



Exploring parents' views and use of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland

Technical report: data tables



CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS

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Craigforth

Use of early learning and childcare

Table A1: Use of funded, paid and informal ELC (with eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Funded ELC only	16%	22%	10%
Funded and paid or informal ELC	73%	63%	79%
Funded + paid + informal	31%	23%	36%
Funded + paid	21%	15%	27%
Funded + informal	21%	25%	15%
Unfunded ELC	7%	5%	10%
No ELC	5%	10%	1%
Base (unweighted)	5931	581	1326

Table A2: Reasons cited by parents not using funded ELC for their eligible child

	3/4 year olds	2 year olds
No reason/I don't know	15%	22%
I think my child is too young	20%	24%
I want to look after my child myself most of the time	16%	16%
My child wouldn't like to be separated from myself or my partner	6%	-
I don't think it would be good for my child's development	7%	-
I don't think it would be good for my child's wellbeing	9%	2%
I don't think it would be good for my relationship with my child	5%	-
I was not aware of the availability of funded childcare	21%	22%
I don't know how to apply for funded childcare/I find applying too difficult	14%	9%
I cannot afford childcare, even if it's free, because there are always some associated costs	2%	2%
Transport is not available or the travel time is too long	-	12%
The travel costs would be too high	-	9%
A lack of flexibility or choice in available opening hours	14%	19%
A lack of flexibility or choice in available childcare settings or types of childcare	13%	16%
There are no available providers near me	14%	21%
There are no providers available that I could trust to provide a high quality service	3%	6%
There are no providers available that meet the additional support needs of my child	3%	2%
Base (unweighted)	67	51

Table A3: Types of ELC provider used (those with eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Local authority nursery class attached to primary school	55%	50%	52%
Local authority nursery class not attached to primary school	14%	22%	9%
Private nursery	42%	31%	54%
Community/voluntary nursery	2%	2%	3%
Playgroup	13%	9%	13%
Family centre	2%	4%	2%
Childminder	13%	8%	14%
Other	3%	3%	3%
Base (unweighted)	5696	523	1308

Table A4: Factors influencing choice of ELC provider (with eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Provider had a good reputation	63%	62%	69%
I read inspection reports	36%	31%	45%
Convenient location for my home	67%	66%	72%
Convenient location for my work	20%	18%	23%
Child could mix with other children	41%	41%	46%
I liked/trusted the staff	51%	53%	52%
It was the only provider available in the area	8%	8%	5%
It had no (or a short) waiting list	8%	11%	7%
Because everyone in my local area/neighbourhood goes there	10%	8%	10%
It had a good outdoor space for my child to use	40%	37%	47%
Child's older sibling went to same provider	27%	26%	29%
It was attached to a primary school which my child will go to	39%	30%	43%
It was the most affordable option available to me	8%	8%	8%
It provided the flexibility in hours I needed	25%	22%	29%
I was confident that staff had the skills required to support my child's needs	43%	47%	44%
Other	1%	1%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5535	570	1313

Table A5a: Total weekly hours of ELC per child (with eligible children)

	3/4 year olds	2 year olds
Average	29.2 hrs	23.9 hrs
Up to 8 hours	1%	6%
8-15 hours	14%	26%
16-29 hours	35%	33%
30-39 hours	29%	24%
40+ hours	21%	10%
Base (unweighted)	5434	123

Table A5b: Weekly funded hours of ELC per child (with eligible children)

	3/4 year olds	2 year olds
Average	13.9 hrs	13.4 hrs
Up to 10 hours	13%	24%
10-14 hours	8%	3%
15+ hours	79%	76%
Base (unweighted)	5155	100

Flexibility

Table A6: How prefer to use 1140 hours across the year

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
I don't know/no preference	4%	5%	3%	4%	3%
Every week of the year (around 22 hours per week)	31%	30%	32%	32%	30%
Year-round except for when I or my partner are on annual leave (around 22-30 hours per week)	40%	34%	47%	33%	44%
School term time only (around 30 hours per week)	25%	30%	18%	29%	22%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Base (unweighted)	6801	3977	2824	697	1648

Table A7: How prefer to use 1140 hours across the week

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
I don't know/no preference	13%	14%	10%	15%	10%
Longer sessions on fewer days per week	65%	62%	70%	59%	71%
Shorter sessions on more days per week	21%	23%	18%	22%	19%
Flexibility to include weekend provision	6%	6%	5%	6%	4%
Provision outside of normal working hours	15%	15%	14%	15%	13%
Base (unweighted)	6518	3787	2731	664	1584

