

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

London Borough of Wandsworth

November 2021

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1. Introduction

- 1) This is the fifth Childcare Sufficiency Report produced and published by Wandsworth Council following previous assessments undertaken in 2008, 2011, 2015 and 2018.
- 2) The Childcare Act 2006 places a duty on all local authorities to ensure that there are enough childcare places within its locality for working parents or for parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0 to 14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).
- 3) This duty is one of the statutory functions linked to an overall Early Statutory function. These functions are detailed in appendix 1 of this report.

2. Duty of Sufficient Childcare

- 1) Local Authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare, ‘so far as is reasonably practicable,’ for children aged 0 - 14 (or up to 18 for disabled children as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995). This duty came into force in April 2008 under Section 6 (1) of the Childcare Act 2006, which states: -

“The provision must be ‘sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in the local authority’s area who require childcare in order to enable them to:

- a) *take up or remain in work*
- b) *undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work.”*

- 2) Local Authorities are expected to assess the supply and demand of childcare, its accessibility, cost, and the quality of provision on a regular basis. The assessment should identify any gaps and provide proposals for how these gaps should be addressed.

3. Early Education and Childcare Places Funding (EECP)

- 1) Since 1999 successive governments have supported the childcare market with a variety of ring-fenced funding streams. These funding streams currently support a Universal Early Education and Childcare offer and supplementary targeted offers.
- 2) **The Universal Offer.** 15 hours of funded childcare, equivalent to 38 weeks per annum, is available for all 3- and 4-year-olds. Eligibility begins the term after the child’s third birthday and funding is paid directly to the provider. The per capita hourly rate is established through a Universal Funding Formula, which incorporates regional variations related to local costs. In Wandsworth, the funding paid to providers in 2019 was £5.20 per hour, and this has increased to £5.55 per hour for 2021.
- 3) **Extended Offer for Working Parents.** Since September 2017, some working parents of 3- and 4-year-olds can claim extended funding of up to an additional 15

hours per week for 38 weeks per annum (**30 Hour Offer**). The additional hours are paid at the same rate as the 15 hours provided through the Universal Offer

- 4) **Vulnerable Two-Year-Old Offer.** Some 2-year-olds, from lower income families, are also eligible for 15 hours of funded Early Education and Childcare the term after the eligible child's 2nd birthday. This is offered because children from lower income families tend to do less well at school than their non-deprived peers. The additional two or three terms of early education and childcare is intended to support 'school readiness' before taking up their Universal Offer.
- 5) Eligibility for the Two-Year-Old Offer is advised to the local authority by information supplied by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). In 2018, the per capita rate for the offer was £6.50 per hour but has since been increased to £6.66 per hour. Additional information about childcare funding can be found at:
<https://fis.wandsworth.gov.uk/>

4. Childcare for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

- 1) There are six specialist schools in Wandsworth, plus a Hospital and Home Tuition Service, two Pupil Referral Units, and a residential base in Broadstairs. Eight primary and maintained nursery schools have specialised resource bases, as do three secondary schools. Information about the range of services available for children with SEND is available on the Wandsworth can be found at:
<https://fis.wandsworth.gov.uk/>
- 2) 3- and 4-year-old children with SEND, who are claiming their Universal 15-hour place, may also access the **Early Years Inclusion Fund (EYIF)**, and in some cases, also the **Disability Access Fund (DAF)**. Both funds were introduced in the March 2017 Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are paid directly to the childcare provider to support the child's access to their learning and development.
- 3) The **EYIF** is targeted at children with **low level or emerging SEND**. Individual applications are made termly by the child's childcare or education provider and use of the funding is monitored to ensure the child's needs are being met appropriately.
- 4) 3- and 4-year-olds will be eligible for the **DAF** if the child is in receipt of **Disability Living Allowance**. DAF is a one-off payment to the provider of **£615** for resources, equipment and adaptations required for inclusion and take up of the child's funded Universal hours. 4-year-olds in primary school reception classes are not eligible for DAF funding, as the children's additional needs are expected to be met through the schools' budget.

5. Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) Funding

- 1) From April 2015, children receiving the 3- and 4-year-old Early Years Education and Childcare Places funding (EECP), and who meet certain criteria based on eligibility

criteria for free school meals, have been eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP).

- 2) This is paid in addition to the per capita hourly rate at **53p** per hour, up to a maximum of **£302** per year. Providers use the EYPP funding to enrich the children's learning experiences. The outcomes and interventions provided for these children through the additional funding provided through EYPP funding are scrutinized by Ofsted during inspections.

6. Universal Credit

- 1) Universal Credit was rolled out in Wandsworth from September 2018. Universal Credit supports up to 85% of childcare costs with a monthly cap of £646.35 for one child, and £1,108.04 for two or more children.

7. Tax-Free Childcare

- 1) The Tax-Free Childcare scheme was introduced, alongside the 30 Hour Extended Offer, to replace the existing childcare voucher scheme. To qualify, both parents must be in work, and each expecting to earn at least £125 a week. Each parent must not have income over £100,000 per year. This is the same eligibility criteria as that applied to the Extended childcare funding eligibility (30 Hour Offer).
- 2) Parents can access up to £2,000 a year for each child to contribute to the costs of childcare, or £4,000 a year if a child has a disability.
- 3) Parents set up a Tax-Free Savings account. For every £8 parents pay into their account, the Government will pay in an additional £2 to be used specifically with the registered childcare provider (limits as in point 2 above).

8. COVID Statement: Impact of COVID and Mitigations

- 1) The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected the national childcare market since March 2020. Work undertaken during the pandemic and subsequently for the CSA confirms that the sector in Wandsworth has not been immune to these effects.
- 2) The section below details the work undertaken with providers during the national lockdown and the phased reopening of services.

9. Falling Places Due to Lockdown and Impact on Provider Income

- 1) To financially stabilize the provider market, an early decision was taken to continue to pay all providers their Spring term 2021 EECF funding entitlement based on their January 2020 census return. This guaranteed a known and fixed income to both

schools and the PVI sector, irrespective of actual numbers attending, thereby giving some financial security and certainty to the providers.

- 2) It should be noted that many of the PVI providers, not having the benefits of financial scale present in the school sector, are reliant on additional parental fees, applied to the hours taken up, over and above the funded EECF offer. In some cases, this income was lost and not recoverable.
- 3) With national restrictions eased, Summer 2020 was paid against actual numbers attending. An additional amount of up to £10,000 was made available to the PVI and childminding sectors to help with the cost of unexpected COVID related requirements. PVI settings did not have access to the DfE (Department for Education) COVID costs funds made available to the school sector.

10. Key Worker Places Brokerage

- 1) In the early stage of the pandemic, schools were instructed to open for the children of key-workers and those children in need of help and protection. With a number of school staff instructed by the government to shield, or succumbing to COVID infection, it was not always possible for nursery classes in schools to open.
- 2) To support schools and key workers, the Early Education and Childcare Places Team worked throughout the first lockdown to broker nursery places for the children of key workers and those in need of help and protection, where the usual provision was unavailable. Over 100 children were placed through brokerage services.

11. PVI Sector Furlough

- 1) Private and Voluntary Sector Providers in receipt of Early Education Places funding could not initially furlough staff. Discussion with the DfE by Wandsworth, and other authorities across the country, effected a policy change that allowed staff not directly involved in the face-to-face delivery of early education, e.g., Nursery Business Managers, to be included in the Government's furlough scheme.

12. Meeting the Needs for Advice and Guidance

- 1) In a rapidly evolving pandemic, government guidance from Public Health England and the DfE was issued regularly and at pace. It was clear that a digest of information was needed, and a weekly bulletin email was sent to all providers a digest of critical issues.
- 2) A virtual Managers Forum was created to ensure the Early Years Team had direct access to providers to establish the day-to-day concerns and what support could be given.

13. Safeguarding Young Children

- 1) The take up of Early Education and Childcare Places by children in need of help and protection at PVI, school settings and childminders was closely monitored to ensure that those who had taken up a pre-pandemic place continued to do so.

14. Supporting the Sector through COVID Outbreaks

- 1) The Early Years Team was in touch providers who reported outbreaks, to broker public health advice and guidance to support swift re-opening. Details of PVI settings and childminder who remained open each term are shown below:
 - Autumn 2020 – 76%
 - Spring 2021 – 62%
 - Summer 2021 – 60.7%
 - 79% of Childminders remained open.

15. Sustaining the Early Education and Childcare Market

- 1) In September 2020, Questionnaires were sent out to all PVI settings and Childminders seeking information about financial pressures and demand for places numbers as a way of gauging the sustainability of the provider market. The information was provided to Senior Management and fed into a monthly meeting with the DfE childcare team as appropriate.
- 2) 48.2% of providers returned information. All expected to experience a reduction in child attendance numbers. Providers reported 28 staff redundancies and in some settings staff hours had been reduced. However, most PVI settings are now showing strong signs of recovery to pre-COVID levels of provision.

16. Extended (30 Hour) Funding

- 1) Increasing the take up of Extended (30 Hour) funded places was a priority for the EECF team in 2018. With a claim rate one of the lowest in the country, an extensive campaign was undertaken to increase parental awareness, and both supply of and demand for places. A key aim of the campaign was to get the majority of primary schools signed up to the Extended Funding offer within the academic year 2018-2019.
- 2) This strategy had two important benefits: schools experiencing drops in applications for 3- and 4-year-old places were able to fill vacancies; and there was a significant increase in the number of affordable places available to parents in the borough.
- 3) The campaign achieved:
 - a. 54% increase in take up of the Extended Funding,
 - b. 41% of the children took their extended hours in primary schools, compared to 17% nationally,
 - c. Summer 2019, 86% of 3- and 4-year-olds were benefitting from Extended Hours funding as a percentage of the codes issued, and

- d. Most schools offering 3 and 4-year-old places were also signed up to provide Extended Hours (30 Hour) places.
- 4) COVID has affected the national childcare sector, but the full impact and implications are still uncertain. However, several schools are reporting significant drops in roll, and some are currently offering full time places at no charge to parents who are not eligible to apply for the Extended Hours funding.
- 5) Extended Hours claims dropped by 6.5% between 2019/20 and 20/21.

17. Information and Mapping

- 1) An action from the 2018 CSA was to work with the Research and Evaluation Unit to standardise termly reports and establish a sector wide funding systems between the schools and PVI's. All funded places are now managed through the EECP funding system, thus reducing the likelihood of costly duplications, and the Power Bi Dashboard has been created to link and standardise reporting.
- 2) Streamlining and improving information collection and exchange between services, notably the EECP Team and the Family Information Service, will continue to be a major target. Working on improving real time information, such as vacancies and prices, will remain in the EECP Team action plan for 2021/22.
- 3) An internal and external interactive map has been developed, linked to the EECP funding system, which will visually show where providers are placed across the borough, help in identifying where there are gaps in provision, and in providing a more efficient and effective brokerage service.

<https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/find-your-funded-childcare-map>
- 4) This will improve both the efficiency and effectiveness of services, such as telephone advice on the public phone lines, and information provided to parents independently seeking advice and information online about their childcare options.

18. Parents Champions Scheme

- 1) Parent Champions are parent/carer volunteers who give their time to talk and engage other parents in their community about local services available to families. The Early Years Parent Champions will be trained in the eligibility of Early Years funding and will speak to other families regarding the benefits that accessing early education can have for their children.
- 2) The local authority has been granted funding for a year to set up the scheme in Wandsworth to encourage the take up of Two-Year-Old places within the borough. The scheme also offers opportunities for training and access to employment from the skills participants gain from being a Parent Champion.

