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## **Introduction**

The Childcare Act (2006) requires North East Lincolnshire (NEL) Council, like all other local authorities in England, to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

The duties in the act (section 6) require the council to shape and support the development of childcare provision in NEL in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. This role is described as a 'market management' function, whereby the local authority supports the sector to meet the needs of parents, children and young people, along with other stakeholders.

Local authorities must report annually on how they are meeting their duty and are responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in their report, geographical division and date of publication. 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 free 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; and
- details of how any gaps in childcare provision will be addressed.

This Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) evidences how North East Lincolnshire Council are securing sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

In 2004, the Government published a '10-year Strategy for Childcare'<sup>1</sup>, to ensure that every child has the best possible start in life; whilst also providing the option for parents, particularly mothers, to work and progress their careers. The strategy covers four primary categories, which will be referred to within this CSA:

- **Choice and flexibility:** *parents to have greater choice about balancing work and family life;*
- **Availability:** *for all families with children aged up to 14 (18 for disabled children) who need an affordable, flexible, high quality childcare place that meets their circumstances;*
- **Quality:** *high quality provision with a highly skilled childcare and Early Years workforce, among the best in the world;*
- **Affordability:** *families to be able to afford flexible, high quality childcare that is appropriate for their needs.*

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<sup>1</sup> DfE, *Choice for parents, the best start for children: A ten-year strategy for childcare*, December 2004

## **Overall Assessment and Summary**

Local Authorities use Families First Information Service (FFIS) enquiries and complaints from parents who are unable to find a place to meet their needs as one measure of sufficiency and to gauge unmet demand. There is currently no evidence of unmet demand using this measure in NEL. However, where there is anecdotal evidence from professionals, the Local Authority undertakes more in depth investigation where this occurs.

When deciding whether there is a need for additional places several indicators and measures are used in the assessment. Take up levels are a primary indicator and do not in themselves indicate the need for more places. Other factors such as the location of provision in neighbouring wards and travel patterns, future housing developments etc. need to be *considered* when planning for places. These factors are all considered when carrying out secondary analysis. Another primary indicator is the number of places available. It does not necessarily mean that a lack of places in a particular area is affecting family's ability to access a place as children are free to access a place across the authority and many travel to access a place of their choice. It is only when take up rates are also applied that we can understand whether the supply of places might be a barrier to less mobile families accessing a place.

Many other factors need to be considered such as the level of the deficit, the size of the eligible population, and the availability of providers close to the ward, etc. These and other relevant factors are considered during secondary analysis of the market.

### **Potential gaps for 2 year funded places**

The national target for take up of 2 year funding is 80%. In order to meet this target there is a need for at least 80 places for every 100 potentially eligible children. Currently there are 189 places per 100 across NEL but these are not always in the areas of highest demand. Overall there continues to be an average take up rate of 84% in NEL, although this dropped to 82% in Summer 2018. Not all families choose to access their funding in the ward in which they reside.

The number of families who are potentially eligible for 2 year funding has been falling steadily. The projected number of eligible children was highest in summer 2016, at 55% of all local 2 year olds. The projections for autumn 2018 suggest that 46% of children will be eligible. Due to this fall there are no concerns that additional places may be required over the next academic year.

The Local Authority has identified areas that may require additional places for 2 year old EYE if take up is to increase, however in some cases it is believed that families are reluctant to access a place as they prefer to keep their child at home.

### **3&4 year Early Years Entitlement (EYE)**

The national target for this cohort is 100% for the universal offer (15hrs) and the 85% of those who are eligible for the extended offer (30hrs) and if this is to be achieved a place is required for every eligible child. Data shows that in total in the summer term 2018, there were 4,725 EYE places available and an eligible population of 4,611 children which equates to 1.02 places per child within NEL.

### **Potential gaps for 3&4 year EYE places**

In autumn 2017 the extended offer (30 hours) was launched. It is projected that almost 44% of local 3&4 year olds may be eligible for the additional hours in the next academic year. If the projections are correct there are sufficient places available across the borough but there may be a need for

additional places within some wards in the next academic year. The availability and take up of places will be monitored carefully each term in order to manage the childcare market to meet the demand.

#### **0-4 year old Paid for Childcare**

The returns from FIS enquiries report, feedback and the parental survey do not show any significant unmet demand for 0-4 year old paid for childcare in any ward within the authority. There are occasionally enquiries when no appropriate childcare is found to meet the needs of the family. In these cases the requirements are usually very specific i.e. need pick-ups from more than one setting etc. but due to the very low number of these cases they do not warrant active intervention in the market. The Local Authority will continue to provide support and advice to families in finding suitable childcare by publishing up to date information on a regular basis. This is available to families through the Families First Directory and via the social media pages.

#### **5-14 year old Paid for Childcare**

The Local Authority is not aware of any unmet demand for paid for breakfast club, after school club or holiday club provision.

The Local Authority will continue to provide support and advice to families in finding suitable childcare by publishing up to date information on a regular basis. This is available to families through the Families First Directory and via the social media pages

# **1 Demographic Profile: North East Lincolnshire**

## **1.1 Geography**

North East Lincolnshire (NEL) is a small unitary authority covering an area of 192km<sup>2</sup>. The majority of the resident population live in the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes with the remainder living in the smaller town of Immingham, or in surrounding rural villages.

2011 Census figures classify 94.2% of the population of North East Lincolnshire as living in an urban environment; however North East Lincolnshire has a wide variety of parks and open spaces. On the Northern border, the Humber estuary has been designated as a *Site of Special Scientific Interest* and to the south, the Lincolnshire Wolds are recognised as an *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*.

The boundary of North East Lincolnshire is comprised of 106 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs); these LSOAs which contain a minimum population of 1,000 and a mean average of 1,500 are distributed amongst the fifteen electoral wards.

