



Camden Sure Start
Your journey. Our support.

Integrated Early Years Service

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

2021/2022



Interpreting sufficiency

What is sufficient childcare?

Camden Council is required to report annually to elected members demonstrating how the sufficiency duty under Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 is met. This act places a duty on English local authorities to secure sufficient childcare for working parents. The expected outcome of the sufficiency duty is that parents are able to work because childcare places are available, accessible and affordable and are delivered flexibly in a range of high-quality providers. Sufficient childcare should be available for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs. Under Section 7(1) of the Childcare Act 2006, local authorities must secure free early years provision for all eligible children in their area. Regulations made under section 7 set out the type and amount of free provision and the age of children to benefit.

“Reasonably practicable” allows some flexibility. What is practicable or impracticable in one time and place may not be in another. Local authority decisions to address gaps in childcare through one method, rather than another, based on what they regard as reasonably practicable, should be documented and published to allow scrutiny and challenge.

What is childcare?

Childcare is defined in Section 18 of the Childcare Act 2006 as “any form of care for a child” including “education ... and any other supervised activity”.

The following are specifically excluded from this definition:

- education or activities provided by a school for a pupil during school hours unless that pupil has not yet started Key Stage 1 (thereby including nursery and reception classes).
- care provided for a child by a parent, stepparent or person with parental responsibility; or any relative; or foster parent (local authority or private); or
- care provided by a children’s home, a care home, a hospital or a residential family centre, a young offenders’ institution, a secure training centre, or a secure care home within any of those establishments.

The data in this report can only provide a snapshot and can change daily. While Camden Council believes this information to be correct, it does not guarantee its accuracy nor does the Council accept any liability for any direct or indirect loss or damage or other consequences, however arising from the use of such information supplied.

The supply and demand data are broken down and reported on by Camden Sure Start localities. The localities consist of the following wards:

Euston locality – Camden Town with Primrose Hill, St Pancras and Somers Town & Regents Park

- **Kings Cross & Holborn locality** – Holborn & Covent Garden, Kings Cross and Bloomsbury
- **Kilburn locality** – West Hampstead, Fortune Green, Swiss Cottage, Frognal and Fitzjohns and Kilburn
- **Kentish Town East locality** – Highgate, Kentish Town & Cantelowes
- **Kentish Town West locality** – Belsize, Gospel Oak, Hampstead, and Haverstock

Covid 19

At the point of this sufficiency assessment being published, the full impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has not been realised across Camden's childcare provision. New provision has opened this year and so far, no existing childcare providers have closed due to covid 19. The impact of the pandemic on how we live creates an everchanging situation and we will continue to both monitor supply and demand and work with providers.

Summary

- There are currently sufficient childcare places in Camden to meet demand
- During the past year, there has been very little feedback from parents that childcare needs cannot be met
- In 2021, 7 day care providers and 4 childminders were opened. 2 local authorities' nurseries were repurposed, and their childcare offer relocated. 1 childcare provider and 7 childminders closed
- Looking forward the most recent, GLA 2021 birth forecasts are lower compared to last year and now incorporate some COVID-19 modelling. This modelling suggests births would continue to fall from 2019 to 2031 by a further 19% in Camden. The greatest fall, of 25%, is forecast in the North West of the Borough and the smallest, of 4% in the King's Cross, Somers Town, and St Pancras area

Section 1 - Profile of Camden

Characteristics of Camden¹

Comprising almost 22 square kilometres in the heart of London, Camden is a borough of diversity and contrasts. The latest 'official' estimate of Camden's resident population is 253,400 at mid-2017². This is the nationally comparable population estimate required for government returns and nationally comparable performance indicators. Of our neighbours, Barnet, Brent, Haringey and Westminster have bigger populations; Islington and the City are smaller. Camden is just a fragment of Greater London, occupying only 1.4% by area (London's 8th smallest borough by area), but is home to 7% of London's employment and 2.8% of its population.

