

Early Years Entitlements Expansion and National Wraparound Childcare Programme

January 2024

putting
the child first



Spring Budget 2023

Childcare Reforms

The Chancellor set out large-scale childcare reforms aiming to increase availability, reduce costs and increase the number of parents using it

Extending Early Education Entitlements for working parents

National Wraparound Childcare Programme

The Scope of the Childcare Reforms

From April 2024

Eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to claim 15 hours funded childcare per week for 38 weeks

From September 2024

Eligible working parents of children from 9 months old will be able to claim 15 hours funded childcare per week for 38 weeks

From September 2025

Eligible working parents of children from 9 months old to primary school age will be able to claim 30 hours funded childcare per week for 38 weeks

September 2024

Programme goes live

The government's ambition is that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary school-aged children who need it will be able to access term time childcare in the local area from 8am - 6pm, so that parents can access employment and improve labour market participation.

The Funding

September 2023

EY Supplementary Grant
A one-off EY supplementary grant for the period September 2023 - March 2024 for 3-4 YO and disadvantaged 2YO funded places

November 2023

Introduction of Childminder Grants
Increased support for families on Universal Credit

April 2024

Increase to 2 YO and 3-4 YO funding rate

LAs will receive funding to develop new and expanded wrap-around places and capital grant funding to deliver the wraparound programme in their area. We are currently working on the programme budget and grant application process and will issue guidance early 2024 for place development and capital grant funding.

Tax Free Childcare
Critical for financial support and wraparound sustainability.
For working families with children aged 0 - 11 years (or 0 - 16 years if disabled)

Capital Funding

Capital Funding

National Developments supporting the reforms

National Publicity and Information
Childcare Choices Campaign

Changes to EYFS Framework
Change to Staff ratios (optional)

Early Years Educator Apprenticeships
Campaign to attract more young people (16-24) into the sector

National Publicity and Information
Childcare Choices Campaign

Local developments supporting the reforms

Review Services and Roles within TfC

Proposed Funding Formula consultation open
School Forum January 2024 and February 2024

Develop and distribute local sufficiency surveys for both programmes

Implementation Timeline

Areas of Change	Sept 2023 - March 2024	April 2024	June 2024	Sept 2024	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Extending early entitlements for working parents	Currently, parents who work more than 16 hours a week and earn less than £100,000 are entitled to 30 hours free childcare a week for children aged 3 to 4	Programme Launch 15 hours per week for 38 weeks, for eligible working parents of 2 year olds introduced		Programme Launch 15 hours per week for 38 weeks for eligible working parents of children 9 months plus introduced	Programme Launch 30 hours per week for 38 weeks for eligible working parents of children from 9 months to primary school age introduced	
Wraparound childcare programme eg Breakfast Club, Afterschool Club 8am - 6pm	Local authorities expected to start planning and preparation for rollout of national programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DfE publishes guidance for schools LA information sessions LA to submit completed supply and demand mapping data to DfE 		Deadline for LAs to submit delivery plan for programme funding to DfE SLAs, including monitoring agreements constructed and agreed between Schools / Providers and LA and grants distributed	Programme Launch National Wraparound financial support to primary schools begins for two academic years	National wraparound financial support to primary schools continues	Wraparound financial support finishes in April 2026. All schools able to offer 8am - 6pm wraparound on their own or in partnership
EY Supplementary Grant Expected increased funding rates Childminder grants Families on Universal income	A one-off EY supplementary grant for the period September 23 - March 24 for 3 and 4 YO and 2 YO places	Expecting an increase in 3 and 4 YO and 2 YO funding rate				
New 'Provider Specific' EYFS Frameworks effective 4 th January 2024	Optional changes to ratios for 2 YO flexibility to increase to 1:5 from 1:4	Further measures for flexibility of operation expected early 2024				

What funding is there to support the programmes?

Early Years Entitlements Support Funding		Wraparound Programme Programme Funding	
Early Years Supplementary Grant <i>(One-off Payment)</i>	£60,131.79	2023 – 2024	£17,310.55
		2024 – 2025	£1,116,599.73
		2025 – 2026*	£520,952.58
Total	£60,131.79	Total	£1,654,862.86
*Not guaranteed - £1,133,910.28			

Childcare Expansion Capital Funding

£457,493.00

Funding is to be spent on capital projects and is being provided to LAs to meet the capital costs associated with projects that help ensure sufficient places for:

- Children taking up an early years place through the expanded 30-hours entitlement for qualifying working parents (from the term following the child reaching 9-months to the term in which they turn 3-years-old)
- Increasing the supply of wraparound childcare for primary-school aged children.