**Table 1.1 The fifteen electoral wards within North East Lincolnshire**

Croft Baker	Scartho
East Marsh	Sidney Sussex
Freshney	South
Haverstoe	Waltham
Heneage	West Marsh
Humberston and New Waltham	Wolds
Immingham	Yarborough
Park	

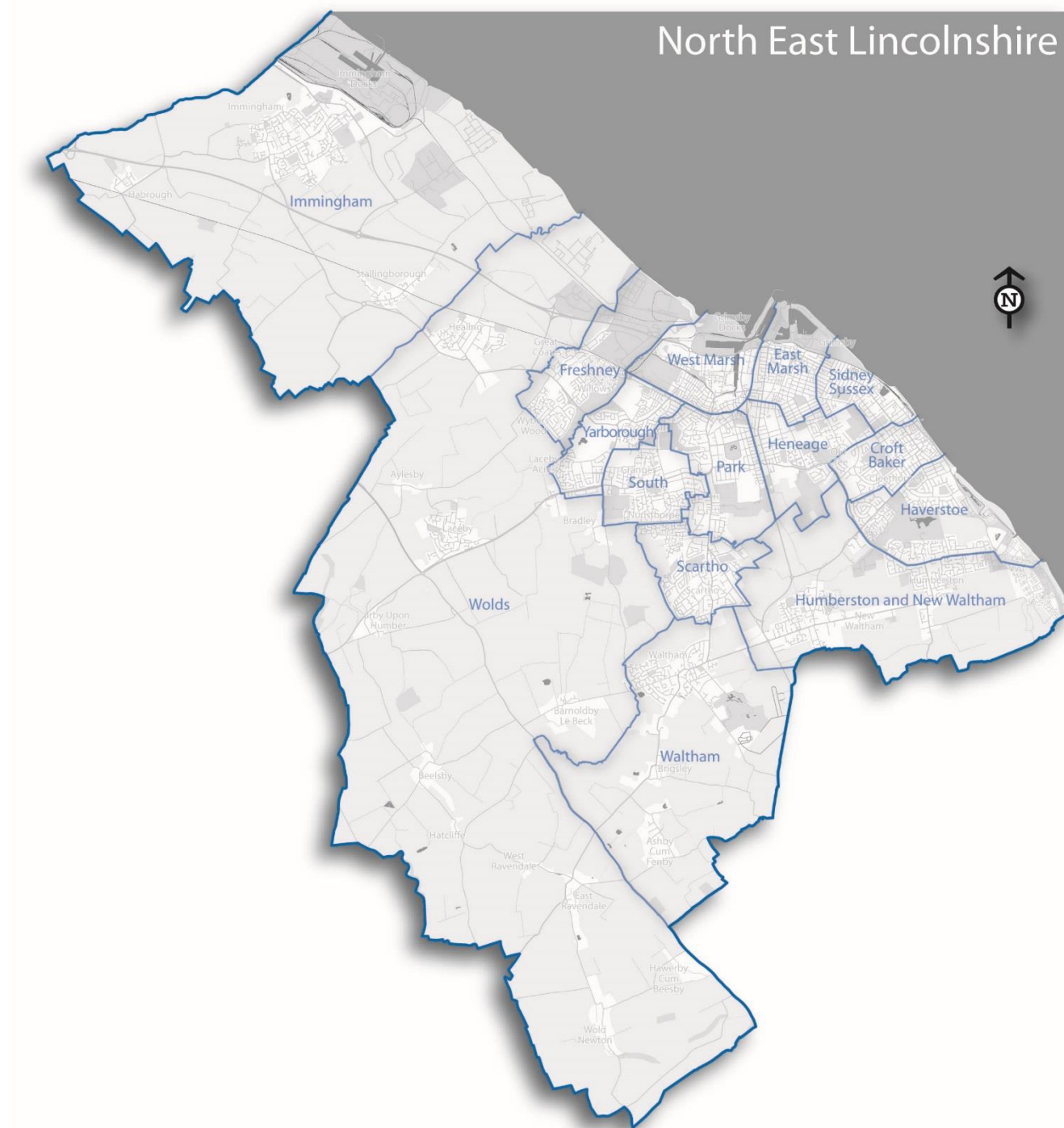
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<sup>2</sup> Source: ONS, LA Classification (Post April 2009)



A map of NEL, by its neighbourhood areas and ward boundaries, is represented below:

**Fig 1.1: North East Lincolnshire with Wards**



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## 1.2 Population

An estimated 159,600 people live within the boundary of North East Lincolnshire, with an increase of approximately 1000 people since 2005<sup>3</sup>.

The latest projections indicate an overall rise in population of 2.4% in the 25 years from 2012 to 2037, with the number of people aged 85+ predicted to more than double. The proportion of the population who are under 16 and the proportion of those of working age, are predicted to decrease, while the proportion of those aged 65 and over is predicted to increase considerably.<sup>4</sup>

**Table 1.2 Percentage of Population in 5 year Age bands 0-14 years (% as of total population)**

	<b>0-4</b>	<b>5-9</b>	<b>10-14</b>
Croft Baker	5.7	4.9	4.8
East Marsh	8.2	6.0	5.8
Freshney	5.2	5.2	6.6
Haverstoe	3.9	4.9	5.3
Heneage	7.5	6.3	5.8
Humberston and New Waltham	4.0	4.5	5.6
Immingham	6.4	5.2	6.0
Park	5.3	5.1	5.4
Scartho	5.1	5.2	6.0
Sidney Sussex	7.8	7.0	6.2
South	8.9	7.5	6.9
Waltham	4.4	4.2	5.4
West Marsh	8.9	6.0	5.1
Wolds	4.5	6.0	6.8
Yarborough	6.6	5.5	5.4
<b>NELC</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>

colour denotes where % of children is above North East Lincolnshire Average  
2016 Mid-Year estimates LSOA level (aggregated to ward) – Office of National Statistics

The proportions of resident children varies between wards. The proportion of 0 to 14 year olds, in East Marsh, Heneage, Sidney Sussex and South wards is above the average for North East Lincolnshire while Haverstoe, Humberston and New Waltham and Waltham wards have the lowest proportions of children resident in the Ward.<sup>5</sup>

