



**Lancashire County Council
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
April 2020– April 2021**

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Contents

Introduction	Pg. 2
Executive Summary	Pg. 3
Lancashire Demographics	Pg. 6
Childcare Provision in Lancashire	Pg. 13
Childcare Places 0-4yrs	Pg. 19
Childcare Places 4-11yrs	Pg. 22
Demand for Childcare	Pg. 23
Early Education Funding (EEF)	Pg. 25
Sustainability	Pg. 31
Childcare Fees	Pg. 36
Quality of Childcare Provision	Pg. 38
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)	Pg. 41
Action Plan	Pg. 45
Conclusion	Pg. 47

Introduction

Local Authorities are required by legislation to secure sufficient childcare places to enable parents to work. These childcare places need to be, accessible, affordable and delivered flexibly in high quality settings. This report is Lancashire's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for April 2020 – April 2021 and includes the take up of Early Education Funded (EEF) provision for 2, 3 and 4-year olds and the availability and quality of places to meet the needs of working parents.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, national restrictions were imposed by the Government on 23rd March 2020. The information contained in this report is the most accurate based on the information currently available and was correct up until the 30th April 2021. It should be seen as a guide to provision rather than conclusive and figures provided represent a snapshot in time.

Methodology

At the start of the national lockdown the Department for Education (DfE) requested that all local authorities submit a weekly data return to identify any childcare sufficiency issues during the pandemic. In April 2020 an online survey was developed, and providers have been completing this weekly. This has provided a variety of data both at district level and at a more localised geographical level to understand the childcare market during the last year. Data from the termly census and headcount claims is used to map the take up of funded childcare places and Ofsted data is used to identify the quality of childcare in Lancashire.

Types of Childcare

Childcare includes Childminders, Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Units of Independent Schools, AM/PM Clubs (refers to out of school provision) and Holiday Schemes, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools and Governor Led Provision (S27).

Registered Childcare

Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children Services and Skills. It regulates childcare for children from birth to 18 years of age. Ofsted operates two registers:

The Early Years Register

All childcare providers must register with Ofsted on the Early Years Register and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) if they are providing care from birth to 5 years for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year.

The Childcare Register

A childcare provider must register on the compulsory part of the register if they provide care for children aged 5-8 years old for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year. A childcare provider will be on both the Early Years Register and the Childcare Register if they care for children under and over the age of 5. Some childcare providers who care for children over the age of 8, who are activity based, for example provide sports coaching, homework clubs or for very short periods of time can join the voluntary part of the childcare register.

Schools

Maintained Nursery Classes and Governor Led Provision (S27) are included within an overall school inspection and are not required to have a separate Early Years Ofsted registration, however they must still follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework.

Executive Summary 2020

To understand the childcare market in 2020-21 a different approach has been required than in our previous childcare sufficiency assessments. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed challenges upon our day to day lives and the impact on families and the economy is on a scale never experienced before. Families have adapted to changes in work routines, some have been key workers, others have been furloughed or facing job losses and longer-term uncertainty. The full extent of the COVID-19 pandemic to businesses across Lancashire and implications of employment is yet to be fully seen.

Over the past year children have experienced a number of changes to their childcare, some who would normally attend childcare have remained at home, other children have had to adapt to childcare in COVID-19 secure premises and bubbles. The majority of school age children have undertaken some home schooling rather than attending in person and vulnerable children and children of key workers have also attended school in their 'bubbles'.

The pandemic has been a difficult experience for staff, parents and children. Settings have had to operate COVID-19 secure premises and the many adaptations needed in childcare provision have sometimes been overwhelming. Childcare staff, childminders and parents have been anxious about their own health and financial stability, along with the health and well-being of their children and others.

The Early Years Team has provided a great deal of support, advice and guidance to the childcare providers of Lancashire. Below summarises the key areas provided by the team.

Website and Weekly Bulletin

Our website provided guidance and updates to the sector and a weekly bulletin has been sent to childcare providers during the last year. This has included, but was not limited to, communications from our Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Public Health, Ofsted, the Department for Education (DfE) and a variety of information and updates from our Early Years Team.

Monitoring of Childcare Places

In April 2020 during the first national lockdown an online weekly survey was developed to capture information for the DfE about the availability of childcare for children of keyworkers and vulnerable children. After the government announced childcare could re-open in June 2020, questions were added to understand any sustainability concerns and to establish if the demand for childcare had changed. The survey was then further developed to gather data for our general childcare sufficiency assessment.

Additionally, an on-line brokerage request form was developed for parents who required support in finding early years places. The number of requests coming through each week was very low, and comparable with those prior to COVID-19 pandemic levels.

Business Support & Sustainability

Tools and guidance were developed around business support, sustainability, social media, marketing and where to find sources of external funding, these are available on our webpage. To support settings for re-opening in June, guidance was developed which included how to review and promote some current business practices, reassure staff and

parents, establish demand and look at ways to remain sustainable. Over the year childcare providers with specific sustainability concerns were contacted by the Childcare Sufficiency Team to offer individual support.

A number of measures were put in place to support settings who offered Early Education Funding with cashflow and sustainability over the course of the pandemic. This included:

- Settings received 90% of the Summer term funding up front at the end of March 2020.
- Settings received 50% of the Autumn term funding up front at the end of August 2020.
- Final balance payments for Summer 2020, Autumn 2020 and Spring term 2021 were processed almost a month ahead of when they were due.
- Funding for the Autumn term 2020 was based on the previous year's Autumn term occupancy levels, in line with Government guidance, totalling just over £4.2m.
- A transfer of £2m from schools Designated Schools Grant (DSG) to the Early Years DSG in 2020-21 enabled an increase to the EEF 3&4 year funding rate by £0.08 per hour, with a further £2m being transferred in 2021-22 to allow for the £0.08p raise to continue for another year.

In January 2021 a one off COVID-19 lump sum payment to childcare providers was agreed by school's forum. These were made up of £250 for EEF registered childminders and £1000 for all other EEF registered providers totalling £607.5k. COVID-19 one-off lump sum payments were also agreed of £250 for all non-EEF registered providers to support their business viability totalling £105k.

Promotion of Childcare/Funded Places

Specific social media campaigns have run throughout the year encouraging families to access their early education and childcare places. It was important to promote reassurance to parents through the campaign to help overcome any anxieties they may have had. Letters were sent to approximately 20,000 families in Lancashire at the beginning of July 2020 to encourage them to take up their early education funding entitlements.

Early Years Quality Team

Childcare providers were given a named contact from Early Years Quality Team to offer emotional and practical support, which strengthened relationships, peer to peer support and improved access to training and networks. Training and events have been adapted to allow virtual participation and a focus for training has been well-being and personal resilience for staff. This support has helped staff to keep themselves, their peers and the children happy and safe.

All Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings, Childminders and Out of School Clubs have been provided with additional templates, guidance and support, including COVID-19 safe risk assessments and a wealth of additional supporting tools such as an early years planning toolkit.

Closer liaison with Early Years and SEND colleagues, shared training days and senior leader input has also been established across teams.

Early Years Safeguarding

Regular emails, messages, key updates including information from Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership (LCSAP) were distributed.

All of the safeguarding training was adapted in light of the pandemic, particularly the first period of lockdown, to strengthen the role of the DLP (Designated Lead Practitioner). In addition to the training, a series of briefing sessions have also been running to build a DLP network.

Lancashire Demographics

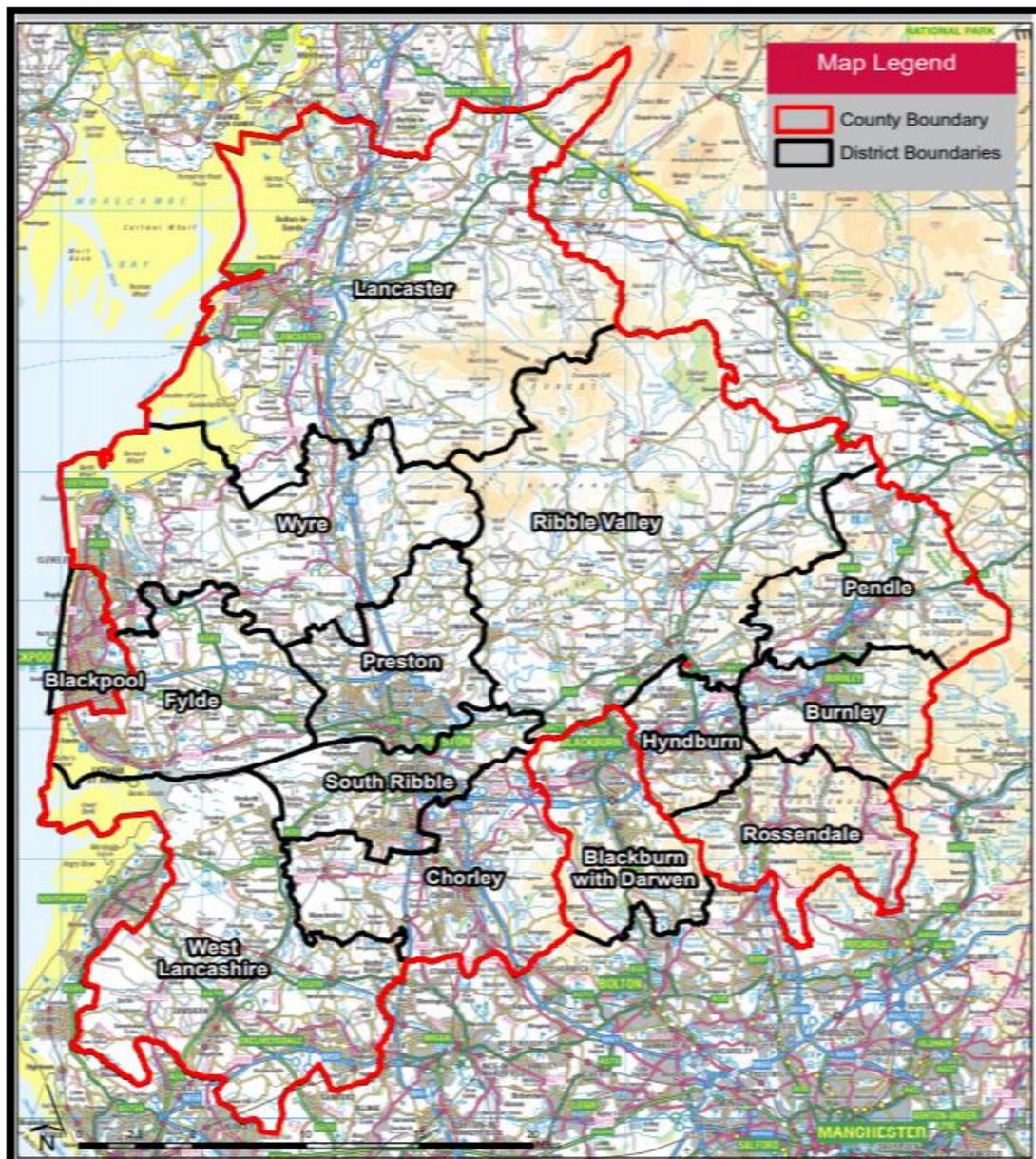
Lancashire County Council is a large, diverse local authority covering an area of 2,903 square kilometres. It is the fourth largest local authority in the country with a population of 1.18 million people within its boundaries. There are an estimated 277,000 children and young people aged up to 19 years living in the county (2011 Census data).

Lancashire's defining characteristics are its size and diversity. Each district has its own unique demography and geography. It is an area of vast contrasts with busy urban centres, coastal regions and large agricultural areas. Lancashire has 12 districts within its borders and for the purposes of this report these districts are broken down further into geographical areas. The maps on the following pages show how the geographical areas fit into our 12 districts and highlights the levels of deprivation.

