

7.0. Views of parents and carers

A questionnaire was developed in partnership with the Early Years team, Parent Community & Young People's Participation team and the Family Information Service to gather data about the use of childcare in Haringey and the views of parent/carers of the childcare market. Fifteen thousand questionnaires were distributed via Children's Centres, play centres, schools, nurseries, libraries, job centres and health visitors.

To complement the questionnaire focus groups were held with parents/carers who were Polish, Turkish, Kurdish, Somali and parents whose children had a special educational need or disability. The focus groups explored the issues raised in the survey in more detail.

7.1 Profile of respondents

A total of 784 parent/carer questionnaires were completed and returned. Figure 59 shows the geographical distribution of responses to the questionnaire, along with the number of families in each ward claiming child benefit in August 2010.

Figure 59: number of responses from each ward.

	Ward	Number of responses	Number of families claiming Child benefit as of August 2010
West Network	Alexandra	39	1565
	Crouch End	20	1350
	Fortis Green	45	1590
	Highgate	13	1080
	Hornsey	33	1550
	Muswell Hill	28	1235
	Stroud Green	20	1295
West Network total		198	9665
North Network	Bounds Green	16	1720
	Noel Park	27	1770
	Northumberland Park	30	2275
	White Hart Lane	26	2260
	Woodside	27	1815
North Network total		126	9840
South Network	Bruce Grove	33	2290
	Harringay	31	1480
	Seven Sisters	34	2245
	St Ann's	35	1725
	Tottenham Green	25	2025
	Tottenham Hale	31	2335
	West Green	28	1785
South Network total		217	13885
Other	Unknown	70	-
	Out Borough	59	-
	Haringey – part postcode	113	-
Other total		242	-

Sample size

With a sample size of 784, the margin of error is $\pm 5\%$ at the 95% confidence level. When you survey a sample of the population, you don't know that you've found the correct answer, but you do know that there is a 95% chance that you're within the margin of error of the correct answer.

Gender profile of respondents

- 87.3% of the respondents were female
- 7.5% were male

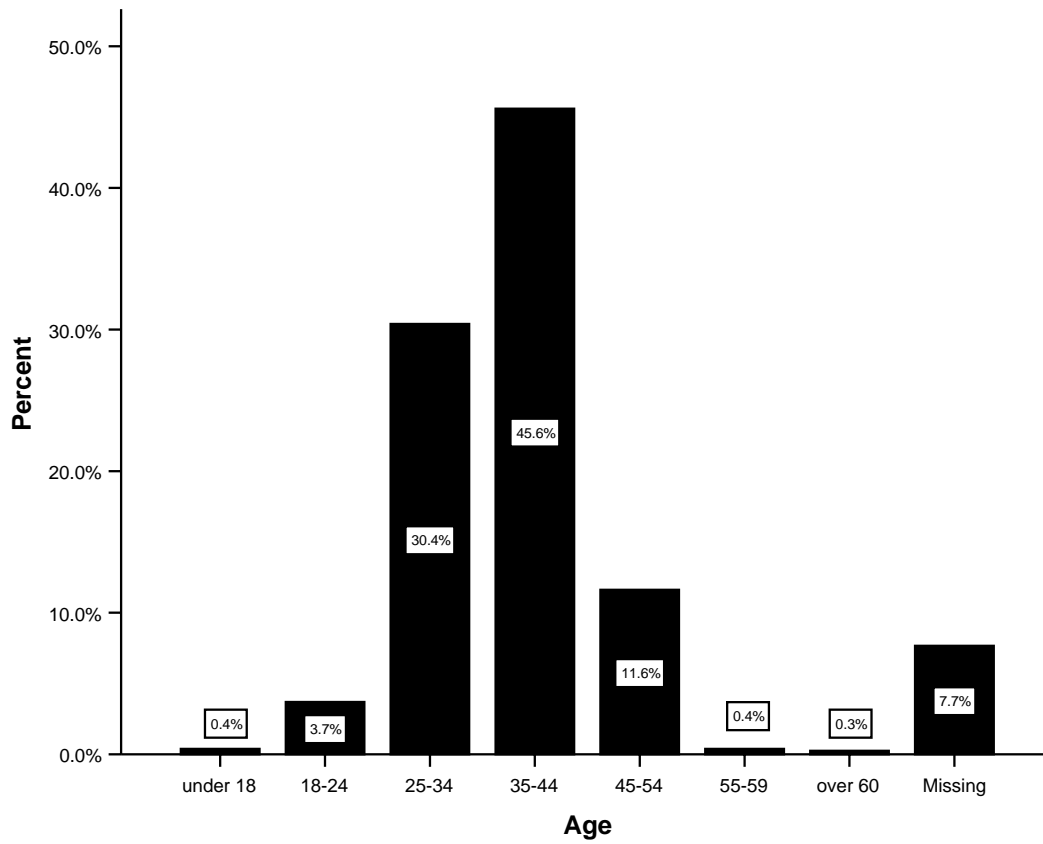
- 5.2% did not provide this information.

Figure 60: ethnicity breakdown of respondents.

Ethnic Group	Percentage	2009 GLA Ethnic projections for 2011
White British	32.20%	-
Irish	2.90%	-
Turkish	2.90%	-
Any Other White ethnic group	20.10%	-
Total white ethnic groups	58.10%	64%
Asian	4.30%	9%
Black British	7.40%	-
Black Caribbean	8.90%	8%
Black African	7.10%	9%
Any other Black ethnic group	1%	4%
Mixed	4%	-
Any other ethnic group	2.30%	6%
Did not state	6.90%	-
Total	100%	100%

There is a close resemblance of the ethnic breakdown of the respondents and the GLA population ethnic projections.

Figure 61: age break down of respondents.

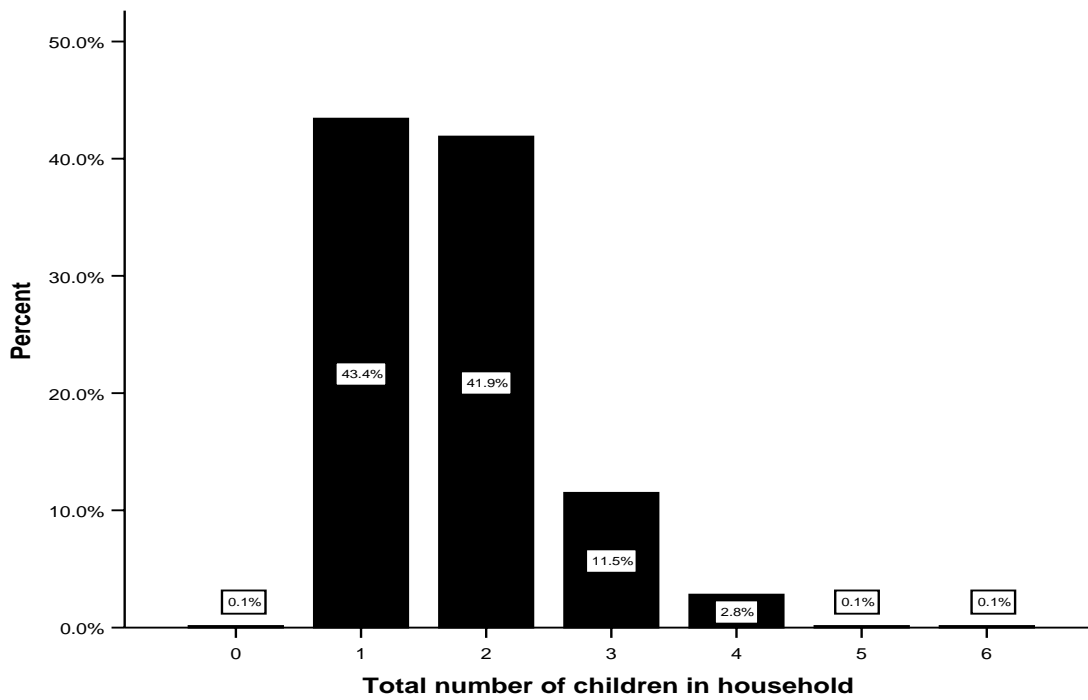


The majority of respondents (45.6%) were aged between 35-44 followed by the age group 25-34 (30.4%).

7.2. Family composition

Figure 62 shows that 43.4% of respondents had only one child, 41.9% had two children and 14.6% of respondents had three or more children.

Figure 62: number of children in respondent's families.



The age group with the largest number of children was the under 5 age group. The age distribution of children included in the questionnaire returns follows a similar trend to the GLA population projections.

Figure 63: number of children in each age group.

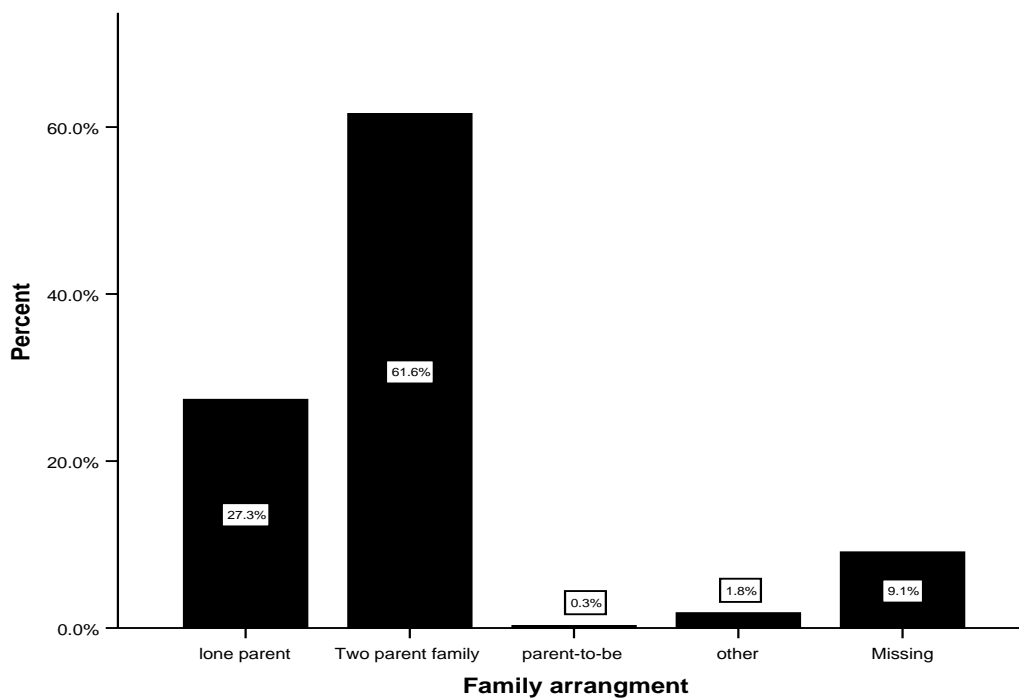
Age group	Number of children	GLA 2009 population projections for 2011
0-2	333	-
0-3	261	-
Under 5 total	594	18,872
5-9	459	15,420
10-14	52	12,825
15-18	43	11,283
Total	1148	58,400

Parents/carers with children that had either a special educational need or disability

Forty eight parents reported that their child had either a special educational need or disability. This corresponds to 6.1% of the total sample.

Family arrangements

Figure 64: family arrangement of respondents.

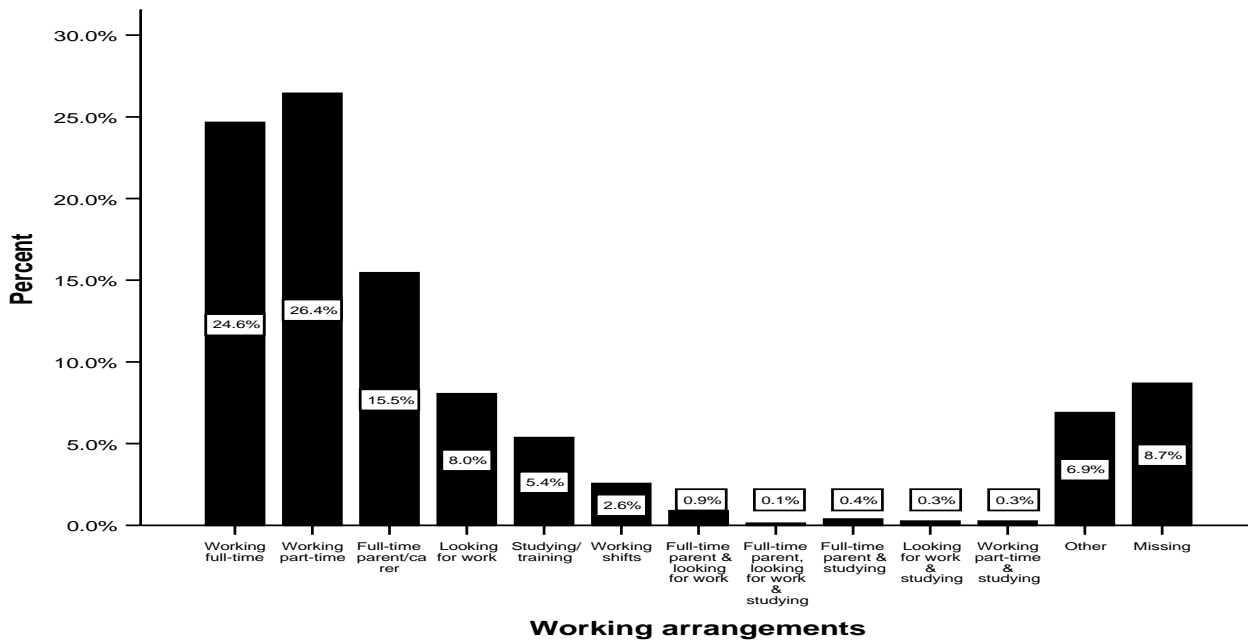


The majority of respondents (61.6%) were part of two-parent families. Just under a third (27.3%) of respondents were lone parents.