Table A8a: Type of provider preferred for 1140 hours

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Local authority nursery class attached to primary school	76%	76%	56%
Local authority nursery class not attached to primary school	36%	30%	46%
Private nursery	57%	46%	50%
Community/voluntary nursery	17%	13%	22%
Playgroup	28%	15%	37%
Family centre	15%	10%	26%
Childminder	28%	22%	35%
Other	6%	4%	10%
Base (unweighted)	9087	8464	529

Table A8b: Type of provider preferred for 1140 hours

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Local authority nursery class attached to primary school	76%	78%	74%	77%	73%
Local authority nursery class not attached to primary school	36%	35%	39%	45%	29%
Private nursery	57%	50%	67%	51%	64%
Community/voluntary nursery	17%	16%	19%	21%	13%
Playgroup	28%	27%	30%	28%	25%
Family centre	15%	15%	15%	22%	10%
Childminder	28%	28%	29%	27%	26%
Other	6%	6%	5%	7%	5%
Base (unweighted)	9087	5555	3532	904	2152

Accessibility

Table A9: Travel time to main ELC provider (with eligible children using ELC)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Less than 5 minutes	33%	30%	31%
5-14 minutes	52%	52%	54%
15-29 minutes	13%	14%	13%
30-59 minutes	3%	4%	2%
60 minutes or more	0%		
Base (unweighted)	4357	420	990

Table A10: Awareness of planned expansion in entitlement

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Yes, definitely	50%	51%	47%	43%	55%
Yes, possibly	24%	24%	25%	24%	25%
No	26%	26%	28%	34%	20%
Base (unweighted)	9441	5718	3723	918	2163

Table A11a: Whether have a child with Additional Support Needs

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Yes	5%	6%	3%	7%	3%
No	94%	92%	96%	92%	96%
I don't know	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Base (unweighted)	9163	5597	3566	919	2166

Table A11b: Types of needs referenced by parents of children with ASN

	Overall
Autistic spectrum disorder	36%
English as an additional language	2%
Family issues (including bereavement and young carers)	5%
Hearing or visual impairment, or deafblind	9%
Language, speech and communication issues	62%
Learning difficulties and dyslexia	17%
Looked after	7%
Physical or motor impairment, or physical or mental health problem	19%
Social, emotional and behavioural difficulty	31%
Other	15%
Base (unweighted)	374

Table A12: Satisfaction with access to ELC to meet additional support needs

	Overall
Very satisfied or satisfied	57%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	16%
Very dissatisfied or dissatisfied	18%
I don't know	4%
Not applicable	5%
Base (unweighted)	389

Table A13a: Whether experienced difficulties accessing provision to meet ASN needs

	Overall
Experienced difficulties	48%
Not experienced difficulties	52%
Base (unweighted)	333

Table A13b: Nature of difficulties experienced

	Overall
Lack of information on how providers meet ASN	50%
Staff lacking the time to meet my child's needs	49%
Staff lacking required qualifications/experience	38%
Environment would not suit child's needs	25%
Facilities/equipment would not suit child's needs	24%
Language barriers with staff	17%
Other	20%
Base (unweighted)	157

Table A14: Factors influencing choice of provision to meet ASN needs

	Overall
Staff qualifications, training, knowledge or experience	80%
Staff take time to get to know my child and how to support them	88%
Staff work with me/others to make sure my child's needs are met	85%
Staff having the time to meet individual children's needs	79%
Staff able to work with my child in ways which meet their needs	79%
Quality of the environment	69%
Quality and range of facilities and equipment	65%
Base (unweighted)	375

Affordability

Table A15: Whether parents pay for any of the ELC they use for eligible children

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Yes	54%	45%	66%
No	45%	55%	33%
Don't know	0%	1%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5561	580	1321

Table A16: Banded monthly spend on ELC (those who pay for eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
Average	£494	£405	£624
Less than £100	11%	17%	5%
£100-£300	26%	28%	19%
£300-£500	23%	22%	23%
£500-£700	17%	20%	18%
£700-£900	10%	6%	13%
£900+	14%	6%	22%
Base (unweighted)	3039	250	869

Table A17: Whether would want or need to top up 1140 hours

	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Would need to top up 1140 hours	42%	38%	48%	35%	52%
Would not need to top up 1140 hours	31%	35%	26%	36%	26%
Don't know	27%	27%	26%	29%	22%
Base (unweighted)	6795	3979	2816	697	1644

Table A18: Whether experienced difficulties affording ELC costs in the last year (those who pay for eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
No difficulties	29%	17%	37%
Some difficulties	52%	58%	48%
Significant difficulties	18%	24%	14%
I don't know	2%	2%	1%
Base (unweighted)	3132	260	887

Table A19: Nature of affordability problems experienced (those who pay for eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
The high cost of childcare	97%	96%	99%
Having to pay refundable deposits	7%	8%	6%
Having to pay childcare fees upfront (e.g. for entire month/quarter/year)	26%	27%	24%
Having to pay other costs upfront such as registration fees	7%	6%	8%
Transport costs	6%	8%	4%
Additional costs such as trips, other activities at the childcare provider	9%	9%	8%
Base (unweighted)	1948	195	518

