

Childcare Sufficiency Report

2023 – 2027

Autumn 2025 Update

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The Strategic Context for Childcare Sufficiency

The Childcare Sufficiency Report (CSR) is a statutory document. It outlines how Havering (the local authority) plans to secure enough childcare places as far as is reasonably practicable, for parents who are working, studying, or training for employment. The report covers childcare for children from birth to 14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). The publication of this CSR meets the local authority's statutory duty under sections 6 and 7 of the [Childcare Act 2006 - GOV.UK](#). It is also in line with local authority statutory guidance.

The report focuses on two key areas of the childcare market in Havering:

- measuring the demand for, and supply of childcare within Havering identifying gaps in the market
- planning how to support the childcare market within Havering to address any shortfall

It is placed within the context of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that continues to have significant continues to impact on families resulting in a changed demand for childcare. The scale of the impact may take some time to be fully understood.

To assess the supply and demand for childcare places, the local authority compares current known capacity with predicted demand. This takes account of factors such as births, housing growth and patterns of inward and outward migration.

The Childcare Act 2006 gives local authorities a role in shaping the childcare market. The local authority is committed to working with providers from the private, voluntary, and independent sectors (PVI) and the school run sector. This is to create a strong, sustainable, and diverse childcare market that meets the needs of families and supports children's learning through the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

The local authority is required to report annually to elected members and publish information for families to show how it is meeting its sufficiency duty. This includes providing specific information about:

- the supply and demand for early education and childcare places
- affordability, accessibility and quality of early education and childcare places
- details of how any gaps in provision will be addressed

Whilst local authorities are required by law to ensure there are sufficient childcare places, attendance by children from birth to age 5 at any early education or childcare setting is voluntary. It is not compulsory for a child to attend education provision until the term after their fifth birthday.

Childcare places are funded either by government entitlements or by parents themselves.

The Childcare Act 2006 requires the following actions and measures which identify the strategic role local authorities' play. Local authorities should support (though not directly provide) the following:

- early education places for two, three and four year olds supporting eligibility, flexibility, and quality
- distributing government funding that supports early education places

- securing sufficient childcare so far as it is reasonably practicable in a free market
- providing information to parents and carers
- providing information, support and training to early education and childcare providers

Local authorities are required to secure fully funded places offering 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks a year, and up to 52 weeks of the year, for every eligible child in their area, until they reach compulsory school age (the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday).

Eligibility depends on a child's age and whether they meet certain funding criteria:

Figure 1: Eligibility criteria for 9 months upwards, funded two, three and four year-olds

Eligibility	Offer	Criteria
Some eligible two year-olds	15 hours a week x 38 weeks a year. 570 hours a year	For families resident in Havering on either low income or a range of benefits, including Universal Credit
All three and four year olds	15 hours a week x 38 weeks a year. 570 hours a year	Universal offer open to all age eligible children resident in Havering. No financial criteria to be met
Some eligible 9 months upwards to four year olds	Extended Entitlement. 30 hours a week x 38 weeks a year. 1,140 hours a year	For working families where both parents are working, or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family

Funded places for eligible two-year-olds – additional criteria:

- Looked after children, those that have left care through special guardianship or through an adoption or residence order are also eligible.
- Children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. (DLA) or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) can also apply for a funded place for a two-year-old.

For non - (European Economic Area) EEA citizens who cannot claim benefits, some families with an age eligible child may get free childcare if they are receiving support under the Immigration and Asylum Act and have either:

- claimed asylum in the UK and are waiting for a decision (known as 'part 6')
- been refused asylum in the UK (known as 'section 4').

Families may also receive free childcare for a two-year-old they care for if their household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, and they have:

- leave to remain with 'no recourse to public funds' on family or private life grounds, or
- the right to live in the UK because they are the main carer of a British citizen (known as a 'Zambrano Carer

Families can check with the local authority if they are unsure if they can get free childcare. 15/30 Hours Extended Entitlement for some eligible nine months upwards to four year olds – additional criteria:

- Parents must each expect to earn at least £142.56 per week. This is equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage for persons aged 23 and over.
- If parents are on maternity, paternity or adoption leave they may still be eligible. If they are unable to work due to a disability or having caring responsibilities, they may also be eligible.
- If either parent earns more than £100,000, they will not be able to receive 30 hours free childcare.
- Foster carers may also apply (subject to approval from child's social worker) if they meet the above financial criteria.

For non - (European Economic Area) EEA citizens who cannot claim benefits, some families with an age eligible child may get free childcare if they are receiving support under the Immigration and Asylum Act and have either:

- claimed asylum in the UK and are waiting for a decision (known as 'part 6')
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Families can check with the local authority if they are unsure if they can get free childcare.

Source: *Statutory Guidance for local authorities updated by the Department for Education (DfE) January 2021*

Government funding is intended to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of funded, high quality, flexible childcare. It is not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables, additional hours, or additional activities. Families can, therefore, expect to pay for any meals offered by the provider alongside the fully funded entitlement, as well as paying for consumables e.g. nappies, or additional activities.

Executive Summary

The Children and Families Act 2014 states that Local Authorities should report annually to elect Council Members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare, and make this report available and accessible to parents.

The purpose of this report is to set out in detail the strategic action plan of how the Local Authority is ensuring the sufficiency of childcare in the borough

The Childcare Sufficiency Report also:

1. Sets out the principles and planning guidelines on early years both nationally and locally.
2. Provides demographic and contextual picture of the early years provision in Havering.

3. Provides information on the demand of childcare in Havering including data in relation to children with disability (SEND), school age children and the take up funded early education places.
4. Provides an indication of the supply, quality and affordability of childcare across the borough.
5. Provides childcare sufficiency data, population of two, three & four years old and number of childcare providers by wards.
6. Outlines key achievements since the last Childcare Sufficiency Report, provides future planning/ recommendations for addressing potential shortfall of early education and childcare places, including increasing the take up of 30 hours free childcare.

This report provides a link to the early years local offer to help parents, early years providers and the wider communities access information regarding the support available to them.

The number of early education and childcare places provided in this report and the supporting information on projections & data utilises the 2020 GLA-Borough Preferred Option (BPO) Population projections, the early years Summer Terms census data, April 2022 DWP list and January 2022 School census for children on roll and unless where otherwise specified.

Section 1: Principles and Guidelines

1.1 National Policy

Current statutory guidance requires Local Authorities to report annually to elected Council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare, and make this report available and accessible to parents.

Local Authorities are responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in their report, geographical division and date of publication. However, the report should include:

- A specific reference to how they are ensuring there is sufficient childcare available to meet the needs of: children with special educational needs and disabilities; children from families in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit; children with parents who work irregular hours; children aged two, three and four taking up early education places; school age children; and children needing holiday care.
- Information about the current and projected supply and demand of childcare for particular age ranges of children, and the affordability, accessibility and quality of provision.
- Details of how any gaps in childcare provision will be addressed.

In order to secure sufficient childcare places, Local Authority should:

Take into account what is 'reasonably practicable' when assessing what sufficient childcare means in their area and:

- The state of the local childcare market; including the demand for a specific types of providers in a particular locality and the amount and type of supply that currently exists;
- The state of the labour market including the sufficiency of the local childcare workforce
- The quality and capacity of childcare providers and Childminders registered with a Childminder agency, including their funding, staff, premises, experience and expertise
- Encourage schools in their area to offer out of hours childcare from 8.00am to 6.00pm and in school holidays
- Encourage existing providers to expand their provision and new providers to enter the local childcare market
- Encourage providers to take a sustainable business approach to planning and signpost providers to resources to support them, for example the business sustainability tool kit published by the Department, this can be found at the following link: [Early years business sustainability - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-business-sustainability-toolkit)

1.2 Policy direction

Policy direction There are a number of policy initiatives that had an impact on the outcomes of the childcare sufficiency during 2019 – 2021 and some of these continue to be influential through 2023 - 2027. These include:

- National Living Wage
- Automatic enrolment for employee pensions
- Tax Free Childcare
- Free 30hrs Childcare Extended Entitlement
- Free 2 year old funding entitlement
- Early Years National Funding Formula
- Benefit reforms including the introduction of Universal Credit
- Brexit
- Changing the age range of schools to take two year olds as pupils

The Childcare Sufficiency Report will focus on the impact of these policy changes specifically on the increase in demand for new early years and childcare places across the borough. This report should be read in conjunction with Education Provision & Inclusion Delivery Plan 2023 - 2027 Early Years Delivery Strategy.

