

SDR 108/2014

15 July 2014

Flying Start, summary statistics 2013-14

This Statistical Release provides some key official statistics from the Flying Start programme and for each of the 22 Local Authorities in Wales. This is the second Statistical Release of an annual series in relation to this programme and aims to provide the evidence needed to inform further policy development, as well as providing data to Local Authorities for monitoring, benchmarking and improvement and information for the wider public.

[Flying Start](#) is the Welsh Government targeted Early Years programme for families with children under 4 years of age in some of the most disadvantaged areas of Wales. The Welsh Government began collecting routine management data from the Flying Start programme during 2012-13.

This release aims to provide a statistical overview of how the programme is working by presenting statistics from the management information set, for example, the numbers of children using Flying Start services, together with developing statistics about outcomes for Flying Start children.

Improvements in collection processes, methodology and validation continue to be made but this is still relatively new data and this should be recognised when interpreting the resulting statistics.

During 2013-14 an expansion of the programme into additional areas began. Management data has been collected for some aspects of the programme separately for pre-expansion areas and for expansion areas. Where a split is not available, the potential impact of the expansion process should be considered when interpreting the statistics.

For more on improvements in data collection and data quality, see [notes](#) on page 32.

Flying Start is one of the Welsh Government's top priorities and many of the statistics presented here are also used as indicators for the programme within the Welsh Government's [Programme for Government](#).

In the future we plan to publish high level statistics from this series on an interim basis during the year (see [notes](#)).

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Next update: July 2015 (to be confirmed)

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Key Facts for 2013-14:

- 31,322 children benefited from, that is, were in receipt of Flying Start services in Wales at any time in 2013-14.
- Flying Start children (on the health visitor caseload) of all ages up to age 4 were seen an average of 5.8 times during 2013-14 by health visitors and a further 2.0 times by members of the wider health team (a total of 7.8 contacts per child).
- 86 per cent of offers of childcare in a Flying Start childcare setting were taken up during 2013-14.
- 84 per cent of children in the pre-expansion Flying Start programme areas reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms¹ at age 2 years while 57 per cent met or exceeded their milestones at this age.
- 82 per cent of children in the pre-expansion Flying Start programme areas reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms¹ at age 3 years while 55 per cent met or exceeded their milestones at this age.
- 92 per cent of children aged 3 and living in Flying Start areas were on roll at a maintained school (2013).
- 78 per cent of children living in Flying Start areas were fully immunised by their 4th birthday (2012-13).

Changes since 2012-13:

- There was expansion from 23,579 children in receipt of Flying Start services in 2012-13 to 31,322 children in 2013-14, an increase of around a third (33 per cent).
- Over a third (37 per cent) more children were seen in 2013-14, that is, were allocated to a Flying Start health visitor's caseload.
- In total (health visitor and the wider health team) there were slightly fewer contacts per child in 2013-14, 7.8 compared to 8.9 in 2012-13; however 2013-14 data is felt to be more robust than that available for the previous year.
- There has been a fall in childcare take-up at the all Wales level, from 90 per cent in 2012-13 to 86 per cent in 2013-14, but this is affected by specific problems and consequent very low take-up in some local authorities.
- Developmental assessments in pre-expansion areas:
 - There was a slight improvement in the percentage of children assessed at age 2 that either met or exceeded their developmental milestones.
 - There was no change in the percentage of children assessed at age 3 that either met or exceeded their developmental milestones.
 - There was a slight improvement in the percentage of children assessed in the correct age window, i.e. within a window of one month of their 2nd or 3rd birthdays.
- There was no change, at 92 per cent, of children aged 3 and living in Flying Start areas that were on roll at a maintained school.
- There was a small increase, from 76 per cent in 2011-12 to 78 per cent in 2012-13, of children living in Flying Start areas that were fully immunised by their 4th birthday. This was a greater increase than that of children living in non-Flying Start areas.

¹ For further information on developmental assessment please see [notes](#) on page 32.

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The Flying Start Programme

Flying Start is one of the Welsh Government's top priorities. The Welsh Government is committed to doubling the number of children and their families benefiting from the Flying Start programme from 18,000 to 36,000 by 2016.

Key aspects of [Flying Start](#) are:

- free part-time childcare for 2-3 year olds
- an enhanced Health Visiting service (where the Health Visitor caseload is capped at 110 children)
- access to Parenting support
- access to Early Language Development support.

These services are universally available to all children aged under 4 years and their families in the areas in which the programme runs. More details of the services provided can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/childrenyoungpeople/parenting/help/flyingstart/?lang=en>

Flying Start targets the most disadvantaged areas in Wales. The programme has been targeted to areas according to measures of relative disadvantage including the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD), free school meals and the proportions of children aged under 4 years living in households in receipt of income related benefits. The programme is managed by a team in each local authority with monitoring and support provided by Welsh Government Account Managers allocated to a number of local authorities. Further information about the role of Account Managers is given in the [Key Quality Information](#) on page 32. A series of reports from the [National Evaluation of Flying Start](#) were published at the end of 2013.

Map 1 on page 7 shows the areas, based on postcodes, targeted as recipients of Flying Start funding, as at 31 March 2012. Note that the map does not reflect any expansion of the programme after 31 March 2012. 2013-14 expansion areas are not yet available for mapping. Also note that the 2012 postcodes used in the map have been slightly revised for 6 local authorities since the first Statistical Release was published.

Please refer to Table 1 on page 22 for basic numbers. More information about how Flying Start areas are chosen is provided under [Key Quality Information](#) on page 32.

Sources of data for Flying Start

Management information: A number of key statistics for the programme have been derived from the Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return. This data collection was established during 2012 and early 2013 in collaboration with Flying Start coordinators for the purpose of providing information with which to manage the programme. The first data was provided to Welsh Government for 2012-13. The data published here for 2013-14 reflects a period during which there was expansion from around 23,600 children in receipt of services to 31,300, an increase of around a third (33 per cent). Additional target areas will be added to the programme throughout the period of expansion i.e. during 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Selected basic counts from this data monitoring dataset are presented in Tables 1-3 starting on page 22 and key analyses shown in sections 1 to 3 below. The data monitoring dataset is also the source of statistics presented in section 4 on parenting and early language development and in section 5 on child development. It should be noted that this data collection is still relatively new although improvements in data collection methodology and validation have been made in consultation with local authorities and the 2013-14 data is felt to be more robust than that available for the previous year. Further developments will be made where necessary. Please see further details in the [notes](#) on page 32.

Pre-expansion and expansion

A small expansion of the programme into additional areas occurred in 2012-13 but the major expansion to date has been during 2013-14. Management data has been collected for some aspects of the programme separately for pre-expansion areas and for expansion areas. Where a split is not available the addition of the

expansion areas into the statistics should be considered when interpreting the data. The release takes account of expansion in the following way:

1. It has not been possible to split the number of children benefiting, the caseload counts, contacts or take-up of childcare places between pre-expansion and expansion areas. This should be noted when making comparisons between statistics for 2012-13 and 2013-14. However information on the numbers of children who have been offered childcare places in the pre-expansion and expansion areas was collected.
2. Assessment data has been collected separately for pre-expansion areas and expansion areas and these are presented separately with the pre-expansion areas being compared with statistics from 2012-13.

It should be noted that in some local authorities there has been relatively slow development into the expansion areas in some cases because of delays recruiting health visitors and in establishing new childcare settings. It is likely that the statistics are impacted by this.

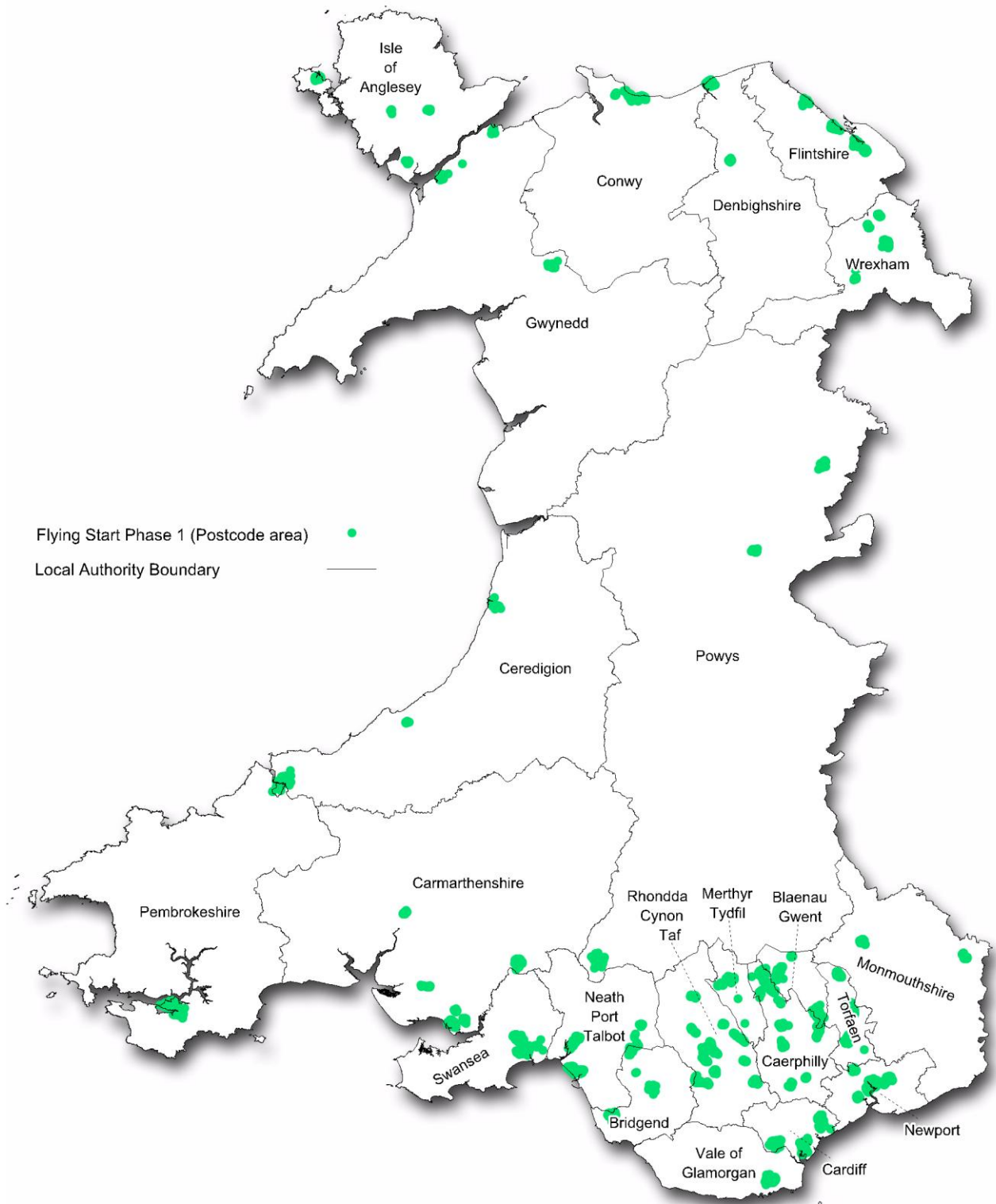
Additional target areas will be added to the programme throughout the period of expansion i.e. during 2014-15 and 2015-16.

National databases: Statistics showing additional health and education outcomes for children living in pre-expansion Flying Start areas have been derived from national databases and are shown in sections 6 and 7. These analyses are area-based. Not every child in Flying Start areas may take up all or even any of the services offered. For further information on these national databases please see the [notes](#) on page 36.

Statistics are presented in a series of charts throughout the release and detailed data tables are provided in Tables 1-9 beginning on page 22. Note that percentages in the tables are rounded to the nearest whole number, but unrounded data is used in the charts.

A baseline table of data from both these sources has been included for 2012-13, on page 31.