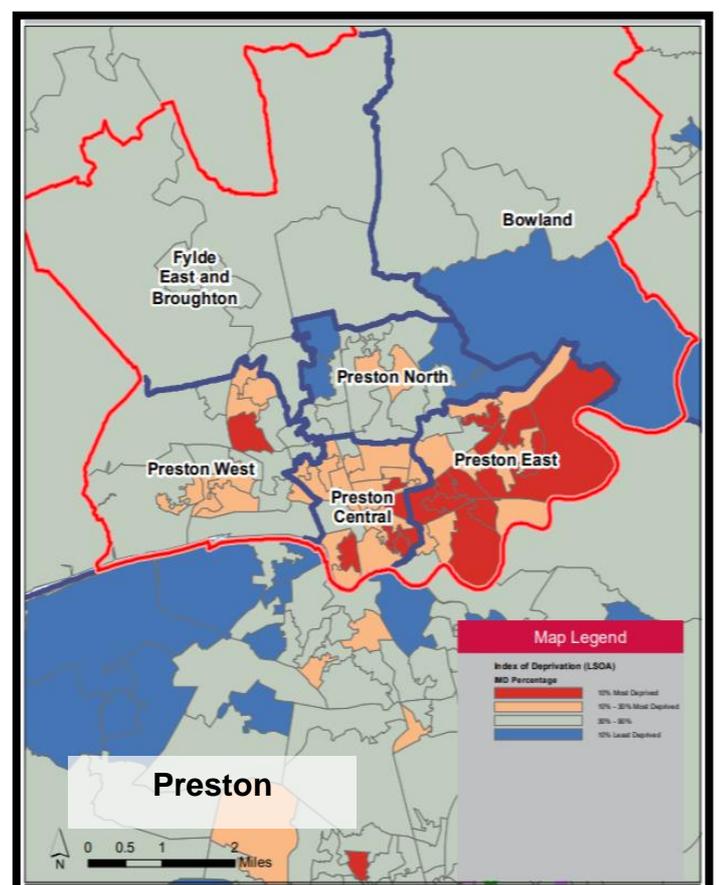
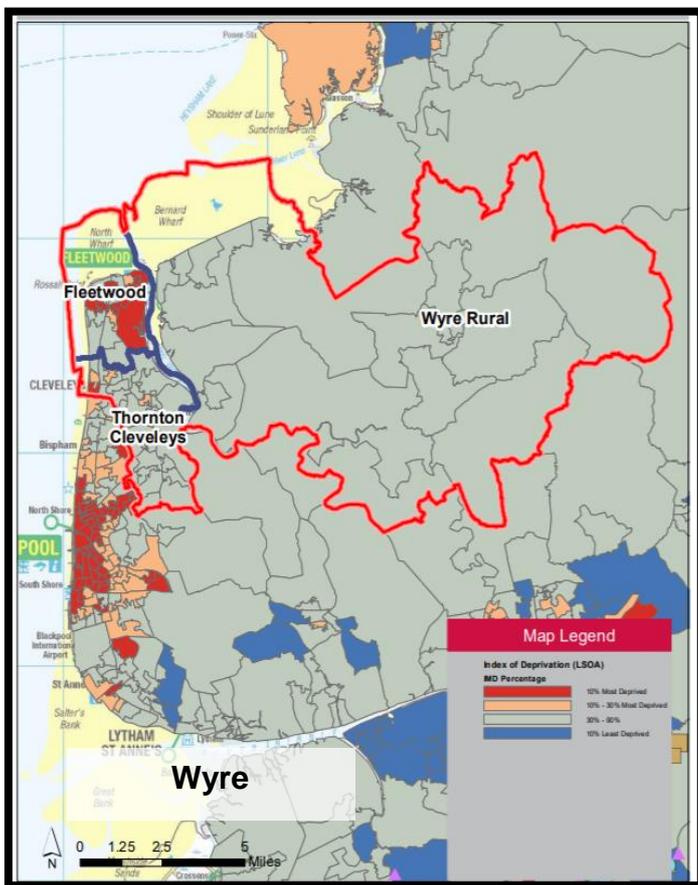
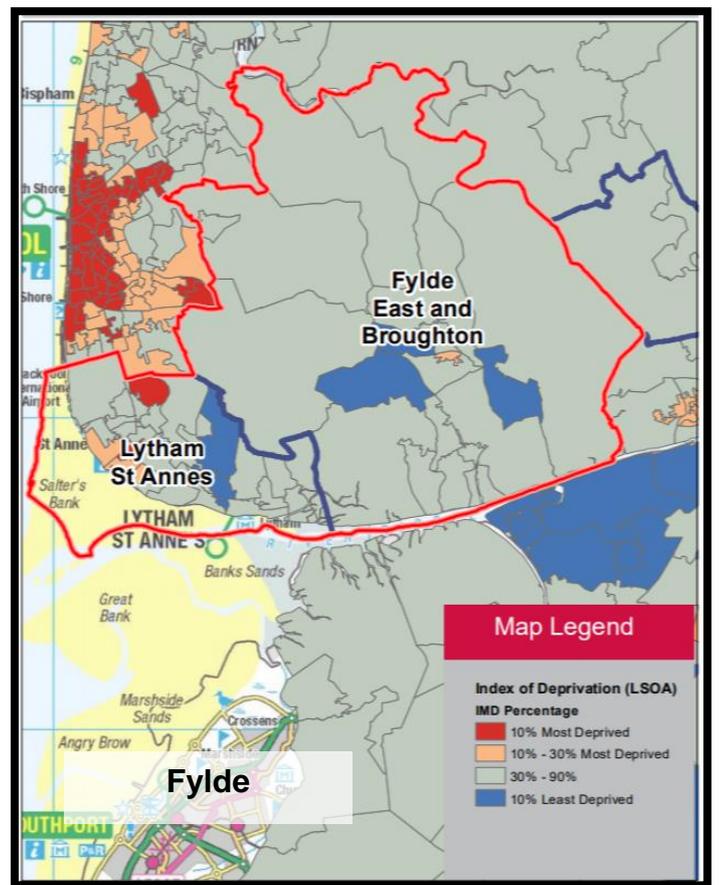
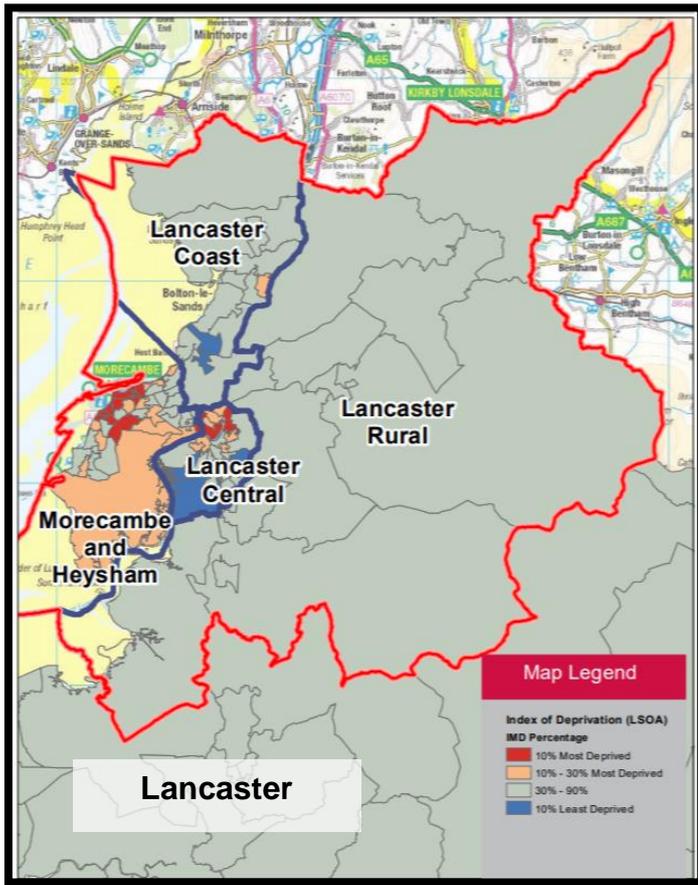
Deprivation

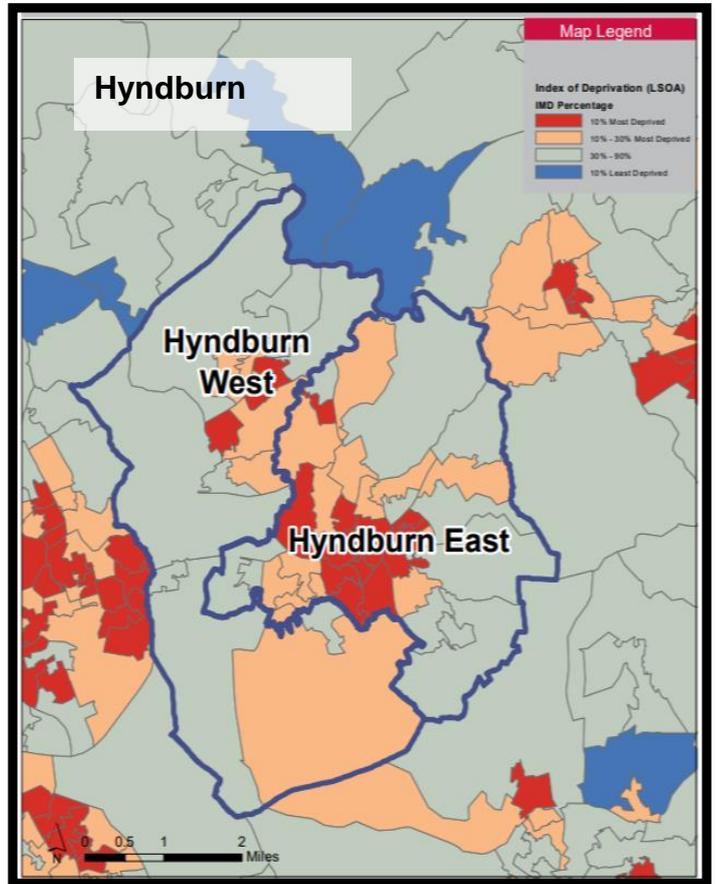
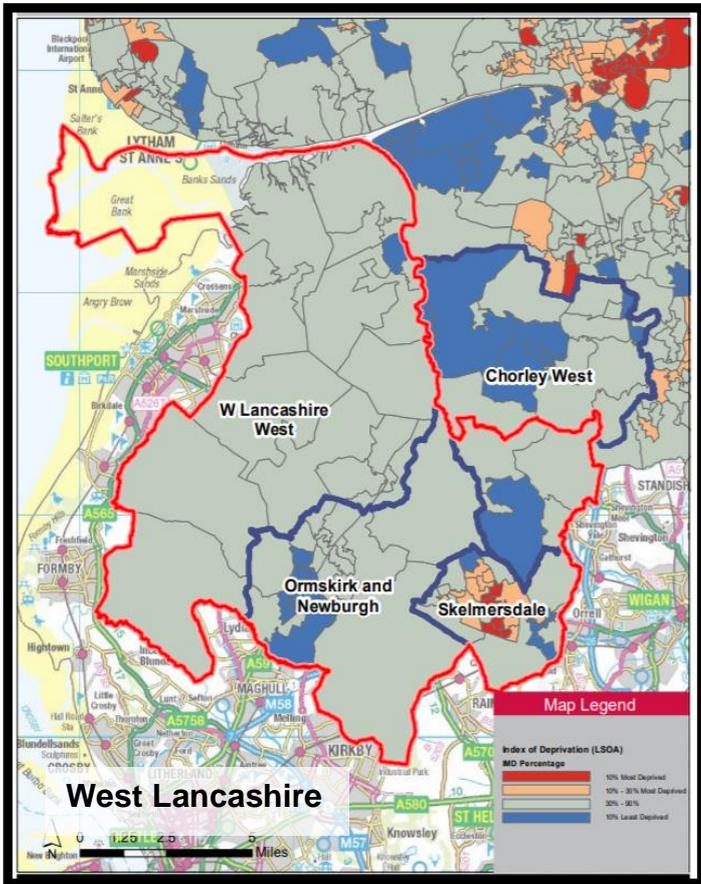
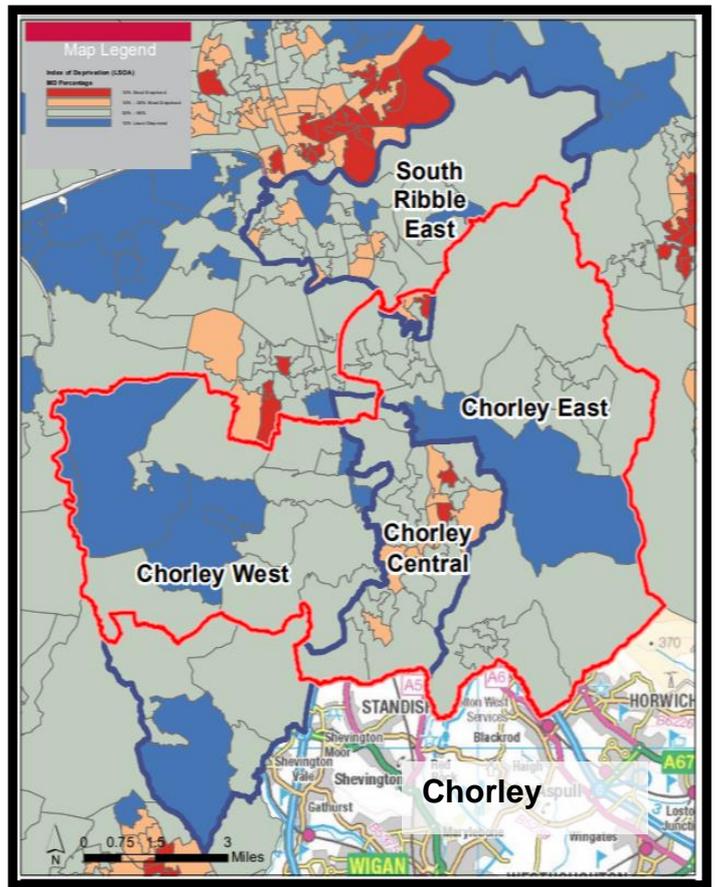
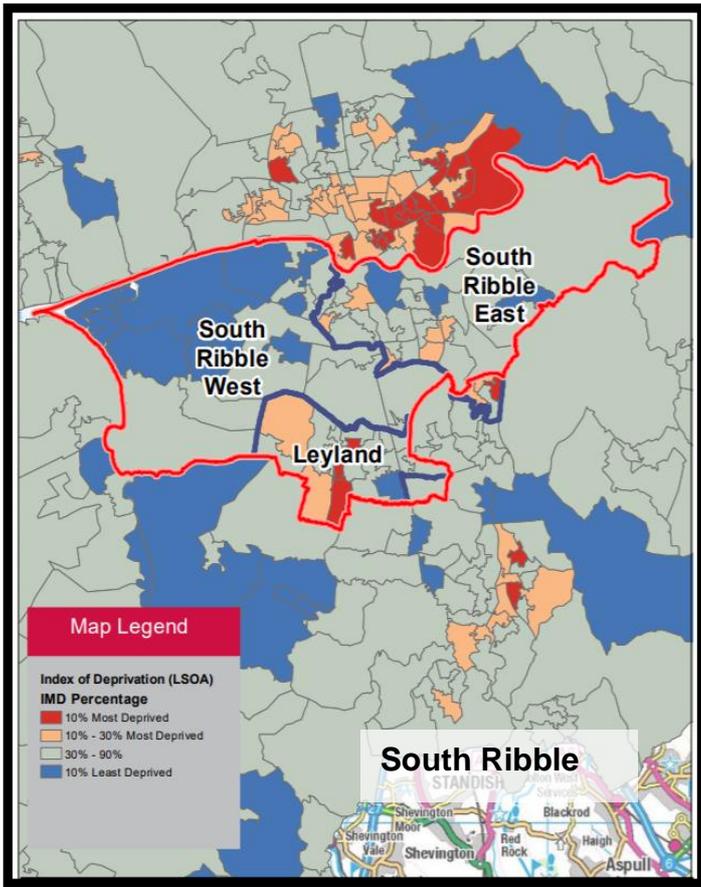
As well as some of England's most prosperous communities, Lancashire also has pockets of very severe deprivation. The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that Burnley falls into the 10% most deprived areas of England. The districts of Pendle and Hyndburn are within the top 20% of most deprived authority areas in the country. In contrast, Ribble Valley is in the top 20% least deprived authorities in the country.

