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30 Hours Free Childcare: Evidence from the Survey of Childcare and Early Years Providers 2018

Research report

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Contents

Acknowledgements	4
List of figures	5
List of tables	6
Executive summary	10
1. Introduction	13
1.1 Policy and research context	13
1.2 Research aims	15
1.3 Methodology	15
1.4 Glossary of terminology	17
2. Engagement with 30 hours free childcare and other policies	18
Key findings	18
2.1 Proportions and numbers of providers delivering and offering 30 hours free childcare	18
2.2 Universal 15 hours free entitlement and 30 hours offer	20
2.3 Overlap with the two year old free entitlement and Tax Free Childcare	23
3. Characteristics associated with offering 30 hours free childcare	26
Key findings	26
3.1 Region	27
3.2 Deprivation and urbanity	27
3.3 Type and size of setting	29
3.4 Profile of children attending the setting	31
3.5 Opening times, spare capacity and staff ratios	33
3.6 Parent-paid fees and additional charges	36
3.7 Key drivers	39
4. Flexibility of the 30 hours free childcare offer	42
Key findings	42
4.1 Flexibility in the offer	43
4.2 Area characteristics	46
4.3 Setting characteristics	49

5. Conclusions	53
References	56
Appendix	57

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List of figures

Figure 1: Proportion of all providers with 3-4 year olds that were delivering, or offering but not delivering, the 30 hours entitlement (%)	19
Figure 2: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether they offered funded hours for 2 year olds (%)	24
Figure 3: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether signed up for Tax Free Childcare (TFC) (%)	25
Figure 4: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by region (%)	27
Figure 5: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by deprivation (%)	28
Figure 6: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership (%)	29
Figure 7: Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours by type of school (%)	30
Figure 8: Proportion of providers offering extended hours by spare capacity (%)	35
Figure 9: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether they made additional charges (%)	38
Figure 10: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by region (%)	47
Figure 11: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours with no time restriction by region (%)	47

List of tables

Table 1 Proportion of all providers with 3-4 year olds that offered the universal 15 hours free entitlement and/or 30 hours free entitlement	21
Table 2 Proportion of funded providers with 3-4 year olds that were delivering, or offering but not delivering, the 30 hours free entitlement	22
Table 3 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by provider size (group-based providers and school nurseries)	30
Table 4 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by provider size (childminders)	31
Table 5 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether have children under age three at setting (all provider types)	31
Table 6 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by proportion of children receiving EYPP (group-based and school nurseries)	33
Table 7 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by opening hours	34
Table 8 Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours by opening hours	34
Table 9 Proportion of childminders offering 30 hours by opening hours	35
Table 10 Proportion of childminders offering 30 hours by fees for 3-4 year olds	37
Table 11 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by fees for 2 year olds	37
Table 12 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by fees for school-age children	38
Table 13 Summary of drivers of engagement with 30 Hours	39
Table 14 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours in term time and holidays (all providers)	43
Table 15 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours that could be used at any time of the day (all providers)	44
Table 16 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by full or sessional day care	45
Table 17 Whether 30 hours can be used throughout the term or at any time of the day by provider type	46

Table 18 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by urban or rural setting (all provider types)	48
Table 19 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by urban or rural setting (all provider types)	49
Table 20 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by size of setting (all provider types)	50
Table 21 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by size of setting (all provider types)	51
Table 22 Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours throughout the year by age profile (school nurseries)	52
Table A.1 Offering 30 hours by whether setting offered funded hours for two year olds (all provider types, base: settings with 3 and 4 year olds)	57
Table A.2 Offering 30 hours by whether setting offered funded hours for two year olds (group-based providers and childminders, base: settings with 2, 3 and 4 year olds)	57
Table A.3 Offering 30 hours by whether setting has signed up for Tax Free Childcare payments (all provider types)	58
Table A.4 Offering 30 hours by region (all provider types)	59
Table A.5 Offering 30 hours by region (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)	60
Table A.6 Offering 30 hours by area deprivation (all provider types)	61
Table A.7 Offering 30 hours by area deprivation (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)	62
Table A.8 Offering 30 hours by urban or rural setting (all provider types)	63
Table A.9 Offering 30 hours by urban or rural setting (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)	63
Table A.10 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership	64
Table A.11 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership (including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)	64

Table A.12 Offering 30 hours by whether part of chain (group-based providers).....	65
Table A.13 Offering 30 hours by whether part of chain (group-based providers, including those not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds).....	65
Table A.14 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by type of school (school nurseries)	65
Table A.15 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by type of school (school nurseries, including those not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds).....	66
Table A.16 Offering 30 hours by proportion of SEND at setting (group-based and school nurseries).....	67
Table A.17 Offering 30 hours by whether children with SEND at setting (childminders)..	67
Table A.18 Offering 30 hours by opening weeks (all provider types)	68
Table A.19 Offering 30 hours by whether there was spare capacity at setting (all provider types)	68
Table A.20 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 2 year olds (group-based providers).....	69
Table A.21 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 3-4 year olds (group-based providers)	69
Table A.22 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 3-4 year olds (school nurseries)	70
Table A.23 Offering 30 hours by fees for 3-4 year olds (group-based providers)	70
Table A.24 Offering 30 hours by fees for under 2s (group-based providers)	71
Table A.25 Offering 30 hours by fees for under 2s (childminders).....	71
Table A.26 Offering 30 hours by fees for 2 year olds (childminders)	72
Table A.27 Offering 30 hours by fees for school children (childminders).....	72
Table A.28 Offering 30 hours by additional charges (all provider types).....	73
Table A.29 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (group-based providers)	74
Table A.30 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (school nurseries)	75
Table A.31 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (childminders).....	76
Table A.32 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by region.....	77

Table A.33 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours with no time restriction by region.....	77
Table A.34 Whether 30 hours could be used in term time and holidays by whether part of a chain (group-based providers)	78
Table A.35 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by whether part of a chain (group-based providers)	78
Table A.36 Whether 30 hours could be used throughout the year by type of setting (group-based providers).....	78
Table A.37 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by type of setting (group-based providers).....	79
Table A.38 Whether 30 hours could be used in term time and holidays by type of setting (school nurseries)	79
Table A.39 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by type of setting (school nurseries)	80
Table A.40 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by age profile (school nurseries).....	80

Executive summary

In September 2017, the free early education entitlement for three and four year old children of 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year (or 570 hours taken flexibly over the year) was extended for working parents to 30 hours per week for 38 weeks per year (or 1,140 hours per year). The aims of the 30 hours free childcare policy are to help families by reducing the cost of childcare and to support families into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so (Department for Education, 2015). Whether these policy aims will be achieved depends to a large extent on the engagement of the early years sector with the new policy and on whether the level of flexibility for using extended hours that is offered by providers is sufficient to meet parents' needs. The engagement with the policy is needed from all types of providers operating in the early years sector across different regions of England, including group-based providers such as day nurseries and pre-schools, school-based providers such as nursery provision in maintained and independent schools and maintained nursery schools, and childminders.

The aims of the research presented in this report were:

- to provide nationally representative estimates of providers' engagement with the 30 hours entitlement;
- to examine the characteristics associated with a greater likelihood of offering the 30 hours entitlement, including setting characteristics and those of their local area;
- to consider the flexibility of the offer for parents.

The report uses data from the Survey of Childcare and Early Years Providers (SCEYP) 2018, which was undertaken in Spring 2018 and is the first national survey with early years and childcare providers since the national rollout of the 30 hours offer. It builds on the evidence from the earlier evaluations of 30 hours (Paull and La Valle, 2018).

Evidence presented in this report shows that levels of engagement with the 30 hours offer (also referred to as the extended hours) were high:

- Among providers with children aged three or four, 90% of group-based providers, 67% of school nurseries and 77% of childminders were offering the 30 hours entitlement.
- Of those offering, most were also delivering the extended hours, that is, they had children taking up the extended hours at their setting at the time of the survey.
- Proportions of settings that had three and four year old children and were offering but not delivering the extended hours were very low for group-based providers and school nurseries (3% for both) but higher for childminders (19%).

- Of those providers that were 'funded' (were offering funded hours for three and four year olds under either the universal entitlement policy or the 30 hours free childcare), 90% were offering the 30 hours entitlement (92% of group-based providers, 69% of school nurseries and 94% of childminders).

The engagement with the 30 hours offer was positively associated with whether providers offered the two year old free entitlement and had signed up for Tax Free Childcare. Settings offering these two policies were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement.

Whether providers offered the 30 hours entitlement was associated with a number of characteristics of their provision and of the area where they were located:

- For group-based providers, location was important: providers in London were less likely to offer the extended hours compared to other regions, while settings in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to make the offer than settings in less deprived areas. In addition, settings run by local authorities were less likely to offer the extended hours than those in the private or voluntary sector, while larger settings, settings open for more weeks or for more hours in the day and settings with spare capacity were more likely to engage with this policy.
- For school nurseries, the main drivers of engagement were type of school and the opening hours. Maintained nursery schools were much more likely to offer the extended hours than other types of schools and maintained primary schools were more likely to offer the extended hours compared with independent schools. In addition, settings that were open for more hours each day were more likely to offer the 30 hours than those open for fewer hours.
- For childminders, there was weaker evidence (statistically significant at lower confidence levels) that region, size of provider and opening hours were the main drivers (with London having the lowest percentage of childminders offering the 30 hours and larger providers/ those open for longer hours being more likely to offer the extended hours).

The flexibility of the offer was associated with a number of provider and area characteristics:

- Group-based providers and childminders were much more likely than school nurseries to offer the extended hours throughout the year: 50% of group-based providers and 51% of childminders made a year-round offer but only 8% of school nurseries did so. This was related to school nurseries being much less likely to be open all year round compared to other provider types. Of those group-based providers that were open for more than 39 weeks a year, 80% allowed parents to use their extended hours throughout the year.

- There was less variation by provider type in terms of the flexibility of use of the extended hours within the day: childminders were most flexible (92% did not impose any restrictions on parents), group-based providers were less flexible (73% did not have restrictions) and school nurseries were most likely to restrict when the hours could be used (62% did not have restrictions).
- There was some variation in both measures of flexibility by region, urbanity of area, by type of ownership (private or voluntary), whether the setting was part of a chain, and by size of setting. The patterns were often different for flexibility throughout the year and within the day. For example, group-based providers that were part of a chain were more likely to offer the 30 hours throughout the year but less likely to be flexible in terms of session timings, compared to settings that were not part of a chain.

It was not possible to evaluate the impact of the 30 hours entitlement on early years providers using data from SCEYP 2018 because this was a cross-sectional survey rather than an evaluation and it only asked a small number of questions about the policy. However, over the years, data from the SCEYP survey series will make it possible to monitor levels of engagement with the policy across providers with different characteristics, to track key drivers of that engagement and to monitor whether patterns in how flexible different providers are with the offer are changing.

1. Introduction

1.1 Policy and research context

In September 2017, the free early education entitlement for three and four year old children of 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year (or 570 hours taken flexibly over the year) was extended for working parents¹ to 30 hours per week for 38 weeks per year (or 1,140 hours per year). This followed early tests of the policy over the previous year with partial implementation in seven local authorities and a complete rollout in five local authorities.²

The stated aims of 30 hours free childcare are that it “will help families by reducing the cost of childcare and will support families into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so” (Department for Education, 2015, page 4). The follow-up survey to the Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2017 (the follow-up survey was carried out during April to July 2018) found that the weekly amount spent on childcare had fallen for 69% of families using the 30 hours offer, while 13% of families using the extended hours had entered work and 16% had increased their working hours (Huskinson and Lohar Self, 2018). The Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents 2018 (carried out during January to August 2018) found that 74% of parents using 30 hours reported having more money to spend compared with before they took up the 30 hours, 34% thought that in the absence of the 30 hours they would be working fewer hours, 66% felt the 30 hours had given them more flexibility in terms of the number of hours they could work, and 50% felt the 30 hours had given them more flexibility in terms of which job they could do (Department for Education, 2018a).

The Survey of Childcare and Early Years Providers (SCEYP) series started collecting information about 30 hours in 2016, when SCEYP 2016 collected data on providers’ plans regarding 30 hours free childcare. This survey found that in spring 2016 (14 to 18 months before the planned introduction in September 2017), 63% of group-based providers, 44% of school-based providers and 55% of childminders were planning to offer the extended hours whereas 19% of group-based providers, 28% of school-based providers and 12% of childminders reported that they were uncertain about whether they

¹ Working families are defined as those where both parents are in work and both earn at least the equivalent of working 16 hours a week at the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage (which currently equates to earnings of £125.28 a week for parents aged 25 or over) and do not earn more than £100,000 a year (<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?step-by-step-nav=f517cd57-3c18-4bb9-aa8b-1b907e279bf9>)

² As part of early implementation of 30 hours, seven local authorities piloted partial implementation and one local authority piloted a complete rollout. Following these pilots, another four local authorities piloted a complete rollout.

would offer the 30 hours entitlement (Panayiotou *et al.*, 2017, page 112). Group-based providers were more likely to be planning to offer the extended hours if they had spare capacity, if they offered the full day provision (rather than sessional care), if they were located in a deprived area and if they had more paid staff. Maintained nursery schools were more likely to be planning to make the offer than other school-based providers, but all types of school nurseries were more likely to be planning to offer the extended hours if they were located in a deprived area or had more children registered with the school for nursery provision. Childminders were also more likely to be planning to offer the extended hours if they were located in more deprived areas (Panayiotou *et al.*, 2017).