Map 1: Location of Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2012 (r)



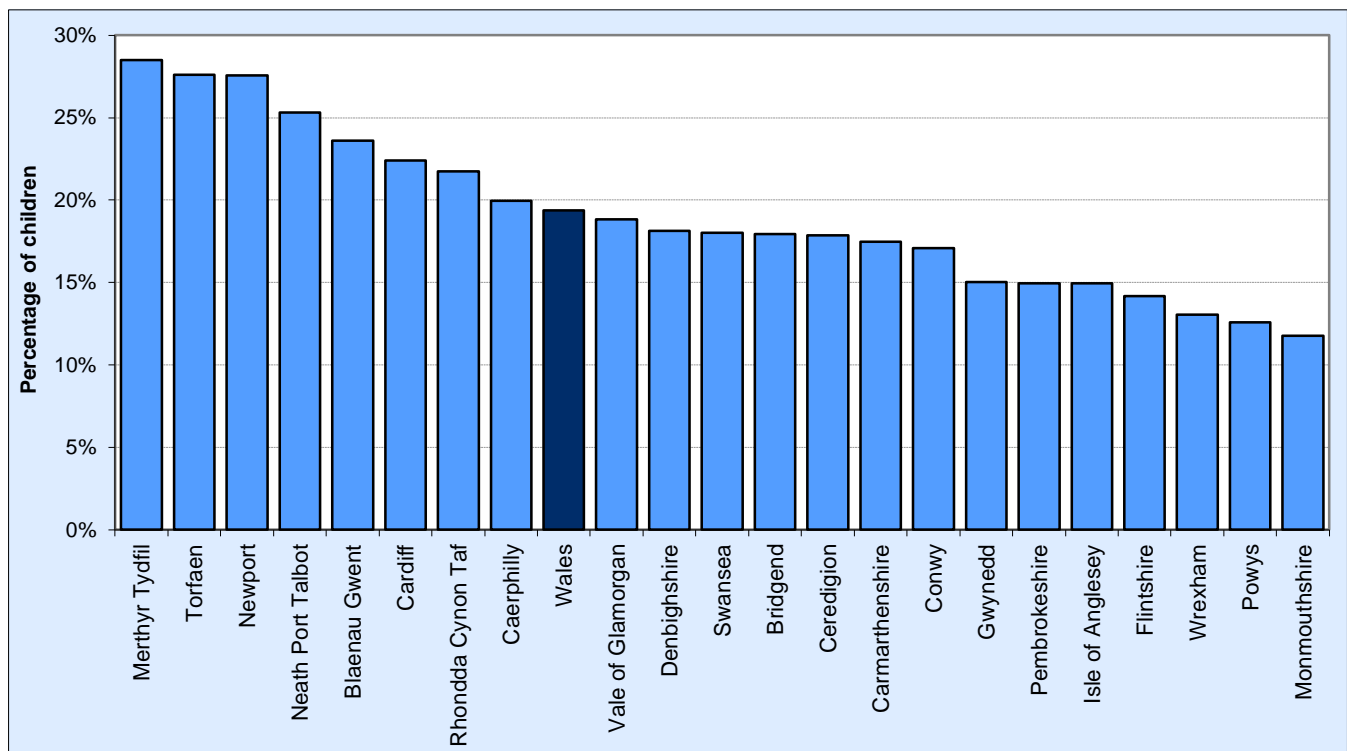
(r) Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2012 have been revised due to late changes in the postcodes received from Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Ceredigion, Neath Port Talbot, Newport and Pembrokeshire.

1. Children receiving Flying Start Services

- During 2013-14 31,322 children benefited from Flying Start, that is, they were in receipt of Flying Start services in Wales (Table 1).

The number of children benefiting from the programme is counted as the total number of children who have had a contact with a Flying Start health visitor during the year. It should be noted that children may move in or out of Flying Start areas during the year and therefore this total does not equate to the number of children who receive Flying Start services continuously from the start to the end of the year. Table 1 also shows the health visitor caseload which is an average of the caseload at three points during the year. This number, 27,692 for 2013-14, is lower than the total in receipt of services at any time during the year because of movements in and out of Flying Start areas. However, it represents a better indication of the capacity of the service at any snapshot in time in 2013-14. The caseload is also used in Chart 1 below.

Chart 1: Children aged under 4 on Flying Start health visitor caseloads as a percentage of all resident children aged under 4 (a) by local authority, 2013-14

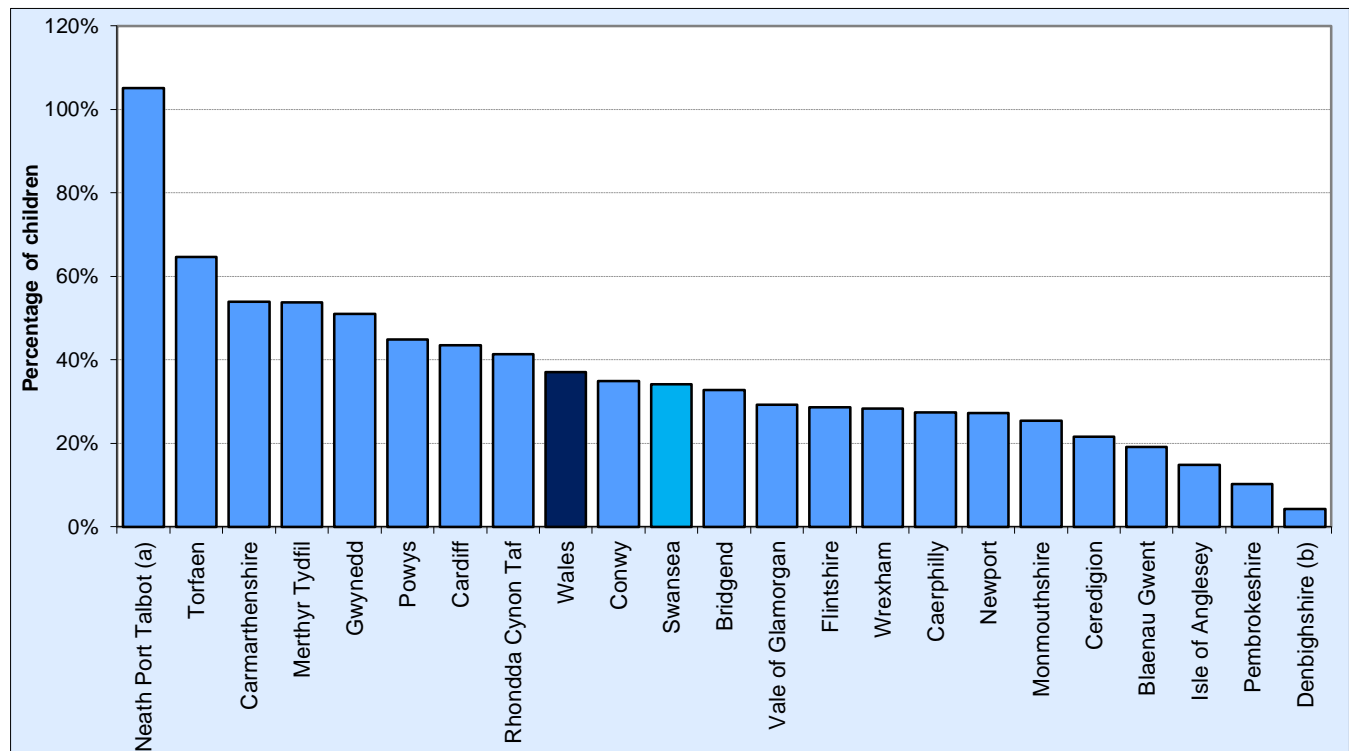


Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14 (health visitor caseload)
 (a) 2013 Mid Year Population Estimates, published by Office for National Statistics.

- Overall 19 per cent of children aged under 4 in Wales were on health visitor caseloads and received Flying Start services during 2013-14 (Chart 1), nearly 1 in 5 Welsh children. This is an increase from 14 per cent in 2012-13.
- This figure, influenced by the targeting of areas in relative need, varied from 28 per cent of children under 4 in Merthyr Tydfil to 12 per cent in Monmouth.

In a small number of local authorities, the caseload was greater than the number of children benefitting from Flying Start services. This is likely to be due to the fact that some children may have been transferred in to Flying Start areas and allocated to a caseload at the end of the term when numbers were counted, but before any first health visitor contact. Problems with health visitor staffing levels and delays in recruiting new health visitors for the expansion areas may also have had an impact.

Chart 2: Percentage change in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads between 2012-13 and 2013-14, by local authority



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13 and 2013-14 (health visitor caseload)

- (a) Data for Neath Port Talbot in 2012-13 was under-reported due to recruitment of new health visitors after the date in 2012-13 that the numbers related to, and as a result the subsequent take on of caseload was not reflected in the data recorded in the 2012-13 Data Monitoring Return, affecting the percentage change since 2012-13.
- (b) The percentage change for Denbighshire is affected by a reduction in cap (target) numbers of children carried out at the start of 2013-14 with the agreement of Welsh Government.

Chart 2 shows substantial variation between local authorities in the change in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads between 2012-13 and 2013-14, ranging between 4 per cent in Denbighshire and 105 per cent in Neath Port Talbot (see footnote (a) above). Overall in Wales, there was a 37 per cent increase in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads.

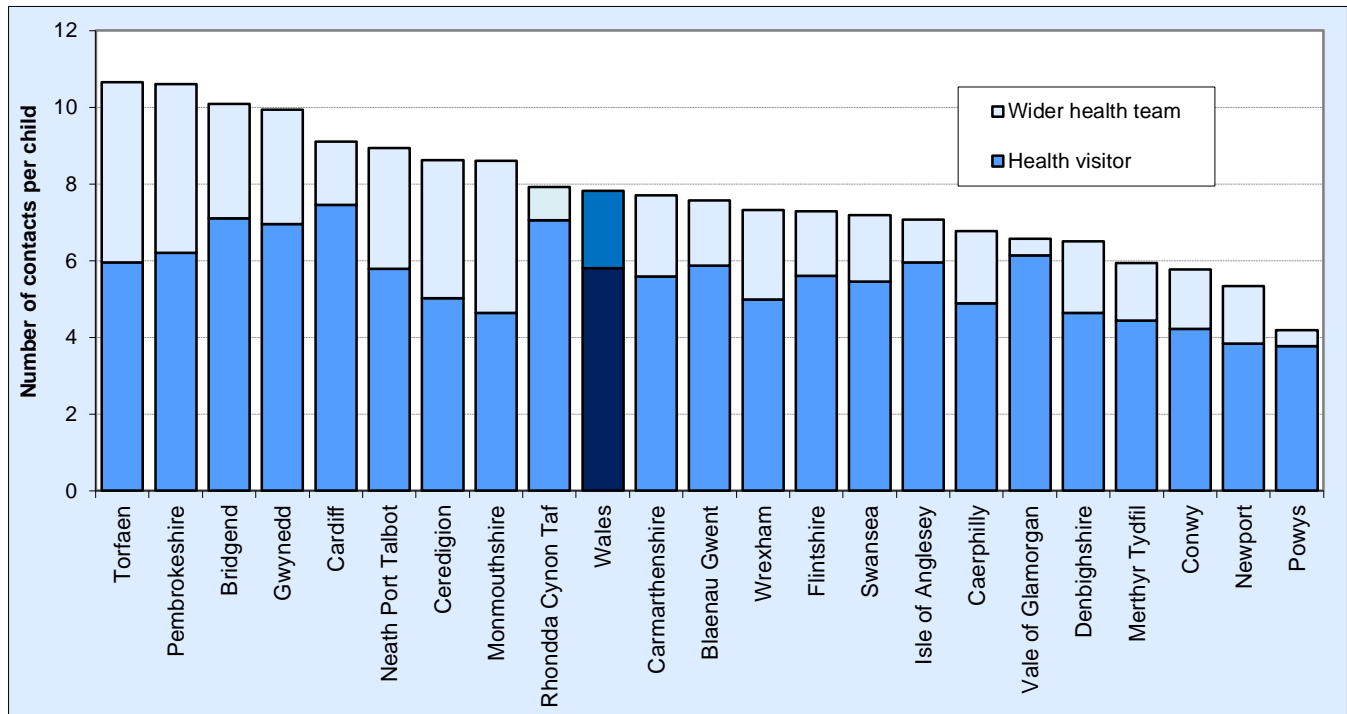
Note: Some local authorities reported problems with staffing levels during 2013-14, having an effect on the number of children on caseloads. Also some areas have a high level of transiency, making it likely that some children would have transferred out of Flying Start areas at some point during the year, and potentially before the first contact by a health visitor.

