

Introduction

The Scottish Government plans to expand Early Learning and Childcare services to almost double the number of funded hours from 600 currently to 1140 each year. These extra hours will be available to all children aged 3 or 4 and for some children aged 2 and will be in place by 2020/21. Families should have choice and flexibility in how they use services - including whether they use all of their child's funded hours and whether they use them during school term-time or throughout the year.

By **early learning and childcare**, we mean all pre-school education such as nurseries, early years centres, childminders and playgroups.

City of Edinburgh Council is keen to maintain high quality early learning and childcare services as they change and expand, to make them work well for you and your family. To do this, we need your help so that we can plan for the future.

We want to find out what your experience of early learning and childcare is really like in Edinburgh - whether you use it or not, what you like and if there's anything you think could be changed or improved.

Please help us with this by taking some time to complete this survey. It should only take around ten minutes.

The questions in the first section are about the early learning and childcare services you currently use. If you don't currently use any early learning and childcare services, please answer questions 1, 2 and 3 and then go to question 10.

1. In what capacity are you responding to this survey?

- Parent/carer
- Grandparent
- Other (please say)

2. What is your postcode?

3. Do you currently use early learning and childcare services in Edinburgh or another local authority area?

- Edinburgh
- Another local authority area
- Both Edinburgh and another local authority area
- I don't currently use early learning and childcare services

If you answered 'I don't currently use early learning and childcare services', please go to question 10.

4. Do you use any of the following early learning and childcare services? (Please tick all that apply).

- Council (local authority) nursery or early years centre
- Partner provider (such as private nursery or voluntary playgroup/nursery)
- Childminder
- Both local authority and partner provider nursery
- Both local authority and childminder
- Both partner provider and childminder
- Other (please say)

5. How old are your children that use early learning and childcare services?

- Less than 1 year old
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 and older

6. Why do you use these early learning and childcare services? (Please tick all that apply).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> They fit in with my working hours | <input type="checkbox"/> It is the only service that I can afford |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To allow me to study | <input type="checkbox"/> It suits the arrangements I have for the care of my other child/children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To use my free childcare entitlement | <input type="checkbox"/> It is the closest to home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To give my child the opportunity to learn and socialise | <input type="checkbox"/> It is closest to my place of work/study |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To take time for myself/do household tasks | <input type="checkbox"/> They were recommended to me or I used the service before |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is the only service available in my area | <input type="checkbox"/> They have a good reputation for education and/or have good facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is the only service I could get my child into | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please say) | |

7. How frequently do you use early learning and childcare services?

- All year round
- Term time only
- Other (please say how many weeks of the year you use early learning and childcare services)

8. How many days of the week do you currently use early learning and childcare services?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Half day | <input type="checkbox"/> Three days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One day | <input type="checkbox"/> Three and a half days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One and a half days | <input type="checkbox"/> Four days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two days | <input type="checkbox"/> Four and a half days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two and a half days | <input type="checkbox"/> Five days |

9. Do you use different or additional services during school holidays?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide details

10. If you don't currently use early learning and childcare services, can you tell us why not? (Please tick all that apply)

- I don't need it or want it
- It is too expensive
- Too inflexible in hours available
- Too far from home, unavailable in my area
- No availability, can't find a place for my child
- No services of an acceptable quality
- Other (please say)

Future early learning and childcare needs

This section of the survey asks you about the early learning and childcare services you would like to be able to use in the future. The Scottish Government plans to fund 1140 hours of early learning and childcare per year for children aged 3 and 4 and for eligible 2 year olds. This new entitlement will fund around 30 hours per week if is used in term time and around 22 hours per week if it is used all year round (approximately 50 weeks per year).

11. What type of early learning and childcare service would you like to use? (Please tick all that apply)

- Local authority nursery
- Private partner nursery
- Childminder
- Nanny
- Forest kindergarten/outdoor nursery
- Voluntary sector nursery
- Combination of any of the above options
- Other (please say)

12. How would you prefer to use early learning and childcare services?

- All year round
- Term time only
- Don't know/not sure
- Other (please say)

13. What days of the week would you like to be able to use early learning and childcare services?

	Morning	Afternoon	All day
Monday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. How early in the morning would you like to be able to use early learning and childcare services?

- 7.30am
- 8am
- 8.30am
- 9am
- Later than 9am
- Other (please say)

15. How late in the afternoon/evening would you like to be able to use early learning and childcare services?

- 3.30pm
- 4pm
- 4.30pm
- 5pm
- 5.30pm
- 6pm
- 6.30pm
- Other (please say)

16. Which of the following would be your preferred option? (Please tick only one)

- School term time (38 weeks) - 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday.
- School term time (38 weeks) - 9am to 3.30pm Monday to Thursday and 9am to 1pm Friday (same times as school hours).
- School term time (38 weeks) - flexible plus extra hours: choose hours between 8am and 6pm with additional hours (beyond weekly free 30 hours) paid for by you.
- School term time (38 weeks) - blended: 15 hours Council/voluntary/partner nursery and 15 hours forest kindergarten.
- School term time (38 weeks) - blended: 15 hours Council/voluntary/partner nursery and 15 hours childminder.
- 50 weeks each year - fixed: 8am to 12.32pm Monday to Friday.
- 50 weeks each year - fixed: 1pm to 5.32pm Monday to Friday.
- 50 weeks each year - fixed 8am to 12.32pm with option to purchase additional hours up to 6pm.
- 50 weeks each year - choose hours between 8am and 6pm with additional hours (beyond 30) paid for by you.
- 50 weeks each year - flexible - choose hours to reflect irregular working patterns (e.g. shift working and weekend working) with additional hours available and paid for by you
- Don't know/does not apply

17. Do you wish to access services in Edinburgh or another local authority area?

- Edinburgh
- Another local authority area

If you answered 'Another local authority area', can you please say which one?

18. How old are the children you would like to use early learning and childcare services?

- Less than a year old
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 and older

19. Where would you prefer to use early learning and childcare services?

- Close to my home
- Close to my place of work
- Close to my other child/children's school?
- Close to the place I study
- I don't mind
- Other (please say)

20. If you could pick ONE thing to make your current early learning and childcare suit your family's needs better, what would it be?

- Make it cheaper
- Make the hours longer
- Make the hours more flexible
- Make it closer to my home
- Have more childcare services to choose from
- Other (please say)

21. Please use this space to say more about any of your answers or to tell us anything else in relation to early learning and childcare.

About You

The last few questions are about you. We think they will help us to understand the feedback better but they are voluntary and if you would rather not answer any of them, please leave them blank.

22. Are you:

- Male
- Female
- Other

23. Are you currently:

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- A student
- Not in paid employment

24. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes
- No

25. How would you describe your ethnic background?

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> White Scottish or UK | <input type="radio"/> Asian-Pakistani | <input type="radio"/> Gypsy Traveller |
| <input type="radio"/> White-Other | <input type="radio"/> Asian-Other | <input type="radio"/> Occupational Traveller |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian-Bangladeshi | <input type="radio"/> Black-African | <input type="radio"/> Other Traveller |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian-Chinese | <input type="radio"/> Black-Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Mixed |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian-Indian | <input type="radio"/> Black-Other | <input type="radio"/> Not known |