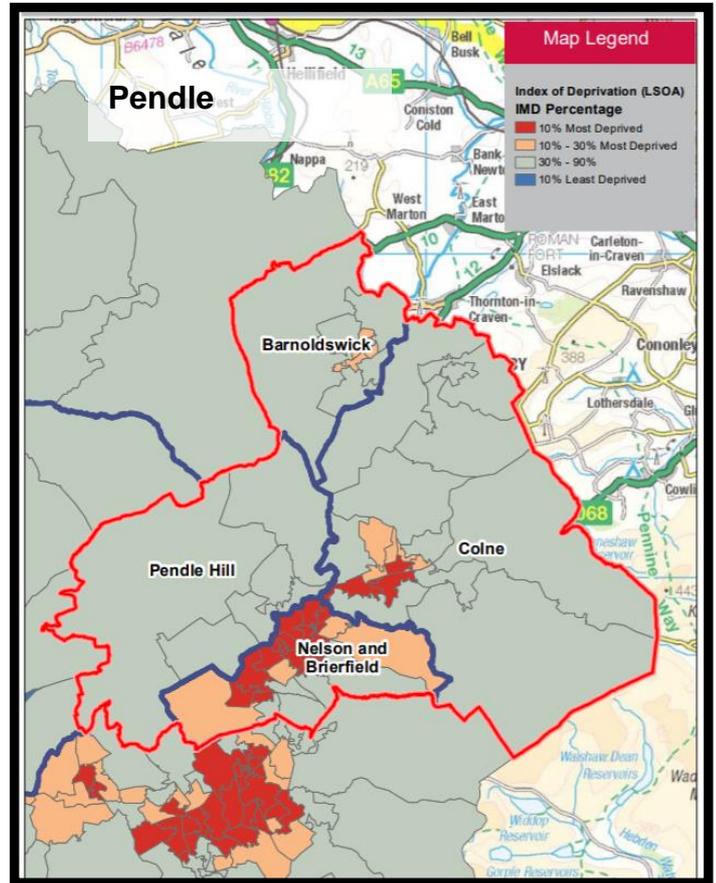
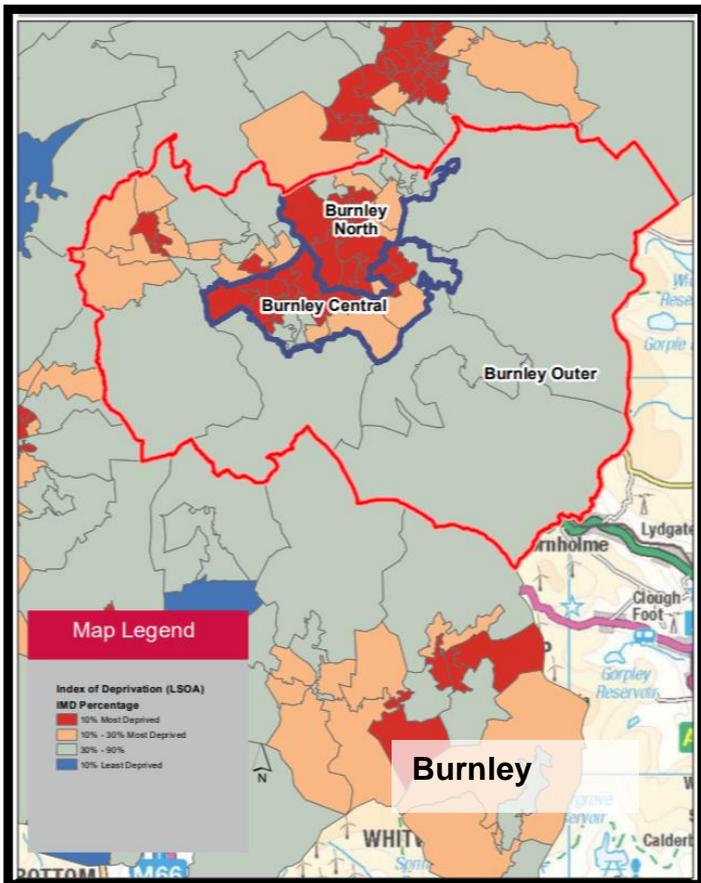
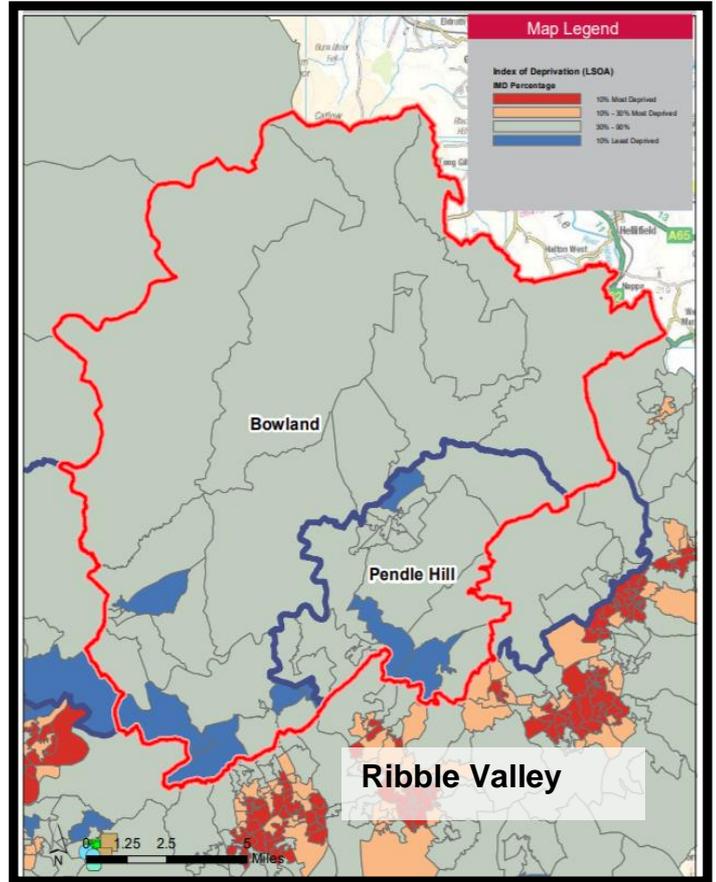
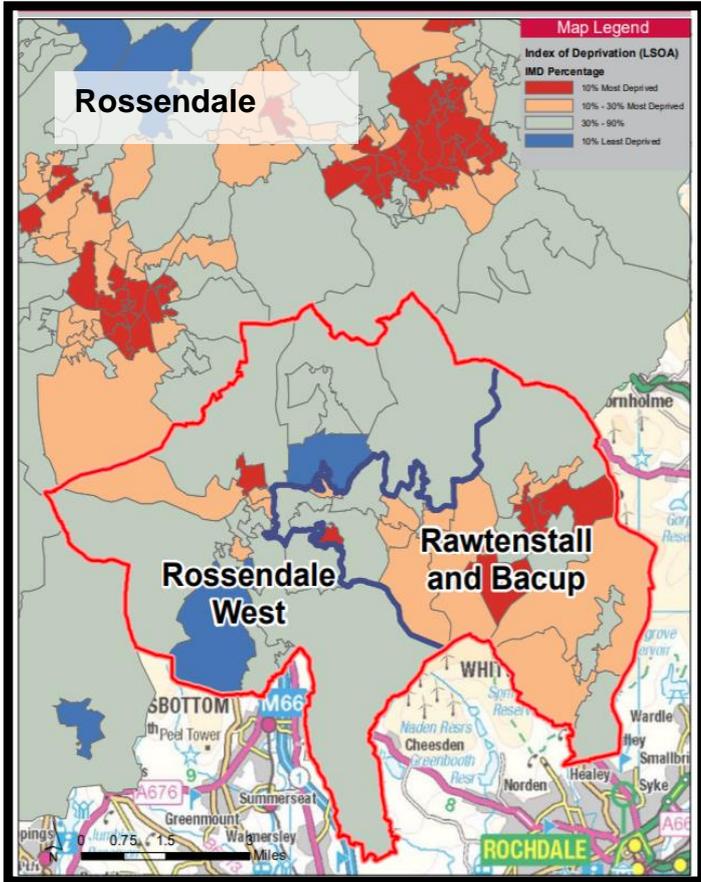
Map of Lancashire with district boundaries



Index of Multiple Deprivation Maps by District and Geographical Area







Housing Projections

Household numbers in Lancashire are projected to grow from an estimated 507,980 in 2016, to 551,312 by 2041, an increase of 8.5%. This is significantly lower than the England growth rate of 17.3%.

Within Lancashire, Chorley (+23.2%), Fylde (+15.5%) and Wyre (+11.4%) are estimated to see the largest housing increases in the area, although Ribble Valley (+12.3%) and Rossendale (+11.5%) are also projected to see percentage increases above 10.0%. Locally, only Chorley's percentage rise is estimated to be greater than the England average of 17.3%. Hyndburn (+2.0%) and Preston (+2.3%) are projected to see the lowest percentage growth in the Lancashire.

Population

In Lancashire, the percentage increase in general population over the 25 year period of 2016 - 2041 is projected to be 3.5%, with the number expected to reach 1.23 million. The estimated increases are lower than the average for the North West, and well below the expected increase for England of 12.1%.

Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle and Preston, are predicted to see small general population decreases between 2016 and 2041. Chorley is the only Lancashire district with a projected increase higher than the North West or England average.

Births and Deaths

Births and deaths have an impact on the national and local populations. The latest births and deaths figures from the Office for National Statistics (released July 2020), show that on a basic count level Lancashire continues to register more deaths than live births in 2019. Burnley, Pendle, Hyndburn, Preston and Rossendale have recorded more live births than deaths. The table below shows live births by district.

Live births, 2020			Difference between 2019 and 2020 live births	
District	Count of live births	As a % of Lancashire	No.	%
Burnley	1,080	9.2%	-85	-7.3%
Chorley	1,072	9.2%	-20	-1.8%
Fylde	533	4.6%	-84	-13.6%
Hyndburn	922	7.9%	-108	-10.5%
Lancaster	1,281	11.0%	-52	-3.9%
Pendle	1,095	9.4%	-91	-7.7%
Preston	1,745	14.9%	1	0.1%
Ribble Valley	462	4.0%	-19	-4.0%
Rossendale	695	6.0%	-29	-4.0%
South Ribble	971	8.3%	-49	-4.8%
West Lancashire	941	8.1%	-60	-6.0%
Wyre	881	7.5%	-32	-3.5%
Lancashire	11,678	8.3%	-628	-5.1%

The tables below show population of children aged 0–11yrs, the information is broken down into geographical areas for closer analysis.

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	17026	108	111	125	169	1368
	Lancaster Rural	23905	144	158	157	221	1641
	Lancaster Central	47597	491	439	448	689	3720
	Morecambe & Heysham	57510	664	676	668	1072	5554
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	51343	393	387	428	663	3715
	Fleetwood	27768	257	283	306	401	2518
	Wyre Rural	32980	219	271	249	394	2346
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	45469	310	293	319	487	3269
	Fylde East Broughton	35311	319	320	341	459	3059
Preston	Preston North	23345	212	230	243	337	2226
	Preston East	38420	619	615	609	987	4905
	Preston Central	37841	430	403	404	671	2836
	Preston West	29799	392	369	427	551	2897
	Bowland	6419	68	76	75	113	621
	Fylde East Broughton	7311	97	90	79	122	742
TOTAL	North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
South Ribble	Leyland	33040	325	347	371	617	3276
	South Ribble East	44486	423	445	477	715	4015
	South Ribble West	33262	287	299	300	433	2742
Chorley	Chorley East	34801	329	302	369	546	3000
	Chorley West	24101	156	155	209	238	1874
	Chorley Central	53721	621	612	661	958	5446
	South Ribble East	5593	41	61	70	78	589
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	42556	512	516	512	791	4470
	West Lancashire West	32855	280	262	296	422	2599
	Chorley West	6711	41	44	51	114	525
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	32184	224	197	244	369	2168
TOTAL	South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57563	786	771	809	1127	6263
	Hyndburn West	23480	241	239	254	376	1981
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	40409	464	468	474	678	4076
	Rossendale West	31073	289	325	312	494	2969
Ribble Valley	Bowland	27585	185	218	221	332	2099
	Pendle Hill	33303	251	288	308	400	2984
Burnley	Burnley Outer	32900	319	357	390	508	2973
	Burnley Central	24974	329	325	345	450	2574
	Burnley North	31046	458	451	493	679	3659
Pendle	Barnoldswick	10894	110	127	122	191	976
	Colne	29134	321	325	329	578	2635
	Nelson & Brierfield	42413	627	636	689	1020	5226
	Pendle Hill	9671	112	82	93	150	709
TOTAL	East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124

Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417
South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704
East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124
Lancashire	1219799	12454	12573	13277	19600	111245

Childcare Provision in Lancashire

Over the last year childcare providers have completed a weekly survey so we could establish settings that were open and closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The information provided in the tables below was captured in the Spring term 2021.

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	18	72%	18	72%	0	0%	7	28%
	Lancaster Rural	37	23	62%	22	59%	1	3%	14	38%
	Lancaster Central	46	32	70%	31	67%	1	2%	14	30%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	56	72%	54	69%	2	3%	22	28%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	40	71%	39	70%	1	2%	16	29%
	Fleetwood	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	28%
	Wyre Rural	47	32	68%	31	66%	1	2%	15	32%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	27	68%	25	63%	2	5%	13	33%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	39	62%	36	57%	3	5%	24	38%
Preston	Preston North	36	23	64%	22	61%	1	3%	13	36%
	Preston East	49	30	61%	26	53%	4	8%	19	39%
	Preston Central	34	25	74%	24	71%	1	3%	9	26%
	Preston West	53	32	60%	30	57%	2	4%	21	40%
	Bowland	15	13	87%	13	87%	0	0%	2	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	29%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
South Ribble	Leyland	54	26	48%	25	46%	1	2%	28	52%
	South Ribble East	67	44	66%	41	61%	3	4%	23	34%
	South Ribble West	51	33	65%	32	63%	1	2%	18	35%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	30	64%	28	60%	2	4%	17	36%
	Chorley West	39	24	62%	23	59%	1	3%	15	38%
	Chorley Central	66	34	52%	34	52%	0	0%	32	48%
	South Ribble East	3	2	67%	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	41	27	66%	26	63%	1	2%	14	34%
	West Lancashire West	36	24	67%	24	67%	0	0%	12	33%
	Chorley West	13	10	77%	9	69%	1	8%	3	23%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	27	73%	25	68%	2	5%	10	27%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	65	59%	64	58%	1	1%	45	41%
	Hyndburn West	37	25	68%	25	68%	0	0%	12	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	47	63%	44	59%	3	4%	28	37%
	Rossendale West	35	23	66%	23	66%	0	0%	12	34%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	30	71%	30	71%	0	0%	12	29%
	Pendle Hill	41	25	61%	25	61%	0	0%	16	39%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	35	61%	31	54%	4	7%	22	39%
	Burnley Central	25	15	60%	15	60%	0	0%	10	40%
	Burnley North	27	18	67%	18	67%	0	0%	9	33%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	4	67%	4	67%	0	0%	2	33%
	Colne	30	20	67%	20	67%	0	0%	10	33%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	21	64%	21	64%	0	0%	12	36%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	64%	7	64%	0	0%	4	36%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%

Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%
South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%
East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%
Lancashire	1631	1050	66%	1012	64%	39	2%	580	34%

Temporary Closure

Some providers temporarily closed during the year, the main reasons for these closures were:

- No demand from parents due to change in working hours or circumstances.
- The childcare provider was shielding or had vulnerable staff or family members.
- The provision operated out of a shared community building which may have closed.
- Providers with multiple sites chose to amalgamate, closing one site and operating for all their children at their other site.

