the holiday. As most of these childcare providers are on Ofsted voluntary register, we are not provided with information on how many children they can care for. Numbers below do not include school run breakfast and after school provision.



The birth rate is reducing and the children who will be eligible for childcare funding from aged 9 months are not yet born, so this is difficult to know if we will require additional places, however we have estimated that an additional 274 (+8%) places may be required by September 2025 for the last of the expansion to childcare entitlements.

Early Years places March 2024

	Childminder		Childcare on non-domestic premises		Childcare on domestic premises		Home childcarer		All provision	
	Providers	EYR Places	Providers	EYR places	Providers	EYR places	Providers	EYR Places	Providers	EYR Places
All register combinations	116	761	115	4293	1	30	29	-	261	5084
On EYR register	113	761	98	4293	1	30	-	-	212	5084
Not on EYR register	3	-	17	-	0	-	29	-	49	-
Register combinations										
EYR, CCR and VCR	102	710	37	1595	1	30	0	-	140	2335
EYR and CCR	7	38	21	912	0	0	0	-	28	950
EYR and VCR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
EYR only	4	13	40	1786	0	0	0	-	44	1799
CCR and VCR	2	-	4	-	0	-	0	-	6	-
CCR only	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
VCR only	1	-	13	-	0	-	29	-	43	-

(Source Ofsted registration data)

EYR register - The Early Years Register is for all providers working with children aged from birth to five. Providers must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) which brings together care and learning. Typically, this will be full daycare, preschools, childminders and some out of school provision (holiday schemes or after school clubs). Only childcare providers registered on the EYR register can claim early years funding.

CCR register – The Childcare Register the Ofsted Childcare Register (CCR) is not as intensive as the full Early Years Register. The OCR is divided into two parts: The compulsory register (CCR) and The Voluntary register (VCR).

Schools

More schools are now offering early years provision. In North Somerset we have 22:

School name	2 year old funding	3 & 4-year-old funding
Becket Primary	Yes	Yes
Birdwell Primary		Yes
Bournville Primary	Yes	Yes
Burrington Primary		Yes
Chestnut Park Primary	Yes	Yes
Crockerne Primary		Yes

Fairfield School – Independent private school		Yes
Haywood Village Academy		Yes
Heron's Moor Academy		Yes
High Down Infant		Yes
Kewstoke Primary		Yes
Northleaze Primary		Yes
Oldmixon Primary	Yes	Yes
Parklands Primary		Yes
Sidcot School – Independent private school		Yes
St Annes Primary - Little Learners Castle Batch	Yes	Yes
St Annes Primary - Little Learners West Wick	Yes	Yes
St Georges Nursery	Yes	Yes
St Josephs Primary		Yes
Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary		Yes
Windwhistle Primary		Yes

The [School Place Planning Strategy](#) states that where possible all new schools due to be built in North Somerset will have early years provision on site.

North Somerset have 48 active home childcares (nannies) that care for children in their own homes.

The DfE conduct an annual survey of parents/carers around childcare and early years provision in England the results of this survey can be found via [Gov.UK website](#)

Types of childcare funding

How many hours childcare can you get per week?

Age 9 months - 2 years		Age 2-3 years		Age 3-4 years	
Working families		Families receiving government support		All parents	
15 Hours	Now	15 Hours	Now	15 Hours	Now
30 Hours	Sept 2025	Working families		Working families	
		15 Hours	Now	30 Hours	Now
		30 Hours	Sept 2025		

*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply. Providers may ask for additional charges.

Image taken from Childcare Choices website

9-month-old funding

Eligible families can claim up to a maximum of 15 hours (570 hours) per week during term time only this entitlement is due to increase to 30 hours per week in September 2025.

Two-Year-Old Funding – receiving government support

Eligible families can claim up to a maximum of 570 hours per year of funded childcare. They can take a maximum of 15 hours per week during term time only, or if the childcare provider is open year-round take fewer hours every week and spread them across more weeks.