Population

The population of an area changes over time. As a central London borough Camden experiences a high degree of population 'churn'³. Camden has the 7th largest population churn in the UK, due to large migration in- and out- flows. In the year to mid-2017, ONS estimates total migration inflow to Camden of 34,000 people, a total outflow of 31,300; with the net effect of an additional 2,700 people⁴. Migration flows are split between those measured within the UK and those from outside (international), though the dominant flows for Camden are to/from the rest of the UK, accounting for almost two thirds of the annual inflow (65%) and four-fifths of the outflow (80%). A sizeable proportion of movement is the annual transfer of students to/from Camden, both internationally and within the UK.

Social Deprivation

Every part of Camden has areas of relative affluence alongside areas of relative poverty. On the average rank summary measure for local authorities, the Indices of Deprivation 2015⁵ ranks Camden among the 69 most deprived districts in England. The most deprived area in Camden (found in Gospel Oak ward) is among the 5% most deprived areas in England. By contrast, Hampstead Town ward has the least deprived areas in Camden, where 5 out of the 7 LSOAs are among the 25% least deprived LSOAs in England. In 2014 (latest data available) 31.9% of children in Camden live in low income families⁶. Camden ranks 4th highest in London. This compares with a London average of 24% and 20% in England & Wales.

¹ The 2011 Census provides the most comprehensive and detailed information about Camden and is supplemented by various survey estimates and administrative counts.

² Revised series mid-2017 usual resident population estimates, based on the 2011 Census, published by ONS on June 2018.

³ Churn measures migration flows relative to population size, calculated as the sum of in and out migration divided by the total population.

⁴ ONS Mid-year Estimates: components of population change.

⁵ CLG English Indices of Deprivation, 2015 - based on Lower-layer Super Output Area (LSOA) geography.

⁶ HMRC Households Below Average Income (HBAI) local measures, 2016.

Births

In the year to mid-2019 there were 2,523 births to Camden-resident mothers and 1,082 deaths recorded, leading to a 'natural change' of +1,441 (net change to the population). Over the past 5 years, annual births in Camden have been lower than in the preceding decade. Camden has the lowest total fertility rate in the UK, 1.05 in the calendar year 2019⁷ and 2,448 live births. Camden's low fertility is contributed to by the large student population (60% female) and the high cost of family accommodation.

Housing development⁸

New housing has the potential to increase demand for school places as new families move into new homes. Historically we have been conscious that the effect of new build on pupil numbers can be over-estimated. However, additional Camden housing units anticipated to 2035/36 are estimated at 16,038, representing a positive net gain.

⁷ Total fertility rate is calculated as the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44. Source ONS 2019 births.

⁸ Place Planning 2021

Section 2: Demand for childcare

Population of early years children

In total, there are 11000⁹ children under the age of five living in the local authority. These children may require early years childcare.

Age	Euston	Kings Cross & Holborn	Kilburn	Kentish Town East	Kentish Town West	Total across Camden
Age 0	381	197	756	341	510	2185
Age 1	364	171	747	333	517	2132
Age 2	437	198	780	317	506	2238
Age 3	406	199	742	337	519	2203
Age 4*	382	223	792	353	553	2303
Total	1970	988	3817	1681	2605	11061

* Some four year olds will have started reception.

Population of school age children

In total there are 15,500¹⁰ children aged 5-11, and 7,500 children aged 12-14 living in our local authority. These children may require childcare before and after school, and/or during the school holidays.

