

Working Families Early Education Entitlement for Two Year Olds Sufficiency Assessment and Outcome

How we decide whether there is sufficient existing childcare in Bradford to meet the increase in demand from April 2024.

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Data	2
a. Supply of places	2
b. Demand for places	4
c. Vacancies for places	5
3. Sufficiency Outcome	10
4. Next steps	11

Terminology

Group-based Providers – Early education and childcare providers registered with Ofsted or the Independent School Inspectorate and operating on non-domestic premises. (Includes Day Nurseries, Pre-school Playgroups, Childcare on Domestic premises providers, Independent School Nurseries, Schools with nursery classes and Nursery Schools.

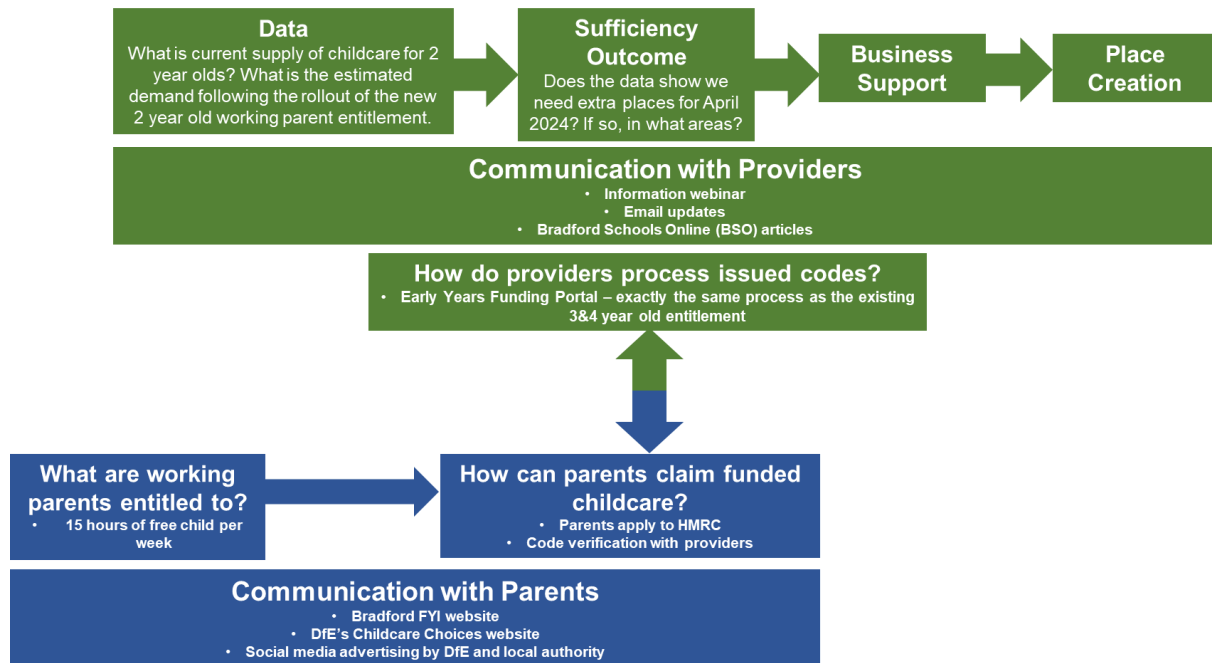
Childminders – Early education and childcare providers registered with Ofsted or a childminding agency, they work in their own home, either alone or with assistants or with another childminder.

1. Introduction

From April 2024, working families with a child aged two will be entitled to 15 hours of funded childcare per week for up to 38 weeks a year. The funded childcare hours can be claimed from the term following the child’s 2nd birthday. For example, a child aged 2 on the 31st of August will be able to claim hours from the Autumn term starting 1st September. Eligibility criteria for working families can be found [here](#). Further working families entitlements are due to roll out in the future, however, this report focuses solely on April 2024.

In order to fulfil the local authority’s statutory responsibility to ensure there are sufficient entitlement places for all eligible children, the local authority has assessed the supply and demand of childcare within Bradford. The main outcome of this assessment is to determine whether we develop new childcare places for two year olds. This report will outline the steps that have been taken to assess the childcare sector.

Below is a road map which outlines the processes of assessing supply and demand, in addition to how families claim funded childcare and how providers go about processing the claims. All of this is underpinned by how the local authority and the Department for Education (DfE) communicates with providers and families.



Road map outlining the local authorities steps in rolling out the April 2024 working families entitlement.

2. Data

a. Supply of places

Supply data on Bradford early education and childcare is held in the form of capacity – the maximum number of early education and childcare places that can be offered on a given day.

Capacity data is held for each early education and childcare provider for a set age range. For example, a day nursery provider will have a recorded capacity of 56 for 2 year olds meaning that they could accommodate 28 children in the morning session and 28 children in the afternoon session.