Evaluations of the early rollout and the first year of the national rollout of 30 hours free childcare were undertaken on behalf of the Department for Education (Paull *et al.*, 2017a; Paull *et al.*, 2017b; Paull and La Valle, 2018). These evaluations explored providers' experiences of delivering the extended funded hours and the impacts of the policy on their settings, as well as examining the experiences of parents in taking up and using the extended hours. The main findings from the evaluation of the national rollout were that a high proportion of providers delivering the funded entitlement were willing and able to offer the extended hours, although the policy required some adjustments to provision for some providers and the financial impacts were mixed. Almost all registered parents had obtained an extended hours place, with very few not taking up the extended hours because they could not use them in the way they wanted or because they could not find a provider offering the hours. However, better information about the extended offer and how to access it locally could facilitate access for the unknown number of eligible parents who have not applied (Paull and La Valle, 2018).

This report uses data from SCEYP 2018,³ which was undertaken during March to July 2018. SCEYP 2018 is the first national survey with early years and childcare providers since the national rollout of 30 hours. It provides the first opportunity to analyse providers' engagement with the policy in different regions of England using a representative national sample. This data also allows an in-depth exploration of the types of providers most likely to offer the extended hours to parents and the key drivers of provider engagement with the policy.

This report builds on the evidence from the earlier evaluations of 30 hours. Where appropriate, it compares key estimates from SCEYP 2018 with those from the national evaluation (Paull and La Valle, 2018) and from the early years census and spring school census (Department for Education, 2018b).

³ The main report for this survey covers broader topics and was published separately in November 2018; see Department for Education, 2018c.

1.2 Research aims

The aims of the research presented in this report were:

1. To provide nationally representative estimates of providers' engagement with the 30 hours policy (chapter 2). This included:
 - Robustly estimating the proportions of providers that have three and four year old children that are 'delivering' the extended hours (i.e. have at least one child taking up the extended hours at their setting); that are 'offering' the extended hours (including those currently without any children taking up the hours); and that are not engaging with the policy (that is, not offering the extended hours at their setting).
 - Exploring the relationships between this engagement and engagement with the universal free entitlement for three and four years olds, the two year old free entitlement and Tax Free Childcare.
2. To examine the characteristics associated with a greater likelihood of offering the 30 hours entitlement (chapter 3). This included:
 - Examining the proportions of providers offering the extended hours by area characteristics (region, deprivation and urbanity) and setting characteristics (type and size of setting, profile of children, spare capacity, opening hours, staff ratios, parent paid fees and additional charges).
 - Identifying the key associations with offering the extended hours using multivariate regression analysis.
3. To consider the flexibility of the offer for parents (chapter 4). This included:
 - Considering the restrictions placed on when parents could use the extended hours across the year and within the day.
 - Examining provider characteristics associated with greater flexibility.

Data from future surveys will make it possible to monitor levels of engagement with the policy and to analyse whether the drivers of engagement are changing over time.

1.3 Methodology

In 2018, the SCEYP included a main survey undertaken by telephone and an additional, shorter survey undertaken online and by post (full details of the survey methodology are included in Marshall *et al.*, 2018). This report uses data from providers that had three and/or four year old pre-school children at their setting and were therefore asked about offering the extended hours. Only data from the main survey was used as it collected more detail about providers' engagement with 30 hours free childcare and more background information.

The survey collected data from group-based providers (such as day nurseries, pre-schools and out-of-school childcare providers), school-based providers (including nursery, reception and before- and after-school provision at schools) and childminders. The sample sizes for providers with three and four year old children were:

- 5141 group-based providers in the private, voluntary and maintained sectors
- 968 school nurseries⁴ (state-funded and independent primary schools with nursery provision and maintained nursery schools)
- 861 childminders

The 2018 survey included several questions about the 30 hours offer for these providers:

- Whether any of the three and/or four year old preschool children attending the setting received the extended hours under the 30 hours free childcare.
- *If yes*, a subgroup of respondents (in pre-specified interview variants) were asked two questions about the flexibility of the offer: (1) whether parents were able to use the extended hours throughout the year, and (2) whether parents were able to use the extended hours at any time of the day.
- *If no*, a question was asked about whether the provider was currently offering the extended hours to parents of eligible three and four year olds (even if no children were actually taking it up at the time of the survey).

All statistics and analysis were weighted using a specially designed weighting scheme to present findings which are nationally representative of all early years settings in England.

All reported differences are statistically significant at the 5% level unless otherwise stated.

SCEYP data does not allow to test the causality in the associations explored. This should be taken into account when interpreting the findings on the factors of engagement with the 30 hours entitlement.

⁴ School nurseries (identified from the school census) within this report refer to nursery provision in schools (including maintained nursery schools). The main SCEYP survey also included reception provision in schools but schools that were asked about their reception provision were not asked about 30 hours and therefore are not included in this report.

1.4 Glossary of terminology

The following terms are used in the report:

- “30 hours free childcare”, “30 hours entitlement”, “30 hours offer”, and “extended (funded) hours” are used interchangeably to refer to the 30 hours free childcare policy and the hours funded under this entitlement.
- The term “delivering 30 hours” refers to providers having at least one child at their setting taking up hours funded under the 30 hours entitlement.
- The term “offering 30 hours” includes both providers delivering 30 hours and providers that did not have any children at their setting currently taking up the 30 hours offer but that offered this entitlement in principle.
- Providers were considered to be “engaged” with the 30 hours offer if they offered 30 hours at their setting.
- “Funded providers” in this report are those that offered funded hours to three and/or four year old children under either the universal entitlement to 15 hours free childcare or the 30 hours entitlement; so, this group includes also those providers that did not have any children currently taking up the funded hours at their setting.
- The terms “provider” and “setting” are used interchangeably and refer to different kinds of early years provision including group-based providers (e.g. day nurseries and pre-schools), school nurseries (nursery provision in state-funded and independent schools and maintained nursery schools) and childminders.

2. Engagement with 30 hours free childcare and other policies

This chapter presents the proportions of providers *delivering* the 30 hours offer (i.e. have at least one child taking up the extended hours at their setting) and *offering* the 30 hours entitlement (including those delivering the entitlement and those currently without any children taking up the extended hours but that offer it in principle). It also explores the relationships between the engagement with 30 hours free childcare (i.e. offering the 30 hours entitlement at the setting) and engagement with the universal free entitlement for three and four year olds, with the two year old free entitlement, and with Tax Free Childcare.

Key findings

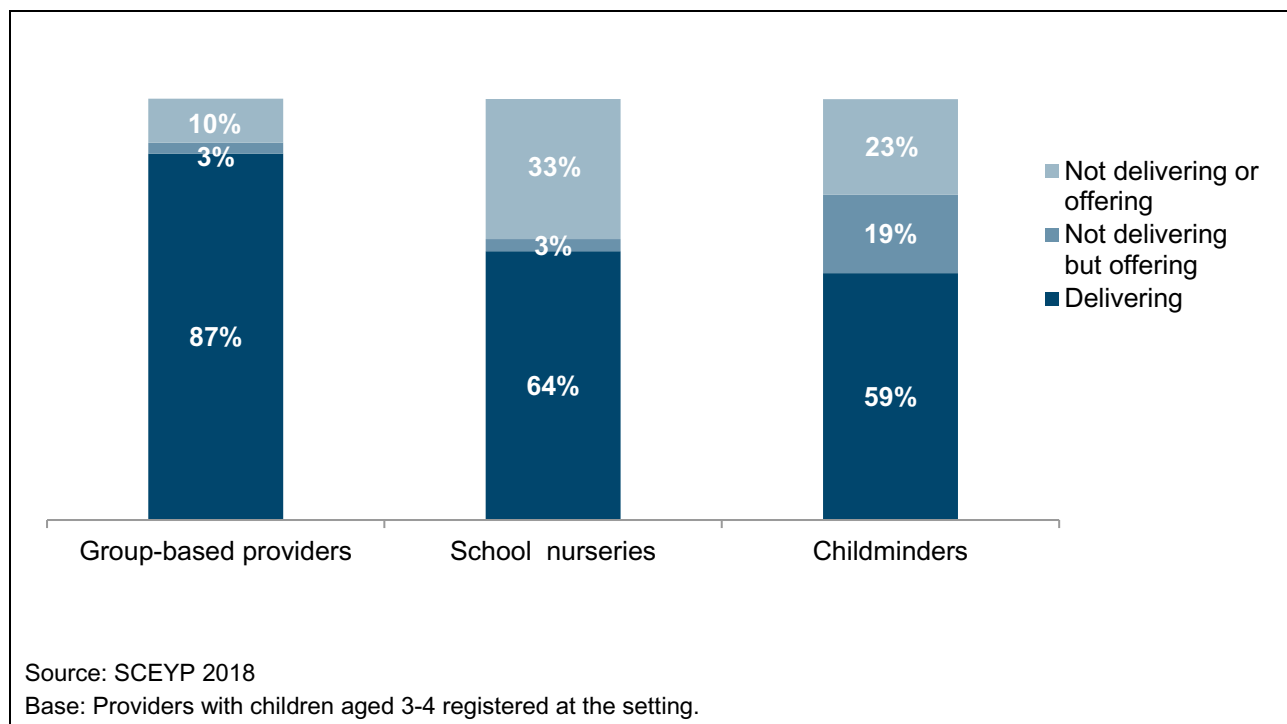
- Among providers that had children aged three or four registered with the setting, 90% of group-based providers, 67% of school nurseries and 77% of childminders were offering the 30 hours entitlement.
- Of those offering, most were also delivering the extended hours, that is, they had children taking up the extended hours at their setting at the time of the survey. Proportions of settings offering but not delivering the extended hours were very low for group-based providers and school nurseries (3% for both) but higher for childminders (19%).
- Of those providers that were 'funded' (were offering funded hours for three and four year olds under either the universal entitlement policy or the 30 hours free childcare), 90% were offering the 30 hours entitlement (92% of group-based providers, 69% of school nurseries and 94% of childminders).
- The engagement with the 30 hours offer was positively associated with whether providers offered the two year old free entitlement and had signed up for Tax Free Childcare. Settings offering these two policies were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement.

2.1 Proportions and numbers of providers delivering and offering 30 hours free childcare

The majority of providers with three and four year old preschool children (87% of group-based providers, 64% of school nurseries and 59% of childminders) were delivering extended hours under the 30 hours free childcare (see Figure 1). In addition, 3% of group-based providers, 3% of school nurseries and 19% of childminders were offering the 30 hours entitlement but did not have any children taking it up at the time of the

survey. The remaining proportion of providers not engaged with the policy was 10% for group-based providers, 33% for school nurseries and 23% for childminders.

Figure 1: Proportion of all providers with 3-4 year olds that were delivering, or offering but not delivering, the 30 hours entitlement (%)



When translated into grossed-up national estimates, SCEYP estimates suggest that 18,360 group-based providers, 5,410 school nurseries and 16,720 childminders (40,490 providers in total) were delivering the 30 hours entitlement in Spring 2018. These estimates are somewhat higher than those reported in *Education Provision: Children Under 5 Years of Age, January 2018*, which is based on the early years census and spring school census (Department for Education, 2018b), particularly in relation to childminders. The census figures show that extended funded hours were delivered by a total of 34,250 settings including 11,220 childminders (Department for Education, 2018b; *Provision for Children Under 5, 2018 – text, page 7*). The differences are likely to be due to different methodologies being used, including the recognised undercounting of

childminders in the early years census,⁵ and possibly also to the different dates of data collection, with the SCEYP data collection taking place a few months later (March to July 2018) than the early years census and spring school census (January 2018).⁶

Comparisons between SCEYP 2018 estimates and those from the survey of providers for the evaluation of the national rollout of 30 hours free childcare (Paull and La Valle, 2018), which covered 12 local authorities and took place from February to April in the same year as SCEYP, suggest broad similarities. In the survey of providers for the evaluation of the national rollout, 92% and 2% of private providers were delivering and only offering extended hours respectively and 86% and 2% of voluntary providers were delivering and only offering extended hours, which is similar to the 87% and 3% of group-based providers delivering and only offering found in SCEYP (see Figure 1). For maintained providers, the evaluation survey found that 81% and 5% were delivering and only offering the extended hours. This is higher than the 64% and 3% of school-based providers in SCEYP, but this may reflect the differences in the definitions of type categories, with the evaluation survey including non-school-based maintained providers and not including independent schools. In the evaluation survey, 60% and 14% of childminders were delivering and only offering the extended hours, which is similar to the 59% and 19% in SCEYP.

2.2 Universal 15 hours free entitlement and 30 hours offer

Almost all providers that offered the extended hours also offered the universal 15 free entitlement hours for three and four year olds (see Table 1). The proportions of providers with three and four year olds that were offering the 30 hours entitlement but not the universal 15 hours was 0.5% for group-based providers, 0.1% for school nurseries and 4% for childminders.

⁵ When a child splits their entitlement over more than one provider, the provider where they spend the majority of their time is counted in the early years census and the other provider is removed. As childminders often provide wrap-around care, the count of childminders is adversely affected by this methodology. In the 2018 early years census, for the extended entitlement, 78% of the providers removed were childminders (Department for Education, 2018*b*; Provision for Children Under 5, 2018 – Technical document, page 6).

