



Derby City Council

Migration and Cross Boarder Take up of Funded Childcare Places

Briefing Note: Spring 2026

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Childcare Act 2006 section 6, 7, 8 and 11 sets out the expectation on all local authorities that they must review and secure, where reasonably practicable, sufficient childcare places to support the needs of working parents and those eligible for a funded Flying Start 2-year-old childcare place.
- 1.2 Derby City Council is monitoring termly the take up of all funded childcare places, in this report there is a particular focus on the impact of cross board take up and take up migration between wards within the city.
- 1.3 The increased childcare offer, for children aged 9 months+ to 4years is called Take Off into childcare in Derby, will allow working parents to claim 1140hrs of funding annually, an increase of 570hrs on the previous funding offer. This can be taken as 30hrs of funding over 38 weeks of the year (school term time) or less hours per week for more weeks of the year, where this happens it is called a stretched offer.
- 1.4 Flying Start funding is a government offer, aimed at supporting families with a lower household income. Nationally and regionally there has been a significant drop in the take up of Flying Start places, however although Derby has seen a drop, we are still out performing our statistical and regional neighbor with an 88.4% take up rate in Autumn 2025 and a 92% take up rate in Spring 2026.
- 1.5 To monitor and assess funded place take up and availability the Council delivers a termly headcount and census. All providers claiming funding complete and submit robust funding claims.
- 1.6 To fully assess the take-up and availability of places CFIT works closely with Derbyshire County Council, to review the take-up of places and the movement of Derby children taking up a place in Derbyshire and the number of Derbyshire children taking up a place in Derby city. We have broken down the data into the child age group that are commonly used by childcare providers:
 - babies – 9 months + to 23 months
 - toddlers - 2-year-olds
 - pre-school – 3- and 4-year-olds.

2.0 Cross Boarder take up between Derby and Derbyshire

- 2.1 There are currently **595** Derby children taking up a childcare place in Derbyshire settings.

	3 and 4 yr olds	2 year olds	9 to 23 mths	Total
Amber Valley	26	11	4	41
Derbyshire Dales	2	1	0	3
Erewash	117	96	80	293
South Derbyshire	109	80	69	258
Total	254	188	153	595

Source: Families Information Service Spring 2026

With the majority of children taking up childcare in Erewash (293) and South Derbyshire (258). Table 1 in the appendix shows that Maggie's @ Oakwood (136 children) and Whitehouse Day Nursery (Oakwood) (95 children) have high numbers across all age groups, both nurseries are very close to the Derby city boundary and therefore could be seen as local childcare for families living in the Oakwood ward. The Orange Tree Day Nursery @ Mickleover also has high numbers of Derby children attending (72 children) again this is close to the Derby city boundary in the south of the city and could be seen as local to families in Mickleover.

3.0 Take Up Migration between Wards within Derby

3.1 9 to 23 months

Darley gains the most children from other Derby wards (78). Darley also has the most children coming in from a single ward (47, Allestree). That equates to 29.6 percent of children attending in Darley, the highest percentage to come from another ward. Darley has the lowest percentage of children attending from their home ward (13.8%). Darley also has the widest distribution of children across Derby with children coming from 16 different wards. This could be attributed to limited childcare options in Allestree and 3 large day nurseries being situated on the main Allestree to the city center commuter route.

Abbey gains 36 children from other Derby wards. 12.9% of children attending, in Abbey come from Mickleover. Children from 14 wards attend settings in Abbey.

Abbey (57.6), Chaddesden West (54) and Darley (53.5) have the highest percentages of children attending from other wards in Derby.

Mickleover has the lowest percentage of children coming in from Derby wards (13%) whereas it has the highest rate of influx of children from outside of Derby City (37.7%).

Mickleover loses the second most children to other Derby wards, with net loss of 41 children. 29% of Mickleover based children (24) attend settings in Littleover.

Littleover (34.3), Darley (32.7) and Allestree (31.8) have the next largest percentage of children attending from outside of Derby. Littleover has 34% of children attend from outside of Derby and 24% attend from Mickleover (24 children).

Allestree loses the most children to other wards, with a net loss of 44 children. 47 Allestree based children attend settings in Darley. This may highlight a sufficiency gap in Allestree's childcare market however it could also be linked to parents' work location and using childcare on their commute to the city center.

