**About the Family and Childcare Trust mixed model partnership project**

The Family and Childcare Trust (FCT) are experts in childcare sufficiency and designing innovative approaches to childcare provision, their annual childcare surveys are the ‘go to’ resource for data on the UK childcare market.

FCT specialise in providing operational and strategic support for local authorities. In recent years they have been commissioned to deliver support for childcare initiatives including:

* Assisting over 120 local authorities to implement the free entitlement for two year olds
* Working with 40 school nurseries to help them provide flexible childcare over an extended day (8am-6pm).

In April 2016 FCT was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver a support project working with 20-25 new and existing partnerships to:

* Assess how existing partnerships work and help them to develop this partnership better to respond to the extended free entitlement for three and four year olds (EFE)
* Set up new partnerships to respond to the extended entitlement
* Share learning including with the early implementers
* Produce a mixed model toolkit, complete with case studies and model business plans for successful partnerships, model partnership protocols, a variety of potential partnership models and a systematic guide to how to implement the models

The aims of the DfE 30 Hours Mixed Model Partnership project (the project) were to:

* Learn how existing early years partnerships work and what makes them successful
* Increase the amount of early years’ provision involving schools by directly supporting those interested in establishing new partnerships
* Inform the early implementers of the potential different ways of delivering the EFE; draw out how schools and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers use flexible approaches and partnerships to overcome barriers to delivering high quality, flexible childcare that meets the needs of working parents

**Summary of the partnerships supported through the project**

## Barnet

**Barnet Early Years Alliance (BEYA (a federation of three nursery schools), Brunswick Park Nursery and Primary School, three PVIs (Kidz Choice Nursery, Cupcakes Nursery and Scribbles Nursery) and the Barnet’s childminding support officer.**

*This partnership is seeking to develop a delivery model whereby the 30 hours are provided across two settings. The partnership is also exploring options for maximising resources around family support by pooling Early Years Pupil Premium Funding, sharing staff to deliver holiday provision and/or cover during sickness, delivering shared staff training and development, making better use of apprenticeships and sharing skills and expertise through work shadowing.*

## Camden

**Sidings Community Centre, Childminders and Kingsgate Pre-school**

*This partnership has joint leadership and involves two community nurseries coming together to jointly provide an extended day and all year round offer for entitled three and four year olds, at the same time as maintaining an offer based on their community ethos of providing suitable options for:*

* *Parents who are undertaking training and whose two year olds are entitled to the funded offer i.e. delivering additional hours for these parents at an affordable rate*
* *Three and four year olds who will only be able to access the universal offer to ensure that they are not excluded or treated differently*

## Durham

**Fishburn Primary School and House of Eden (a private nursery)**

*A joint partnership developing a coherent offer in which the school will deliver 30 hours per week 9am - 3pm 39 weeks a year and House of Eden will provide both the EFE and wrap around care for the school. House of Eden has potential to stretch the offer over 51 weeks.*

## Durham

**Bishop Auckland Children's Centre; Woodhouse Close Community School, Yellow Wellies private day care and Aclet Close Nursery School**

*A partnership working on ensuring the collective supply of EFE places, looking at stretch as well as flexibility. It is supported by the Children’s Centre and County Council.*

## East Sussex

*As an Early Innovator area, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) are fully engaged with the project. The support for this, and some other Early Innovator work, is being directed through existing Early Excellence Hubs to promote a locality-based approach to delivery of the extended entitlement; and to make the most of learning and dissemination networks.*

**The Havens Early Excellence Hub**

*Working with schools and PVI providers in Newhaven to explore the use of school premises for delivery in holiday times by PVIs, including older siblings.*

**Eastbourne Early Excellence Hub**

*Working with the Hub to support ESCC’s Early Innovator parent demand survey; and use the information to consider partnership approaches to maximise sufficiency.*

**Polegate Early Excellence Hub**

*This partnership comprises a primary school and closely located PVI provider operating from a community centre working together to deliver extended hours and a stretched offer throughout the year. They have decided to explore holiday provision with the aim of trialling a limited pilot in summer 2017 offering parents up to 2 weeks provision on the school premises delivered by the pre-school.*

## Hounslow

**Ivy Bridge Nursery, Sunny Smiles Childcare Nursery, Sunnysmiles@Bridgelink and Childminders**

*This group has been exploring potential partnerships and opportunities regarding offering the additional hours to meet the needs of families. The partnership is at an early stage and has been identifying key documentation and agreements that would be necessary to make any partnership successful. Sunnysmiles and Bridgelink@Sunnysmiles have potential to work together to offer a blended, mixed model partnership approach. Meetings, discussions and information sharing have been positive and have helped to establish good working relationships between potential partners. The wider partnership is considering delivery models focussing on extended hours and a stretched offer across the year.*

## Hammersmith and Fulham

**Randolph Beresford Nursery School and Children’s Centre, Harmony Community Nursery & St John XXIII Primary school**

*This partnership is led by Randolph Beresford Nursery School and Children’s Centre and plans to maximise space at both the Nursery School and Children’s Centre and the Primary school to offer an extended day and all year round provision for entitled three and four year olds. Ensuring the continuing sustainability of the community nursery is a key element of the work. The project includes planning for possible expansion to create a provision for the children of working parents at Westfield Shopping Centre and employability support for parents whose children would not be entitled. Part of the offer will be a Forest School experience.*

## Hammersmith and Fulham

**Vanessa Nursery and Cathnor Park Children's Centre & Brackenbury School**

*This partnership is led by Vanessa Nursery and Cathnor Park Children's Centre and involves the planning of an extended day and all year round provision for entitled three and four year olds on Brackenbury Primary School and Cathnor Park sites that also could be open to children from other local schools. Changes in local demography have opened up available space at the Primary School and there are options there and at Cathnor Park for a stretched offer. The project combines the EYFS expertise and delivery capacity of nursery school/children’s centre and site availability of both partners.*