The overall population of ethnic minorities within North East Lincolnshire at the time of the 2011 Census was estimated at 4.6%, which is significantly lower than regional (14.2%) and national (20.2%) comparators<sup>6</sup>; however the school census suggests that there is more diversity in the younger age groups. North East Lincolnshire school pupils as of January 2017 were predominantly White British

<sup>3</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-year 2016 population estimates

<sup>4</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics, Population projections 2012 to 2037

<sup>5</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-year 2016 population estimates LSOA geography level

<sup>6</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 census



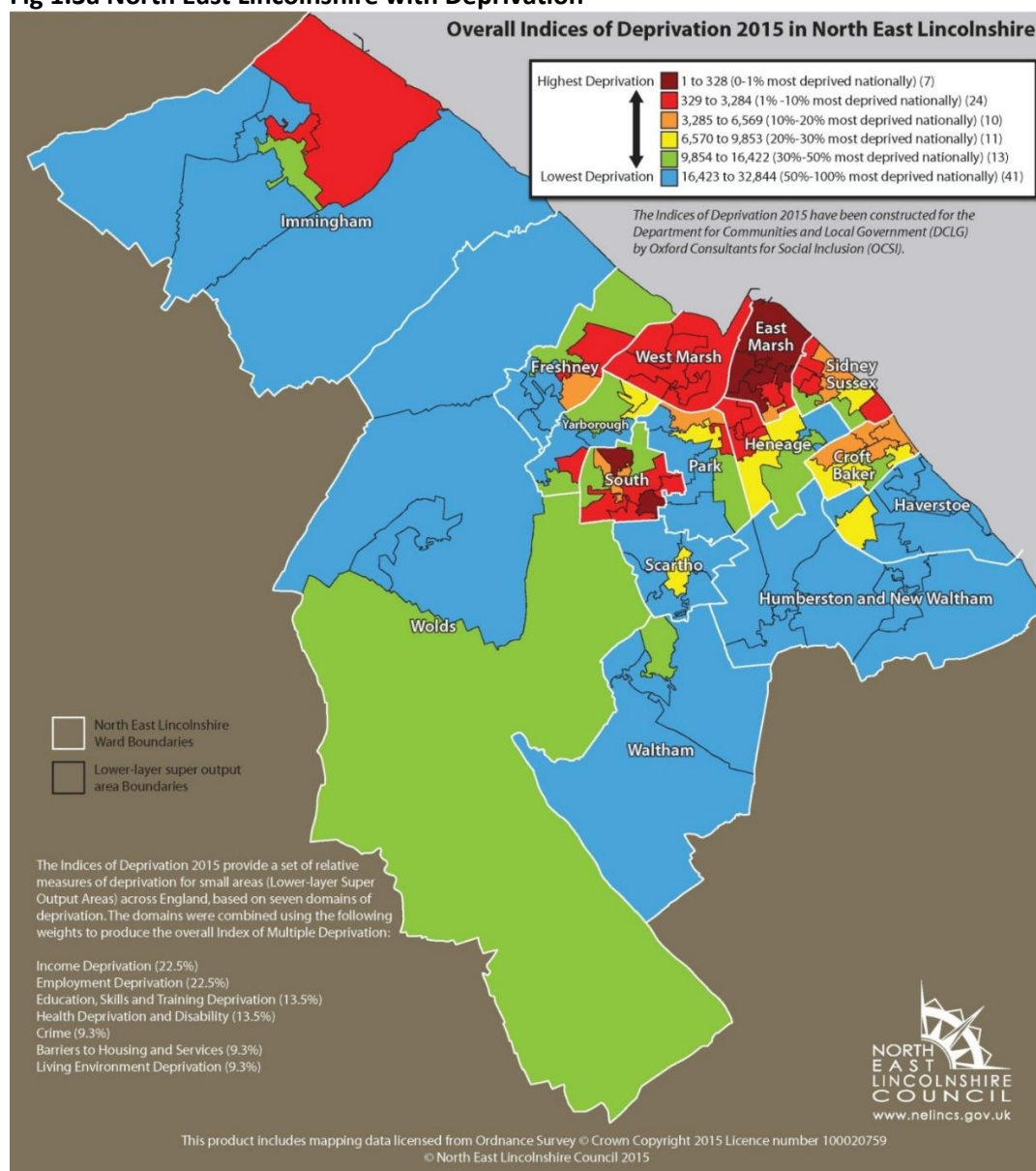
(91%) with a small, but increasing proportion from a Black or Minority Ethnic (BME) background (8%).<sup>7</sup>

Latest internal migration figures for North East Lincolnshire estimate that currently slightly more people leave the area yearly than move to the area (net outflow).

### 1.3 Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation, commonly known as the IMD, is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in England. It is the most widely used of the Indices of Deprivation. The Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks every small area in England from 1 (most deprived area) to 32,844 (least deprived area)<sup>8</sup>.