19. Two-Year-Old Places

- 1) A campaign to increase take up of Two-Year-Old places resulted in a high point of EECP funding claims in 2018/19. The effect of COVID has meant that between **2018/19** and **2020/21**, 2YO funding claims **dropped** by **30%** (552 places).
- 2) As we started the current academic year, the number of processed funding claims by close of **Autumn 2021** Headcount (466 places) represented a **25% drop** (154 places) from **Autumn 2017** levels.
- 3) Take up of Two-Year-Old Places continues to be an area of concern and focus for the EECP Team as these places are targeted towards children who may be at risk of disadvantage.
- 4) There are certain geographical areas and models that are earmarked to be reviewed. For example, there are some areas in Wandsworth, Southfields and parts of Roehampton and Tooting, where the number of places available is not great enough to meet demand.
- 5) Simultaneously, there are certain areas with overcapacity, e.g., Battersea and some areas of Tooting, and not enough two-year-olds that need to be placed.
- 6) There are also wide variations between application, placement and overall take up rates for Two-Year-Old places between wards, which with further analysis may help professionals to understand how to better target advertising and support services more effectively, linking with Children's Centres and the newly implemented Parent Champions Scheme.
- 7) Some schools have agreed to offer places for two-year olds, whilst other schools are interested in introducing a separate class for two-year olds, and five schools have already successfully done so.
- 8) Some schools are also interested in facilitating some structured stay and play sessions for families who qualify for the Two-Year-Old funding (Fantastic Twos).
- 9) Other schools are also looking into providing a full wrap around provision within the school nursery from 8am-6pm, in line with the PVI Sector and working parents' needs. One school is already providing this model and one additional school is undertaking consultation with parents on the viability and demand for this provision.
- 10) Currently, there is a small number of childminders offering places for funded two-year olds. The EECP Team will continue to work closely with the childminders to try to increase capacity within this group of providers.

20. Training

- 1) The **Children's Social Care Academy (CSCA)** within Wandsworth Borough Council Children's Services department is committed to ensuring that everyone working with young children and their families in Wandsworth, as either paid staff or volunteers, are supported through an extensive training programme in achieving the delivery of high-quality learning and development experiences for children.
- 2) The objectives of the early years training programme are to:
 - a. Deliver a high-quality training programme (including on-line training) which is sustainable, accessible, and offered at a competitive market price.
 - b. Respond to the requirements of the EYFS 2017, changes in the regulation of childcare and the 2, 3 and 4-year-old offer.
 - c. Improve safeguarding practice at operational and management levels within early years provision.
 - d. Respond to specific training needs identified by the Early Years Intervention Support Service, early year's providers, and stakeholders.
- 3) Free online courses for safeguarding and Designated Safeguarding Lead training (DSL) were offered during lockdown, and free E-learning was made available.
- 4) Priorities for 2020-21 include training to support early years providers who offer the Two-Year-Old funded places, to up skill new and existing Early Years Designated Safeguarding Leads to be effective in their role.
- 5) A programme for pre-registered and newly registered childminders, part of the sector where the turnover of providers continues to remain high, has also been implemented.
- 6) Following a request from the Sustainability Questionnaire, termly training has also been introduced on using the EECF funding system and understanding National Government childcare funding.

21. SEND (Early Years Inclusion Fund)

- 1) Funding claims and request for support from the Early Years Inclusion Fund (EYIF) continue to rise. Providers can apply individually to the EECF Team each term for any children joining their setting who they think may have low or emerging needs.
- 2) In 2018, the NIP@A project was set up in conjunction between the Local Authority and the Head Teacher of Albemarle Primary School. The aim was to streamline funding applications and support, and to provide highly specialised input to several settings in the cluster who may not otherwise have been able to provide support as efficiently or effectively.
- 3) The success of the NIP@A project resulted in the offer being extended this financial year (2020/21) and the service is now available across the borough.

Key Findings: Headline Statements

- 1) Research undertaken for the production of this CSA and the returns from the Autumn school/ Early Education Places census suggest that:
 - a) There is predicted to be a continuing fall in the under 14s population by 3.9% to 2030, larger than had been previously predicted by the GLA in 2016.
 - b) Whilst the under 4s population is expected to remain stable over the period to 2030, reductions are expected in the age groups:
 - a. 5 to 7: 5.6% reduction.
 - b. 8 to 9: 7.2% reduction.
 - c. 10 to 14: 6.7% reduction.
 - c) Queenstown is predicted to have a 47% increase in the 0 to 4 population by 2030.
 - d) Supply in the 0 to 4 age group has increased by 15% with the addition of 10 new PVI nurseries and nursery places available in primary schools.
 - e) Since 2018, the average price of childcare for under 5s in PVI settings has increased by 1.5% (based on 33% returns), and childminders by 14%. The average price of childcare in PVIs is £9.75 per hour, and £8 with childminders, compared to the national average of £5.51 (Day Nurseries Association, 2021/22).
 - f) Primary schools report an increase in vacancies. It is worth noting that 24% of primary aged Wandsworth children attend independent schools compared to the national average of 5%;
 - g) There has been a drop in Early Years funding claims for 2, 3-and 4-year-old places:
 - a. Two Year Olds: Between the academic year 2018/19, the high point of claims, and 2020/21, claims dropped by 30% (552 places).
 - b. Three and Four Year Olds (Universal 15 hours): 15,480 places were funded in 2020/21, in comparison to 15,765 in 2019/20. Whilst this only represents a 2% drop, there is a 9% drop (417 places) from the Autumn 20 high point to equivalent claims made in Autumn 21.
 - c. Three and Four Year Olds (Extended 30 Hours): 3,187 funding claims were made in 2020/21, a 6.5% drop from 2019/20 (3,404).
 - h) Government data shows that the percentage of children living in low-income families in Wandsworth has risen from 9% in 2015 to 20% in 2020.
 - i) EECF funding data shows there is increasing demand for SEND input in the early years age group with a 21% increase in claims for the EYIF support grant from 2019/20 to 2020/21.
- 2) A fuller picture will be available in March 2022 when January school intake has been completed and the Census 2021 figures are in the public domain.
- 3) Autumn 2021 Headcount figures show a reduction in 2YO, Universal Funding and Extended Funding claims. This will become a major action point for the EECF Team for 2021/22.

Action Plan 2021/22

Research has repeatedly shown that high quality childcare is a vital part of economic regeneration and can positively contribute to the reduction of child poverty. Early Years provision has a positive and lasting effect on children's outcomes, future learning, and subsequent life chances.

With this knowledge underlining the Early Years Team's objectives, the action plan resulting from the production of this Childcare Sufficiency Assessment will prioritise increasing take up of funded early years places, information gathering and analysis, and evaluation of the impact of COVID and post COVID recovery.

Actions for 2021/22

- 1) Population in the 0 to 14 age group is predicted to continue falling to 2030, but GLA and ONS (Office for National Statistics) statistics show a possible variance, especially in the under 4s predictions (*see page 12*). Analysis of up-to-date population statistics should be undertaken as soon as Census 2021 figures are released.
- 2) Evaluate COVID recovery and the impact for the sector on childcare places, vacancies, and providers' sustainability. Initial information suggests that schools have been the hardest hit, with PVI's maintaining relative stability.
- 3) Assess EECF funding claims and school rolls in Spring 2022 to ascertain final numbers for the academic year and produce an update to the CSA figures.
- 4) Significant reductions in funding claims must be addressed (*see Summaries p.38, p.40, and p.43*):
 - a. 2-Year-Olds: analyse application, placement and take up rates to impact strategy, increase collaboration between Children's Centres, the EECF Team and the Parent Champion Scheme, continue to work with childminders, and with schools to help with models to provide a 2-Year-Old offer.
 - b. 3-and 4-Year-Olds (Universal and Extended Hours): assess the post COVID market and undertake to increase demand for places, and
 - c. Continue to work with schools to help them develop models for their 3-and 4-Year-Old offer, including out of school and holiday provision.
- 5) Demand on SEND provision and services continues to increase:
 - a. Support extension of NIP@A project.
 - b. Track DAF and EYIF funded children into primary and secondary education to analyse the impact of funding.
- 6) Continue to improve collaboration, and information gathering and provision:
 - a. Complete launch of Power Bi Dashboard and continue collaboration with the Research and Evaluation Unit.

- b. Gather reach information for the EECP Team and FIS, e.g., web page hits, phone calls and nature of calls, and brokerage services.
- c. Improve information exchange between the EECP Team and FIS to coordinate more effectively, provide more up-to-date information for parents, and avoid duplication of staff workloads and targets.
- d. Launch the Interactive Places Map.
- e. More effectively track the cost of provision and reinstate the annual request for price information from providers as part of the Terms and Conditions of funding (2018 guidance).

Demand for Childcare

Wandsworth: POPULATION

As of 2021, Wandsworth has a total population of **335,468** making it the 7th most populous London borough (Greater London Authority (GLA) 2020 Housing Led based population projections). **21%** of the population are 19 and under, and this is predicted to drop to **19.7%** by 2030. By 2030, Wandsworth is expected to have a total population of 353,079.

Wandsworth traditionally sees a steep rise in population distribution in the **25 to 34 age range**, with a progressive fall in numbers thereafter. In 2018, the ONS made a downward revision of population figures for 2021 for most inner London boroughs. Wandsworth was positioned in the top five Local Authorities expected to experience the greatest **over projection** error for the **under 14** population (*ONS Subnational Population Report 2018*).

Figures show numbers of children under 14 in **all** age ranges are **lower** than the original GLA 2016 predictions for 2021. The chart below shows the revised figures for population predictions the 0 to 19 population up to 2030.

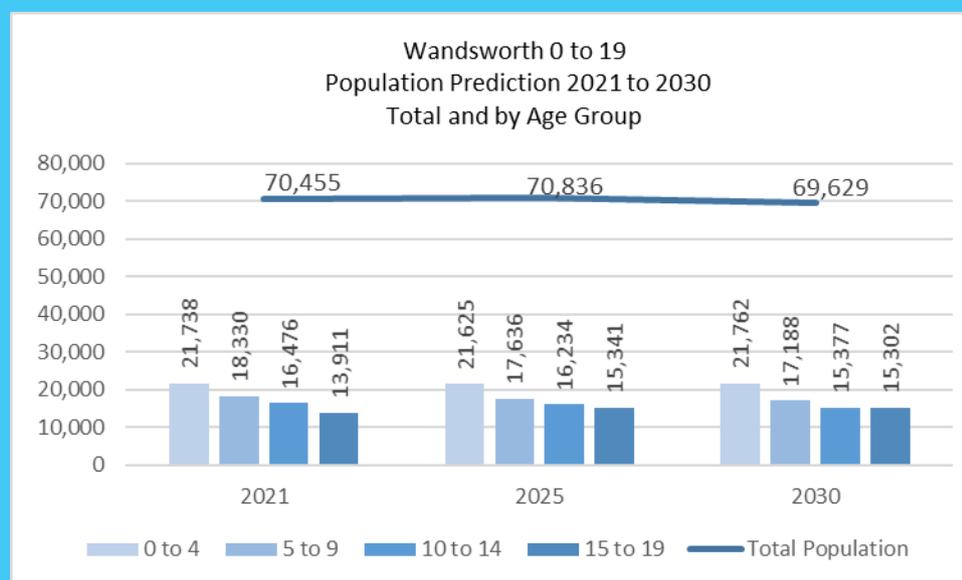


Figure 1: Chart showing projected population changes in Wandsworth, by age group (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

GLA 2018 Housing Led Based Population Projections above predict the **0 to 4** population will remain **stable** up to 2030, **drop** by 6.4% in the **5 to 9** population, **drop** by 6.7% in the **10 to 14** population, and **increase** by 10% in the 15 to 19 population (see p. 22-25 breakdown by Ward). However, it is worth noting that projections from the **Office of National Statistics** (*SNPP Population Figures 2018*) predict a different picture, with a **drop** in the Wandsworth **0 to 4 population** of **8%** by 2030.

GLA figures will be reassessed when information from **Census 2021** is received, as migration out of London, as well as changes in birth rates, may be a significant factor following the long-term effects of COVID. Meanwhile, GLA 2018 figures will be used for all analysis in line with that undertaken by the Wandsworth Insight and Analytics Team.