Age	Euston	Kings Cross & Holborn	Kilburn	Kentish Town East	Kentish Town West	Total across Camden
Age 5	350	240	750	300	550	2,100
Age 6	400	220	650	300	550	2,100
Age 7	350	251	650	300	550	2,100
Age 8	400	300	650	350	550	2,100
Age 9	450	300	650	350	550	2,200
Age 10	400	300	650	400	600	2,300
Age 11	450	250	700	400	650	2,300
Age 12	450	250	700	450	550	2,400
Age 13	450	250	750	450	600	2,400
Age 14	450	250	750	450	550	2,400
Total	4,000	2,500	7,000	4,000	6,000	22,100

⁹ CAM resident child population (as of September 2021)

¹⁰ GLA 2016 -based Interim Projections 'Camden Development, Source: GLA Intelligence, © 2017. GLA require all figures are to be rounded to the nearest 100 for publication

Section 3: Number of children with special education needs and disabilities

Children with EHC plans

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

Number of children with EHCPs

Age	January 2021	October 2021
Birth to school age*	13	7
Primary school (reception to year six)	534	508
Secondary school (year seven to thirteen)**	559	582

*early years figure is low at this time of year as plans tend to be issued as children approach reception age – so would increase throughout academic year but then move to primary from September

** school only (not including post16s in colleges/out of school)

Children's needs change over time and are identified at different ages. Among the youngest children, SEND may only be identified when they start in childcare or school, and it can take some time from problems being identified to an EHC plan being issued. It is therefore possible that the number of children with SEND aged 0-4 is an underestimate. Some children have SEND but do not have an EHC plan. In the 2020 census providers reported 136 children with SEND that did not have an EHC plan.

SEND – Funded children

Free Early Education for 2 Year Olds

Children aged 2 whose families receive certain benefits (including in-work benefits with an income of less than £16,190), or who have a disability, or who are looked after by the local authority, are entitled to 15 hours per week

Free Early Education for 3 and 4 Year Olds

All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week free childcare (up to 570 hours per year). There is no eligibility assessment for this scheme other than the child must be 3 years old the term before they can take up a place. Camden are currently funding 167 children aged under 5 years of age with special educational needs and disabilities through the Camden Local Inclusion funding (CLIF), the breakdown of this funding is:

SEND Children				
	Summer 20		Summer 21	
Provider type	2 Year Old funding	3&4 Year Old funding	2 Year Old funding	3&4 Year Old funding
Childminder	0	1	2	0
PVI	5	36	6	50
Maintained Nursery	13	59	7	40
School	4	49	5	32
Grand Total	22	145	20	122

Section 4: Supply of childcare – Early years

Number of early years providers and places

In total, there are 259 childcare providers in the local authority, offering approximately 4786 early years' childcare places

For private, voluntary and independent nurseries and childminders, the number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many providers choose to operate below their number of registered places.

Children may attend childcare full time or part time. This table records places for children who are attending full time, or for as many hours as the setting is open. In some cases, two or more children attending part time may use one full time equivalent place.

Type of provision	Number of providers	Number of registered places ¹¹
Childminders*	112	392
Nursery classes in schools/nursery school	33	1010
Maintained nurseries	6	362
Private, voluntary and independent** nurseries	82	3114
Total - 2021	259	4786

The data in this table was correct on September 2021

* Some childminder places may also be available for older children

** Independent places are those on the NEF summer 21 headcount

Ofsted Registered¹² day care providers place breakdown by locality

Locality	Under 1 Years	Birth to under two	2 - 3 Years	2 Years To End Of EYFS	3 To End Of EYFS	Birth To The End Of The EYFS	Total
Euston Locality	32	12	26	317	88	130	605
Kings Cross & Holborn Locality	0	24	8	103	34	93	262
Kilburn Locality	47	68	60	265	144	583	1167
Kentish Town East Locality	49	30	56	159	133	176	603
Kentish Town West Locality	4	83	37	255	105	63	547

¹¹ The number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many providers choose to operate below their number of registered places.

¹² Does not included Nursery classes in schools/nursery schools or independent nurseries

Total - September 2021	132	217	187	1099	504	1045	3184
Total - February 2019	237	246	377	1280	708	400	3248
Difference	-105	-29	-190	-181	-204	645	-64

Section 5: Funded early education

Free Early Education for 2 Year Olds

The current two year old scheme provides funded part time childcare places for eligible families.