Section 2: Early Education and Childcare

2.1 The Role of Early Education and Childcare

‘High quality early education and childcare...can have a powerful impact on young children...a good start in these early years can have a positive effect on children’s development, preparing them for school and later life.’ More Great Childcare 2013

All children who meet the prescribed criteria are able to access high quality early education regardless of their parents' ability to pay – benefiting their social, physical and mental development and helping to prepare them for school.

2.2 Benefits to children and families

Who can deliver early education and childcare places?

Sufficient, high quality, affordable, sustainable, and accessible childcare has a huge benefit for both parents and child, i.e.

- Affordable childcare supports families to work, or train to maximise work opportunities which helps to raise household income and improve outcomes for children – children in workless families are three times as likely to be in relative poverty than families where at least one parent works;
- A good quality pre-school experience supports children's cognitive and emotional development, aiding transition between home and school and improving school readiness. A 2012 Department for Education (DfE) research report evidenced that early education starting at an early age had a direct impact on the attainment of children.

Who can deliver early education and childcare places?

Eligible two, three and four year olds may attend an early education and childcare provider registered with the Local Authority. Early years funding is offered over a minimum of 38 weeks (33/35 weeks in independent schools). Parents can claim a maximum of 10 hours funding in one day, not before 6am or after 8pm and with no more than two providers in a single day. All approved early education and childcare Providers in Havering, including, breakfast, afterschool and holiday providers, childminders, preschools, day nurseries, independent, maintained and academy schools with nurseries and Local Offer provisions are available on the [Family Services Directory](#).

The [Local Offer](#) sets out in one place Information about various types of provision in the area; such as Universal Services, Targeted Services and Specialist Services that parents/carers and young people can expect to be available across Education, Health & Social Care for those that have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). This includes those without an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP). The Local Offer provides information about what is available within the local area, but also outside the local area where the local authority (LA) expects is likely to be used for Children and Young People with SEND.

When can children take up their free funded early education and childcare?

Children can start at an early year's Provider from the term after the second or third birthday. Three and four year olds eligible for 30 hours childcare will also need to have a valid eligibility code. All four year olds, not in a Reception class, can access early education and childcare funding.

Figure 2: When can children take up their free funded early education and childcare

A child born in the period	Will become eligible for a place from
1st April to 31st August	From 1 st September following the child's birthday (Autumn term)
1st September to 31st December	From 1 st January following the child's birthday (Spring term)
1st January to 31st March	From 1 st April following the child's birthday (Summer term)

Free Funding for Two year olds - Families may be eligible for early education and childcare for their two year old if the parent receives certain income related benefits, has a low income, if the child has been looked after or has a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order in place, the child receives Disability Living Allowance or the child has a current statement of SEN or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Eligible families will be able to access up to 15 hours term time, or 10/11 hours (stretched offer) a week over up to 52 weeks of the year, of early years funding from the term after the child's second birthday. Parents must [apply online](#) and will be informed within two working days if they are eligible for funding. Once eligible, parents must contact the early year's provider directly to find out about vacancies, fees and contract arrangements and provide email evidence of their offer of funding.

Free funding for Three and Four year olds - 15 hours (universal entitlement) - All three year olds from the term after the third birthday and all four year olds are eligible for up to 15 hours term time, or 10/11 hours (stretched offer) a week over up to 52 weeks of the year of early education and childcare funding. Parents do not need to apply online for three and four year olds, but should contact the childcare providers directly to find out about vacancies, fees and contract arrangements.

Free funding for Nine months upwards to Four year olds – 15/30 hours (extended entitlement) – Working parents of nine months upwards to four year olds may be eligible for an (additional hours for three and four year olds) 15 hours of childcare, if both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), and each parent works on average 16 hours a week at National Minimum Wage (NMW) or the National Living Wage (NLW) and each parent earns less than £100,000 per year.

Families will remain eligible if one parent is working and the other has a disability or substantial caring responsibilities. A parent is away from work temporarily (sick leave or maternity/adoption leave). A grace period has been put in place by government to assist parents whose employment circumstances change.

A child is eligible to start their 30 hours place the term following their third birthday or the term

following the date, on which they received their code, whichever is the later. Parents must have their codes verified in advance of the term that the child intends to take up a 30 hours place. Parents can reserve a place for their child with their provider prior to the code being checked, but the code must be verified before the child can take up their place.

Stretched Offer - Where providers wish to meet parental demand to provide their free entitlement of 570 or 1140 hours in fewer hours per week over more than 38 weeks of the year, the Local Authority will fund alternative provider models that meet the conditions set out in the early education and childcare statutory guidance for Local Authorities.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Two, three and four year olds only - Providers will be eligible to receive additional funding to support children's improved outcomes and/or to purchase additional resources for use at an early education and childcare provision for children whose families receive: certain income related benefits, have a low income, for looked after children, those with special guardianship, child arrangement or adoption orders, children with a statement of SEN or an EHCP.

Disability Access Funding (DAF) Two, three and four year olds only - The DAF supports access to early years places by, for example, supporting providers in making reasonable adjustments to their provision and / or helping with building capacity (be that for the child in question or for the benefit of children as a whole attending the provision). The child must be in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and receive free early education and childcare funding but do not have to take up the full entitlement. Four-year olds in primary school reception classes are not eligible for DAF funding.

Section 3: Demand for Childcare

This section provides an overview of the demand for early years and childcare in Havering.

Childcare refers to any provision inclusive of education for children under school age and any supervised activity outside of school hours for children of school age where it cannot be cancelled and is reliable.

Childcare can be either formal, which is usually registered (with Ofsted or the Independent School Inspectorate) and paid for, or informal, which is usually not registered and often not paid for.

3.1 Havering Context

The [Havering Strategic Education Vision](#) states that its aims are **all children and young people thrive and achieve through accessing high-quality education provision, and are supported to live safe and healthy lives.**

The Havering Strategic Education Vision seeks to achieve this through three interlinked priorities:

- Leadership
- Inclusion
- Aspiration

The Havering Strategic Education Vision helps support the aims and strategies as set out in this Children & Young People Education Place Planning Plan.

3.2 A place of change (population, demography and changes)

Havering is the third largest London borough, covering some 43 square miles. It is located on the northeast boundary of Greater London. To the north and east the Borough is bordered by the Essex countryside, to the south by a three mile River Thames frontage, and to the west by the neighbouring boroughs of Redbridge and Barking & Dagenham.

The Census 2021 data published by the Office for National Statistics, shows the recorded population in Havering has increased in the last decade by 24,800 (10.4%), from around 237,200 in 2011 to 262,000 in 2021- the largest population ever recorded through a census in Havering. The growth in Havering is higher than our nearest statistical neighbours (7.9%), London (7.7%) and England (6.6%) but lower than the North East London (NEL) region (11.1%).

The biggest growth has been seen in 25 to 39 year olds (an increase of 26.5%) and young children, with the 0-4 age group in Havering seeing the second highest growth of all local authorities in the country.

In Havering we have seen an increase of 52% in the number of births between calendar years 2002 to 2016. This includes a 19% increase in the birth rate from 2012 to 2016. However since

the birth rate peaked in 2016, we have seen a year on year reduction in the birth rate in Havering, with the birth rate decreasing by 11% between 2016 to 2021.

This reduction in birth rate is also reflected in a reduction in the total fertility rate- that is the average number of live children that a group of women would bear if they experienced the age-specific fertility rates of the calendar year throughout their childbearing lifespan. It is a better measure of trends than the number of livebirths, since it accounts for the size and age structure of the female population of childbearing age. In Havering in 2016, the total fertility rate was 1.97. By 2021 this had reduced to 1.66, similar to the rates seen 20 years ago. This shows that on average, the number of children women of childbearing age are having has reduced.