**Fig 1.3a North East Lincolnshire with Deprivation**

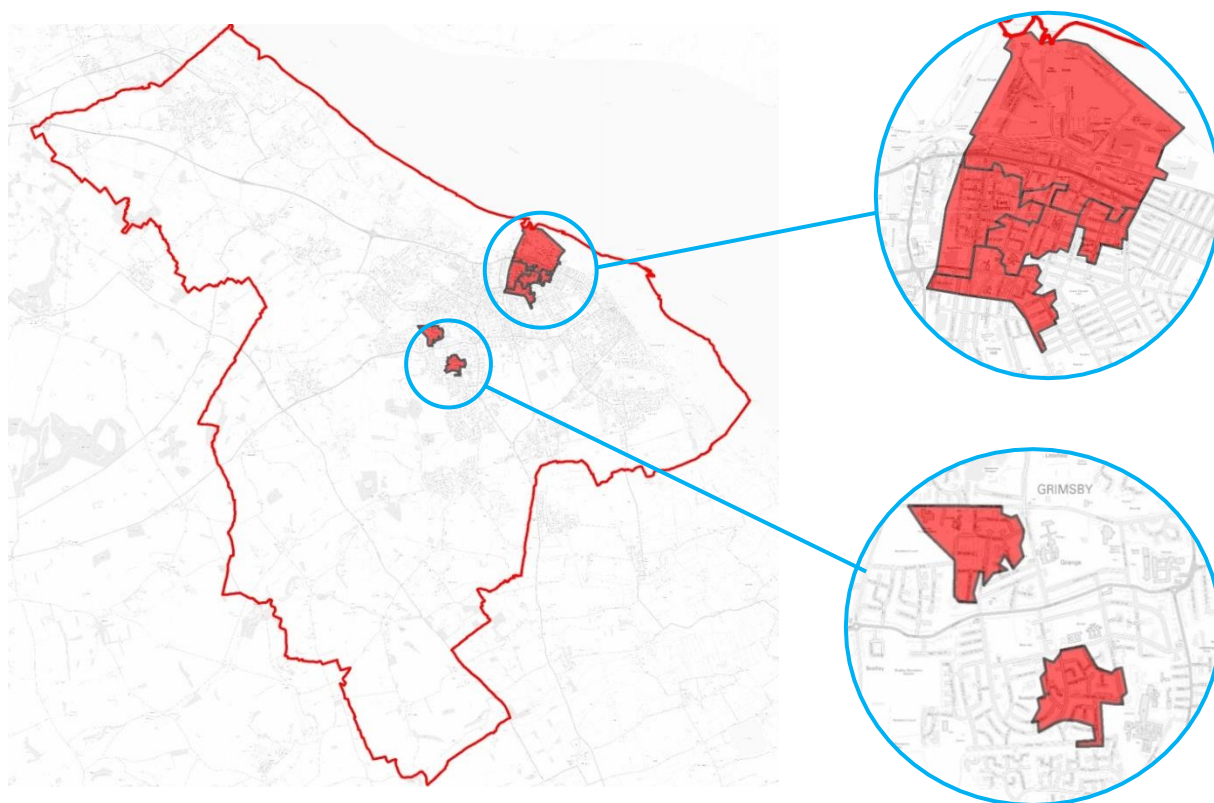


<sup>7</sup> Source: North East Lincolnshire Council 2016, School Census January 2017

<sup>8</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016, Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Overall North East Lincolnshire is ranked the 31<sup>st</sup> most deprived local authority in the country<sup>9</sup> with some wards particularly deprived (such as East Marsh, West Marsh and South Wards). 7 areas in East Marsh and South wards (5 in East Marsh, 2 in South) are ranked in the top 1% of 32844 areas nationally for Overall Deprivation (measured across 7 domains), and this is represented in the diagram below: (Figure 1.3).

**Fig 1.3b North East Lincolnshire areas within the top 1% nationally for deprivation**



**Table 1.3 Summary of the percentage of LSOAs within the most deprived 10% nationally across all 7 domains**

Name	Percentage of LSOA in most deprived 10% nationally						
	Income	Employment	Education	Health	Crime	Barriers to Housing	Living
North East Lincolnshire	25.5%	24.5%	28.3%	10.4%	36.8%	0.9%	18.9%

26.4% of LSOAs in North East Lincolnshire are in the 10% most deprived nationally, when measured against all domains.

The percentage of children in poverty in 2015,<sup>10</sup> which is defined as the total number of children in families in receipt of either out of work benefits, or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income as a percent of all children, stood at 25.1% compared with the national picture of 16.6%.

<sup>9</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016, *Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015*

<sup>10</sup> HMRC, 2016, *Personal tax credits statistics 2013*

## 1.4 Labour Market

- In 12 months to Mar-18, the 4.48% unemployment rate in North East Lincolnshire was lower than the Yorkshire and The Humber rate (4.92%) and higher than the England rate (4.36%).
- From 12 months to Mar-17 to 12 months to Mar-18, the unemployment rate in North East Lincolnshire decreased by 0.8%.
- The proportion of claimants in North East Lincolnshire has seen a net increase of 0.78% between Jul 17 (3.40%) and Jul 18 (4.18%).<sup>11</sup>

**Table 1.4a - Economic activity and Employment Rates in North East Lincolnshire – 12 months to Mar -18**

	Economic Activity Rate, %	Economic Inactivity Rate, %	Employment Rate, %	Unemployment Rate, %
North East Lincolnshire	75.72	24.28	64.30	4.48
Yorkshire and The Humber	77.28	22.72	63.78	4.92
England	78.63	21.37	63.98	4.36

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Population Survey 12 months to Mar-18

**Table 1.4b - Working age benefit claimants, by key statistical groups, in North East Lincolnshire, Humber, Yorkshire and The Humber, and England: Feb 18**

Statistical Group	North East Lincolnshire Number	North East Lincolnshire %	Yorkshire and The Humber %	England %
Job Seeker	1590	1.6%	1.4%	1.1%
Employment Support Allowance	6740	6.9%	6.2%	5.3%
Incapacity Benefits & Severe Disablement Allowance	160	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Income Support	2350	2.4%	1.7%	1.4%
Disabled	5370			
Out-of-work benefits	10840	11.1%	9.4%	7.9%

Source: DWP benefit claimants - working age client group, accessed via NOMIS, <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

The Feb 18 data shows that 16210 people claimed one or more of the DWP benefits shown in the table above (excluding out-of-work benefits) in North East Lincolnshire.