To update our capacity data, we sent out a survey to all providers excluding childminders. Childminder capacity was assessed by a separate piece of work that had recently been carried. Overall, we received 160 responses from 161 providers, meaning almost all our held capacity data could be updated.

Ward	Number of Places
Baildon	97
Bingley	146
Bingley Rural	112
Bolton and Undercliffe	202
Bowling and Barkerend	292
Bradford Moor	328
City	272
Clayton and Fairweather	138
Craven	138
Eccleshill	152
Great Horton	217
Heaton	234
Idle and Thackley	109
Ilkley	85
Keighley Central	164
Keighley East	114
Keighley West	125
Little Horton	157
Manningham	269
Queensbury	124
Royds	135
Shipley	135
Thornton and Allerton	159
Toller	313
Tong	204
Wharfedale	130
Wibsey	86
Windhill and Wrose	78
Worth Valley	64
Wyke	80
Total	4859

Survey Snapshot of the number of places for 2 year olds across Bradford wards from 26/03/2024

b. Demand for places

In order to assess demand for working families early education and childcare in Bradford, we used the existing number of children taking up the existing 3&4 year old working families 30 hours of funded childcare entitlement as a predictor. Using the percentage of 3&4 year old children taking up the working families' entitlement we calculated the estimated number of 2 year old children that would be likely to take up the entitlement. You can see in the table below the number predicted take up of the 2 year old entitlement for each ward.

Ward	Estimated number of 2 year olds using the new working families entitlement
Eccleshill	54
Idle and Thackley	53
Bingley Rural	52
Shipley	51
Wharfedale	50
Windhill and Wrose	48
Queensbury	47
Royds	47
Craven	45
Bingley	45
Baildon	42
Heaton	40
Wyke	39
Keighley West	39
Keighley East	38
Bolton and Undercliffe	36
Wibsey	36
Clayton and Fairweather Green	36
Worth Valley	36
Tong	35
Thornton and Allerton	35
Manningham	28
Ilkley	28
Toller	23
Keighley Central	23
Great Horton	20
Bradford Moor	19
Little Horton	17
City	14
Bowling and Barkerend	13
Total	1154

Based on claimed 3&4 year old working families' 30hr codes in Autumn 2023.

It is important when viewing this demand data to understand that projected two year old take up does not mean that they are all new two year old children to the childcare market. The number of two year old's taking up the new entitlement will include children who are already are accessing paid-for two year old childcare, and children accessing an eligible disadvantaged/low income two year old place. However, from April 2024 a portion of these two year olds will be eligible for the working families' entitlement, therefore not increasing the demand for additional childcare.

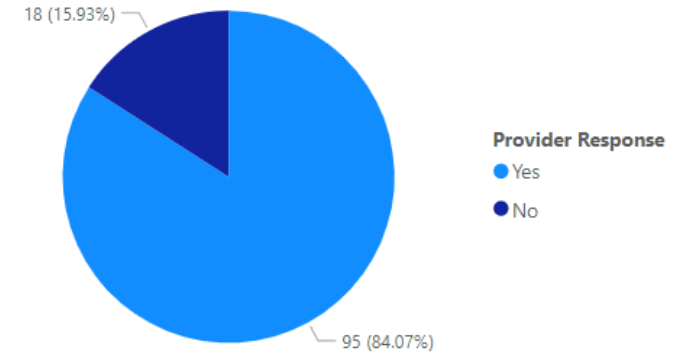
c. Vacancies for places

In order to establish unmet demand and highlight areas where demand may exceed supply, we collected vacancy data for all providers through a survey. The survey asked the below questions.