The other factors for deciding on a temporary closure related to the viability of the business and included:

- The numbers of children in attendance
- The number of keyworker children, vulnerable children and fee-paying families.
- The running costs and overheads for the business.
- Staffing costs.

Provider Type Breakdown

Provider Type	Total	Responses	Total Response Rate
AM/PM School Club	298	139	47%
Childminder	650	401	62%
Day Nursery	364	259	71%
Holiday Scheme	26	3	12%
Nursery Units of Independent Schools	16	13	81%
Pre School Playgroup	90	70	78%
Maintained Nursery School	24	18	75%
Maintained Nursery Class	134	120	90%
Governor Led Provision (S27)	28	27	96%
TOTAL	1631	1050	66%

Movement in the Childcare Market

The tables below show the numbers of new Ofsted childcare registrations across Lancashire alongside the number of providers who have permanently closed.

Whilst there have been some permanent closures during the past 12 months, overall, we have seen 172 providers join the childcare market and 144 leave. North Lancashire saw the biggest net change.

Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
North Lancashire	621	66	40	26	4%
South Lancashire	480	42	42	0	0%
East Lancashire	529	66	62	4	1%
Lancashire	1630	174	144	30	2%

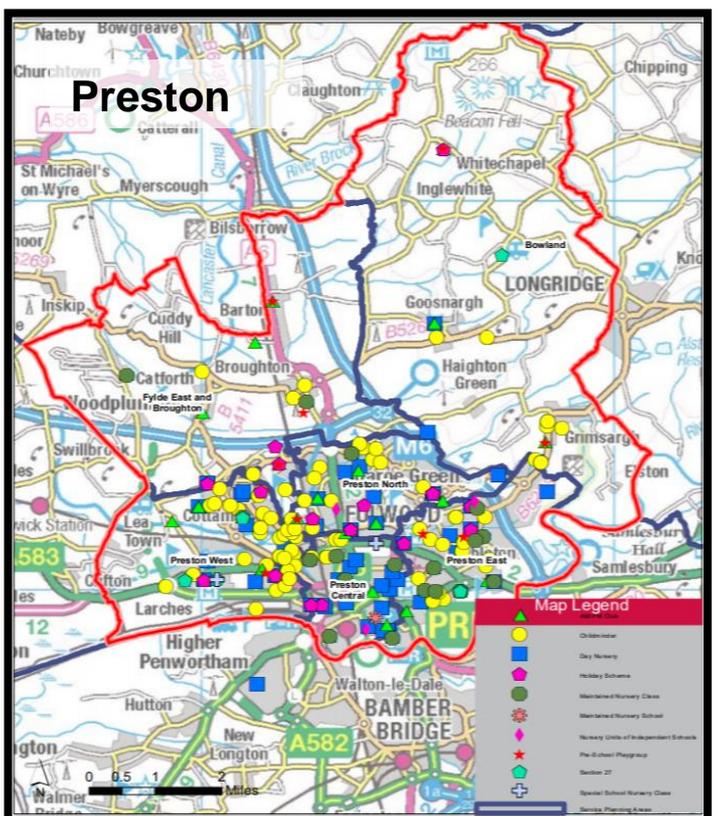
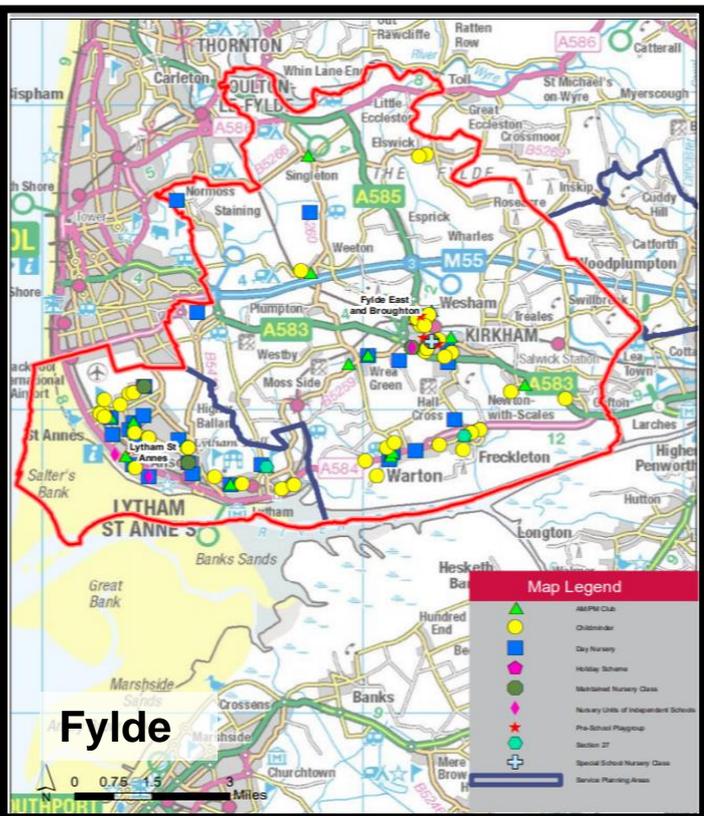
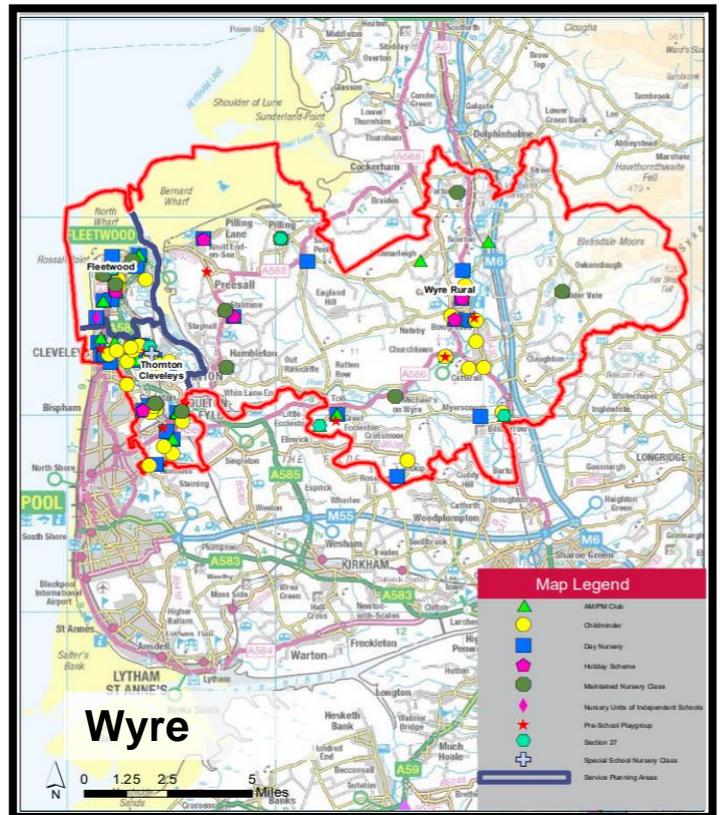
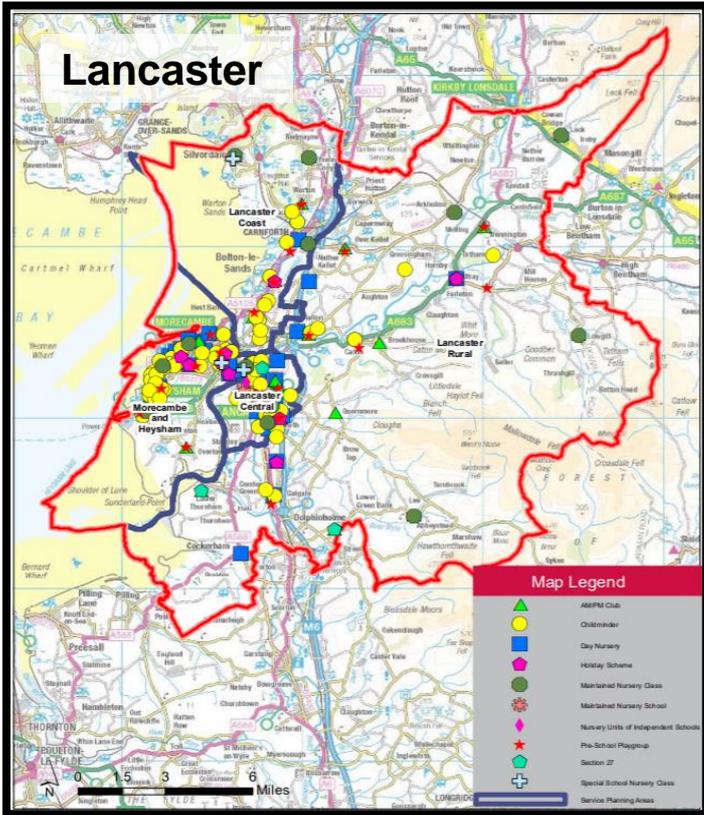
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	4	2	2	8%
	Lancaster Rural	37	6	2	4	11%
	Lancaster Central	46	4	2	2	4%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	2	2	0	0%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	7	6	1	2%
	Fleetwood	21	2	2	0	0%
	Wyre Rural	47	11	4	7	15%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	3	3	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	8	4	4	6%
Preston	Preston North	36	3	3	0	0%
	Preston East	49	5	2	3	6%
	Preston Central	34	5	3	2	6%
	Preston West	53	3	4	-1	-2%
	Bowland	15	1	1	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	2	0	2	10%
North Lancashire		621	66	40	26	4%

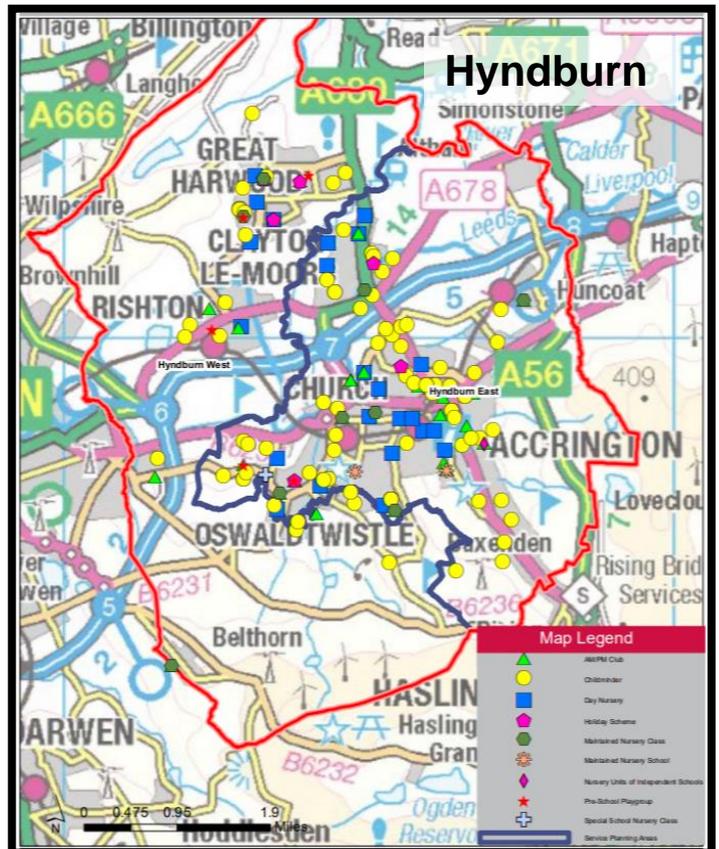
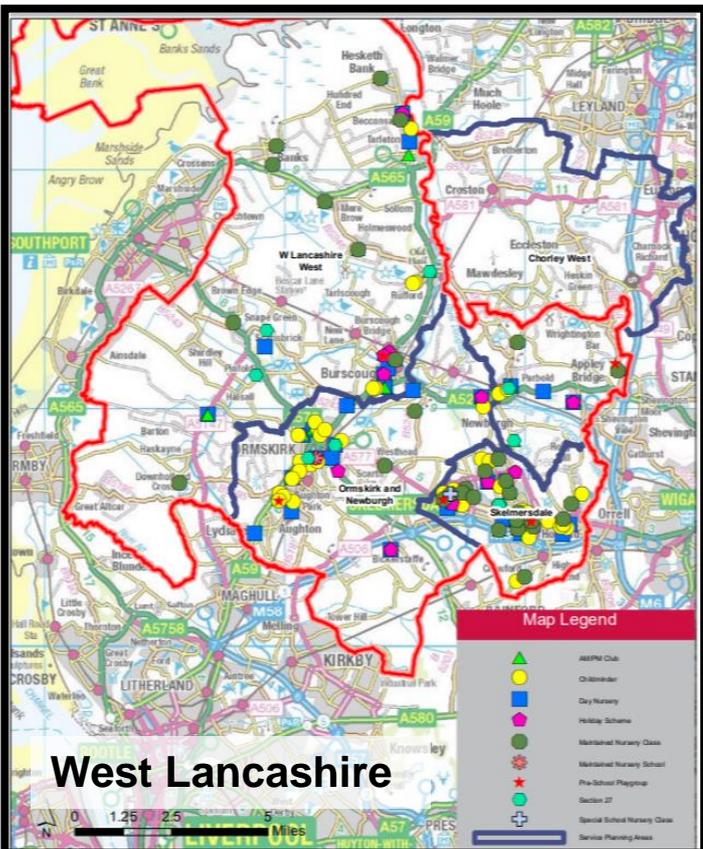
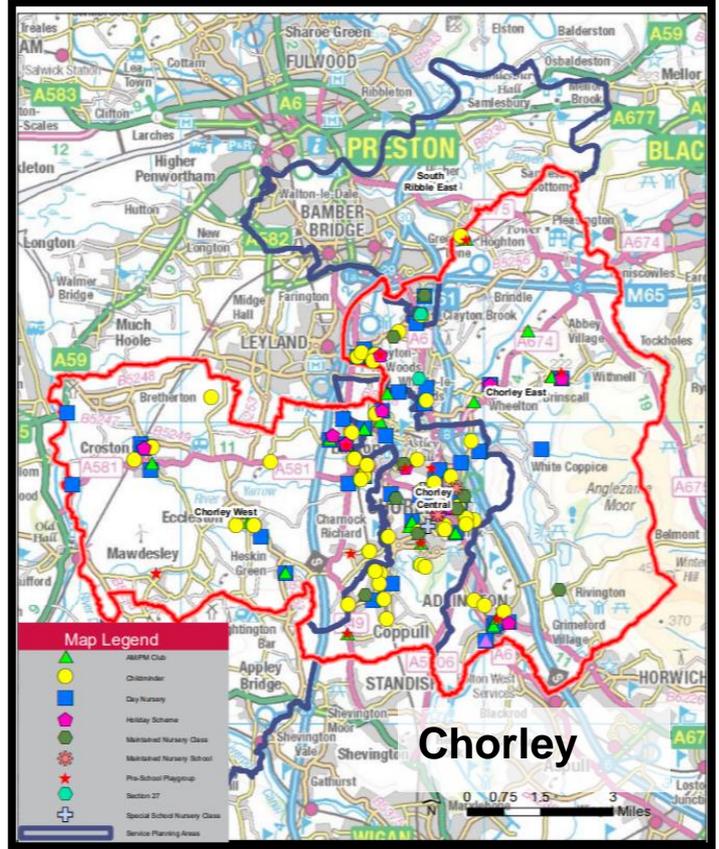
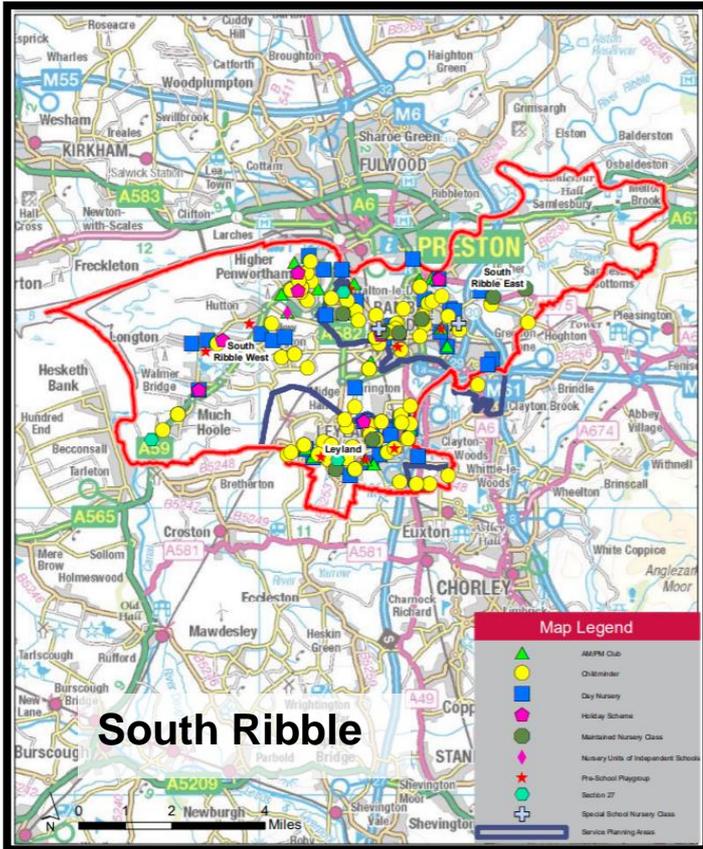
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
South Ribble	Leyland	54	6	5	1	2%
	South Ribble East	67	6	8	-2	-3%
	South Ribble West	51	7	4	3	6%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	5	4	1	2%
	Chorley West	39	7	2	5	13%
	Chorley Central	66	4	3	1	2%
	South Ribble East	3	0	0	0	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67	1	8	-7	-10%
	West Lancashire West	36	4	7	-3	-8%
	Chorley West	13	0	0	0	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	2	1	1	3%
South Lancashire		480	42	42	0	0%