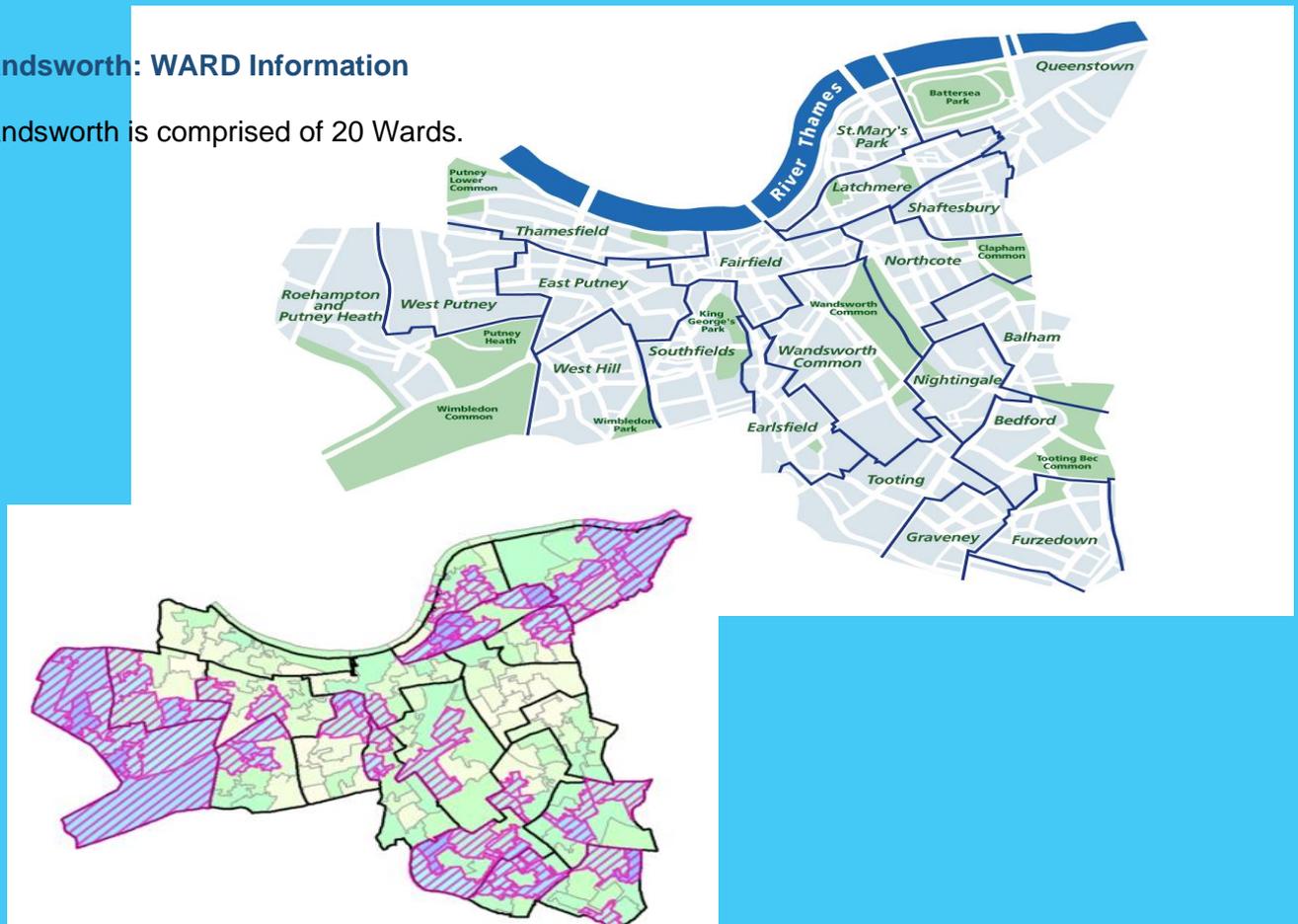
Wandsworth: DEPRIVATION RANKINGS

Information provided by the Wandsworth Insight and Analytics Team (via DataWand):

- Wandsworth is within the **50% least deprived Local Authorities (LAs) in England** (30% least deprived in London) whereas in 2015, it was amongst the **50% most deprived**, and ranks 173/317 of all LAs in England.
- Wandsworth ranks highly nationally for **Education, Skills & Training** (3% least deprived LAs in England), and compared to 2015, its rank and score for **Income** have risen.
- In line with many other London boroughs, Wandsworth ranks amongst the **more deprived** LAs in **England** for the **Barriers to Housing & Services** and **Crime** domains.
- A major housing development has been completed in Battersea and Nine Elms since the previous CSA. Affordable housing constitutes 9% of that development.
- Between 2015 and 2019, Wandsworth moved from the **50% least deprived** to the **50% most deprived London boroughs** in the **Health Deprivation & Disability** domain.
- The Health Deprivation and Disability Domain measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health, and of morbidity, disability, and premature mortality, but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.

Wandsworth: WARD Information

Wandsworth is comprised of 20 Wards.



Figures 2 and 3 (above): Map of Wandsworth by ward, and most deprived LSOAs (Source DataWand 2021, Insight and Analytics Team)

There are no Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LLSOAs) ranked in the **most deprived 10%** in England, however, there are clusters of more deprived LSOAs within the easterly, westerly, and southerly points of the borough (*shown in pink*).

- The three LSOAs amongst the **10% most deprived** are in:
 - **Latchmere** (two areas), and
 - **Tooting** (one area).
- All LSOAs in **Roehampton**, and 88% of LSOAs in **Latchmere** are within the **50% most deprived** nationally, regionally, and locally on the IMD.
- **Graveney**, **Queenstown** and **Tooting** also have sizeable proportion of LSOAs amongst the borough's **50% most deprived**.
- Regionally, **Queenstown** had the **most LSOAs** ranked as relatively **more deprived** between 2015 and 2019.
- Nationally, **Shaftesbury** has most LSOAs moving up into a less deprived decile.

Government statistics on children living in **relative** and **absolute** poverty echo these findings, showing the wide gap between the least deprived wards of Balham and Thamesfield, and those ranked as more deprived:

- **Balham** (relative and absolute 5%)
- **Thamesfield** (relative and absolute 5%)

- **Shaftesbury** (relative 9%, and absolute 7%)
- **Tooting** (relative 18% and absolute 14%)
- **Queenstown** (relative 20% and absolute 15%)
- **Latchmere** (relative 27% and absolute 22%)
- **Roehampton and Putney** (relative 31% and absolute 23%)

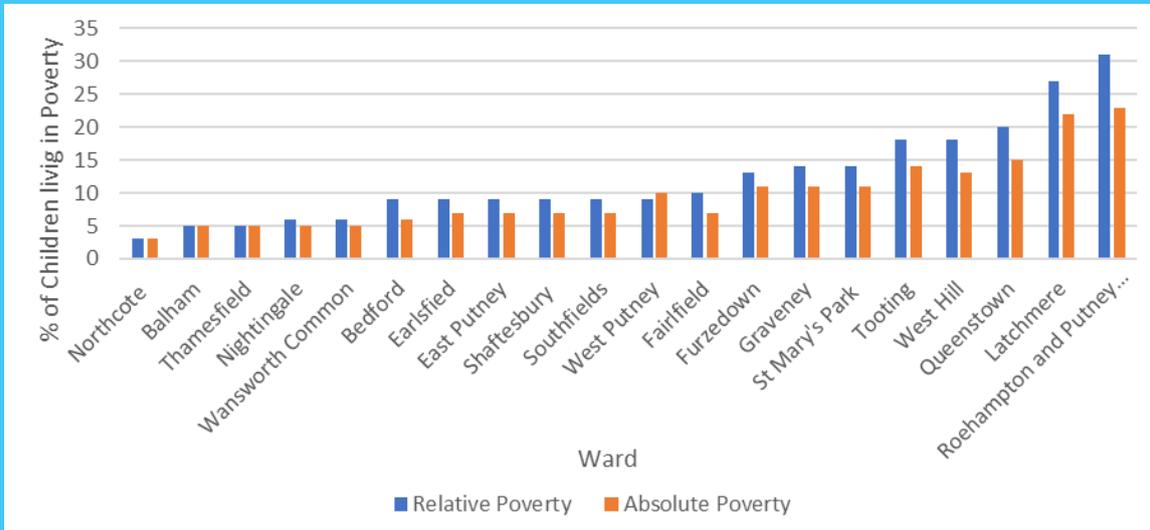


Figure 4: Graph showing the percentage of children in Wandsworth living in absolute and relative poverty, according to ward
 (Source: Children in low-income families: local area statistics 2014 to 2020 – WWW.GOV.UK)

Wandsworth: Household Composition and Economic Activity

Information provided by the Wandsworth Insight and Analytics Team in 2021 from the Annual Population Survey (APS), shows that compared to the rest of London and UK, Wandsworth has:

- More one person households and fewer ‘family’ households.
- Fewer lone parent households with dependent children.

As with the economic data related to employment and income, there is a **significant difference** in circumstance between the **most** and **least deprived** wards in the borough.

87.2% of the **16 to 64** age population of Wandsworth are **economically active** (87% female, 87.5% male). This places Wandsworth behind only the City of London in terms of economic activity rate within the capital. **83%** of those employed are in **full-time** employment, **69.8%** being in groups **1 to 3** (Senior Professionals), higher than in the rest of London and the UK (62.7% and 50.6%). Median annual pay for working adults is **£41,100** in **Wandsworth**, compared to London (£32,533) and England (£26,055).

Of the economically inactive, **36.5%** are students, and **16.5%** are looking after a family home. **14%** are retired. However, the onset of the **COVID** pandemic in March 2020 did precipitate a substantial increase in Universal Credit and Job Seekers Allowance claims in Wandsworth.

Despite Wandsworth’s relative lack of deprivation, people living in Wandsworth experience higher levels of homelessness and priority housing need than the London and National averages.

Ethnicity and Language

Nationally 84.4% of residents were born in the UK (Source DataWand 2021, Insight and Analytics Team), compared to 63% in London, and **64%** in **Wandsworth**. **82.6%** of Wandsworth residents speak **English** as a main language.

However, **41%** of children enter primary school with **English as an Additional Language**, compared to a national average of 18% (*Schools Data Fact Sheet 2021*). In January 2021, 3 schools in Wandsworth were equivalent or below the national average of 18%, and 20 schools had **more than 50%** of their early years and reception children begin school with English as an Additional Language.

The table below shows statistics of primary school age children in **January 2021** who are claiming **Free School Meals** (FSMs) and children with **English as an Additional Language** (EAL) compared to the national average.

