

Clive House
70 Petty France
London
SW1H 9EX

T 0300 123 1231
Textphone 0161 618 8524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/ofsted



14 March 2024

Ms Helen Hayes MP
Member of Parliament for Dulwich and West Norwood
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Sir Martyn Oliver
His Majesty's Chief Inspector

Sent by email to: helen.hayes.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Ms Hayes

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBER 15466

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, if she will publish a table on the net increase per quarter of the number of Ofsted-registered childcare places for children aged (a) two or under and (b) over two per local authority since 15 March 2023.

Your recent Parliamentary Question has been passed to me for response as His Majesty's Chief Inspector for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills.

Ofsted regularly publishes official statistics and management information on childcare providers and inspections, which are available online.¹ The worksheets labelled 'Table 2' in our most recently published official statistics and management information show the number of registered childcare providers and places offered on the Early Years Register (EYR), by region and local authority, as at 31 August 2023 and 31 December 2023 respectively.^{2,3}

¹ 'Early years and childcare statistics', Ofsted; <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-and-childcare-statistics>.

² 'Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 August 2023', Ofsted, November 2023; <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2023>.

³ 'Childcare providers and inspections: management information', Ofsted, January 2024; <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/childcare-providers-and-inspections-management-information>.

For ease of reference, I attach a spreadsheet showing the total number and net increase of registered childcare providers and places on the EYR, broken down by region and local authority, in each of our four reporting periods (March 2023, June 2023, August 2023 and December 2023).

I am only able to answer your question in part, because Ofsted's data on places for providers registered on the EYR is not broken down by age and includes providers caring for children aged 0-5. Where a provider is registered on both the EYR and Childcare Register (CR), the data will include providers caring for children up to age seven.

Ofsted's data on places is only updated when a provider registers with us or is inspected. When a provider that is already registered on both registers resigns from the EYR but stays on the CR, existing places information is not retained.

The tab in the spreadsheet labelled 'Cover' provides additional information about the data.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sir Martyn Oliver".

Sir Martyn Oliver

His Majesty's Chief Inspector