Two-Year-Old Funding – Working families

Eligible families can claim up to a maximum of 570 hours per year of funded childcare. They can take a maximum of 15 hours per week during term time only, or if the childcare provider is open year-round take fewer hours every week and spread them across more weeks this is due to increase to 30 hours in September 2025.

Early Years Entitlement 3 and 4-year-old funding: ‘Universal Offer’

All children in the UK aged three and four years receive 15 hours of funded childcare (570 hours a year) known as ‘universal’ funded hours.

Early Years Entitlement 30 Hours funded childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds – ‘Extended Offer’

30 hours a week for eligible working parents of three- and four-year-olds. This is known as ‘extended’ hours. The intention is for the 30 hours extended entitlement to have an impact on the lives of families, supporting parents who wish: to work, return to work or to work more hours.

To access working parents’ entitlement’s parents, need to apply for a code [via gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk). The website Childcare Choices informs parents of all childcare funding opportunities, enables parents to calculate their eligibility and signposts them to relevant links for applications.

North Somerset codes issued to parents for entitlements to childcare and validated by us.

Autumn term 24 - 1630 codes were issued with a validated rate of 80.20%

- 1-year olds - 952 codes were issued with a validated rate of 86.34%
- 2-year-olds - 475 codes were issued with a validated rate of 87.16%
- Under 1s - 203 codes were issued with a validated rate of 78.33%

In Sept claim we funded:

- 9 months – 371 children
- 2-year-old working – 1,147 children

- 2-year-old disadvantaged – 290 children
- 3- & 4-year-olds – 2,471 children

(Education Funding team Summer 2023 funding claim)

Term time only or stretched?

Funding by government is provided for 38 weeks per year (term time only), 15 hours per week, however some childcare providers can stretch this offer over 47.5 weeks per year which will equate to 12 hours per week.

Other types of support for parents/carers

Parents and carers can also get support for paying for childcare from the following government schemes:

- Universal Credit
- Tax Free Childcare
- Tax Credits

These schemes can be used together as shown in the image below, further information is available on the [Childcare Choices website](#):

Most childcare providers including out of school have signed up to accept Tax Free Childcare making childcare more accessible and affordable for parents. See the Childcare Choices website for more information.

Combining schemes

Any of the following schemes:

Tax-Free Childcare	Tax Credits	Universal Credit
Age 0 - 11 or 16 if disabled	Age 0 - 15 or 16 if disabled	Age 0 - 16
Working families	Working families	Working families
Get up to £2000 per child	Claim back up to 70% of costs	Claim back up to 85% of costs

Can be used with:

15 hours childcare	15 hours childcare	15 hours childcare
Age 9 - 23 months	Age 2	Age 3 & 4
Working families	Families getting some form of government support	All families

15 or 30 hours childcare
Age 2 - 4
Working families

Early Years Pupil Premium Funding (EYPP)

Image taken from childcare choices website

All Ofsted registered childcare providers who claim early education funding can claim the Early Years Pupil Premium funding for children in their care. This funding can be used to support children’s development, learning and care.

In North Somerset the funding is worth an additional 66p per hour per child. It applies to children aged 9 months to four-years old who are in receipt of early education funding and whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits or who have been in care or adopted.

The uptake of this funding and associated additional support for providers, children & families, is a North Somerset strategic priority. The Early Years team and Children’s Centers encourage providers to claim this funding to support these children and reduce the educational attainment gap.

Top Up Funding (TUF)

Top Up Funding is a funding stream allocated at a monthly panel for children who have additional learning needs. The allocated funding supports the provider to meet children’s individual needs. Money can be spent on staff training and additional staff support for the child within the setting, as well as additional resources and equipment.

Cost and availability of Childcare

Childcare costs differ based on where you live in the UK, what type of childcare you need and how many hours per week you need someone to care for your child. The average cost of childcare in the UK has increased and tends to be highest in London.

In North Somerset, the average childcare costs are:

Childminder - £5.34 per hour compared with £5.50 elsewhere in the South West.

Nurseries - £6.27 per hour, compared with £5.43 elsewhere in the South West.

