Family and Childcare Trust
Creating a family friendly UK

Ribble Valley

Childcare – a constituency profile

- 5,200 children aged 0-4
- 11,200 children aged 5-14
- 14 per cent of children lived in poverty in 2013 (after housing costs)

Childcare costs in Ribble Valley

- Nurseries are generally 5-10 per cent cheaper than the regional average price, which childminder and after-school clubs tend to be similar in price to the regional average.
- Holiday childcare is 15-25 per cent more expensive
- North West average prices are £106.14 per week for a part-time nursery place for a child under two, childminders = £3.65 per hour, after-school clubs = £43.03 per week and a holiday club = £103.38 per week.

Gaps in provision in Ribble Valley

The local authority undertook a childcare sufficiency review in 2013 and this is available on http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/performance-inspections-reviews/children,-education-and-families/childcare-sufficiency.aspx
As Lancashire is a large county, this review is broken down into areas.
In some parts of Lancashire private and voluntary sector childcare providers find it difficult to break even.
Childcare for disabled children and is a big gap in provision.

Free early education in Ribble Valley

- 6,306 two year olds were eligible for free early education in September 2014.
- There is a need for more free places for two, three and four year olds in some geographic areas.

Comment

In some parts of Lancashire there are fewer childcare places per head of population than more prosperous areas. Demand for childcare is low because many parents struggle to pay for it. Childcare providers may also have difficulty making enough money to stay in business, which means that parents who need childcare may struggle to find it.

Sources: ONS Mid -year population estimates, End Child Poverty Campaign, Family and Childcare Trust costs survey dataset, Department for Education Provision for Children Under Five 2014 statistics.

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