Likely future use of 1140 hours

Table A20: Likely future uptake of expanded entitlement

Socio-demographic groups	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
All or almost all of the free 1140 hours	75%	72%	80%	78%	77%
More than half of the free 1140 hours	15%	16%	12%	14%	13%
Up to around half of the 1140 free hours	10%	12%	7%	9%	9%
Base (unweighted)	9241	5615	3626	898	2140

Age of children	3/4 year olds	2 year olds
All or almost all of the free 1140 hours	75%	67%
More than half of the free 1140 hours	15%	15%
Up to around half of the 1140 free hours	10%	18%
Base (unweighted)	8962	8056

Table A21a: Reasons for planning to use only part of the additional hours (with eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
No reason/I don't know	5%	7%	4%
I wouldn't need or want childcare for so many hours	67%	60%	75%
I prefer that a grandparent or other close relative looks after my child	24%	17%	25%
My child wouldn't like to be separated from myself or my partner for so many hours	36%	37%	37%
I don't think it would be good for my child's development	32%	28%	33%
I don't think it would be good for my child's wellbeing	43%	38%	48%
I don't think it would be good for my relationship with my child	46%	46%	48%
I feel children should not be in nursery for that long	70%	64%	76%
Base (unweighted)	649	57	144

Table A21b: Reasons for not planning to use any additional hours (with eligible children)

	Overall
No reason/I don't know	17%
I want to look after my child myself most of the time	61%
My child wouldn't like to be separated from myself or my partner	22%
I don't think it would be good for my child's development	31%
I don't think it would be good for my child's wellbeing	38%
I don't think it would be good for my relationship with my child	35%
I don't know how to apply for funded childcare/I find applying too difficult	3%
I cannot afford childcare, even if it's free, because there are always some associated costs	1%
Transport is not available or the travel time is too long	
The travel costs would be too high	0%
I think the available opening times would not be flexible enough to meet my childcare needs	6%
I think there would be a lack of flexibility or choice in available childcare settings or types of childcare	6%
I think there would be no providers available that I could trust to provide high quality service	6%
I think there would be no providers available that meet my child's additional support needs	1%
I do not need childcare	16%
Base (unweighted)	227

Quality of early learning and childcare

Table A22: Importance of key aspects when judging quality of ELC provision

The qualifications and knowledge of staff	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very important	80%	80%	81%	84%	75%
Fairly important	19%	19%	19%	15%	24%
Not very important	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Not at all important	0%	0%	0%		
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	8954	5486	3468	917	2165
The way staff interact with my child	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very important	99%	99%	99%	98%	99%
Fairly important	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Not very important	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not at all important	0%	0%			
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	8962	5492	3470	917	2167
The facilities of the setting	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very important	69%	68%	70%	71%	64%
Fairly important	30%	31%	29%	28%	35%
Not very important	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Not at all important	0%	0%	0%		
Don't know	0%	0%	0%		0%
Base (unweighted)	8948	5479	3469	914	2162
The extent to which my child gets personal care and attention tailored to their needs	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very important	81%	81%	81%	83%	77%
Fairly important	19%	19%	19%	17%	22%
Not very important	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Not at all important	0%	0%			
Don't know	0%	0%	0%		0%
Base (unweighted)	8946	5485	3461	914	2163
The extent to which my child is learning	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived

		children	children			
Very important	75%	75%	75%	81%	68%	
Fairly important	23%	22%	23%	18%	28%	
Not very important	2%	3%	2%	1%	3%	
Not at all important	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Don't know	0%	0%	0%		0%	
	Base (unweighted)	8947	5481	3466	916	2162

The extent to which the provider keeps me informed, engages me in my child's learning	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived	
Very important	74%	74%	74%	81%	65%	
Fairly important	25%	25%	25%	18%	34%	
Not very important	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	
Not at all important	0%	0%	0%		0%	
Don't know	0%	0%	0%			
	Base (unweighted)	8940	5479	3461	916	2159

The setting's inspection reports	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived	
Very important	53%	51%	56%	58%	47%	
Fairly important	40%	41%	39%	35%	47%	
Not very important	6%	7%	4%	6%	6%	
Not at all important	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	
Don't know	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	
	Base (unweighted)	8942	5479	3463	916	2161

Local reputation	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived	
Very important	46%	46%	46%	48%	41%	
Fairly important	45%	45%	46%	42%	50%	
Not very important	8%	8%	8%	10%	9%	
Not at all important	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
	Base (unweighted)	8934	5470	3464	915	2159