⁶ It is possible that more children were taking up the extended hours by March-July 2018 than in January 2018 as the policy would have had longer to become established. In addition, numbers of children attending early years providers fluctuate throughout the year, with the summer term usually seeing the highest occupancy rates.

Table 1 Proportion of all providers with 3-4 year olds that offered the universal 15 hours free entitlement and/or 30 hours free entitlement

	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Child-minders	All providers
Offering both universal 15 hours and 30 hours	89%	67%	74%	78%
Offering universal 15 hours only	7%	30%	5%	9%
Offering 30 hours only	0.5%	0.1%	4%	2%
Not offering any funded hours for 3-4 year olds	3%	3%	18%	10%
<i>Base (unweighted) Providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>5141</i>	<i>968</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>6970</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table 2 shows proportions of *funded providers* that were (i) not delivering or offering the 30 hours (these providers did not allow parents to take up the 30 hours entitlement at their setting), (ii) not delivering but offering the 30 hours (these providers did not have any children currently taking up the 30 hours entitlement but they offered it in principle) and (iii) delivering the 30 hours (at least one child at the setting was taking up the extended hours). ‘Funded providers’ are defined here as those that offered funded hours for three and four year olds under either the universal free entitlement policy for three and/or four year olds or the 30 hours free childcare. Hence, this excludes those not offering any funded hours for this age group shown in the final row of Table 1.

Table 2 Proportion of funded providers with 3-4 year olds that were delivering, or offering but not delivering, the 30 hours free entitlement

	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Child-minders	All providers
Not delivering or offering (= 'Not engaged')	8%	31%	6%	10%
Not delivering but offering	3%	3%	23%	12%
Delivering	90%	66%	71%	78%
= 'Engaged':	92%	69%	94%	90%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>5001</i>	<i>948</i>	<i>723</i>	<i>6672</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

The proportions of *funded* group-based providers and school nurseries shown in Table 2 are very close to the proportions for *all* providers (shown in Figure 1). This is because most group-based providers and school nurseries were 'funded', i.e. they were offering funded hours to three and four year old children under either the universal free entitlement policy or the 30 hours policy. However, for childminders, the proportion delivering and offering among *funded* providers (94%, see Table 2) was considerably higher than among *all* providers (77%, see Figure 1) because a high proportion of childminders were not offering *any* funded hours for this age group. Once the focus is on the population of *funded* providers, analysis shows that childminders had, in fact, the highest level of engagement with the 30 hours entitlement (94%, see Table 2) compared to other providers types (92% of group-based providers and 69% of school nurseries, see Table 2).

In order to focus on the drivers of engagement with 30 hours free childcare rather than on the drivers of engagement with the free entitlement, the remainder of the report considers the offer of the 30 hours entitlement among funded providers only. Funded providers that were offering but not delivering are not considered separately for group-based providers and school nurseries because they were such a small group. However, the proportion of childminders who were offering but not delivering 30 hours was larger (23%, see Table 2), so the report includes some analysis of that group.

2.3 Overlap with the two year old free entitlement and Tax Free Childcare

In addition to delivering funded hours to three and four year olds, providers may also offer free entitlement hours to eligible two year olds and may sign up to Tax Free Childcare (TFC). This section considers whether providers that were offering funded hours for two year olds or were signed up to TFC were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement for three and four year olds.

The two year old free entitlement was introduced in September 2013, with two year olds from the 20% lowest income families becoming eligible for 15 hours a week of free early education (or 570 hours per year), in the same way that all three and four year olds were. This entitlement was extended to cover more disadvantaged two year olds from September 2014.⁷ As with the universal 15 hours for all three and four year olds and 30 hours free childcare, the two year old entitlement is administered by local authorities (although at a different funding rate to three and four year old entitlements).

Analysis of the SCEYP data shows that providers offering the two year old free entitlement were slightly more likely to offer the extended hours: 93% compared to 82% for group-based providers, 80% compared to 66% for school nurseries and 96% compared to 90% for childminders (see Figure 2 and Table A.1 in the Appendix).⁸

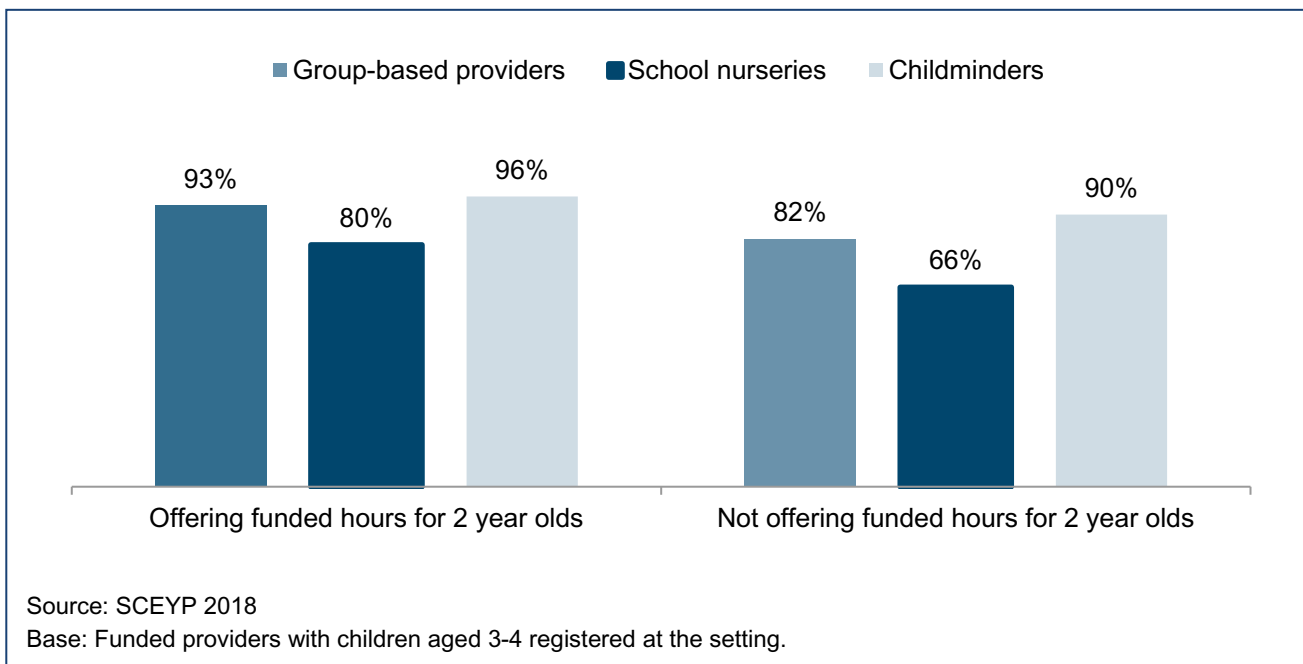
The base for the analysis shown in Figure 2 is all funded providers with three and four year olds at the setting, including those without any two year olds. However, separate analyses on the base of providers with two year olds show very similar patterns (see Table A.2 in the Appendix).⁹

⁷ Full details of current eligibility can be found on gov.uk.

⁸ All reported differences are statistically significant at the 5% level unless otherwise stated.

⁹ It was not possible to analyse separately school nurseries with two year olds that did not offer funded hours for two year olds as the base size was too small.

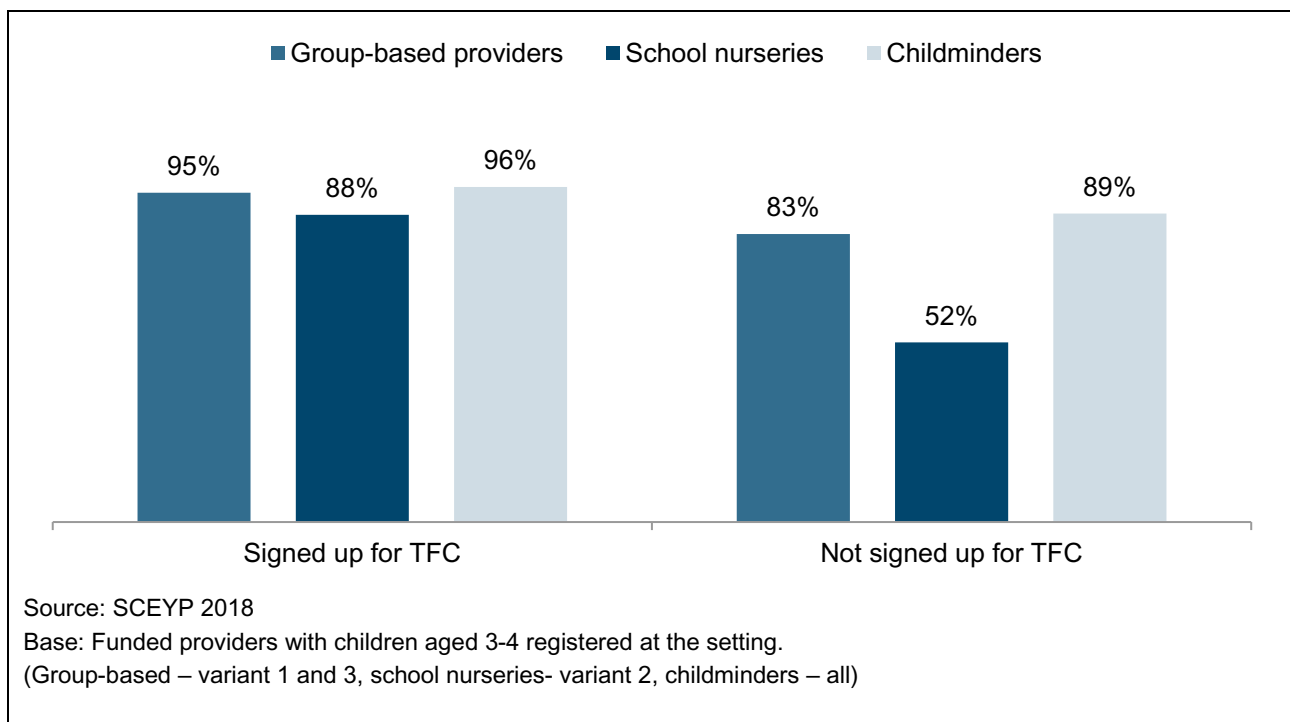
Figure 2: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether they offered funded hours for 2 year olds (%)



TFC was introduced much more recently than the two year old free entitlement. TFC was rolled out across England from April 2017, at the same time as the first cohort of parents were able to apply for 30 hours free childcare. Under TFC, parents can set up childcare accounts to pay for registered and approved forms of childcare into which the government pays a 20% top-up (up to a maximum top up of £2,000 per year per child). The earnings eligibility criteria are similar for both policies, which means that parents eligible for 30 hours free childcare are generally eligible for TFC. However, from the providers' perspective, the administration process is different, and providers must 'sign up' for TFC with HMRC to be able to receive payments from parents' childcare accounts.

Analysis of the SCEYP data shows that, across all provider types, providers that had signed up for TFC were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement than those that had not (see Figure 3 and Table A.3 in the Appendix). The difference was particularly marked for school nurseries, with 88% of those offering TFC offering the extended hours compared to 52% of those not signed up to TFC. For childminders, the difference was less pronounced and was not statistically significant.

Figure 3: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether signed up for Tax Free Childcare (TFC) (%)



3. Characteristics associated with offering 30 hours free childcare

This chapter examines the characteristics associated with a greater likelihood of offering the 30 hours entitlement. These characteristics include both local area context (region, deprivation and urbanity) and setting features (type and size of setting, profile of children, spare capacity, opening hours, staff ratios, parent paid fees and additional charges). The final section in the chapter presents findings from multivariate regression analysis identifying the key associations with the 30 hours offer. Throughout, the analysis considers only funded providers, i.e. those that were offering either the universal free entitlement or the 30 hours to three and four year old children.