The lower birth rate and the lower total fertility rate all indicate that there will be a reduction in demand for mainstream education and school places in the future, due to fewer children being born in the borough.

Despite the lower birth rate, Havering still continues to receive a high number of in-year applications for school places. Between mid-August 2022 and the start of January 2023, Havering saw a 58% increase in the volume of in-year applications received compared to the same period two years earlier. Over this period, there has been a 160% increase in the volume of in-year applications received from applicants who state that they live in Havering, but are new to the UK. This means that the sufficiency of school places needs to be balanced to ensure that enough school places are available to accommodate in-year demand.

Brexit and the Covid 19 pandemic have also impacted the population across the country. [A report by the GLA](#) stated that data indicated that international migration flows to the UK and London fell due to the combined effects of the pandemic and the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. The report also stated that compared to other regions of England, Covid-19 has had the greatest impact in London concerning mortality. In addition, the report stated that despite speculation that the pandemic would trigger a "lockdown baby boom", GLA analysis provides no clear evidence that the pre-existing trends in London births have been affected.

According to the Census 2021, London remains the most ethnically diverse region of England and saw an 8.1% percentage point decrease in people who identified as White British from 44.9% in 2011 to 36.8% in 2021. Havering also followed this trend with a 16.8% percentage point decrease from 83.3% in 2011 to 66.5% in 2021. Havering and Bromley are the least diverse London Boroughs with both having a White British population of 66.5%. This compares with 74.4% for England, but is significantly higher than the 36.8% figure for London.

The other main ethnic groups in Havering have increase between the Census 2011 and Census 2021; Asian has increased to 10.7% from 4.9%, Other White doubled from 4.4% in 2011 to 8.8% in 2021. Black has increased from 4.8% to 8.2% in 2021, Mixed from 2.1% to 3.7% in 2021 and Other from 0.6 to 2% in 2021.

All of this demonstrates the wide demographic changes Havering has seen over the last decade. While White British remains the most common ethnic group in Havering, there is increasing ethnic

diversity within the borough. The birth rate has increased, peaked and is now on a downward trajectory, a trend that is common across all London boroughs. The Covid 19 pandemic and Brexit have impacted the population across the country and despite speculation, there is no evidence to support a lockdown baby boom in London.

Havering is increasingly a place of change. This means that the way in which the Council monitors the sufficiency of education places and commissions new school and education places must change to meet the changing needs of Havering residents.

3.3 Local Picture

Havering supports a mixed economy of childcare and early education provision including the maintained sector and private, voluntary and independent sector (PVI). All sectors have a key role to play in offering services to families.

The childminder sector is now offering significant places within the early education and childcare in Havering. Childminders deliver a flexible service to families and a valuable alternative to the day nursery, pre-school and school provision in Havering.

Over the last reporting period there has been a growth in the opening of new provision across the borough which is a welcome addition to the childcare sector in Havering. A number of maintained nurseries have been established to deliver early education and childcare places, this offers additional opportunities to parents in Havering.

Demand for childcare is monitored via Family Information Service and the Family Service Directory. Information about early education and childcare providers is available online on www.havering.gov.uk/fsd. The service directory is a local guide to services, organisations and activities for children, young people, adults, families/carers and professionals. The childcare search facility enables parents/carers to search for any type of Ofsted registered childcare within a chosen radius of a postcode.

3.4 Child population in Havering

Current population projections show that there are 13027 children aged 1 to 4 living in our Local Authority as of 2024/25.

Figure 3: The table below shows the projected child population 1- 4 age groups in Havering over the next five years.

Year	1-4 years borough Total	Year	1-4 years borough Total
2024/25	13027	2027/28	12836
2025/26	12986	2028/29	12847
2026/27	12890	2029/30	12755

Source: 2022-based BPO Projections

Based on our current projections, there are sufficient funded 2, 3 and 4 year old places in Havering

3.5 Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Local Authorities have a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity for children with SEND. Nationally it is recognised parents often find it challenging to access childcare, this may be due to parental confidence in the provider's ability to attend to their child's individual needs.

All childcare settings have to follow the SEND Code of Practice with the requirements of the EYFS. Information on childcare is available to all parents online. Extra information is available to parents of children with SEND via the Havering Local Offer. Other services also offer support to parents to gain access to the funded early years entitlement offer. The [Local Offer](#) pages list a wide range of activities and clubs for young people with a disability or additional needs.

Research suggests some childcare providers may not be as confident in their own ability to meet the needs of children with a high-level medical need. The local authority offers providers training and specialist equipment if appropriate. Teams within the local authority work in partnership to ensure providers have access to advice and guidance to support the inclusion of all children.

There is a statutory duty for all local authorities to provide a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Inclusion Fund. The SEN Inclusion Fund has been in operation in Havering for at least a decade, and pre-dates the latest central government Early Years direction at having once in place. The budget provision has increased to meet the year on year demand to support those eligible children.

The SEN Inclusion Fund is targeting funding to support those early years providers with children who are identified as lower level or emerging SEN, in addition to those children who have complex needs or EHCPs in place. As part of the process of EHCP, the support from education, health and social care will be identified in the plan, with the appropriate service taking the lead at the support that is being provided as part of the plan.

Eligibility for the fund is for children claiming the early years and childcare entitlement, for those eligible two year olds to the universal entitlement for all three and four year olds. Please note that funding commences the term after they turn two, if eligible for two year old entitlement, and for three and four year olds, it will be the term after the child turns three.

In financial year 2021-22 funding period, 276 children were in receipt of this funding stream attending 94 different early years' providers.

For children with more complex needs additional funding support is provided via a combination of funding streams including the Early Years and High Needs Block. For some children joint funding will be allocated from both the High Needs Block funding and the Early Years funding within the local authority.

Although there is no statutory duty to provide additional funding for children who are in receipt of 2-year-old Early Education funding, support within Havering is not age dependent, so provision is made for this age group too. Requests for additional funding can be made if a child has an identified need that requires additional support.

During the pandemic not all children sustained their attendance at an early year provision and many children did not start their preschool education. This was due in part to the government guidance given to preschool providers and children with more complex or medical needs regarding

shielding. The additional challenges over this period may have an effect on the amount of funding allocated to children in early year provision. However, changes in children's behaviour and needs, as nationally reported, did see some more time limited additional funding allocations made.

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) is given to early years providers to support children with SEND. Its purpose is to remove 'barriers' which prevent children from accessing their funded early education entitlement. To be eligible for DAF, children must be in receipt of Disability Living Allowance and the three and four year old early education and childcare funding. This annual payment goes to the provider nominated by the parent or carer. In the financial year 2021-22, there were 85 eligible claims for additional support from the Disability Access Fund from Early Years providers for three and four year olds.

The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) enables childcare providers offering funded places for three and four year olds to apply for extra funding to support children from families on certain benefits.

Families who meet the following criteria can claim EYPP. In receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support allowance
- Support under part 6 of the immigration and asylum act
- Guaranteed element of the state pension credit
- Child tax credit and earn no more than £16,190 (provided not also entitled to Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit 4-week run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for working tax credit)
- Universal Credit – and earn no more than £7,400.

Or the child is:

- looked after by the local authority
- adopted from care
- left care through adoption, residence order or special guardianship

EYPP is additional funding available to support those eligible children participating in the three and four year entitlement. There were payments made for 502 eligible children during the summer 2021 funding period. This equated to 10.3% of the total number of three and four year olds claiming early years education funding during this period.

The identification of eligible children relies upon parents making schools and early years providers aware so that they can apply for the funding. To ensure as many parents as possible talk with their childcare provider about possible eligibility, publicity work through the Havering Education Service Portal website continue to raise awareness and increase the take-up rate.

Children with special education needs and disabilities are entitled to support with childcare up to the age of 25.

Figure 4: The projected numbers of children with SEND in our Local Authority are as outlined in the table below;

Provision	Number of Children	
	2024/25	2025/26
Primary	1292	1556
Secondary	595	682
Special	768	904
Post 16	597	682

Children's needs can change over time and are identified at different ages. Among the youngest children, SEND may only be identified when they start in childcare or school.

