

Technical Appendix 2: Education (Early Years)

1.0 Service Overview

1.1 The county council currently has several statutory duties it has to meet regarding Early Years Education:

- Duty to secure sufficient childcare for 0-14 year olds:
 - All working families with children up to the age of 14 (18 for children with special education needs and disability) can expect the local authority to ensure there are sufficient childcare places available for their children to ensure they are able to continue to work.
- Free Early Education (FEE) for 2-year-olds:
 - Parents who meet national criteria as set by central government are entitled to fifteen hours of free early education. The aim of this scheme is to narrow the gap for the most disadvantaged families.
- FEE for 3- and 4-year-olds:
 - All children from the term after they are three until they start reception are entitled to fifteen hours of free early education
- Thirty hours free childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds:
 - Working parents who meet a national criteria as set by central government are entitled to an additional fifteen hours of free childcare in addition to the fifteen hours of free early education.

1.2 The various providers falling under Early Years Education are described below. In some instances, it is possible that the same facility can provide more than one service.

1.3 Maintained Nursery Classes are classes based in primary schools where children aged three until they reach statutory school age receive their FEE entitlement. Where new primary school sites are identified, nursery provision will be sought as part of the on-site provision. Maintained Nursery Schools are schools funded by the state where children aged from three until they reach statutory school age receive their FEE entitlement. There are 14 such schools in Hertfordshire.

1.4 Preschool/playgroups educate children between the ages of 2 and statutory school age. These settings are able to offer FEE to eligible 2-year-olds as well as all 3- and 4-year-olds. They are run by private, voluntary, and independent (PVI) providers in local communities and some children attending will be accessing their FEE place and others will be accessing additional

services for which parents pay. These settings will often be set up in community buildings or schools and will usually be open term time only.

- 1.5 Day nurseries offer childcare and early education for children from 0 to 5 years old. These settings are used predominately by working parents for childcare purposes. They can also offer FEE for eligible children but with most children accessing additional services for which parents pay.
- 1.6 School breakfast clubs, after schools clubs, and school holiday clubs provide wrap around care for children who are attending primary school but require care around the start and end of the school day while parents are working. These usually take place in schools and may be operated by the school or a PVI provider but can also take place in some community buildings. New schools should be designed to be able to offer childcare to all children (aged five years upwards) in addition to nursery provision for three and four year olds.
- 1.7 HCC tends to deliver new provision for 0-2 year olds through day nurseries, 3-4 year olds through nursery classes in mainstream schools, and 5-11 year olds through before and after school clubs. Therefore, for the purposes of calculating demand and capacity, calculating developer contributions, and nominating projects, HCC classifies services for 3 and 4 year olds as nursery and for 0-2 and 5-11 year olds as childcare.

2.0 Assessing need and calculating demand

- 2.1 Annually Hertfordshire County Council publishes a Childcare Sufficiency Report which details where places are required across the county. It should be noted that unfilled places at one type of provider cannot be taken as evidence that provision in an area is sufficient. The work patterns and incomes of parents are all different and so are their needs.
- 2.2 In addition to working with maintained schools, the county council can work with the PVI sector to ensure sufficient childcare and FEE. All registered childcare providers who care for children from birth to five years old have to comply with the Early Years Foundation Stage and are registered with Ofsted.
- 2.3 Planning obligations towards Early Years Education services are assessed using the Hertfordshire County Council Demographic Model which forecasts the number of children likely to emerge from different types, sizes and tenures of dwellings. An overview of the model is available alongside this Guide.
- 2.4 Planning obligations will be determined on a case-by-case basis and may take the form of new on-site provision (including build costs and land), subject to procurement and competition rules, or resources to expand an existing

provider. In these instances the facility must adhere to an Ofsted compliant specification provided by Hertfordshire County Council and any tenant, and their business model, must also be approved.

- 2.5 Where a new primary or first school is proposed as part of a development site, nursery provision will be sought as part of that school.
- 2.6 Following advice outlined within the Department for Education (DfE) guide 'Securing developer contributions for education' (April 2019), Hertfordshire County Council will seek nursery provision commensurate with the cost of primary school provision as shown within the DfE Scorecard. In October 2020, these costs were £20,508 per place for new settings.
- 2.7 In circumstances where it can be evidenced that the cost to expand or redevelop a site is in excess of the DfE Scorecard funds to be achieved through the application of these charges, such as might be the case for sites located in conservation areas, on constrained sites, or sites with other planning limitations e.g. located on a flood plain, then a proportionate bespoke cost of providing the new site or expanding the existing site and/or purchasing additional land to do so may be sought from the developer.
- 2.8 See Technical Appendix 3 for nursery contribution calculations which are calculated in accordance with the DfE Scorecard.
- 2.9 Childcare projects vary significantly by location, promoter, and the age group they cater towards. The developer contribution for childcare projects consists of a contribution for 0-2 year olds and for 5-11 year olds. Contributions for 0-2 year olds may consist of resources costs (for projects that do not require new buildings) or build and resources costs (where the project also includes the delivery of new buildings). Developer contributions for 5-11 year olds only include resources costs (as these are usually delivered in existing school buildings).
- 2.10 Build costs for 0-2 year olds results from space standards from the Department for Education as follows and expected build costs of £2,783 per m² based on BCIS 1Q2020:

Table 1 - Build costs for childcare projects

Age group	m ² per place	£ per place
For children under 2 years old	3.5	£9,741
For children aged 2	2.5	£6,958

- 2.11 For 0-2 year olds, based on previously supported projects, typical equipment costs average £921 per place. For 5-11 year olds, similarly based on

previously supported projects, resources costs are £214. All these costs are correct as of Q12020.

- 2.12 Indexing these costs to Q1 2022 in line with BCIS means that in total, the cost per place is as follows:

Table 2 – Childcare Costs

Age group	Resources Only Project	Build and Resources Project
0-1	£959.49	£11,107.58
2	£959.49	£8,208.27
5-11	£222.94	N/A

- 2.13 The Hertfordshire Demographic Model outputs yields for 0-1, 2, and 5-11 year olds (determined by reference to the development mix and trajectory) and applies known take up rates to give the number of anticipated number of places required for 0-2 and 5-11 year olds resulting from development. It multiplies this by the appropriate per place costs (depending on the type of project) to give the developer contribution.
- 2.14 Using the Hertfordshire Demographic Model, the following table indicates costs which might likely be sought from an application for childcare for 0- to 2-year-olds.
- 2.15 The indicative tables below are included as a guide to help inform viability assessments and financial planning, the actual contribution sought for each development site will be calculated individually once a planning application has been made.

Project to include resources-only for 0-1 year olds (£959.49 per child):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£61	£206	£300	£334	£75	£224	£207	£239

Project to include resources-only for 2 year olds (£959.49 per child):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£61	£206	£300	£334	£75	£224	£207	£239

Project to include resources-only for 5-11 year olds (£222.94 per child):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£31	£98	£147	£164	£37	£112	£108	£115

Project to include build and resource costs for 0-1 year olds (£11,107.58 per child):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£484	£1,625	£2,390	£2,552	£592	£1,771	£1,579	£1,891

Project to include build and resource costs for 2 year olds (£8,208.27 per child):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£183	£607	£892	£999	£224	£671	£604	£724