

The Childcare Picture in Cambridge City North

There is a higher number of registered places, (27.6) per 100 children aged 0-14 years compared to the county average (25). 50% of parents use some form of childcare with more parents using formal than informal childcare. A high number of parents use childcare to work, (79%). The type of childcare most frequently accessed were after-school clubs (39%), private day nurseries (29%) and registered childminders (17%)

A high number of parents (64%) in this locality rated the quality of the childcare that they used as excellent or very good or good and nearly all reported that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their existing childcare arrangements.

Parents reported differing views of whether there were enough childcare places in the locality. Data shows that there are vacancies in the many types of childcare provision in the locality but additional full day care places are needed.

Many parents in this locality were aware of working tax credits and the same number (57%) reported that the childcare element had helped make childcare more affordable. The use of childcare vouchers in this locality is the third highest in the county, 16% of parents in this locality make use of the childcare voucher scheme. 63% of parents felt informed about the childcare in the area but some parents in this locality would like to be more informed of the childcare provision available.

A high percentage of parents in Cambridge North are aware of the Early Years free entitlement but approximately only 60 % take all their free entitlement. The same percentages of parents were aware of the increase in the free entitlement to 15 hours from September 2010 and intended to take up the additional hours.

Key Actions

- Support the development of new childcare places to meet the need of housing developments and new communities.
- Improve the availability of out of school childcare for children with disabilities, including a better choice of mainstream or specialist childcare facilities.
- Monitor the vacancy levels in pre schools and full day care settings and develop new childcare places to meet demand, particularly resulting from rising birth-rates.
- Ensure sufficient places available for the free entitlement for eligible 2 year olds.
- Raise awareness of the Childcare Information Service to parents so that they are informed of the childcare available in their area.
- Increase awareness of the free Early Years entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds.

SCC/1 South Cambs/City Cambridge North

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Inspection Update

Ofsted Outcomes

Outstanding	6
Good	59
Satisfactory	38
Inadequate	0
No information/ Registration Exempt *	33

* these could be Childminders (CMs) not yet graded by Ofsted, CMs offering only Out of School childcare (OSC), or schools offering OSC, for example.

	County	Locality
0-14 Population	103762	10004
Registered places per 100 children aged 0-14 years	25	27.6

Childcare Places and Vacancies

Provider Type	No of Providers	Reg Places	Vacancies
Day nursery	9	723	56
Maintained Nursery Schools and Classes	4	316	0
Private Nursery School			
Childminder	77	367	77
Wraparound care, Breakfast Club, Out of School Care	23	534	61
Pre-School Playgroup	9	226	23
Extended Day Playgroup	6	222	4
Holiday Scheme	9	368	70
Total	138	2765	291