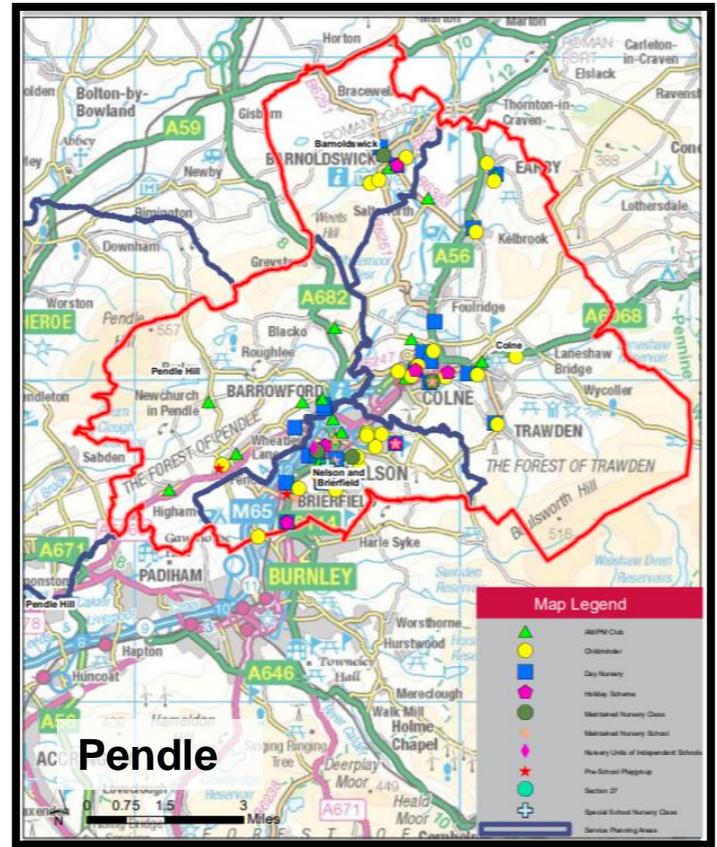
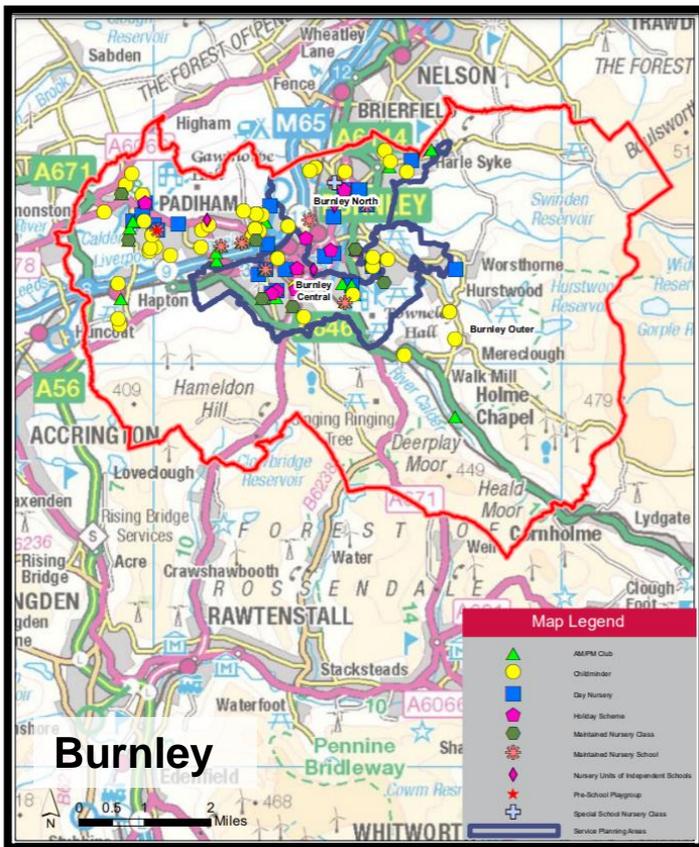
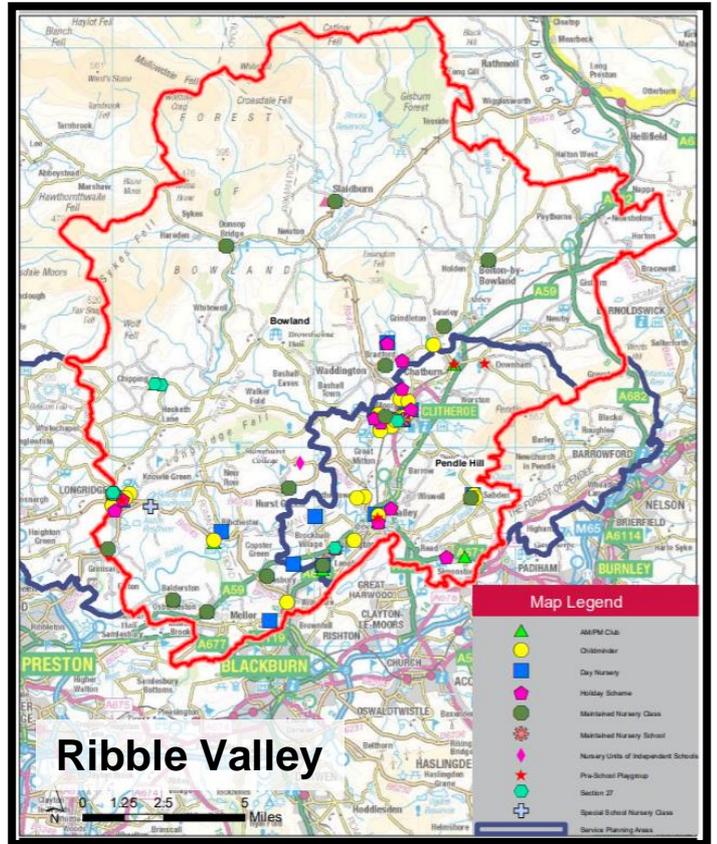
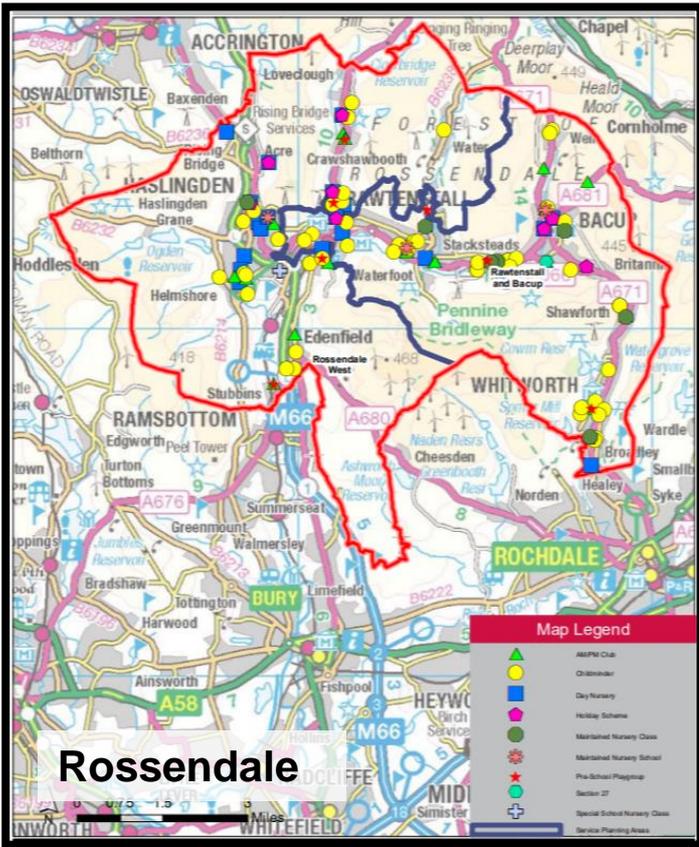
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	13	7	6	5%
	Hyndburn West	37	2	2	0	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	9	8	1	1%
	Rossendale West	35	3	5	-2	-6%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	3	5	-2	-5%
	Pendle Hill	41	8	10	-2	-5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	5	9	-4	-7%
	Burnley Central	25	1	1	0	0%
	Burnley North	27	1	2	-1	-4%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	3	0	3	50%
	Colne	30	5	7	-2	-7%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	6	6	0	0%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	0	7	64%
East Lancashire		529	66	62	4	1%

Childcare Providers by District

The maps below show the location and types of childcare provision available across the districts and geographical areas.







Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

The weekly survey has provided a wealth of information that has enabled us to analyse the sufficiency of childcare places at a district and more localised geographical level. With full national lockdowns, local lockdowns and tiers the impact to the childcare market has been vast. To understand the demand for childcare places during the past year and moving forward is a challenge as families are facing very different scenarios with their childcare needs.

The 12 tables below look at three options to allow us to support each area dependent upon potential demand and the supply of places. **Option 1** is prior to COVID-19 and this shows we had sufficient places across all districts in Lancashire. **Option 2** and **Option 3** are hypothetical scenarios assuming 75% and 50% potential demand and includes the number of places providers are working to during COVID-19.