<sup>11</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Population Survey 12 months to Feb-18

**Table 1.4c - Claimant Count by Ward – July 2018**

	Claimant Count (Total)	Claimant Count (Total) (%)	Claimant Count (Males)	Claimant Count (Males) (%)	Claimant Count (Females)	Claimant Count (Females) (%)
Croft Baker	285	3.97	160	4.49	125	3.45
East Marsh	775	10.44	485	12.59	285	7.99
Freshney	195	3.25	130	4.48	70	2.26
Haverstoe	55	1.04	40	1.52	15	0.57
Heneage	425	5.55	265	6.74	160	4.3
Humberston and New Waltham	65	1.06	35	1.15	30	0.97
Immingham	220	3.15	125	3.6	100	2.84
Park	265	3.6	150	3.98	115	3.2
Scartho	105	1.61	65	2	40	1.22
Sidney Sussex	395	4.87	240	5.92	155	3.82
South	470	6.22	285	7.96	185	4.65
Waltham	45	1.15	30	1.55	15	0.76
West Marsh	450	8.85	275	10.66	175	6.98
Wolds	55	1.24	30	1.37	25	1.11
Yarborough	250	3.36	130	3.6	115	3.01
North East Lincolnshire	4055	4.18	2445	5.06	1610	3.3

*Source: Department for Work and Pensions, Office for National Statistics, Jul 18*

- Claimant Count by ward is subject to rounding, therefore North East Lincolnshire total differs from higher geography totals.
- The % of Claimants in East Marsh (10.44%), West Marsh (8.85%), South (6.22%) and Heneage (5.55%) are significantly higher than overall for North East Lincolnshire.
- 5 Wards have Claimant counts lower than the England % level. These wards are Haverstoe (1.04%), Humberston and New Waltham (1.06%), Scartho (1.61%), Waltham (1.15%) and Wolds (1.24%).
- In All wards, in July 18, the number of male claimants was higher than female.

## **2 Demand for childcare**

### **2.1 Population of early years children**

In total, there are 9,832 children under the age of five living in our local authority. These children may require early years childcare.

**Table 2.1 Numbers of children by age**

Age	Number of children
Age 0	1863
Age 1	1965
Age 2	1965
Age 3	1953
Age 4*	2086

\* Some four-year-olds will have started reception

## 2.2 Population of school age children

In total there are 13,919 children aged 5-11, and 5,153 children aged 12-14 living in our local authority. These children may require childcare before and after school, and/or during the school holidays.

**Table 2.2 Numbers of children by age**

Age	Number of children
Age 5	2014
Age 6	2100
Age 7	2012
Age 8	1935
Age 9	1955
Age 10	1962
Age 11	1941
Age 12	1718
Age 13	1713
Age 14	1722

## 2.3 Number of children with special educational needs and disabilities

In 2018, 3232 (13.3%) of school pupils were identified as having Special Education Needs, this has reduced by 5.7% from 19% in 2014 and was below the Yorkshire and Humber region (14.5%) and all England figure (14.6%). Of the 3032 children receiving SEN support 560 had EHC or SEN plans.<sup>12</sup>

Children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) are entitled to support with childcare up to the age of 18 (age 14 for children who do not have a special need or disability). The number of children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan in our local authority is:

**Table 2.3 Number of children with a Education, Health and Care plan**

Age	Number of children
Birth to school age	19
Primary school (reception to year six)	345
Secondary school (year seven to thirteen)	438

Children's needs 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, and it can take some time from problems being identified to an EHC plan being issued. It is therefore possible that the number of children with SEND aged 0-4 is an underestimate. Some children have SEN but do not have an EHC plan.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.nelincsdata.net/profiles/profile?profileId=201>

### 3 Supply of Childcare

Parents with children use many different forms of childcare, with their choices dependent on factors that include family income, employment patterns, parental preferences, childcare availability and the age of their children. The 2017 Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents<sup>13</sup>, covering England, suggested that 79% of families with children aged 0-14 years used childcare in a given week, with 66% of this formal.

As part of the national childcare survey, parents in England were asked about childcare availability. Forty-two per cent of parents felt the number of local childcare places was 'about right' (a fall from the 46% recorded in 2014-15), while 29% said there were not enough places (in line with 2014-15, 28%)

#### 3.1 Number of early years providers and places

In total, there are 137 childcare providers in our local authority, offering a maximum of 3,130 early years childcare places:

**Table 3.1a Numbers of early years settings, by type: June 2018**

Number of providers					
	Childminders	Nursery classes in schools inc. academies	Maintained nursery schools	Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	Totals
Croft Baker	6	3	-	3	<b>13</b>
East Marsh	1	3	-	4	<b>8</b>
Freshney	7	2	1	1	<b>11</b>
Haverstoe	6	-	-	2	<b>8</b>
Heneage	10	2	-	3	<b>14</b>
Humberston & New Waltham	3	2	-	4	<b>9</b>
Immingham	5	3	-	3	<b>11</b>
Park	4	1	-	6	<b>7</b>
Scartho	3	2	1	1	<b>7</b>
Sidney Sussex	7	3	-	3	<b>13</b>
South	3	3	-	4	<b>10</b>
Waltham	1	-	-	1	<b>2</b>
West marsh	2	3	-	1	<b>6</b>
Wolds	3	-	-	2	<b>5</b>
Yarborough	4	2	-	3	<b>8</b>
<b>NEL</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>137</b>

<sup>13</sup> Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2017 – Department for Education - December 2017.

**Table 3.1b Numbers of places offered by early years settings, by type: June 2018**

	Number of providers				Totals
	Childminders	Nursery classes in schools inc. academies	Maintained nursery schools	Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	
Croft Baker	18	72	-	125	<b>218</b>
East Marsh	3	91	-	145	<b>239</b>
Freshney	27	65	65	42	<b>199</b>
Haverstoe	18	-	-	89	<b>107</b>
Heneage	33	91	-	120	<b>241</b>
Humberston & New Waltham	9	46	-	123	<b>178</b>
Immingham	18	91	-	184	<b>293</b>
Park	12	26	-	335	<b>373</b>
Scartho	9	52	65	77	<b>203</b>
Sidney Sussex	21	164	-	130	<b>315</b>
South	9	130	-	157	<b>296</b>
Waltham	3	-	-	82	<b>85</b>
West marsh	6	125	-	24	<b>155</b>
Wolds	12	-	-	56	<b>68</b>
Yarborough	15	117	-	131	<b>216</b>
<b>NEL</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>1070</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1820</b>	<b>3130</b>

- Child minders are the most numerous provider type as of August 2018 (65), However Day Nurseries deliver the most childcare places (1296).
- Both provider numbers and places have remained stable in North East Lincolnshire since 2017.