Pre-schools – Costs can vary depending on what a pre-school offers.

Quality of childcare in North Somerset

Listed below is a breakdown of North Somerset’s present Ofsted registered Early Years providers:

Provider type	2021	2022	2023	2024
Childminder	140	110	78	122
Day nursery	43	41	45	45
Governor-run nursery on school site	2	2	2	2
Independent school nursery	4	3	3	3
Pre-school	38	34	31	32
School nursery class	14	5	5	22
School with 2-year-old provision	3	3	4	7
Specialist provider	4	4	4	4
Out of school	67	83	83	39
TOTAL	315	285	255	275

(Ofsted Registration data)

In addition to the list of Early Years providers above, North Somerset have wraparound care run by schools themselves and Holiday Activities and Food programme run in the 3 school holidays, Christmas, Easter and Summer.

The information in the table below shows changes in providers’ Ofsted outcomes in the last 2 years. From 2020, inspections for childcare providers generally follow a 6-year cycle for registered providers. This information is from the provider’s last inspection, which maybe up to three years ago but, represents North Somerset’s present EY

outcome grades. The above information confirms that, in the last 2 years, the quality of Early Years provision in North Somerset remains high with consistent outstanding and good outcomes. In addition to these providers, there are Out of School clubs and home-based care. Ofsted does not have a mandate to inspect the quality of home childminders (nannies).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2023/main-findings-childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2023>

Overall effectiveness of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection, by region and local authority, as of 31 March 2024 All England/North Somerset

Table 6: Overall effectiveness and sub-judgements of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection ^{1 2 3 4}
31 March 2024

Select local authority:

	Number of providers						Percentage of inspected providers			
	EYR providers	Total number inspected	Outstanding	Good	Requires improvement	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Requires improvement	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness: The quality and standards of the provision										
All provision	47,652	36,747	5,089	30,736	654	268	14	84	2	1
Childminder	24,913	20,677	2,490	17,705	322	160	12	86	2	1
Childcare on non-domestic premises	22,530	15,911	2,570	12,907	329	105	16	81	2	1
Childcare on domestic premises	209	159	29	124	3	3	18	78	2	2
Quality of education										
All provision	47,652	27,518	3,958	22,887	513	160	14	83	2	1
Childminder	24,913	14,411	1,885	12,255	189	82	13	85	1	1
Childcare on non-domestic premises	22,530	12,970	2,053	10,520	322	75	16	81	2	1
Childcare on domestic premises	209	137	20	112	2	3	15	82	1	2
Behaviour and attitudes										
All provision	47,652	27,518	4,715	22,154	494	155	17	81	2	1
Childminder	24,913	14,411	2,279	11,873	181	78	16	82	1	1
Childcare on non-domestic premises	22,530	12,970	2,409	10,176	311	74	19	78	2	1
Childcare on domestic premises	209	137	27	105	2	3	20	77	1	2
Personal development										
All provision	47,652	27,518	4,393	22,406	492	227	16	81	2	1
Childminder	24,913	14,411	2,105	12,015	171	120	15	83	1	1
Childcare on non-domestic premises	22,530	12,970	2,265	10,283	318	104	17	79	2	1
Childcare on domestic premises	209	137	23	108	3	3	17	79	2	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management										
All provision	47,652	36,747	5,120	30,699	660	268	14	84	2	1
Childminder	24,913	20,677	2,499	17,693	325	160	12	86	2	1
Childcare on non-domestic premises	22,530	15,911	2,592	12,883	331	105	16	81	2	1
Childcare on domestic premises	209	159	29	123	4	3	18	77	3	2

Source: Ofsted inspection data

Table 15: Overall effectiveness and sub-judgements of full Early Years Register inspections ^{1 2 3 4 5}
1 September 2023 to 31 March 2024 (provisional)

Select local authority:

Select date range:

	Number of inspections					Percentage of inspections			
	Total number inspected	Outstanding	Good	Requires improvement	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Requires improvement	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness: The quality and standards of the provision									
All provision	19	1	14	0	4	5	74	0	21
Childminder	11	0	7	0	4	0	64	0	36
Childcare on non-domestic premises	8	1	7	0	0	13	88	0	0
Childcare on domestic premises	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Quality of education									
All provision	19	1	14	0	4	5	74	0	21
Childminder	11	0	7	0	4	0	64	0	36
Childcare on non-domestic premises	8	1	7	0	0	13	88	0	0
Childcare on domestic premises	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Behaviour and attitudes									
All provision	19	1	14	0	4	5	74	0	21
Childminder	11	0	7	0	4	0	64	0	36
Childcare on non-domestic premises	8	1	7	0	0	13	88	0	0
Childcare on domestic premises	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Personal development									
All provision	19	3	12	0	4	16	63	0	21
Childminder	11	1	6	0	4	9	55	0	36
Childcare on non-domestic premises	8	2	6	0	0	25	75	0	0
Childcare on domestic premises	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Effectiveness of leadership and management									
All provision	19	1	14	0	4	5	74	0	21
Childminder	11	0	7	0	4	0	64	0	36
Childcare on non-domestic premises	8	1	7	0	0	13	88	0	0
Childcare on domestic premises	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-

Source: Ofsted inspection data

Source Ofsted inspection data

More information on inspection outcomes can be found on [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk)

Supply and demand of childcare places and take up of funding

Within North Somerset, there is no dedicated funding for new childcare place creation. However, all new school builds will consider EY's provision. Places within the childcare sector are not the same as school places: one place does not necessarily equate to one child. Places can be used in the following ways:

- a working parent may require a place from Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm; alternatively, they may only require part-time places (e.g. afternoons only), which would, therefore, free up 5 mornings a week for the provider.
- a non-working parent may only wish to access their funded places of 15 hours per week, or they may only want their child to attend an Early Years setting for 10 hours per week.
- a working parent who is entitled to 30 hours funded childcare may choose not to take the full 30 hours.

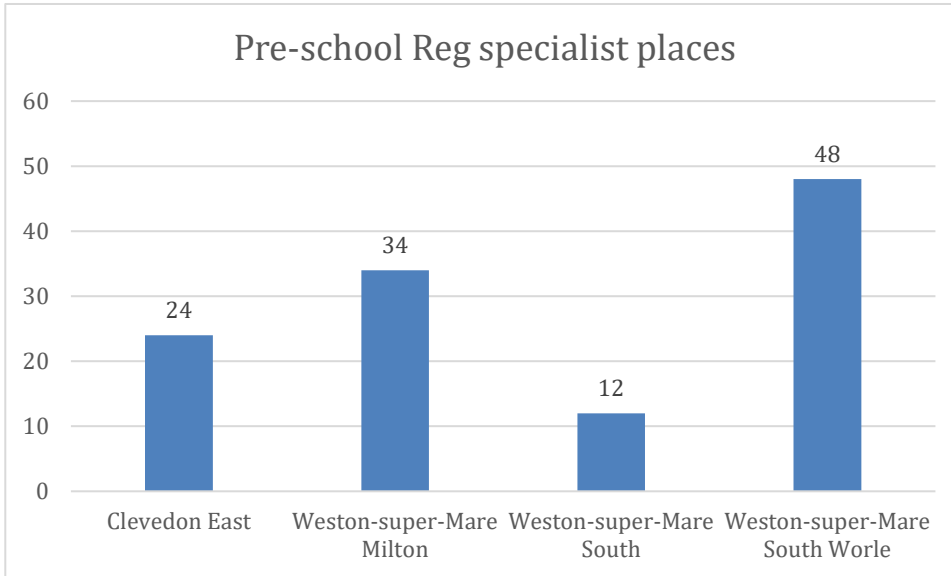
Childcare providers are registered for a specific number of places. For example, a pre-school could be registered for 24 children, opening in the morning only. This would mean that they could have 24 children accessing their funded 15 hours per week term-time only. If the pre-school were to open in the afternoons as well, they would be able to offer an additional 24 half-day places. This would mean that 48 children were accessing this childcare setting. Day nurseries may be open longer (e.g.: 8:00am to 6.00pm); they may have more than one child accessing funding for one day. Therefore, one registered space becomes three funded places or one place for a full-time working parent.