7.3. Household income and employment

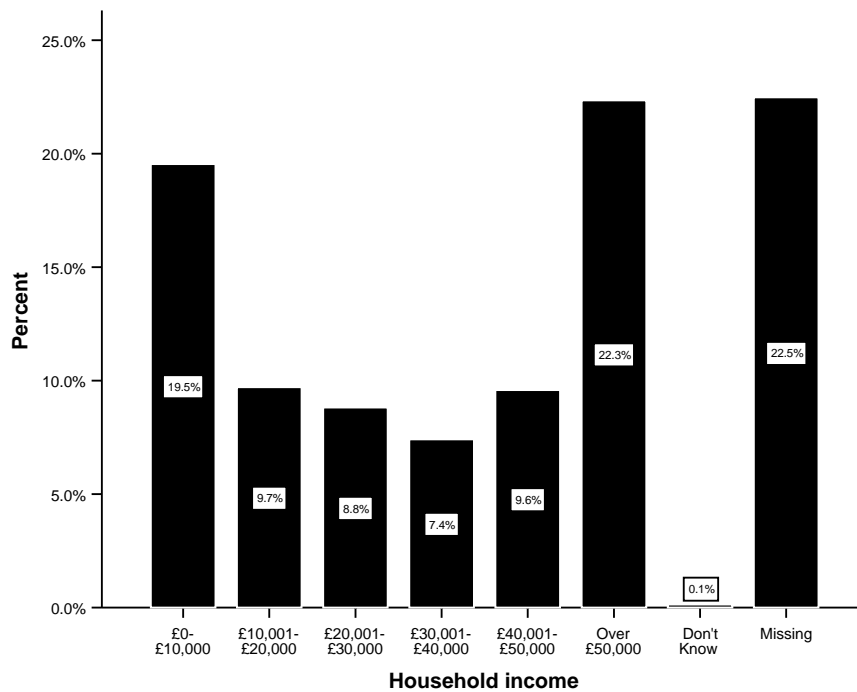
Just under a quarter (24.6%) of the respondents stated that they were employed full-time, while just over a quarter (26.4%) were employed part-time, only 2.6% stated that they worked shifts. In total 16.9% were full-time parent/carers and 15.4% were either training, looking for work, or a combination of both.

Figure 65: working arrangements of respondents.



The most common household income range amongst the surveyed parents/carers was the income bracket over £50,000 (22.3%). Just under a fifth (19.9%) of the respondents stated that their household income bracket was £0-£10,000.

Figure 66: household income of respondents.



7.4. Types of childcare

Over half (55.8%) of the respondents stated that they were currently using some form of childcare.

Figure 67: currently using childcare.

Using childcare	percentage
yes	55.8%
no	40.7%
missing	3.4%
Total	100%

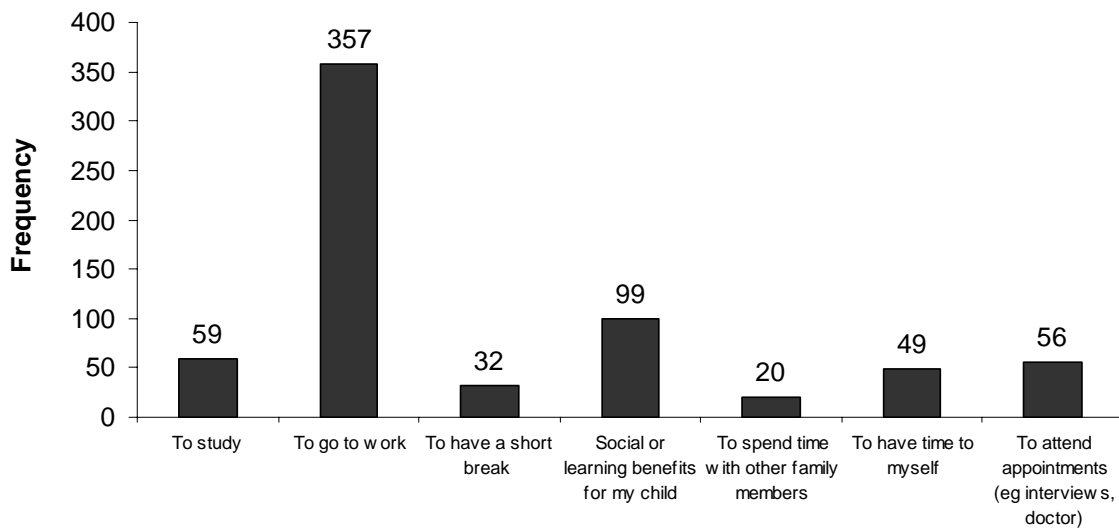
Parents/Carers main reasons for not using childcare were that they were full time parents or that they were currently not working or unemployed.

Figure 68: parents/carers reasons for not using childcare.

Reason	Frequency	Reason	Frequency
Full time parent	62	Child not old enough, but will need it soon	6
Not working/unemployed	39	Due to start looking soon	5
Can not afford childcare/too expensive	32	Can not find suitable childcare	4
Do not need childcare at the moment	16	Childcare does not start early enough or finish late enough	2
On maternity leave	15	The waiting list is too long	1
Child/Children at school	12	Worried about leaving child in childcare	1
Family helps out with childcare when necessary	9	Lack of SEN facilities	1
Working around the children/work from home	7	Made redundant	1

Parents/Carers main reasons for using childcare were to allow them to go to work.

Figure 69: parents/carers reasons for using childcare.



Types of childcare used in the past 12 months

Parent/ carers were asked what types of childcare provision they had used over the past 12 months. The full breakdown is shown in the table below. The most commonly used type of childcare provision regularly used (2-5 times per week) by respondents were full-time nursery place (19.3%). Other popular types of childcare regularly used were after-school clubs (15.1%) and childminders (14%). The types of childcare less often used were Overnight childcare (0.1%), holiday play scheme (2.6%) and Crèche (2.7%).

Figure 70: types of childcare used in the last 12 months by all parents.

	Type of childcare	Occasionally	Once per week	2-4 times per week	5 times per week or more	During School Holidays	Would like to use, but currently are not
Under 5 provision	Childminder	3.30%	1%	7.00%	7.00%	3.50%	0.50%
	Full-time nursery place	1.80%	1.10%	10.20%	9.10%	0.30%	7.20%
	Nanny or au pair	2%	0.80%	2.80%	1.70%	1.30%	5.10%
	Part-time nursery place	0.80%	0.40%	3.80%	4.30%	0.10%	6.60%
	Pre-school or playgroup	1%	0.60%	5.90%	3.10%	0.50%	5.90%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	4.50%	4.20%	9.70%	5.40%	2.20%	15.20%
	Before school club	5%	0.90%	3.10%	2.80%	0.50%	10.90%
	Holiday play scheme	4.9	0.10%	1.30%	1.30%	11.90%	7.70%
Informal childcare	Crèche	2.60%	1.00%	1.40%	1.30%	0.30%	5.90%
	Drop-in play session	5.60%	6.90%	10%	0.80%	0.60%	4.20%
	Family or friends	22.50%	4.70%	4.20%	2.30%	3.20%	3.10%
other	Childcare between 6pm - 7am (over night)	4%	0.50%	0.10%	0%	0.10%	4%

It is not possible to break this information down by under or over 5 year olds, as over 56.4% of respondents had 2 or more children, typically with children aged both under and over 5.

Respondents were asked why they were not currently using childcare that they had indicated they would like to. Figure 71 provides the full breakdown of reasons.

Figure 71: respondents' reasons for not accessing certain types of childcare settings.

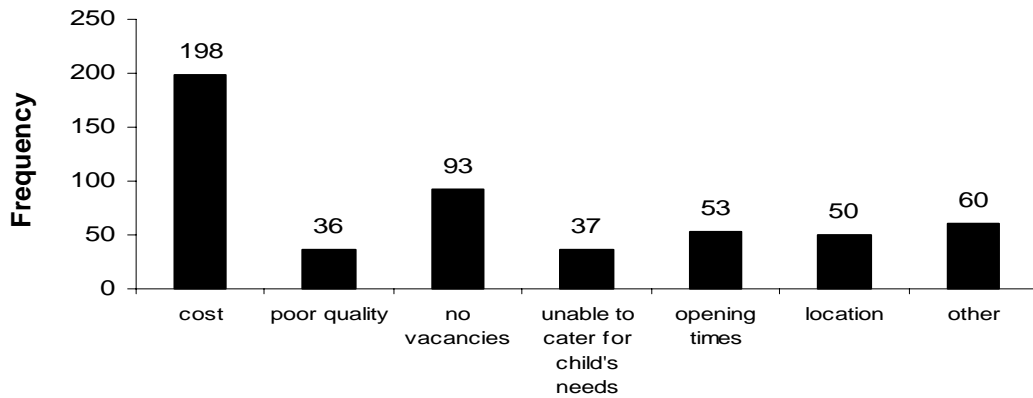
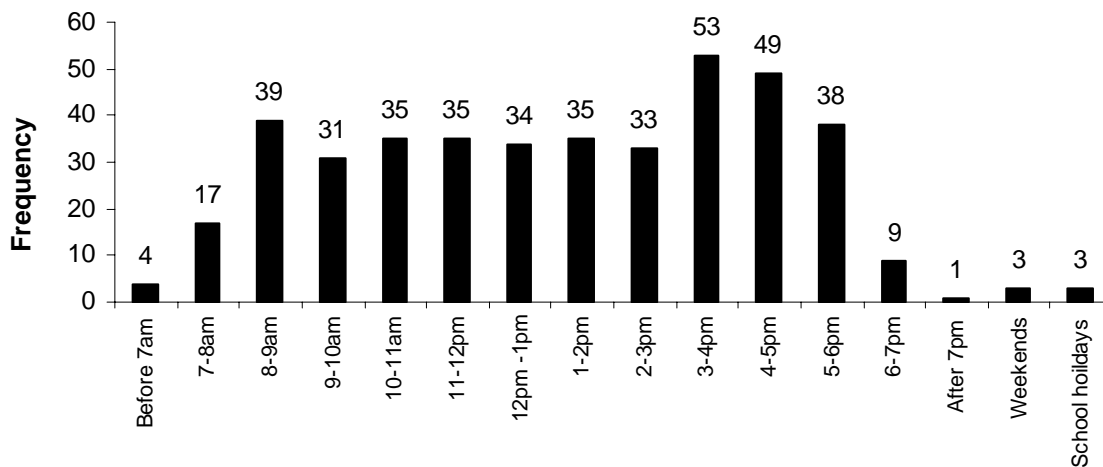


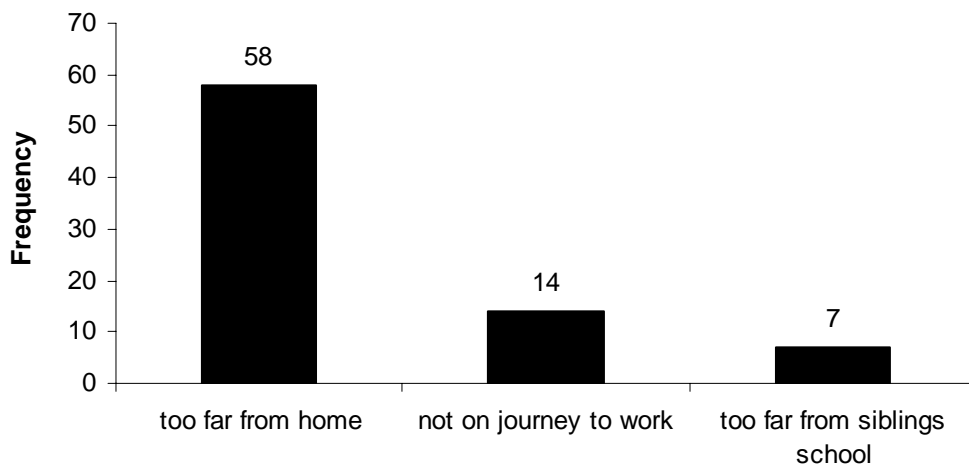
Figure 72: The times would like to use childcare if parents noted this as a reason for currently not using childcare.



Parents would like to access childcare the hour before school starts and for the after school hours, 3pm-6pm.

The times have been separated into hour slots – so if a parent wishes to use childcare from 8am to 6pm then they would be counted in each time slot from 8am to 6pm.

Figure 73: the reasons why parents noted location as a barrier for accessing childcare.



The main reason for parents/carers noting location as a barrier to accessing childcare was that the setting was too far from the home.

Figure 74: types of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months by ethnicity of parents/carers.

	Type of childcare	White British	Irish	Turkish	Any Other White ethnic group	Asian	Black British	Black Caribbean	Black African	Any other Black ethnic group	Mixed	Any other ethnic group
Under 5 provision	Childminder	22.4%	33.3%	0.0%	10.0%	7.5%	22.2%	11.1%	16.2%	20.0%	21.1%	0.0%
	Full-time nursery	30.3%	40.0%	13.6%	12.7%	9.5%	46.9%	41.5%	33.3%	50.0%	40.9%	25.0%
	Nanny or au pair	14.5%	11.1%	0.0%	9.2%	2.6%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	10.0%
	Part-time nursery	30.5%	53.3%	20.8%	23.9%	21.4%	23.5%	20.0%	16.7%	25.0%	26.3%	10.0%
	Pre-school /playgroup	18.6%	35.3%	8.7%	17.8%	15.0%	15.6%	11.4%	24.2%	25.0%	26.3%	10.0%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	18.3%	22.7%	4.3%	7.6%	4.5%	25.5%	32.7%	10.0%	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%
	Before school club	6.2%	5.6%	9.1%	2.6%	2.4%	11.1%	20.5%	9.4%	0.0%	5.3%	10.0%
	Holiday play scheme	4.3%	0.0%	8.3%	1.7%	4.8%	4.9%	7.7%	2.9%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Informal childcare	Crèche	1.5%	8.3%	14.3%	2.7%	0.0%	3.4%	3.1%	3.3%	0.0%	6.3%	0.0%
	Drop-in play session	22.7%	11.1%	12.0%	19.5%	10.0%	10.6%	5.4%	13.5%	40.0%	36.8%	18.2%
	Family or friends	11.3%	21.1%	24.0%	15.2%	19.5%	23.3%	11.9%	13.2%	20.0%	10.0%	21.7%

There were no differences between the types of childcare regularly used and the ethnicity of the parents.

Figure 75: types of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months by working arrangements.

	Type of childcare	Working full-time	Working part-time	Working shifts	Full-time parent/carer	Looking for work	Studying / training	Other
Under 5 provision	Childminder	15.1%	14.9%	20.0%	2.3%	4.6%	2.4%	5.6%
	Full-time nursery	31.6%	23.9%	35.0%	9.0%	10.8%	9.6%	5.6%
	Nanny or au pair	7.8%	6.3%	0.0%	1.6%	1.5%	0.0%	3.8%
	Part-time nursery	4.7%	9.0%	20.0%	24.1%	3.1%	11.9%	9.3%
	Pre-school or playgroup	4.2%	10.5%	5.0%	13.6%	10.8%	9.5%	7.5%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	26.9%	14.9%	20.0%	4.6%	7.7%	19.1%	16.7%
	Before school club	11.4%	6.7%	0.0%	1.6%	3.0%	7.2%	3.8%
	Holiday play scheme	5.2%	1.5%	0.0%	0.8%	4.6%	0.0%	3.7%
Informal childcare	Crèche	3.1%	1.4%	0.0%	1.5%	4.6%	7.2%	5.6%
	Drop-in play session	5.1%	7.7%	15.0%	22.0%	10.8%	11.9%	9.3%
	Family or friends	10.3%	8.2%	15.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%
other	Overnight childcare	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Those respondents who were in employment were more likely to regularly use extended school provision (e.g. before and after school clubs). Those respondents who were full-time parent/carers or not in full time employment, were more likely to regularly use drop-in sessions.