Key findings

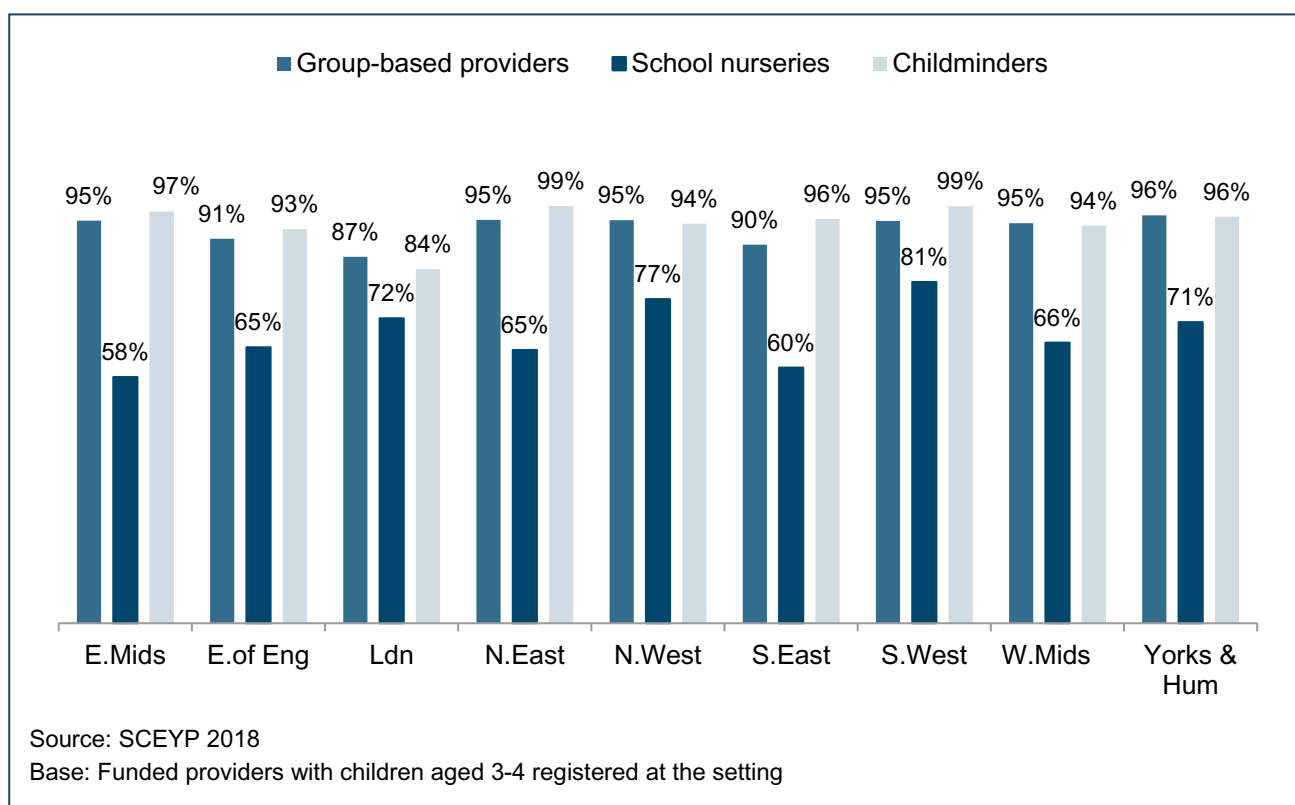
Whether providers offered the 30 hours entitlement was associated with a number of characteristics of their provision and of the area where they were located:

- For group-based providers, location was important: providers in London were less likely to offer the extended hours compared to other regions, while settings in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to make the offer than settings in less deprived areas. In addition, group-based settings run by local authorities were less likely to offer the extended hours than those in the private or voluntary sector, while larger settings, settings open for more weeks or for more hours in the day and settings with spare capacity were more likely to engage with this policy.
- For school nurseries, the main drivers of engagement were type of school and the opening hours. Maintained nursery schools were much more likely to offer the extended hours than other types of schools and state-funded primary schools were more likely to offer the extended hours compared with independent schools. In addition, settings that were open for more hours each day were more likely to offer the 30 hours than those open for fewer hours.
- For childminders, there was weaker evidence (statistically significant at lower confidence levels) that region, size of provider and opening hours were the main drivers (with London having the lowest percentage of childminders offering the 30 hours and larger providers/ those open for longer hours being more likely to offer the extended hours).

3.1 Region

Proportions of providers offering the extended hours varied by region (see Figure 4 and Table A.4 in the Appendix). For group-based providers, the proportion offering the extended hours ranged from 96% in Yorkshire and the Humber to 87% in London. School nurseries were most likely to offer extended hours in the South West (81%) and least likely in the East Midlands (58%). Only 84% of childminders in London offered the extended hours compared to 99% of funded childminders in the South West and the North East.

Figure 4: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by region (%)

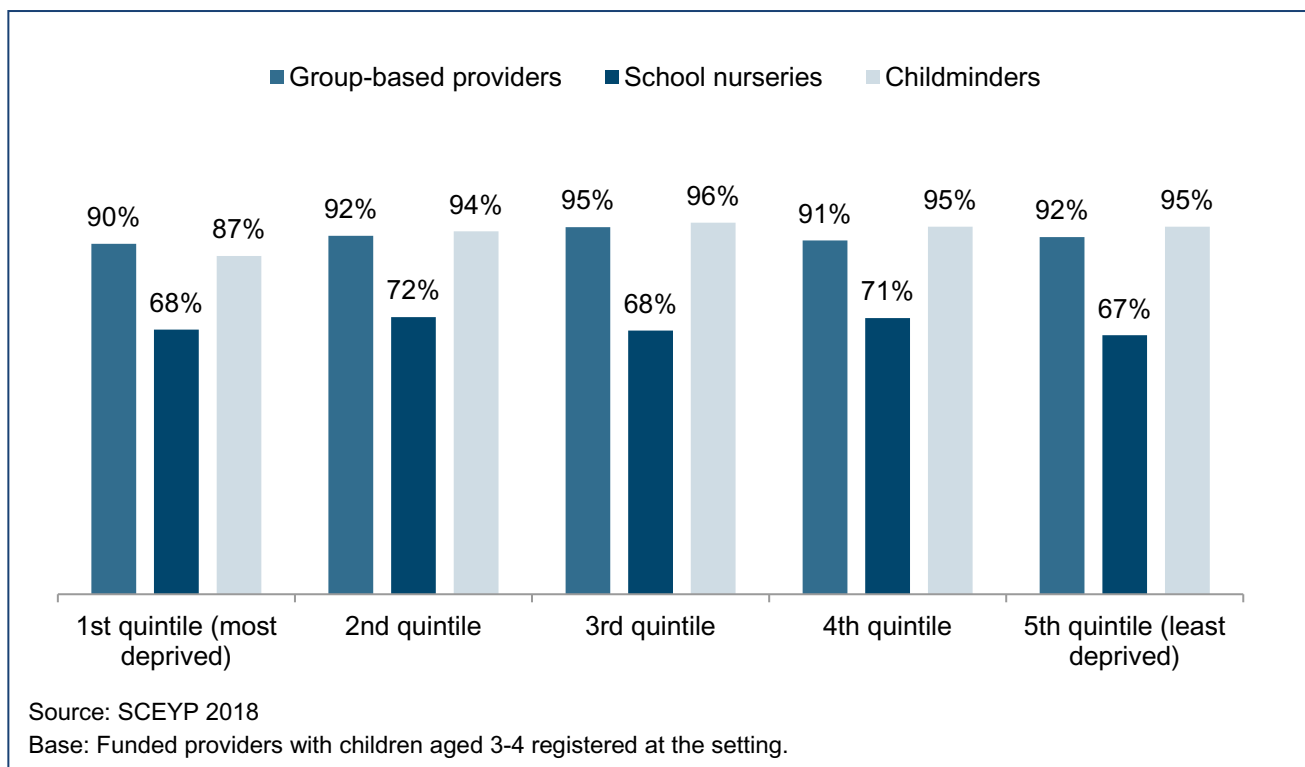


3.2 Deprivation and urbanity

Analysis by area deprivation measured by the IMD (Index of Multiple Deprivation) quintiles shows that there were no clear patterns of association between the level of deprivation and the likelihood of different provider types to offer the 30 hours entitlement. Childminders in the most deprived areas were somewhat less likely to offer the extended hours (87%) than those in less deprived areas of the country (94-96%) but this difference was not statistically significant (see Figure 5 and Table A.5 in the Appendix).

However, in a separate set of analyses based on multivariate regression models controlling for other area and settings characteristics, area deprivation was in fact a significant factor but for group-based settings only (see section 3.7). Group-based providers located in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement than those located in more affluent areas. This might be explained by a lower demand for 30 hours from parents in the most deprived areas due to fewer parents being eligible. There were no significant differences in the 30 hours availability by area deprivation for school nurseries or childminders.¹⁰

Figure 5: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by deprivation (%)



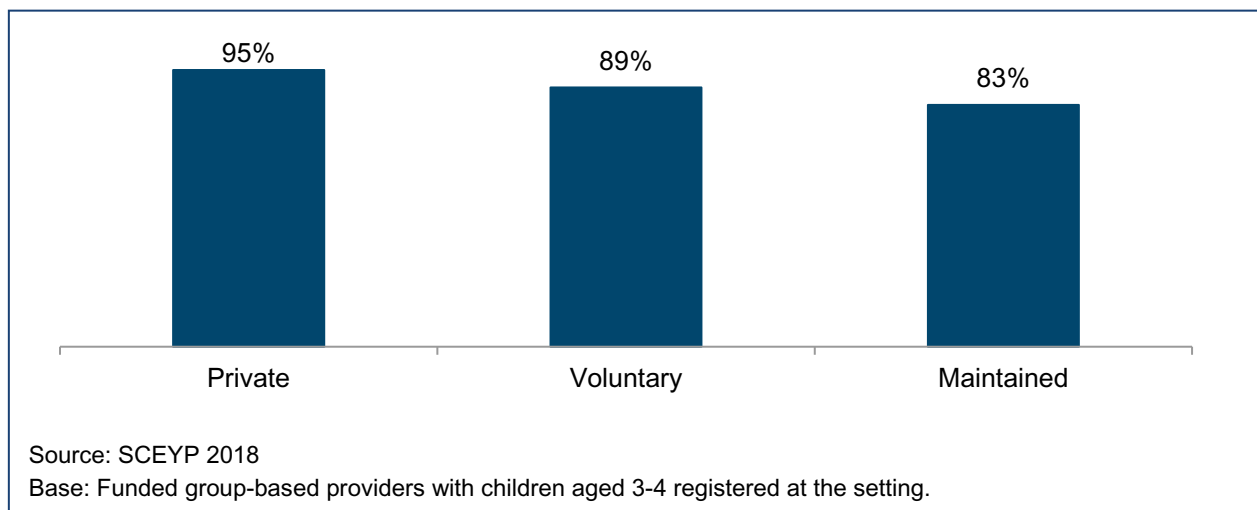
Whether an area was urban or rural was not associated with the proportion of group-based providers or school nurseries offering 30 hours. Childminders in rural areas were slightly more likely to offer extended hours (98%) than childminders in urban areas (93%) (see Table A.8 in the Appendix) but this difference was not statistically significant.

¹⁰ Analysis using IDACHI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index) rather than IMD showed the same patterns for all three provider types (results not shown).

3.3 Type and size of setting

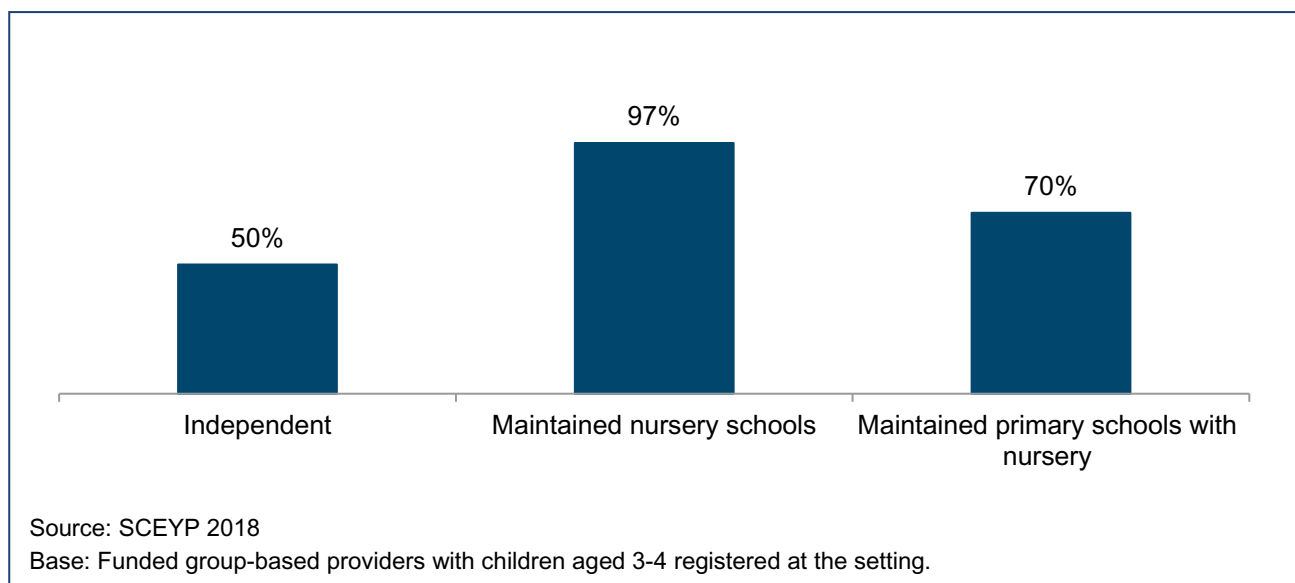
Group-based providers could be distinguished by ownership and by whether they were part of a chain. Private group-based providers were most likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement (95%), followed by voluntary providers (89%) and (non-school) maintained providers (83%) (see Figure 6 and Table A.10 in the Appendix). Group-based settings that were part of a chain were slightly more likely to offer 30 hours free childcare (96%) than those not part of a chain (91%) (see Table A.12 in the Appendix).

Figure 6: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership (%)



Among school nurseries, maintained nursery schools were most likely to offer the extended hours (97%), followed by state-funded primary schools with nursery provision (70%) (see Figure 7 and Table A.14 in the Appendix). Independent schools were least likely to engage with the 30 hours (50%).

Figure 7: Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours by type of school (%)



Larger providers were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement. This pattern was present for all types of providers, but was strongest among school nurseries, with 66% of the smallest school nurseries offering extended hours compared to 89% of the largest ones (see Table 3). 86% of the smallest group-based providers offered extended hours compared to 98% of the largest settings.

Table 3 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by provider size (group-based providers and school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Size of provider – registered places				All
	1-29	30-59	60-99	100+	
Group-based providers	86%	94%	97%	98%	92%
School nurseries	66%	70%	72%	89%	69%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>1610</i>	<i>2164</i>	<i>962</i>	<i>246</i>	<i>5001</i>
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>333</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>948</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

For childminders, 90% of the smallest settings offered 30 hours compared to 98% of the largest (see Table 4).