We are projecting an increase in the number of pupils with SEND from Early Years - 25 in 2024/25 and we expect this to continue in the future with the highest growing need category being in Communication and Interaction needs and Cognition & Learning.

As part of the Special Educational Needs, Disability (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Strategy we will review practices and processes across early years, both within the local authority and providers, in addition to increasing the early years' Inclusion Fund. This Fund supports specialist provision for children in early years' settings. The focus for development will be:

- Review delivery of early intervention programme to ensure good outcomes for children
- Support providers to bid into the inclusion fund for accredited training and status

For further information on the developments in the measures that will be focused on to support early years providers across the borough in ensuring that there is sufficient provision of childcare which is suitable for disabled children can be found in the [Special Educational Needs, Disability \(SEND\) and Alternative Provision \(AP\) Strategy](#).

3.6 Looked After Children

Looked after children are less likely than their peers to access early education. In Havering 22 looked after children who were 2 year olds accessed a funded place with early years providers during the 2021/22 funding period.

The local authority's Early Years Admissions Team works closely with colleagues in the Virtual School team, Adoption and Fostering teams to track looked after children to identify access to early years provision. However, it is acknowledged that childcare provision may not be suitable for all looked after young children.

3.7 How COVID-19 impacted on childcare in Havering

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the childcare market and how families now access childcare provision.

During the first lockdown in early 2020 all childcare providers, whether they were closed or open continued to receive government funding for their funded two, three and four year olds, but their income from privately funded hours stopped. As part of the arrangements Havering was one of the first LAs in the country to give assurance about the funding for the Summer Term.

We guaranteed the funding will remain in place for Early Years provisions for those existing and newly eligible children who would have attended, but are unable to do so due to the restrictions in place.

We also extended the support, for funding children of key workers and vulnerable children, to support those families during the academic holiday period to help.

The additional financial support (Early Years Discretionary Grant) provided by the local authority incentivised early years providers to who remained open received the maximum amount of funding, recognising the financial challenges they had faced. The local authority also signposted the sector to other financial support provided by central government e.g. the Job Retention Furlough Scheme and grant application schemes at borough level.

For the Autumn Term 2020, as the pandemic has had an adverse effect on the demand from parents, opting to place their children at early years provisions. The LA had once again assured providers that the pandemic will not affect funding and that they will not be funded less favorably in comparison to previous years' claims.

We guaranteed the funding will remain in place for those provisions that are continuing to deliver to those eligible children for the term, even though the demand may have been reduced, as the staffing infrastructure should be in place for the delivery of the funded entitlement.

The second lock-down in January 2021 saw most providers remain open.

Data on attendance of children in early years provision continued to be collected for DfE returns after the national lockdown.

Since March 2020 the local authority has provided information on updates from the DfE, the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) and Public Health to ensure providers have been kept fully updated on the pandemic.

The Early Years teams in the local authority have kept in regular and targeted communication with all open childcare provision to offer advice and support.

Through-out the pandemic the local authority has supported families to either access a childcare place or support their choice not to attend.

In total, 6 early years providers and 31 childminders closed between August 2020 and August 2022. In the same period, 34 new providers, including childminders, opened. Providers which re-opened on the same site under a new registration are not included in these figures.

3.8 Children of school age

In Spring 2024 there were 36,642 children on roll at a Havering school from Reception to year 10. These children may require childcare before and after school, and/or during the school holidays.

Figure 5: This data broken down by Year group is as shown below;

Year group	Total	Year group	Total
Reception	3265	Year 6	3321
Year 1	3317	Year 7	3316
Year 2	3476	Year 8	3281
Year 3	3480	Year 9	3133
Year 4	3627	Year 10	3066
Year 5	3458	Total	36734

Source: School census – Spring 2024

3.9 Take up of funded early education and trend

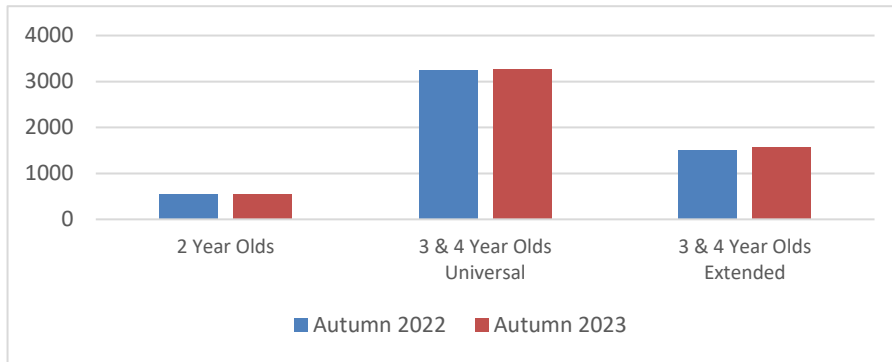
The 2 year old children taking up their funded places (for at least some of the available hours) proportion of those eligible in 2022 is 65%. We will monitor as this could be to the extent due to Covid.

The 3 & 4 year olds universal children taking up their funded place in Summer 2022 (for at least some of the available hours) as proportion of the 2022 population projections for Havering residents is 93%.

Source: Summer 2022 DfE Local Authority Interactive Tool

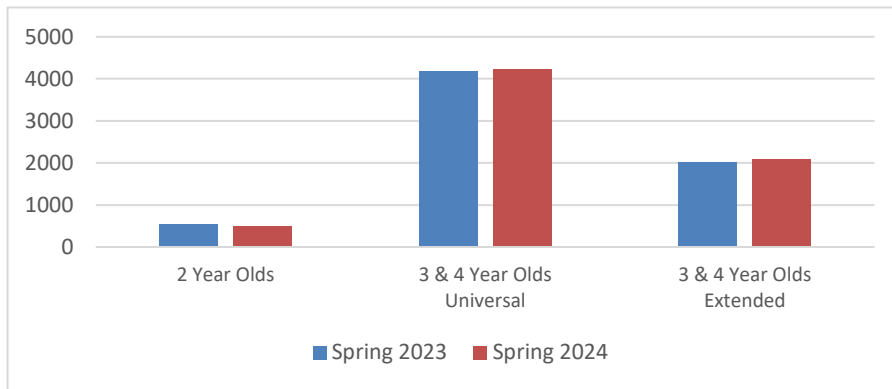
The 3 & 4 year olds extended entitlement children taking up their funded place in Summer 2022 (for at least some of the available hours) as a proportion of all funded 3 and 4 year olds the 2022 is 53%.

In Havering, the number of children taking up the extended 30-hour entitlement has increased by over 12% between summer term 2021 and summer term 2022 claim period.



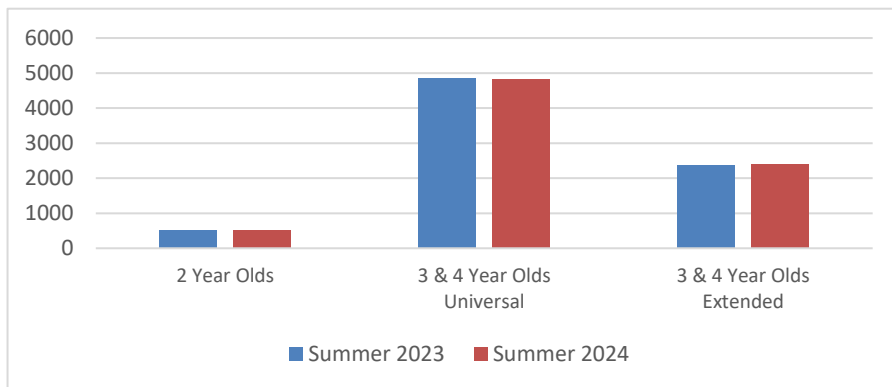
Between Autumn 2022 and Autumn 2023, 2 Year Olds numbers dropped by 3.20% with both 3 & 4 Year Olds Universal and Extended hours increasing by 0.15% and 3.77% respectively.