What can the funding can be used for?

Early Years Entitlement

£60,131.79

- A one-off grant (EYSG) to meet programme and delivery costs associated with rolling out the expansion by the LA.

Wraparound Programme

£1,654,862.86

- To fund new and expanded wraparound provision, either to meet current demand or build future demand.
- Support growth of future demand, for example, improved communication with parents and advice on use of Universal Credit and Tax-Free Childcare.
- To cover costs including staffing, training, and transport costs such as minibus hire (not purchase, although capital funding could be used for this), as well as resources.
- To contribute to running costs of new places whilst demand builds, to remove any financial risk to providers of offering additional places before demand is guaranteed.
- To pay for training for wraparound staff, including specialist training for staff to ensure they feel equipped to support children with additional needs.
- Capital funding (provided separately) can be used so providers can ensure that inclusive provision is set up from the beginning.

What is the current position in Sunderland?

Early Years Entitlement

- Occupancy at the last Childcare Sufficiency data collection shows 86% occupancy across the city.¹
- Projected total additional demand hours from April 2024: 1,860 (equivalent to 124 x 15 hour places).
- Highest shortfall of supply hours within the Pallion, Redhill, Washington East, Sandhill and Hetton wards².

¹ Source: May 2023 Childcare Sufficiency Return, 74% completion rate

² Source: DfE LA Readiness Self Assessment Data

Wraparound Programme

- 11 (13.5%) of Primary Schools offer 8am – 6pm full wraparound care¹.
- 41 (50.6%) of Primary Schools offer some form of before and after school care.
- 13 (16%) of Primary Schools offer no form of wraparound care.
- 3 PVI Out of School Clubs offer full wraparound care.
- 71 Childminders offer some form of before and afterschool childcare.

¹ Source: May 2023 Childcare Sufficiency Return, 74% completion rate

What are the potential delivery models?

Delivery models

NB. These are illustrative examples and are neither mutually exclusive (i.e. there may well be overlap between different models) nor are they exhaustive (i.e. there may well be other options available).



School-based provision, delivered by school

Delivered by school staff on school site, open to all children in that school.



Private provider-run provision, on or off school site

Operated and delivered by staff employed by private provider. If on school site, they may pay school to operate wraparound provision on their premises and advertise via school channels. Could operate on other sites too.



Community model

LA co-ordinates a community-focused cluster / hub model, with children from multiple schools on one site. Not necessarily linked to any one school. Could be run by private provider, community organisation or any other appropriate body.



Childminders

Provision delivered by childminders, signposted to parents by LA and schools. Could be a group of CMs working together on a single/community site.



Other EY providers

Existing EY providers may take older children (i.e. of school-age) during wraparound hours. For example, a play group operating on a school site may run the provision, or a local nursery.

What do we need to do by 31st March 2024?

Early Years Entitlements

- Undertake a thorough analysis of supply, demand and need throughout the LA, using ward-level data.
- Take into consideration cross-border families.
- Survey providers and parents to identify further need.
- Communicate to providers proposed funding rates.
- Information sessions for providers.

Wraparound Programme

- Recruit Childcare Wraparound Coordinator.
- Undertake a thorough analysis of supply, demand and need throughout the LA, using ward-level data.
- Survey providers and parents to identify further need.
- Identify and create an EY reference group.
- Communications to schools about the wraparound programme.
- Explore models of delivery with schools, PVI's, and Childminders.

What do we need to do by 30th June 2024?

Early Years Entitlements

- Review May headcount and establish potential / market demand for September 2024.
- Undertake an evaluation of the activities and processes that took place in preparation for the April 2024 changes.
- Complete the annual Childcare Sufficiency return.
- Continue to work with delivery partners.

