

TYPES OF EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PROVIDERS IN DEVON

There are different types of early years and childcare providers in Devon. The Early Years and Childcare Service has categorised types of childcare by:

Day care

- **Day nurseries** – provide care and early learning for children from birth to five years old, available all year and at times to meet the needs of most working parents
- **Pre-schools** – provide part time care and early learning for children from two to five years old. Many operate term time only and opening hours vary considerably
- **Nursery classes of independent schools** – these are nursery settings managed by independent schools for children aged three to five years old with increasing numbers now admitting two-year-olds.

Academy and maintained nurseries

- **Maintained nursery schools and classes** – these are local authority-run provision for two- to four-year-olds in primary or infant schools or are a nursery school in their own right.
- **Academy nursery classes** – these are run by the academy trust or governing organisation for two- to four-year-olds.

Out of school provision

- **Out of school clubs** – provision for children aged from three years, outside of school hours
- **Weekend clubs** – Provision for children aged from three years, at weekends
- **Holiday schemes** – provision for children aged from three years, during school holidays.

Childminders

- **Childminders** – provide care and early learning for children under 18, to whom they are not related, for reward, in the childminder's own home, often offering flexibility in working hours for parents working unsociable hours. A childminder can have up to two assistants working with them at any one time.

Home Childcarer

- **Home Childcarer** – a person who looks after children in the child's home.

Early years and childcare provision can also be categorised by:

- **Group-based childcare** – this is childcare where there are four or more members of staff and is usually in a non-domestic building. This includes day care, academy and maintained provision and out of school provision.
- **Home-based childcare** – this is childcare that is provided in domestic premises.