Figure 6: Autumn 2022 to Autumn 2023



Between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024, 2 Year Olds numbers decreased by 6.83% with both 3 & 4 Year Olds Universal and Extended hours for increasing by 1.34% and 3.44% respectively.

Figure 7: Spring 2023 to Spring 2024



Between Summer 2023 and Summer 2024, 2 Year Olds numbers dropped by 1.74% with 3 & 4 Year Olds Universal also decreasing 0.86% and Extended hours increasing by 1.60%.

Figure 8: Summer 2023 to Summer 2024

On average, 2 Year olds numbers has decreased by 3.92% between Autumn 2022 and Summer 2024 with both Universal and Extended hours for 3 & 4 Year olds increasing by 0.21% and 2.94% respectively.

Source: Early Years Admissions Termly Census Data Autumn 2022 – Summer 2024

3.10 Cost of childcare and places

The percentage of children under 16 living in families with relative low income (2020/21) in Havering is 16.1% compared to London which is 16.6% and 18.5% in England.

Each year the Family and Childcare Trust conducts a survey of Local Authority Family Information Services (FIS) to find out about childcare costs in England. The childcare costs survey asks Local Authorities to estimate an average price that parents pay for different forms of childcare. It is important to note that the survey does not look at what providers estimate their services actually cost which is likely to be a different amount because of complex systems of cross-subsidy and the range of business models.

Data on the cost of childcare is currently gathered annually in December each year by the Family Childcare Trust. Figures 2, 3 and 4 show the current average cost of 25 hours of childcare a week (part-time place) and 50 hours of childcare a week (full-time place), in England and the Outer London.

Figure 9: Average cost of 25 hours of childcare for children 0 to 5

Cost of 25 hours a week childcare	Nursery under two	Two and over	Childminder under two	Two and over
England	£140.68	£135.28	£124.83	£122.33
London, outer	£155.19	£156.69	£148.51	£146.92

Source: DWP and Family Childcare Trust: Childcare Survey 2022

Figure 10: Average cost of 50 hours of childcare for children 0 to 5

Cost of 50 hours a week childcare	Nursery under two	Two and over	Childminder under two	Two and over
England	£273.57	£265.38	£237.58	£236.01
London, outer	£303.04	£308.79	£294.27	£291.90

Source: Family Childcare Trust: Childcare Survey 2022

Figure 11: Average cost of 25 or 50 hours of childcare for children 0 to 5 accessing funded hours

Location	Cost of 25 hours a week childcare, including universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds (paying for 10 hours)	50 hours a week, including extended entitlement (paying for 20 hours)
England	£54.10	£105.76
London, outer	£70.74	£139.50

Source: Family Childcare Trust: Childcare Survey 2022

3.11 Support for Parent

Help with childcare costs

There are options available to parents and carers to help with childcare costs. Parents and carers must select the option that best suits their personal circumstances. Parents and carers in Havering can find further information on the local authority's website at [Early Years, Childcare & Funding | Havering Directory](#).

Affordability

For childcare to be sustainable, early years providers need to generate income to ensure they are meeting operating costs. At the same time, childcare needs to be affordable to parent and carers.

The local authority does not determine the business models of early years providers, market forces influence the sector. Local authorities do have a legal duty to ensure there is sufficient affordable childcare for families who need it and will identify any gaps in the market.

The legislation states that local authorities cannot intervene in how providers operate their private business. This includes charges for provision over and above a child's funded place

Other support for working parents

All parents with young children, and some parents with older children, are entitled to support from Government with their childcare costs: either through the benefits system or through other support for working parents. This is only available if they use childcare which is registered with Ofsted. The schemes available to parents will depend on their family income, child's age, childcare costs, and whether they live in an area where Universal Credit has been rolled out. It is not possible to use tax relief schemes and benefits at the same time.

Universal Credit and childcare

From June 2018 Universal Credit became available in Havering. Universal Credit replaced many different benefits including the childcare element of Working Tax Credit.

Through Universal Credit parents may be able to claim back up to 85% of their childcare costs. Parents, and partners if living with them, will usually need to either be working or have a job offer and the childcare must be provided by a registered childcare provider.

The Family Information Service is able to provide advice on all the childcare support available to families within Havering.

Tax free childcare

Available to all parents with children aged under the age of 12, or up to 17 if the child has a disability. Free childcare covers 20 per cent of childcare costs up to a maximum of £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 for disabled children, where no parent earns more than £100,000 per year. It is administered through online accounts – parents pay in money, the Government tops it up, and the money is then transferred to the provider.

Whilst the early education and childcare entitlement must be provided for and taken up over and above the free entitlement, for children not qualifying for this, charges may apply and this is a private business matter.

Section 4: Sufficiency of Childcare Places

For the purposes of this assessment the supply of formal childcare includes private day nurseries, preschools, schools with nursery provision, childminders, out of school and holiday clubs. Crèches are not included as any care of less than three hours is not required to register with Ofsted.

4.1 Number of early years providers by type

The data below summarises the number of Early Years and Childcare Providers in Havering:

In total, there are 366 active Ofsted registered early years providers of 0 to 5 year olds. Several providers operate more than one provision. Based on the amount of providers in the previous report the numbers have decreased for childminders, although childminder agencies have increased and we have seen an increased for day nurseries and preschools.

Figure 12: Number of early years providers

Childcare provider type	Number of providers
Childminders	171
Childminder Agencies	16
Academy/Independent/Maintained Nursery	30
Day Nurseries	59
Preschools	65
Out of School Clubs	33

Source: Havering Synergy FIS Portal, August 2025

Maps of early years providers are available towards the end of this report.

4.2 Early Years vacancies

Vacancies are not always a true reflection of spare capacity as they are usually odd days and times which does not meet parental needs/preference and will not meet the forecast demand in an area where there has been projected to be a potential shortfall.

In some cases, providers may have a vacancy which is only available for a specific age group, or for a particular part time arrangement. We ask providers to report vacancies to us so we can help promote these. Not all choose to do this.

In general, however, vacancy rates are higher in the autumn, when children start reception.

4.3 Early Years atypical hours

Childcare is most commonly delivered during the typical working day – between 8am and 6pm on weekdays. Some parents require childcare outside these times in order to fit with their work or other responsibilities.

4.4 Number of school age providers and places

Tracking supply of childcare for school age children is difficult because parents also use other forms of provision during holidays which is not considered ‘childcare’, for example sports, performance or arts clubs. Not all of this type of provision is registered with Ofsted.

4.5 Providers offering funded early education places

In order to deliver any or all of the funded entitlements, a provider must be approved and be part of Havering’s Directory of Providers of Funded Early Education. Early education providers must agree to and sign Havering’s Early Education and Childcare Provider Directory and Funding Agreement. This sets out the expectation agreed by the Department for Education as to what early education is for and how funded early education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds should be delivered. Details of early years providers and the funded entitlements offered is published on the Family Services Directory to assist parents who are looking for a funded early education place.

The table below shows the number of providers signed up to deliver funded early education and childcare places as of August 2025.

Figure 13: Childcare provider type

Childcare provider type	Total
Childminders	94
Childminder Agencies	10
Academy/Independent/Maintained Nursery	30
Day Nurseries and Preschools	123
Out of School Club	1

4.6 The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme

HAF is a DfE-funded initiative and has been running in Havering since April 2021. The programme has helped to develop a range of out-of-school provision on offer county wide. The programme’s aims were to provide funded enriching activities and healthy food for benefit related free-school-meal eligible children and young people during the Easter, Summer, and Christmas school holidays since 2021.

Whilst the HAF programme had been piloted in other local authorities previously, 2021 was the first year it had been run in Havering. During the Easter holiday providers were funded to offer places, with 580 young people attending provision. The offer was developed for the summer holiday, with 15 providers operating across more than 17 sites across the borough, running more than 17 individual sessions between them. In total more 619 eligible young people attending across the summer holiday period. More than 15 providers offered places over the Christmas 2021 holiday period with 714 funded places attended.

HAF grants were paid to established organisations running out of school activities and to a number of new providers during the Easter, summer, and Christmas school holidays in 2021. Many of those providers worked with the local authority to develop and extend their offer to families to utilise this funding opportunity.