3.2 2 year olds

Littleover (25.3%), Darley (33.7%) and Oakwood (37.1%) have the lowest percentage of children attending from their home ward.

Darley (51.5%) and Arboretum (51.4%) have the highest percentage of children attending from other Derby wards.

Darley has 48 children (23.8% of children attending in Darley) come from Allestree, the highest from another ward in the city.

Darley has the highest net gain of children attending from other Derby wards (97).

Arboretum has a net gain of 50 children from Derby Wards. Arboretum takes 35 children from Normanton, 23.6% of all children attending in Arboretum.

Mickleover (29.03), Chellaston & Shelton Lock (29.73) and Littleover (30.53) have the highest percentage of children attending from outside Derby City.

Mickleover (15.1%) and Chellaston & Shelton Lock (14.4%) have the lowest percentages of children in from other Derby Wards.

3.3 3 and 4 years old

Darley (33.1%), Littleover (36%) and Oakwood (41.7%) have the lowest percentage of children attending from their home wards.

Darley has a net gain of 170 children from Derby wards, with 89 children coming from Allestree (22.5% of all children attending in Darley).

Oakwood providers have 41.7% of children attending from Oakwood. 17.4% attend from Chaddesden North. Oakwood has 9.5% of children (15) attend from outside Derby city. 109 Derby City Children migrate out to Erewash settings that border Oakwood.

Arboretum has the 2nd highest net gain of children from Derby wards (85). 83 Children attend from Normanton, 20.8% of all children attending settings in Arboretum.

Alvaston south gains 62 children from Derby, with 94 children attending from Alvaston North (29.1%).

Chaddesden North (53.8%), Darley (53.3%) and Oakwood (47%) have the highest percentage of children attending from other Derby wards.

Chaddesden North has 34% of children (36 children) come from bordering Chaddesden West.

Alvaston North (-63), Allestree (-62) and Blagreaves (-50) have the largest net losses to other Derby wards.

94 Alvaston North based children attend settings in neighboring Alvaston South, 38% of all Alvaston North children attending Derby settings.

47 Blagreaves based children attend in Normanton, which is 24% of all Blagreaves children that attend Derby settings.

4.0 Sufficiency Impact

- 4.1 Sufficiency of places in Darley should consider the sizeable net gain of children from other Derby Wards (345 across all age groups) as well as a considerable influx of children from outside Derby City (136 across all age groups).
- 4.2 946 children across all age groups in Derby settings from outside of Derby, as opposed to 595 Derby children attending in Derbyshire, a net gain of 351 children attending in Derby. Darley (136), Littleover (136) and Mickleover (112) have the biggest impact of children from outside of Derby.
- 4.3 For children ages 2 and above, Arboretum gains a significant amount from neighbouring wards (135) which should be considered in assessing sufficiency of places.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 CFIT to collect termly data on the take up of funded childcare places and to monitor child's home address to provider by ward and local authority.
- 5.2 FIS to review available take up data, and assess the on-going impact that migration has on the sufficiency of childcare places, highlighting any wards where migration is increasing the pressure on available places.
- 5.3 The finding of migration monitoring to be published on the Childcare Sufficiency page on Derby.gov.uk and to be shared with senior managers and Councilors.
- 5.4 Parents are free to select the childcare provider of their choice, there are no catchment areas that providers or parents have to consider, therefore while CFIT will monitor the locality of take up, we are not able to influence parental choice and the outcome of availability.

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Appendix

Table 1 – Places taken by Provider

	3 and 4		9 to 23		Locality
	year olds	2 year olds	mths		
Ashbrook Infant School	1	0	0		Erewash
Aston on Trent Pre-School	3	2	0		South Derbyshire
Banana Moon Day Nursery Littleover	14	5	9		South Derbyshire
Childminder Derbyshire Dales	0	1	0		Derbyshire Dales
Childminder South Derbyshire	2	7	8		South Derbyshire
Childminders In Erewash	0	8	1		Erewash
Brailsford Cofe Primary School	2		0		Derbyshire Dales
Breadsall Pre-School Playgroup	13		0		Erewash
Brookfields Day Nursery	1		0		South Derbyshire
Busy Bees Belper Busy Bees Day Nursery at Long Eaton	0	0	1		Amber Valley
Butterfly Castle Day Nursery	1	1	1		Erewash
Children 1st @ Main Street	0	1			
Creative Days Nursery	1	1			Erewash
Dame Catherine Harpur's School (EY)	0	1			South Derbyshire
Duffield Preschool	3	0			South Derbyshire
Etwall Preschool	3	1			Amber Valley
Findern Community Primary School	1	2			South Derbyshire
Highfields Spencer Academy	2	0			South Derbyshire
Holbrook Pre-School	4	0	0		South Derbyshire
Childminder Amber Valley	1	2	0		South Derbyshire
Little Explorers Nursery	0	2	0		Amber Valley
Lots for Tots Childcare Hilton	12	6	6		Erewash
Maggie's @ Oakwood	0	0	2		South Derbyshire
Puddle-Ducks Pre-School	53	40	43		Erewash
Quarndon Pre-School	1	1	0		South Derbyshire
Repton Preparatory School	5	2	0		Amber Valley
	2	0	0		South Derbyshire