### 3.2 Early years vacancies

Vacancy rates are a snapshot, and often change rapidly. 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 them. Not all choose to do this. In general, vacancy rates are higher in the autumn, when children move to school.

Type of provision	Number of providers	% having some vacancies
Childminders	65	46%
Nursery classes in schools	29	0%
Maintained schools and Academies	2	7%
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	41	12%



### 3.3 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.

**Table 3.3 The number of providers offering childcare for atypical hours in our local authority is:**

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Number of providers</i>	<i>Available before 8am weekdays</i>	<i>Available after 6pm weekdays</i>	<i>Available weekends<sup>14</sup></i>
Childminders	65	27	10	21
Nursery classes in schools	29	0	0	0
Maintained nursery schools	2	0	0	0
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	41	6	1	0

### 3.4 Number of school age providers and places

In total, there are 20 providers of childcare for school age children during term time, and 14 providers of childcare for school age children during the holidays. Many childminders also provide care for school age children

A large proportion of the holiday provision is based around activities which is particularly difficult to collate and reliant on private provision informing the service. The Families First Information Service will push for holiday activities to promote through Social Media and through the FFIS web Directory. Feedback through Social Media has been noted as ‘I’ve planned my whole summer holidays around what you have advertised (through social media)’ and it’s an area that has received dramatically improved following throughout 2017. The service will continue to follow a Digital by Default approach to promoting holiday activities as well as formal childcare.

**Table 3.4 Number of school age providers**

Number of providers						
	Breakfast club – PVI	After-school club – PVI	Holiday Club - PVI	Breakfast club – School	After-school club – School	Holiday Club – School
Croft Baker	-	1	-	4	-	-
East Marsh	-	1	1	-	-	-
Freshney	1	1	1	2	-	-
Haverstoe	1	1	1	-	-	-
Heneage	-	-	-	1	-	-
Humberston & New Waltham	1	1	1	2	1	1
Immingham	1	1	1	1	1	-
Park	2	3	2	-	-	-
Scartho	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sidney Sussex	1	1	-	1	-	-
South	-	-	1	3	-	-
Waltham	2	2	1	-	-	-
West marsh	1	1	1	3	1	1
Wolds	1	1	1	-	-	-
Yarborough	2	2	1	2	-	-
<b>NEL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

<sup>14</sup> This includes availability at any time during the weekend, not necessarily for the whole weekend

Tracking supply of childcare for school age children is difficult because not all of this type of provision is registered with Ofsted. It is possible that we have under-counted the provision of breakfast and afterschool clubs and holiday clubs. Parents may also use provision which is not considered 'childcare', for example sports or arts clubs after school or in the holidays.

### 3.5 School age atypical

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.

**Table 3.5 The number of providers offering childcare for atypical hours in our local authority is:**

Type of provision	Number of providers	Available before 8am weekdays	Available after 6pm weekdays	Available weekends <sup>15</sup>
Breakfast club	33	3	N/A	N/A
After-school club	20	N/A	1	N/A
Holiday club	14	3	1	1

## 4 Funded Early Education

### 4.1 Introduction

The availability of good quality childcare has been recognised as being of increasing importance over the past 15 years, with government policies introduced to encourage families to access good quality early education for their children. Universal entitlement to a funded nursery place began with 4 year olds in 2000, and increased to 3 year olds in 2005, with funded provision for disadvantaged 2 year olds beginning in 2011. The current early years entitlements (EYE) are for 570 hours per year and include

- All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week until they start reception class in school
- Children aged 3 and 4 where both parents are working, or from lone parent families where that parent is working, are entitled to 30 hours per week until they start reception class in school<sup>16</sup>
- Children aged 2 whose families receive certain benefits (including low income families in receipt of in-work benefits), or those who meet additional non-economic criteria, are entitled to 15 hours per week. Nationally, about 40% of 2 year olds are entitled to this offer, but the proportion varies by area.

The early years entitlements can be taken over a minimum of two days and no session can be longer than ten hours a day. No sessions to be before 6am or after 8pm, funding can be split between a maximum of two sites per day and a child is eligible to start the term after their second birthday until the term after their third birthday.

<sup>15</sup> This includes availability at any time during the weekend, not necessarily for the whole weekend

<sup>16</sup> Available to families where each parent (or one parent in a single adult household) are earning the equivalent of working sixteen hours per week on the minimum wage

A long-term government study<sup>17</sup> shows good quality early years provision has a positive and long term impact on children's attainment, progress and social-behavioural development. Improvements in children's academic and social outcomes lasted throughout school, with the effect being especially important for boys, pupils with SEN and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.<sup>13</sup>

Parents do not have to use all the hours of their funded early years entitlement (EYE). They may choose to split them between providers. With the agreement of their provider, parents may also spread them across the year – for example, rather than taking 15 hours for 38 weeks a year they could take just under 12 hours for 48 weeks a year.

### Take up of funded early education

The proportion of eligible children taking up their funded place (for at least some of the available hours) in our local authority is:

**Table 4.1a Take up of funded places**

Age	Accessing funding	% of all
Age 2	710	37%
Age 3 and 4 universal	2541	97%
Age 3 and 4 extended	740	29%

The data in this table is based on Department of Education data in 2018

### Providers offering funded early education places

Providers are paid directly by government for delivering funded early education. They are not required to offer them to parents, but of course parents may choose to use a different provider if they do not. Some providers offer a restricted number of funded places.

**Table 4.1b Number of providers and places**

Type of provision	Number of providers	2 year funded places	3 and 4 year old universal (15hrs) and extended (30 hrs) places
Childminders	43	6.8%	2.9%
Nursery classes in schools	29	6.6%	43.7%
Maintained nursery schools	2	0%	5.3%
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	41	86.6%	48.1%

<sup>17</sup> EPPSE Project - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eppse-3-to-14-years>

## 4.2 Two year old funding

Evidence shows that 2-year-olds in good and outstanding places - including nurseries, school nursery classes, and childminders - see benefits in terms of their early language skills, and physical, social and emotional development.<sup>18</sup>

2-year-old children can get free early education and childcare if their family receives one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- the Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

A child can also get free early education and childcare if any of the following apply:

- they're looked after by a local authority
- they have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they've left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

If a 2 year old child is eligible they can access 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. NEL's Family Information Service (FIS) regularly market potentially eligible families based on the data provided by the DFE and DWP and continually promote the offer of free places for eligible two year olds on their website, Facebook and twitter pages and with support from local providers and local family hubs.