Table 4 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by provider size (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Size of provider – registered places				All
	1-3	4-6	7-9	10+	
Childminders	90%	94%	98%	98%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	49	551	53	70	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

For childminders, there was also a pattern that those with more registered places were more likely not just to offer the 30 hours but to deliver as well, that is, to have children taking up the offer at the time of the survey (table not shown).

3.4 Profile of children attending the setting

The data shows that providers with children under age three at the setting were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement than those without any children under age three (see Table 5). The differences were statistically significant for all provider types except school nurseries.

Table 5 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether have children under age three at setting (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	No children under age three	Children under age three	All
Group-based providers	86%	93%	92%
School nurseries	68%	74%	69%
Childminders	82%	95%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	235	4763	4998
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	595	352	947
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	54	669	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

No relationships were found between the proportions of children with special educational needs or disability (SEND) registered with the setting and the likelihood of offering extended hours (see Table A.16 and Table A.17, both in the Appendix). However, this is

not individual level data, so it doesn't capture whether these children themselves were receiving 30 hours.

The analysis of the relationship between settings receiving Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and their 30 hours offer was possible only for group-based providers and school nurseries as very few childminders reported receiving EYPP. For group-based providers, there were no statistically significant differences in the likelihood of offering 30 hours by proportion of children receiving EYPP. For school nurseries, settings that had no children receiving EYPP were least likely to offer the extended hours (56%, compared to 68% for all school nurseries; see Table 6). To an extent, this was driven by a higher proportion of independent schools among those settings that did not have any children receiving EYPP, and independent schools being less likely to offer 30 hours as discussed in section 3.3. For that reason, Table 6 shows also separate analyses for state-funded primary schools and maintained nursery schools combined together but excluding independent schools. For this group as well, school nurseries which did not have any children receiving EYPP were somewhat less likely to offer 30 hours than those with different proportion of EYPP children, however, this difference was not statistically significant (see Table 6).

Table 6 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by proportion of children receiving EYPP (group-based and school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Percentage of children receiving EYPP				All
	0%	1 - 10%	11-20%	21-100%	
Group-based providers	91%	94%	95%	92%	93%
School nurseries (all types of schools)	56%	80%	77%	68%	68%
School nurseries excluding independent schools	63%	80%	76%	68%	71%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 1 or 3)</i>	1186	929	384	229	2728
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	110	98	88	124	420
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds excluding independent schools (variant 2)</i>	78	94	87	124	383

Source: SCEYP 2018

3.5 Opening times, spare capacity and staff ratios

This section examines whether providers' engagement with the 30 hours entitlement was associated with their opening times, spare capacity and staff ratios.

In general, longer opening times (both in terms of number of weeks per year and number of hours per day) were associated with a greater likelihood that providers offered the 30 hours. For group-based providers, settings that were open for more than 39 weeks in a year (that is, more than a school year) were more likely to offer extended hours than settings that were open for 39 weeks a year or less (97% compared to 87%; see Table A.18 in the Appendix). The same pattern was present for school nurseries, with 74% of those open for more than a school year offering extended hours compared to 69% of those open only within the school year, although this difference was not statistically

significant. There were no differences in offering 30 hours for childminders in terms of the number of weeks they were open each year.

Settings that were open for more hours in the day were more likely to offer extended hours than settings that were open for fewer hours. For group-based providers and school nurseries, the greatest difference was that settings that were open for three hours or less had much lower levels of engagement with the 30 hours (see Table 7 and Table 8). This is not surprising as these settings would not be open long enough for a child to take up all of their 30 funded hours at the same setting, so the offer of 30 hours would only work for children splitting their entitlement across two different settings.

Table 7 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by opening hours

Offering 30 hours	Opening hours					All
	3 hours or less	>3-6 hours	>6-9 hours	>9-10 hours	More than 10 hours	
Yes	59%	90%	94%	98%	98%	92%
No	41%	10%	6%	2%	2%	8%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	323	1359	711	2036	549	5001

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table 8 Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours by opening hours

Offering 30 hours	Opening hours			All
	3 hours or less	>3- 6 hours	More than 6 hours	
Yes	28%	77%	70%	69%
No	72%	23%	30%	31%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	95	613	234	948

Source: SCEYP 2018

For childminders, there were too few childminders with the very short opening times to present the same range of opening hours and the differences by opening hours were not statistically significant (see Table 9).

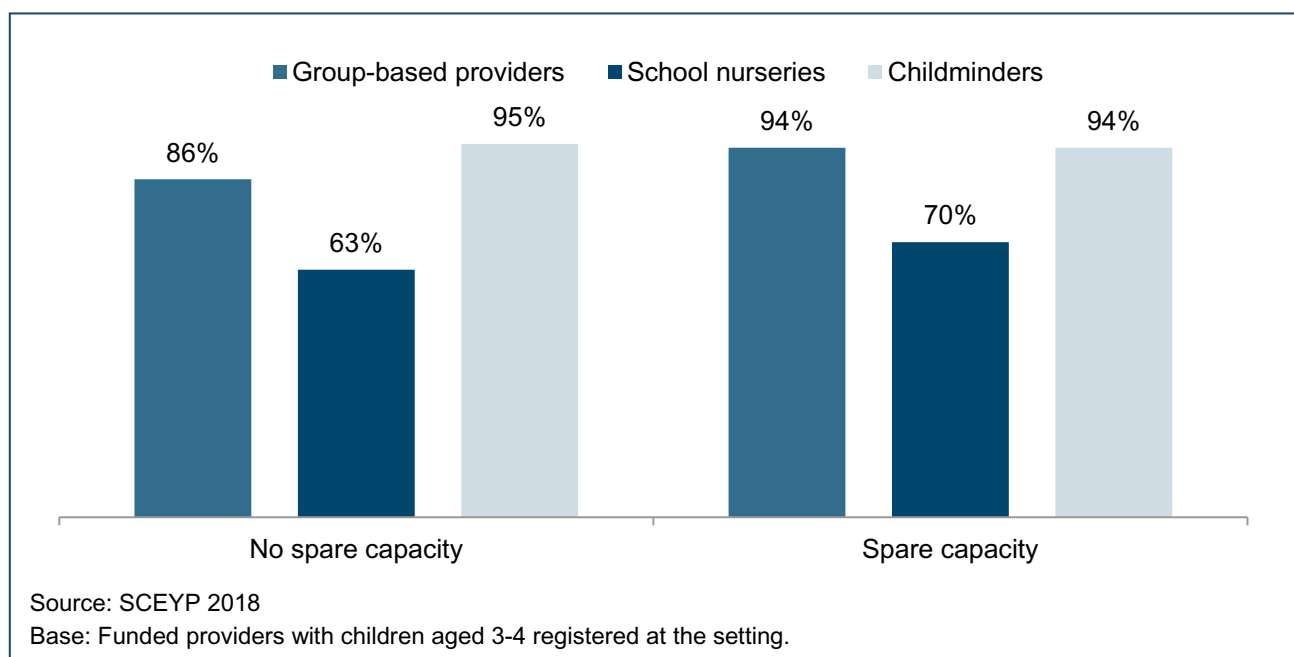
Table 9 Proportion of childminders offering 30 hours by opening hours

Offering 30 hours	Opening hours			All
	8 hours or less	>8 -10 hours	More than 10 hours	
Yes	90%	94%	97%	94%
No	10%	6%	3%	6%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	78	504	139	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

The report examined whether there was an association between settings having spare capacity and their likelihood to offer 30 hours. The results show that group-based providers without any spare capacity¹¹ were less likely to offer extended hours than those with spare capacity (see Figure 8 and Table A.19 in the Appendix). This was also the case for school nurseries, but the differences were not statistically significant. There was no similar pattern for childminders.

Figure 8: Proportion of providers offering extended hours by spare capacity (%)



¹¹ Settings were considered to have no spare capacity if they said they would not have been able to take in any extra children on the day asked about, for any type of provision/any sessions they offered.

One of the research aims for the report was to examine the relationship between staff ratios and providers' engagement with the 30 hours entitlement. However, this analysis was problematic as the law requires different ratios for different age groups, and the staff ratios reported in SCEYP 2018 were often those required by the law, with little variation among the providers. For example, with staff ratios for children under age two, the analysis was not feasible as the vast majority of group-based providers reported having the child-to-staff ratio 3:1 and there were very few school nurseries that had children under age two (tables not shown). With ratios for two year olds, there was no clear pattern of association with 30 hours for group-based providers (see Table A.20 in the Appendix), and it was not possible to carry out the analysis for school nurseries as most schools did not have two year olds and those that did, almost exclusively reported having the ratio 4:1 (table not shown). Finally, with ratios for children aged three or four, there was some evidence to suggest that group-based providers with higher child-to-staff ratios were somewhat more likely to offer 30 hours than those with lower ratios (see Table A.21 in the Appendix). For school nurseries, there was no statistically significant association between staff ratios for three and four year olds and the likelihood to offer 30 hours (see Table A.22 in the Appendix).

3.6 Parent-paid fees and additional charges

There was no clear pattern of association between parent-paid fees charged by group-based providers for three and four year olds and their engagement with the extended hours (see Table A.23, in the Appendix). For school nurseries, the proportion of settings charging parent-paid fees was relatively small, which meant that the bases were too small to analyse school nurseries' engagement with the extended hours by the level of fees they charged. For childminders, those who charged lower fees (less than £4 per hour) were somewhat more likely to offer extended funded hours than those that charged higher fees (£4 per hour or more), but this difference was not statistically significant (see Table 10).

Table 10 Proportion of childminders offering 30 hours by fees for 3-4 year olds

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for 3-4 year old children			All
	Less than £4 per hour	£4 per hour	More than £4 per hour	
Yes	97%	94%	92%	94%
No	3%	6%	8%	6%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	64	88	156	308

Source: SCEYP 2018

There was no clear pattern of association with fees for children under age two either for group-based providers or for childminders (see Table A.24 and Table A.25 in the Appendix). There was also no pattern for childminders for fees charged for two year olds (see Table A.26 in the Appendix), but there was some evidence that group-based providers that charged more than £5 per hour for two year olds were less likely to offer extended funded hours than those that charged lower fees (see Table 11).

Table 11 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by fees for 2 year olds

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for 2 year old children			All
	Less than £5 per hour	£5 per hour	More than £5 per hour	
Yes	95%	97%	91%	93%
No	5%	3%	9%	7%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 3)</i>	810	196	605	1611

Source: SCEYP 2018

Similarly, for school-age children, group-based providers that charged higher fees were less likely to offer extended hours than those charging lower fees (see Table 12). No pattern of association was found for childminders for fees for school-age children (see Table A.27).

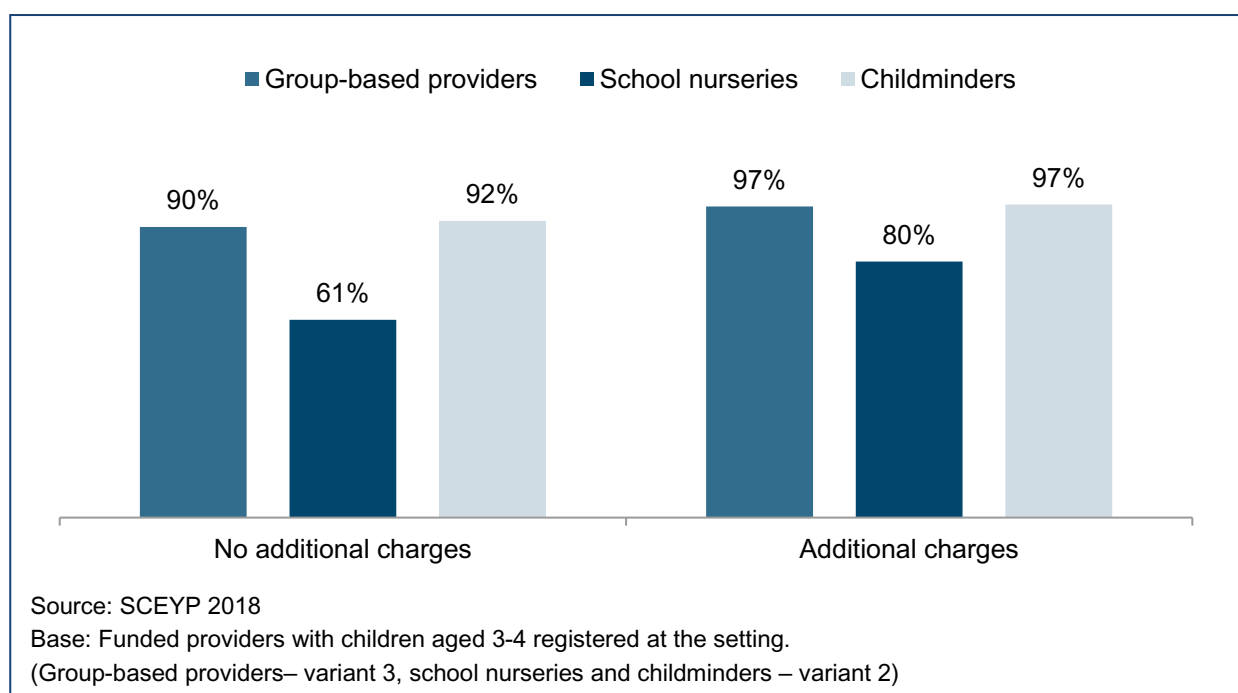
Table 12 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by fees for school-age children

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for school children		All
	£5 per hour or less	More than £5 per hour	
Yes	97%	91%	95%
No	3%	9%	5%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 3)</i>	418	192	610

Source: SCEYP 2018

As regards settings making additional charges (e.g. for meals, snacks, nappies, outings etc.), those that made additional charges were more likely to offer 30 hours than those that did not (see Figure 9 and Table A.28, in the Appendix). This difference was greatest for school nurseries, with 80% of those making additional charges offering the extended hours compared to 61% of those that did not.