	Primary children with EAL (%) Jan 2021	Primary children with EAL Numbers Jan 2021	Primary children eligible for FSM (%) Jan 2021	Primary children eligible for FSM Numbers Jan 2021
Wandsworth	41%	8,219	23%	4,602
National	18%	975,238	17%	1,008,164

Table 1: Primary Schools Population January 2021 (FSM and EAL levels)
(Source: School Fact Sheet May 2021)

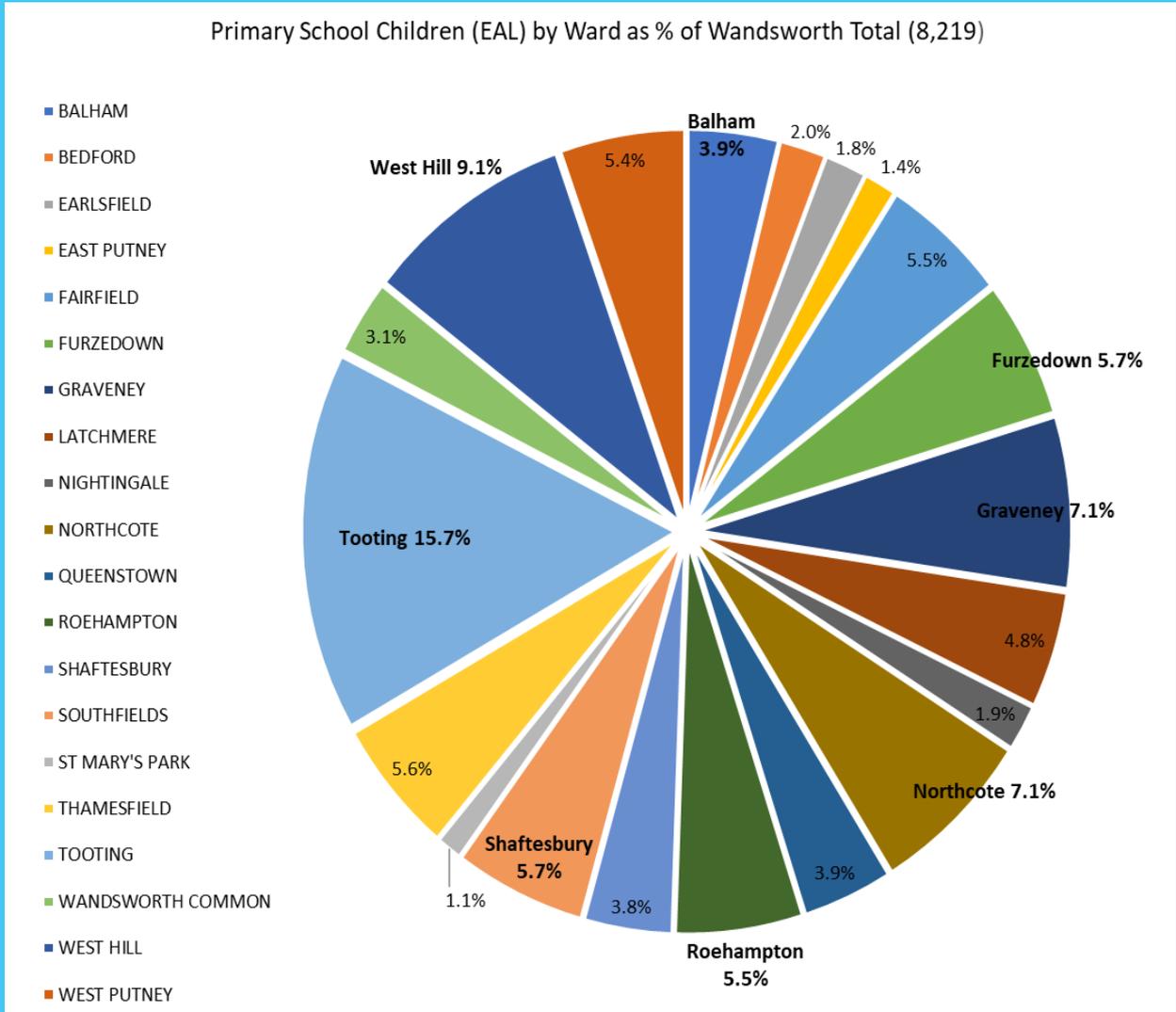


Figure 5: Chart showing how the 8,219 primary children with EAL were distributed by ward across the borough in January 2021 (Source: School Fact Sheet May 2021 GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

There is no assumption of a causal link being made between EAL and FSM claims. The two are being shown together to indicate wards where children on entry to school may require more immediate resources and support.

Free School Meals

In 2017, **17%** of the school age population of Wandsworth were eligible for Free School Meals compared to a national average of 15%. This had **increased** to **23%** for both primary and secondary pupils by January 2021. In the **Pupil Referral Units**, the percentage is **43%** (Schools Data Fact Sheet 2021). **Latchmere** has **45%** of its primary school population claiming FSMs, **Roehampton** has **48%**, and **Queenstown** has **50%**.

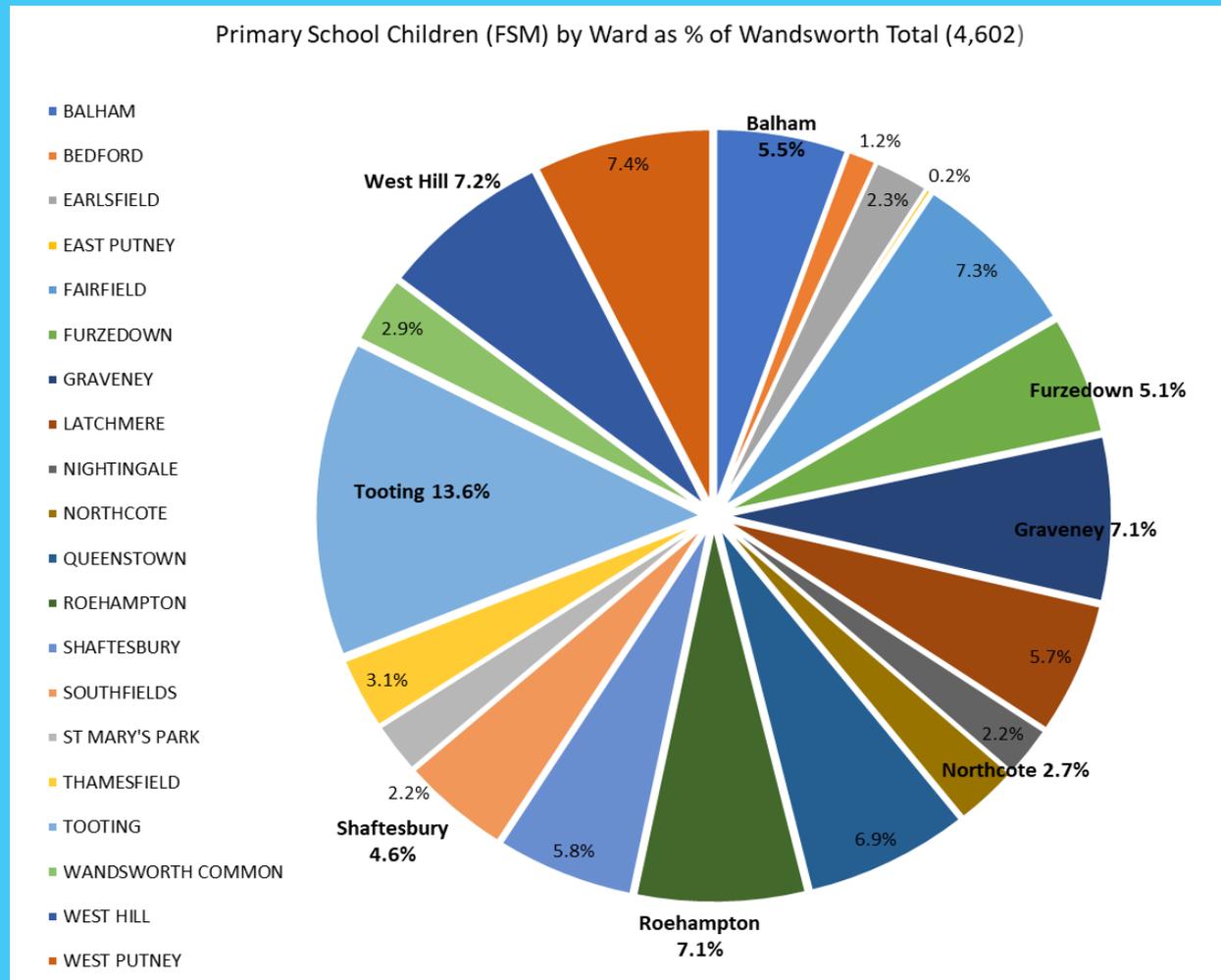


Figure 6: chart showing how the 4,602 primary children eligible for FSM were distributed across the borough in January 2021. (Source: School Fact Sheet May 2021 GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

Historically, Wandsworth children are the **least likely** in London and England to be living in a single parent economically inactive family. Whilst this remains the case, the percentage of children living in low-income families has **risen** from **9%** in 2015 to **20%** in 2020, further evidence that the incidence of poverty is worsening.

It will be important to note the economic impact of COVID following release of **CENSUS 2021** statistics, updated analysis by the Insight and Analytics Team, and the results of the London Migration Report.

Ward Level Population: Children and Young People (0 to 19)

Population statistics cited in this section is sourced from the GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections.

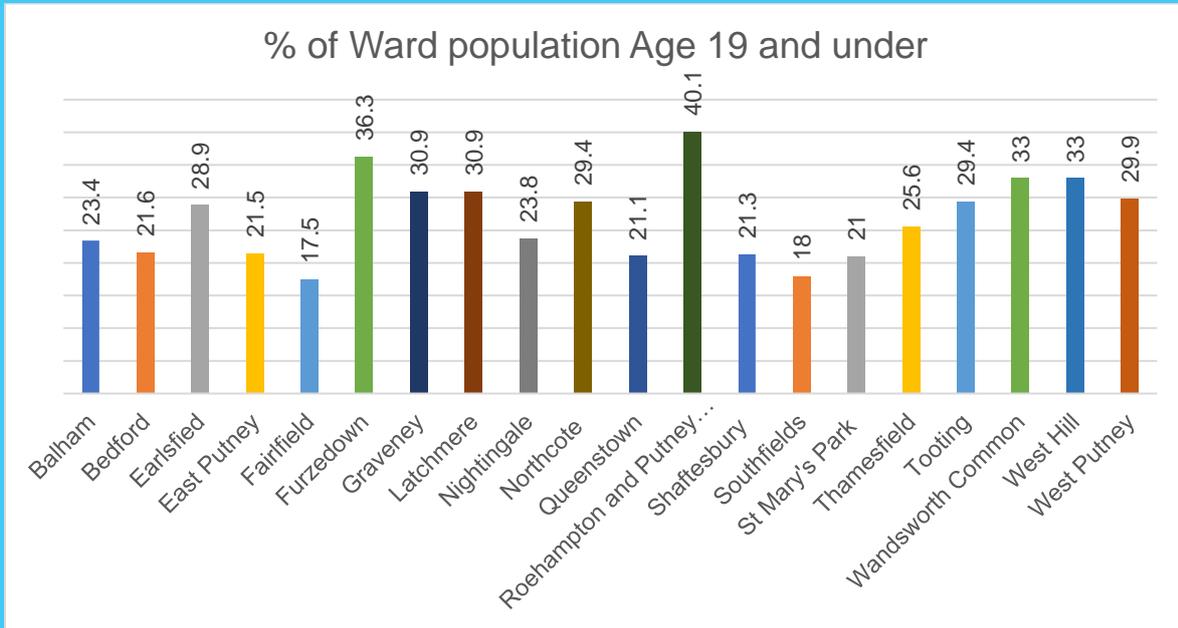


Figure 7: Graph showing the percentage of each ward's population aged 19 and under in 2021. (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

Queenstown is the most populous ward (19,200) and residents 19 and under constitute 21.1% (**4,050**). **Roehampton and Putney Heath** has the largest number of residents aged 19 and under (**4,890**), 40.1% of the total ward population. **Fairfield** has the smallest percentage of young people, **17.5%**, i.e., 2,480. **Shaftesbury** has the smallest number of residents 19 and under (**2,380**).

The following graphs show predicted populations by age group and ward for 2021, 2025 and 2030.

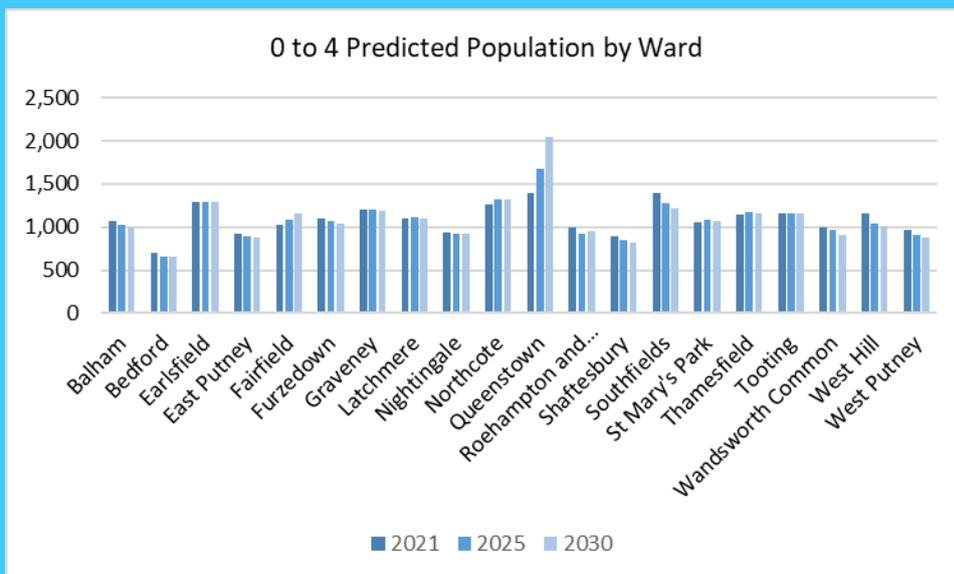


Figure 8: Graph showing Ward Level, age 0 to 4, 2021, 2025 and 2030 predictions (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

The 0 to 4 population is expected to **increase** by **47%** in **Queenstown** by 2030, a significant increase for planning services. **Southfields** and **West Hill** are expected to see a **decrease** of >10%.