In our local authority, **49%** of 2 year olds are entitled to funded early education; equating to around 940 children per year in academic year 2017-18.

In summer 2018, it was projected that 50% of all resident children may meet the criteria for funding. Almost 88% of the projected cohort had applied and were found to be eligible. The take up rate of those eligible children during summer term was 82%, lower than the average of 85% in previous terms.

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<sup>18</sup> The early education pilot for 2-year-old children - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-early-education-pilot-for-two-year-old-children-age-five-follow-up>

**Table 4.2 - % of eligible cohort of two year olds taking up a place Summer 2018**

	% of potentially eligible resident children	% of resident children taking a place
Croft Baker	58%	39%
East Marsh	76%	56%
Freshney	44%	30%
Haverstoe	19%	7%
Heneage	54%	38%
Humberston and New Waltham	26%	17%
Immingham	43%	29%
Park	43%	35%
Scartho	24%	14%
Sidney Sussex	61%	51%
South	64%	44%
Waltham	19%	11%
West Marsh	73%	52%
Wolds	20%	12%
Yarborough	41%	30%
<b>North East Lincolnshire</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>36%</b>

- Overall 36% of North East Lincolnshire 2 year olds took up an FFE place in Summer 2018. This is a decrease from 38% and 48% in Summer 2017 and 2016 respectively.
- The Ward percentages of 2 year olds who are potentially eligible vary similarly to the levels of local deprivation, with East Marsh, West Marsh, Sidney Sussex and South ward, North East Lincolnshire's most deprived areas, indicating large percentages of eligibility.

### 4.3 3 and 4 year old funding

- Universal offer - All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week until they start reception class in school
- Extended offer - Children aged 3 and 4 where both parents are working, or for lone parent families where that parent is working, are [entitled](#) to 30 hours per week until they start reception class in school<sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Available to families where each parent (or one parent in a single adult household) are earning the equivalent of working sixteen hours per week on the minimum wage

**Table 4.3 Actual take-up of three and four year old early education places: Summer term 2018**

<b>Wards</b>	<b>Universal offer - % take up</b>	<b>Extended offer - % take up</b>
Croft Baker	108%	31%
East Marsh	98%	14%
Freshney	92%	27%
Haverstoe	103%	38%
Heneage	97%	22%
Humberston and New Waltham	111%	61%
Immingham	103%	29%
Park	94%	35%
Scartho	95%	44%
Sidney Sussex	97%	21%
South	85%	12%
Waltham	101%	56%
West Marsh	98%	23%
Wolds	100%	50%
Yarborough	101%	34%
<b>NEL</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>29%</b>

\*Due to cohorts obtained separately percentages over 100 can occur

- In total 98% of Three and Four year olds have taken up a universal early education place during of Summer term 2018. Almost 29% of all children accessed a 30 hour place too.
- Last year the take-up of the universal entitlement was 95% for three and four year olds.
- Ward level take up ranges from 85 % in South to 111% in Humberston and New Waltham. Six other wards also had over 100% take up rate during the term

#### **4.4 Availability vs Take-up of Early Education Places**

Each place is equal to 15 hours and includes all sectors ie childminders, pre-schools, day nurseries, schools and academies. It does not include any reception places.

Ofsted registered settings now have more flexibility as to how they allocate their maximum number of places across the age ranges. This means that the overall number of places remains the same but the places available within each age range can change term on term to take account of the occupancy, ages and needs of the children attending.

The penetration rate is the number of places required for each of the early years entitlements. A number under 1 reflects a deficit of places within the ward for the projected number of resident children who may be eligible for funding. Numbers over 1 reflect more places than children. Those 3 and 4 year olds who are eligible for the extended offer will require 2 places in order to access the full 30 hours

**Table 4.4 Availability and take up of two, three and four year old early education places: Summer term 2018**

Ward	Total number of Places (15hrs)	Total number of 2,3 & 4 yr olds's	Projected Number of PTE places required	Penetration rate	Actual take up	% take up of places*
Croft Baker	390	335	395	0.99	339	87%
East Marsh	462	471	537	0.86	425	92%
Freshney	360	266	305	1.18	237	66%
Haverstoe	166	164	188	0.88	158	95%
Heneage	517	427	461	1.12	356	69%
Humberston and New Waltham	434	185	204	2.13	208	48%
Immingham	504	340	390	1.29	320	63%
Park	656	352	393	1.67	336	51%
Scartho	392	309	331	1.18	279	71%
Sidney Sussex	564	479	563	1.00	465	82%
South	408	538	597	0.68	411	101%
Waltham	176	132	139	1.27	127	72%
West Marsh	386	329	358	1.08	299	77%
Wolds	178	171	186	0.96	168	94%
Yarborough	490	426	474	1.03	397	81%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6083</b>	<b>4924</b>	<b>5521</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>4525</b>	<b>74%</b>

\*Due to cohorts obtained separately percentages over 100 can occur

- In Summer 2018, there were 6,083 early education places available to two, three and four year olds. This is a 3.2% increase on the 5,888 available in Summer 2017.
- Of the 6,083 available places, 5,525 funded places were taken up throughout NEL. This is an increase on the 3,767 places in Summer 2017. This increase is due to take up of the new extended offer (30 hours)
- The majority of funded places were available through PVI providers (58.3%).
- From Summer term 2018, the penetration rate of early education places available for every potentially eligible two, three and four year old in NEL was 1.10 places per child.
- Penetration rates at ward level show a large number of places in Humberston and New Waltham, Other wards present numbers of places much closer to the number of resident children.
- The penetration rates suggest that 5 wards do not have enough places for the projected number of eligible children within that ward. However only one ward, South, was oversubscribed on the places available. The other wards appear to have some capacity in the places available. This is likely to be due to migration ie children choosing to access a place outside of the ward that they live



## 4.5 Early Year Pupil Premium

The early years pupil premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years settings to improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-olds. 3- and 4-year-olds in state-funded early education will attract EYPP funding if they meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- they are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- they have left care in England or Wales through:
  - an adoption
  - a special guardianship order
  - a child arrangement order

**Table 4.5 Number of 3- and 4-year-old children recorded as eligible for early years pupil premium by age - January 2018**

	3-year-olds	4-year-olds	3- and 4-year-olds
England	65700	28340	94050
Yorkshire and Humber	8690	3800	12500
North East Lincolnshire	341	163	500

Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2018 Department of Education Jun 2018

Children must receive free early education in order to attract EYPP funding. They do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to get EYPP. Children become eligible for free early education at different points in the year depending on when they turn 3.