There have been no reports made to North Somerset Council of parental demand not being met within the last year. Since the implementation of 30 hours funded childcare, there has been a push for additional hours, assisting some providers to become more sustainable. Staffing accounts for 75% of a provider's costs; a percentage exacerbated by increases to the national living wage and pension contributions. In addition to this, increased business rates, domestic services and food have resulted in providers looking at ways to make their businesses more sustainable. The 30 hours funded childcare is reflected in the parental demand favoring more flexible and longer opening providers rather than the traditional sessional model of childcare. Almost 100% of Early Years providers in North Somerset offer 30-hour funded childcare.

SEND / INCLUSION

In September 2017, Springboard Opportunity Group (North Somerset's specialist provision supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) extended their services by providing an additional 48 places at Meadvale school Weston-super-Mare, for early years children with Autism. This compliments their existing Service Level

Agreement with NSC where they continue to offer quality support to SEND children across North Somerset.



Springboard Opportunity Group offer sessional care, term time only.

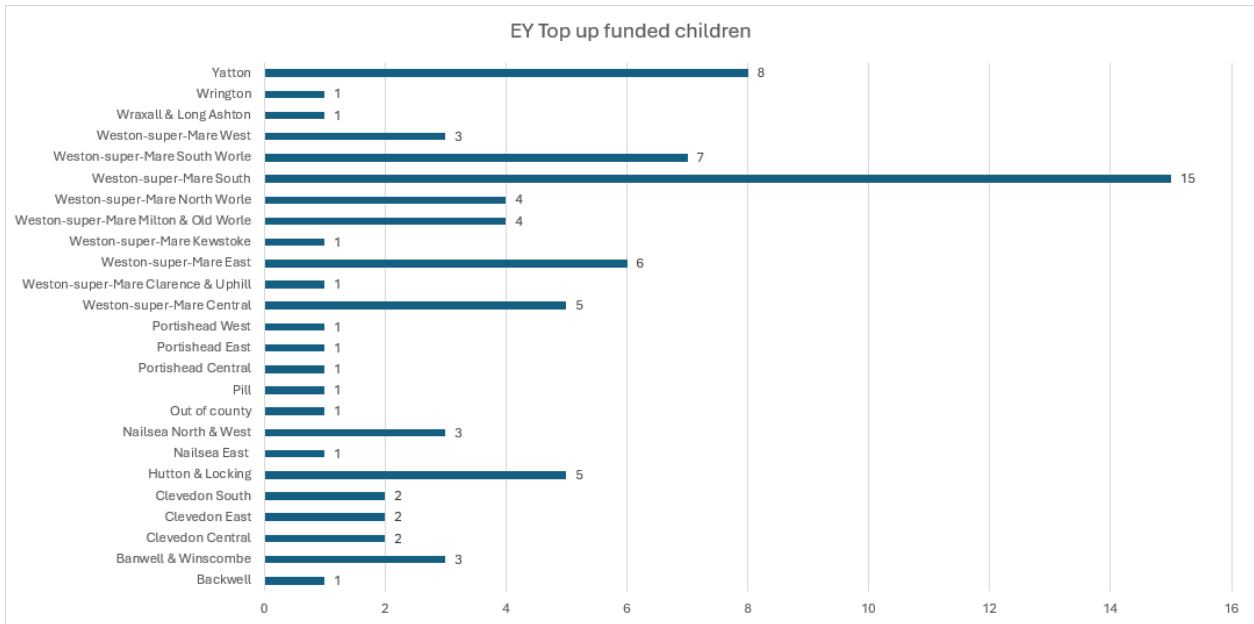
A new SEND school Baytree in Clevedon, North Somerset, which includes provision for Early Years, however this has yet to open. In Early Years, the identification of SEND is supported by some additional funding: Top Up Funding (TUF) enables children to remain in mainstream provision with support, access more than one provision or have better access to 30- hour childcare, where appropriate. Within the last year, North Somerset has seen an increase in parental awareness and take up of 30 hours funded childcare, including for children with SEND.