Figure 76: types of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months by family structure.

	Type of childcare	Lone parent family	Two-parent family	Parent to Be	Other
Under 5 provision	Childminder	5.2%	12.9%	0.0%	7.1%
	Full-time nursery	13.1%	22.8%	50.0%	14.3%
	Nanny or au pair	0.0%	6.6%	50.0%	7.1%
	Part-time nursery	5.7%	10.4%	0.0%	7.1%
	Pre-school or playgroup	6.1%	10.8%	0.0%	7.1%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	25.3%	12.6%	0.0%	14.2%
	Before school club	9.8%	5.0%	0.0%	7.1%
	Holiday play scheme	2.8%	2.0%	0.0%	7.1%
Informal childcare	Crèche	2.4%	2.9%	0.0%	7.1%
	Drop-in play session	7.0%	12.4%	0.0%	7.1%
	Family or friends	5.6%	6.9%	0.0%	0.0%
other	Overnight childcare	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%

Lone parent families were significantly more likely to regularly use extended school provision than two parent families. Two parent families were more likely to use play groups, part-time and full-time nursery places than one parent families. Two parent families were also more likely to use drop in sessions and nannies than one parent families.

Figure 77: types of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months by household income.

	Type of childcare	£0-£10,000	£10,001-£20,000	£20,001-£30,000	£30,001-£40,000	£40,001-£50,000	Over £50,001
Under 5 provision	Childminder	2%	10.50%	7.20%	10.30%	20%	17.10%
	Full-time nursery	10.50%	15.80%	28.90%	27.60%	22.70%	30.40%
	Nanny or au pair	0%	1.30%	0%	1.70%	6.60%	14.90%
	Part-time nursery	5.90%	9.20%	5.70%	12.10%	14.60%	9.70%
	Pre-school or playgroup	7.90%	10.50%	11.50%	6.90%	9.40%	11.50%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	15.80%	17.10%	20.30%	22.40%	13.30%	16.60%
	Before school club	4.60%	10.50%	5.80%	8.60%	8%	5.70%
	Holiday play scheme	1.40%	3.90%	2.80%	1.70%	2.70%	2.80%
Informal childcare	Crèche	4.60%	3.90%	0%	5.10%	1.30%	2.80%
	Drop-in play session	10.50%	7.90%	8.70%	8.60%	16%	9.70%
	Family or friends	4%	3.90%	11.10%	15.50%	5.30%	8%
Other	Overnight childcare	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.60%

As the household's income increases, respondents said that they were more likely to regularly use part-time nursery places, childminders and a nanny or au pair.

Figure 78: type of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months by network area.

Type of childcare	After-school club	Before school club	Childminder	Crèche	Full-time nursery place	Family or friends	Holiday play scheme	Nanny or au pair	Part time-nursery place	Pre-school or playgroup	Drop-in play session	Overnight Childcare
West network	15.3%	4.0%	15.4%	3.0%	25.0%	9.1%	0.5%	9.7%	9.2%	10.2%	10.2%	0.5%
North network	14.6%	6.4%	5.6%	0.8%	15.6%	4.0%	4.8%	0.8%	4.8%	8.8%	12.9%	0.0%
South network	11.7%	3.7%	8.5%	3.7%	19.6%	6.4%	3.8%	0.5%	9.6%	7.5%	10.7%	0.0%
Haringey (Part Postcode)	20.2%	6.5%	8.2%	2.7%	12.9%	5.5%	0.9%	3.7%	7.4%	6.5%	11.0%	0.0%

Respondents living in the west network were more likely to regularly use childminders, and full-time nursery places for their childcare needs.

Figure 79: type of childcare regularly (2-5 times per week) used in the last 12 months, by ward of residency

Network	Type of childcare	Under 5 provision					Over 5 provision			Informal childcare			Other
		Childminder	Full-time nursery	Nanny or au pair	Part-time nursery	Pre-school / playgroup	After-school club	Before school club	Holiday play scheme	Crèche	Drop-in play session	Family or friends	
West	Alexandra	25.6%	7.7%	10.2%	15.4%	12.8%	12.8%	2.6%	5.1%	0.0%	2.6%	12.9%	0.0%
	Crouch End	5.3%	31.6%	21.0%	21.1%	15.8%	15.8%	10.5%	26.4%	10.6%	21.1%	5.3%	5.3%
	Fortis Green	13.7%	27.3%	4.6%	4.5%	11.4%	13.7%	2.3%	15.9%	2.3%	9.1%	6.8%	0.0%
	Highgate	0.0%	7.7%	15.4%	0.0%	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	30.8%	30.8%	0.0%
	Hornsey	9.1%	24.2%	9.1%	6.0%	3.0%	18.2%	3.0%	21.2%	6.0%	6.1%	3.0%	0.0%
	Muswell Hill	24.1%	34.4%	10.3%	3.4%	3.4%	24.1%	10.3%	34.5%	3.4%	6.9%	10.3%	0.0%
	Stroud Green	15.8%	36.8%	5.3%	15.8%	15.8%	15.8%	0.0%	26.3%	0.0%	15.8%	5.3%	0.0%
North	Bounds Green	6.3%	12.6%	0.0%	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%	0.0%	18.8%	0.0%	0.0%	18.8%	0.0%
	Noel Park	11.1%	13.2%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	25.9%	11.1%	18.5%	0.0%	14.8%	500.0%	0.0%
	Northumberland Park	0.0%	10.3%	0%	6.8%	6.8%	17.2%	13.7%	13.7%	0.0%	6.9%	0.0%	0.0%
	White Hart Lane	12.0%	0.0%	4.0%	8.0%	8.0%	4.0%	4.0%	16.0%	4.0%	20.0%	4.0%	0.0%
	Woodside	0.0%	16.5%	0.0%	0.0%	14.8%	3.7%	0.0%	14.8%	0.0%	18.4%	0.0%	0.0%
South	Bruce Grove	5.9%	26.5%	0.0%	5.9%	8.8%	11.8%	2.9%	11.7%	2.9%	5.8%	5.8%	0.0%
	Harringay	12.9%	35.5%	0.0%	13.0%	25.8%	16.1%	12.9%	16.1%	3.2%	16.1%	6.5%	0.0%
	Seven Sisters	8.8%	17.6%	0.0%	11.8%	8.8%	5.9%	2.9%	5.9%	8.8%	14.7%	5.9%	0.0%
	St Ann's	11.5%	22.9%	0.0%	8.6%	5.8%	14.3%	8.6%	0.0%	5.8%	8.6%	5.7%	0.0%
	Tottenham Green	12.0%	16.0%	0.0%	4.0%	0.0%	8.0%	0.0%	24.0%	0.0%	16.0%	8.0%	0.0%
	Tottenham Hale	12.2%	15.2%	0.0%	12.1%	3.0%	18.1%	6.0%	12.1%	3.0%	9.1%	6.0%	0.0%
	West Green	0.0%	18.5%	3.7%	14.8%	18.5%	14.8%	3.7%	7.4%	0.0%	11.1%	7.4%	0.0%

Respondents living in Alexandra ward were more likely to use childminders. Respondents living in Highgate ward were significantly more likely to regularly use family and friends for their childcare needs. Parents/ carers living in wards within the west of the borough were more likely to use a nanny, than respondents from the east of the borough.

Figure 80: types of childcare parents would like to use but are currently not using by ward.

Network	Type of childcare	Under 5 provision					Over 5 provision			Informal childcare			Other
		Childminder	Full-time nursery	Nanny or au pair	Part-time nursery	Pre-school/ playgroup	After-school club	Before school club	Holiday play scheme	Crèche	Drop-in play session	Family or friends	Overnight childcare
West	Alexandra	2.6%	7.7%	5.1%	2.6%	7.7%	20.5%	25.6%	10.3%	2.6%	5.1%	0.0%	2.6%
	Crouch End	15.8%	21.1%	10.5%	15.8%	10.5%	21.1%	10.5%	15.8%	10.5%	5.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	Fortis Green	9.1%	2.3%	2.3%	9.1%	2.3%	20.5%	11.4%	11.4%	2.3%	4.5%	2.3%	2.3%
	Highgate	7.7%	15.4%	23.1%	23.1%	7.7%	30.8%	23.1%	23.1%	15.4%	7.7%	0.0%	7.7%
	Hornsey	6.1%	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%	0.0%	15.2%	6.1%	9.1%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	0.0%
	Muswell Hill	3.4%	3.4%	10.3%	6.9%	3.4%	13.8%	13.8%	3.4%	10.3%	3.4%	10.3%	3.4%
	Stroud Green	5.3%	10.5%	0.0%	15.8%	15.8%	5.3%	36.8%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	0.0%
North	Bounds Green	6.3%	0.0%	6.3%	12.5%	0.0%	25.0%	6.3%	6.3%	12.5%	6.3%	0.0%	6.3%
	Noel Park	3.7%	7.4%	0.0%	11.1%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0%	11.1%
	Northumberland Park	6.9%	10.3%	3.4%	10.3%	6.9%	13.8%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	6.9%	3.4%	10.3%
	White Hart Lane	8.0%	8.0%	4.0%	4.0%	16.0%	16.0%	12.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	0.0%	4.0%
	Woodside	3.7%	11.1%	3.7%	3.7%	11.1%	14.8%	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%
South	Bruce Grove	8.8%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	8.8%	11.8%	5.9%	8.8%	11.8%	8.8%	0.0%	5.9%
	Harringay	12.9%	12.9%	6.5%	9.7%	6.5%	19.4%	12.9%	3.2%	3.2%	6.5%	3.2%	3.2%
	Seven Sisters	5.9%	8.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	14.7%	0.0%	11.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%
	St Ann's	2.9%	5.7%	2.9%	5.7%	2.9%	8.6%	5.7%	1430.0%	8.6%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%
	Tottenham Green	4.0%	12.0%	4.0%	4.0%	12.0%	20.0%	12.0%	4.0%	8.0%	0.0%	4.0%	8.0%
	Tottenham Hale	6.1%	6.1%	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	15.2%	12.1%	12.1%	9.1%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%
	West Green	3.7%	3.7%	370.0%	11.1%	0.0%	18.5%	14.8%	11.1%	7.4%	7.4%	0.0%	0.0%

Respondents living in Noel Park, St Ann's and Stroud Green wards were less likely to indicate that they would like to access after school provision. Parents/carers living in Alexandra, Highgate, Seven Sisters and Stroud Green wards were more likely to state that they would like to use breakfast clubs. Respondents living in Crouch End ward would like to use more full-time nursery provision.

7.5. Cost of childcare

Respondents were asked about their average weekly childcare costs. The question asked of parents did not make a distinction between the different childcare settings or the costs for each individual child – simply a reflection on how much each family could afford for their total childcare costs. Actual cost of different childcare settings in Haringey is discussed on pages 45 and 47.

- 387 families had to pay for childcare while 326 did not have to pay (70 respondents did not answer this question).
- Total cost ranged from £4 - £650 per week.
- Mean weekly childcare cost was £121.67.
- 25th percentile was £40
- 50th percentile (or median) was £87.50
- 75th percentile was £175.

Figure 81: breakdown of childcare costs by network area.

	Minimum	Maximum	Mean average	25 th percentile	50 th percentile (or median)	75 th percentile
West network	£8	£650	£149.29	£50	£100	£200
North network	£4	£245	£86.15	£33.75	£62	£171.25
South network	£5	£350	£95.75	£35	£80	£150
Haringey total	£4	£650	£121.67	£40	£87.5	£175

Respondents living in wards in the west network on average pay more for their childcare than those living in the north or south networks. Respondents living in the north and south networks pay less on average than the Haringey total average.

Figure 82: Respondents were asked if they could afford to pay any more for childcare and how much more could they afford.

	Couldn't afford any more	Up to £15	£15 - £30	£30 - £45	£45 - £60	more than £60	missing
West network	34.2%	6.1%	5.6%	5.6%	3.6%	12.8%	32.1%
North network	29.8%	7.3%	8.1%	4.0%	1.6%	4%	45.2%
South network	29.7%	5%	5%	3.7%	3.2%	4.6%	48.9%
Haringey total	33.2%	5.5%	6.1%	4.1%	2.8%	6.9%	41.4%

From those respondents who answered this question, the majority reported that they could not afford to pay any more in childcare fees, irrespective of which network they resided in.

Those who said they could afford to pay more tended to be from the west network, two parent families and in the higher income bracket.

Those respondents with lower income households were more likely to spend less on childcare. Lone parents were more likely to either have free childcare or spend less on their weekly childcare bills than two parent families. Respondents who worked full-time spent more on childcare than those who worked part-time. Full-time parent's/carers were more likely not to pay for childcare.

Figure 83: respondents use of working tax credit.

	Know about	Using	Not Available to me	Missing
West network	16.3%	12.3%	44.4%	27%
North network	18.5%	25.8%	22.6%	33.1%
South network	19.6%	22.3%	30.2%	27.9%
Haringey total	23.9%	18.8%	28.1%	29.2%

Parent/carers living in the south and north networks were more likely to be using working tax credits. Parent/carers living in the west network were more likely not to be eligible in accessing working tax credits and less likely to know about working tax credits.

Figure 84: respondents use of the childcare element of WTC.

	Know about	Using	Not Available to me	Missing
West network	14.3%	11.7%	44.4%	29.6%
North network	18.5%	16.9%	24.2%	40.4%
South network	16.9%	15.6%	30.1%	37.4%
Haringey total	17%	14.3%	32.3%	36.4%

Parent/carers living in the south and north networks were more likely to be using the childcare element of working tax credits. Parent/carers living in the west network were more likely not to know about, or be eligible to access the childcare element of working tax credits.

Figure 85: respondents use of childcare vouchers.

	Know about	Using	Not Available to me	Missing
West network	20.9%	11%	31.2%	31.2%
North network	20.2%	7.3%	25%	47.5%
South network	19.2%	9.6%	25.1%	46.1%
Haringey total	20.1%	13.4%	26.6%	39.9%

Parent/carers living in the west network were more likely to be using childcare vouchers.

Figure 86: respondents use of the 15 hours of free childcare.