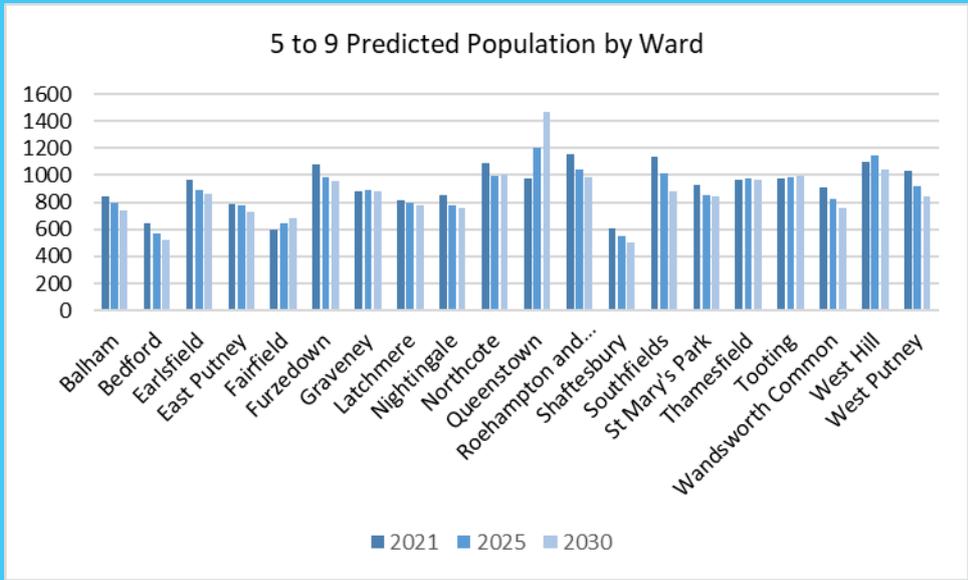


Figure 9: Graph showing Ward Level, age 5 to 9, 2021, 2025 and 2030 predictions (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

The 5 to 9 population is also expected to **increase** in **Queenstown** by 2030, by almost **50%**, another significant increase for planning services in the ward, and **Fairfield's** population to **increase** by **14%**. Most other wards are expected to see a **decrease** in the 5 to 9 population of >10%, 5 of those by almost 20%, and **Southfields** by **23%**.

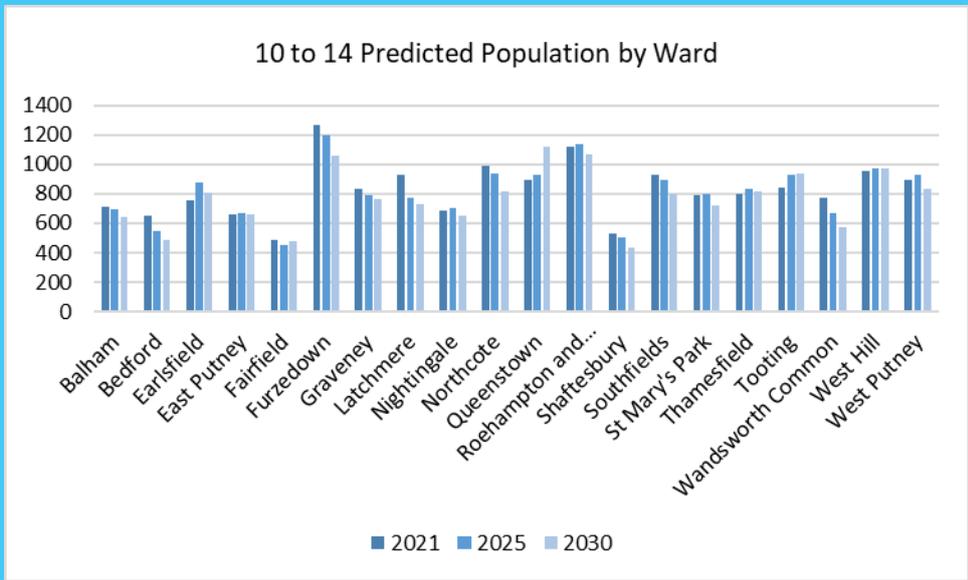


Figure 10: Graph showing Ward Level, age 10 to 14, 2021, 2025 and 2030 predictions (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

The population is also expected to **increase** in **Queenstown** by 2030 by 26% in the 10 to 14 age group. The most notable **reductions** are in **Bedford** (24%), **Latchmere** (22%) and **Wandsworth Common** (26%).

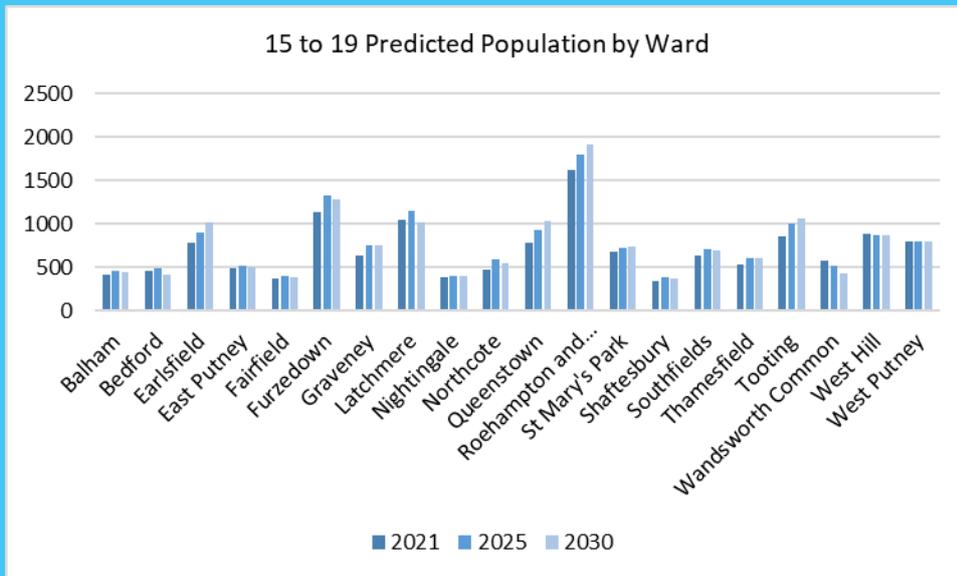


Figure 11: Graph showing Ward Level, age 15 to 19, 2021, 2025 and 2030 predictions (Source: GLA 2018 Housing Led based population projections)

The largest population **increase** is also expected in **Queenstown** in the 15 to 19 age group by 2030 (32%). The most notable **reductions** are in **Bedford** (18%), and **Wandsworth Common** (25%), otherwise, most other wards will expect a small increase.

As previously stated, in 2021 **21%** of the population are 19 and under, and this is predicted to drop to **19.7%** by 2030 when Wandsworth is expected to have a total population of 353,079.

Number of Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (**SEND**) are entitled to support with childcare and education up to the age of 25.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

Figures are from the SEND Analysis Dashboard and the Schools Fact Sheet May 2021, and do not include EHCPs to be finalised within the academic year or those on a waiting list for assessment.

Age	Number of children 2021
Birth to school age	116
Primary school (reception to year six)	865
Secondary school (year seven to thirteen)	850
TOTAL	1,831

Table 2: Wandsworth Children with EHCPs
(Source: SEND Analysis Dashboard May 2021)

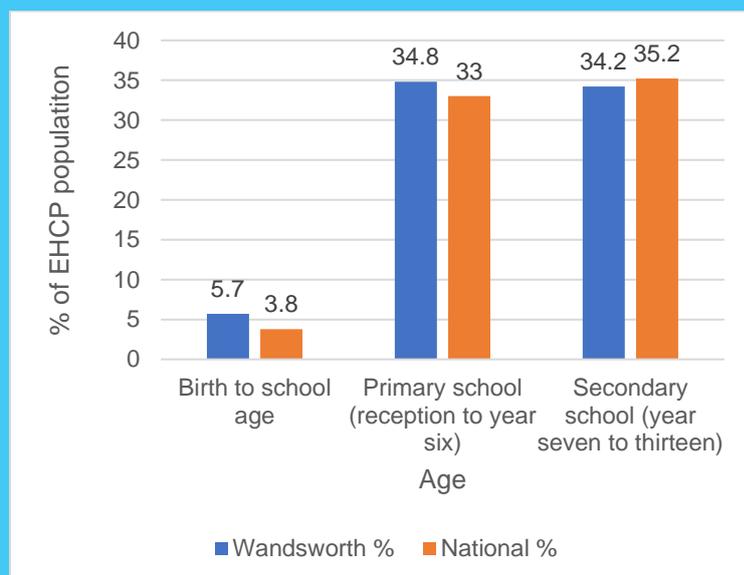


Figure 12: Graph showing % of population on EHCP by age, Wandsworth and National level
(Source: SEND Analysis Dashboard May 2021)

Age	Number of children 2021
Birth to school age	594 558 (EYIF) plus 36 (MNS)
Primary school (reception to year six)	2,541
Secondary school (year seven to thirteen)	1,694

Table 3: Wandsworth children with no EHCP but with SEND Support
(Source: Birth to school age - EYIF applications Aut20/Sum21, SEND Analysis Dashboard May 2021, Schools Data sheet)

SEND statistics are kept for the age group 0 to 25, but the figures collated above for the CSA represent ages 0 to 19 (early years and school age population).

The Wandsworth SEND strategy reported in December 2020, nationally 2.34% of residents (0 to 25) have an EHCP, and 12.1% receive SEN support, compared to Wandsworth’s rates of EHCPs (2.66%) and SEN support (13.1%).

(<https://swlondonccg.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Wandsworth-Strategy-for-Children-and-Young-People-with-Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disabilities.pdf>)

This SEND strategy notes that Wandsworth houses three regional specialist schools and 32.1% of pupils attending these schools are not Wandsworth residents. This is considerably above the national average of 8.9% and represents a significant demand on Wandsworth services.

The SEND strategy also notes that in the primary school population:

- 55% of **SEND support** (no EHCP) is for Speech, Language and Communication Needs, or Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs.
- 5% of children will have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder diagnosis.
- For those children with an **EHCP**, 32% will have an Autistic Spectrum Disorder diagnosis.
- 32% will have Speech, Language and Communication Needs, or Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs.

The charts below show EHCPs and SEND support combined by category for the a) primary and b) secondary school populations.

