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Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a Gweinidog y Cabinet dros Gyfiawnder
Cymdeithasol a Chydraddoldeb
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Minister for Social Justice
and Equality



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Your ref WQ98942

Sarah Cooper-Lesadd MS
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2 July 2026

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your written question of 16th June 2026. You asked what progress the Welsh Government has made in delivering funded childcare places for children aged two and over, and whether the rollout is almost complete.

In our first 100 days we are committed to work with local authorities and childcare providers on plans to urgently complete the rollout of 12.5 hours of funded childcare for all two-year-olds, begun under the Cooperation Agreement between Plaid Cymru and the outgoing Labour Welsh Government.

Progress of the 3 phases of this rollout:

- **Phase 1** (Sept 2022–Mar 2023): Offered Flying Start services to around 2,500 additional children under four which included childcare for two-year-olds.
- **Phase 2** (2023–25): Over 13,400 children offered places, with more than 10,000 of two-year-olds taking up childcare. Over 2,000 places were taken up in Welsh medium settings.
- **Phase 3** (2025–26): Expected to reach over 4,000 additional children.

Wrexham, Merthyr, Swansea and Newport have already expanded their offer to all two-year-olds in their area.

The number of children reached will depend on take-up rates, but we would expect around two-thirds of two-year-olds to be offered a childcare place by the end of 2025-26. The full year data for Phase 3 delivery April 2025 to March 2026 will be published on 1st July 2026.

Yours sincerely,

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.