Figure 9: Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by whether they made additional charges (%)



It is not possible using SCEYP data to determine whether charging additional fees helps providers to be able to engage with the 30 hours entitlement or instead providers charge additional fees because they are offering the extended hours. The Evaluation of 30 Hours reported that 74% of providers had not introduced or increased any additional charges

since starting to offer the extended funded hours, but 26% did (most of these providers introduced new charges due to the extended hours) (Paull and La Valle, 2018).

3.7 Key drivers

The previous sections considered each of the potential drivers of engagement with the 30 hours entitlement.¹² This section presents the findings from multivariate logistic regression analysis which considers the association for each factor while controlling for other area and setting characteristics. A summary of these findings is presented in Table 13 (see Table A.29 to Table A.31 in the Appendix for the full regression results).

Table 13 Summary of drivers of engagement with 30 Hours

	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Childminders
Region	X	-	(X)
Area deprivation	X	-	-
Urban v rural area	-	-	-
Type of school	n/a	X	n/a
Private, voluntary or maintained	X	n/a	n/a
Whether part of a chain	-	n/a	n/a
Size of setting	X	-	(X)
Number of weeks open	X*	-	-
Number of hours open	X*	X	(X)
Spare capacity	X	-	-
Staff ratios	-	-	n/a
Age profile of children	-	-	(X)
SEND	-	-	-
EYPP	-	-	n/a

Key: "X" – significant at 5%; "(X)" – significant at 10% (i.e. borderline significant), "-" – not significant.

*For group-based providers, the number of weeks the setting was open for and number of hours were highly correlated (0.67). For this reason, either but not both could be used in the regression analysis, so we used the number of hours to be consistent with the analysis for schools.

¹² Term "drivers" is used here to refer to statistical associations. Causation cannot be tested statistically with the type of data used in this report.

For *group-based providers*, more characteristics were significantly associated with offering the 30 hours than for other provider types. Where the setting was located was important:

- Settings in London were less likely to offer the extended hours than in other regions.
- Settings in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to offer the extended hours than settings in more affluent areas.

Some setting characteristics were also statistically significant:

- Settings run by local authorities were less likely to offer the extended hours than those in the private or voluntary sector.
- Larger settings were more likely than smaller settings to offer the extended hours.
- Settings open for more weeks or more hours in the day were more likely to offer the extended hours.
- Settings with spare capacity were more likely to offer the extended hours.

There was no evidence that the following characteristics were associated with offering 30 hours by group-based settings once other factors were controlled for: whether the area was urban or rural, whether the setting was part of a chain, staff ratios, age profile of children, proportion of children with SEND and proportion of children receiving EYPP.

For *school nurseries*, the statistically significant drivers of engagement with the 30 hours controlling for all other setting characteristics and area characteristics were:

- Type of school: maintained nursery schools were much more likely to offer the extended hours than other types of schools and state-funded primary schools were more likely to offer the extended hours than independent schools.
- Opening hours: settings that were open for more hours each day were more likely to offer the extended hours than those open for fewer hours.

There was no evidence that the likelihood of offering 30 hours by school nurseries was associated with the following characteristics, once other factors were taken into account: region, area deprivation, urban versus rural area, size of school nursery, number of weeks open per year, whether setting had spare capacity, staff ratios, age profile of children, proportion of children with SEND and proportion of children receiving EYPP.

For *childminders*, none of the characteristics examined were statistically significant at the conventional 5% level, which was due, in part, to the relatively small sample size in the analysis (only 723 childminders). At the less robust 10% level, the following factors were

identified as the main drivers of engagement with the 30 hours: region (with London having the lowest percentage of childminders offering the extended hours), size of provider, opening hours (with larger businesses open for longer hours being more likely to offer the 30 hours) and age profile of the children (those childminders who had children under age three were more likely to offer the 30 hours).

There was no evidence that once other factors were taken into account, the likelihood of offering 30 hours by childminders was associated with area deprivation, area urbanity, number of weeks provision was open for, spare capacity and whether any SEND children were attending the setting.

4. Flexibility of the 30 hours free childcare offer

One of the key aims of 30 hours free childcare is to support parents into work or additional hours of work, should they wish to do so (Department for Education, 2015). In order to help achieve this, the offer needs to be flexible in terms of when the additional 570 hours per year can be taken up. This chapter explores the flexibility of the offer in terms of whether providers allowed parents to use the extended hours throughout the year (covering both term time and school holidays¹³) and whether parents had the freedom to choose when they used the hours within the day. Fewer characteristics are explored in this chapter than in the previous chapter, reflecting the main focus of this report being on the engagement by providers with the 30 hours entitlement.

Key findings

- Group-based providers and childminders were much more likely than school nurseries to offer the extended hours throughout the year: 50% of group-based providers and 51% of childminders made a year-round offer but only 8% of school nurseries did so. This was related to school nurseries being much less likely to be open all year round compared to other provider types. Of those group-based providers that were open for more than 39 weeks a year, 80% allowed parents to use their extended hours throughout the year.
- There was less variation by provider type in terms of the flexibility of use of the extended hours within the day: childminders were most flexible (92% did not impose any restrictions on parents), group-based providers were less flexible (73% did not have restrictions) and school nurseries were most likely to restrict when the hours could be used (62% did not have restrictions).
- There was some variation in both measures of flexibility by region, urbanity of area, by type of ownership (private or voluntary), whether the setting was part of a chain, and by size of setting. The patterns were often different for flexibility throughout the year and within the day. For example, group-based providers that were part of a chain were more likely to offer the 30 hours throughout the year but less likely to be flexible in terms of session timings, compared to settings that were not part of a chain.

¹³ It should be noted that, in some cases, parents may wish to only use hours during term time but the provider may require parents to spread them across the year. In these cases, a provider offering the hours throughout the year could reflect a restriction in parent flexibility.

4.1 Flexibility in the offer

Just under half of providers (45%) were offering the extended hours throughout the year (see Table 14).¹⁴ School nurseries were substantially less likely than other provider types to do so, with almost all (92%) offering the extended hours during term time only, while around half of group-based providers and childminders offered the extended hours throughout the year. These differences reflect, to a large extent, the fact that school nurseries were less likely to be open year round than other types of providers (only 7% of school nurseries reported being open for more than 39 weeks a year; table not shown). For group-based providers as well, the proportion of those offering 30 hours throughout the year was linked with the proportion of providers that were open all year round. Just over half (55%) of group-based providers were open for longer than 39 weeks a year, and of those that were, 80% allowed parents to use their extended hours throughout the year (table not shown), which is higher than the figure for all group-based providers (50%, see Table 14). However, for childminders, the fact that just over half offered 30 hours throughout the year (see Table 14) was not linked with their opening weeks, as most childminders (84%, table not shown) were open for more than 39 weeks a year.¹⁵

Table 14 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours in term time and holidays (all providers)

When 30 hours can be used?	Provider type			All
	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Child-minders	
Throughout the year	50%	8%	51%	45%
Term time only	50%	92%	49%	55%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (Group-based providers and childminders- variant 1, school nurseries -variant 2)</i>	825	338	290	1453

Source: SCEYP 2018

As regards times and length of the sessions, school nurseries were most likely and childminders were least likely to restrict when 30 hours could be used (see Table 15).

¹⁴ Base sizes in tables in this chapter are smaller than those in tables in previous chapters because questions about the flexibility of the 30 hours entitlement were only asked in some survey variants.

¹⁵ It was not possible to analyse school nurseries that were open for *more than 39 weeks* separately as there were only 37 in the analysis sample for the flexibility questions. It was not possible to analyse childminders that were open for *39 weeks or fewer* per year separately, as there were only 31 in the analysis sample for flexibility questions.

Table 15 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours that could be used at any time of the day (all providers)

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Provider type			All
	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Child-minders	
Yes – any time and any length of session	73%	62%	92%	79%
No – timing is restricted in some way	27%	38%	8%	21%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (Group-based providers and childminders -variant 1, school nurseries -variant 2)</i>	828	337	290	1455

Source: SCEYP 2018

There were no statistically significant differences in restricting the timing of the extended hours between group-based providers that offered full day care and those that offered sessional day care only (see Table 16).¹⁶ There was also no clear pattern of association between the length of the day the setting was open for and their likelihood to restrict the times and length of extended hours sessions, although this analysis was hindered by the fact that most settings (85% of group-based providers, 86% of school nurseries and 94% of childminders) were open for at least six hours per day,¹⁷ so variation in the opening times was limited (table not shown).

¹⁶ 'Sessional day care' refers to provision which is for fewer hours than the whole day. The actual length of hours is not specified in the questionnaire but typically providers would run morning sessions and/or afternoon sessions.

¹⁷ These figures are for whole samples of those provider types taking part in SCEYP, they are not restricted to funded providers or providers offering 30 hours.

Table 16 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by full or sessional day care

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Full day care	Sessional day care only	All group-based providers
Yes – any time and any length of session	72%	76%	73%
No – timing is restricted in some way	28%	24%	27%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers offering full day care and/or sessional care and delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	672	149	828

Source: SCEYP 2018

Looking at both types of flexibility together, childminders were most likely to be ‘fully flexible’: just over half (47%) allowed parents to use the extended hours throughout the year and at any time of the day. Among group-based providers, just over a third (36%) offered both types of flexibility, and among school nurseries, just 6% did (see Table 17).

Table 17 Whether 30 hours can be used throughout the term or at any time of the day by provider type

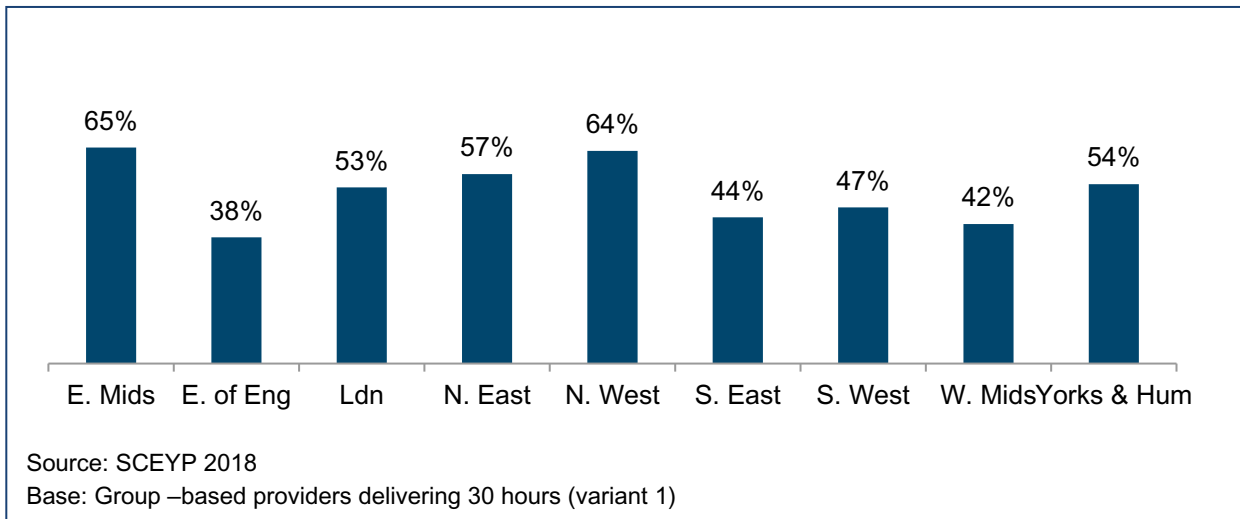
30 hours throughout the year and throughout the day	Group-based providers	School nurseries	Child-minders	Total
Throughout the year and any time of day	36%	6%	47%	37%
Throughout the year and restricted in the day	14%	2%	4%	8%
Term time only and any time of day	37%	55%	45%	43%
Term time only and restricted in the day	12%	37%	4%	12%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (Group-based providers and childminders – variant 1, school nurseries – variant 2)</i>	825	334	290	1449

Source: SCEYP 2018

4.2 Area characteristics

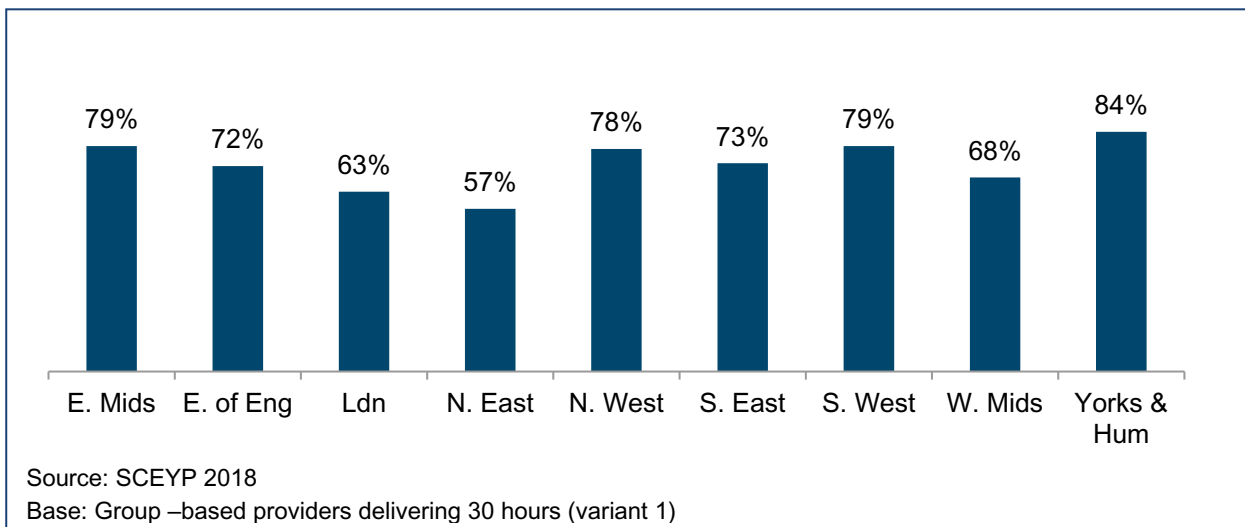
Flexibility of the 30 hours offer varied for group-based providers by region (see Figure 10 and Table A.32 in the Appendix). Those in the East Midlands were most likely to offer the 30 hours throughout the year (65%) and those in the East of England were least likely (38%). Base sizes were too small to examine regional differences for school nurseries and childminders.

