

Summarise entitlement and provision for early years education analysis



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Since 2004 all children in the UK aged three and four years old have been entitled to free places at nursery or another preschool setting (including child-minders). From 1st September 2010 the Government extended these hours from 12.5 to 15 hours for up to 38 weeks of the year. The free entitlement provides universal access to early childhood education and care, ensuring that all children have the opportunity to benefit from early years education.

The extended hours also supports parents who wish to go back to work or develop their careers through further education by providing affordable day care. (Ref www.direct.gov.uk) Almost 1,000 two-year-olds are to benefit from free childcare a year early, after it was decided to bring forward trials in 10 areas in England to this September 2012 the government has announced. They unveiled the changes to introduce greater flexibility to allow more parents to take advantage of the scheme - already used by more than 800,000 three- and four-year-olds.

It is intended that 150,000 of the most disadvantaged two-year-olds will receive up to 15 hours a week of free preschool education from September 2013, rising to 260,000 in 2014. (Ref www.guardian.co.uk) There are different types of childcare options available for 0-5 year olds, these include:

- Sure Start Children's Centre: Working with parent's right from the birth of their child, providing early years education for children, full day care, short-term care, health and family support, parenting advice as well as training and employment advice. Nursery schools: Provide early learning and childcare for children between three and five years old. They are often based at Sure Start Children's Centres or linked to a primary school. They follow the <https://assignbuster.com/summarise-entitlement-and-provision-for-early-years-education-analysis/>

early year's curriculum. The EYFS differs from Key Stage 1 it's based on learning through play rather than formal education.

- Preschools and playgroups: Usually run by voluntary groups providing part-time play and early learning for the under fives. Three and four year olds can get their 15 hours of weekly free early year's education at these providers.

Day Nurseries: Often based in workplaces and run by businesses or voluntary groups providing care and learning activities for children from birth to five years old.

- Child-minders: Look after children under 12 in the child-minder's own home. They can look after up to six children under eight years old, although no more than three of them must be under the age of five.

- Nannies and home-based carers: Provide care for children in your home and can look after children of any age.