Key elements of the Flying Start Programme

2. Flying Start health visiting service

An enhanced health visiting service is one of the four key elements of the programme, with Flying Start health visitors having a significantly reduced caseload compared to the generic service. The programme requires a ratio of one full-time equivalent health visitor per 110 children aged under 4 in Flying Start areas and this is designed to enable them to ensure more regular contact with, and delivery of intensive support to Flying Start children and their families. The primary function of the Flying Start health visitor is to support the family in the home, assessing both the child (using an appropriate Welsh Government approved developmental assessment tool), and the family (in terms of high, medium and low risk). Particular emphasis is placed on working with the most vulnerable groups including teenage parents, those who are victims of, or may be at risk of domestic abuse and pre/post natal depression. The health team works in partnership with parents and other professionals to ensure that there is a planned and co-ordinated approach to service delivery prior to a child's birth through to their fourth birthday.

Chart 3: Number of contacts (a) per child during the year by Flying Start health visitor and wider health team (b), by local authority, 2013-14



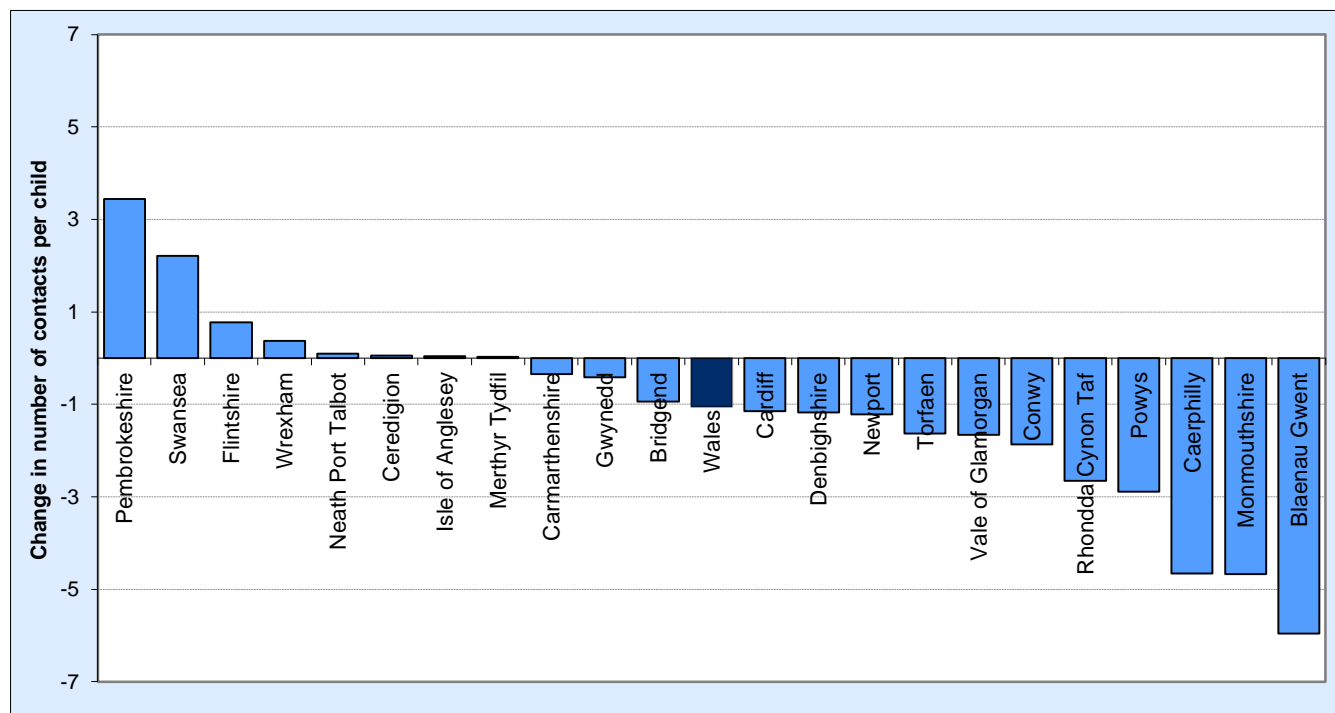
Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

- (a) Face-to-face contact by a health visitor or wider health team member in the financial year.
- (b) "Wider health team" may include a mix of any the following professionals - dieticians, midwives, clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, community nursery nurses, social workers and others.

- Flying Start children of all ages up to age 4 on the health visitor caseload were seen an average of 5.8 times during 2013-14 by health visitors and a further twice by members of the wider health team, a slight decrease on 2012-13 (Chart 3 and Table 2). Flying Start health visitor caseloads are capped at 110 children whereas health visitors working outside Flying Start may have up to 350 children on their caseloads.
- Chart 3 shows substantial variation between local authorities. Some of this may reflect relative need, variation in length or type of contacts or the age profile of the children in specific areas.
- The balance of health visitor and wider team contacts also varies. This is likely to be related to variations in need; the availability of health and care professionals and differences in the delivery models applied in each area.

The people involved in the 'wider health team' will vary between local authorities according to local management decisions.

Chart 4: Change in number of contacts (a) per child between 2012-13 and 2013-14 by Flying Start health visitor and wider health team (b), by local authority



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13 and 2013-14

- (a) Face-to-face contact by a health visitor or wider health team member in the financial year.
- (b) "Wider health team" may include a mix of any the following professionals - dietitians, midwives, clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, community nursery nurses, social workers and others.

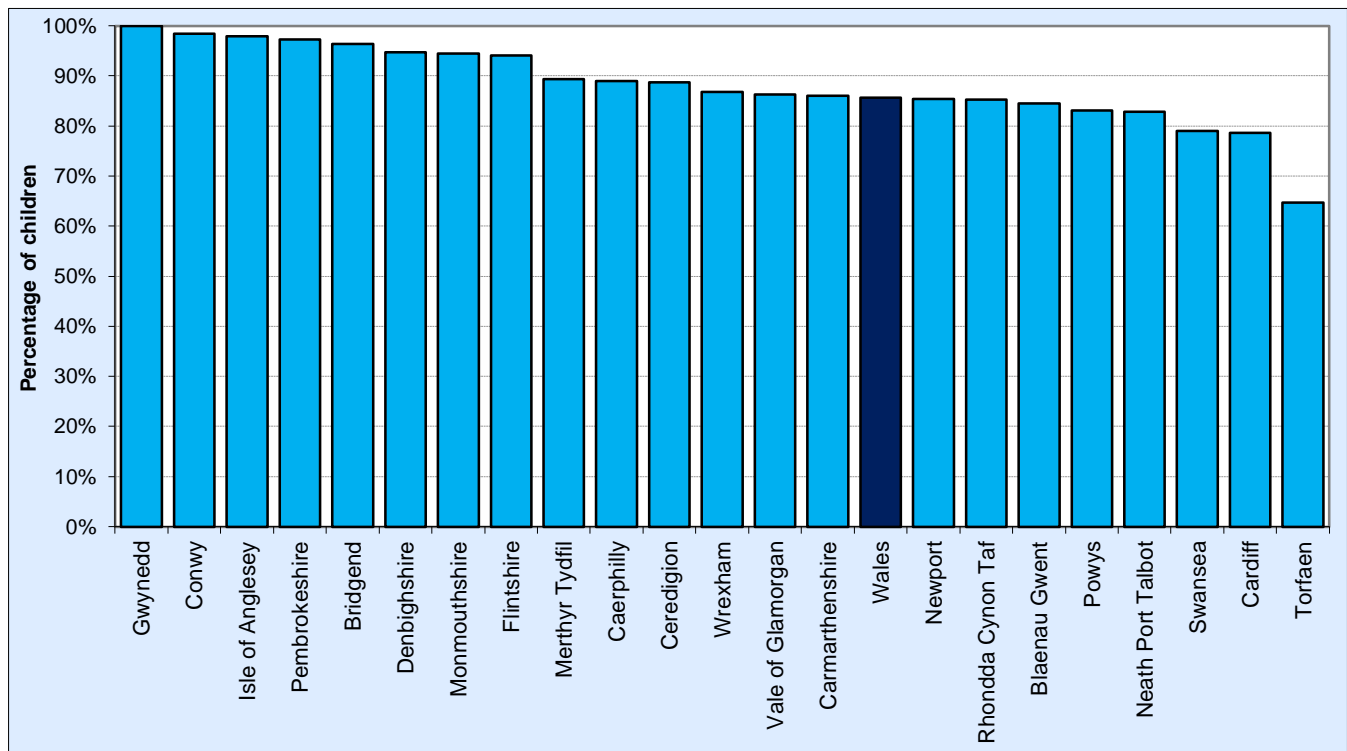
- Chart 4 shows the net change in the number of contacts per child (whether with the health visitor or the wider health team) between 2012-13 and 2013-14. There has been a substantial change since 2012-13 in the number of times Flying Start children were seen by either a health visitor or a member of the wider health team. Two-thirds (14) of all local authorities showed a decline in the total number of contacts made by either a health visitor or by a member of the wider team, with 8 local authorities increasing. Pembrokeshire had the greatest increase over the period (3 contacts per child) while Blaenau Gwent saw the greatest decrease (6 contacts per child). (Table 2)
- The balance of health visitor and wider health contacts has also changed in some cases.

Note that this is an area of the data collection where improvements have been made and it is likely that some of the larger swings are the result of comparing the more robust data for 2013-14 with data from the first year of the collection.

3. Childcare

The provision of high quality, part-time childcare for 2-3 year olds is integral to the Flying Start programme. Children are able to access the entitlement from the beginning of the term following their second birthday to the end of the term in which they have their third birthday. The core Flying Start childcare offer is that quality childcare is offered to parents of all eligible 2-3 year olds for 2 ½ hours a day, 5 days a week for 39 weeks. In addition, there should be at least 15 sessions of provision for the family during the school holidays. A family can choose to take up either the full offer or a reduced offer, if only some of the sessions are needed. Flying Start childcare focuses on improving the outcomes for young children in preparation for school and so the childcare offer should be linked to Foundation Phase entry into schools to ensure a seamless transition between the two offers with no gaps in provision. The programme guidance states that flexibility may be required for working parents when allocating childcare.

Chart 5: Number of full or reduced offers of Flying Start-provided childcare taken up as a percentage of offers made to newly eligible children, by local authority, 2013-14



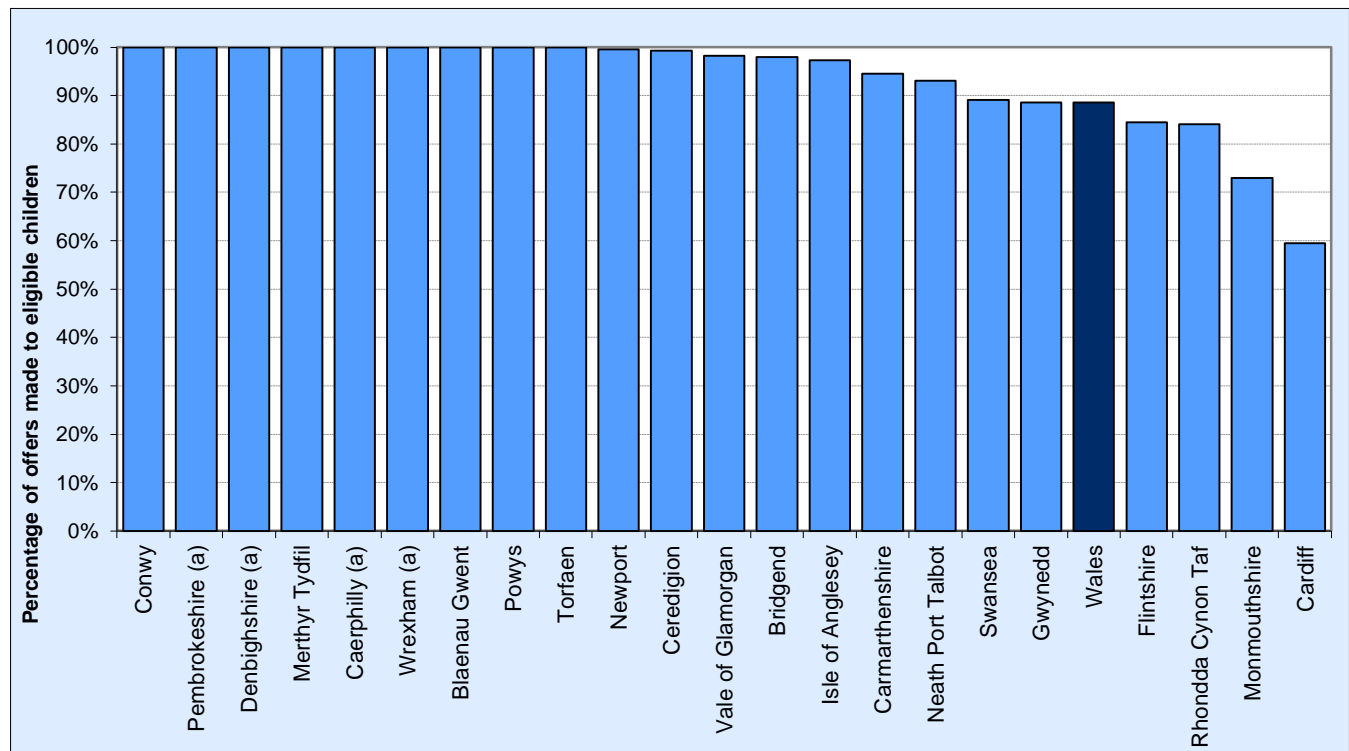
Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

Chart 5 illustrates childcare take-up for 2013-14. 2012-13 data is shown in Baseline Table: Key data for 2012-13 on page 31.