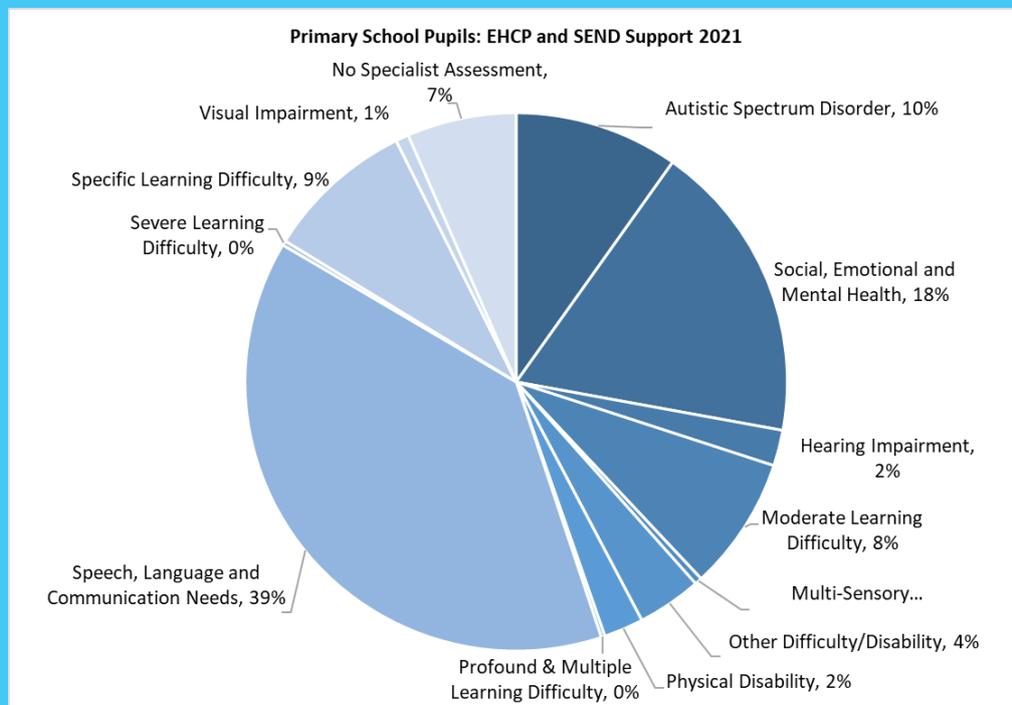


Figure 13: EHCPs and SEND support for Primary School Pupils in Wandsworth

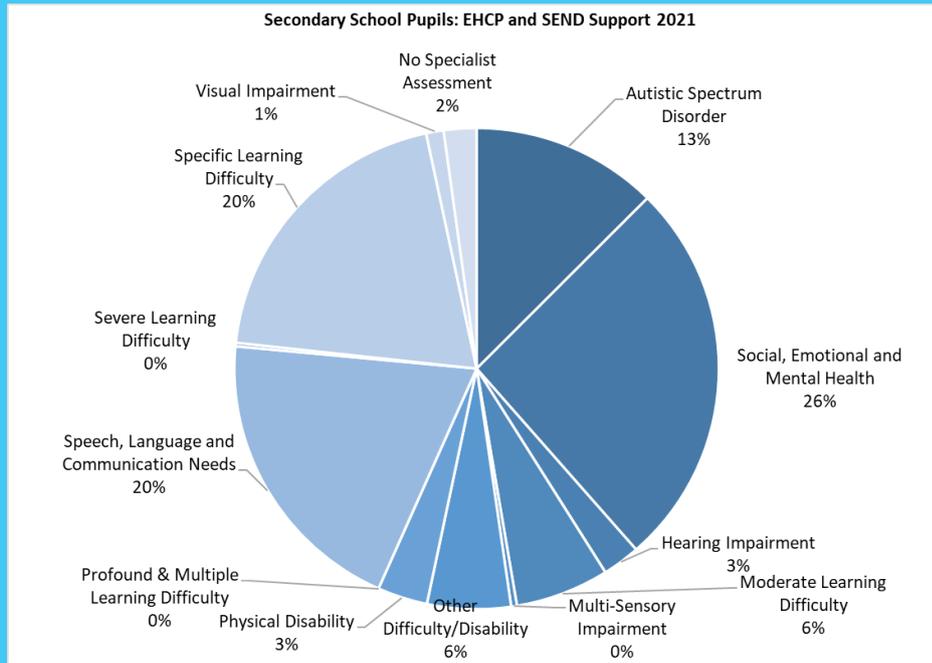


Figure 14: EHCPs and SEND support for Secondary School Pupils in Wandsworth

By secondary school age, 20% of children have received a diagnosis of a specific learning difficulty.

The demand for preschool SEND support through the **EYIF** continues to increase:

- Summer 2019: **£158,396**.
- Autumn 2019 to Spring 20: **£360,358**.
- Autumn 2020 to Spring 21: **£427,235**.
- In this same period, Autumn 2020 to Spring 21, **DAF** payments of **£4,535** were made (7 of 9 payments to MNS settings).

These figures evidence a continuing **increase** in the number of children with EHCPs and SEND in Wandsworth, both above the national average, and most notably in the areas of ASD, Social Communication, and Social Emotional and Mental Health.

Supply of Childcare

Number of Early Years Providers, Places and Vacancies

There are **391 childcare providers** in Wandsworth, offering a maximum of **10,320 Full Time Equivalent (FTE)** early years childcare places.

For PVI and childminders, the number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many operate below their number of registered places. This table records a **full-time** place as being of **30 hours** or more.

Type of provision	Number of providers 2018	Number of providers 2021	% increase /decrease	Number of registered places 2018	Number of registered places 2021	% increase /decrease
Childminders*	240	175	-27.1%	732	502	-31.4%
Nursery classes in schools	49	49	0.0%	1,808	1,875	3.7%
Maintained nursery schools	3	3	0.0%	176	176	0.0%
Private, voluntary, and independent nurseries (PVI)	156	164	5.1%	6,734	7,767	15.3%

Table 4: Early Years Places and Number of Providers
(Source: CSA 2018, EECF and FIS data, OFSTED registration information)

Some childminder places may also be available for older children for after school care. 84 childminders take only younger children and/or do not offer funded places. Frequently, childminders choose to take no, or fewer, children whilst still being registered: numbers can therefore fluctuate over any period. Where it is known that a childminder is not currently accepting children, though still registered, they are included in the places and providers calculations. Some childminders do not work on Fridays and the majority require full-day attendance.

There are 62 schools in the borough, and 49 offer pre-reception places. Five schools have either begun to accept two-year olds or are considering so doing. The figures above represent the size of nursery classes for the academic year 2020/21, as schools are flexible depending on demand and intake each year.

Wandsworth traditionally has a high proportion of **nannies** providing unregistered places, and a high percentage of primary aged children attending **independent** schools: **24%** compared to the national average of 5%. These places are not included in the table.

By secondary age, **20%** of Wandsworth children attend **independent** schools compared to the national average of 8%.

The EECF Team does not collect figures on how many Wandsworth children under school age attend settings out of borough, but in Spring 2021, 24 2-year-olds from outside the borough were in a Wandsworth setting claiming for their 2-year-old place: 8 from Merton, 5 from Hammersmith and Fulham, and 3 from Lambeth and Sutton representing the largest numbers.

Early Years Vacancies

The EECP Team does not maintain a list for current vacancies, but numbers of funding claims for 3- and 4-year-old places have declined (see section Funded Education, p.34). **75%** of schools have seen a **drop** in numbers of 3-and 4-year-old funding claims since 2019 for both Universal and Extended funding (Schools Data and EECP funding system, 2021). Nursery class school roll in **January 2021** was **1,914**. As of end of **September 2021**, the nursery school roll was **1,604**, a reduction of **16%**.

The chart below shows registered early years places per ward against the predicted 0 to 4 population for 2021:

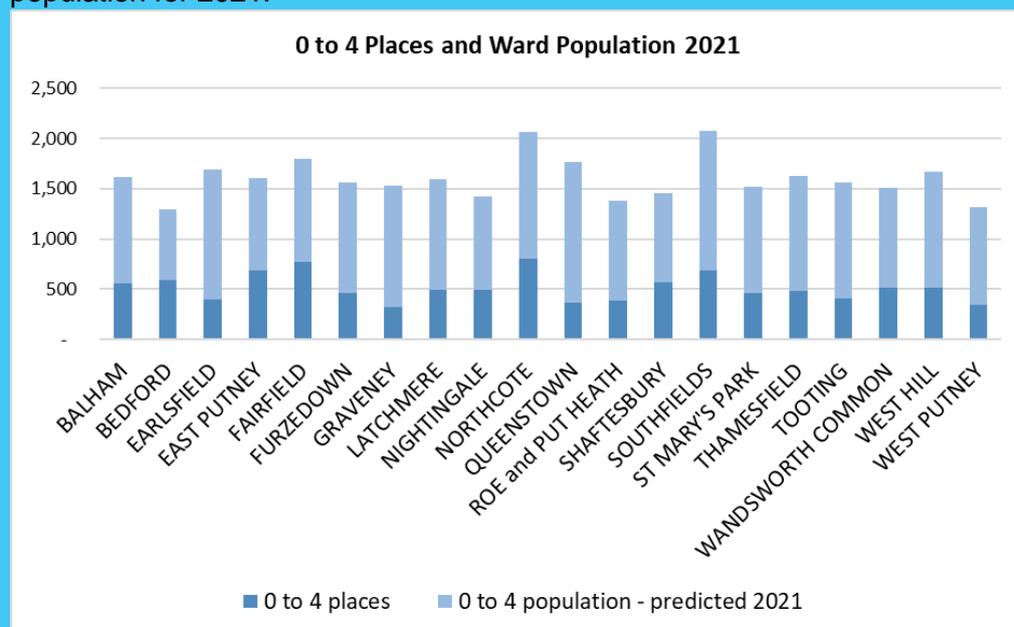


Figure 15: Graph showing 0-4 places against population at Ward Level (Source: CSA 2018, EECP and THRIVE data, OFSTED registration information)

The relationship of places to population does not necessary indicate vacancy levels, as many in the 0 to 4 population will not be in a registered childcare place, being at home with parent/carers or a nanny. The chart above does, however, show the distribution of places to population.

Atypical Hours

Type of provision	Number of providers	Before 8am weekdays	After 6pm weekdays	Available weekends
Childminders	175	7	9	1
Primary schools	49 (62)	43	17	0
Maintained nursery schools	3	0	0	0
Private, voluntary, and independent nurseries	164	55	57	0

Table 5: The types of provisions available, by time (Source: CSA 2018, EECP and THRIVE data, OFSTED registration information)

69 providers offered childcare outside of 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, usually for a brief period either side of 8am to 6pm, most commonly 15 to 30 minutes on one or both sides of

the core day. Only **11** providers offer more than **55 hours** per week, and two of those are childminders.

All primary schools provide either or both breakfast and after school clubs, either in house or through a private provider. 6 schools did not operate outside of 8am to 6pm typical hours.

Number of School Age Providers and Places

There are 82 providers of childcare for school age children (age 5 to 16).

Type of provision	Number of providers	School Capacity
Primary / infant schools	62	24,705
Secondary schools (inc 2 PRUs)	13	13,870
Specialist schools	7	904

*Table 6: School Age Places
(Source: School Fact Sheet May 2021 and Edubase Data)*

Reception Year intake for 2021 is **3,254**. 3 specialist schools offer places for children under 5, and 2 of the 7 are for secondary age children.

School capacity has been taken from Edubase Data provided by the THRIVE Data Team. There may be discrepancies year on year, as schools sometimes adjust advertised capacity based on changes in provision, e.g., an increased nursery or 2-year-old intake, a one or two form reception entry.

School Age Out of School Places

See table 15 page 31, Atypical hours, as clubs provide for the whole school roll.

Most schools use external providers but there is a trend for schools to bring especially before school provision in-house. The number of places offered ranges from 10 to 74, depending on school roll and parental need. There are a wide range of school-based activity clubs, not considered 'registered places,' and these are not counted in the totals.

A questionnaire sent to primary schools in June 2021 asked for details of out of school provision. 34% of schools responded, and in those 21 schools, **816 breakfast club** and **834 afterschool** places were available.

Secondary schools all offer a range of after school activities. Most childminders offer school pickups and will provide wraparound care if they have vacancies. Two childminders offer only this service. **Holiday playschemes** vary year on year and information is available through the FIS website and is regularly collected and collated.