	3 and 4		9 to 23		Locality
	year olds	2 year olds	mths		
Repton Preparatory School	2		0		South Derbyshire
Ridings Pre-School	6		1		Amber Valley
Ripley Nursery School	2		0		Amber Valley
Ripley Nursery School	2		0		Amber Valley
Sale and Davys Playgroup	3		2		South Derbyshire
Scallywags Nursery Limited	0		1		South Derbyshire
Schools Out Club Duffield	1		0		Amber Valley
Shardlow Hall Private Day Nursery	9		15		12 South Derbyshire
St John's Ce Primary School And Nursery (Belper)	1		0		Amber Valley
St Laurence Pre-School And Club 11 Ltd.	1		0		Erewash
St Wystan's School Nursery	1		0		South Derbyshire
Stenson Fields Primary Community School	8		0		South Derbyshire
The Elms Nursery And Pre School	1		0		Erewash
The Lanes Day Nursery	1		1		0 Erewash
The Old Forge Day Nursery	12		11		5 South Derbyshire
The Orange Tree Day Nursery @ Burnaston	11		9		4 South Derbyshire
The Orange Tree Day Nursery @ Mickleover	24		20		28 South Derbyshire
The Village Pre-School	2		3		0 Erewash
Treetops Alton Manor	1		0		0 Amber Valley
Treetops Castle Garden	3		5		3 Amber Valley
Watchorn Christian School (EY)	1				0 Amber Valley
Whistlewood Forest School	4				0 South Derbyshire
White House Nursery Hilton	0		1		0 South Derbyshire
Whitehouse Day Nursery (Oakwood)	31		35		29 Erewash
William Gilbert Endowed Church Of England Primary School	1		0		0 Amber Valley
Woodend Day Nursery	2		1		1 South Derbyshire
Woodville Nursery School	1		0		0 South Derbyshire
Total	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!

Source: Families Information Service Spring 2022

9 to 23 months

Provider Ward	Migration in (Derby Wards) %	Provider Ward	Attending from home ward %
Chaddesden North	100.0	Sinfin & Osmaston	61.1
Abbey	57.6	Spondon	60.8
Chaddesden West	54.0	Chaddesden East	60.0
Darley	53.5	Mackworth and New Zealand	60.0
Arboretum	47.6	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	53.9
Alvaston North	46.2	Arboretum	52.4
Normanton	44.4	Mickleover	49.3
Alvaston South	43.8	Blagreaves	47.4
Chaddesden East	40.0	Oakwood	47.3
Oakwood	37.8	Chaddesden West	40.0
Littleover	37.4	Alvaston South	37.5
Blagreaves	34.2	Allestree	36.4
Allestree	31.8	Normanton	29.6
Mackworth and New Zealand	20.0	Alvaston North	29.0
Sinfin & Osmaston	16.7	Littleover	28.3
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	15.8	Abbey	21.2
Spondon	15.2	Darley	13.8
Mickleover	13.0	Chaddesden North	0.0
Provider Ward	Net Loss/Gain, Derby Wards	Provider Ward	None Derby City Children
Darley	78	Darley	52
Abbey	36	Littleover	34
Alvaston North	24	Mickleover	26
Littleover	17	Alvaston North	23
Oakwood	13	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	23
Chaddesden West	11	Spondon	19
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	1	Abbey	18
Normanton	1	Oakwood	11
Spondon	1	Mackworth and New Zealand	8
Arboretum	0	Allestree	7
Blagreaves	-3	Blagreaves	7
Mackworth and New Zealand	-11	Normanton	7
Chaddesden East	-17	Sinfin & Osmaston	4
Alvaston South	-21	Alvaston South	3
Sinfin & Osmaston	-22	Chaddesden West	3
Chaddesden North	-26	Arboretum	0
Mickleover	-41	Chaddesden East	0
Allestree	-44	Chaddesden North	0