The range of different experiences my child gets	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very important	73%	74%	73%	74%	69%
Fairly important	26%	25%	26%	25%	30%
Not very important	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Not at all important	0%	0%			
Don't know	0%	0%	0%		
Base (unweighted)	8945	5481	3464	916	2163

Table A23: Satisfaction with the quality of main ELC provider

The qualifications and knowledge of staff	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	63%	63%	64%	71%	61%
Satisfied	31%	31%	31%	24%	33%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Dissatisfied	1%	1%	0%	-	0%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	1%	-	0%
Base (unweighted)	5088	4713	375	505	1213

The way staff interact with my child	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	71%	71%	71%	76%	70%
Satisfied	25%	25%	25%	21%	27%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Dissatisfied	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5073	4702	371	503	1216

The facilities of the setting	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	60%	60%	55%	66%	60%
Satisfied	34%	34%	37%	29%	34%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	4%	4%	6%	2%	4%
Dissatisfied	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5066	4696	370	502	1214

The extent to which my child gets personal care and attention tailored to their needs	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	56%	56%	55%	63%	53%
Satisfied	34%	34%	33%	29%	37%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7%	6%	8%	5%	7%
Dissatisfied	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5073	4701	372	504	1213

The extent to which my child is learning	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	59%	59%	57%	68%	55%
Satisfied	33%	33%	35%	26%	36%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	6%	6%	5%	4%	6%
Dissatisfied	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5072	4701	371	503	1213

The extent to which the provider keeps me informed, engages me in my child's learning	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	53%	53%	53%	63%	49%
Satisfied	33%	33%	33%	27%	36%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8%	8%	8%	5%	9%
Dissatisfied	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%
Very dissatisfied	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Base (unweighted)	5075	4703	372	503	1215

The setting's inspection reports	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	47%	47%	45%	53%	45%
Satisfied	34%	33%	40%	29%	37%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	9%	9%	10%	9%	10%
Dissatisfied	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	0%	-	0%
Base (unweighted)	5066	4697	369	502	1215

Local reputation	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	53%	53%	53%	56%	53%
Satisfied	36%	35%	38%	33%	37%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8%	8%	6%	8%	8%
Dissatisfied	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	0%	-	0%
Base (unweighted)	5059	4690	369	502	1211

The range of different experiences my child gets	Overall	With eligible children	No eligible children	Most deprived	Least deprived
Very satisfied	58%	58%	58%	65%	55%
Satisfied	34%	34%	33%	29%	36%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	5%	5%	5%	3%	6%
Dissatisfied	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Very dissatisfied	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Base (unweighted)	5047	4678	369	500	1206

Outcomes and benefits

Table A24: Reasons for using ELC for eligible child

Age of children	3/4 year olds	2 year olds
To work or look for work (yourself or your partner)	66%	47%
To increase the number of hours that I or my partner work	16%	11%
To study or improve work-related skills (yourself or your partner)	10%	26%
To have more time for household tasks such as cooking, DIY, cleaning, etc	15%	44%
To have more time to look after other children (yourself or your partner)	13%	14%
To care for another relative or friend (yourself or your partner)	2%	10%
To have more time for ourselves: to rest, exercise, socialise, spend time on hobbies, etc	8%	24%
I think it will be good for my child's learning (eg speech and language skills, etc)	73%	84%
I think it will be good for my child's social, emotional or behavioural development	78%	79%
I think it will be good for my ability to help my child's learning and development at home	38%	45%
Base (unweighted)	5483	88

Table A25: Reasons that parents would use full 1140 hours (with eligible children)

	Overall	Most deprived	Least deprived
To work or look for work (yourself or your partner)	79%	77%	82%
To increase the number of hours that I or my partner work	32%	30%	31%
To study or improve work-related skills (yourself or your partner)	19%	26%	12%
To have more time for household tasks such as cooking, DIY, cleaning, etc (yourself or your partner)	15%	19%	15%
To have more time to look after other children (yourself or your partner)	8%	8%	8%
To care for another relative or friend (yourself or your partner)	3%	6%	2%
To have more time for ourselves: to rest, exercise, socialise, spend time on hobbies, etc	9%	10%	8%
I think it will be good for my child's development	61%	61%	61%
I think it will be good for my child's wellbeing	53%	54%	52%
I think it will be good for my ability to help my child's learning and development at home	36%	37%	34%
Base (unweighted)	4776	500	1142



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This document is also available from our website at www.gov.scot.
ISBN: 978-1-78781-128-7

The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

Produced for
the Scottish Government
by APS Group Scotland
PPDAS450786 (08/18)
Published by
the Scottish Government,
August 2018



Social Research series
ISSN 2045-6964
ISBN 978-1-78781-128-7

Web and Print Publication
www.gov.scot/socialresearch

PPDAS450786 (08/18)