



## **CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT**

**MAY 2012**

### **MAIN FINDINGS**

#### **Childcare Quality**

- Childcare in Brighton & Hove is high quality compared with England as a whole, with 87 per cent of settings on the early years register judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, compared with 73 per cent nationally.

#### **Childcare Use**

- While there was an increase in parents' use of formal childcare in 2011, this dropped slightly in 2012.

#### **Childcare Ownership**

- There has been a small increase in the percentage of full day care settings privately owned, and a small decrease in the number of full day care settings in the voluntary sector. In terms of pre-schools and playgroups, there has been a reduction in those which are privately owned and an increase in those in the voluntary sector.

#### **Childcare Providers and Places**

- There has not been a significant change in the number of childcare providers since the last CSA.
- There continues to be growth in full day and sessional care places.
- There has been an increase in holiday play scheme places, with a very small reduction in after-school club places.
- There has been a small increase in the number of registered childminding places.
- Childcare provision is not spread evenly over the city, with some areas having more than others.
- There has been an increase in the number of providers offering free early learning.
- Almost half the city's three and four year olds receive their free early learning at a private sector setting.
- There is very little formal childcare for young people aged 12 to 14 years.
- There is very little childcare available during a-typical hours, that is outside 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday. Those who are able to provide this offer home-based care, namely childminders and at home childcarers.

#### **Childcare Vacancies**

- All childcare providers in the city have full-time vacancies.
- Childminders have the highest number of vacancies as a percentage of total registered places at 28.5 per cent, although this figure includes part-time vacancies.



- Vacancy levels have reduced in the past year in all setting types.
- Vacancies are not spread evenly across the city.

### **Childcare Costs**

- Full day care costs in Brighton & Hove are on average £4.52 an hour for a child under two and £4.28 for a child over two. This is an increase of approximately 7 per cent on last year's costs.
- Childminding costs in Brighton & Hove are on average £4.69 an hour, which is a 6.6 per cent increase on last year.
- After-school clubs in Brighton & Hove cost on average £8.99 per session, which is 8.3 per cent more than last year.
- Holiday play schemes in Brighton & Hove cost on average £24.42 per day, which is an increase of 14.6 per cent on last year.
- The average cost of a breakfast club session is £1.96.



