

Chippenham Childcare Plan September 2015

Childcare in Chippenham

Chippenham is a large, thriving market town in the north of Wiltshire, with easy access to Junction 17 of the M4, and with continued expansion in both housing and employment opportunities. Chippenham community area covers the town and the surrounding villages. This includes a large military site at Stanton St Quinton/Hullavington, as well as bordering a large military site at Lyneham in a neighbouring community area. Chippenham community area has two lower level super output areas that are in the top 30% of the most deprived areas of the country according to the indices of multiple deprivation – Chippenham Queens – east and Chippenham Audley – south.

There currently is sufficient childcare in the Chippenham area with places for 2, 3 and 4 year old funded children in a variety of settings from traditional village preschools to full day care settings and childminders. Take-up of 2 year old funding within Wiltshire continues to increase, and currently stands well above the national average. This is reflected within take-up in Chippenham. Take-up of the new Early Years Pupil Premium is also good. Additional 2 year old places have been developed in Chippenham and this continues to be monitored to ensure they are sufficient. Some provisions are operating at full capacity whilst others have vacancies.

There are three children's centres serving the community area, all offering childcare in their Early Excellence Centres. The Early Excellence Centres are looking to increase the hours they offer childcare in readiness for the Government plans to offer 30 hours childcare to working parents from 2016. Springboard Opportunity Group also serves the community area, and Olympiad leisure centre has a crèche. There are preschools and/or nurseries in Grittleton, North Wraxall, Yatton Keynell, Kington Langley, Kington St Michael, Stanton St Quinton, Seagry, Sutton Bengier and Christian Malford. There is also a school maintained nursery opening in Hullavington from September 2015. There are 54 childminders in the community area, of which 32 childminders offer funded spaces for young children. However, some villages have no childminders and a need for more providers who pick up from local schools is highlighted as a possible need.

There is sufficient after school provision run by specific after school clubs, nurseries and childminders. Holiday provision is covered by the leisure centre and holiday clubs run by many of those that offer after school provision. Several of the nurseries in outlying villages and within town pick up from schools and also offer holiday club options. A specialist after school club for children with a range of needs operates from St Nicholas School.

Childcare providers offer an inclusive service and welcome children with disabilities or difficulties. Parents should approach individual providers to discuss children's individual needs.

Expansion

Over the coming years, considerable housing expansion is planned for North, East and South West Chippenham, including continued business expansion offering local employment opportunities. The current housing development in Sutton Benger nears completion, and a new development of 31 homes has started being built next to Chippenham Community Hospital.

In line with the proposed housing expansion in Chippenham community area, numbers of children are expected to steadily increase. Provision for 3 new primary schools and extra senior school places are planned within the developments. New childcare may be needed in line with this expansion. The situation will be closely monitored to ensure that there continues to be sufficient childcare in Chippenham community area.

Childcare action plan – Chippenham

For countywide targets please see the full Childcare Sufficiency Report			
Target	Action	Who	By when
Develop more after school club places	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess needs of parents regularly	Schools	Annually from September 2015 (new intake)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recruit more childminders to pick up from village schools where needed.	Childcare Officer/Childcare Information Service	Ongoing, Sept 2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure links are made between schools and local childminders and that information about childcare options is communicated to parents.	Childcare Officer/Childcare Information Service	Ongoing, Sept 2015
Develop new places of all types of childcare as required as new housing is being developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monitor current provision and develop new provision where needed, including childminders.	Childcare Officer	As new housing developed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Encourage existing childminders to register to take free entitlement funding.	Childcare Officer	Ongoing, September 2015

To search for Ofsted registered childcare please visit Wiltshire Council's [online childcare directory](#).