Local authorities have received confirmation from the DfE that funding for the HAF programme will be extended in to 2022. The local authority will work with partners such as Havering Schools, Social Services, CAD Teams, Youth Services, current and new providers to develop a programme of provision for the year.

4.7 Quality of Early Years & Childcare provision

Statutory guidance states that all children should be able to take up their free hours in a high quality early years provision. Evidence shows that higher quality provision has greater developmental benefits for children, particularly for the most disadvantaged children leading to better outcomes. The evidence also shows that high quality provision at age two brings benefits to children's development.

The Local Authority is committed to ensuring high quality early years provision is available to our youngest children. As such, the LA has a new business process which is designed to support both new and existing providers to establish their setting ready to deliver funded childcare places as soon as possible. Ofsted is the sole arbiter of quality and through the inspection process each early years provider will receive one of four grades (Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement or Inadequate) depending on the inspection findings.

Further information about the offers is available via this link www.havering.gov.uk/ptr.

Figure 14: Ofsted outcomes by provider type

Provider type	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
Full Daycare	13%	85%	2%	0%
Preschool	12%	86%	2%	0%

Those early years providers awaiting an Ofsted inspection are not included in the figures above.

Provider type	Outstanding	Good or Met	Requires improvement or Not met	Inadequate
Childminder	17%	79%	2%	2%

Support is available for providers to improve the quality of delivery and meet the requirements of the EYFS and Ofsted. The quality of provision plays an important part in the sufficiency of places.

There are three possible levels of support available to early years providers in Havering through the Early Years Quality Assurance Team.

This quality improvement supports available as; intensive, targeted and universal on offer to providers based on their Ofsted Inspection judgements are geared towards ensuring that all providers consider how best to create, maintain and improve their provision in order to offer the highest quality experiences for all young children. It is by doing so on a continuous basis that they can secure the best possible outcomes for all young children.

Our current data shows that 97% of our active registered early years & childcare providers including childminders, full day care, preschools provision, offering early years and childcare places have been rated by Ofsted as Good or Outstanding as of 31 August 2025. In England it is 98% good and outstanding.

Source: GOV.UK Childcare providers and inspections

4.8 Out of School Clubs

Out of school childcare includes breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday play schemes. This form of childcare can operate either on or off a school site and can be run by the school or by the private, voluntary and independent sector. Many schools provide extra-curricular after school activities such as sports clubs, gardening clubs and film clubs. Although these may not be classed as childcare, they still provide a safe learning environment for children whilst parents or carers are at work or studying. These types of clubs may not operate throughout the school year and may vary from term to term and are often only an hour in duration.

Good quality out of school childcare has a positive effect upon children's outcomes. Research has shown that this type of good quality childcare can improve children's behaviour, social and emotional skills as well as impacting upon academic performance. Children taking part in organised sports and physical activities at the ages of 5, 7 and 11 were almost one and a half times more likely to reach a higher-than expected level in their Key Stage 2 (KS2) maths test at age 11. Among disadvantaged children, those who attended after school clubs also fared better than their peers who did not take part in such groups. They achieved, on average, a 2-point higher total score in their KS2 assessments in English, Maths and Science at the end of primary school.

Source: UCL: Institute of Education-Out of school activities improve children's educational attainment, study reveals. 20 April 2016

Dependent upon specific criteria, not all wraparound provision is Ofsted registered and there is no legal need to inform local authorities of operation. A provider who only offers two hours a day or provides two activities or fewer is not required to register with Ofsted. A setting may choose to join the voluntary part of the childcare register to allow parents to claim childcare vouchers. Providers do not have to meet specified child to adult ratios if they only care for children over the age of eight.

It is difficult to determine the exact number of places available for children outside of school hours and in holiday periods. Many non-registered holiday activities are run by local leisure or sport centres which may not be represented in local authority figures that show the number of places reportedly available by all registered providers in

4.9 Havering Family Information Service Directory

Havering Family Information Service provides information on all registered childcare providers in the borough, the local offer and wider information on facilities and services both in Havering and the UK. It's target audience is Parents/care givers, there is also a professionals' area on the site.

Between 2020 to 2021 searches for childcare and information on funding pages on the Havering Family Information Service Directory (FSD) were increased by 19% plus searches on health and social care information dramatically increased.

Web address www.havering.gov.uk/fsh.

Section 5: 2024 Childcare Sufficiency Ward Profile Data

The following chart gives a detailed breakdown of childcare sufficiency profile by ward level and identifies where a potential shortfall of childcare places is being projected

Figure 15: Ward Level Profile Summer 2023/24

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
Beam Park	209	26	112	2 Childminders (of which 1 EE&C) 1 Maintained 1 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2YO Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
Cranham	419	13	311	4 Childminders (of which 3 EE&C) 5 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
				22 Childminders (of which 10 EE&C)	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	
Elm Park	588	37	343	1 Maintained 8 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	3 & 4 Year Old Deficit	Yes
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit	
				2 Childminders (of which 2 EE&C)	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	
Emerson Park	229	11	170	2 Pre-School 1 Day Nurseries	3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	Yes
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
					Deficit	
Gooshays	780	77	571	5 Childminders (of which 2 EE&C) 1 Maintained & 2 Academy 1 Out of School Club 4 Pre-School 4 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient 3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient 9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	No
Hacton	273	14	240	13 Childminders (of which 6 EE&C) 2 Maintained 1 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient 3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient 9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit	Yes

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
Harold Wood	534	32	247	12 Childminders (of which 8 EE&C) 3 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	<div>2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient</div> <div>3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient</div> <div>9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit</div>	Yes
Havering-atte-Bower	672	66	233	6 Childminders (of which 4 EE&C) 1 Maintained & 1 Academy 1 Independent 2 Pre-School 1 Day Nurseries	<div>2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient</div> <div>3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient</div> <div>9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient</div>	No

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
Heaton	770	88	323	9 Childminders (of which 5 EE&C) 3 Maintained 4 Pre-School	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
Hylands & Harrow Lodge	425	30	206	9 Childminders (of which 3 EE&C) 1 Maintained 1 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	Yes
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
Marshalls & Rise Park	370	30	389	7 Childminders (of which 3 EE&C) 2 Maintained & 1 Academy 2 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	<div>2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient</div> <div>3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient</div> <div>9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient</div>	No
Mawneys	531	51	317	18 Childminders (of which 11 EE&C) 1 Maintained 3 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	<div>2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient</div> <div>3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient</div> <div>9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit</div>	Yes

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
Rainham & Wennington	520	49	319	11 Childminders (of which 1 EE&C) 2 Maintained 5 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
Rush Green & Crowlands	719	88	329	10 Childminders (of which 4 EE&C) 1 Maintained 4 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
South Hornchurch	407	24	227	12 Childminders (of which 1 EE&C) 3 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	Yes
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Deficit	
Squirrels Heath	580	37	378	18 Childminders (of which 10 EE&C) 2 Independent 6 Pre-School 2 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
St Alban's	371	36	309	3 Childminders (of which 3 EE&C) 1 Maintained 1 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
St Andrew's	463	27	293	14 Childminders (of which 8 EE&C) 1 Maintained 3 Pre-School 3 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	

Ward	Population of 2, 3 and 4 year olds ¹	No. of eligible 2 year olds	No. of Ofsted registered places available ²	No. of early years providers operating	Sufficient or deficit childcare places? ³	Is there a need to create childcare places in this ward?
St Edward's	473	38	593	11 Childminders (of which 4 EE&C) 1 Maintained 2 Pre-School 8 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	
Upminster	300	7	381	15 Childminders (of which 7 EE&C) 1 Independent 5 Pre-School 4 Day Nurseries	2 Year Old Families Receiving Additional Support Sufficient	No
					3 & 4 Year Old Sufficient	
					9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements Sufficient	

Sources:

¹2022-based BPO Projections

²Providers who are delivering funded early education and childcare (EE&C) places

³Based on 2024/25 Projections

9+ Month & 2 Year Old Expanded Entitlements data is taken from the Department for Education EY Entitlement Readiness data and compared to Summer 2025 census data and local knowledge.