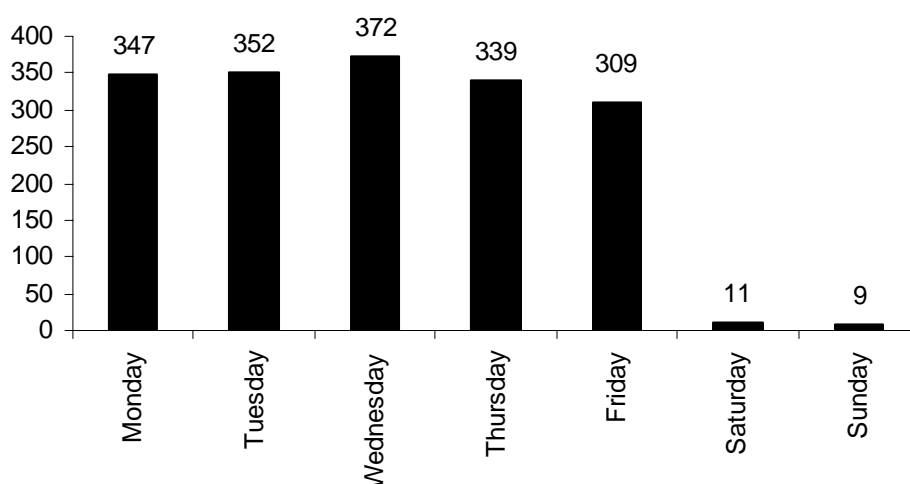
	Use 15 hours of free childcare per week		Buy additional hours on top of free entitlement	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
West network	21.4%	15.3%	9.7%	18.4%
North network	25.8 %	16.9%	8.9%	24.2%
South network	25.6%	26%	8.2%	30.6%
Haringey total	23.1%	18.1%	9.5%	21.8%

There were no significant differences between the network a parent/carers was living in and whether they were using the 15 hours of free childcare and whether additional hours are brought on top of the free entitlement.

7.6. Times of childcare

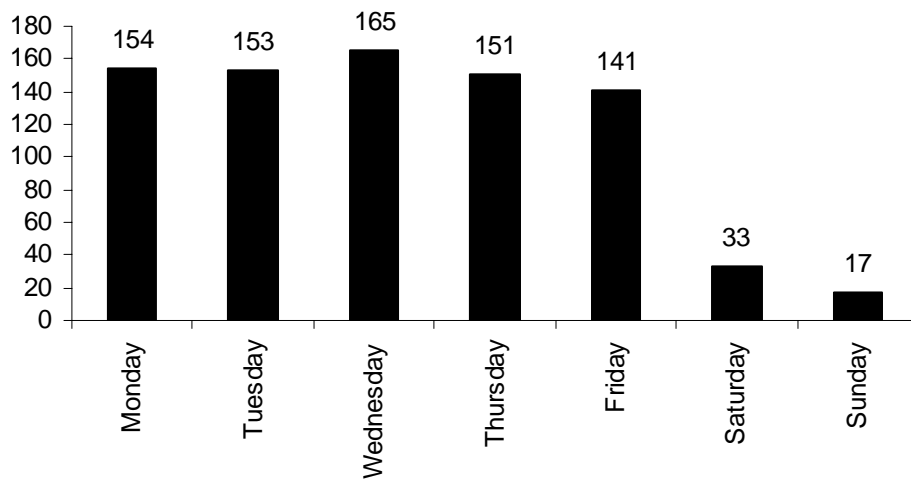
This section explores the days and times that respondents currently use childcare and the days and times they would like to use childcare.

Figure 87: day's childcare is currently used by parents.



There are no significant differences between the days parent/carers currently use – however Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are the days currently used the most for childcare by parents.

Figure 88: day's parents would like to use childcare.

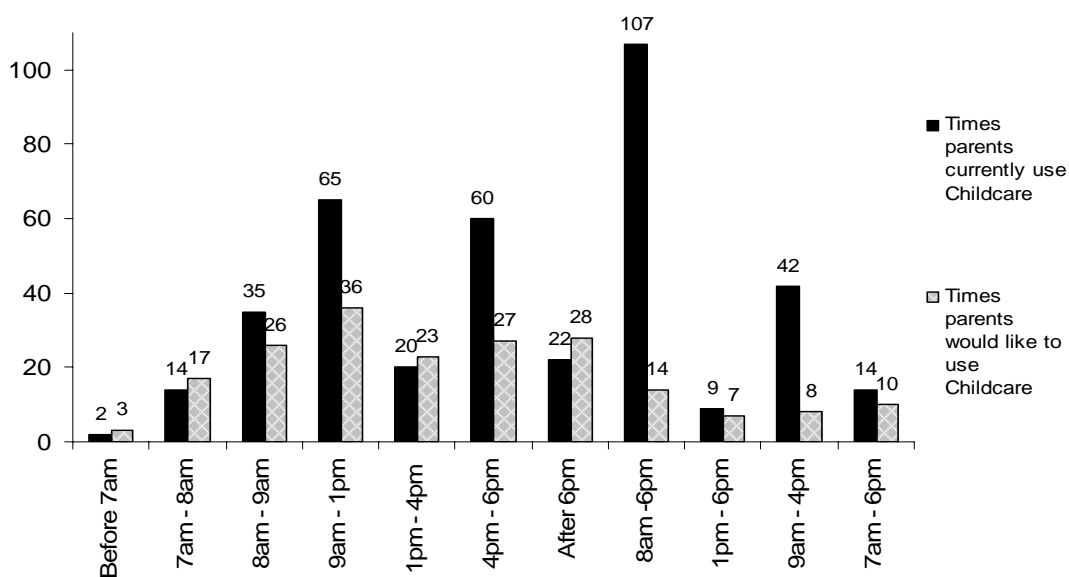


There are no significant differences between the days parent/carers would like to use – however Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are the days parents would like to use childcare.

7.7. Children aged 5 or under

Five hundred and two respondents stated they had one or more children aged under 5 years old.

Figure 89: number of under 5 year olds using childcare at specified times and times parents would like to use childcare.

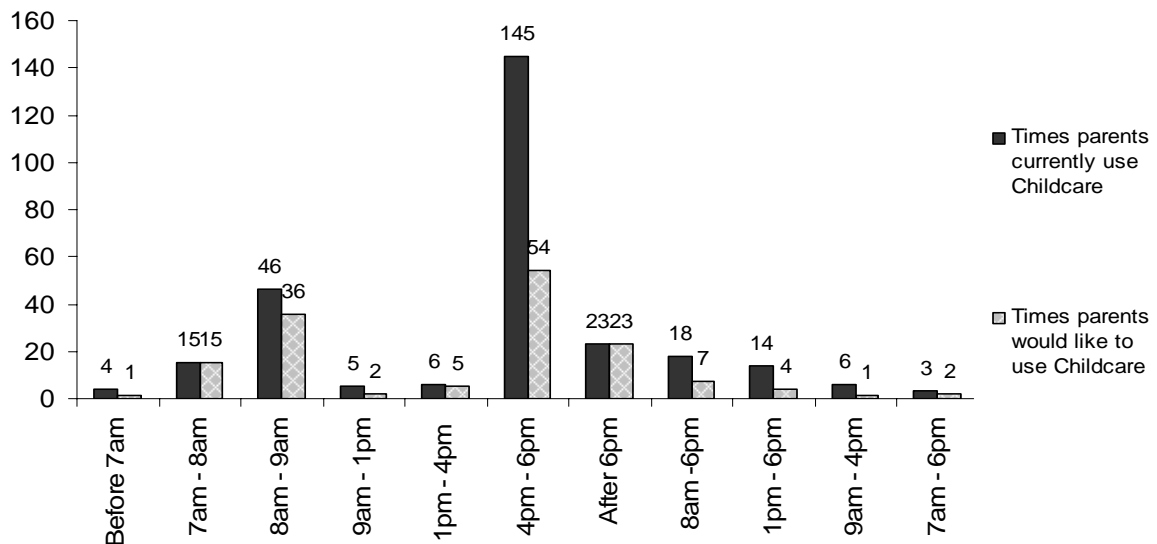


The times most frequently used by parents/carers for children under 5 was 8am to 6pm followed by 9am to 1pm then 4pm – 6pm. The times parents/carers would like to use and currently are not are 9am -1pm, followed by childcare after 6pm and childcare from 4pm – 6pm.

7.8. Children aged 5 or over

473 respondents stated they had one or more children aged between five and eighteen years old.

Figure 90: number of over 5 year olds using childcare at specified times and times parents would like to use childcare.

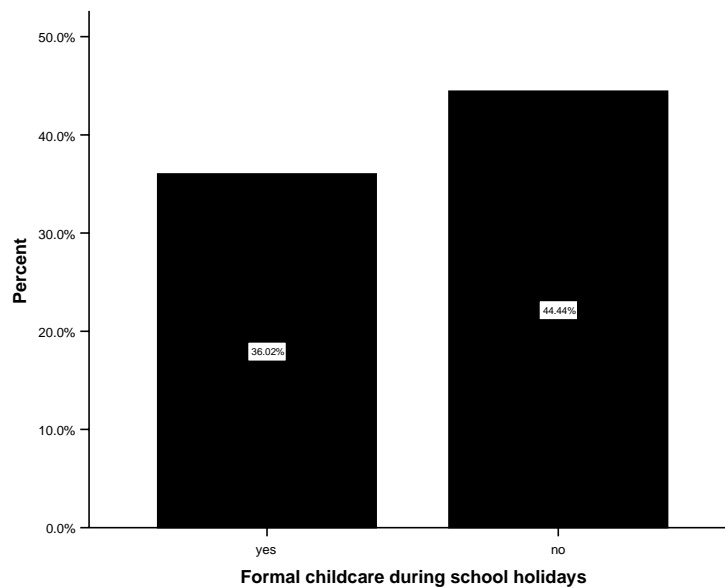


The times most frequently used by parents/carers for children over 5 was 4pm -6pm followed by 8am-9am. Parents/carers would like to use and currently using childcare from 4pm -6pm followed by 8am-9am. This represents the extended school day offer, before and after school provision.

7.9. Childcare during school holidays

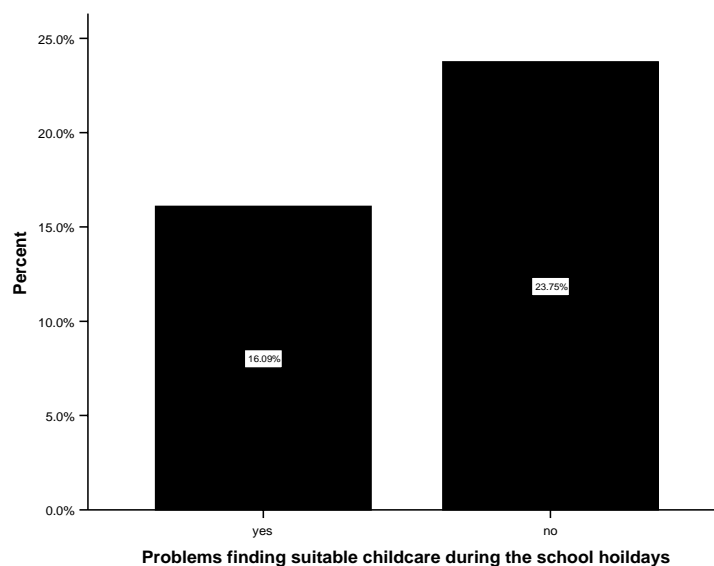
Figure 91 shows that 36% of the respondents or 282 respondents said they do require formal childcare during the school holiday. Just over 19.2% did not answer this question.

Figure 91: percentage of respondents requiring formal childcare during the school holidays.



From the 36% who required childcare during the holiday, 16.1% reported that they had experienced difficulties securing formal childcare for holiday periods. Just over 60% did not answer this question.

Figure 92: percentage for respondents that reported that they had problems finding formal childcare during the school holiday.



There was no difference between the requirement of formal childcare for two parent families and one parent families during the school holidays. Respondents who worked full-time were more likely to state that they required childcare than respondents in any other working arrangement. As the total household income increases, the difficulty in finding school holiday childcare decreased. There was no difference between the requirement for childcare during the school holidays and the ward respondents were living in.

Under 5 school holiday childcare

- 174 respondents stated that they required childcare during the school holidays.
- 78 reported having problems finding suitable childcare during the school holidays.
- 129 respondents had one child, 41 respondents had two children and 4 respondents had 3 children under 5 years old.

Over 5 school holiday childcare

- 192 respondents stated that they required childcare during the school holidays.
- 95 reported having problems finding suitable childcare during the school holidays.
- 126 respondents had one child, 58 respondents had two children and 8 respondents had three or more children over 5 years old.

7.10. Respondents views on childcare

Figure 93 shows the average ratings for different aspects of childcare provision in Haringey (a rating of 1 equals strongly agree, a rating of 4 equals strongly disagree).

Figure 93: average rating for different aspects of childcare provision.