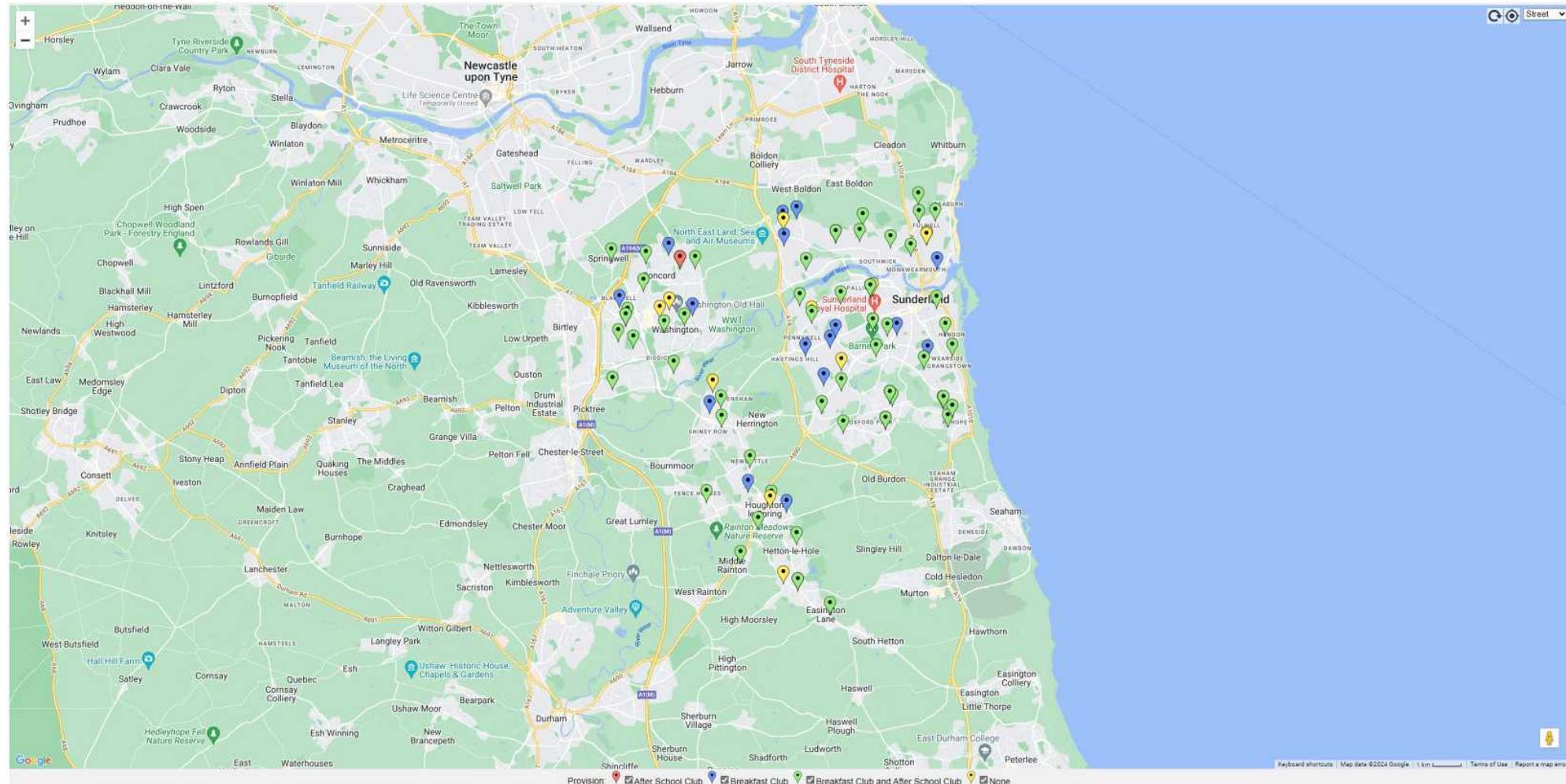
Wraparound Programme

- Complete DfE delivery plan evaluation.
- Work with providers to set up new provision.
- Establish a two year training programme for the sector.
- Evidence the Sunderland “Expand, Create & Test” policy.
- Continue to promote the Wraparound programme to providers and parents.

What are the risks and mitigations?

Risks	Mitigations
Existing capacity within the service to manage the increase in workload alongside the very tight timescales particularly for the first phase of the Entitlements Expansion in April 2024.	To mitigate this risk additional capacity is been achieved by diverting staffing resource within the service whilst the existing structure is reviewed.
A risk that the capital allocation for both expansions will not provide sufficient funds to support the scale of increase needed.	To enable maximisation of the capital element through adaptations to existing buildings will be sought rather than being reliant on new builds.
The revenue allocation for the wraparound expansion may not be enough to ensure new settings/expansion is sustainable in the long term.	The team are working with the sector to support new ways of delivery given the increase in ratios within the sector.
The amount and quality of the workforce is a huge risk to achieving both expansions as currently settings are struggling to recruit qualified staff.	Work continues to explore innovative ways of working to attract people to the sector with our local FE provision (Sunderland & Gateshead). Additionally, there are some proposed national changes and programmes of work underway to enable and support the increase in workforce.