2 Year Olds

Provider Ward	Migration in (Derby Wards) %	Provider Ward	Attending from home ward %
Darley	51.5	Chaddesden North	68.0
Arboretum	51.4	Sinfin & Osmaston	60.9
Chaddesden East	50.0	Mackworth and New Zealand	60.8
Oakwood	48.4	Normanton	59.5
Chaddesden West	46.6	Spondon	59.4
Abbey	46.2	Mickleover	55.9
Alvaston South	46.2	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	55.9
Littleover	44.2	Blagreaves	55.7
Normanton	38.2	Chaddesden West	51.1
Alvaston North	36.8	Chaddesden East	50.0
Blagreaves	34.3	Alvaston South	49.5
Allestree	32.7	Arboretum	48.0
Chaddesden North	28.0	Allestree	46.9
Mackworth and New Zealand	27.0	Alvaston North	44.5
Sinfin & Osmaston	26.1	Abbey	39.4
Spondon	24.8	Oakwood	37.1
Mickleover	15.1	Darley	33.7
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	14.4	Littleover	25.3
Provider Ward	Net Loss/Gain, Derby Wards	Provider Ward	None Derby City Children
Darley	97	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	33
Arboretum	50	Darley	30
Chaddesden West	42	Alvaston North	29
Alvaston North	17	Littleover	29
Oakwood	7	Mickleover	27
Spondon	7	Spondon	16
Normanton	-1	Abbey	15
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	-4	Sinfin & Osmaston	12
Alvaston South	-6	Allestree	10
Abbey	-10	Mackworth and New Zealand	9
Mackworth and New Zealand	-14	Oakwood	9
Littleover	-22	Blagreaves	7
Mickleover	-25	Alvaston South	4
Chaddesden East	-26	Chaddesden West	3
Blagreaves	-27	Normanton	3
Sinfin & Osmaston	-31	Arboretum	1
Allestree	-36	Chaddesden North	1
Chaddesden North	-42	Chaddesden East	

3 and 4 Year olds

Provider Ward	Migration in (Derby Wards) %	Provider Ward	Attending from home ward %
Chaddesden North	53.8	Sinfin & Osmaston	73.1
Darley	53.3	Mackworth and New Zealand	68.2
Oakwood	47.0	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	65.1
Arboretum	42.0	Spondon	62.7
Alvaston South	41.8	Blagreaves	62.5
Chaddesden East	41.7	Normanton	62.2
Chaddesden West	40.8	Arboretum	57.3
Abbey	37.5	Chaddesden East	56.7
Normanton	35.5	Abbey	54.4
Alvaston North	34.9	Mickleover	54.4
Allestree	32.0	Allestree	52.6
Littleover	31.6	Chaddesden West	51.0
Blagreaves	30.0	Alvaston North	49.5
Mackworth and New Zealand	25.0	Alvaston South	48.0
Mickleover	21.2	Chaddesden North	45.2
Sinfin & Osmaston	17.3	Oakwood	41.7
Spondon	14.2	Littleover	36.0
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	11.5	Darley	33.1
Provider Ward	Net Loss/Gain, Derby Wards	Provider Ward	Children from outside Derby
Darley	170	Littleover	73
Arboretum	85	Mickleover	59
Alvaston South	62	Darley	54
Spondon	34	Chellaston & Shelton Lock	45
Normanton	21	Spondon	39
Chaddesden East	18	Alvaston North	34
Oakwood	15	Alvaston South	33
Chaddesden North	-4	Sinfin & Osmaston	27
Abbey	-7	Abbey	22
Sinfin & Osmaston	-18	Allestree	15
Chellaston & Shelton Lock	-20	Oakwood	15
Mickleover	-21	Blagreaves	12
Littleover	-33	Mackworth and New Zealand	12
Chaddesden West	-41	Normanton	9
Mackworth and New Zealand	-47	Chaddesden West	8
Blagreaves	-50	Arboretum	3
Allestree	-62	Chaddesden East	2
Alvaston North	-63	Chaddesden North	1