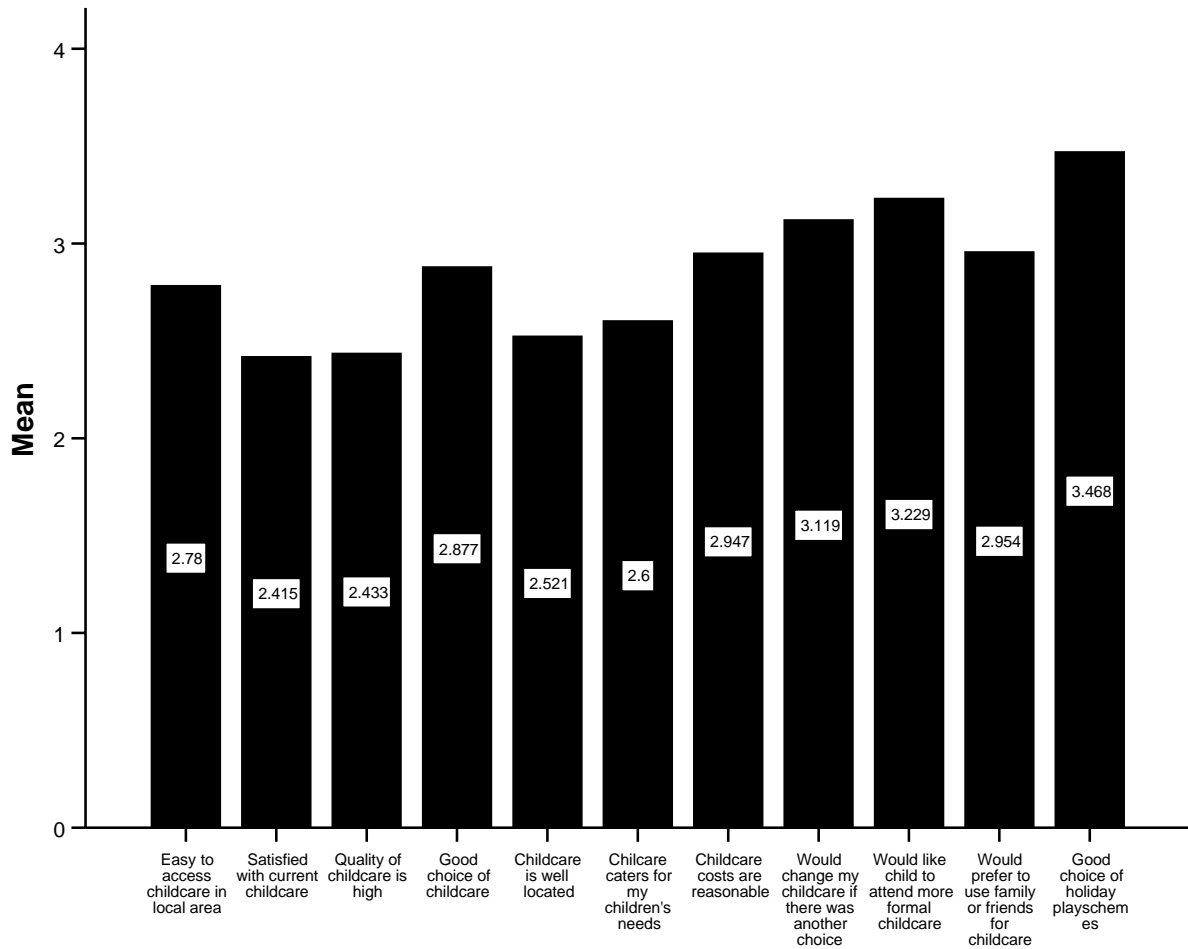
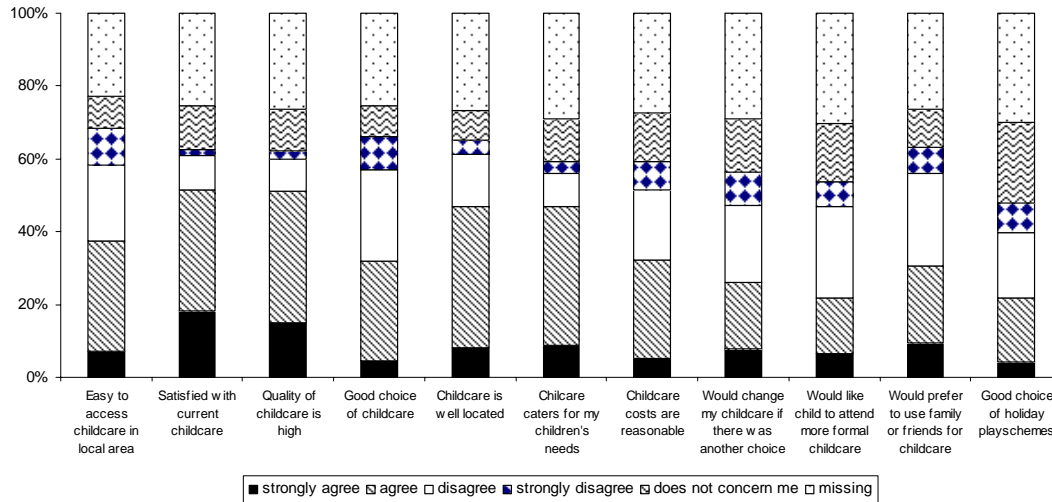


Figure 94: percentage respondents scored for different aspects of childcare provision.



On the whole respondents were satisfied with the childcare they currently had in place. Parents/carers felt that the quality of childcare their children received is high and it is well located. The majority of respondents felt that there was not a good choice of, or access to holiday play schemes. The feeling of the majority of respondents was that their childcare costs were unreasonable and that there was a poor choice of childcare in Haringey.

Each of the childcare statements were tested to see if there were any significant associations between ethnicity, employment status, total household income and ward of residency. Any significant associations are discussed below.

Ethnicity

Asian, Black British, Black Caribbean & Black African respondents were more likely to agree that they would like their children to attend more formal childcare.

White British respondents were likely to agree that they were satisfied with their childcare and that the location was well placed.

Working arrangements

Respondents who were looking for work, studying/training or a full-time parent would like to change their current childcare arrangements and would prefer their child to attend more formal childcare. Respondents who were working either full-time or part-time showed less interest their child attending less formal childcare.

Working parents were unhappy with their childcare costs, but also felt that the quality was high and met the needs of their children.

Household income

As household income increased respondents' wishes to use more formal childcare and requiring childcare during the school holidays also increased.

The majority of respondents across all the income brackets agreed that childcare in Haringey is currently well located. However as the income bracket increases respondents felt that there was not a good choice of childcare.

As the total household income increases, so does the satisfaction with current childcare.

Ward of residency

Respondents who lived in Harringay, Noel Park, Northumberland Park and White Hart Lane and Woodside wards were more likely to agree that there was a good choice of childcare and there was a good choice of holiday play schemes to access. Respondents living in these wards were also more likely to agree that they found it easy to get the type of childcare they wanted.

7.11. Future Childcare needs

Figure 95: future childcare needs.

	Type of childcare	In a years time	In 3 years time	In both a year & 3 years time
Under 5 provision	Childminder	12.6%	5.7%	5.2%
	Full-time nursery place (0-3 year old)	14.8%	5%	2.7%
	Full-time nursery place (3-4 year old)	12.8%	9.3%	1.8%
	Take up of 15 hours free entitlement	18.5%	10.5%	3.3%
	Nanny or au pair	5.6%	4%	5.5%
	Part-time nursery place(0-3 year old)	8.7%	3.6%	1.9%
	Part-time nursery place(3-4 year old)	5.6%	5.4%	1.3%
	Pre-school or playgroup	9.6%	4.2%	2.4%
Over 5 provision	After-school club	25.8%	14.7%	17.9%
	Before school club	15.2%	13.3%	12.6%
	Holiday play scheme	17%	6.9%	14.3%
Informal childcare	Crèche	7.7%	1.9%	1.8%
	Drop-in play session	11.9%	2.6%	4%
	Family or friends	12.8%	4.1%	12.9%
Other	Childcare between 6pm – 7am (overnight)	3.7%	1.8%	2.9%

The greatest need for future childcare in both a year and three years time is for extended school provision, both before and after school services. The future demand for overnight care and crèches appears to be limited. There is a large demand for the take up of the 15 hour free entitlement within the next year. The demand for full-time and part-time nursery places for under 3 year olds in three years time appears to be declining. However it could be a result of the children, who would fill these places, not actually being born yet.

Figures 96 and 97 show the future childcare demand broken down by ward.

Figure 96: future childcare needs in a years time by ward.

Network	Type of childcare	Under 5 provision							Over 5 provision			Informal childcare			Other Childcare between 6pm - 7am (overnight)	
		Childminder	Full-time nursery place (0-3 year old)	Full-time nursery place (3-4 year old)	Take up of 15 hours free entitlement	Nanny or au pair	Part-time nursery place(0-3 year old)	Part-time nursery place(3-4 year old)	Pre-school/playgroup	After-school club	Before school club	Holiday play scheme	Crèche	Drop-in play session		Family or friends
West	Alexandra	12.8%	15.0%	10.0%	23.1%	15.4%	20.5%	4.6%	12.2%	64.0%	38.0%	38.4%	7.7%	10.4%	33.3%	5.1%
	Crouch End	52.6%	31.6%	10.5%	36.8%	36.8%	21.1%	31.6%	26.3%	47.4%	36.9%	42.1%	31.6%	42.1%	42.1%	10.6%
	Fortis Green	31.8%	19.1%	13.6%	27.3%	13.7%	13.6%	6.8%	15.9%	54.6%	34.1%	38.6%	6.8%	27.3%	40.9%	2.3%
	Highgate	15.4%	23.1%	23.1%	38.5%	30.8%	30.8%	15.4%	23.1%	15.4%	15.4%	15.4%	30.8%	15.4%	46.2%	7.7%
	Hornsey	21.2%	24.3%	9.1%	15.2%	9.1%	9.1%	6.1%	15.1%	48.5%	36.4%	48.5%	3.0%	21.2%	24.2%	12.1%
	Muswell Hill	20.6%	13.8%	6.9%	17.2%	17.2%	3.4%	0.0%	13.7%	55.2%	41.7%	41.1%	0.0%	13.7%	24.1%	13.7%
	Stroud Green	31.6%	21.1%	21.1%	36.8%	10.6%	26.3%	5.3%	21.1%	57.9%	63.2%	52.7%	21.1%	26.3%	42.1%	10.5%
North	Bounds Green	12.5%	18.8%	6.3%	25.0%	6.3%	6.3%	12.6%	18.8%	62.6%	37.5%	50.1%	0.0%	12.6%	25.0%	0.0%
	Noel Park	14.8%	22.2%	7.4%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	37.0%	14.8%	18.5%	7.4%	11.1%	25.9%	14.8%
	Northumberland Park	10.3%	3.4%	10.3%	13.8%	3.4%	6.8%	3.4%	6.8%	41.4%	20.7%	20.6%	6.9%	6.8%	10.3%	10.3%
	White Hart Lane	12.0%	8.0%	4.0%	12.0%	8.0%	16.0%	8.0%	12.0%	48.0%	20.0%	32.0%	8.0%	16.0%	16.0%	0.0%
	Woodside	11.1%	21.2%	18.5%	25.7%	7.4%	0.0%	0.0%	7.4%	33.3%	18.4%	29.6%	14.8%	29.8%	25.9%	3.7%
South	Bruce Grove	14.7%	8.8%	11.8%	20.6%	5.8%	8.8%	5.9%	5.9%	44.2%	29.4%	2940.0%	8.8%	8.8%	29.4%	8.8%
	Harringay	25.8%	19.5%	29.1%	35.5%	16.1%	6.4%	16.2%	19.4%	71.0%	38.8%	51.6%	9.7%	19.4%	32.3%	3.2%
	Seven Sisters	20.5%	14.6%	11.7%	20.5%	2.9%	5.9%	5.9%	11.8%	23.5%	20.6%	23.5%	14.6%	8.8%	29.4%	5.8%
	St Ann's	17.2%	22.9%	17.1%	20.0%	14.3%	22.8%	17.1%	14.3%	50.0%	22.9%	28.6%	22.8%	22.8%	37.1%	8.6%
	Tottenham Green	16.0%	16.0%	12.0%	24.0%	12.0%	8.0%	4.0%	4.0%	42.0%	28.0%	32.0%	12.0%	12.0%	16.0%	8.0%
	Tottenham Hale	3.0%	15.2%	24.2%	24.2%	0.0%	3.0%	6.1%	9.1%	36.4%	9.1%	24.2%	3.0%	12.1%	12.1%	0.0%
	West Green	11.1%	18.5%	18.4%	29.6%	7.4%	11.1%	11.1%	7.4%	22.2%	14.8%	22.2%	7.4%	11.1%	22.2%	7.4%
Haringey postcode (incomplete)	14.7%	28.4%	15.6%	14.7%	13.8%	5.5%	3.7%	11.0%	45.9%	31.2%	31.2%	10.1%	9.2%	22.9%	10.1%	

Figure 97: future childcare needs in 3 years time by ward.

Network	Type of childcare	Childminder	Full-time nursery place (0-3 year old)	Full-time nursery place (3-4 year old)	Take up of 15 hours free entitlement	Nanny or au pair	Part-time nursery place(0-3 year old)	Part-time nursery place(3-4 year old)	Pre-school or playgroup	After-school club	Before school club	Holiday play scheme	Crèche	Drop-in play session	Family or friends	Childcare between 6pm – 7am (overnight)
West	Alexandra	15%	10.30%	10%	20.60%	15.40%	7.70%	10.30%	5.10%	46%	31%	30.70%	0%	7.70%	25.60%	5.10%
	Crouch End	0%	5.30%	26.30%	26.30%	10.50%	5.30%	15.80%	5.30%	58.90%	42.20%	21%	0%	0%	21.10%	5.30%
	Fortis Green	27.20%	13.60%	15.90%	25%	13.70%	9%	11.40%	25%	40.90%	29.50%	40.90%	4.60%	11.30%	31.80%	2.30%
	Highgate	30.80%	23.10%	23.10%	30.80%	23.10%	7.70%	23.10%	15.40%	46.20%	61.50%	15.40%	7.70%	15.40%	30.80%	0%
	Hornsey	12.10%	15.20%	12.10%	15.20%	6%	6.10%	3%	3%	36.40%	36.40%	21.30%	3%	6%	15.10%	3%
	Muswell Hill	13.70%	6.90%	6.90%	10.30%	10.30%	0%	0%	3.40%	37.90%	27.70%	34.50%	3.40%	3.40%	17.20%	10.30%
	Stroud Green	21.10%	5.30%	5.30%	10.50%	5.30%	0%	5.30%	0%	42.20%	52.70%	31.60%	5.30%	0%	26.30%	10.50%
North	Bounds Green	0%	0%	12.50%	18.80%	18.80%	6.30%	12.60%	6.30%	31.30%	43.80%	18.80%	0%	6.30%	18.80%	0%
	Noel Park	3.70%	0%	11.10%	22.20%	7.40%	3.70%	7.40%	0%	29.60%	14.80%	18.50%	0%	3.70%	25.90%	22.20%
	Northumberland Park	3.40%	3.40%	3.40%	6.90%	0%	6.80%	6.90%	6.80%	26.10%	20.70%	3.40%	0%	6.80%	10.30%	0%
	White Hart Lane	4%	8%	8%	8%	8%	12%	12%	8%	24%	16%	20%	4%	12%	16%	4%
	Woodside	11.10%	3.70%	3.70%	14.80%	0%	0%	0%	0%	29.60%	14.80%	11.10%	11.10%	7.40%	11.10%	3.70%
South	Bruce Grove	11.70%	2.90%	11.80%	5.90%	2.90%	2.90%	0%	5.90%	20.60%	14.70%	17.60%	2.90%	8.80%	5.90%	0%
	Harringay	16.10%	13%	16.20%	12.90%	3.20%	9.70%	9.70%	9.70%	51.60%	32.20%	35.40%	6.40%	6.50%	25.80%	3.20%
	Seven Sisters	8.80%	8.80%	17.60%	17.60%	5.90%	2.90%	5.90%	5.90%	23.50%	17.70%	11.80%	5.80%	0%	17.60%	5.80%
	St Ann's	14.30%	22.80%	25.70%	25.80%	11.40%	14.30%	17.10%	14.30%	31.40%	25.70%	20%	14.50%	17.10%	34.30%	5.80%
	Tottenham Green	16%	4%	8%	4%	8%	4%	0%	4%	20%	20%	12%	4%	0%	0%	0%
	Tottenham Hale	3%	0%	6%	0%	3%	0%	3%	0%	24.30%	15.10%	18.20%	0%	0%	6%	3%
	West Green	3.70%	7.40%	18.5	14.80%	3.70%	14.80%	3.70%	7.40%	15.90%	14.80%	11.10%	3.70%	7.40%	11.10%	0%
Haringey postcode (incomplete)	7.40%	8.3	9.20%	11.90%	12.90%	1.80%	3.70%	5.50%	31.10%	28.40%	20.20%	3.60%	7.40%	16.50%	6.40%	

7.12 Focus groups with parents

Focus groups were held with parents/carers who were Turkish, Kurdish, Somali, Polish, parents whose children had a Special Educational Needs or disability and teenage parents. The focus groups explored the issues raised in the survey in more detail.