School Age Vacancies

Type of provision	Number of registered places	School Roll January 21	Number of vacancies (FTE equivalent)
School reception class	3,254	3,332	N/A
Years 1 to 6	19,453	15,389	3,986

Table 7: School Age Vacancies
(Source: School Fact Sheet May 2021 and Edubase Data)

Registered Reception places are from Pupil Services for school year **2020/21**. Figures do not include places used in calculating early years vacancies. School age places are therefore 22,707, against an official school capacity of **24,705**.

Some schools are reallocating places to reception age children and younger to alleviate the problems of falling rolls in the upper school. Schools also open or close reception classes based on expected intake. The significant figure is the disparity of **3,986** vacancies across entire school capacity. 2021/22 schools' places data will be released in February 2022.

The questionnaire sent out to schools from the EECPTeam in June 2021 also asked for vacancy predictions for Reception and Years 1 to 6 in the September 21 intake. Of the 21 responses:

- 11 schools predicted reception vacancies (total 83 places)
- 20 schools predicted Year 1 to 6 vacancies (841 places)
- 7 schools predicted vacancy rates of over 20% in Years 1 to 6 (1 in each of Balham, Bedford, Fairfield, Graveney, Latchmere, Nightingale and Southfields wards) and account for 56% of the reported vacancy expectations.

GLA population projections for children in Wandsworth **ages 5 to 9** show expected falls in the primary age group to continue up to 2030 (see page 24).

Funded Early Education

DfE Main Tables for 2018 and 2021 (corrected July 2021) confirm the percentage of eligible 2-Year-Olds taking a funded place has dropped to 47%.

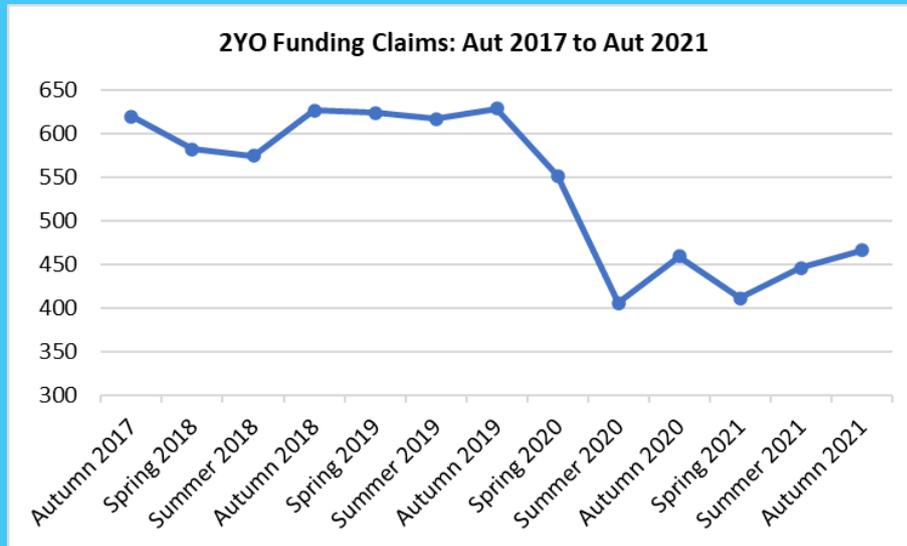


Figure 16: Chart showing numbers of 2-Year-old funding claims Autumn 2017 to Autumn 2021: (Source: EECF Funding System, September 2021, DfE Main Tables, June 2021)

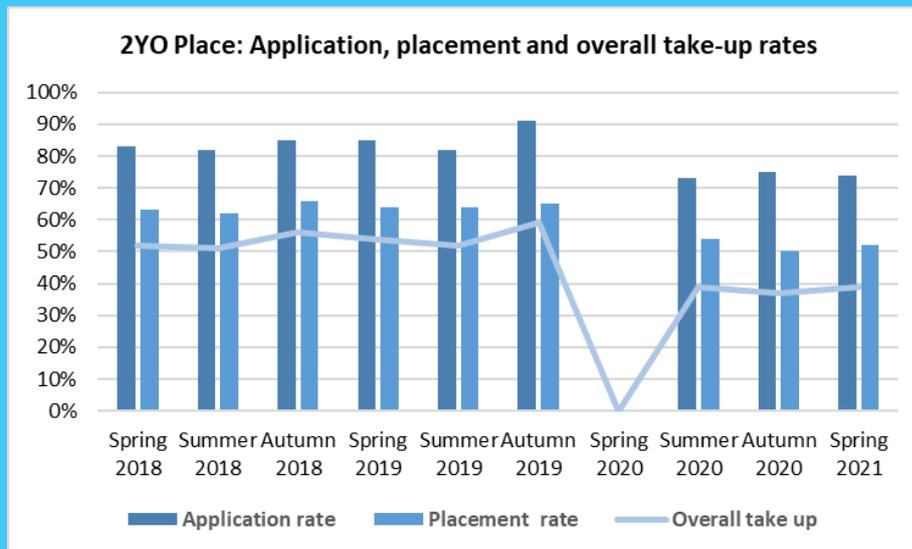


Figure 17: chart showing a comparison of application, placement and overall take-up rates of eligible 2YOs Spring 18 to Spring 21 (Source: THRIVE Data Support Team collated from DfE Main Tables, June 2021)

There is a marked disparity between application and take up rates in different wards - see the figure below for Spring 2021):

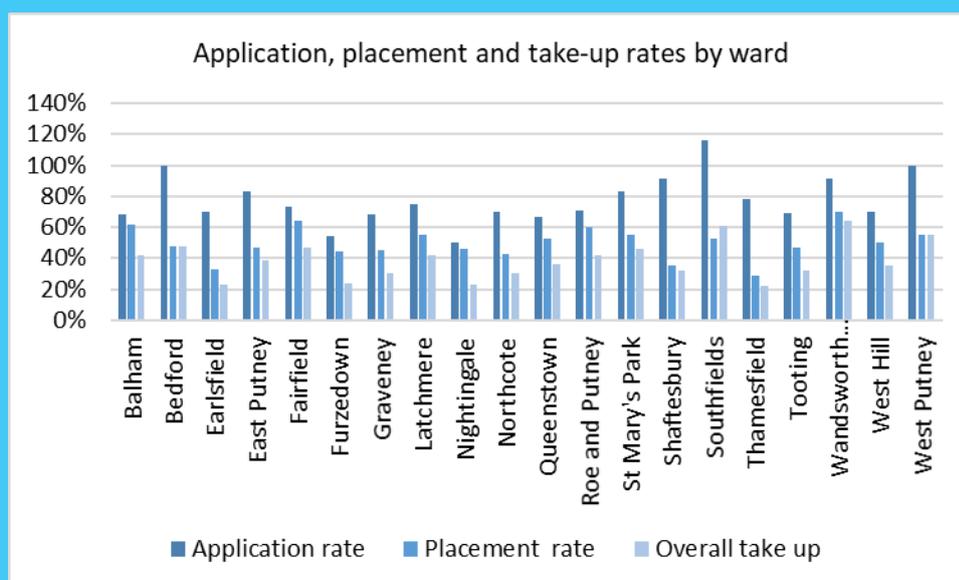


Figure 18: chart showing provision uptake by ward, **Spring 2021**
(Source: THRIVE Data Support Team collated from DfE statistics, June 2021)

2-Year-Old Places: Four Year Summary Key Points

- Figures remained stable (620 to 629) in the **Autumn** terms of **2017 – 2019**.
- **1,777** funded places were provided in **2017/18**.
- Places have **historically dropped** during each academic year from Autumn through to Summer, however, in the year **2018/19**, there was a positive smaller than expected **1.5% drop** (10 places) as projects to increase awareness of 2-Year-Old funding were ongoing.
- **Spring 2019** also saw the **highest** number of 2YO claims for a Spring term (624 places), a **7% increase** on that term in the previous academic year.
- **Summer 2019** also saw the highest number of 2YO claims for a summer term (617 places), a **7% increase** on the previous academic year.
- **2018/ 19** therefore saw an overall **5% increase** in places (91 places) from the previous academic year, with a total of **1,868 places** funded provided, the highest number to date.
- However, in **Spring 2020**, at the start of COVID, places **dropped** significantly by **12%** (72), compared to a drop of 0.5% in the Spring term of the previous academic year.
- This trend continued, with a dramatic **26% drop** (146) from **Spring 20 to Summer 20**.
- **1,587** funded places were provided in **2019/20**.
- Therefore, from **2018/19 to 2019/2020**, funding claims **dropped** by **15%** (281 places).
- This also represents an **11% drop** (190 places) from **2017/18 to 2019/20**.
- This significant **drop** in funded 2YO places continued throughout the academic year **2020/21**.
- **1,316** funded places were provided in **2020/21**
- Claims in **2020/21 dropped 17%** from the previous academic year, **2019/20**.
- Between the academic year **2018/19**, the high point of funding claims, and **2020/21**, 2YO funding claims **dropped** by **30%** (552 places).

- As we start the current academic year, **Autumn 2021** the number of processed funding claims by close of Headcount (466 places) represent a **25% drop** (154 places) from **Autumn 2017** levels.
- In addition, **Autumn 2021** claims of 466, a 4% increase on the previous term (Summer 2021), although they are in line with claims in **Autumn 2020**.
- This indicates **no sign of return** to pre-COVID 2 YO funding claim levels, as we would usually expect to see a 9-13% increase between Summer and Autumn terms.
- Application, Placement and Overall Take Up rates have not been calculated past Spring 21, but indications from Aut 21 Headcount funding claims are that they will remain well **below pre-COVID** levels.
- The discrepancies between application and overall take up rates in different wards remains of interest, and analysis from Sum 21 and Aut 21 statistics may help in determining priorities for the Two-Year-Old Project Team.

DfE Main Tables for 2018 and 2021 (corrected July 2021) confirm the percentage of 3-and 4-Year-Olds taking a funded place has dropped from 86% (2020) to 83% (2021).

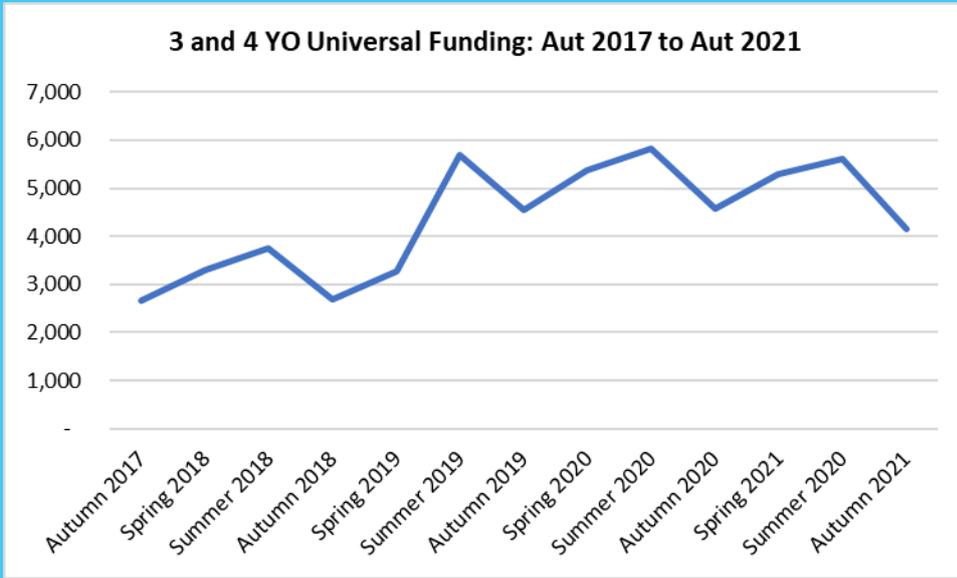


Figure 19: chart showing Universal 3-and 4-Year-Old (15 Hours) claims Autumn 2017 to Autumn 2021 (Source EECP Funding System, September 2021)