- It shows that overall 86 per cent of full or reduced offers of childcare in a Flying Start childcare setting were taken up, a 4 percentage point decrease on the 2012-13 figure (90 per cent). (Chart 5, Table 3 and Baseline Table).
- Fewer local authorities had take up rates of over 90 per cent in 2013-14 than in 2012-13, and the majority of take up rates had fallen in this period, with take up as low as 65 per cent in Torfaen.
- A fall in take-up was seen in most local authorities with only six authorities having seen an increase in take-up.

Chart 6 shows the extent to which local authorities made offers of childcare to eligible children in 2013-14.

Chart 6: Number of full or reduced offers of Flying Start-provided childcare made as a percentage of newly eligible children, by local authority, 2013-14



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

(a) The number of children made full or reduced offers of childcare was greater than the total number of eligible, resulting in percentage of greater than 100% which have been adjusted to 100%. See notes.

- In 14 local authorities offers were made to more than 95 per cent of eligible children.
- Although Chart 5 showed that take-up was low in some authorities, such as Torfaen, Chart 6 shows that offers were made to all eligible children in the area.

These statistics is based on the numbers of children, living in both pre-expansion Flying Start areas and in expansion areas, who are newly eligible during the year (and were made offers of childcare) and who take up offers of childcare. It has not been possible to split the take-up data between pre-expansion Flying Start areas and expansion areas. Also note that expanding childcare or establishing new settings in expansion areas has been problematic in several local authorities and poor take up for expansion areas for these local authorities will have affected take up rates at the national level, e.g. in Cardiff a review of estates has meant that there has been a shortage of Flying Start childcare settings to accommodate the extra children that had joined the programme, resulting in only a small percentage of eligible children being offered childcare in Cardiff expansion areas; in Monmouthshire a late registration of a childcare setting meant that there were delays in offers being made. Note that not all childcare places taken up may be fully attended. For further detail of take-up and attendance please see [notes](#) on page 32.

4. Parenting and Early Language Development

The quality of parenting and care a child receives in their early years and parental involvement in a child's development is a significant factor in ensuring positive outcomes for children.

The parenting offer is based on the following three themes:

- Perinatal and support in the early years;
- Early intervention approaches to supporting vulnerable parents; and
- Programmes to support parents in positive parenting.

Every family with a Flying Start child must be offered formal parenting support at least on an annual basis. In addition to the formal parenting offer, other parenting support may be delivered. This may include informal parenting support, bespoke enhanced one-to-one sessions and informal drop-in sessions, depending on need. Formal and informal structured courses are defined as those with a structured curriculum and a set start and end date. Bespoke enhanced distinct packages of support are defined as planned, time bound series of sessions, delivered on a one-to-one basis, that have been identified as a requirement via a specific referral from within the Flying Start programme in respect of parenting or speech and early language development.

In 2013-14 across all Local Authorities:

- 2,864 places on formal structured parenting courses were offered to families with Flying Start children, and three-quarters (75 per cent) of these places were taken up.

Local authority data for formal structured courses is presented in Table 9 on page 30.

As part of the Flying Start support for Early Language Development (ELD), every family in a Flying Start area should have ongoing access to an appropriate 'Language and Play' group. This aims to encourage parents to interact with their children to improve early language development. From this, a more targeted approach based on assessment and referral can be taken where there is evidence of additional need.

The ELD entitlement of Flying Start is embedded across the whole of the Flying Start programme. It is delivered specifically through language and play groups as well as through the various parenting programmes. Language and Play groups also promote parental confidence and subsequent willingness to engage with parenting and specialist support programmes. Current management information captures data for ELD alongside data for parenting under the headings of informal structured courses, enhanced packages of support and drop-in sessions. These are summarised for Wales below.

In 2013-14 across all Local Authorities:

- A further 8,586 places on informal structured parenting / ELD courses were offered, and more than two-thirds (71 per cent) of these places were taken up.
- 3,506 packages of enhanced one-to-one parenting / ELD or health support¹ were offered, and 35,855 parenting / ELD sessions were delivered on an informal drop-in basis.

The number of courses and sessions offered varies substantially by local authority as does the balance between formal, informal, drop-in and one-to one sessions. It is likely that the differential provision reflects local need and availability as well as the local distribution of courses offered by related programmes such as Families First.

See the [notes](#) section on page 36 for more detail of parenting courses and a list of accredited formal structured courses.

¹ Some authorities deliver this service within their health workstream.

Outcomes for children in the Flying Start Programme

5. Child Development

The Flying Start health visitor assesses each child in receipt of Flying Start services using an appropriate Welsh Government approved developmental assessment tool. This tool assesses a child's development across seven key areas relating to movement, manipulation, visual, hearing, speech and language, and social interaction, comparing the child's progress with a norm derived from a standard reference group of children of a similar age.

Flying Start children are assessed by health visitors at age 2 and age 3 against developmental norms in the seven skill areas. Ideally, children are assessed as close to the date of their 2nd and 3rd birthdays as possible, although in practice (due for example to staff absence, delays in recruitment or failure to make contact with the family at an appointed time) this is not always possible and assessments will generally take place within a month or two either side of the actual date of the birthday. When determining whether the child is progressing normally, the health visitors will compare the child's performance against an age banded scale and will usually consider the child to be progressing normally if they are assessed as being within one age band below the developmental norm relevant to the child's actual age at the time of assessment in all seven skill areas. There is a wide scope for professional judgement to be applied in this process, for example in interpreting the results for each of the seven skill areas in relation to the actual age of the child at the time of assessment, and the health visitor will apply this professional judgement in determining whether the child is progressing normally or whether additional support is required.

The results presented here are based on counting children as follows:

- Met or exceeded milestones: children who were at or exceeded the developmental milestones in *all* of the seven skill areas
- Within one age band of milestones: children who were within one age band of developmental milestones in one or more (or all) of the skill areas but have met or exceeded milestones in the others
- More than one age band below milestones: children who, in at least one of the skill areas, were below one age band below milestones.

Outside Flying Start areas Local Health Boards carry out assessments as clinically indicated using a common tool and according to local pathways. Therefore whilst statistics can be presented relative to the norm in the Flying Start areas, it is not currently possible to draw comparisons with children living in non-Flying Start areas.

The first section below compares assessments of children living in the pre-expansion areas between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in order to compare like areas. The expansion areas are reported on separately in the second section below. It is early days in the expansion phase and there may be reasons why the children assessed so far are different from the children already in the programme e.g. more children have been assessed late, or maybe younger children or children with greater needs have been assessed first.

Pre-expansion areas

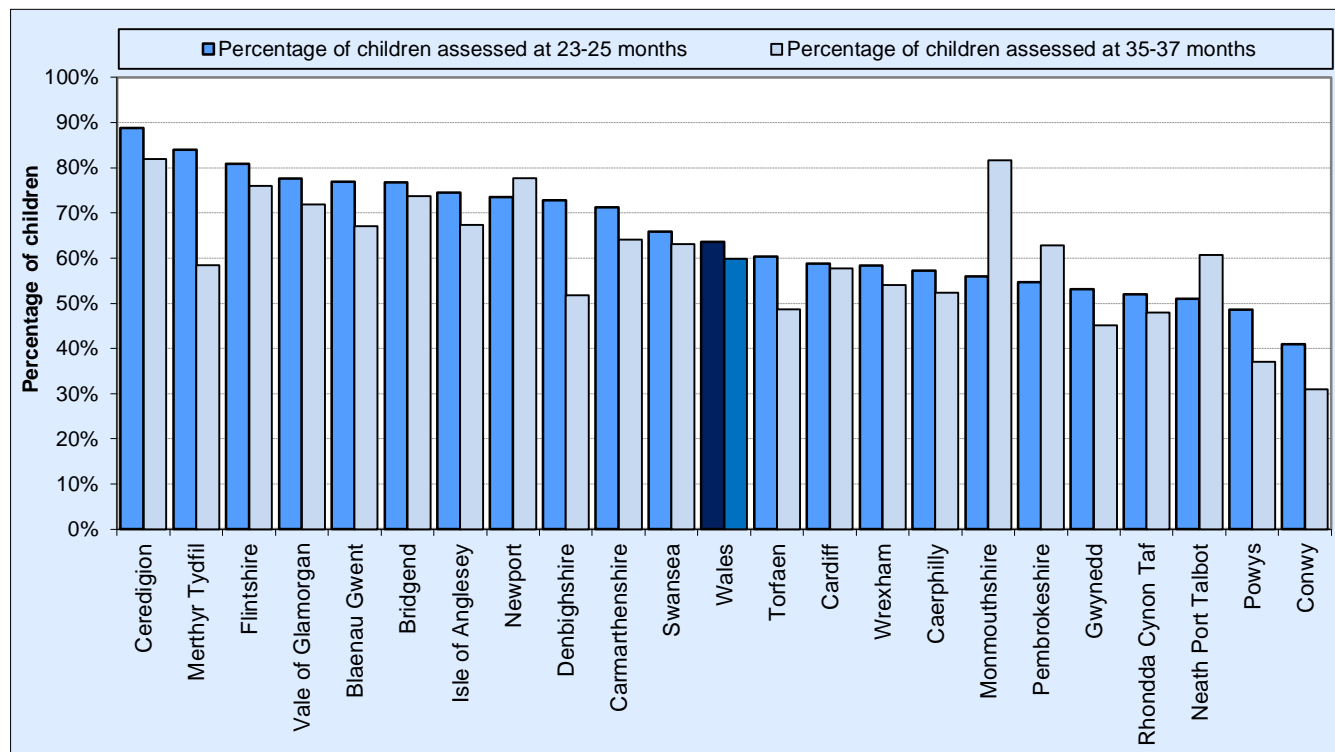
Children assessed "in the correct age window"

For the analysis in this Statistical Release, only children who are assessed in the correct age window, i.e. within a month of the 2nd or 3rd birthdays, are considered, because the norms against which the assessment is made will not be appropriate for children who are assessed late or early. Children that are assessed when they are aged between 23 and 25 months inclusive (i.e. between 23 months and 0 days and 25 months and 0 days) are considered to be assessed 'in the correct age window', children who are assessed before they turn 23 months are considered as being assessed early, and children assessed age 25 months and 1 day or over are considered as being assessed late. For assessments made at age three, the similar boundaries are at 35 and 37 months respectively. Of the children assessed on time around 80 per cent were in pre-expansion areas (3,498 of children assessed at 23-25 months and 3,201 assessed at 35-37 months).

In 2013-14 for the pre expansion areas:

- 64 per cent of 2 year olds and 60 per cent of 3 year olds in the Flying Start programme were assessed within the window of a month of their birthdays. The percentages for each local authority are shown in Chart 7 below and in Table 4 for 2012-13 as well as for 2013-14. The percentages were not published in the 2012-13 Statistical Release but at the Wales level they are similar for both years.

Chart 7: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas assessed in the correct age window, by local authority, 2013-14



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

- Chart 7 shows that the percentage of children in the Flying Start programme pre-expansion areas who were assessed in the correct age window varied greatly between local authorities, with Conwy having the lowest and Ceredigion having the highest percentages for both age bands.
- Overall in Wales the percentage of children in the pre-expansion areas who were assessed in the correct age window increased between 2012-13 and 2013-14 (from 63 to 64 per cent of children assessed at 23-25 months, and from 57 per cent to 60 per cent of children assessed at 35-37 months), despite there being some significant increases and decreases in percentage points over this time period within individual local authorities (Table 4).
- 18 local authorities assessed proportionately more children at 23-25 months than they did at 35-37 months.

Developmental Milestones

Charts 8 and 9 show the percentages of children reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their developmental milestones as ages 2 and 3. These statistics again relate to the pre-expansion areas.