Eligibility

- meets the criteria for [free school meals](#); or
- receives working tax credits and has a household income is less than £16,190; or
- child is looked after by the local authority or foster care; or
- have left care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order; or
- have a current statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care (EHC) plan; or
- receive the disability living allowance or
- receive support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act

This chart identifies the number of actual children funded per term since 2016 and the number of potentially eligible children that appear on the DWP list of those parents in the area receiving benefits.

It also identifies the number of applications received by the Free Entitlement Team from parents applying for the 2 year old scheme.

Year	Term	Number of funded children	Potential eligible children under economic criteria (DWP)	% of funded 2YOs
2018-2019	Summer	475	792	60%
	Autumn	525	772	68%
	Spring	453	508	89%
2019-2020	Summer	480	763	63%
	Autumn	520	683	76%
	Spring	453	508	89%
2020-2021	Summer	407	731	56%
	Autumn	436	646	67%
	Spring	390	660	59%
2021-2022	Summer	428	704	61%

Universal Entitlement

All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours per week free childcare (up to 570 hours per year). There is no eligibility assessment for this scheme other than the child must be 3 years old the term before they can take up a place.

Below is a breakdown of the number of funded children on the universal 15 hours in the summer term 2021 compared with summer term 2020:

3 & 4 year old Universal Entitlement			
Provider type	Summer 20	Summer 21	Variation
Childminder	42	37	-5
PVI	1559	1407	-152
Maintained Nursery	283	250	-33
School Nursery	1029	1008	-21
Grand Total	2913	2702	-211

There are 211 less children being funded in summer 2021 compared to the previous summer term.

Extended Entitlement 30 Hours

From September 2017 the Government had introduced an additional 15 hours for working parents, on top of the universal entitlement. HMRC are responsible for eligibility checking and issuing a unique code to the parent. The parent takes their code to their selected childcare provider and the provider, using the Synergy FIS portal, validates this code.

In the summer term, 576 children were funded under the Government extended entitlement; this is the breakdown of take up by sector:

Government Extended Entitlement			
Provider type	Summer 20	Summer 21	Variation
Childminder	16	13	-3
PVI	298	281	-17
Maintained Nursery	56	37	-19
School Nursery	247	245	-2
Grand Total	617	576	-41

During the summer 2021 term 576 codes were funded this is a decrease of 41 compared to summer 2020

Camden enhanced offer 30 Hours

From September 2017 London Borough of Camden have introduced an offer of an additional 15 hours, on top of the universal entitlement, for Camden residents who are on low incomes and who are not eligible for the Government extended entitlement.

This table shows the number of children funded against the provider type for the summer term 2020 and 2021

Camden Enhanced Offer			
Provider type	Summer 20	Summer 21	Variation
Childminder	2	3	1
PVI	152	141	-9
Maintained Nursery	90	89	-1
School Nursery	355	329	-26
Grand Total	599	562	-37

There are 37 less children being funded in summer 21 compared to the previous summer term.

Section 6: Supply of childcare – Out of school and holiday scheme places

Number of school age providers and places

In total, there are approximately 16 providers of childcare for school age children during term time, and 17 providers of childcare for school age children during the holidays. There are also 129 childminders who may provide care for school age children.

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

Type of provision	Number of providers	Number of registered places
After-school club	16	543
Holiday club	17	909
Childminders*	106	264
Total	139	1716

* Some childminder places may also be available for children in the early years

Out of school and holiday scheme places by locality

Locality	Out of school places				Holiday scheme places			
	3 - 7 Years	3 Years To End Of EYFs	4-8 Years	5 - 7 Years	3 - 7 Years	3 Years To End Of EYFs	4-8 Years	5 - 7 Years
Euston locality	0	10	0	100	128	16	0	89
Kings Cross & Holborn locality	20	0	26	0	20	0	86	0
Kilburn locality	85	10	24	80	0	38	0	216
Kentish Town East Locality	0	24	32	6	0	0	65	35
Kentish Town West Locality	0	6	0	120	0	0	0	216
Total September 2021	105	50	82	306	148	54	151	556
Total February 2019	115	58	170	284	188	115	211	612
Difference	-10	-8	-88	22	-40	-61	-60	-56
Total Difference	-84				-217			

Section 7: Prices and hours

All the costs in this section exclude funded entitlements and any support through tax-free childcare, Universal Credit or Tax Credits. We do not have data on the take up of tax-free childcare, Universal Credit or Tax Credits at local authority level.

