



My Ref: FOI 5772  
Enquiries to: Information Requests  
E-Mail: [informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk)

Dear Requester,

**Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

**under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information for the most recent three years for which data is available (please specify the reporting period used):**

- **The number and/or percentage of children recorded as receiving SEND support in funded early education or registered early years childcare settings and the relevant statistical releases where this information is published.**

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2025, scheduled for publication prior to 31 March 2026, utilises census data from January 2025 to demonstrate that 377 children in early years settings are receiving SEND support.

**as well as:**

- **The number of children accessing the disability access fund each year.** Over the past three years, the L.A. has funded 249 children as follows: 83 in 2025, 77 in 2024, and 89 in 2023.
- **The number of children registered in early years childcare settings with an EHCP – as at 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026 the Local Authority maintain 38 EHCPs for children in registered early years childcare settings.**
- **Any centrally held summary analysis of local authority childcare sufficiency assessments that refers specifically to provision for children with SEND or disabilities.**

All information used to assess the sufficiency of places is included in the annual assessment. Please see the link to the 2024 assessment [Childcare sufficiency assessment](#) this will be replaced shortly by the 2025 assessment.

**And:**

- **Any relevant figures or breakdowns of waiting lists or unmet demand specifically for SEND childcare places.**

Our annual Childcare Sufficiency Survey included a parental component. Among respondents regarding finding suitable childcare, 13.2% were parents of children with SEND and reported difficulty. Specifically, 76 parents indicated challenges, 17 found it easy, and 38 described their experience as "not so easy." The responses spanned all age ranges, with most related to wraparound care for school-age children. As we have hugely expanded the wraparound provision across the borough since the summer of 2025 these figures should have reduced.

There is no further reliable or collated data relating to this.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC  
Information Requests Team  
PO Box 634  
Barnsley  
S70 9GG  
email: [informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team  
Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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