

Cost of childcare: the CHANGE project

CHANGE is a project working with communities in the East of Glasgow to develop childcare services in the area



Families have childcare needs not just in the early years but throughout their child's primary school years and into secondary school for many



Families have told us that cost is a huge barrier to using childcare and that, for some families, paying for childcare costs can place them in in-work poverty

"I was just working to pay for childcare."

Childcare fees are increasing in both local authority provision and in the private and third sectors



Families can often face additional costs on top of childcare fees



Deposits or registration fees between £100-£200



Public transport to get to and from a childcare service

Charges for food like lunch or snacks



Toy funds



Providing special clothing



Childcare costs to families are a very significant household cost. As a society do we accept this needs to be the case or can we do something collectively to change it?

Find out more about the CHANGE: Childcare and Nurture Glasgow East project at www.change-childcare.org and follow on Twitter @CHANGEChildcare

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Local authority nurseries are the least expensive provider on a per hour basis, with Glasgow residents paying a discounted rate of £3 per hour

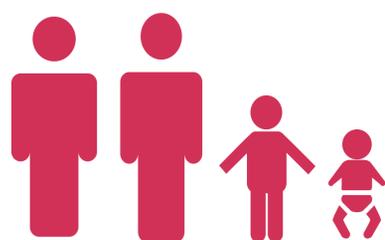


However, there is significant demand on local authority places and other providers find it difficult to lower costs for families due to the costs of running a service

Although some families may receive benefits to help pay for childcare, we know this can be a complex system to navigate and eligibility criteria applies



CASE STUDY



This family has two parents in full time work and two children, a 2 year old and a 6 year old

The children's ages mean they are outside of the criteria for funded Early Learning and Childcare provision

The children need childcare for **50 weeks** of the year

The youngest couldn't get a local authority place and the average cost of a non-local authority nursery is **£3.76 per hour**



The oldest is at school and needs out of school care for 3 hours per day at **£4.58 per hour** (less in the school holidays)

The family spend **£12,218** just on childcare for the year

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