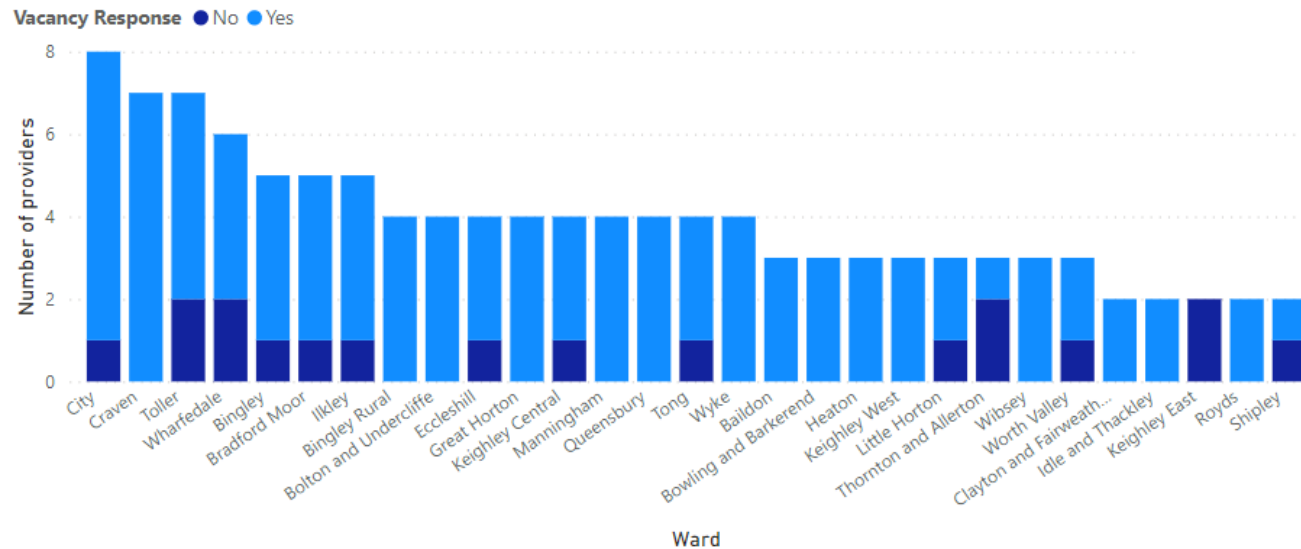
- i. Please select your Setting's name from the drop down below.**
- ii. Do you have any vacancies for children aged 2 for the term after their 2nd birthday?**
- iii. How many vacancies for 2 year olds do you have?**
- iv. What type of vacancies are available?**
- v. When do you expect to have vacancies?**
- vi. Do you receive enquiries for 2 year old early education and childcare from parents which you are having to turn away?**
- vii. Would you consider expanding your setting to enable you to offer more early education and childcare places for 2 year olds?**

For group-based providers, there were 113 responses out of 158 with providers from all wards responding. Of the 113 providers that responded, 18 have no vacancies and 95 have vacancies. Therefore, of the 113 respondents, 84% of group-based providers have vacancies.

Vacancy by Provider Response



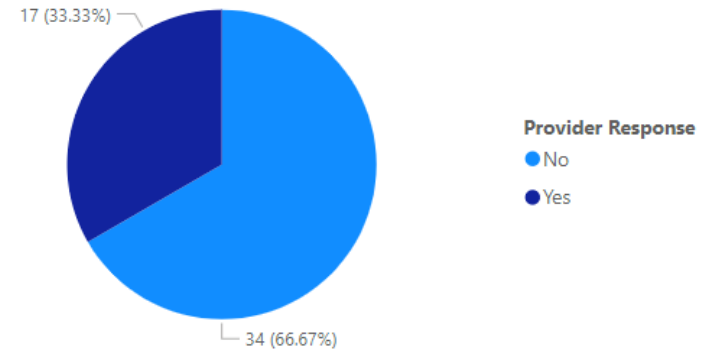
Number of providers by Ward and Vacancy Response



113
Number of group-based providers

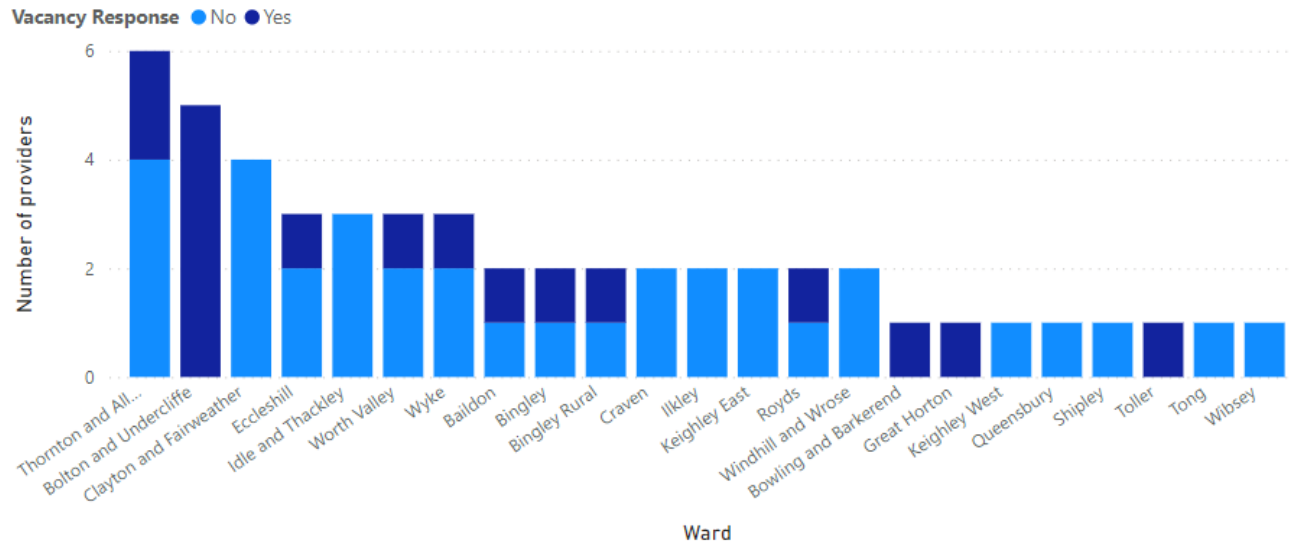
Group-based providers response when asked if they have vacancies for two year olds. Snapshot from 09/04/2024.