Figure 10: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by region (%)



There was also regional variation in restrictions on time and length of sessions. Proportion of providers that did not impose any restrictions ranged from 57% in the North East to 84% in Yorkshire and the Humber (see Figure 11 and Table A.33 in the Appendix).

Figure 11: Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours with no time restriction by region (%)



Group-based providers in urban areas were more likely to offer 30 hours throughout the year than those located in rural areas (see Table 18). No differences were found for school nurseries and childminders, however, sample sizes available for analysis of schools nurseries and childminders in rural areas were very small.

Table 18 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by urban or rural setting (all provider types)

30 hours can be used throughout the year	Urban or rural		All
	Urban	Rural	
Group-based providers	53%	39%	49%
School nurseries	8%	8%	8%
Childminders	52%	51%	52%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	561	192	753
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	262	52	314
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	159	44	203

Source: SCEYP 2018

School nurseries and childminders in rural areas appeared less restrictive in terms of the times parents could use the 30 hours entitlement than those in urban areas (see Table 19). (The difference for school nurseries was statistically significant but for childminders, it was significant at 10% level only.) However, sample sizes available for analysis of school nurseries and childminders in rural areas were very small and these results should be treated with caution. There was no difference for group-based providers.

Table 19 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by urban or rural setting (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours with no time restrictions	Urban or Rural		All
	Urban	Rural	
Group-based providers	73%	74%	73%
School nurseries	58%	75%	61%
Childminders	88%	97%	90%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	564	192	756
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	262	51	313
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	159	44	203

Source: SCEYP 2018

4.3 Setting characteristics

Flexibility of 30 hours was related to several setting characteristics. Group-based providers that were part of chains were more likely to offer extended hours throughout the year (75%) than those that were not part of a chain (42%) (see Table A.34 in the Appendix). However, chains were more likely to restrict when hours could be taken within the day (35%) than those not part of a chain (24%) (see Table A.35 in the Appendix).

For school nurseries, maintained schools with nursery classes were somewhat less likely to offer extended hours throughout the year (8%) than maintained nursery schools (12%) (see Table A.38 in the Appendix). Conversely, maintained schools with nursery classes were less likely to restrict when hours could be used within the day (62%) than maintained nursery schools (52%) (see Table A.39 in the Appendix). These differences were not statistically significant.

Private group-based settings were more likely to offer the extended hours throughout the year (66%) than voluntary settings (21%), but there were no differences between these setting types in terms of restricting when the hours could be used within the day (see Table A.36 and Table A.37, both in the Appendix).

For group-based providers and school nurseries, large settings (defined as those with 60 or more registered places) were more likely to offer the extended hours throughout the year than small settings (those with fewer than 60 registered places) (see Table 20). Namely, 19% of large school nurseries offered the extended hours throughout the year compared to 6% of small school nurseries, while 82% of large group-based providers did

so compared to 40% of small group-based providers. There were no differences by size for childminders (where “small” is defined as 1 to 6 registered places and “large” as those with 7 or more registered places).

Table 20 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by size of setting (all provider types)

30 hours can be used throughout the year	Size of provider		All
	Small*	Large*	
Group-based providers	40%	82%	50%
School nurseries	6%	19%	8%
Childminders	51%	49%	51%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	611	210	821
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	217	121	338
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	236	54	290

Source: SCEYP 2018

*For group-based providers and school nurseries, ‘small’ settings are those with 59 places or fewer and ‘large’ are those with 60 places or more. For childminders, ‘small’ settings are those with 6 or fewer registered places and ‘large’ are those with 7 or more places.

In terms of restricting the use of the extended hours within the day, large providers were slightly less likely to be flexible, but these differences were not statistically significant (see Table 21 overleaf).

Table 21 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours throughout the day by size of setting (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours with no time restrictions	Size of provider		All
	Small*	Large*	
Group-based providers	75%	68%	73%
School nurseries	63%	56%	62%
Childminders	93%	88%	92%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	613	211	824
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	216	121	337
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	236	54	290

Source: SCEYP 2018

*For school nurseries and group-based providers, 'small' settings are those with 59 places or fewer and 'large' are those with 60 places or more. For childminders, 'small' settings are those with 6 children or fewer and 'large' are those with 7 or more places.

As regards the age profile of children attending the setting, for school nurseries, those with children under the age of three were more likely to offer the 30 hours throughout the year than those that did not have children under the age of three (see Table 22). This may be because school nurseries taking children under the age of three were much more likely to be open for more than 39 weeks a year (table not shown). There were no statistically significant differences by age profile in restrictions on times and length of extended hours sessions (see Table A.40 in the Appendix). It was not possible to examine flexibility of provision by age profile of children at group-based providers and childminders because the number of providers without any children under the age of three were too small (31 group-based providers and 21 childminders; tables not shown).

**Table 22 Proportion of school nurseries offering 30 hours throughout the year by age profile
(school nurseries)**

When 30 hours can be used	Age profile		All
	No children under three at setting	Children under three at setting	
Throughout the year	5%	17%	8%
Term time only	95%	83%	92%
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	197	141	338

Source: SCEYP 2018

5. Conclusions

This report has examined the engagement of providers with 30 hours free childcare in the first year of its national rollout using a nationally representative dataset. It found that levels of engagement were high:

- Among providers with children aged three or four, 90% of group-based providers, 67% of school nurseries and 77% of childminders were offering the 30 hours entitlement.
- Of those offering, most were also delivering the extended hours, that is, they had children taking up the extended hours at their setting at the time of the survey.
- Of those providers that were 'funded' (were offering funded hours for three and four year olds under either the universal entitlement policy or the 30 hours free childcare), 90% were offering the 30 hours entitlement (92% of group-based providers, 69% of school nurseries and 94% of childminders).

Settings offering the two year old entitlement or Tax Free Childcare were more likely to offer the 30 hours entitlement.

Engagement with the 30 hours entitlement was associated with the following characteristics:

- For group-based providers, location was important: providers in London were less likely to offer the extended hours compared to other regions, while settings in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to make the offer than settings in less deprived areas. In addition, group-based settings run by local authorities were less likely to offer the extended hours than those in the private or voluntary sector, while larger settings, settings open for more weeks or for more hours in the day and settings with spare capacity were more likely to engage with this policy.
- For school nurseries, the main drivers of engagement were type of school and the opening hours. Maintained nursery schools were much more likely to offer the extended hours than other types of schools and state-funded primary schools were more likely to offer the extended hours compared with independent schools. In addition, settings that were open for more hours each day were more likely to offer the 30 hours than those open for fewer hours.
- For childminders, there was weaker evidence (statistically significant at lower confidence levels) that region, size of provider and opening hours were the main drivers (with London having the lowest percentage of childminders offering the 30 hours and larger providers and those open for longer hours being more likely to offer the extended hours).

These findings suggest that while the overall engagement with the 30 hours policy was high in the early years sector, certain characteristics of the business model at the setting (such as setting size and opening hours) may be making it easier for some settings than the others to offer the extended hours to parents. While not measured in the SCEYP survey, the level of demand from parents is also likely to be important, which may explain why group-based providers in most deprived areas were least likely to offer 30 hours (as the demand for 30 hours in the most deprived areas was probably not as high as in more affluent areas because of lower numbers of eligible parents).

Flexibility of the 30 hours offer is a key factor in ensuring that the policy supports working families as the childcare needs to fit alongside the parents' working patterns. Analysis of the flexibility of the offer was considered in terms of whether the offer could be used throughout the year and flexibility in the timings and length of the sessions when extended hours could be used. A year-round offer was not always correlated with flexibility within the day and it was therefore important to examine these two aspects of flexibility independently rather than combining them into an overall composite measure of flexibility of the offer.

The flexibility of the offer was associated with a number of provider and area characteristics:

- Group-based providers and childminders were much more likely than school nurseries to offer the extended hours throughout the year: 50% of group-based providers and 51% of childminders made a year-round offer but only 8% of school nurseries did so. This was related to school nurseries being much less likely to be open all year round compared to other provider types. Of those group-based providers that were open for more than 39 weeks a year, 80% allowed parents to use their extended hours throughout the year.
- There was less variation by provider type in terms of the flexibility of use of the extended hours within the day: childminders were most flexible (92% did not impose any restrictions on parents), group-based providers were less flexible (73% did not have restrictions) and school nurseries were most likely to restrict when the hours could be used (62% did not have restrictions). There was no evidence that providers that were open for fewer hours each day were more likely to restrict the timing and length of the extended hours sessions (within their business hours) compared to providers that were open for a longer day, although this analysis was hindered by the fact that most providers were open for at least six hours each day, so variation in the opening hours was limited.
- There was some variation in both measures of flexibility by region, urbanity of area, by type of ownership (private or voluntary), whether the setting was part of a chain, and by size of setting. The patterns were often different for flexibility throughout the year and within the day, and varied by type of provider.

These findings suggest that parents living in different areas and using different types of settings operating in different ways would experience different levels of flexibility in the 30 hours offer.

It was not possible to evaluate the impact of the 30 hours entitlement on early years providers using data from SCEYP 2018 due to the cross-sectional design of this survey and absence of questions about perceived impacts of the 30 hours. For example, it was not possible to determine whether providers offering the entitlement changed in any way the way they operated by e.g. extending their opening hours, expanding their capacity, changing their fees and charges etc. Furthermore, it was not possible to examine financial effects on the providers that offered the extended hours, such as changes to their income and profitability. However, the strength of the SCEYP survey series is that over the years, this data will make it possible to monitor levels of engagement with the policy across providers with different characteristics and to track key drivers of that engagement. It is clear that there is a link between the business model of the setting and how they engage with the 30 hours (whether they offer the entitlement and how flexible they are regarding when the extended hours could be used), with factors such as opening weeks and times being highly relevant. SCEYP time series data will make it possible also to track any changes in the way settings operate for an indirect assessment of how the 30 hours policy may be contributing to the changes in the early years sector in the years to come.