SEND Childminders

18 childminders in North Somerset have gained the status of SEND Childminder to support the increasing numbers of SEND children and their families and to support the ‘extended’ 30-hour funded childcare offer. This increase in EY providers trained to support young children with SEND has improved Early Years provision and sufficiency for children and families with SEND. The work has also strengthened working partnerships with North Somerset’s specialist service, Springboard Opportunity Group.

Specialist out of school provision.

2 of our current out of school providers have successfully applied for wraparound funding and are expanding places for children with additional needs. The Local Authority run the SENDCAS service and Saturday Club with are both out of school provision for children with additional needs.



Children receiving TUF September 2024 provider claim.

Information Advice and Guidance provided by the Early Years Team, Family Information Service and Education Funding Team

To develop, create and maintain high quality childcare, it is essential that there is a well-trained, qualified, professional early years and childcare workforce to understand the needs of children and families who access 2, 3 and 4-year-old funded childcare places.

The Early Years Team works in partnership with the Family Information Service (FIS) to ensure enquiries from providers and other agencies involved in developing new provision within North Somerset are addressed. The introduction and on-going development of the North Somerset funding hub has, and will, continue to help in providing information to assist sufficiency updates.

Information, advice and support, from the Early Years and Childcare Service Team to the Early Years workforce includes:

- setting up childcare provision
- Ofsted registration and inspection
- sustainability of childcare provision
- CPD - including regular Provider briefings and Workforce Development days

- safeguarding - including Annual Safeguarding Audit
- area SENCO advice, guidance and CPD
- meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) (appendix 2)
- Moderation and assessment of the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) (appendix 3)

work in partnership with other agencies involved in supporting young children: Family Hubs; SEND team; Health Visitors; Portage; Speech and Language Therapists; Springboard; Job Centre Plus

Early Years places for expansion

Data from the DfE states that an additional 266 childcare places may be required for the expansion to the childcare offer in North Somerset by September 2025 this is an additional 11%.

The wards that the DfE have informed us will be requiring additional capacity are shown below. The DfE state that the average parent/carer takes 26 hours for their childcare place, therefore we have divided the total hours by 26 hours = 1 place at a setting.

The figures below show the expected level of demand in hours in a typical term time week.

Ward	Under 2's hours	2's hours	Total hours required	Places Required for under 2's	Places Required for 2's	Mitigate
Backwell	453	511	964	17	19	Over supply of 23 places in Long Ashton & Winford one provider not included in data
Banwell & Winscombe	616	515	1131	23	20	New school 2025/26
Clevedon East	103	0	103	4	0	Surplus 23 places in other wards in Clevedon
Clevedon West	426	57	483	16	2	Surplus 23 places in other wards in Clevedon
Clevedon Yeo	186	159	345	7	6	Surplus 23 places in other wards in Clevedon
Hutton & Locking	395	137	532	15	5	New school 2025/26 surplus W-s-M South
Long Ashton	19	0	9	1	0	Surplus 54 places Winford
Nailsea West End	52	0	52	2	0	Surplus 17 places in other Nailsea wards
Nailsea Yeo	173	52	225	6	2	Surplus 17 places in other Nailsea wards
Nailsea Youngwood	79	0	79	3	0	Surplus 17 places in other Nailsea wards