- 84 per cent of children in the Flying Start programme reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms at age 2 years while 57 per cent met or exceeded their milestones at this age (Table 5).
- 82 per cent of children in the Flying Start programme reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental milestones at age 3 years while 55 per cent met or exceeded their milestones at this age (Table 6).

Note that these children are different cohorts i.e. the children presented in Chart 8 were aged 2 in 2013-14, and those presented in Chart 9 were age 3 in the same year. Note also that the level of transfers in and out

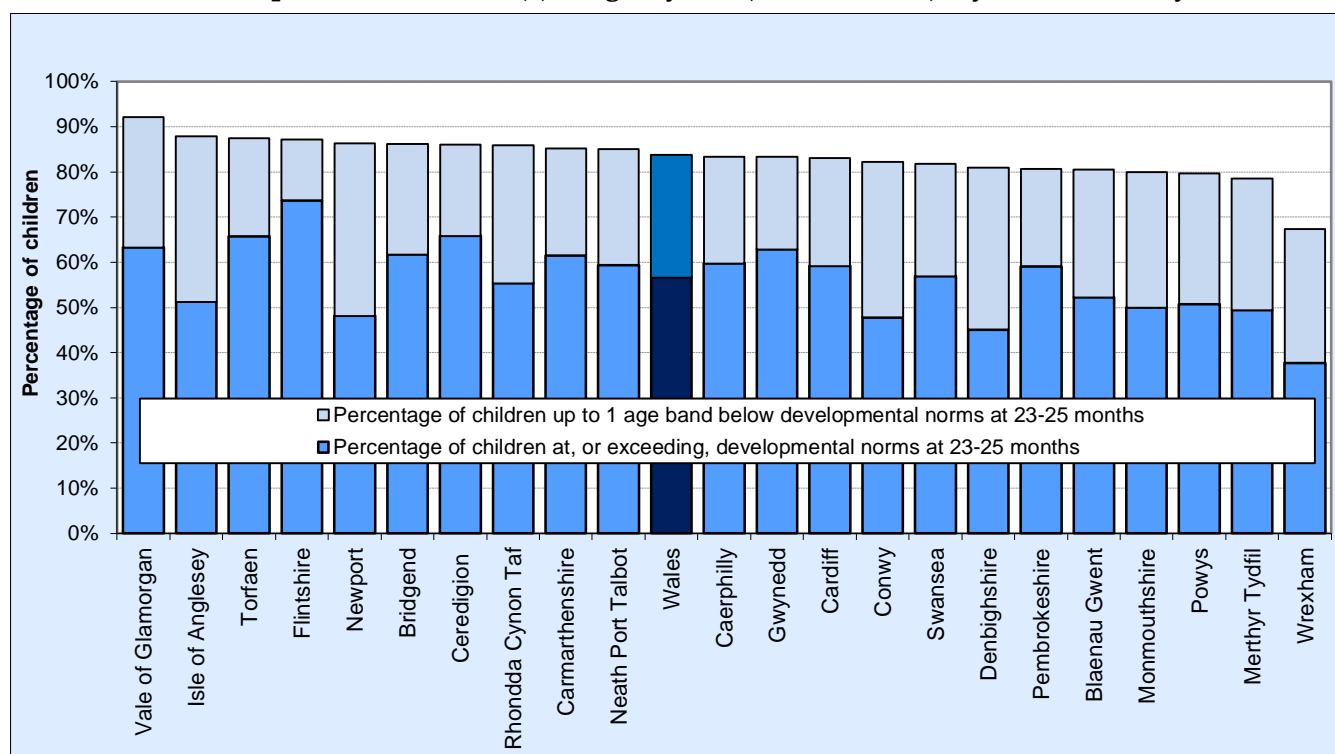
of Flying Start areas means that not all children will have been resident in Flying Start areas for the assessments at both ages 2 and 3. It also means that, for the children assessed, the length of time that they had had contact with Flying Start services will vary.

The [Tackling Poverty Action Plan](#) has a stated aim of focusing on poverty from a young age and uses this assessment data in one of its targets with the aim of increasing the proportion who meet or exceed the norms at this age; the target states that:

By 2016, increase the proportion of 3 year olds receiving Flying Start services that have achieved or exceeded their developmental milestones by 5 percentage points.

The baseline of 55 per cent at age 3 was established in 2012-13. Data for 2013-14 shows no change from the baseline year.

Chart 8: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestones (a) at age 2 years (23-25 months), by local authority, 2013-14

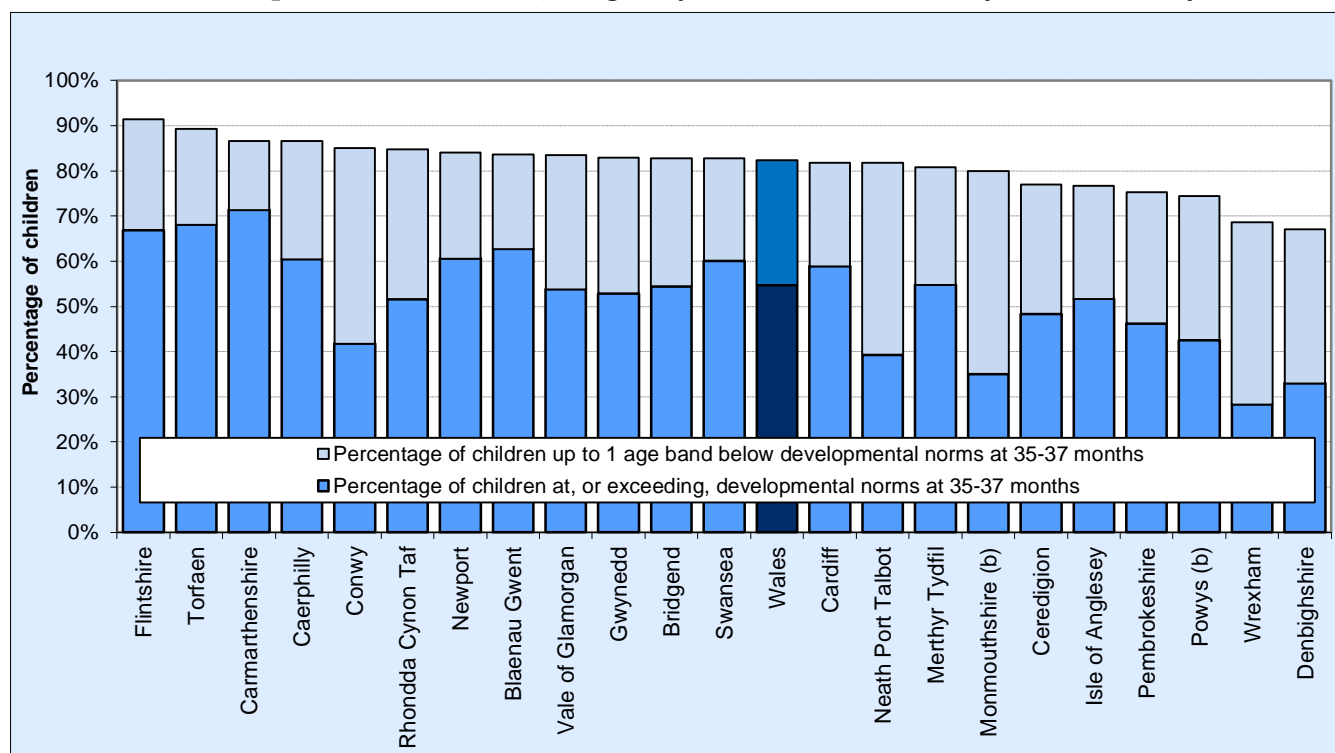


Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14
(a) See [notes](#) for further details of developmental milestones.

Chart 8 shows that 57 per cent of the 3,498 Flying Start children assessed in the pre-expansion areas in 2013-14, reached or exceeded their developmental milestones at the age of 2 years (Table 5), an increase from 55 per cent in 2012-13 (Baseline table for 2012-13). However a developmental age of one age band below the age-appropriate band may not be important in terms of identifying developmental delay or abnormality in an individual child. A further 27 per cent of children overall were reported to be within 1 age band of developmental norms, meaning that 84 per cent of children aged 2 that were assessed had met or nearly met the milestones for this age. This again is an increase from 82 per cent in 2012-13. The remaining 16 per cent of the children assessed at this age were identified as being more than one age band below the norm by Flying Start and therefore may have required additional support, although this would be according to the professional judgement of the health visitors.

At the local authority level, less than half of all local authorities (8 out of 22) saw an increase since 2012-13 in the percentage of children that had met or nearly met the milestones for this age. The majority saw falls which were of between 1 and 11 percentage points. Those that had increased did so by up to 12 percentage points.

Chart 9: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestones (a) at ages 3 years (35-37 months), by local authority, 2013-14



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

- (a) See [notes](#) for further details of developmental milestones.
- (b) Fewer than 50 children were assessed in these Local Authorities and the data should therefore be treated cautiously as these may not necessarily be representative of the whole caseload had they all been tested "in-age".

Chart 9 shows that 55 per cent of the 3,201 Flying Start children assessed in 2013-14, reached or exceeded their developmental milestones at the age of 3 years (Table 6), no change since 2012-13. However a developmental age of one age band below the age-appropriate band may not be important in terms of identifying developmental delay or abnormality in an individual child. A further 28 per cent of children were within 1 age band of developmental norms, meaning that 82 per cent of children aged 3 that were assessed had met or nearly met the milestones for this age. The remaining 18 per cent of the children assessed at this age were identified as being more than one age band below the norm by Flying Start and therefore may have required additional support, although this would be according to the professional judgement of the Health Visitors.

At the Local Authority level, less than half of all local authorities (9 out of 22) saw an increase since 2012-13 in the percentage of children that had met or nearly met the milestones for this age. The majority had fallen by between 1 and 22 percentage points. Those that had increased did so by up to 23 percentage points.

Whilst efforts have been made to remove inconsistency between local authorities in aggregating results for individual children into the data presented here, the figures will still vary between local authorities due, for example, to differences in the professional interpretation at assessment as well as to different levels of deprivation within Flying Start areas.

Interpretation of this data is inevitably affected by the relative newness of the series, with data currently available for only two years and by the limitations of interpreting aggregate data rather than child level data. Developing analysis of records for individual children following them up from age 2 assessment to age 3 assessment shows that progress is being made in some skill areas but not all. The summary measure above does not reflect this degree of detail and it is hoped that more work can be done in this area in order to indicate where the programme is succeeding and where more focus is needed.

Expansion areas

The developmental assessment data for the expansion areas in 2013-14 has been presented at all-Wales level only since there have been differences across local authorities in the timing of expansion and assessments completed. In some expansion areas numbers of assessments undertaken by the end of 2013-14 were low which could lead to drawing misleading conclusions. In expansion areas in all but 7 local authorities fewer than 50 children were assessed at age 23-25 months and in all but 5 at age 35-37 months. The table below therefore does not present local authority level data but shows the data for the expansion areas at the Wales level.

Assessments within Flying Start 2013-14 expansion areas, Wales

	Age 2 (23-25 months)	Age 3 (35-37 months)
Numbers of children eligible	1,916	1,582
Numbers of eligible children assessed within one month of birthday	991	688
Percentage of eligible children assessed within one month of birthday	52%	43%
Percentage of children at or exceeding developmental milestones	57%	45%
Percentage of children within one age band below developmental norm	25%	34%

Expansion is occurring at a variable rate across Wales, in some areas as a result of recruitment delays. Information from Welsh Government account managers supports the view that in some local authorities, the focus of assessment has been on 2 year olds rather than on 3 year olds in order to provide baseline information on these children.