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	287	542	47%	215	422	49%	143	422	66%
	Lancaster Rural	359	1039	65%	269	763	65%	180	763	76%
	Morecambe & Heysham	1882	2810	33%	1412	2488	43%	941	2488	62%
	Lancaster Central	1220	1871	35%	915	1408	35%	610	1408	57%
District Total		3748	6262	40%	2811	5081	45%	1874	5081	63%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	1083	2448	56%	812	1892	57%	541	1892	71%
	Fleetwood	804	1274	37%	603	1014	41%	402	1014	60%
	Wyre Rural	646	1188	46%	484	1070	55%	323	1070	70%
District Total		2533	4910	48%	1900	3976	52%	1266	3976	68%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	825	1570	47%	619	1616	62%	413	1616	74%
	Fylde East & Broughton	817	1733	53%	613	1232	50%	408	1232	67%
District Total		1642	3303	50%	1232	2848	57%	821	2848	71%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Preston	Preston North	559	1698	67%	420	1574	73%	280	1574	82%
	Preston East	1795	2114	15%	1347	1774	24%	898	1774	49%
	Preston Central	1192	1774	33%	894	1264	29%	596	1264	53%
	Preston West	1004	1643	39%	753	1240	39%	502	1240	60%
	Bowland	178	300	41%	134	238	44%	89	238	63%
	Fylde & East Broughton	203	834	76%	152	926	84%	102	926	89%
District Total		4932	8363	41%	3699	7016	47%	2466	7016	65%

Lancashire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment April 2020 – April 2021

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
	Leyland	1020	1642	38%	765	1538	50%	510	1538	67%
South Ribble	South Ribble East	1194	2644	55%	895	2690	67%	597	2690	78%
	South Ribble West	728	1755	59%	546	1622	66%	364	1622	78%
District Total		2941	6041	51%	2206	5850	62%	1471	5850	75%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Chorley	Chorley East	871	1926	55%	653	1460	55%	435	1460	70%
	Chorley West	412	1532	73%	309	1042	70%	206	1042	80%
	Chorley Central	1674	2744	39%	1255	2518	50%	837	2518	67%
	South Ribble East	147	210	30%	110	154	28%	74	154	52%
District Total		3104	6412	52%	2328	5174	55%	1552	5174	70%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	1433	2106	32%	1074	1894	43%	716	1894	62%
	West Lancashire West	722	1486	51%	541	892	39%	361	892	60%
	Chorley West	154	370	59%	115	358	68%	77	358	79%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	596	1420	58%	447	1164	62%	298	1164	74%
District Total		2904	5382	46%	2178	4308	49%	1452	4308	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	2131	3260	35%	1598	3300	52%	1066	3300	68%
	Hyndburn West	674	965	30%	505	817	38%	337	817	59%
District Total		2805	4225	34%	2104	4117	49%	1402	4117	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	1252	2086	40%	939	2064	55%	626	2064	70%
	Rossendale West	828	1448	43%	621	1304	52%	414	1304	68%
District Total		2080	3534	41%	1560	3368	54%	1040	3368	69%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Ribble Valley	Bowland	536	949	44%	402	854	53%	268	854	69%
	Pendle Hill	674	2098	68%	505	1836	72%	337	1836	82%
District Total		1210	3047	60%	907	2690	66%	605	2690	78%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Burnley	Burnley Outer	943	1956	52%	707	1432	51%	471	1432	67%
	Burnley Central	905	1527	41%	679	1392	51%	452	1392	68%
	Burnley North	1294	1426	9%	971	1054	8%	647	1054	39%
District Total		3142	4909	36%	2356	3878	39%	1571	3878	59%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Pendle	Barnoldswick	324	384	16%	243	362	33%	162	362	55%
	Colne	950	1330	29%	712	1060	33%	475	1060	55%
	Nelson & Brierfield	1869	2136	13%	1402	2110	34%	934	2110	56%
	Pendle Hill	243	476	49%	182	436	58%	122	436	72%
District Total		3385	4326	22%	2539	3968	36%	1693	3968	57%

Summary of Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

From the data available we have sufficient childcare available in all geographical areas. This information is a snapshot in time and should be seen as a guide to current places available. We closely monitor the childcare market as any localised closures will have an impact on parental choice and provider type availability. We will continue to monitor the demand for childcare places across the county. If demand is identified as remaining low in geographical areas, we could see providers with potential sustainability issues.

Childcare Places 4 -11 Year Olds

Childcare for children of school age is more complex to report on due to the different requirements for Ofsted registration. Some schools in Lancashire operate childcare, this type of provision is exempt from Ofsted registration as they are inspected as part of the school inspection.

Across the county we have 298 Out of School Clubs and have sufficient childcare places for school age children across all geographical areas of Lancashire. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic demand for places has been low. Although childcare settings were allowed to open in order to provide care for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, in practice this was not possible for many of our wraparound childcare settings. This meant a large number of our clubs closed or offered a reduced or a limited service.

In preparation for schools and childcare re opening in June 2020, there was a period of uncertainty for the out of school childcare sector. This was due to a lack of clarity about how bubbles could be managed safely alongside schools. Providers were able to access support and guidance from the Early Years Quality Team to ensure robust risk assessments were put in place.

Based on the responses to our weekly survey over a quarter of Out of School Clubs were open. When schools opened again to all children in the Autumn term, 39% of clubs were showing as open, by Spring term 2021 over half of clubs are now open. We anticipate more clubs are open but have not responded to the survey.

Lockdowns and restrictions throughout the year have resulted in parental demand for before, after school and holiday childcare to decrease. Sustainability has been a concern for many providers, who have been concerned about cash flow. Some providers have had to alter staff hours, some staff have remained furloughed, and in some cases, providers have made staff redundant.

To summarise, whilst we have sufficient places for 4-11 year olds, we will continue to monitor the market closely. It is unclear at this stage how demand for 4-11 year old places will level out and if they will return to levels seen prior to COVID-19. Some parents working patterns have changed and others are now working more flexibly or still working from home which may mean they no longer require the childcare places.

Changes in Demand for Childcare

In November we asked childcare providers about the impact of COVID-19 on demand for childcare places. 50% said demand was lower than the same point in Autumn term 2019. 6% said it had increased and 44% said it was the same as Autumn term 2019. Childcare providers were asked again in Spring term when the country was in full lockdown, and again when lockdown started to ease at the start of the Summer term to see if this had an impact on the demand for childcare places.

The tables below show occupancy levels reported by childcare providers across Lancashire.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	55%	45%	0%	54%	46%	5%	10%	80%	10%
	Lancaster Rural	43%	50%	7%	50%	36%	14%	42%	33%	25%
	Lancaster Central	54%	27%	19%	65%	26%	9%	26%	58%	16%
	Morecambe & Heysham	62%	33%	5%	73%	27%	0%	54%	35%	11%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	57%	36%	7%	82%	0%	18%	59%	26%	15%
	Fleetwood	50%	50%	0%	56%	38%	6%	44%	23%	33%
	Wyre Rural	44%	56%	0%	58%	38%	4%	23%	54%	23%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	63%	33%	4%	64%	27%	9%	43%	52%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	37%	63%	0%	57%	43%	0%	38%	52%	5%
Preston	Preston North	40%	60%	0%	69%	31%	0%	33%	54%	13%
	Preston East	35%	53%	12%	53%	40%	7%	40%	60%	0%
	Preston Central	73%	27%	0%	73%	20%	7%	50%	42%	8%
	Preston West	46%	54%	0%	43%	53%	4%	36%	46%	18%
	Bowland	23%	69%	8%	77%	15%	8%	9%	82%	9%
	Fylde East Broughton	44%	34%	22%	36%	64%	0%	20%	70%	10%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	48%	46%	6%	60%	34%	6%	35%	52%	13%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
South Ribble	Leyland	55%	32%	13%	56%	40%	4%	48%	35%	17%
	South Ribble East	48%	49%	3%	58%	35%	7%	40%	48%	12%
	South Ribble West	62%	34%	4%	70%	30%	0%	46%	42%	12%
Chorley	Chorley East	54%	38%	8%	67%	33%	0%	69%	25%	6%
	Chorley West	45%	45%	10%	48%	43%	9%	33%	47%	20%
	Chorley Central	64%	32%	4%	60%	40%	0%	35%	60%	5%
	South Ribble East	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	63%	37%	0%	69%	25%	6%	67%	20%	13%
	West Lancashire West	57%	43%	0%	37%	63%	0%	22%	78%	0%
	Chorley West	0%	75%	25%	100%	0%	0%	0%	75%	25%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	87%	13%	0%	70%	25%	5%	25%	63%	12%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	49%	45%	6%	58%	39%	3%	35%	54%	11%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57%	38%	5%	74%	23%	3%	45%	47%	8%
	Hyndburn West	33%	67%	0%	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	55%	42%	3%	57%	40%	3%	45%	49%	6%
	Rossendale West	58%	42%	0%	72%	24%	4%	33%	51%	16%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	50%	38%	12%	58%	42%	0%	29%	43%	28%
	Pendle Hill	57%	29%	14%	76%	19%	5%	36%	57%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	58%	34%	8%	62%	38%	0%	44%	56%	0%
	Burnley Central	56%	33%	11%	67%	33%	0%	20%	80%	0%
	Burnley North	43%	57%	0%	73%	27%	0%	20%	60%	20%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%
	Colne	53%	41%	6%	59%	29%	12%	40%	33%	27%
	Nelson & Brierfield	84%	8%	8%	77%	23%	0%	56%	36%	9%
	Pendle Hill	33%	67%	0%	33%	34%	33%	25%	50%	25%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	53%	42%	5%	62%	33%	5%	34%	55%	11%

Summary of the changes in demand for childcare

While demand was low in Autumn and Spring term (lockdown) as restrictions started to lift providers have indicated that the demand is starting to show signs of returning to pre COVID-19 levels.

Early Education Funding

3 and 4 year olds Early Education Funding – Universal Entitlement (EEF3&4)

Every 3 and 4 year old is eligible for 15 hours funded childcare the term after their third birthday until they start school. Parents can choose to access this provision flexibly and use more than one provider to meet their childcare needs. The funding is available for 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. Some parents may choose more flexibility and use less hours per week, over more than 38 weeks of the year, a total of 570 hours is available.

30 hours Extended Entitlement

September 2017 saw the introduction of the extended entitlement 30 hours childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. This funding is targeted at working families who can access a total of 1,140 hours per year either 30 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year, or it can also be used more flexibly over the year and with one or more childcare providers.

2 year old Early Education Funding (EEF2)

Some 2 year old children are eligible to access up to 15 hours of Early Education Funding (EEF2). A child is eligible to access a place the term after their 2nd birthday, 570 hours are available, either 15 hours for 38 weeks per year or parents may choose more flexibility and use the funding throughout the year.

Eligibility to access a 2 year old funded place requires one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based job seekers allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- Tax Credit and an annual income under (£16,190)
- 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)

Other ways a family may be eligible are

Children looked after by the council; Children who have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or adoption order, children who get disability living allowance, children who have a current education health care plan (EHC), children in need, children with a child protection plan, children of Gypsy Roma Heritage living in Lancashire, children of serving armed forces personnel residing in Lancashire and children who meet the criteria for Portage.

For more information about the criteria for 30 hours and 2 year olds funding please visit:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/early-years-childcare-and-family-support/paying-for-childcare/funded-childcare-for-2-year-olds>

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 2 Year Olds

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	19	12	63%	24	17	71%	24	18	75%
	Lancaster Rural	17	14	82%	15	11	73%	13	12	92%
	Lancaster Central	123	107	87%	120	116	97%	155	132	85%
	Morecambe & Heysham	269	213	79%	299	207	69%	266	198	74%
District Total		428	345	81%	458	351	77%	458	360	79%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	128	92	72%	108	79	73%	92	62	67%
	Fleetwood	164	117	71%	179	140	78%	170	135	79%
	Wyre Rural	62	44	71%	57	39	68%	52	34	65%
District Total		354	253	71%	344	258	75%	313	230	73%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	88	51	58%	83	49	59%	88	46	52%
	Fylde East Broughton	100	75	75%	72	58	81%	89	64	72%
District Total		188	126	67%	155	107	69%	176	109	62%
Preston	Preston North	40	31	78%	46	32	70%	37	21	57%
	Preston East	305	184	60%	296	189	64%	305	182	60%
	Preston Central	201	114	57%	216	123	57%	183	114	62%
	Preston West	122	93	76%	143	100	70%	123	93	76%
	Bowland	6	6	100%	4	2	50%	5	5	100%
	Fylde East Broughton	13	8	62%	10	8	80%	9	3	33%
District Total		687	436	63%	715	454	63%	661	417	63%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	104	75	72%	121	89	74%	121	86	71%
	South Ribble East	115	77	67%	133	92	69%	112	86	77%
	South Ribble West	38	27	71%	42	36	86%	54	33	61%
District Total		257	179	70%	296	217	73%	287	204	71%
Chorley	Chorley East	41	35	85%	47	37	79%	53	41	77%
	Chorley West	27	17	63%	36	17	47%	29	21	72%
	Chorley Central	185	126	68%	174	136	78%	200	134	67%
	South Ribble East	25	21	84%	18	17	94%	22	18	82%
District Total		278	199	72%	275	207	75%	304	214	70%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	251	187	75%	231	161	70%	220	152	69%
	West Lancashire West	58	27	47%	69	30	43%	69	33	48%
	Chorley West	1	3	300%	3	2	67%	4	2	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	41	21	51%	42	28	67%	47	30	64%
District Total		351	238	68%	345	221	64%	340	213	63%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	388	243	63%	357	228	64%	350	205	59%
	Hyndburn West	109	67	61%	88	58	66%	97	68	70%
District Total		497	309	62%	445	286	64%	447	273	61%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	179	114	64%	199	131	66%	186	114	61%
	Rossendale West	71	49	69%	87	67	77%	84	56	67%
District Total		250	163	65%	286	198	69%	271	170	63%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	35	21	60%	36	21	58%	34	20	59%
	Pendle Hill	56	50	89%	56	47	84%	42	31	74%
District Total		91	71	78%	92	68	74%	76	50	66%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	151	112	74%	147	120	82%	140	120	86%
	Burnley Central	165	122	74%	154	124	81%	180	124	69%
	Burnley North	268	166	62%	243	145	60%	227	134	59%
District Total		584	398	68%	544	389	72%	547	378	69%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	38	22	58%	32	21	66%	35	24	69%
	Colne	117	73	62%	109	83	76%	106	81	76%
	Nelson & Brierfield	344	184	53%	330	192	58%	312	158	51%
	Pendle Hill	7	7	100%	17	10	59%	14	13	93%
District Total		506	286	57%	488	306	63%	467	276	59%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%

Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%
South Lancashire	886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%
East Lancashire	1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%
Lancashire	4471	3003	72%	4443	3062	70%	4347	2894	67%

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 3&4 Year Olds

*The data in the EEF 3&4 year old tables excludes those children aged 4 who are in reception.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	113	108	96%	169	162	96%
	Lancaster Rural	172	144	84%	221	189	86%
	Lancaster Central	531	427	80%	689	557	81%
	Morecambe & Heysham	849	619	73%	1072	820	76%
District Total		1665	1298	78%	2151	1728	80%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	516	418	81%	663	528	80%
	Fleetwood	300	310	103%	401	384	96%
	Wyre Rural	278	235	85%	394	350	89%
District Total		1094	963	88%	1458	1231	84%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	386	307	80%	487	399	82%
	Fylde East Broughton	353	323	92%	459	444	97%
District Total		739	630	85%	946	843	89%
Preston	Preston North	231	257	111%	337	340	101%
	Preston East	751	584	78%	987	749	76%
	Preston Central	517	367	71%	671	433	65%
	Preston West	417	375	90%	551	486	88%
	Bowland	88	93	106%	113	115	102%
	Fylde East Broughton	82	98	120%	122	136	111%
District Total		2086	1774	85%	2781	2259	81%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	467	370	79%	617	468	76%
	South Ribble East	568	471	83%	715	609	85%
	South Ribble West	305	309	101%	433	422	97%
District Total		1340	1150	86%	1765	1499	85%
Chorley	Chorley East	394	331	84%	546	448	82%
	Chorley West	166	227	137%	238	297	125%
	Chorley Central	726	614	85%	958	803	84%
	South Ribble East	59	70	119%	78	99	127%
District Total		1345	1242	92%	1820	1647	90%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	620	491	79%	791	662	84%
	West Lancashire West	322	274	85%	422	350	83%
	Chorley West	88	40	45%	114	53	46%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	281	231	82%	369	290	79%
District Total		1311	1036	79%	1696	1355	80%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	834	730	88%	1127	941	83%
	Hyndburn West	283	219	77%	376	280	74%
District Total		1117	949	85%	1503	1221	81%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	502	438	87%	678	585	86%
	Rossendale West	393	291	74%	494	377	76%
District Total		895	729	81%	1172	962	82%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	263	215	82%	332	290	87%
	Pendle Hill	303	297	98%	400	402	101%
District Total		566	512	90%	732	692	95%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	366	387	106%	508	496	98%
	Burnley Central	324	309	95%	450	396	88%
	Burnley North	468	445	95%	679	590	87%
District Total		1158	1141	99%	1637	1482	91%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	141	125	89%	191	167	87%
	Colne	408	295	72%	578	380	66%
	Nelson & Brierfield	680	684	101%	1020	859	84%
	Pendle Hill	101	90	89%	150	112	75%
District Total		1330	1194	90%	1939	1518	78%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%

Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%
South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%
East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%
Lancashire	14646	12618	86%	19600	16437	84%

Summary of Early Education Funding (EEF) take up for 2, 3&4 Year Olds

The take up for Early Education Funding for 2 year olds is lower than we would like at 67% (Spring term 2021). Take up for Early Education Funding for 3&4 year olds is 84% (Spring term 2021).