7.12.1 Polish community

A focus group was conducted with parents from the Polish community. All of the mothers who participated had partners who were working. It was noted that, as first generation migrants, the Polish community do not have large extended families in the UK and with the high costs of full day nursery places; childcare responsibility rests upon the mother. The participants could all speak English and were confident about accessing childcare services, which they knew about through word of mouth.

Do you use childcare?

- Generally, use of full day childcare (8am-6pm) was low as the majority of the parents were full-time mums. They were aware of free part-time early education places for all 3 and 4 year-olds, with one parent due to take up a place in January 2011.
- All of the parents tended to use playgroups that were suggested to them via other members of the Polish community. Playgroups appealed to these parents because they were free, local and provided networking opportunities for both parents and children.
- The majority of parents tended to use friends more than family to assist them with their childcare needs because their families are still in Poland.

Experiences and perceptions

Cost/affordability of childcare is an issue

Some parents spoke about the strong work ethic of the Polish community and the will for women to work. However, the high costs of childcare were seen as barrier in taking up work. One parent who worked full-time when she had one child gave up work when she had her second child, citing childcare cost as the primary reason. Generally, the parents' feelings were that it was better to look after their child/ren while their husbands/partners worked.

Tax credit Issues

Some of the parents felt that there was a lack of awareness about tax credits. One parent advised that some Polish families who cannot speak English face language barriers when they contact the Tax credit helpline. These parents eventually give up and do not receive any financial help with childcare.

Lack of Information

Generally the Polish parents were unaware of the UK childcare concepts such as breakfast clubs and after school clubs, crèches etc. It was acknowledged that the UK system is different and families need to be made aware of these differences.

Parents also felt that there could be more information about childcare in Polish and they would welcome parental classes introducing them to the varying types of childcare on offer.

Quality

Overall parents were happy with the quality of the playgroup settings they use. However, it was felt that childcare services could be improved by having more Polish speaking staff.

7.12.2. Somali community

A focus group was conducted with parents from the Somali community. All of the mothers who participated looked after their children full-time. For mothers seeking employment, childcare was cited as an issue. It was noted that the Somali community help each other with childcare and for non-working mothers; there were no apparent childcare issues.

Do you use childcare?

- Generally, use of childcare was low as the majority of the parents were full-time mums with children of school age.
- One parent used a childminder when she was working which she found through her child's school.
- The majority of parents use family and friends to look after their children to provide them with breaks. There is a strong sense of community in the Somali culture and they support each other with childcare.
- The majority of parents wanted to make more use of holiday play schemes. However, there were various barriers to accessing this provision, such as lack of information and cost.
- The majority of parents also wanted to make more use of after school clubs to help them with childcare if they found work.

Experiences and perceptions

Cost/affordability

Some mothers had encountered financial difficulties whilst working and paying for childcare. One parent in particular, was very anxious for other Somali working mothers on low incomes. Her experience was that her Child Tax Credits were considered as part of her income which meant that she had to pay more council tax and received less housing benefit. In reality, the majority of her Child Tax Credits were used to pay for her childcare costs, subsequently she was financially worse off.

Choice of Providers

Somali parents need to be made aware about what childcare services are available in their area. There was limited or no knowledge of holiday play scheme provision. Parents wanted literature in their own language and letters informing them about holiday play schemes.

Opening Hours

The working parents tended to get cleaning jobs in the early morning, such as 7am-9am. They therefore required childcare from this time but were not sure about how to access suitable childcare. One parent cited childcare as a barrier preventing her from taking up employment.

7.12.3. Kurdish community

A focus group was conducted with parents from the Kurdish community. The majority of mothers had large families and looked after their children full-time. They were confident in accessing childcare services and used a wide range of childcare that was not too costly or free. The majority of parents looking for work were anxious about the affordability of childcare as they tended to have large families of 3 or 4 children. Parents expressed a desire to work in professions such as hairdressing.

Do you use childcare?

- Generally because the parents were without work, use of childcare centred around free or low cost services such as: playgroups, drop-in sessions at children's centres, nursery classes and after school activities.
- All of the parents use their family or friends to look after their children because they felt they were trustworthy, available, reliable and free of charge. There is a strong sense of community in the Kurdish culture and people supporting each other.
- One parent used a holiday play scheme for two weeks but had to withdraw her children because it was too expensive.
- The majority of parents wanted to use breakfast clubs to help them with childcare in the early morning, if they manage to take up work.
- Some parents wanted to use childminders but highlighted issues around trust and affordability.

Experiences and perceptions

Cost/affordability and availability

The majority of parents spoke about having large families and felt that childcare costs were too high. Generally, the parent's found it difficult to secure work in skilled areas, such as hairdressing because of the language barrier and their low skill base. They were conscious of the changes to benefits and concerned that their low skill base would not provide them with well paid jobs to pay for childcare for 3 or 4 children.

Choice of Providers

All of the parents wanted more family learning classes at the weekend to help them better support their children through education. They stressed that such services should be free of charge.

Quality

The majority of parents felt that childcare services could improve if staff were from their own cultures.

Capacity Building

Generally the parents felt that they were not supported enough by the Jobcentre Plus in finding suitable childcare. They spoke about being asked to attend training courses during the day but having no support in securing childcare. Some parents had a strong desire to take up training but cited childcare as an issue.

7.12.4. Turkish community

A focus group was conducted with parents/carers from the Turkish community. The parents/carers looked after their children full-time. Their use of childcare was low and limited to services that were generally free of charge.

Do you use childcare?

- Generally because the parents/carers were without work, use of childcare centred around free or low cost services such as: drop-in sessions at children's centres.
- Some of the parents used their family/friends to look after their children because they felt they were trustworthy and reliable.
- One parent wanted to use a full day nursery place at a local school (9am-3pm) but was unaware that her local school offered this service.
- Another parent wanted to use a part-time nursery place at a local school for her three year old born in September. She felt that there was a lack of available nursery school places for three year olds in the Crouch End area. She was also anxious that her child was missing out on valuable Early Years Free entitlement places and felt that the language barrier inhibited her from accessing other childcare providers, such as play groups that could also provide this service.
- The majority of parents wanted to use more drop-in sessions at Children's Centre in their local area.

Experiences and perceptions

Quality

Overall, parents were happy with the quality of the drop-in sessions they use. Some parents felt that childcare services could improve if there were more staff who spoke their language and that could advise them about how to access various childcare and Council services.

Cost/affordability

The majority of parents/carers were full time carers and tended to use childcare services that were generally free of charge such as drop-in sessions at Children's Centres and nursery classes at school. One parent/carer expressed a desire to work but cited language difficulties as a barrier.

Number of places/availability

Some of the parents wanted to access the Early Years Free entitlement at local school nursery's but were turned down on the grounds of their child's age. For example, one child who turned three in September was told to apply

for a nursery school place in the following academic year. Whilst, the parents acknowledged that admissions to nurseries were managed directly by the individual schools, they felt that the Local Authority should oversee the admissions process of nursery school to ensure a fair system.

7.12.5. Parents who have children with a Special Educational Need

A focus group was conducted with parents who have a disabled child or a child with Special Educational Needs who attend Haringey Special Schools. The children's disabilities varied from physical disabilities to global development delay. There was a real sense of "struggle" for some of the parents when trying to access support services from the Local Authority.

Some parents had a strong desire to work, whilst others were not in a position to work because of the full-time parental responsibility of having a disabled child or a child with Special Educational Needs. Use of childcare was generally low with parents wanting to use more childcare services.

Do you use childcare?

- Some parents used holiday play schemes but cited affordability as an issue. It was noted that whilst play schemes were free for two out of 4 weeks, some unemployed parents were being asked to pay for the remaining 2 weeks. Generally, parents were concerned that they would have to use their Disability Allowance which is already used to cover other expenses to pay for childcare in the summer holidays.
- One parent said that through Direct Payments she has been able to recruit someone to help her with her childcare needs in the mornings and afternoons which have really benefited her.
- Two parents/carers use respite care over the weekend.
- The majority of parents wanted to make more use of after school clubs to provide them with a break and support them when they go back to work.

Experiences and perceptions

Ensuring that childcare setting caters for my child's needs

Parents were concerned that their children were not being placed in the appropriate holiday play schemes that would best suit their needs. For example, one parent was given a place at a local play centre because her child was autistic. However, she felt that her child would have been better suited at another play centre where his friends were. Another parent felt that some workers did not understand her child's disability and were subsequently not providing good quality childcare. The majority of parents would like their children to go to childcare settings in the holidays and after school where there are pre-established relationships between the staff and child.

Availability of childcare

Generally, parents were concerned about how places at holiday play schemes were allocated to a disabled child or a child with Special Educational Needs. Some parents were told that places would only become available if a mainstream child did not take up a space. One parent was told to ring the holiday club until a place became available. She eventually gave up because there were no available places. The majority of parents felt that there was a lack of appropriate after school club childcare places for their disabled children. One parent expressed concern about the long waiting lists for specialist after school club provision

Opening Times

One parent who would like to work spoke about the difficulties in finding suitable childcare at the appropriate times for her son who has challenging behaviour and her young 2 year old daughter. She was concerned about securing childcare for her young child between the hours of 8am-6pm and her older son between the hours of 8am-9am and 4pm-6pm.

Flexibility

One parent expressed concern that the respite care she was offered did not meet her needs. For example, she wanted respite from Friday evening to Sunday morning, and was offered respite care from Saturday morning to Sunday morning. She felt that the service could be improved through more funding and more attention to matching services to meet specific needs.

7.12.6. Face to face interviews with Teenage parents

Face to face interviews were conducted with teenage parents at the Triangle Children's centre. All the mothers who participated were full-time mums. The majority of the parents would like to use childcare once their child/children is two years old to take up work or continue with their studies. The majority of young parents felt well supported with the current services on offer. They were aware of the types of childcare they would like to use and how it would be funded, for example, through the Care to Learn grant. The majority of teenage parents would like to use formal childcare in the future, while others felt that they would prefer to use a family member to look after their child.

8.0. Views of children and young people

Questionnaires were distributed to a sample of primary and secondary schools across the borough.

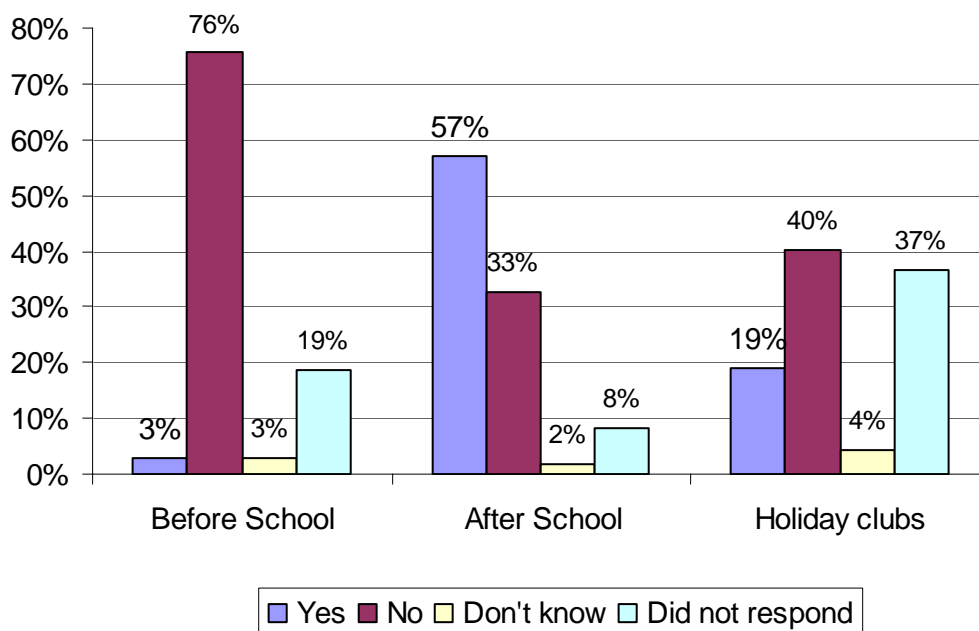
The questionnaire focused on the types of activities or clubs children attended before school, after school and during the holidays. The questionnaire also asked what children and young people thought about their clubs and activities, how often they attended these clubs and what future activities they would like to participate in.

- A total of 607 responses were received.
- The majority of responses were from year 8 pupils (77.1%), followed by year 5 pupils (19.2%) and year 6 pupils (3.6%).
- A total of 324 boys and 231 girls responded. Fifty five respondents did not specify their gender.

8.1. Use of clubs or activities

In the questionnaire, pupils were asked whether they participated in any clubs before school, after school and during the school holidays. Figure 98 shows that the majority of pupils (57%) took part in activities after school.

Figure 98: use of clubs or activities.



Pupils currently not attending any clubs were asked if they would like to take part in activities before school, after school or during the school holidays. Fifteen percent of children reported that they would like to use a before school club, 11% wanted to use an after school club and 13% wanted to take part in activities during the school holidays.