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Appendix

Table A.1 Offering 30 hours by whether setting offered funded hours for two year olds (all provider types, base: settings with 3 and 4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Whether offering two year old free entitlement		All
	Yes	No	
Group-based providers	93%	82%	92%
School nurseries	80%	66%	69%
Childminders	96%	90%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	4592	404	4996
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	325	623	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	469	253	722

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.2 Offering 30 hours by whether setting offered funded hours for two year olds (group-based providers and childminders, base: settings with 2, 3 and 4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Whether offering two year old free entitlement		All
	Yes	No	
Group-based providers	93%	75%	93%
Childminders	96%	86%	95%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 2, 3 and 4 year olds</i>	4592	157	4749
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 2, 3 and 4 year olds</i>	469	75	544

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: base size too small to show results for school nurseries

Table A.3 Offering 30 hours by whether setting has signed up for Tax Free Childcare payments (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Whether signed up for Tax Free Childcare		All
	Yes	No	
Group-based providers	95%	83%	93%
School nurseries	88%	52%	68%
Childminders	96%	89%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 1 or 3)</i>	<i>2274</i>	<i>409</i>	<i>2683</i>
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	<i>211</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>397</i>
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>514</i>	<i>197</i>	<i>711</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.4 Offering 30 hours by region (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Region									All
	E. Mids	E. of Eng	Ldn	N. East	N. West	S. East	S. West	W. Mids	York s & Hum	
Group-based providers	95%	91%	87%	95%	95%	90%	95%	95%	96%	92%
School nurseries	58%	65%	72%	65%	77%	60%	81%	66%	71%	69%
Child-minders	97%	93%	84%	99%	94%	96%	99%	94%	96%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	443	620	614	273	613	922	616	466	434	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	84	95	160	76	151	96	54	120	112	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	87	78	75	76	75	99	85	78	70	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.5 Offering 30 hours by region (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Region									All
	E. Mids	E. of Eng	Ldn	N. East	N. West	S. East	S. West	W. Mids	York s & Hum	
Group-based providers	92%	88%	84%	91%	90%	88%	93%	91%	93%	90%
School nurseries	57%	60%	70%	63%	76%	54%	79%	64%	70%	67%
Child-minders	84%	74%	61%	91%	79%	75%	87%	82%	82%	77%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	457	641	631	286	648	934	627	482	447	5153
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	86	102	165	77	152	104	55	123	113	977
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	101	97	103	82	90	126	95	90	82	866

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.6 Offering 30 hours by area deprivation (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	England - IMD 2015 quintiles					All
	1 st quintile (most depr.)	2 nd quintile	3 rd quintile	4 th quintile	5 th quintile (least depr.)	
Group-based providers	90%	92%	95%	91%	92%	92%
School nurseries	68%	72%	68%	71%	67%	69%
Childminders	87%	94%	96%	95%	95%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	768	885	978	1067	948	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	291	196	158	138	103	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	70	74	119	134	140	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing area deprivation data (n=606) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.7 Offering 30 hours by area deprivation (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	England - IMD 2015 quintiles					All
	1 st quintile (most depr.)	2 nd quintile	3 rd quintile	4 th quintile	5 th quintile (least depr.)	
Group-based providers	88%	90%	93%	88%	89%	90%
School nurseries	67%	69%	66%	69%	60%	67%
Childminders	72%	71%	81%	79%	79%	77%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	788	909	998	1104	988	5153
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	294	203	162	142	114	977
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	84	93	140	157	167	866

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing area deprivation data (n=653) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.8 Offering 30 hours by urban or rural setting (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Urban or rural		All
	Urban	Rural	
Group-based providers	92%	94%	92%
School nurseries	69%	72%	69%
Childminders	93%	98%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	3499	1147	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries (nurseries) with 3-4 year olds</i>	746	140	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	436	101	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing urban/rural indicator (n=606) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.9 Offering 30 hours by urban or rural setting (all provider types including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Urban or rural		All
	Urban	Rural	
Group-based providers	89%	91%	90%
School nurseries	66%	70%	67%
Childminders	76%	80%	77%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	3612	1175	5153
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries (nurseries) with 3-4 year olds</i>	772	143	977
<i>Base (unweighted) Childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	519	122	866

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing urban/rural indicator (n=653) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.10 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership

Offering 30 hours	Type of ownership			All
	Private	Voluntary	Maintained	
Yes	95%	89%	83%	92%
No	5%	11%	17%	8%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>2880</i>	<i>1765</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>5001</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing data on type of ownership (n=242) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.11 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours by type of ownership (including providers not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Type of ownership			All
	Private	Voluntary	Maintained	
Yes	92%	87%	80%	90%
No	8%	13%	20%	10%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	<i>2975</i>	<i>1807</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>5153</i>

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: Providers with missing data on type of ownership (n=251) are included in "All" but not shown separately.

Table A.12 Offering 30 hours by whether part of chain (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Whether setting is part of a chain		All
	Yes	No	
Yes	96%	91%	92%
No	4%	9%	8%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	1306	3695	5001

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.13 Offering 30 hours by whether part of chain (group-based providers, including those not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Whether setting is part of a chain		All
	Yes	No	
Yes	92%	89%	90%
No	8%	11%	10%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	1350	3803	5153

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.14 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by type of school (school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Type of school			All
	Independent	Maintained nursery schools	Maintained primary schools with nursery	
Yes	50%	97%	70%	69%
No	50%	3%	30%	31%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	83	237	628	948

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.15 Proportion of providers offering 30 hours by type of school (school nurseries, including those not offering any funded hours to 3-4 year olds)

Offering 30 hours	Type of school			All
	Independent	Maintained nursery schools	Maintained primary schools with nursery	
Yes	44%	97%	68%	67%
No	56%	3%	32%	33%
<i>Base (unweighted) School nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	93	237	647	977

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.16 Offering 30 hours by proportion of SEND at setting (group-based and school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Percentage registered with SEND (grouped)				All
	0%	1-10%	11 - 20%	21-100%	
Group-based providers	92%	94%	90%	91%	92%
School nurseries	69%	67%	76%	70%	69%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 1 or 3)</i>	745	1467	379	164	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	168	330	221	155	948

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.17 Offering 30 hours by whether children with SEND at setting (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Any children with SEND		All
	Yes	No	
Childminders	71%	72%	71%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	164	559	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.18 Offering 30 hours by opening weeks (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Weeks open throughout the year		All
	39 weeks or less (Within school year)	More than 39 weeks (More than just school year)	
Group-based providers	87%	97%	92%
School nurseries	69%	74%	69%
Childminders	95%	94%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	2221	2778	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	846	102	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	78	640	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.19 Offering 30 hours by whether there was spare capacity at setting (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Spare capacity		All
	No spare capacity	Spare capacity	
Group-based providers	86%	94%	92%
School nurseries	63%	79%	69%
Childminders	95%	94%	94%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 1)</i>	815	4130	5001
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	143	800	948
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	214	507	723

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.20 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 2 year olds (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Child-to-staff ratio for 2 year olds			All
	Less than 4:1	4:1	More than 4 :1	
Yes	90%	94%	84%	93%
No	10%	6%	16%	7%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 2-4 year olds (variant 1 and 3)</i>	453	2115	65	2818

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.21 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 3-4 year olds (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Child-to-staff ratio for 3-4 year olds				All
	1.01 :1 or more to 4:1	4.01:1 to 6:1	6.01:1 to 7.99:1	8 or more :1	
Yes	84%	91%	92%	95%	93%
No	16%	9%	8%	5%	7%
<i>Base: Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 1 or 3)</i>	279	553	122	1835	2818

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.22 Offering 30 hours by staff ratio for 3-4 year olds (school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Child-to-staff ratio for 3-4 year olds			All
	1.01 :1 or more to 8:1	8.01 :1 to 12.99:1	13:1	
Yes	64%	72%	73%	69%
No	36%	28%	27%	31%
<i>Base: Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	213	101	135	459

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.23 Offering 30 hours by fees for 3-4 year olds (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for 3-4 year old children			All
	Less than £4 per hour	£4-5 per hour	More than £5 per hour	
Yes	92%	96%	91%	94%
No	8%	4%	9%	6%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 3)</i>	254	874	539	1667

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.24 Offering 30 hours by fees for under 2s (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for under 2 year old children			All
	Less than £5 per hour	£5 per hour	More than £5 per hour	
Yes	98%	100%	96%	97%
No	2%	-	4%	3%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds and under 2s (variant 3)</i>	327	87	406	820

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.25 Offering 30 hours by fees for under 2s (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for under 2 year old children			All
	Less than £4 per hour	£4 per hour	More than £4 per hour	
Yes	96%	94%	93%	94%
No	4%	6%	7%	6%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	57	65	111	233

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.26 Offering 30 hours by fees for 2 year olds (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for 2 year old children		All
	£4 or less per hour	More than £4 per hour	
Yes	95%	96%	95%
No	5%	4%	5%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	115	111	226

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.27 Offering 30 hours by fees for school children (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Average fee for school children		All
	£4 or less per hour	More than £4 per hour	
Yes	97%	95%	96%
No	3%	5%	4%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	124	132	256

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.28 Offering 30 hours by additional charges (all provider types)

Offering 30 hours	Makes additional charges		All
	No additional charges	Additional charges	
Group-based providers	90%	97%	92%
School nurseries	61%	80%	68%
Childminders	92%	97%	93%
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds (variant 3)</i>	880	413	1293
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	211	156	367
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds (variant 2)</i>	222	69	291

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.29 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (group-based providers)

Offering 30 hours	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	P>t
London (ref.)			
East Midlands	3.76	1.10	0.000
East of England	2.14	0.47	0.001
North East	3.77	1.33	0.000
North West	3.15	0.76	0.000
South East	1.59	0.31	0.017
South West	3.44	0.88	0.000
West Midlands	2.03	0.53	0.007
Yorkshire and the Humber	4.84	1.49	0.000
IMD: 1st (most deprived) quintile (ref.)			
2 nd quintile	1.38	0.27	0.104
3 rd quintile	2.81	0.63	0.000
4 th quintile	1.60	0.30	0.012
5 th (least deprived) quintile	1.86	0.38	0.003
Unknown IMD	1.48	0.47	0.211
Private (ref.)			
Voluntary	0.91	0.13	0.483
Maintained	0.28	0.09	0.000
Number of registered places	1.01	0.01	0.036
Opening hours per day	1.55	0.05	0.000
No spare capacity (ref.)			
Setting has spare capacity	1.58	0.22	0.001
Constant	0.09	0.03	0.000
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded group-based providers with 3-4 year olds</i>	4685		

Table A.30 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (school nurseries)

Offering 30 hours	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	P>t
London (ref.)			
East Midlands	0.55	0.20	0.093
East of England	0.94	0.33	0.864
North East	0.74	0.30	0.450
North West	1.49	0.46	0.193
South East	0.77	0.26	0.429
South West	1.77	0.80	0.205
West Midlands	0.83	0.28	0.579
Yorkshire and the Humber	1.01	0.35	0.976
Maintained primary school with nursery (ref.)			
Independent school with nursery	0.21	0.07	0.000
Maintained nursery school	11.81	5.10	0.000
Opening hours per day	1.70	0.12	0.000
Constant	0.12	0.05	0.000
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded school nurseries with 3-4 year olds</i>	942		

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.31 Odds ratios of offering 30 hours (childminders)

Offering 30 hours	Odds Ratio	Std. Err.	P>t
London (ref.)			
East Midlands	6.84	5.31	0.013
East of England	2.27	1.25	0.137
North East	13.74	15.01	0.017
North West	3.21	2.13	0.079
South East	3.63	2.15	0.030
South West	11.55	12.43	0.023
West Midlands	2.54	1.64	0.149
Yorkshire and the Humber	4.31	3.02	0.037
Number of registered places	1.17	0.11	0.095
Opening hours per day	1.22	0.14	0.099
No under 3s at setting (ref.)			
Under 3s at setting	2.66	1.40	0.062
Constant	0.15	0.18	0.122
<i>Base (unweighted) Funded childminders with 3-4 year olds</i>	723		

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.32 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours throughout the year by region

Offering 30 hours throughout the year	Region									All
	E. Mids	E. of Eng	Ldn	N. East	N. West	S. East	S. West	W. Mids	York s & Hum	
	65%	38%	53%	57%	64%	44%	47%	42%	54%	50%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	71	103	103	42	112	137	106	79	72	825

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.33 Proportion of group-based providers offering 30 hours with no time restriction by region

Offering 30 hours with no time restrictions	Region									All
	E. Mids	E. of Eng	Ldn	N. East	N. West	S. East	S. West	W. Mids	York s & Hum	
	79%	72%	63%	57%	78%	73%	79%	68%	84%	73%
<i>Base (unweighted) Group-based providers delivering 30 hours (variant 1)</i>	71	103	104	42	113	137	107	79	72	828

Table A.34 Whether 30 hours could be used in term time and holidays by whether part of a chain (group-based providers)

When 30 hours can be used	Chain		All
	Yes	No	
Throughout the year	75%	42%	50%
Term time only	25%	58%	50%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering the 30 hours offer (variant 2)</i>	219	606	825

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.35 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by whether part of a chain (group-based providers)

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Chain		All
	Yes	No	
Yes – any time and any length of session	65%	76%	73%
No – timing is restricted in some way	35%	24%	27%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering the 30 hours offer (variant 2)</i>	220	608	828

Source: SCEYP 2018

Table A.36 Whether 30 hours could be used throughout the year by type of setting (group-based providers)

When 30 hours can be used	Type of setting			All
	Private	Voluntary	Maintained	
Throughout the year	66%	21%	*	50%
Term time only	34%	79%	*	50%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering the 30 hours offer (variant 2)</i>	507	262	17	786

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: results for maintained settings have been suppressed because of a low base size but included in calculations of the total percentages.

Table A.37 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by type of setting (group-based providers)

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Type of setting			All
	Private	Voluntary	Maintained	
Yes – any time and any length of session	71%	76%	*	73%
No – timing is restricted in some way	29%	24%	*	27%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering the 30 hours offer (variant 2)</i>	509	263	17	789

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: results for maintained settings have been suppressed because of a low base size but included in calculations of the total percentages.

Table A.38 Whether 30 hours could be used in term time and holidays by type of setting (school nurseries)

When 30 hours can be used	Type of setting			All
	Independent	Maintained nursery schools	Maintained schools with nursery provision	
Throughout the year	*	12%	8%	8%
Term time only	*	88%	92%	92%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	16	117	205	338

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: results for independent schools have been suppressed because of a low base size but included in calculations of the total percentages.

Table A.39 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by type of setting (school nurseries)

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Type of setting			All
	Independent	Maintained nursery	Maintained school with nursery provision	
Yes – any time and any length of session	*	52%	62%	62%
No – timing is restricted in some way	*	48%	38%	38%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	15	118	204	337

Source: SCEYP 2018

Note: results for independent schools have been suppressed because of a low base size but included in calculations of the total percentages.

Table A.40 Whether 30 hours could be used at any time of the day by age profile (school nurseries)

Can 30 hours be used throughout the day?	Age profile		All
	No under 3s at setting	Under 3s at setting	
Yes – any time and any length of session	59%	69%	62%
No – timing is restricted in some way	41%	31%	39%
<i>Base (unweighted) All providers delivering 30 hours (variant 2)</i>	196	141	337

Source: SCEYP 2018



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