Prices of early year's childcare

The table below shows the average costs for an early years childcare place outside the funded entitlements. There may be variations to prices based on the number of hours a family uses, with reductions for longer hours, or discounts for sibling groups. There may be additional charges for lunch and other meals, which are not included in these prices.

Price per week with a funded place	Private, voluntary and independent nurseries
A place in a nursery for 25 hours a week where parents <i>receive the 15 hour free entitlement and pay for 10 hours</i>	£81.00
A place in a day nursery for 50 hours a week where parents <i>receive the 30 hour free entitlement and pay for 20 hours</i>	£163.00

Typical (average) price for a childminder

Price per week without a funded place	25 hours per week	50 hours per week
Children under 5 years	£185.00	£380.00

Prices of school age childcare

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

Setting and price unit	Price
After-school club per hour	£7.00
School age childminder per hour	£8.00
Holiday schemes per week	£194.00

Early years: atypical hours

Childcare is most commonly delivered during the typical working day – between 8am and 6pm on weekdays. Some parents require childcare outside these times in order to fit with their work or other responsibilities.

The number of providers offering childcare for atypical hours is:

Type of provision	Number of providers	Available before 8am weekday	Available after 6pm weekday	Available weekends ¹³
Childminders	116	26	35	8
Nursery classes in schools/nursery school	33	0	0	0
Maintained nurseries	6	0	0	0
Private and voluntary nurseries	76	15	14	0

The data in this table was correct on September 2021

Providers that operate for 9 hours or more

Hours	Childminders	Maintained nurseries	Private and voluntary nurseries	Total
9 hours	8	0	1	9
9:30 hours	7	0	2	9
10:00 hours	55	6	29	90
10:15 hours	0	0	2	2
10:30 hours	8	0	2	10
11 hours	11	0	10	21
11:30 hours	5	0	0	5
12 hours	8	0	1	9
13 hours	1	0	0	1
Total	103	6	47	156

¹³ This includes availability at any time during the weekend, not necessarily for the whole weekend

Section 8: Quality of childcare

Ofsted inspection grades

All childcare providers must register with and be inspected by Ofsted, who give them an overall grade for the quality of their provision. Childminders and private and voluntary providers are on the Early Years Register.

Early years providers have four possible Ofsted grades: 'outstanding', 'good', 'requires improvement', and 'inadequate'.¹⁴ Some providers are still awaiting their first full inspection or have been inspected without children on roll. These providers are excluded from our calculation.

Type of provision	Total number of providers	% and number of providers who have been inspected	% and number of providers who have not been inspected or inspected with no children on roll	% and number of providers achieving good or outstanding*
Childminders	114*	71% (81)	29% (33)	100% (81)
Local Authority Children Centres/Nurseries	6	100%	0% (0)	100% (6)
Private and voluntary nurseries	77	77% (59)	23% (18)	95% (56)
Total	251	77% (194)	23% (57)	99% (145)

* The 2 childminders that do not have an early inspection have been removed

* Does not include no children on roll inspections

Providers with a met/not-met grade

When providers do not have any children on site when they are inspected, they are given an Ofsted grade of 'met' or 'not met'. This shows whether they are meeting the requirements for Ofsted registration. At present, we have 24 childminders with a 'met' grade, 1 childminder with a 'not met' grade and 8 childminders are awaiting their first inspection. 18 day care providers are awaiting their first inspection

¹⁴ For more information see <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/about-our-inspection-reports>