An action plan is in place to promote the take up of Early Education Funding entitlements. We are working closely with partners and family facing services to promote awareness and increase take up of this funding, particularly within the localities where take up is lower than the Lancashire average. We will continue to promote the take up of Early Education Funding through our social media marketing campaign.

Changes in the number of funded hours claimed

The tables below show the percentage change in the number of hours claimed prior to COVID-19 compared with the COVID-19 year.

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	7%	-13%	-11%	-16%
	Lancaster Rural	-39%	-56%	-7%	-1%
	Lancaster Central	20%	7%	-10%	-11%
	Morecambe & Heysham	-20%	-22%	-9%	-8%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	-38%	-27%	-3%	5%
	Fleetwood	16%	-10%	-5%	3%
	Wyre Rural	-43%	-20%	-12%	-17%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	-26%	-25%	-8%	-4%
	Fylde East Broughton	-21%	-41%	-4%	-10%
Preston	Preston North	-29%	12%	-11%	-15%
	Preston East	-21%	-25%	-6%	-3%
	Preston Central	-20%	-26%	-21%	-13%
	Preston West	-13%	-4%	-8%	-8%
	Bowland	-41%	-76%	19%	49%
	Fylde East Broughton	-61%	32%	-2%	-2%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
South Ribble	Leyland	3%	-13%	-9%	-5%
	South Ribble East	-17%	-20%	-2%	3%
	South Ribble West	12%	-10%	-6%	-9%
Chorley	Chorley East	-11%	-23%	-7%	-7%
	Chorley West	-23%	-37%	20%	33%
	Chorley Central	1%	-20%	-11%	-12%
	South Ribble East	-19%	-30%	6%	-4%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	-30%	-24%	6%	1%
	West Lancashire West	-3%	-22%	-2%	20%
	Chorley West	0%	-50%	6%	8%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	23%	-11%	-8%	-15%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	-28%	-27%	-2%	0%
	Hyndburn West	0%	-16%	-9%	-9%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	-11%	-4%	5%	6%
	Rossendale West	1%	10%	-3%	-1%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	-16%	-25%	8%	6%
	Pendle Hill	-43%	8%	-2%	-10%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	-5%	-16%	-4%	-1%
	Burnley Central	-9%	-23%	-15%	-17%
	Burnley North	-31%	-37%	-14%	-19%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	-9%	-36%	1%	2%
	Colne	-12%	-28%	-4%	-6%
	Nelson & Brierfield	-33%	-30%	-12%	-10%
	Pendle Hill	-22%	-44%	-17%	-4%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%

Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%
South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%
East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%
Lancashire	-15%	-21%	-4%	-2%

Sustainability

Sustainability has been one of the main challenges for childcare providers over the past year. Throughout the pandemic many parents have been working from home, have had to manage changes in hours or work patterns or some may have been made redundant. Parents have also been concerned about their children's health and safety. The fall in demand for childcare, has placed financial pressure on the sector with increased costs and loss of income.

To support providers who offer Early Education Funding and to provide stability with cashflow and viability, a one off COVID-19 payment has been made, along with increases to the funding rate and assistance with advertisement and marketing. However, the true impact will depend on if demand for childcare increases and how quickly this happens.

The government provided a variety of financial support packages to support businesses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these included:

- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS)
- Business rates relief
- Support for the Self-employed
- Bounce back loans
- Support for businesses affected by coronavirus restrictions

We will continue to monitor changes to the childcare market across Lancashire. As wider lockdown restriction ease we will see how families access childcare provision and the wider impact this has on the sector.

Childcare providers were asked about the impact on their business viability and what changes, if any, they are needing to make. The tables below summarise their responses.

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Lancaster Central the majority furloughed staff, in Lancaster Rural and Morecambe & Heysham cash flow and business viability was a concern.
	Lancaster Rural	86%	14%	
	Lancaster Central	95%	5%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	78%	22%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Wyre Rural a number of providers reduced opening hours and in Fleetwood providers were concerned about cash flow and business viability.
	Fleetwood	73%	27%	
	Wyre Rural	77%	23%	
Fylde	Lytham St Anne's	82%	18%	All areas identified low demand. Some providers reduced their opening hours and others found ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. In Lytham St Anne's a high number of providers furloughed staff and management of childcare bubbles was a challenge.
	Fylde East Broughton	72%	28%	
Preston	Preston North	88%	12%	All areas identified low demand, the majority of areas raised cash flow concerns. Bowland, Preston Central & Preston East had concerns with the management of childcare bubbles. Preston North had furloughed a greater number of staff than some of the other areas.
	Preston East	87%	13%	
	Preston Central	87%	13%	
	Preston West	92%	8%	
	Bowland	82%	18%	
	Fylde East Broughton	91%	9%	
Total	North Lancashire	85%	15%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	90%	10%	All areas identified low demand, Leyland & South Ribble West had a large number of providers who had reduced opening hours, South Ribble East and West identified bubble management as an impact.
	South Ribble East	93%	7%	
	South Ribble West	88%	12%	
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand and business viability. Chorley Central & Chorley East identified the impact of bubble management. Chorley East & Chorley West raised the impact of ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure.
	Chorley West	79%	21%	
	Chorley Central	92%	8%	
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand. Skelmersdale and Chorley West identified reduced opening hours and staff furloughed. While Ormskirk and Newburgh and West Lancashire West identified management of childcare bubbles.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	95%	5%	
Total	South Lancashire	90%	10%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	95%	5%	Both areas identified low demand, while Hyndburn East have seen a staff reduction and Hyndburn West have found bubble management has impacted on them.
	Hyndburn West	89%	11%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	15%	Both areas identified low demand and ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure. Rossendale West identified management of childcare bubbles. Rawtenstall and Bacup identified business viability and cash flow had an impact on them.
	Rossendale West	95%	5%	
Ribble Valley	Bowland	100%	0%	Both areas said they have been impacted by low demand. Pendle Hill had concerns around ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure, business viability and cash flow.
	Pendle Hill	89%	11%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	88%	12%	All areas identified managing childcare bubbles and low demand as a concern. While Burnley North and Burnley Outer had experienced ensuring their premises were COVID-19 secure and business viability as areas that have impacted on their provision.
	Burnley Central	82%	18%	
	Burnley North	88%	12%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	67%	33%	The majority of areas identified low demand as a concern. Barnoldswick, Colne and Pendle Hill indicated the management of childcare bubbles, business viability and cash flow have been impacted over the last twelve months.
	Colne	89%	11%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	82%	18%	
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	88%	12%	

The following three tables show potential changes providers are looking to make.

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	91%	In nearly all areas providers were looking to make changes to opening hours and increase fees. In Lancaster Central a number of providers were looking at staff hours. In Morecambe & Heysham some providers were looking at altering business models.
	Lancaster Rural	36%	64%	
	Lancaster Central	55%	45%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	36%	64%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	52%	48%	In all areas a number of providers are looking at staff hours and some providers were looking to make changes to their business models. In Fleetwood some providers are looking to increase fees.
	Fleetwood	55%	45%	
	Rural Wyre	8%	92%	
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	17%	83%	In both areas providers are looking at staff hours, in Fylde East & Broughton some providers are looking at increasing fees and altering their business models.
	Fylde East Broughton	14%	86%	
Preston	Preston North	38%	62%	In all areas of Preston a number of providers are looking to increase their fees. In the majority of areas some providers are looking at changes to staff hours. Bowland and Preston East some providers are looking at altering business models.
	Preston East	47%	53%	
	Preston Central	60%	40%	
	Preston West	42%	58%	
	Bowland	36%	64%	
	Fylde East Broughton	36%	64%	
TOTAL	North Lancashire	36%	64%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	50%	50%	In all areas of South Ribble some providers are looking at increasing fees. In Leyland and South Ribble West some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours and in South Ribble East some providers are looking to change opening hours.
	South Ribble East	46%	54%	
	South Ribble West	46%	54%	
Chorley	Chorley East	58%	42%	In all areas of Chorley providers are looking at increasing fees. In nearly all areas some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours, in Chorley West some providers are looking to change opening hours and in Chorley Central some are looking at business models.
	Chorley West	30%	70%	
	Chorley Central	44%	56%	
	South Ribble East	50%	50%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67%	33%	In all areas some providers are looking to alter their business model and change opening times. Ormskirk and Newburgh and Skelmersdale are looking to recruit additional staff and increase fees.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37%	63%	
TOTAL	South Lancashire	54%	46%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	43%	57%	The majority of providers who responded in both areas are proposing to increase fees and make changes to their business models. Hyndburn East providers are looking to re organise staff hours.
	Hyndburn West	58%	42%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	44%	56%	In both areas providers are looking to make changes to their business models, changes to opening times and increased fees. Some Rossendale West providers have said they are looking to recruit additional staff.
	Rossendale West	38%	62%	
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	63%	37%	In both areas providers have altered their business model and made changes to opening times. Pendle Hill providers are looking to increase fees and reorganise staff.
	Pendle Hill	33%	66%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	40%	60%	All areas are proposing to increase fees. The majority of providers who responded in Burnley North and Burnley Central are looking at reorganising staff. Providers are looking to alter their business models and opening hours in Burnley Central and Burnley Outer.
	Burnley Central	56%	44%	
	Burnley North	20%	80%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	100%	0%	The majority of providers in Pendle are looking to reorganise their staff hours and increase their fees. Some are also altering their business models and opening times.
	Colne	38%	62%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	47%	53%	
	Pendle Hill	40%	60%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	48%	52%	

Providers were asked about the longer-term viability of their business, the tables that follow summarise their responses.

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	9%	18%	0%	64%
	Lancaster Rural	0%	14%	29%	0%	57%
	Lancaster Central	0%	0%	10%	10%	80%
	Morecambe & Heysham	4%	11%	12%	9%	64%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3%	7%	30%	4%	56%
	Fleetwood	0%	27%	0%	9%	64%
	Wyre Rural	0%	0%	15%	0%	85%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	5%	4%	14%	0%	77%
	Fylde East Broughton	0%	3%	4%	3%	90%
Preston	Preston North	6%	6%	13%	0%	75%
	Preston East	0%	13%	0%	7%	80%
	Preston Central	7%	13%	20%	0%	60%
	Preston West	8%	21%	9%	4%	58%
	Bowland	9%	10%	8%	0%	73%
	Fylde East Broughton	9%	0%	27%	0%	64%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	4%	9%	14%	3%	70%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
South Ribble	Leyland	5%	25%	10%	5%	55%
	South Ribble East	4%	21%	7%	11%	57%
	South Ribble West	8%	20%	16%	12%	44%
Chorley	Chorley East	16%	10%	21%	0%	53%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	21%	5%	74%
	Chorley Central	4%	12%	16%	8%	60%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	6%	22%	28%	0%	44%
	West Lancashire West	0%	0%	15%	14%	71%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	0%	16%	10%	0%	74%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	4%	11%	13%	5%	67%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	0%	9%	22%	10%	59%
	Hyndburn West	11%	26%	25%	0%	38%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	3%	5%	12%	15%	65%
	Rossendale West	5%	19%	18%	10%	48%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	0%	0%	37%	0%	63%
	Pendle Hill	11%	6%	5%	0%	78%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	0%	16%	12%	8%	64%
	Burnley Central	0%	11%	22%	0	67%
	Burnley North	0%	7%	0%	6%	87%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Colne	0%	6%	25%	19%	50%
	Nelson & Brierfield	7%	6%	13%	14%	60%
	Pendle Hill	0%	40%	20%	0%	40%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	3%	12%	16%	6%	63%

Overall, 67% of providers have no concerns about their longer-term viability. We will monitor those providers who have raised concerns and provide support if required.

Childcare Fees

Cost remains a deciding factor when parents are looking for childcare. We asked our providers whether their fees had changed over the last year. Their responses are summarised below, with 72% of providers fees remaining the same over the year.