Weston-super-Mare South	243	0	243	9	0	Surplus over 2 places
Weston-super-Mare Central	57	0	57	2	0	Surplus over 2 places
Weston-super-Mare Hillside	43	0	43	2	0	Surplus over 2 places
Weston-super-Mare Kewstoke	261	0	261	10	0	New provision opened Sept 24
Weston-super-Mare Milton	957	693	1650	36	26	New provision opened Sept 24
Weston-super-Mare North Worle	1,211	1,299	2510	46	50	New provision opened Sept 24
Weston-super-Mare South Worle	316	0	316	12	0	Surplus 3 places W-s-M South
Weston-super-Mare Uphill	116	0	116	4	0	
Weston-super-Mare Winterstoke	80	0	80	3	0	New school 2024/25
Wrington	208	37	245	8	1	Surplus 32 places Congresbury & Puxton
Yatton	334	28	362	12	1	Surplus 32 places Congresbury & Puxton. New school taking Early Years children
Total	6328	3488	9806	238	132	

Although a ward may have a shortfall in supply, neighbouring wards, or wards in the vicinity, may have surpluses. The data from the DfE was taken from the January 2024 Early Years census, some childcare providers were not included.

In some wards there is a surplus of over 2 places and a lack of under 2's.

The numbers above do not take into consideration where new developments may be delivered. Where there are planned new developments, we will assess the need for additional childcare requirements by looking at current childcare registered numbers, childcare funding data and projected birth population data.

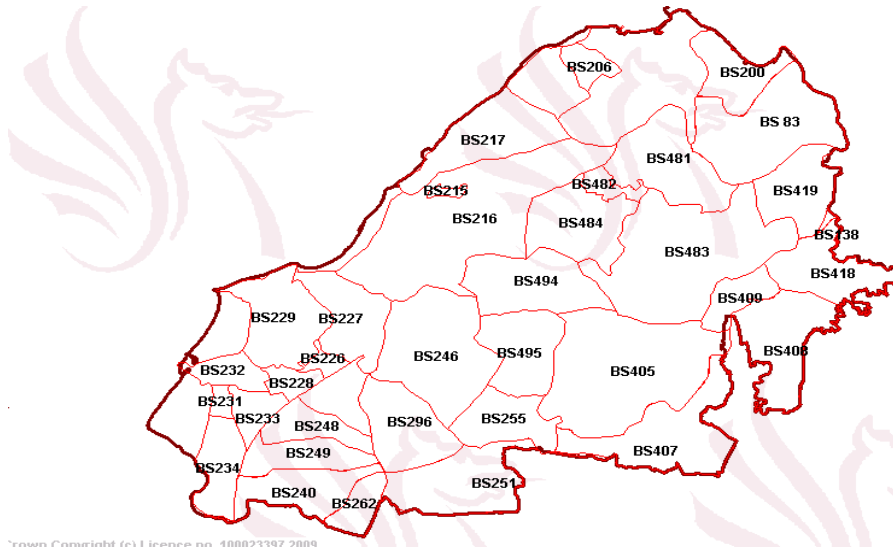
We will work with colleagues in school place planning to ensure that if a new school is planned if required it will also provide early years places. We will engage with early years providers and schools to establish early years vacancies and will encourage all new childminders to offer funded places.

We will look to develop an Early Years Sufficiency Delivery Plan for North Somerset. Working with PVI's and Schools, we will look to see how the community can best meet the needs of parents and their children by ensuring that the local offer is sustainable for all parties and offers the best opportunities for children and their families. By using government grants and any other capital funding available, we will seek to increase supply when needed by working with local providers to seek local solutions. Initially we may start in one or two pilot areas, with the aim of learning from

the pilots and moving towards having an area wide forward-thinking plan. This is so we are ready to collaboratively support the delivery of places to meet the demand for early years provisions across all age groups across all types of provisions.