## 5 Costs of childcare

Nationally in the 2017 Childcare and Early Years Parents Survey<sup>20</sup>, three in five (60%) families who used a childcare provider in the reference week reported paying for this childcare. 65% reported paying for formal providers with 7% reported paying for informal providers.

Two in five (39%) parents rated the affordability of local childcare as very or fairly good, and a third (33%) rated the affordability as very or fairly poor. These proportions are unchanged since the 2014-15 survey (39% and 33% respectively).

Just over half (52%) of parents who paid for childcare said it was easy or very easy to meet their childcare costs, with one in five (21%) finding it difficult or very difficult. These proportions are in line with the 2014-15 survey (53% and 22% respectively).

### 5.1 Costs of early years childcare

For early years childcare outside the funded entitlements, we report on average prices per hour, reported to us by settings\*. There may be variations to prices based on the number of hours a family uses, with reductions for longer hours, or discounts for sibling groups. There may be additional payments for additional services, e.g. lunch and other meals which are not included in these prices.

**Table 5.1 Mean hourly rate of early years childcare**

Price per hour*	Under 2 year olds	2 year olds	3 and 4 year olds
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	£5.17	£4.81	£4.22
School and maintained nursery schools which make charges to parents	£N/A	£3.62	£4.22
Childminders	£4.22	£4.22	£4.22
Lowest	£3.00	£2.66	£3.00
Highest	£6.50	£4.50	£6.00

\* prices are averaged by number of providers, and appear above where available

### 5.2 Costs of school age childcare

For school age children during term time, we report on average prices before school per day, after school per day, and for childminding per hour. For holiday childcare, we report on holiday club prices per week.

**Table 5.2 Mean hourly rate of school age childcare**

Cost	Breakfast club per day	After-school club per day	School childminder age per hour	Holiday club per day
<b>Average</b>	<b>£2.46</b>	<b>£9.24</b>	<b>£4.22</b>	<b>£26.05</b>
Lowest	£0.30	£2.00	£3.00	£16.00
Highest	£7.00	£13.50	£6.00	£56.50

<sup>20</sup> Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2017– Department for Education - December 2017

## 6 Quality

### 6.1 Ofsted Inspection Grades

The quality of registered childcare in England is assessed by Ofsted, the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills, using standards set out in the Early Year inspection handbook.

Inspected Providers are given a rating based on the effectiveness of the setting to provide good quality childcare to children. The rating currently ranges from 'Outstanding' to 'Inadequate'. It is recognised that where possible, children should be attending provision of a 'Good or 'Outstanding' rating quality.

- Nationally, the majority of parents (62%) rated the overall quality of local childcare provision as very or fairly good. This proportion has decreased from 62 per cent in 2014-15.<sup>21</sup>

**Table 6.1a. Ofsted Rating as at January 2018 for 2-year-old children with FFE places**

			Of those in setting with judgement - Ofsted inspection rating				
	Percentage children with 2 year FFE place in setting with Ofsted judgement	Percentage in setting not yet judged	Outstanding	Good	Percentage attending Good or Outstanding Providers	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	85	15	23	72	<b>95</b>	4	1
Yorkshire and Humber	84	16	18	79	<b>96</b>	3	1
North East Lincolnshire	92	8	14	85	<b>99</b>	1	0

**Source: National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2018 (Department for Education)**

- 99% of those attending a judged setting, were attending a setting which had received a judgement of good or better - This is higher than regionally and nationally.
- The percentage of children in settings 'Not Yet judged' settings is much lower than regionally and nationally (8%), this is due to our newer settings having now had their first inspection.

<sup>21</sup> Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2017 – Department for Education - December 2017.

**Table 6.1b Ofsted Rating as at January 2018 for 3 and 4 year old children with universal EYE places:**

		Of those in setting with judgement - Ofsted inspection rating					
	Percentage children with 3 / 4 year FFE place in setting with Ofsted judgement	Percentage in setting not yet judged	Outstanding	Good	Percentage attending Good or Outstanding Providers	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	91	9	26	67	<b>93</b>	6	1
Yorkshire and Humber	91	9	20	70	<b>90</b>	9	2
North East Lincolnshire	96	4	13	73	<b>86</b>	11	3

**Source: National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2018 (Department for Education)**

**Table 6.1c Ofsted Rating as at January 2018 for 3 and 4 year old children with extended FFE places:**

		Of those in setting with judgement - Ofsted inspection rating					
	Percentage children with 3 / 4 year FFE place in setting with Ofsted judgement	Percentage in setting not yet judged	Outstanding	Good	Percentage attending Good or Outstanding Providers	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	88	12	29	67	<b>96</b>	3	1
Yorkshire and Humber	91	9	23	72	<b>95</b>	4	1
North East Lincolnshire	90	10	28	66	<b>94</b>	6	0

**Source: National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2018 (Department for Education)**

- 86% of children accessing a universal funded place (15hrs) were attending a setting, which had received a judgement of good, or better - This is lower than regionally and nationally.
- 94% of children accessing an extended funded place (30hrs) were attending a setting which had received a judgement of good or better – again this is slightly lower than regionally and nationally

### ***Sources of information***

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Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted)  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## North East Lincolnshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018

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