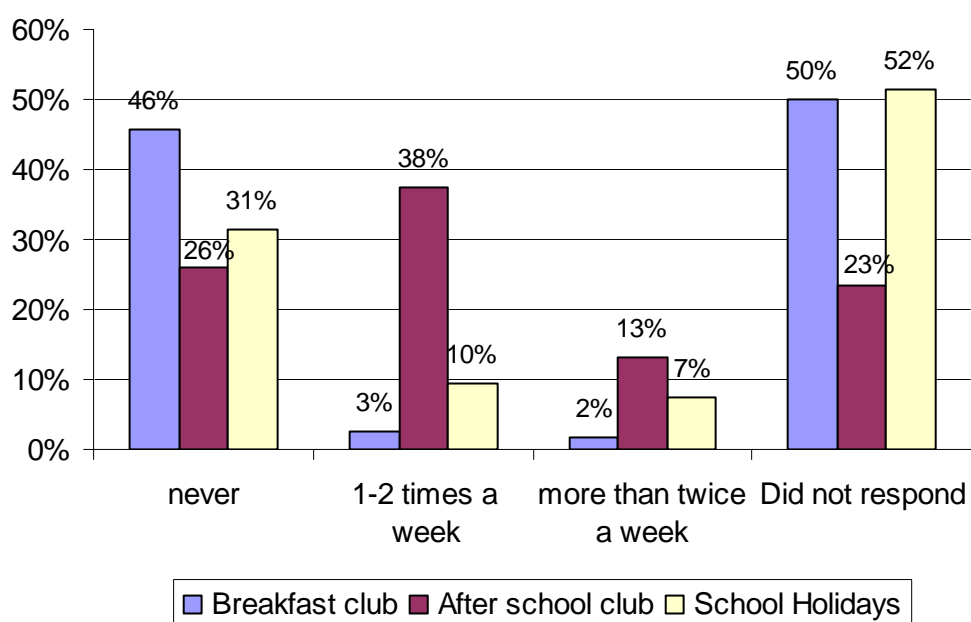
8.2. Types of clubs or activities children attend

Pupils were asked to list the types of activities they participated in before school, after school and during the holidays. The most common form of after school activity was football. Other popular after school activities included netball, cricket, badminton and trampolining. Types of activities children attended before school included, breakfast clubs and football. During the school holiday period, football was also listed as the most popular activity.

8.3. Frequency of participation

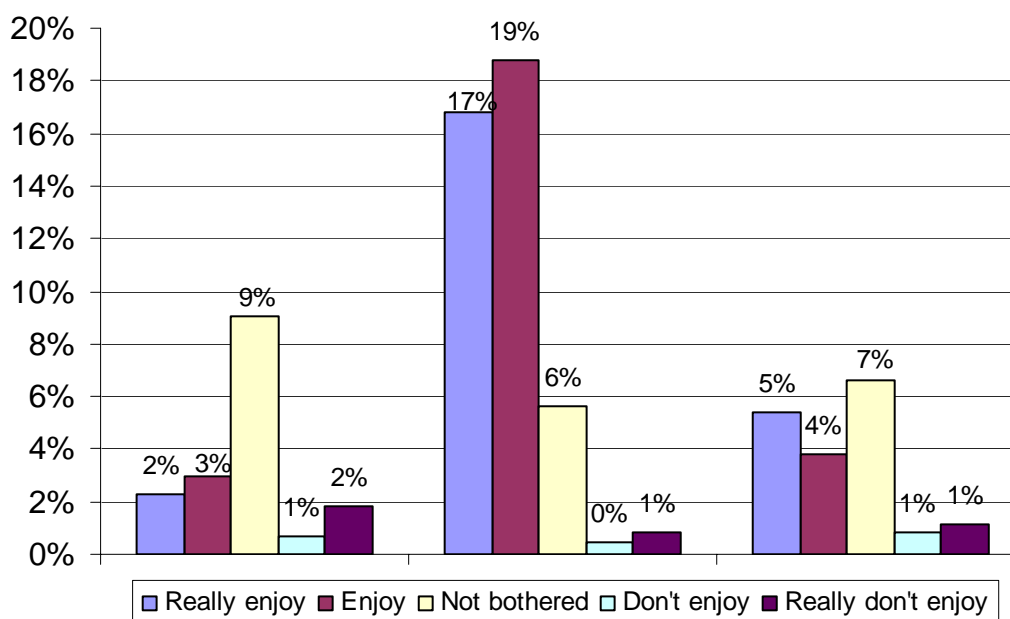
Figure 99 shows how often pupils attended their club or activity. Breakfast clubs have the lowest participation rate, with 3% of pupils attending between once and twice a week and 2% attending more than twice a week. Thirty eight percent of pupils participate in after school activities between once and twice a week. Fifty two percent of pupils participate in after school activities between once and twice a week.

Figure 99: frequency of participation in clubs or activities.



Generally, pupils really enjoyed or enjoyed participating in their after school activities or clubs. For breakfast clubs, approximately 5% of children reported that they really enjoyed or enjoyed attending these clubs and 9% cited that they were not bothered.

Figure 100: views of children on their clubs or activities.



Pupils were asked to list the types of activities they would like to attend before school, after school and during the holidays. The most popular activity was football. During the holidays, the majority of children reported that they wanted to participate in swimming, football and horse riding. The most popular before school activities children wanted to participate in were football, tai chi and breakfast clubs.

9.0. Views of childcare providers

9.1. Methodology

Questionnaires

Four hundred and sixteen questionnaires were distributed by e-mail to all childminders, PVI group settings and maintained providers within the borough. The questionnaire focused on providers' views of the childcare market in Haringey, their plans for the future and support required from the local authority.

A total of 159 responses were received. The majority, 72%, were from childminders, 23% from day nurseries/primary school nurseries, 3% from pre-school/playgroups/parent & toddler groups and 3% from after school and breakfast club providers.

Focus Groups

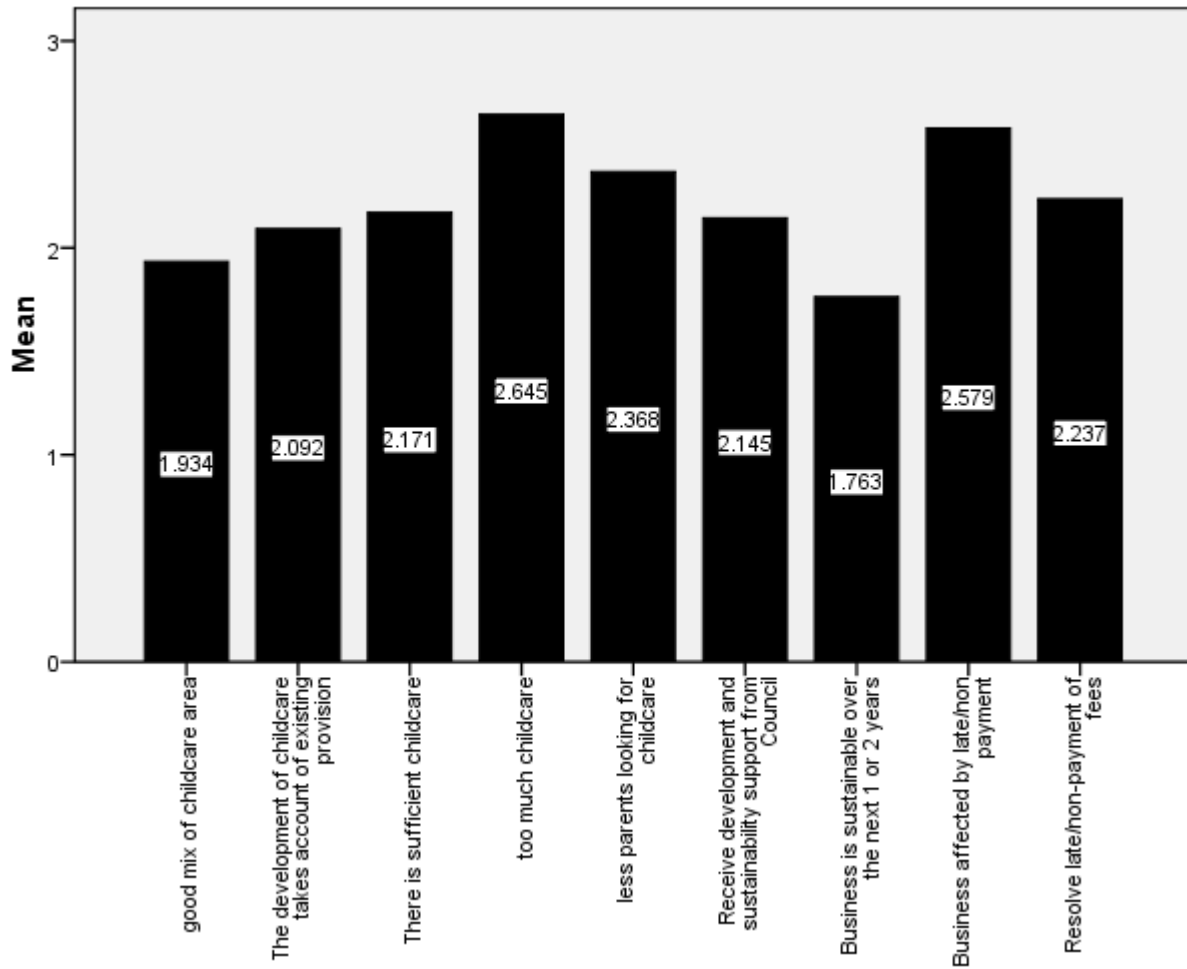
Focus Groups were conducted with childminders and PVI providers. Providers reported on their concerns surrounding sustainability, affordability and the challenges of providing childcare for children with Special Educational Needs. Please see page 123 for more information.

9.2. Views on the local childcare market

Providers were asked to rate the local childcare market on a four-point scale (a rating of 1 equals strongly agree, a rating of 4 equals strongly disagree). Figures 101 and 102 shows the average score for each aspect of the local childcare market.

For the purpose of this analysis the childminder's responses have been analysed separately from the PVI and maintained provider's responses.

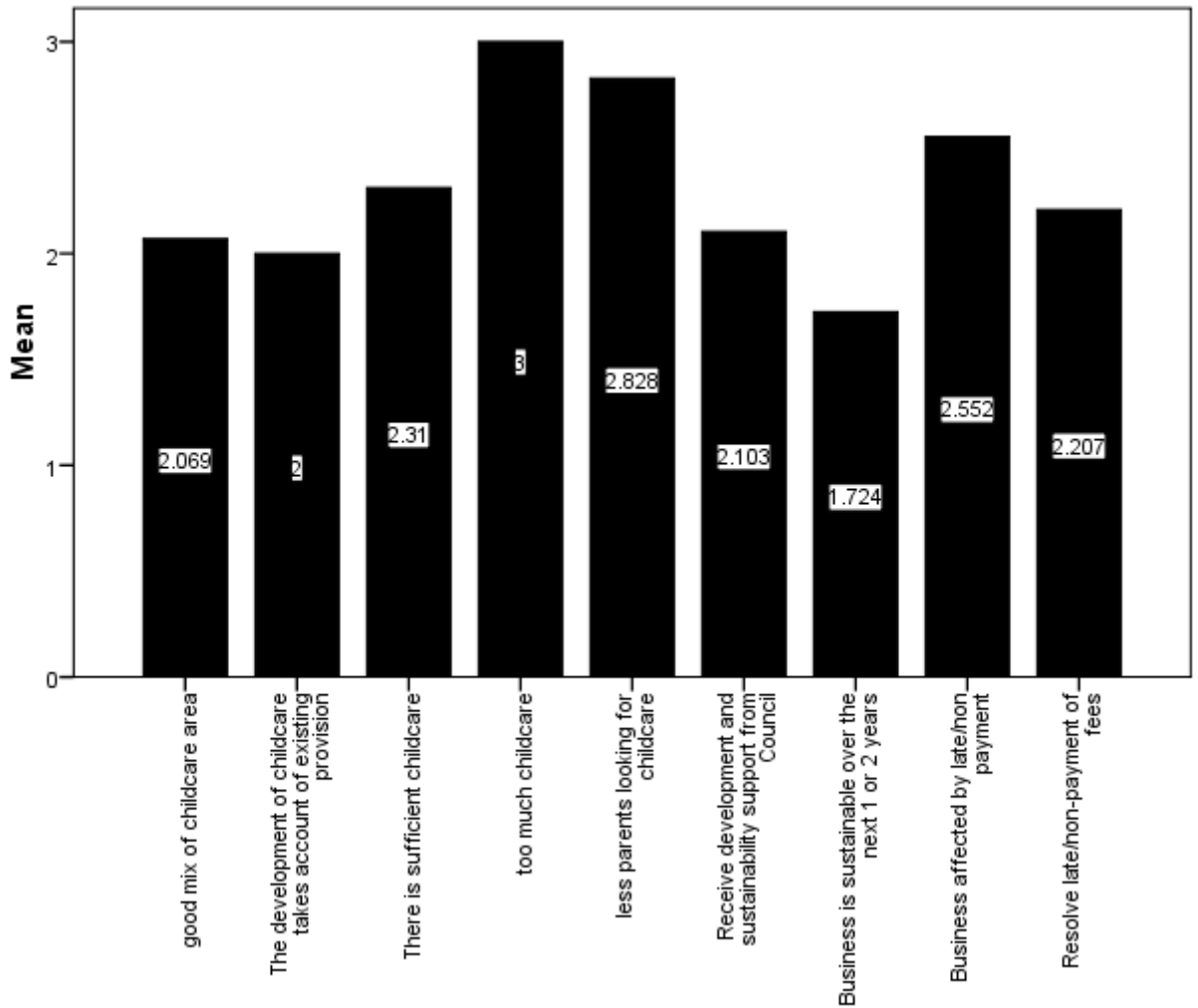
Figure 101: average rating for aspects of the childcare market by childminders.



Key:

- a rating of 1 equals strongly agree
- a rating of 4 equals strongly disagree

Figure 102: average rating for aspects of the childcare market by PVI & maintained sector.



Key:

- a rating of 1 equals strongly agree
- a rating of 4 equals strongly disagree

Generally childminders felt that there was a good mix of childcare in their area and that their businesses were sustainable over the next one or two years. They were more likely to agree that less parents were looking for childcare compared to maintained and PVI providers who disagreed with this statement. The maintained and PVI provider settings also felt that there was a good mix of childcare and these providers felt confident that their setting was sustainable for one to two years and that development of childcare took into account existing provision.

9.3. Developing or extending provision

Providers were asked whether they had plans to develop or extend their provision over the next three years.

- Thirty nine percent of childminders and twenty four percent PVI and maintained settings reported that they had plans to develop or extend their provision over the next three years.
- Thirteen percent of childminders stated that they would like to expand the number of places they offer compared to three percent for PVI and maintained providers.
- Fifteen percent of childminders and three per cent of PVI group settings and maintained providers were interested in expanding their opening hours.
- Fourteen percent of childminders stated that they had plans to extend their opening hours to cover the Sundays.

