

23 October 2019

Tracy Brabin MP
House of Commons
Westminster
SW1A 0AA

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector

Dear Tracy,

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBERS 1118 and 1120

Your Parliamentary Questions were passed to me, as Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, for response.

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many Ofsted registered nurseries have been sold to new owners in each of the last 12 months.

Ofsted does not collect this information.

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many Ofsted registered (a) nurseries and (b) childminders have closed for business in each of the last 12 months.

Ofsted publishes information about providers who have left the early years register. This has been used as a proxy for providers that have closed. I would draw your attention to the following caveats:

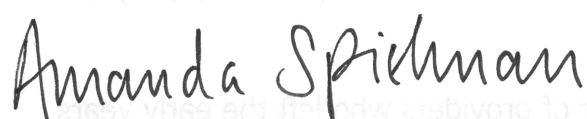
1. The data represents the average number of providers who left the early years register in each month based on the reporting period.
2. Most of these are resignations, but some are providers that have had their registration cancelled or have changed provider type or register.
3. For providers who have had their registration cancelled, this is mostly due to non-payment of fees. These providers are likely to be reinstated once their fees are paid.
4. This data does not take account of childminders who de-register with Ofsted, and then go on to register with a childminder agency.

5. A provider who has left the childcare sector due to closure, may re-register with Ofsted under new ownership. In these cases the provider would still be recorded as a leaver in the data.

The following table shows the number of providers who have left the early years register between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019, by reporting period and provider type.

Reporting Period	Number of nurseries and pre-schools		Number of childminders	
	Total leavers		Total leavers	
	in period	Monthly average	in period	Monthly average
1 Jan to 31 Mar 2019	536	179	1,203	401
1 Sep to 31 Dec 2018	654	164	1,561	390
1 Apr to 31 Aug 2018	982	196	1,907	381

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Spielman

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector