



Hampshire
County Council

Planning Dept
Havant Borough Council
By email

Services for Young Children
Mill Hill Childrens Centre
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Enquiries to *Child Development Officer*

My reference

Direct Line

Your reference

Date 5 Feb 2018

E-mail
childcaredevelopment@hants.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

Consultation Response Woodberry Day Nursery

APP/17/01243

Hampshire County Council Services for young Children (SfYC) has a statutory duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure there are sufficient places within the childcare market for parents of three and four year old children as well as certain two year old children who meet the eligibility criteria for two year funding.

In addition working families who meet the eligibility criteria for 30 hours funding over 38 weeks can also access government funded childcare and early education.

SfYC encourages providers to establish high quality provision that both meets the Ofsted quality benchmark of 'good' or 'outstanding' so that outcomes for young, and sometimes vulnerable children are maximised. In addition such childcare needs to meet the broad mix of needs of families and should comprise a range of childcare choices, including childminders, sessional pre-schools and full day care nurseries all of whom have different market offers.

According to data held by SfYC take up of early years funded places in the Spring 2018 term shows a mixed picture with some settings looking to be at capacity and others having some availability. This is normal for this time of year, whilst take-up during the summer term is always higher.

Looking forward there are two pressure points within the early years market in this local area:

Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker

One is the continued implementation of the Government's free childcare offer to 30 hours per week for 38 weeks per annum (1140 hours per annum for eligible children). The Government rules for this scheme have expanded availability to meet the needs of working parents so that it can be taken between 6am and 8pm, 7 days per week, subject to maxima of 10 hours per day and 30 hours per week. This offer is changing customer demand and behaviours in what is required. Coupled with the social mobility agenda and onset of changes to universal credit within the Havant area due September 2018, we anticipate families will seek a broader childcare offer than previously.

Secondly the West of Waterlooville development at Berewood with some 3200 homes planned over the next few years will generate potential demand for childcare.

The SfYC developer's guide document indicates that for every 1,000 houses, it is anticipated that one full day provision of 50+ places, together with an additional 30 places from shared community premises, would meet the needs of this size of development.

Whilst Berewood has plans to meet some of the childcare requirements it is anticipated this may not meet all that is required.

SfYC expects any new provider to carry out thorough and detailed due diligence prior to establishing a new business.

Yours Faithfully

SfYC Childcare Development