Vacancy by Provider Response



For childminders, there were 51 responses 249 with childminders from all wards responding. Of the 51 that responded, 34 have no vacancies and 17 have vacancies. Therefore, of the survey respondents, 33% of childminders have vacancies.

Number of providers by Ward and Vacancy Response



51
Number of childminders

Childminders response when asked if they have vacancies for two year olds. Snapshot from 09/04/2024.

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Below you can see the number of vacancies reported by ward for group-based providers

Ward	Type of Vacancies	Number of Vacancies
Baildon	Full-time	20
	Part-time	16
Bingley	Full-time	6
	Part-time	20
Bingley Rural	Full-time	4
	Part-time	58
Bolton and Undercliffe	Full-time	6
	Part-time	46
Bowling and Barkerend	Full-time	24
	Part-time	61
Bradford Moor	Full-time	52
	Part-time	35
City	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	23
	Full-time	4
	Part-time	84
Clayton and Fairweather Green	Part-time	25
Craven	Full-time	80
	Part-time	2
Eccleshill	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	5
	Full-time	10
	Part-time	36
Great Horton	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	58
	Part-time	21
Heaton	Full-time	13
	Part-time	5
Idle and Thackley	Full-time	12
Ilkley	Full-time	21
	Part-time	6
Keighley Central	Part-time	21
Keighley West	Full-time	29
	Part-time	4
Little Horton	Part-time	48
Manningham	Full-time	35
	Part-time	15
Queensbury	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	5
	Full-time	52
Royds	Part-time	20
Shiplay	Part-time	40
Thornton and Allerton	Part-time	16
Toller	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	15
	Full-time	8
	Part-time	36
Tong	Full-time	24
	Part-time	9
Wharfedale	Full-time	16
	Part-time	10
Wibsey	Full-time	13
	Part-time	12
Worth Valley	Part-time	7
Wyke	Part-time	25
Bradford District	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	106
	Full-time	429
	Part-time	678

Snapshot from 09/04/2024

Below you can see the number of vacancies by ward across the Bradford district for childminders.

Ward	Type of Vacancies	Number of Vacancies
Baildon	Part-time	1
Bingley	Part-time	2
Bingley Rural	Part-time	1
Bolton and Undercliffe	Full-time	10
	Part-time	1
Bowling and Barkerend	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	4
Eccleshill	Full-time	1
Great Horton	Full-time	2
Royds	Part-time	1
Thornton and Allerton	Full-time	5
Toller	Full-time	2
Worth Valley	Full-time	2
Wyke	Part-time	1
Bradford District	Full-time	22
	Part-time	7
	Ad hoc hours (as and when needed)	4

Snapshot from 09/04/2024

3. Sufficiency Outcome

Data analysis was carried out using all the data shown in section 2. From this analysis, we identified three wards where there was a potential for shortfall of early education and childcare places. These wards were Bingley, Wharfedale and Worth Valley. The data showed that the remaining wards had sufficient places. More detailed analysis was conducted on the three potential shortfall wards using geographical data and cross-border information. The result of this more detailed analysis showed that the three wards would have sufficient childcare places for the April 2024 rollout. However, Worth Valley would require close monitoring following the rollout and across the upcoming additional working families' entitlement.

Therefore, the local authority's sufficiency outcome is: for April 2024 we expect demand for childcare to increase **BUT** we predict that **the existing supply of childcare will meet this demand.**

4. Next steps

- We will continue to monitor the two year old childcare sector following the rollout of the April 2024 15 hours of funded childcare for working families with a two year old child.
- In September 2024 the working families entitlement will be expanded to include children over the age of 9 months. The following work will be carried out in preparation for this
 - Under 2s vacancy survey will be sent out to providers at the end of March/start of April. This vacancy survey will be more comprehensive, asking questions about demand, physical space and willingness to expand physical capacity.
 - Latest spring eligibility codes claimed for 2 and 3&4 year old working families entitlement will be used to predict demand for 9 months working families entitlement.
 - In the lead up to the September 2024 we will be hosting a webinar for providers to give information about the new entitlement and its rollout.
- In September 2025 the final rollout of working families entitlement will be complete with 30 hours of funded childcare 9 months to school age for working families. All our current and future supply and demand analysis is contributing to our preparation for September 2025.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact George Parker at sufficiency@bradford.gov.uk.

Planning and Sufficiency Team

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