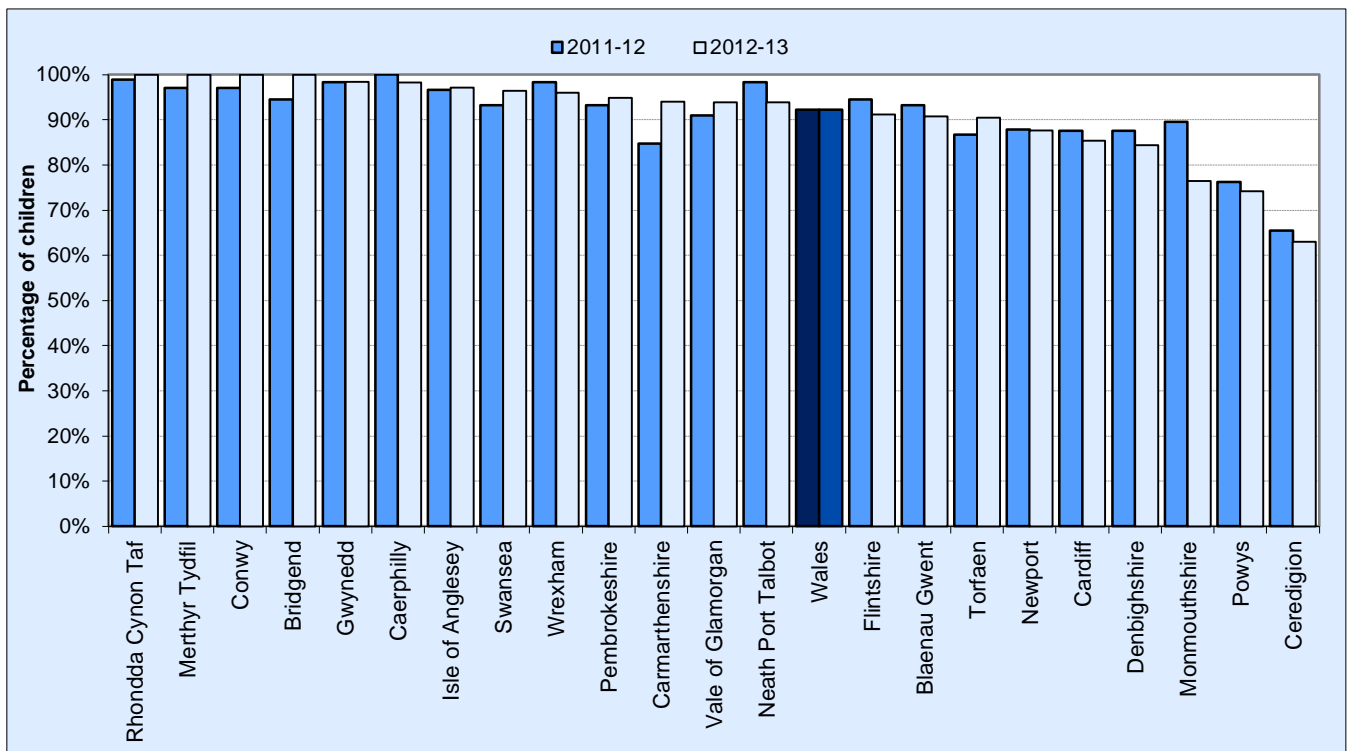
6. Education outcomes: Children recorded on roll at a maintained school

Looking at the numbers of Flying Start children starting Foundation Phase measures the degree to which Flying Start children are taking up early years education opportunities. The Foundation Phase is the statutory curriculum for all 3-7 years old children in Wales in both maintained and non-maintained settings. This section presents data on the proportions of children living in Flying Start areas who were recorded on roll at a maintained school according to the annual school census and the postcodes provided by Flying Start coordinators.

Data shown in this section are taken from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC), which is an electronic collection of pupil and school level data provided by all maintained primary, secondary, nursery and special schools in January each year. Note that this data relates to the period before the major expansion of the programme during 2013-14.

Table 7 shows data on children recorded on roll at a maintained school in both Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas for each local authority.

Chart 10: Percentage of children in Flying Start areas aged 3 recorded on roll at a maintained school in January 2012 and in January 2013 (age as at previous 31 August)



Source: Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) 2012, 2013, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13 (denominator)

- In 2012-13 92 per cent of children at age 3 living in Flying Start programme areas were recorded on school rolls, no change since 2011-12.
- Table 7 compares children living in Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas for both years. For children living in non-Flying Start areas the percentage has also remained the same between 2011-12 and 2012-13 (87 per cent). The percentage in Flying Start areas continues to be higher than in non-Flying Start areas.
- Half of all Local Authorities (11 out of 22) saw the proportion of children at age 3 living in Flying Start programme areas and recorded on school rolls increase between 2011-12 and 2012-13.

The variation seen between local authorities may be partially explained by some of the following factors: differences in the size of the independent school sector, cross border movements with England particularly affecting Wrexham, Flintshire, Powys and Monmouthshire, rurality and possible consequent travelling distances. Note also that the numbers of schools rolls are taken as a proportion of resident children and in some cases children may attend school in one local authority and live in another.

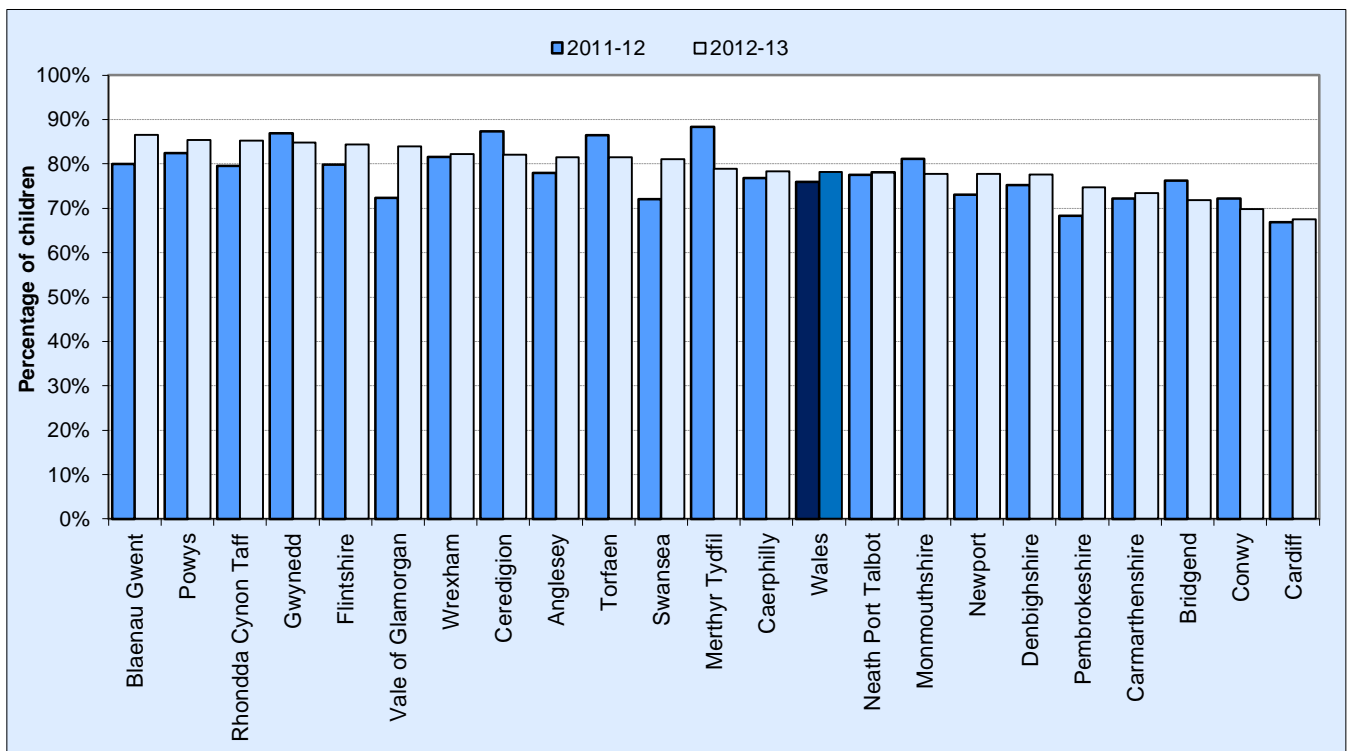
7: Health outcomes: Uptake of routine childhood immunisation

Vaccines are offered to all children, as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule, to protect them against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Haemophilus influenzae (Hib), Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis C and Pneumococcal infection (PCV). Vaccinations are given according to a routine childhood immunisation schedule starting 8 weeks after birth, and the aim is for all children to be fully immunised by their 4th birthday.

The data is taken from COVER (Coverage of Vaccination Evaluation Rapidly) data published annually by Public Health Wales. It is derived directly from the National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) and is allocated to areas on the basis of postcode of residence. A list of postcodes falling within the Flying Start programme has been used to extract immunisation data for children living in Flying Start areas.

Table 8 shows data on children fully immunised in both Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas for each local authority.

Chart 11: Percentage of children in Flying Start areas that are fully immunised at 4th birthday by local authority



Source: Public Health Wales COVER report 2011-2012, 2012-13, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13 (denominator)

- In 2012-13, 78 per cent of children living in Flying Start areas were fully immunised at age 4 years, compared to 83 per cent of children living in non-Flying Start areas. Both of these figures have increased since 2011-12.
- Uptake of immunisations in 2012-13 of children living in Flying Start areas ranged between 86 per cent (Blaenau Gwent) and 67 per cent (Cardiff). All but one local authority had higher uptake rates for children living in non-Flying Start areas (Blaenau Gwent was the exception). The majority of local authorities (15 out of 22) saw the uptake of immunisations of children living in Flying Start areas increase between 2011-12 and 2012-13 (Table 8). For Wales as a whole the figures are consistent with the usually seen relationship between deprivation and vaccination uptake; the explanation of the variation between local authorities may be more complex and requires an understanding of local pockets of deprivation.

Table 1: Selected Flying Start programme indicators by local authority – population and caseload

Local Authority	2012-13				2013-14				Percentage change between 2012-13 and 2013-14 in children under 4 allocated to Flying Start health visitors (caseload)
	Number of children benefiting (in receipt of services)(a)	Number of children under 4 allocated to Flying Start health visitors (caseload) (b)	Population of children under 4 (c)	Percentage of population aged under 4 on Flying Start health visitors caseload	Number of children benefiting (in receipt of services)(a)	Number of children under 4 allocated to Flying Start health visitors (caseload) (b)	Population of children under 4 (d)	Percentage of population aged under 4 on Flying Start health visitors caseload	
Isle of Anglesey	459	421	3,204	13%	567	483	3,228	15%	15%
Gwynedd	640	528	5,436	10%	914	798	5,314	15%	51%
Conwy	752	593	4,683	13%	908	801	4,685	17%	35%
Denbighshire (e)	887	757	4,302	18%	723	789	4,349	18%	4%
Flintshire	954	791	7,251	11%	1,238	1,017	7,171	14%	29%
Wrexham	887	726	7,187	10%	1,121	931	7,136	13%	28%
Powys	525	444	5,168	9%	634	642	5,101	13%	45%
Ceredigion	414	400	2,686	15%	541	486	2,725	18%	21%
Pembrokeshire	649	726	5,402	13%	1,028	800	5,348	15%	10%
Carmarthenshire	1,112	927	8,202	11%	1,637	1,426	8,159	17%	54%
Swansea	1,492	1,434	10,550	14%	2,149	1,923	10,677	18%	34%
Neath Port Talbot (f)	1,042	759	6,173	12%	1,937	1,556	6,145	25%	105%
Bridgend	956	882	6,441	14%	1,354	1,171	6,530	18%	33%
Vale of Glamorgan	866	839	5,835	14%	1,182	1,084	5,753	19%	29%
Cardiff	3,368	2,904	18,573	16%	4,880	4,167	18,610	22%	43%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2,542	1,796	11,761	15%	2,740	2,539	11,672	22%	41%
Merthyr Tydfil	792	542	2,914	19%	934	833	2,925	28%	54%
Caerphilly	1,219	1,356	8,805	15%	2,121	1,726	8,645	20%	27%
Blaenau Gwent	655	638	3,224	20%	853	760	3,218	24%	19%
Torfaen	1,187	730	4,359	17%	1,268	1,201	4,351	28%	65%
Monmouthshire	346	334	3,607	9%	489	418	3,560	12%	25%
Newport	1,835	1,684	7,758	22%	2,104	2,141	7,765	28%	27%
Wales	23,579	20,209	143,521	14%	31,322	27,692	143,067	19%	37%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14

(a) Cumulative count of individual children receiving health visitor Flying Start services

(b) Children on health visitor caseload averaged over the 3 terms.

(c) 2012 Mid Year Population Estimates, children aged 0,1,2,3 years, published by Office for National Statistics.

(d) 2013 Mid Year Population Estimates, children aged 0,1,2,3 years, published by Office for National Statistics.

(e) The percentage change for Denbighshire is affected by a reduction in cap (target) numbers of children carried out at the start of 2013-14 with the agreement of Welsh Government.

