



Early Years

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and Entitlements



Department
for Education

Childcare
Choices



Home
learning
environment

Early years in England

~72,000 providers offering 1.7 million Ofsted registered childcare places in England in Spring 2019

Early years workforce of ~ 363,400 staff

Planned 3.6 billion pounds to be spent on free early years childcare entitlements by DfE in 2020-21

72% of children reached a good level of development (children achieving at least the expected level of development across communication and language, physical development, personal, social and emotional development, literacy and mathematics)

95% of providers rated good or outstanding





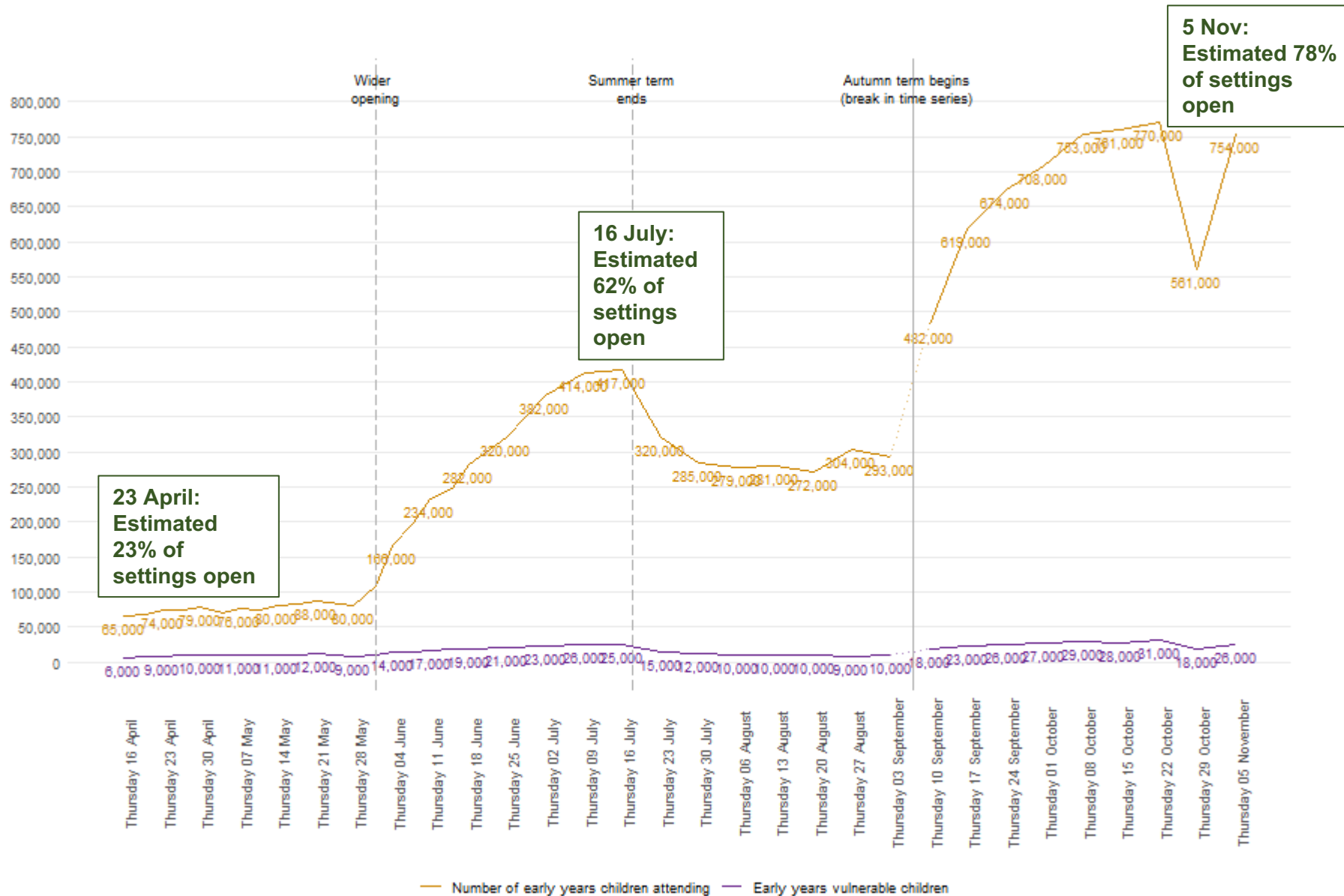
Early Years through Covid-19



Covid-19 response priorities

- **Understanding the impact of the COVID-19 virus on under 5s and the EY workforce**
- **Tracking the impact of the pandemic and response to the pandemic** on under 5s, their families, as well as nurseries, childminders and their staff
- **Access to formal and informal childcare** - inc links to the National Alert Framework & childcare bubbles
- **Guidance on COVID-secure practice in formal settings**
- **Understanding impact on children's outcomes** and supporting parents/carers of 0–5s with early learning in the home. Announcement of Nuffield Early Language Intervention as part of COVID catch-up fund
- **Supporting the childcare market** with continued entitlements funding and access to business support schemes

Early Years attendance through COVID-19



Looking ahead

Estimating parental demand

- Further monitoring. In September, 94% of parents who used childcare pre-COVID said their child was already back in childcare (88%) or would be by January 2021.

Provider financial sustainability

- Further monitoring. Continued concerns from providers about sustainability.
- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Self-Employment Income Support Scheme have been extended into the spring.
- DfE announcement on spring term entitlement funding.
- Spending Review announcement for 21-22 funding.

Entitlements

- Protection of access to 30 hours for parents who have experience a loss of income extended to the end of March and linked to government schemes such as CJRS.
- Communication about 30 hours grace periods.
- Monitoring of 2 Year Old entitlement take up and contract to provide support to LAs.

Supporting practice

- Professional Development Programme continues online
- Nuffield Early Language Intervention roll out in reception

Further information

EY enquiries from LAs: Earlyyears.entitlements@education.gov.uk

Childcare Choices: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Hungry Little Minds: <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

DfE statistics publications: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-childcare-and-early-years>

COVID:

Main EY COVID guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

Childcare bubble guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-childcare-bubble-with-another-household>

Attendance in Early Years: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/attendance-in-education-and-early-years-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Latest DfE/Ipsos MORI Parent Poll: <https://www.ipsos.com/ipsos-mori/en-uk/childcare-and-home-learning-families-0-4-year-olds-during-covid-19-0>

Survey of Childcare and Early Years Providers and COVID-19:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/929329/SCEYP_COVID-19_main_report.pdf