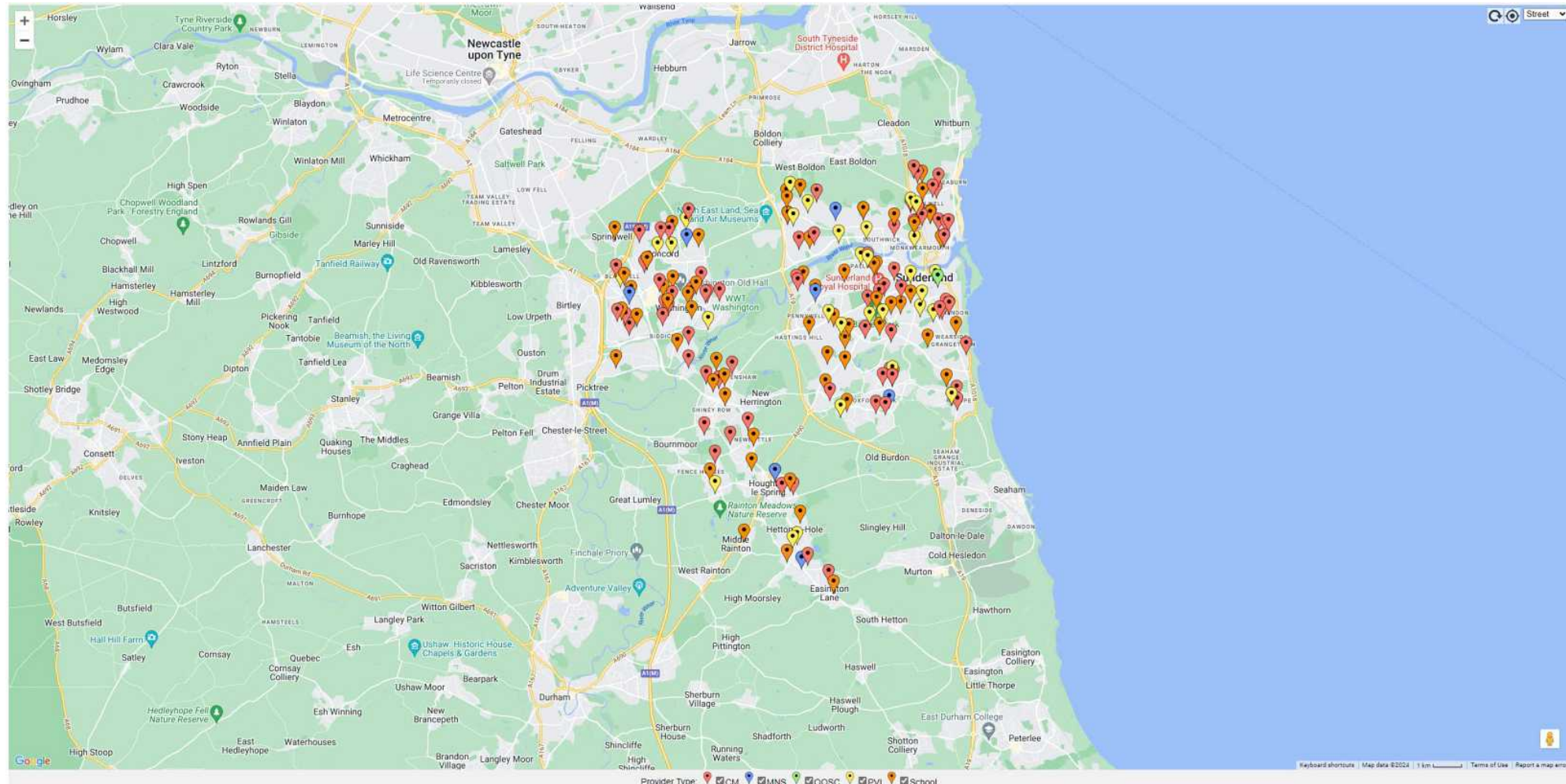
Current Wraparound Provision in Sunderland (2023 Census)



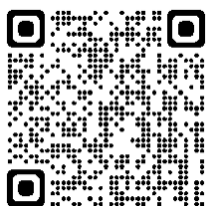
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Sunderland Schools, PVI's and Childminders



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Any Questions?