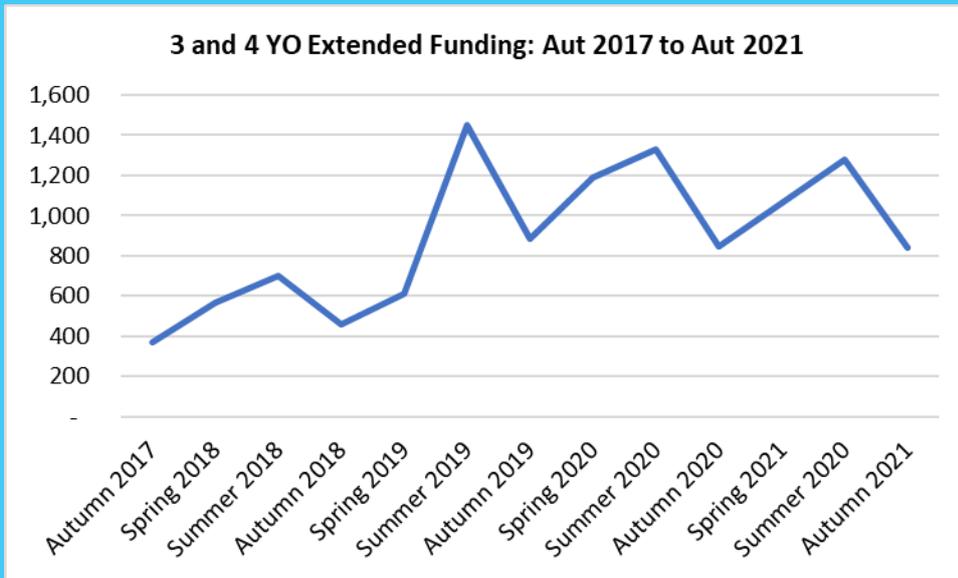


Figure 20: chart showing Extended Funding (30 Hour) claims Autumn 2017 to Autumn 2021 (Source EECP Funding System, September 2021)

3-and 4-Year-Old Universal Places (15 Hours): Four Year Summary Key Points

- Places have **historically risen** during each academic year from autumn terms through to summer terms.
- **9,695** funded places were provided in **2017/18**.
- **11,651** funded places were provided in **2018/19**, a **20% increase** on **2017/18**.
- Figures were almost identical between **Aut 17** (2,652) and **Aut 18** (2,679), and between **Spr 18** (3,299) and **Spr 19** (3,268).
- **Sum 19** (5,704) saw a significant **52% increase** in Universal funded places compared to **Sum 18** (3,744) when school numbers began to be included on the EECF funding system.
- There was a **74% increase** between **Spr 19** and **Sum 19** (2,436), higher than expected.
- **15,765** funded places were provided in **2019/20**, a **35% increase** (4,114 places) on **2018/19**.
- Universal places continued to be funded through **2019/20** and COVID restrictions, and at the start of academic year **2019/20**, Universal places remained significantly higher than in previous autumn and spring terms.
- There were **4,557** funded places in **Aut 19**, a significant **70% increase** from **Aut 18**.
- The traditional drop in numbers between the summer and autumn terms, i.e., **Sum 19** to **Aut 19**, was smaller than in previous years: **20% drop** in comparison to a **28% drop** from **Sum 18** to **Aut 18**.
- **Spr 20** also saw the **highest** number of 3YO Universal claims for a spring term (5,385 places), a **65% increase** on that term in the previous academic year.
- By the time COVID restrictions had fully begun to impact in **Sum 20**, places continued to be funded, and we saw the **highest** number of 3YO Universal claims for a summer term (5,823 places).
- However, this was only a **2% increase** on the summer term in the previous academic year, **2018/19**, where we would usually expect an increase of over 13% between spring and summer.
- So even though numbers remained historically high, this could indicate either a negative effect on growth in places due to COVID, or numbers reaching a natural demographic peak.
- Funded places in **2020/21** were similar to the previous academic year.
- **15,480** places were funded in **2020/21**, in comparison to **15,765** in **2019/20**, a **2% drop**, and **Aut 20** recorded the highest funding claims for an autumn term (4,580).
- However, **Spr 21** and **Sum 21** showed signs of decline in funding claims, showing both smaller percentage increases between terms (Aut 20 to Spr 21: **16%** instead of **20%**, and Spr 21 to Sum 21: **6%** instead of **13%**) and **drops** in claim numbers against the equivalent terms in the previous year, **2019/20** (average **3%**).
- **2021/22** has begun with a marked reduction in funding claims for **Aut 21**.
- There were **4,163** funding claims in **Aut 21**, a **9% drop** (417) from **Aut 20**.
- This is also a **26% drop** (1,440) between **Sum 21** and **Aut 21**, about 5% higher than decreases between summer high claims and autumn low claims in the previous two funding years.
- Claims remain higher than 2017/18 and 2018/19 but are showing signs of **decline**.

3-and 4-Year-Old 30 Hour Places (Extended): Four Year Summary Key Points

- **2017/18** was the first year of the Extended Funding offer for 3- and 4-year-olds, and as with the Universal offer, places have historically **risen** during each academic year from autumn through to summer terms.
- **1,634** funded places were provided in the inaugural year of funding **2017/18**.
- A targeted campaign to increase take-up, focusing on schools, was undertaken from May to November 2018.
- **2,523** 30 Hour places were provided in **2018/19**, a **54% increase** on **2017/18**.
- The most significant increase in funding claims came in **Sum 19**, which saw a **107% increase** between **Sum 18** and the **Sum 19** high point, and a **136% increase** between the spring (614) and summer terms (1,450) in **2018/19**.
- **Sum 19** (1,450 places) saw the **highest** number of 3YO Extended Funding claims for a summer term to date. This trend continued into **2019/20**.
- **3,404** funding claims were made in **2019/20**, a **35% increase** on **2018/19** claims, the highest number of academic year claims to date.
- **Aut 19** (888) and **Spr 20** (1,189) both saw the **highest** number of 3YO Extended Funding claims for autumn and spring terms to date.
- Once COVID restrictions began to impact, **Sum 20** saw an **8% drop** from the equivalent term the previous year: **1,327** claims in **Sum 20** compared to **1,450** in **Sum 19**.
- Whilst Universal places continued to be funded through **2019/20** COVID restrictions and remained at significantly higher levels than in previous autumn and spring terms, Extended Hours claims, allocated to only working parents, were immediately affected by lockdown.
- **3,187** funding claims were made in **2020/21**, **6.5% drop** from **2019/20** (3,404).
- **845** funding claims were made in **Aut 20**, a **5% drop** from the Aut 19 high point.
- **1,062** funding claims were made in **Spr 21**, an **11% drop** from the Spr 20 high point. Universal funding claims only **dropped by 2%** in this period, which indicates an impact on working households during lockdown.
- The trend continued into **Sum 21** with a **4% drop** (47 places) from **Sum 20** claims.
- **2021/22** has begun with 840 funding claims for **Aut 21**, an almost identical number of claims to **Aut 20**, whilst 3YO Universal claims are **9% down** for the same period.

Providers offering funded early education places

Type of provision	Number of providers	Age 2 targeted	Age 3 and 4 Universal 15 hours	Age 3 and 4 Extended 30 hours
Childminders	84	20%	48%	48%
Primary school nurseries	49	12%	100%	94%
Maintained nursery schools	3	100%	100%	100%
Private, voluntary, and independent nurseries	164	%	99.99%	%

*Table 8: number of providers offering funded early education places
(Source: EECP Funding System: September 2021 and settings data collated for the CSA 2021)*

84 childminders (out of 175) accept EECP funding, and they all accept both Universal and Extended funding. Approximately 20% of childminders currently accept funded 2-year-olds (percentage who have taken a funded 2-year-old since Autumn 2019).

Most childminders offer places to full time children (4 or 5 full days). However, childminders will often take a funded 2-year-old if they know the family or if they have a part-time vacancy.

Six primary schools currently offer funded 2-year-old places, one being a separate entity but operating within the school. More schools are considering extending their provision to include funded 2-year-olds. All primary schools with a nursery class offer the Universal funded 15 hours. 3 primary schools offer funded 15-hour places, but do not yet offer Extended (30 Hour) funding.

Prices

Price per hour	Private, voluntary, and independent nurseries	School/MNS	Childminders
0 and 1-year olds	£9.65	£N/A	£8
2-year-olds	£9.65	£6.66	£8
3- and 4-year-olds	£9.75	£5.55	£8

Table 9: Prices of early years childcare 2021

(Source: Based on 33% return of fee sheet requests and analysis June 2021)

Prices are affected by the substantial number of independent nurseries in Wandsworth, some with fees as high as £20 per hour. However, though since 2018 some providers have increased their hourly rates by as much as 30%, the average cost to parents has not changed significantly as the increase in early years school places provides more affordable places across the borough.

Calculations have been made based on the cost of 5 mornings per week. Many nurseries operate full-day attendance policies, and prices can vary substantially between full-time and part-time rates. Full-time attendance can reduce the hourly rate by up to 15%.

Childminders usually charge the same hourly rate for all children. The average is £8 per hour; more expensive childminders are concentrated in Tooting and the cheaper in Roehampton. Most childminders do not accept children for only 15 funded hours because of minimum attendance requirements. The more expensive childminders charge £10/12 per hour.

Setting and price unit	Average Price	Range
Breakfast club per day	£4.50	£2.50 - £6.55
After-school club per day	£4.80	£2.50 - £7.80
School age childminder per hour	£10	£7 - £12
Holiday club per week	£4.80	N/A - limited information

Table 10: Prices of school age childcare

(Source: Based on 33% return of fee sheet requests and analysis June 2021, one Holiday club return)

Quality of Childcare

Childcare providers must register and be inspected by Ofsted and given a grade for the quality of provision. Childminders, private and voluntary providers are on the Early Years Register: schools and maintained nursery schools are on the Schools Register.

Quality standards have remained constant across the borough over time, although PVI ratings did increase from 96.3% of good or outstanding in 2019 to 97.9% in 2021. 95 settings are currently waiting for their Ofsted grading.

Type of provision	% Achieving good or outstanding
Childminders	95%
Nursery classes in schools	93%
Maintained nursery schools	100%
Private and voluntary nurseries	97.9%

Table 11: Ofsted ratings May 2021

(Source: Schools Data, Ofsted Reports and EYISS Advisory Team)

Methodology

Number of children/ population predictions: based on GLA population projections from the London Data Store (<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/gla-population-projections-custom-age-tables>), Wandsworth Insight and Analytics Team and the 'DfE Table 5 Education provision: children under five years of age'. Comparison data was used from the **Office of National Statistics** (published *SNPP Population Figures 2018*) and THRIVE Data Support.

Children with EHC plans and SEN Support: based on the 'DfE Table 5 Education provision: children under five years of age', and Wandsworth School Fact Sheets for May 2021. Additional figures regarding EYIF funding are from Wandsworth Finance Team and the EECF Team funding system.

Supply of childcare, hours, price, and provider details: based on data provided by Ofsted reports, provider websites, provider surveys undertaken in 2018, and confirmation of details requests undertaken in April to July 2021. This included a 33% return of current fee sheets or email confirmation.

School data is from the Wandsworth Council produced school fact sheets, with confirmation through THRIVE Data Support, school brochures and surveys undertaken as part of the data collection to produce this CSA in July 2021.

Vacancy rates: Vacancy rates for schools are based on school capacity data held by the DfE against Wandsworth School Fact Sheets for May 2021 and THRIVE Data Support.

Funded early education: Data on take up of funded early education entitlements is based on information collected for the Early Years and Schools Censuses, which are taken every January and published by the Department for Education in the statistical collection '*Education provision: children under five years of age.*'

Data on entitlement to a funded early education place for 2-Year-Olds is provided by the Department for Work and Pensions, and information collected for reporting to the Department for Education by the EECF Team and Finance Department, and the THRIVE Data Support Team. Data on funding claims and childcare funding payments was also collected from the EECF Funding System and the Wandsworth Finance Department, and from DfE Main Tables (corrected July 2021).

Quality of childcare: Data on childcare quality is collected twice yearly by the Deputy Head of Early Years. Schools' information was collected from Government data sets (monthly management of information for Ofsted ratings) published in 2021.