For an up to date list of early years providers search visit the www.havering.gov.uk/fsd

Further information about the current Early Years projections can be found in:

https://www.havering.gov.uk/downloads/download/724/commissioning_plan_for_education_provision

Section 6: Commissioning Early Years Education and Childcare

6.1 What we have done so far

The following are the key achievements since the publication of the Childcare Sufficiency Report 2023 – 2027 - 2024 Update published:

- The take-up of the early education and childcare places for 3 and 4 year olds has continued to be steady and the number of eligible 2 year olds Families Receiving Additional Support (FRAS) in Summer 2024 was 507, slight decrease from previous year.
- Majority of our early education and childcare providers are delivering 30 hours free childcare, whether this is a term time offer or a stretched offer.
- There is more flexibility in the system to suit working arrangements as parents now tend to take stretched offer places when accessing an early education and childcare place in full day care provision.
- The overall quality of early years providers rated by Ofsted as Good or Outstanding continues to increase.
- Up to 55% of childminders have signed up to deliver early education and childcare place, an increase from previous year.
- The number of early education and childcare providers including childminders, who have signed the Early Education and Childcare Provider Directory and Funding Agreement 2023 – 2027 to deliver funded childcare places is 258 continues to grow.
- The number of Schools (Academies, Maintained and Independent) with nursery classes delivering early education and childcare is 30 nursery provisions in Summer 2025.
- Support for prospective providers along the registration pathway process continues to strengthen.
- The number of Childminders registered with Childminder Agencies has now reached 16 and continues to grow.
- The Early Years Expansion Grant has enabled the creation of 113 early years places in preparation for the September 2025 rollout.
- The Wraparound Childcare initiative, which ensures schools are open 8am to 6pm has funded the creation of 212 additional childcare places.

- The marketing platform is broadening its reach, with increased engagement through Facebook alerts and ongoing collaboration with internal teams to connect with families.

6.2 Future Planning & Recommendations 2023 – 2027

We are aware that assessing the childcare market and ensuring sufficiency of provision is both a complex and constantly moving challenge.

Analysis of childcare places for 0-4 year olds shows that across the borough there are sufficient places as mentioned above. Our future planning to ensure that we meet our commissioning obligations will include the following:

- Ensure that a nursery provision is part of the space when a new free school is being delivered according to the ESFA baseline design. Review and monitor the data at the time of delivery
- Encouraging all early years and childcare providers to regularly assess the local market need to identify and respond to any unmet demand.
- Monitor the impact of extended entitlement (30 hours) on childcare sufficiency levels ensuring that the views and needs of parents and carers are taken into account.
- Continue to support the establishment of new childcare businesses and expansion of existing provisions.
- Increasing the number of provisions with a 'Good' or above Ofsted inspection judgement.
- Engaging with Schools, Childminders, Childminder Agencies and Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers to expand the availability of places for 2 year olds places and wraparound care.
- Continue to collaborate with commercial and letting properties to develop and establish new provision particularly in areas of planned housing growth.
- Engaging with After School Clubs and Holiday Providers to deliver early years and childcare places to support 30 hours entitlement delivery.
- Encourage all providers to inform parents about their entitlement and options childcare support and funding.
- Review practices and processes across early years provision in collaboration with the CAD Team in alignment with the Havering Special Educational Needs, Disability (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Strategy to ensure that the needs of all children with SEND are met.

- As we prepare for upcoming Childcare Sufficiency Reports, it remains essential to closely monitor the availability and demand for childcare across Havering. Shifts in employment patterns, population growth, and changes in family needs all contribute to a dynamic landscape that requires ongoing analysis to ensure sufficient provision of early years services.
- Funded places and provider sustainability will be required to monitor the sector and ensure it is able to continue to provide the number of quality childcare places that is required by Havering families now, and in the future.
- Recruitment of qualified and experienced practitioners remains a challenge for providers across the country. This reflects a national issue we continue to monitor.
- From January 2026, all early years providers must clearly publish and itemise their fees and charges – either on their own website or via the local authority – we will work closely with providers to support full compliance with these new transparency requirements.