(f) Data for Neath Port Talbot in 2012-13 was under-reported due to recruitment of new health visitors after the date in 2012-13 that the numbers related to, and as a result the subsequent take on of caseload was not reflected in the data recorded in the 2012-13 Data Monitoring Return, affecting the percentage change since 2012-13.

Table 2: Selected Flying Start programme indicators by local authority - face to face contacts

Local Authority	2012-13			2013-14		
	Number of face-to-face contacts	Number of health visitor face-to-face contacts per child on caseload	Number of wider health team face-to-face contacts per child on caseload	Number of face-to-face contacts	Number of health visitor face-to-face contacts per child on caseload	Number of wider health team face-to-face contacts per child on caseload
Isle of Anglesey	2,952	6.1	0.9	3,409	6.0	1.1
Gwynedd	5,464	7.5	2.8	7,923	7.0	3.0
Conwy	4,530	4.3	3.4	4,619	4.2	1.5
Denbighshire	5,811	4.0	3.7	5,128	4.6	1.9
Flintshire (a)	5,157	5.4	1.1	7,409	5.6	1.7
Wrexham	5,046	4.4	2.6	6,813	5.0	2.3
Powys	3,142	6.8	0.3	2,689	3.8	0.4
Ceredigion	3,433	4.4	4.1	4,195	5.0	3.6
Pembrokeshire	5,205	6.6	0.6	8,487	6.2	4.4
Carmarthenshire	7,456	6.0	2.0	10,986	5.6	2.1
Swansea (a)	7,128	3.4	1.5	13,809	5.4	1.7
Neath Port Talbot	6,712	5.9	3.0	13,920	5.8	3.2
Bridgend	9,718	6.4	4.6	11,800	7.1	3.0
Vale of Glamorgan	6,903	6.0	2.2	7,120	6.1	0.4
Cardiff	29,770	8.5	1.7	37,933	7.5	1.7
Rhondda Cynon Taf (a)	18,981	8.7	1.9	20,106	7.1	0.9
Merthyr Tydfil	3,202	5.2	0.7	4,944	4.4	1.5
Caerphilly	15,499	9.3	2.1	11,693	4.9	1.9
Blaenau Gwent	8,628	12.0	1.6	5,751	5.9	1.7
Torfaen	8,971	6.5	5.8	12,805	6.0	4.7
Monmouthshire	4,426	7.8	5.4	3,596	4.6	4.0
Newport	11,041	4.6	1.9	11,434	3.8	1.5
Wales	179,174	6.6	2.3	216,569	5.8	2.0

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14

(a) In 2012-13 Rhondda Cynon Taf, Flintshire and Swansea did not provide contact data in the first term of collection therefore data from terms 2 and 3 has been grossed up to 12 months for comparison purposes.

Table 3: Selected Flying Start programme indicators by local authority - childcare

Local Authority	2012-13				2013-14			
	Number of children newly eligible for childcare	Number of children newly eligible and offered childcare	Number of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare	Percentage of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare	Number of children newly eligible for childcare	Number of children newly eligible and offered childcare	Number of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare	Percentage of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare
Isle of Anglesey	83	83	65	78%	146	142	139	98%
Gwynedd	144	154	154	100%	157	139	139	100%
Conwy	146	130	130	100%	253	253	249	98%
Denbighshire	242	204	175	86%	203	208	197	95%
Flintshire	195	135	133	99%	297	251	236	94%
Wrexham	184	184	181	98%	227	228	198	87%
Powys	96	96	96	100%	160	160	133	83%
Ceredigion	115	103	89	86%	143	142	126	89%
Pembrokeshire	211 (r)	211 (r)	208	99%	248	252	245	97%
Carmarthenshire	249	249	227	91%	456	431	371	86%
Swansea	396	390	367	94%	620	552	436	79%
Neath Port Talbot	318	429	355	83%	696	648	537	83%
Bridgend	249	236	206	87%	286	280	270	96%
Vale of Glamorgan	248	231	226	98%	326	320	276	86%
Cardiff	722	639	519	81%	1,540	915	720	79%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	407	425	370	87%	799	672	573	85%
Merthyr Tydfil	132	132	124	94%	292	292	261	89%
Caerphilly	326	325	295	91%	472	488	434	89%
Blaenau Gwent	170	170	98	58%	181	181	153	85%
Torfaen	183	183	142	78%	419	419	271	65%
Monmouthshire	82	101	99	98%	100	73	69	95%
Newport (a)	351	374	382	100%	490	488	417	85%
Wales	5,249 (r)	5,184 (r)	4,641	90%	8,511	7,534	6,450	86%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14

(r) The 2012-13 figure for Pembrokeshire (and therefore Wales) has been revised since originally published. The local authority reduced the scale of their Flying Start programme as it was oversubscribed for the available budget. A small number of children who were already receiving the childcare element were allowed to continue and although their childcare was funded by the Flying Start programme, the full Flying Start services were not provided, and so they have been removed from the numbers.

(a) The number of children taking up a full or reduced offer of childcare was greater than the total number of places offered, resulting in a percentage of 102% in Newport in 2012-13 which has been adjusted to 100%. In addition the numbers of offers exceeded the numbers of eligible children in several cases. See Notes for an explanation for these discrepancies.

Table 4: Percentage of eligible Flying Start children in pre-expansion areas assessed in the correct age window (a)

Local Authority	Percentage of eligible children assessed at 23-25 months		Percentage of eligible children assessed at 35-37 months	
	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14
Isle of Anglesey	80%	75%	74%	67%
Gwynedd	62%	53%	50%	45%
Conwy	46%	41%	24%	31%
Denbighshire	28%	73%	32%	52%
Flintshire	69%	81%	68%	76%
Wrexham	57%	58%	44%	54%
Powys	41%	49%	37%	37%
Ceredigion	44%	89%	75%	82%
Pembrokeshire	64%	55%	26%	63%
Carmarthenshire	87%	71%	66%	64%
Swansea	45%	66%	52%	63%
Neath Port Talbot	40%	51%	55%	61%
Bridgend	86%	77%	76%	74%
Vale of Glamorgan	59%	78%	52%	72%
Cardiff	51%	59%	51%	58%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	98%	52%	96%	48%
Merthyr Tydfil	66%	84%	70%	58%
Caerphilly	86%	57%	69%	52%
Blaenau Gwent	88%	77%	64%	67%
Torfaen	40%	60%	24%	49%
Monmouthshire	73%	56%	54%	82%
Newport	72%	74%	66%	78%
Wales	63%	64%	57%	60%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13 and 2013-14

a) 'Correct age window' means within a month of the 2nd or 3rd birthdays. Formore information on this and further information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 32.

Table 5: Percentage of Flying Start children (a) reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 2 by local authority, 2013-14

Local Authority	Age 2 (23-25 months)							
	Number of children eligible	Number of children assessed	Number of children assessed at 23-25 months	Percentage reaching, exceeding or within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones	Percentage within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage of eligible children assessed	Percentage of eligible children assessed at 23-25 months
Isle of Anglesey	110	99	82	88%	51%	37%	90%	75%
Gwynedd	147	125	78	83%	63%	21%	85%	53%
Conwy	220	141	90	82%	48%	34%	64%	41%
Denbighshire	195	197	142	81%	45%	36%	101%	73%
Flintshire	183	179	148	87%	74%	14%	98%	81%
Wrexham	168	141	98	67%	38%	30%	84%	58%
Powys	142	95	69	80%	51%	29%	67%	49%
Ceredigion	89	92	79	86%	66%	20%	103%	89%
Pembrokeshire	161	150	88	81%	59%	22%	93%	55%
Carmarthenshire	237	211	169	85%	62%	24%	89%	71%
Swansea	427	405	281	82%	57%	25%	95%	66%
Neath Port Talbot	314	230	160	85%	59%	26%	73%	51%
Bridgend	245	214	188	86%	62%	24%	87%	77%
Vale of Glamorgan	228	213	177	92%	63%	29%	93%	78%
Cardiff	722	610	424	83%	59%	24%	84%	59%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	465	332	242	86%	55%	31%	71%	52%
Merthyr Tydfil	188	189	158	78%	49%	29%	101%	84%
Caerphilly	369	314	211	83%	60%	24%	85%	57%
Blaenau Gwent	147	128	113	81%	52%	28%	87%	77%
Torfaen	184	166	111	87%	66%	22%	90%	60%
Monmouthshire	125	99	70	80%	50%	30%	79%	56%
Newport	435	387	320	86%	48%	38%	89%	74%
Wales	5,501	4,717	3,498	84%	57%	27%	86%	64%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

(a) Does not include children assessed in 2013-14 expansion areas

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 32.

Table 6: Percentage of Flying Start children (a) reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 3 by local authority, 2013-14

Local Authority	Age 3 (35-37 months)							
	Number of children eligible	Number of children assessed	Number of children assessed at 35-37 months	Percentage reaching, exceeding or within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones	Percentage within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage of eligible children assessed	Percentage of eligible children assessed at 35-37 months
Isle of Anglesey	89	86	60	77%	52%	25%	97%	67%
Gwynedd	155	126	70	83%	53%	30%	81%	45%
Conwy	216	114	67	85%	42%	43%	53%	31%
Denbighshire	170	160	88	67%	33%	34%	94%	52%
Flintshire	183	167	139	91%	67%	24%	91%	76%
Wrexham	183	131	99	69%	28%	40%	72%	54%
Powys	127	73	47	74%	43%	32%	57%	37%
Ceredigion	111	102	91	77%	48%	29%	92%	82%
Pembrokeshire	148	144	93	75%	46%	29%	97%	63%
Carmarthenshire	234	202	150	87%	71%	15%	86%	64%
Swansea	441	383	278	83%	60%	23%	87%	63%
Neath Port Talbot	361	280	219	82%	39%	42%	78%	61%
Bridgend	244	209	180	83%	54%	28%	86%	74%
Vale of Glamorgan	220	208	158	84%	54%	30%	95%	72%
Cardiff	751	615	433	82%	59%	23%	82%	58%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	384	304	184	85%	52%	33%	79%	48%
Merthyr Tydfil	178	140	104	81%	55%	26%	79%	58%
Caerphilly	329	273	172	87%	60%	26%	83%	52%
Blaenau Gwent	164	127	110	84%	63%	21%	77%	67%
Torfaen	193	131	94	89%	68%	21%	68%	49%
Monmouthshire	49	60	40	80%	35%	45%	122%	82%
Newport	418	361	325	84%	61%	23%	86%	78%
Wales	5,348	4,396	3,201	82%	55%	28%	82%	60%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

(a) Does not include children assessed in 2013-14 expansion areas

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 32.

Table 7: Number and percentage of children aged 3, living in Flying Start/ non Flying Start areas and recorded on roll at a maintained school in PLASC in January 2012 and in January 2013 (age as at previous 31 August)

Local Authority	2011-12 (r)						2012-13					
	Number			Percentage			Number			Percentage		
	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All
Isle of Anglesey	84	511	595	97%	76%	78%	98	502	600	97%	76%	79%
Gwynedd	120	1,002	1,122	98%	91%	91%	123	1,029	1,152	98%	92%	93%
Conwy	131	963	1,094	97%	96%	96%	145	928	1,073	100%	96%	98%
Denbighshire	168	919	1,087	88%	100%	100%	146	883	1,029	84%	100%	99%
Flintshire	190	1,519	1,709	95%	94%	94%	185	1,495	1,680	91%	98%	97%
Wrexham	233	1,419	1,652	98%	96%	96%	214	1,376	1,590	96%	94%	94%
Powys	103	865	968	76%	73%	73%	86	815	901	74%	74%	74%
Ceredigion	55	314	369	65%	56%	58%	63	310	373	63%	62%	62%
Pembrokeshire	177	978	1,155	93%	88%	89%	167	972	1,139	95%	87%	88%
Carmarthenshire	194	1,434	1,628	85%	76%	77%	202	1,295	1,497	94%	74%	76%
Swansea	317	2,377	2,694	93%	97%	97%	345	2,159	2,504	96%	97%	97%
Neath Port Talbot	267	1,245	1,512	98%	95%	95%	262	1,271	1,533	94%	96%	96%
Bridgend	154	1,374	1,528	94%	96%	96%	174	1,336	1,510	100%	96%	97%
Vale of Glamorgan	162	1,314	1,476	91%	95%	95%	170	1,252	1,422	94%	94%	94%
Cardiff	555	3,199	3,754	88%	82%	83%	605	3,189	3,794	85%	83%	83%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	430	2,348	2,778	99%	97%	97%	411	2,393	2,804	100%	97%	97%
Merthyr Tydfil	164	583	747	97%	99%	99%	149	526	675	100%	94%	95%
Caerphilly	362	1,792	2,154	100%	97%	98%	284	1,800	2,084	98%	97%	97%
Blaenau Gwent	134	649	783	93%	99%	98%	127	635	762	91%	100%	98%
Torfaen	169	718	887	87%	81%	82%	171	709	880	90%	79%	81%
Monmouthshire	68	341	409	89%	41%	45%	65	322	387	76%	39%	42%
Newport	435	1,041	1,476	88%	69%	74%	389	981	1,370	88%	68%	72%
Wales	4,672	26,905	31,577	92%	87%	88%	4,581	26,178	30,759	92%	87%	88%

Source: Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) 2012, 2013, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13 (denominator)

(r) 2011-12 data has been revised since originally published due to late amendments to the 2012 postcode set.