Appendix 1

North Somerset Postcode Map

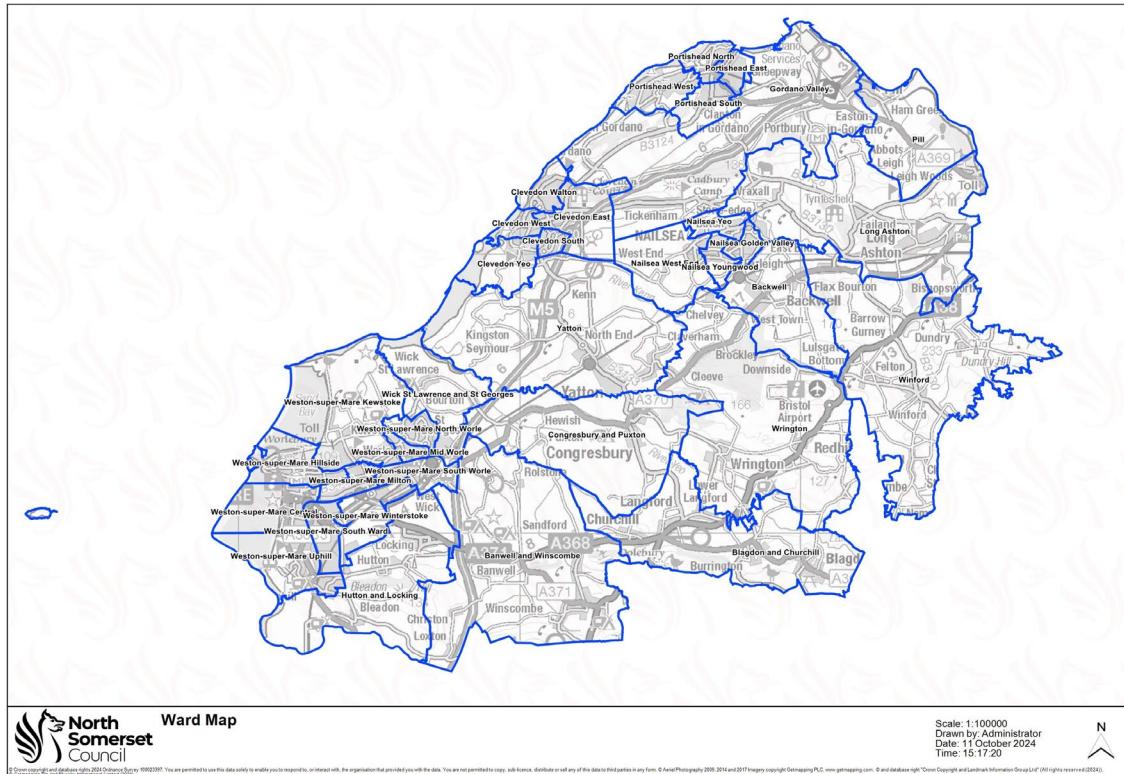


Appendix 2: Summary table of counts of Ofsted registered childminders and group settings per ward

Ward	Childminders	Group EY settings	Group Out of school settings
Backwell	0	2	2
Banwell & Winscombe	1	2	0
Blagdon & Churchill	5	3	1
Clevedon East	6	2	2
Clevedon South	2	0	1
Clevedon Walton	1	0	0
Clevedon West	0	4	0
Clevedon Yeo	3	1	1
Congresbury & Puxton	4	4	1
Gordano Valley	3	1	2

Hutton & Locking	2	2	0
Long Ashton	4	2	5
Nailsea Golden Valley	4	2	1
Nailsea West End	3	2	0
Nailsea Yeo	1	2	0
Nailsea Youngwood	1	1	1
Pill	6	1	0
Portishead East	3	3	2
Portishead North	3	4	2
Portishead South	4	1	4
Portishead West	11	1	1
Weston-super-Mare Central	3	4	0
Weston-super-Mare Hillside	1	1	0
Weston-super-Mare Kewstoke	0	6	0
Weston-super-Mare Mid Worle	3	0	0
Weston-super-Mare Milton	5	3	0
Weston-super-Mare North Worle	0	3	1
Weston-super-Mare South	9	2	1
Weston-super-Mare South Worle	7	3	2
Weston-super-Mare Uphill	2	5	0
Weston-super-Mare Winterstoke	5	2	2
Wick St Lawrence & St Georges	1	0	1
Winford	3	4	1
Wrington	3	1	1
Yatton	4	4	2

Appendix 3: Map of North Somerset wards



Further statistics and data sets can be found on the main [North Somerset website](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)