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	82%	9%	9%	0%
	Lancaster Rural	64%	29%	7%	0%
	Lancaster Central	65%	20%	5%	10%
	Morecambe & Heysham	87%	9%	0%	4%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	77%	15%	0%	8%
	Fleetwood	91%	0%	0%	9%
	Wyre Rural	69%	23%	0%	8%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	70%	14%	3%	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	77%	18%	0%	5%
Preston	Preston North	75%	19%	0%	6%
	Preston East	87%	7%	0%	6%
	Preston Central	80%	20%	0%	0%
	Preston West	67%	17%	8%	8%
	Bowland	73%	0%	27%	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	64%	36%	0%	0%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	75%	16%	4%	5%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
South Ribble	Leyland	85%	5%	0%	10%
	South Ribble East	75%	11%	3%	11%
	South Ribble West	75%	11%	3%	11%
Chorley	Chorley East	90%	5%	0%	5%
	Chorley West	95%	0%	0%	5%
	Chorley Central	72%	12%	0%	16%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	78%	22%	0%	0%
	West Lancashire West	57%	29%	0%	14%
	Chorley West	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	74%	0	5%	21%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	68%	9%	1%	22%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	66%	14%	10%	10%
	Hyndburn West	58%	5%	5%	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	3%	3%	9%
	Rossendale West	81%	5%	0%	14%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	63%	25%	0%	12%
	Pendle Hill	84%	6%	5%	5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	76%	0%	8%	16%
	Burnley Central	45%	22%	0%	33%
	Burnley North	67%	20%	0%	13%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Colne	63%	37%	0%	0%
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	7%	7%	0%
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	0%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	72%	14%	3%	11%

Quality of Childcare Provision

Quality of care and education is one of the most important aspects when a parent is choosing childcare for their children. Access to high quality childcare has long term benefits to children, particularly those from disadvantaged families. The tables below show an overview of Ofsted inspection outcomes for Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate providers. The tables also include providers who have yet to be inspected and those providers on the childcare register who received a met or not met outcome. The majority of children in Lancashire will have access to good high quality childcare.

On March 17th 2020, all routine inspections of schools and childcare providers were suspended. Shortly afterwards lockdown measures were introduced, and childcare settings closed (apart from those of key workers and vulnerable children). Urgent inspections where specific concerns had been raised still went ahead. The last published Ofsted inspection in Lancashire was dated 16th March 2020, therefore the figures in this table are based on the latest information for our childcare providers. Routine graded inspections are due to resume in the Summer term of 2021. At this point 97.86% of all Ofsted registered providers in Lancashire are rated Good or Outstanding.

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childminders

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	1	8	1	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	1	6	0	0	0	0	3
	Lancaster Central	4	8	0	0	1	0	3
	Morecambe & Heysham	7	22	1	0	2	1	6
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3	16	0	0	1	0	0
	Fleetwood	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Wyre Rural	0	8	0	0	1	0	3
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	2	5	0	0	3	0	7
	Fylde East Broughton	4	22	0	0	2	0	6
Preston	Preston North	2	9	0	0	1	0	1
	Preston East	0	9	0	0	3	1	3
	Preston Central	0	4	0	0	1	0	2
	Preston West	3	22	0	0	1	0	7
	Bowland	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	North Lancashire	28	146	4	0	16	2	52
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		16%	82%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
South Ribble	Leyland	2	17	0	0	1	1	7
	South Ribble East	3	17	0	0	4	0	2
	South Ribble West	0	18	0	0	0	0	9
Chorley	Chorley East	1	8	0	0	0	0	3
	Chorley West	1	10	0	0	0	1	3
	Chorley Central	5	10	1	0	2	0	6
	South Ribble East	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	3	9	1	0	2	0	5
	West Lancashire West	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	Chorley West	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	1	13	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	South Lancashire	16	109	2	0	10	2	38
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		12%	86%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	7	41	0	1	4	0	7
	Hyndburn West	1	16	0	0	2	0	2
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	7	17	0	0	2	2	7
	Rossendale West	1	10	0	0	2	0	4
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	0	5	0	0	0	1	1
	Pendle Hill	1	10	0	1	2	0	2
Burnley	Burnley Outer	7	17	0	0	3	1	2
	Burnley Central	0	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Burnley North	0	5	0	0	1	0	2
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Colne	5	5	0	0	1	0	1
	Nelson & Brierfield	0	9	0	0	1	0	0
	Pendle Hill	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	East Lancashire	29	143	0	2	18	4	30
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		17%	82%	0%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childcare on Non-Domestic Premises

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	2	7	0	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	6	10	0	0	0	0	7
	Lancaster Central	5	16	2	0	3	0	4
	Morecambe & Heysham	6	22	0	0	1	0	5
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	9	17	1	0	1	0	7
	Fleetwood	6	7	1	0	0	0	2
	Wyre Rural	6	12	0	0	0	0	11
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	6	10	0	0	1	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	7	15	0	0	1	0	5
Preston	Preston North	5	7	0	1	0	0	10
	Preston East	4	15	4	0	0	0	5
	Preston Central	3	14	2	0	0	0	5
	Preston West	0	14	1	0	0	0	4
	Bowland	1	3	0	0	1	0	0
	Fylde East Broughton	3	5	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	North Lancashire	69	174	11	1	8	0	75
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		27%	68%	4%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
South Ribble	Leyland	4	14	1	0	0	0	5
	South Ribble East	5	25	0	0	1	0	6
	South Ribble West	3	13	0	0	0	0	8
Chorley	Chorley East	4	20	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley West	1	16	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley Central	7	17	0	0	1	0	13
	South Ribble East	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	10	19	0	0	1	0	3
	West Lancashire West	1	16	1	0	1	0	6
	Chorley West	1	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	7	6	0	0	0	0	7
TOTAL	South Lancashire	43	154	2	0	6	0	64
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		22%	77%	1%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	9	18	1	0	2	0	15
	Hyndburn West	2	11	0	0	1	0	3
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	5	14	1	1	1	0	12
	Rossendale West	5	9	0	0	0	1	6
Ribble Valley	Bowland	2	20	0	0	1	0	5
	Pendle Hill	5	16	0	0	3	0	9
Burnley	Burnley Outer	4	15	0	0	2	0	5
	Burnley Central	5	4	2	0	1	0	4
	Burnley North	5	8	1	0	2	0	3
Pendle	Barnoldswick	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	Colne	2	10	0	0	0	0	5
	Nelson & Brierfield	5	10	1	0	0	1	5
	Pendle Hill	1	4	0	0	0	0	5
TOTAL	East Lancashire	51	140	6	1	13	2	79
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		26%	71%	2%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Lancashire Totals	Percentage of graded inspection outcomes						
	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Childcare on domestic premises - childminders	15%	83%	1%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Childcare on non-domestic premises	25%	72%	3%	0.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

It is vital for children with SEND to be supported within high quality provision with practitioners who have an excellent understanding and are able to carry out effective observation, assessment and planning. Inclusion should be embedded as part of everyday practice where staff are flexible and make adjustments to ensure individual needs are met. All staff should have a shared understanding of inclusive practice and have a consistent approach to implementing advice and strategies.

During the pandemic children with SEND were offered suitable childcare provision although many parents chose to keep their children at home. This was largely due to health and safety concerns for their children.

Childcare providers supplied their weekly numbers of children accessing a place with an Education, Health and Care Plan. This was to provide us and the Department for Education with information about whether vulnerable children were able to access childcare provision during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tables below show providers offering places for children with SEND and if demand for places had changed.

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	22%	6
	Lancaster Rural	83%	17%	7
	Lancaster Central	72%	28%	50
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	64
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	73%	27%	21
	Fleetwood	100%	0%	12
	Wyre Rural	87%	13%	17
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	95%	5%	16
	Fylde East Broughton	84%	16%	11
Preston	Preston North	77%	23%	19
	Preston East	73%	27%	42
	Preston Central	100%	0%	7
	Preston West	70%	30%	30
	Bowland	100%	0%	1
	Fylde East Broughton	92%	8%	19
TOTAL	North Lancashire	85%	15%	322

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
South Ribble	Leyland	84%	16%	25
	South Ribble East	84%	16%	31
	South Ribble West	82%	18%	10
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	12
	Chorley West	91%	9%	5
	Chorley Central	80%	20%	33
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	1
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	83%	17%	26
	West Lancashire West	88%	12%	7
	Chorley West	80%	20%	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	83%	17%	8
TOTAL	South Lancashire	86%	14%	159

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	82%	18%	21
	Hyndburn West	68%	32%	12
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	73%	27%	33
	Rossendale West	76%	24%	31
Ribble Valley	Bowland	86%	14%	9
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	22
Burnley	Burnley Outer	86%	14%	7
	Burnley Central	67%	33%	23
	Burnley North	71%	29%	17
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	8
	Colne	88%	12%	43
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	14%	25
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	9
TOTAL	East Lancashire	76%	24%	260

We also asked childcare providers if parents of children with SEND had altered how they accessed their childcare over the year.

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	11%	12%
	Lancaster Rural	67%	16%	17%
	Lancaster Central	56%	5%	39%
	Morecambe & Heysham	58%	29%	13%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	44%	34%	22%
	Fleetwood	59%	31%	10%
	Wyre Rural	67%	13%	20%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	68%	27%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	65%	19%	16%
Preston	Preston North	62%	15%	23%
	Preston East	40%	40%	20%
	Preston Central	64%	29%	7%
	Preston West	67%	22%	11%
	Bowland	89%	0%	11%
	Fylde East Broughton	59%	33%	8%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	63%	22%	16%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
South Ribble	Leyland	79%	21%	0%
	South Ribble East	66%	25%	9%
	South Ribble West	50%	45%	5%
Chorley	Chorley East	75%	15%	10%
	Chorley West	77%	18%	5%
	Chorley Central	60%	24%	16%
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	61%	28%	11%
	West Lancashire West	50%	38%	12%
	Chorley West	80%	20%	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	78%	22%	0%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	71%	23%	6%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	63%	32%	5%
	Hyndburn West	65%	31%	4%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	79%	6%	15%
	Rossendale West	59%	23%	18%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	29%	28%	43%
	Pendle Hill	73%	20%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	81%	19%	0%
	Burnley Central	67%	11%	22%
	Burnley North	72%	21%	7%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%
	Colne	41%	30%	29%
	Nelson & Brierfield	43%	50%	7%
	Pendle Hill	50%	50%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	59%	29%	12%

Summary of SEND provision

The numbers of children accessing a SEND place were highest in Morecambe and Heysham, Lancaster Central, Colne and Preston East,

64% of providers in Lancashire said that demand for SEND places remained the same. Access to SEND places during the COVID-19 pandemic decreased by 25%. Access to SEND places has decreased the most in East Lancashire.

We will continue to monitor the take up of childcare places for children with SEND over the coming year.

Key Findings and Actions

In the tables below we have summarised the common key findings by district so we can identify any specific areas of concern.

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for North Lancashire
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	Demand has been low across all areas of Lancaster, although it is starting to recover now lockdown has started to ease. Some providers are concerned about cash flow and business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 a number of providers are proposing increases in childcare fees and changes to opening hours. In Lancaster 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 79% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 79% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor take up of places across all age groups to understand the impact of demand on sustainability and business viability. 2. Develop a business and financial forecasting support offer.
	Lancaster Rural		
	Lancaster Central		
	Morecambe & Heysham		
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Wyre. Business viability and cash flow are some of the concerns in the area. Providers are looking to make changes to business models and staff hours to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Wyre 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 85% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%	3. Monitor net closures in the area. 4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Fleetwood		
	Wyre Rural		
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	In Fylde low demand has been identified in all areas this is now starting to improve with lockdown measures lifting. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 providers are considering reducing hours, increasing fees and altering business models. In Fylde 100% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 87% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	3. Monitor net closures in the area. 4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Fylde East Broughton		
Preston	Preston North	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Preston. Providers have raised concerns about cash flow and business viability. Some providers are also looking at making changes to business models and staff hours. In Preston 93% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Preston East		
	Preston Central		
	Preston West		
	Bowland		
	Fylde East Broughton		
North Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for South Lancashire
South Ribble	Leyland	Low demand over the year has been a concern in South Ribble. Some providers are considering a reduction in opening hours, increasing fees and re-organising staff hours to account for the impact of COVID-19. In South Ribble 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 71% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 86% is also above the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare. 2. Develop business and financial forecasting support offer.
	South Ribble East		
	South Ribble West		
Chorley	Chorley East	In Chorley low demand has been a concern although with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Providers found bubble management and ensuing premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are increasing fees, re-organising staff hours and making changes to business models moving forwards. In Chorley 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 72% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 91% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	2. Develop business and financial forecasting support offer. 3. Monitor net closures in the area. 4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Chorley West		
	Chorley Central		
	South Ribble East		
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	In West Lancashire low demand was a concern in all areas. Providers found bubble management and ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are looking to reduce opening hours, make changes to business models, recruit additional staff and increase fees to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In West Lancashire 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 65% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 80% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	West Lancashire West		
	Chorley West		
	Ormskirk & Newburgh		
South Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for East Lancashire
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	In Hyndburn low demand has been identified across all areas. Providers are looking at some staff reductions, making changes to business models, changes to staffing hours and increasing fees are the key areas of change to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Hyndburn 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	<p>1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare.</p> <p>2. Develop business and financial tools for the sector</p> <p>3. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds</p> <p>4. Monitor net closure in the area.</p>
	Hyndburn West		
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	In Rossendale low demand has been identified across all areas. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. The main area providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19 is to alter opening hours. In Rossendale 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 82% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Rossendale West		
Ribble Valley	Bowland	In Ribble Valley low demand has been identified across all areas with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Some providers were concerned about business viability. Changes to opening times, altering business models and re-organising staff hours are factors providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Ribble Valley 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 93% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Pendle Hill		
Burnley	Burnley Outer	In Burnley low demand has been identified across the area. Managing childcare bubbles has been a challenge for providers. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are considering changing business models, re-organising staff hours and increasing fees. In Burnley 96% of childcare providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 70% is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 95% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Burnley Central		
	Burnley North		
Pendle	Barnoldswick	In Pendle low demand has been identified in all areas with lockdown starting to lift this is starting to improve. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are looking to re-organise staff hours, increase fees, adapt business models and alter opening hours. In Pendle 98% of providers are Good and Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 60% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 84% which is in line with the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Colne		
	Nelson & Brierfield		
	Pendle Hill		
East Lancashire			

Conclusion

To summarise, Lancashire has sufficient childcare places to meet the needs of working parents. Our latest assessment shows we have childcare places available across all age ranges and all provider types.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed considerable strain on the childcare sector when sustainability was already being raised as a concern by some of the sector before the start of the pandemic. Low demand for places, ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure and maintaining childcare bubbles are challenges providers have faced over the last year. Opening hours, changes to business models and increased fees are key areas childcare providers are looking to potentially change in the coming months.

Monitoring of childcare places across all areas of Lancashire is going to continue as lockdown measures are starting to ease. We will continue to monitor and respond to areas where either demand remains low or providers may close.

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