Figure 103: percentage of childminders and PVI Group/maintained settings with plans to develop or extend their provision over the next 3 years

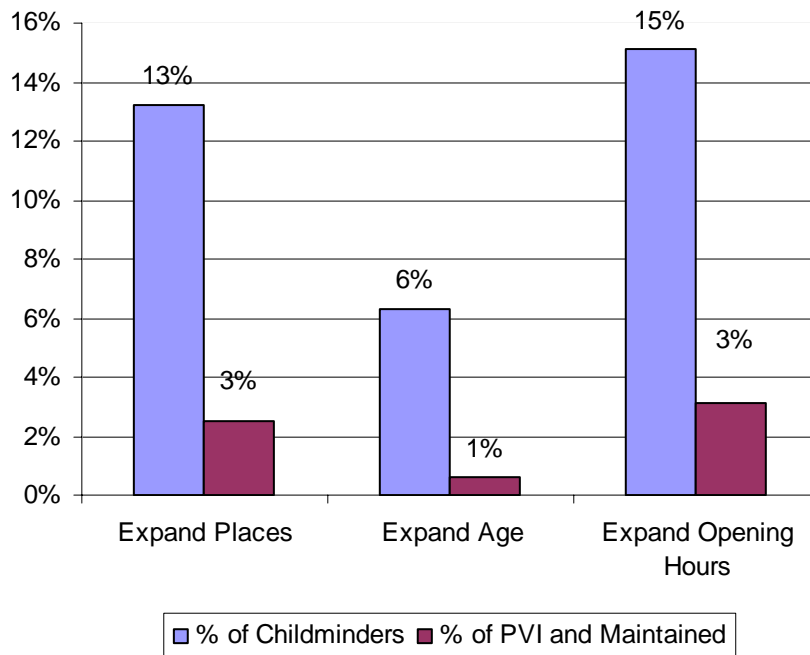
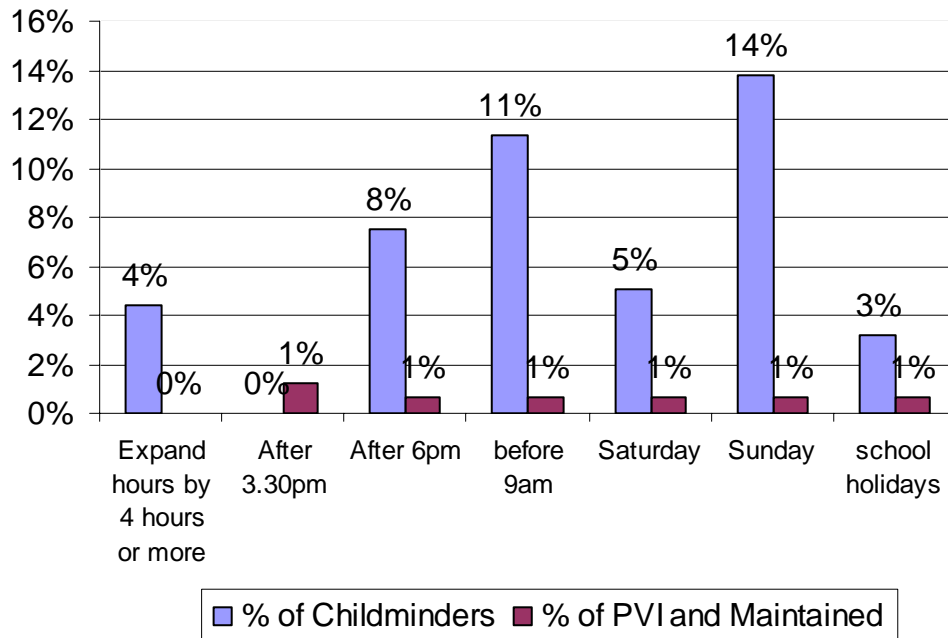
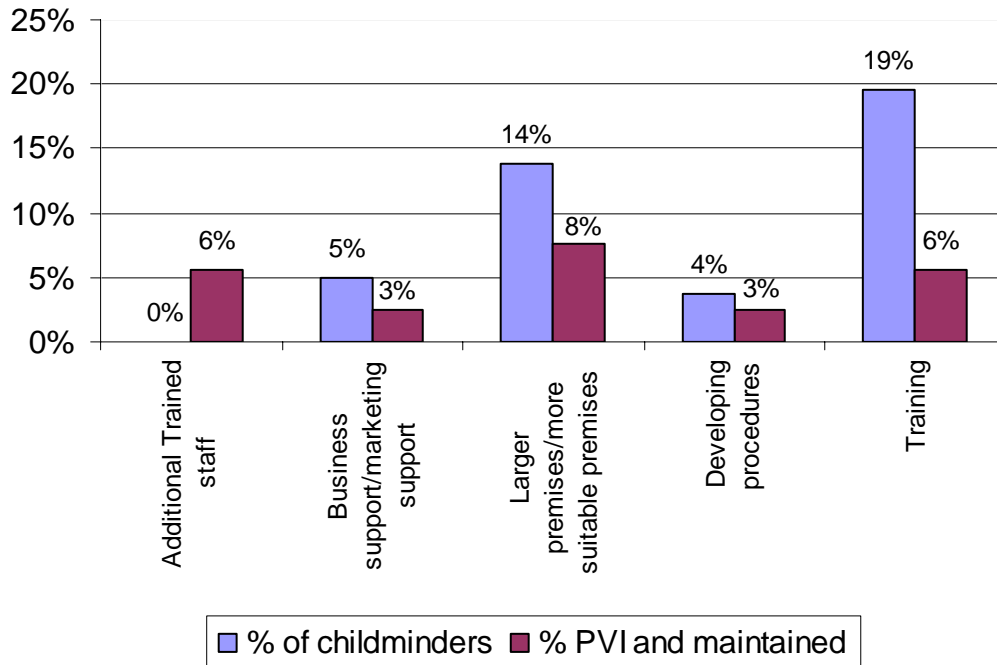


Figure 104: percentage of childminders and PVI Group/maintained settings with plans to extend their opening hours over the next 3 years



9.4. Support required by childcare providers

Figure 105: percentage of childminders and PVI Group/maintained settings who indicated they required support.

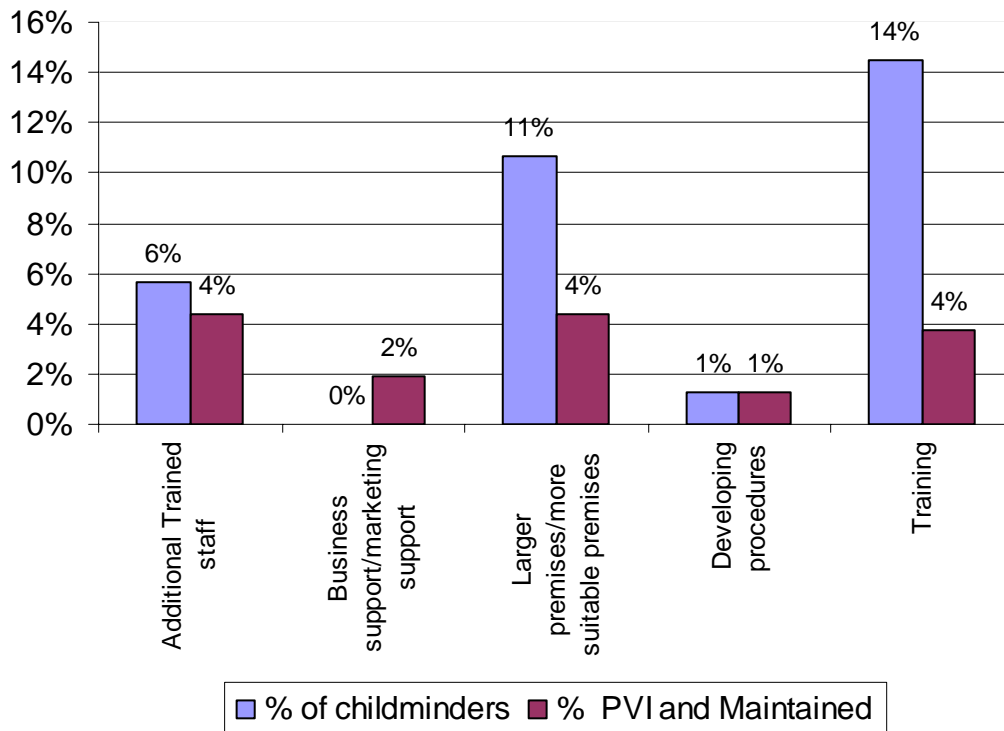


Nineteen percent of childminder respondents said that they wanted support with training. Fourteen percent of childminders and eight percent of PVI group settings and maintained provider respondents said that they wanted larger premises. Six percent of PVI and maintained provider respondents wanted additional trained staff and support with their training needs.

9.5. Support required by childcare providers to better meet the needs of children with disabilities or additional needs

Figure 106 shows what additional support providers would require in order to meet the needs of children with disabilities or additional needs.

Figure 106: percentage of childminders and PVI Group/maintained settings who indicated they required support.



Fourteen percent of childminder respondents said that they wanted support with training. Eleven per cent of childminders and four percent of PVI group settings and maintained providers respondents said that they wanted larger premises. Six percent of childminder respondents wanted additional trained staff compared with four per cent of PVI group settings and maintained providers.

9.6. Focus Group findings

Methodology of data collection

Focus groups were conducted in the format of table discussions at two provider workshops. Focus groups were also conducted with childminders at their respective network meetings. Questions were asked relating to affordability, sustainability, flexibility of childcare provision and how settings manage children with Special Educational Needs.

Feedback from Private Voluntary Independent Providers

Sustainability & Affordability

The free entitlement funding (15 hours of free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds) does not cover the full costs of providing the place, such as VAT increases, staff sickness, training, maternity and holiday pay cover. It was noted that the PVI sector does not have the same economies of scale as a school or children's centre setting. Some of the providers felt that there was too much competition for 3 and 4 year olds. They were concerned that parents were choosing school nurseries over PVI nurseries because the school nurseries are free of charge.

The majority of the providers located in the North and South networks felt that there was an issue around affordability of childcare. One setting reported that because they are located in an area of social disadvantage, local families did not take up full day care places. Instead, they rely heavily upon student parents to take up their full day care places. However, with the funding cut to university and the increase in tuition fees they anticipate a fall in demand for a full day nursery place.

Another setting, which provides childcare for student parents expressed concern about the non payment of childcare fees for young parents. It was noted that The Care for Learning Grant, which pays for the childcare of young parents attending college, is withheld if these parents do not attend. In such cases, the loss of payment created a budget deficit.

Special Educational Needs

The majority of providers expressed concern about the lack of resources and support available to them for children with a Special Educational Needs. They felt that the majority of specialist support was targeted at children's centres rather than being spread across the PVI sector. Some settings made the point that they are dealing with children with additional needs from their own budget and felt that this should not be coming from their own resources.

The majority of providers would like more support to help the settings deal with children with additional needs better.

Feedback from childminders -North Network.

Demand and Sustainability

The majority of childminders reported that parents are seeking more part time places over wrap around care from 8am-6pm. It was noted that parents are choosing to take up the free entitlement at maintained nursery settings and then looking for a childminder to fulfil the rest of their childcare needs. Some providers were concerned about their sustainability because of being unable to fill their full-time vacancies. This subsequently means they have less income and cannot afford to pay the bills and other household out goings. Some are considering alternative employment to childminding. Childminders feel that there is too much 0-5 year old provision in the North Network.

Flexibility of provision

Most childminders are flexible with the hours they work. In some instances children are dropped off at 6:30am, with parents picking the children up until after 6pm. One childminder reported that:

“Parents that use Childminders have a lot more flexibility regarding drop off and picking up the children – we also go out with the children”

Childminders tended to attend different drop-in play groups in the mornings with the children, allowing the children to mix with other children.

There are examples of some childminders picking up the children from the parents house.

The majority of childminders in the North network have been asked to cover parents who work weekends. One childminder advised:

“I used to work on Saturdays, however I found it hard as I don’t get a break and did not have the quality time to myself to catch up with the housework and spend time with my own family”.

Childminders stated that they could take children that have Special Educational Needs so long as they get the support and necessary resources from the Local Authority.

Working with local children centres

The childminders felt that there needed to be better partnership working with the children centres. For example :

- There is a demand for under 3 childcare places – childminders could work with the children centres to help them with this unmet demand.
- Childminders could market themselves through the children centres. The children centre staff could visit the childminders with parents taking some reassurance through a mutually beneficial system.
- Childminders would like to come into the children centres and share difference practices. Learning best practices from each other.

Feedback from Childminders - West Network

Demand, Sustainability and Flexibility of provision

Childminders reported that for children who were two years and older, parents were choosing to take up the 2 year old pilot at maintained nursery settings and then looking for a childminder to fulfil the rest of their childcare needs. Childminders also felt that there were a lot of first time parents calling, who did not realise how difficult it is to get a place in a maintained nursery, particularly for younger children (0-3 year olds). As a secondary measure, these parents were calling childminders to fulfil their childcare needs.

The majority of childminders are receiving more calls from parents who are looking for full days but only for a couple of days a week rather than for the full week. It seems that the majority of mothers are working less hours/days, with a tendency to job share more. Some childminders also reported that there appears to be more parents working from home who require childcare part of the day i.e. from 10am to 3pm or additional one off days (above the contracted days) to fit in with work commitments. It was noted that this could be accommodated, providing that a childminder had vacancies.

It was felt that the tax credit system is still not working properly. As the parents received the money and not the provider, parents still made excuses for late payments. The childminders felt the money should go directly to the childcare providers or pay the difference in vouchers which can be claimed by registered childcare providers.

Training

Childminders would like some training on financial management, some felt embarrassed to talk to parents about fees or late payments.

“Some parent’s say they forget to pay – couldn’t make it to the cash point to withdraw the money – but they never forget to drop their children off!”

It would be good to have an introduction to childcare practice course- with flexible start times for those of us who are working.

Childminders felt that Ofsted required too much paperwork, which is very time consuming, creating too much pressure and undue stress. The inspections took too long and it wasn’t always obvious why the inspectors asked certain questions.

Childminders found it difficult to attend some children centre drop-ins, or pick children up from nursery sessions, if they had to use their cars as the surrounding streets have parking restrictions. The children centres should have a pool of parking permits for the use of childcare providers that regularly attend the centre.

It was felt that childminders need to have more formal links with children centres

Childminders found the data held by the Family Information Service was normally wrong or needed updating most of the time. When updated information was submitted, it could take the FIS team up to seven weeks to make the necessary amendments.

10.0 Gap analysis

The Department for Schools (DfE) guidance on the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment states that a gap analysis should be conducted in relation to the following:

- geographical;
- types of childcare available;
- ages for which childcare is available;
- affordability;
- opening times;
- needs of children with a special educational need or disability;
- needs of families wishing to remain in work or seeking employment.