## Kensington and Chelsea

**World End Estate Partnership (WEUC): EPIC Play Centre, Cheynes Children's Centre (CCC), Ashburnham Primary and Worlds End Under 5’s Centre**

*This partnership has joint leadership and four key elements:*

* *The shift from term-time-only provision and short day to extended hours and all year round provision at WEUC*
* *WEUC providing out of school core hours extended provision at Ashburnham Primary School during term-time and holiday time provision for entitled children at their centre*
* *Possible use of EPIC Play Centre building during term-time & to provide weekend provision*
* *Joint work to promote employability support for parents between WEUC outreach worker and CCC Family Engagement Officer with CCC providing service*

## Kensington and Chelsea

**North Locality Partnership: St Quintin's Centre for Disabled Children and Young People, St Quintin's Children's Centre, New Studio Pre-School and Epic Play Centre**

*This partnership has joint leadership and has five key elements:*

* *SEND: a focus on delivering the offer to children with SEND to ensure that they can access a suitable and stretched offer*
* *All year round and extended day through collaboration between the partners*
* *Using all space available to partners effectively*
* *Employability support for parents of two year olds and/or SEND*
* *Staff training*

## Kingston and Richmond

**Leap Ahead Childminding Agency** (part of Achieving for Children)

*This partnership has focussed on discussions with the local authority early year’s team involving the Childminding Agency Leap Ahead facilitating childminders working together and/or with schools/PVI providers. The childminders would be working together and have a shared approach to providing high quality education and care and ensure smooth transitions for children accessing a mixed model partnership. The partnership could also provide a shared administrative and financial system to support operation and management.*

## Kingston and Richmond (Achieving for Children)

**Advantage Day Nursery and Tolworth Infant School**

*Advantage Day Nursery is the largest nursery in Kingston and Richmond offering a range of childcare options. Tolworth Infant School, which also has an on-site children’s centre, provides term time only places. The partners have worked together for some time and, with the local authority are exploring a number of options including a blended model in which children move between the two settings. The proximity of the settings would allow for children to walk between the school and the nursery to allow for greater flexibility e.g. breakfast and afterschool clubs. There is also the opportunity for families to buy additional hours.*

## Newham

**Sheringham Nursery School and Children’s Centre with Childminders**

*Newham is an Early Implementer. This partnership is led by Sheringham Nursery School and Children’s Centre and brings together the nursery and childminders in delivering a blended model of childcare. Each child will have a maximum of two providers delivering the offer with the nursery providing 15 hours per week term time only and childminders offering the additional 15 hours through flexible childcare with the option of parents buying additional hours.*

## Sandwell

**Our Lady and St Hubert's Primary School and 5 Star Day Nursery**

*The School are moving to a new purpose built site in September 2016 and have put their nursery, out of school and holiday provision out to competitive tender with a five year lease. The selected partner, 5 Star Day Nursery, operates two successful day nurseries in the area, one of which is opposite the new school site. This gives the potential for children to access school nursery provision and additional hours in the day nursery. The school are keen to share CPD opportunities with 5 Star Day Nursery particularly around their preferred maths and phonics schemes so the children are well prepared for reception. The project is well supported by Sandwell Early Years Team.*

## Trafford

**Barton Clough Primary School and Barton Clough Pre-school (and possibly a new special school)**

*A pre-existing joint partnership developing a new offer from new pre-school premises being built on site. A new foundation stage unit is being built to house the pre-school, school nursery and a small special needs unit. This* partnership is examining the need for a stretched offer.

## Walsall

**Ryders Hayes Primary School, Childminder representative, Splat and Doodle Creative and Messy Play, Birmingham City University (BCU)**

*The school provides a nursery class, pre-school and wraparound care and is planning to open holiday provision and a Saturday club in preparation for the EFE. Splat and Doodle will provide child-led messy and creative play sessions in the proposed provision to enhance children’s experience and involve parents. A menu of out of hours, overnight, weekend and holiday care will be available from local childminders co-ordinated through the school. Early Childhood Degree students from BCU will contribute to the workforce in the extended provision and a CPD programme will be shared with partners. Capital funding for a stand-alone pre-school/wraparound provision log cabin will be needed to fulfil this ambitious vision. This project is well supported by Walsall Early Years Team.*

**Waltham Forest**

**London Borough of Waltham Forest Suntrap Forest Education Centre, Lloyd Park, Davies Lane, Church Hill Nursery School and Children’s Centre and Chapel End Infants School**

*This partnership is led by the local authority and is focussing on the creative use of outdoor and mobile play facilities to increase capacity. The partnership brought together organisations with outdoor space and/or an interest in outdoor learning and has been exploring models in which children spend some or all their time outdoors. The partnership is planning a couple of small pilot projects – one involving extending delivery within the grounds of an existing nursery and one in which children are taken to the education centre. The partnership is also exploring training and development to build up a bank of outdoor learning champions.*

*A second aspect to this partnership has been exploring developing strategic links within the local authority to ensure that childcare is central to local authority planning decisions and regeneration projects including housing, employment and assets’ management.*

## Wolverhampton

**Stow Heath Primary School and The Rainbow Day Nursery**

*These partners share a site and the day nursery is overseen by the school governing body. The school will provide 15 hours nursery education, term time only and children will be able to access any additional hours at the day nursery within the hours of 8am- 6pm and in school holidays. The project is well supported by Wolverhampton Local Authority.*