Section 7: Maps of Providers

Map of Childminders and Childminder Agencies

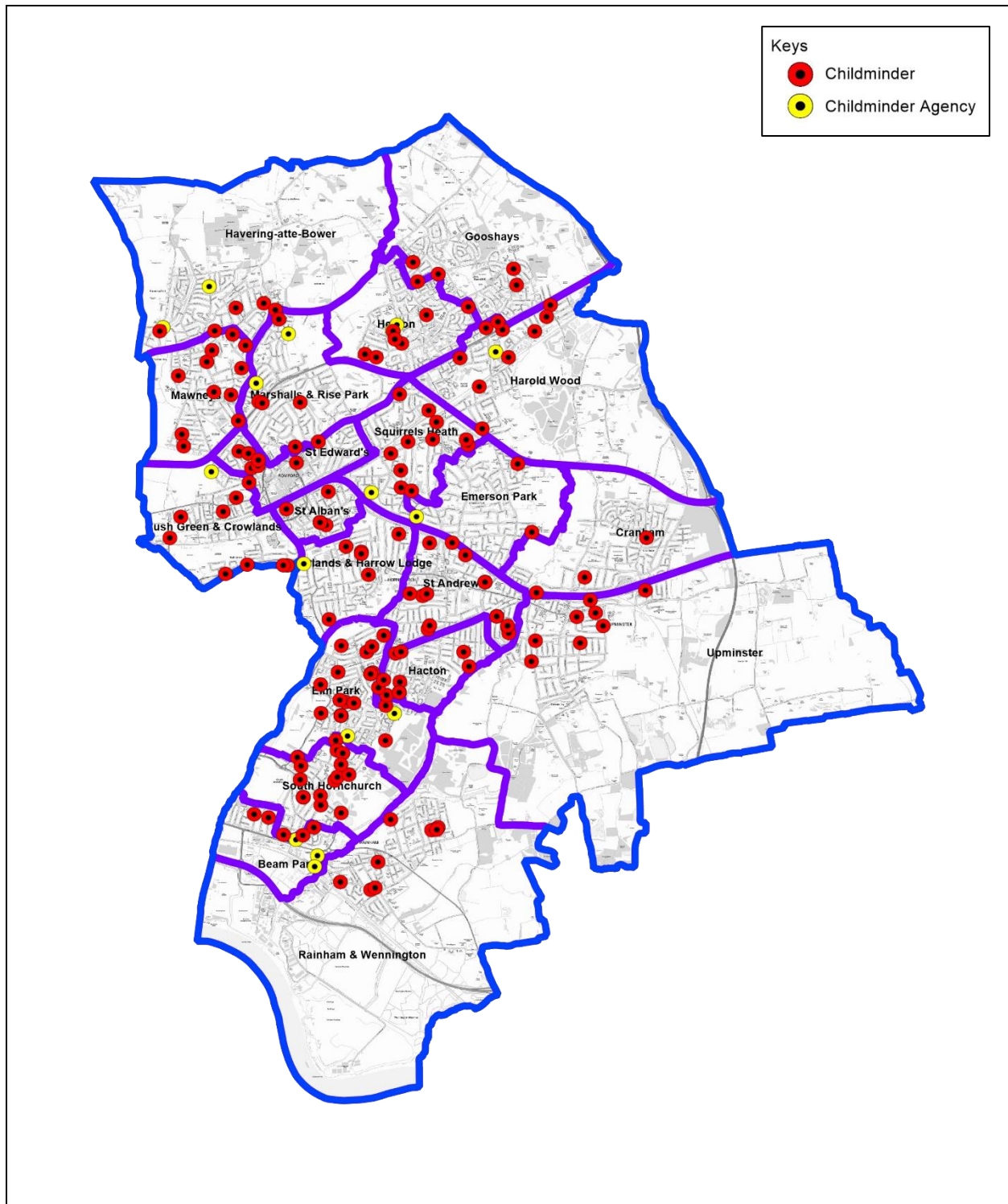


Figure 16: Childminders and Childminder Agencies as of August 2025

Map of Academy, Day Nurseries, Independent, Maintained and Preschools

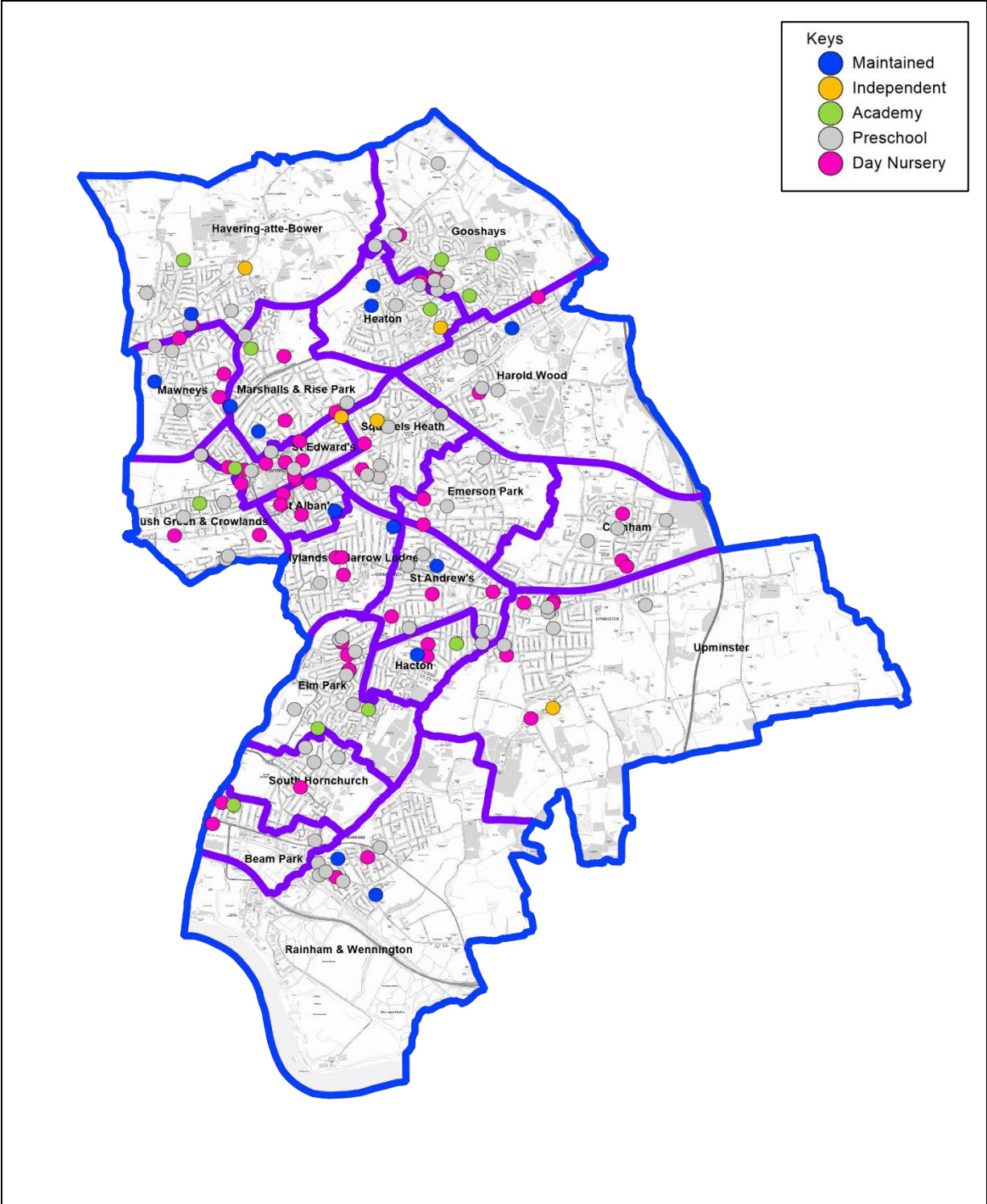


Figure 17: Academies, Maintained and Independent Providers as of August 2025

Map of Out of schools Clubs Providers

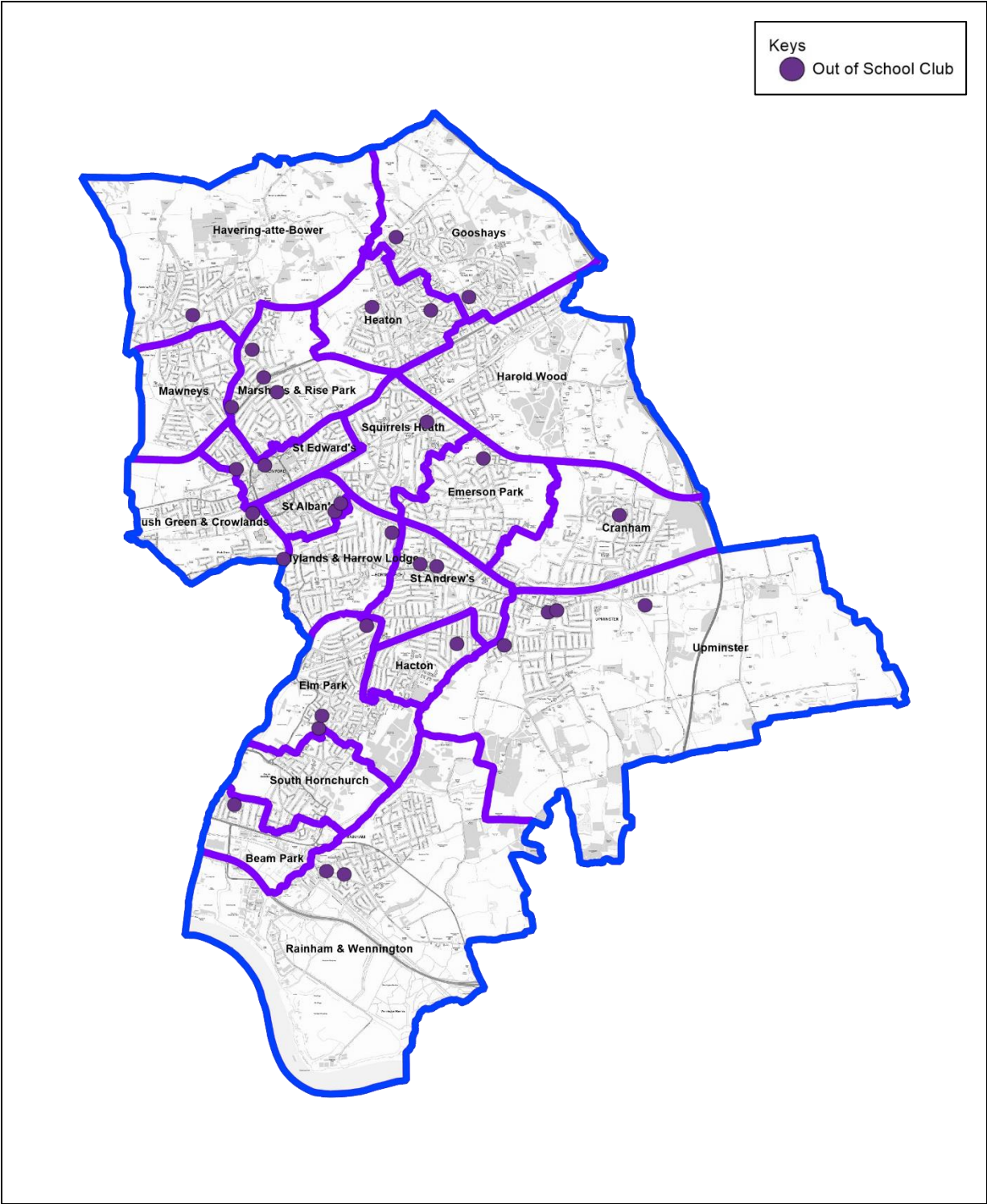


Figure 18: Out of schools Clubs Providers as of August 2025

End of Report