Table 8: Number and percentage of children living in Flying Start/ non Flying Start areas who are fully immunised (a) by their 4th birthday by local authority

Local Authority	2011-12 (r)						2012-13					
	Number			Percentage			Number			Percentage		
	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All	Flying Start	Non-Flying Start	All
Isle of Anglesey	72	557	629	78%	83%	82%	86	562	648	81%	84%	84%
Gwynedd	106	942	1,048	87%	85%	85%	106	986	1,092	85%	87%	87%
Conwy	101	799	900	72%	83%	81%	102	856	958	70%	84%	82%
Denbighshire	131	726	857	75%	84%	82%	145	741	886	78%	85%	84%
Flintshire	166	1,335	1,501	80%	83%	83%	151	1,324	1,475	84%	86%	86%
Wrexham	173	1,207	1,380	82%	85%	85%	176	1,306	1,482	82%	87%	87%
Powys	99	939	1,038	83%	81%	81%	105	973	1,078	85%	85%	85%
Ceredigion	69	474	543	87%	83%	84%	69	448	517	82%	84%	84%
Pembrokeshire	140	853	993	68%	77%	75%	130	864	994	75%	79%	78%
Carmarthenshire	177	1,412	1,589	72%	80%	79%	163	1,414	1,577	73%	82%	81%
Swansea	247	1,924	2,171	72%	81%	80%	292	1,920	2,212	81%	83%	83%
Neath Port Talbot	201	1,055	1,256	78%	82%	82%	203	1,038	1,241	78%	83%	82%
Bridgend	128	1,134	1,262	76%	82%	81%	115	1,170	1,285	72%	84%	83%
Vale of Glamorgan	133	1,099	1,232	72%	83%	81%	147	1,147	1,294	84%	84%	84%
Cardiff	417	2,984	3,401	67%	79%	77%	464	2,972	3,436	67%	79%	77%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	337	1,924	2,261	79%	83%	83%	355	2,040	2,395	85%	85%	85%
Merthyr Tydfil	129	459	588	88%	84%	85%	127	469	596	79%	85%	83%
Caerphilly	246	1,431	1,677	77%	83%	82%	234	1,466	1,700	78%	81%	80%
Blaenau Gwent	104	534	638	80%	85%	84%	133	536	669	86%	82%	82%
Torfaen	160	724	884	86%	82%	83%	158	747	905	81%	82%	82%
Monmouthshire	60	662	722	81%	83%	83%	70	722	792	78%	85%	84%
Newport	334	1,124	1,458	73%	78%	77%	371	1,194	1,565	78%	79%	78%
Wales	3,729	24,447	28,176	76%	82%	81%	3,902	25,018	28,920	78%	83%	82%

Source: Public Health Wales COVER report 2011-2012, 2012-13, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13 (denominator)

(a) Includes the following immunisations: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Haemophilus influenzae (Hib), Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis C and Pneumococcal infection (PCV).

Analysis provided by Public Health Wales Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre and Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme.

(b) Local Authority was not known for 148 children in 2011-12 and 123 children in 2012-13 in non Flying Start / All areas.

(r) 2011-12 data has been revised since originally published due to late amendments to the 2012 postcode set.

Table 9: Parenting courses offered by local authority, 2013-14

Local Authority	Number of places on formal structured parenting courses ending in the year	Percentage of places on formal structured parenting courses ending in the year taken up (a)
Isle of Anglesey	53	74%
Gwynedd	125	69%
Conwy	69	78%
Denbighshire	74	46%
Flintshire	223	78%
Wrexham	106	82%
Powys	78	100%
Ceredigion	116	69%
Pembrokeshire	29	62%
Carmarthenshire	150	80%
Swansea	154	90%
Neath Port Talbot	92	82%
Bridgend	30	73%
Vale of Glamorgan	110	76%
Cardiff	150	93%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	151	84%
Merthyr Tydfil	90	76%
Caerphilly	181	80%
Blaenau Gwent	103	51%
Torfaen	293	61%
Monmouthshire	206	63%
Newport	281	82%
Wales	2,864	75%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14

a) This is measured by counting places where the first session was attended.

Baseline Table: Key data for 2012-13

Local Authority	Flying Start children				Children living in Flying Start areas	
	Number of children benefiting (in receipt of services)(a)	Percentage of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones (b) at age 2	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones (b) at age 3	Percentage of children aged 3 recorded on roll at a maintained school	Percentage of children fully immunised (c) at 4th birthday
Isle of Anglesey	459	78%	56%	56%	97%	81%
Gwynedd	640	100%	62%	56%	98%	85%
Conwy	752	100%	53%	25%	100%	70%
Denbighshire	887	86%	70%	33%	84%	78%
Flintshire	954	99%	75%	73%	91%	84%
Wrexham	887	98%	38%	38%	96%	82%
Powys	525	100%	62%	32%	74%	85%
Ceredigion	414	86%	53%	64%	63%	82%
Pembrokeshire	649	99%	66%	51%	95%	75%
Carmarthenshire	1,112	91%	53%	64%	94%	73%
Swansea	1,492	94%	52%	64%	96%	81%
Neath Port Talbot	1,042	83%	55%	38%	94%	78%
Bridgend	956	87%	42%	66%	100%	72%
Vale of Glamorgan	866	98%	61%	55%	94%	84%
Cardiff	3,368	81%	61%	52%	85%	67%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2,542	87%	51%	62%	100%	85%
Merthyr Tydfil	792	94%	55%	59%	100%	79%
Caerphilly	1,219	91%	70%	72%	98%	78%
Blaenau Gwent	655	58%	52%	51%	91%	86%
Torfaen	1,187	78%	57%	63%	90%	81%
Monmouthshire	346	98%	56%	53%	76%	78%
Newport (d)	1,835	100%	37%	42%	88%	78%
Wales	23,579	90%	55%	55%	92%	78%

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13

Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) 2013, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2012-13 (denominator)

Public Health Wales COVER report 2011-2012, 2012-13, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2012-13 (denominator)

(a) Cumulative count of individual children receiving health visitor Flying Start services

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 32.

(c) Includes the following immunisations: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Haemophilus influenzae (Hib), Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis C and Pneumococcal infection (PCV). Analysis provided by Public Health Wales Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre and Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme.

(d) The number of children taking up a full or reduced offer of childcare was greater than the total number of places offered, resulting in a percentage of 102% in Newport in 2012-13 which has been adjusted to 100%. In addition the numbers of offers exceeded the numbers of eligible children in several cases. See Notes for an explanation for these discrepancies.

Background and Key Quality Information

The Flying Start Programme

Key aspects of [Flying Start](#) are:

- free part-time childcare for 2-3 year olds
- an enhanced Health Visiting service (where the Health Visitor caseload is capped at 110 children)
- access to Parenting support
- access to Early Language Development support.

These services are universally available to all children aged under 4 years and their families in the areas in which the programme runs.

Health visiting and midwifery: A Flying Start requirement is that there must be one full time equivalent health visitor per 110 children aged under 4 in the target areas. This is to ensure delivery of intensive support to Flying Start children and their families. The primary function of the Flying Start health visitor is to support the family in the home, assessing both the child (using an appropriate Welsh Government approved developmental assessment tool), and the family (in terms of high, medium and low risk). In some local authorities, midwives are employed as part of the core Flying Start team. Whether or not this is the case locally, Flying Start health visitors work closely with generic midwives working with Flying Start parents. Particular emphasis is placed on working with the most vulnerable groups including teenage parents, those who are victims of, or may be at risk of domestic abuse and pre/post natal depression.

Childcare services: The core Flying Start childcare offer is that quality childcare is offered to parents of all eligible 2-3 year olds for 2 ½ hours a day, 5 days a week for 39 weeks. In addition, there should be at least 15 sessions of provision for the family during the school holidays.

Information about the Parenting and Early Language Development elements of the programme is still being developed and we hope to include more statistics in future releases.

Sources of data

Routine management information: Welsh Government Knowledge and Analytical services (KAS) established routine data monitoring of the Flying Start programme in 2012 and early 2013 with the first data being collected for 2012-13. The information is collected three times a year from local authorities and includes data used to manage the programme. The dataset also provides key monitoring statistics for the programme used as Programme for Government (PfG) tracking indicators, such as the numbers of beneficiaries of the programme as a whole, the numbers of children starting nursery care and children reaching or exceeding their developmental milestones. Further information about Programme for Government can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/programmeforgov/?lang=en>

This release provides data for each complete financial year based on the final data collection of each year. Because of the timing issues involved, monitoring data collected from earlier collections within each year has so far been used for tracking indicators for the annual Programme for Government report.

However in future, it is the intention to publish some very high level management information shortly after the first two collections in each year are complete, to support more timely reporting of the progress of the programme. This will be published on an unvalidated basis at the Wales level only, with appropriate caveats, and will be superseded by the annual validated data presented in the formal statistical release in the following July. This means it may be possible to use some data from the first two terms of the current year in reporting for the future annual Programme for Government reports.

Data which is incomplete or where comparability across local authorities is still being assessed has not been included in the publication.

Information on outcomes for children resident in Flying Start areas: National databases such as the National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) and the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) have been

used in conjunction with lists of the Flying Start postcode areas to provide outcome measures for the children in relevant age groups. The outcomes presented here are the proportion of children living within and outside Flying Start areas who are fully immunised by their 4th birthdays and the proportion who are recorded on school rolls at age 3. Note that there will be a number of children resident in these areas whose families have not taken up offers of Flying Start services and therefore are incorrectly counted as Flying Start children; this number is thought to be small however.

Population: ONS mid year estimates of population are used in Chart 1 and Table 1 of this release; for 2012-13 the 2012 mid year estimates have been used. This was updated in the revised version of the release (September 2013) as estimates for 2012 had become available whereas when the release was first published, in June 2013, 2011 mid year estimates had been used. For 2013-14 the 2013 mid year estimates have been used. The estimates are published on our StatsWales website here:

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates>

Flying Start areas

Flying Start targets the most disadvantaged areas in Wales. The programme has been targeted to areas according to measures of relative disadvantage including the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD), free school meals and the proportions of children aged under 4 years living in households in receipt of income related benefits.

The areas included in Map 1 are those areas defined according to postcodes provided to Welsh Government by Flying Start coordinators. In a small number of postcodes not all of the dwellings within the area are included in the programme. Note that the map does not reflect any expansion of the programme after 31 March 2012. 2013-14 expansion areas are not yet available for mapping. Also note that the 2012 postcodes used in the map have been slightly revised for 6 local authorities since the first Statistical Release was published.

Management information

This data collection was established during 2012 and early 2013 in collaboration with Flying Start coordinators for the purpose of providing information with which to manage the programme. The first data was provided to Welsh Government for 2012-13 and is submitted for three "terms" during the year: 1 April - 31 August, 1 September - 31 December and 1 January - 31 March.

It should be noted that the information has been collected for management rather than statistical reasons and validation of the data is focussed as much on the operation of the programme as it is on developing robust statistics. As such the data presented has not been subject to the usual statistical processes that occur. Further the data collection is new and is still being developed and improved with local authorities. As requirements are identified, and the data are published, local authorities are refining their data collection methodologies and it is expected that data quality will improve over time.

Submission of data was mandatory from the start of 2012-13 for most data items but was optional for the first term only for a small number. The only data item included in this release which was optional in the first term was the numbers of face to face contacts with health visitors and with the wider health team. Note that for 2012-13, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Flintshire and Swansea did not provide contact data in the first term of collection and therefore data from terms 2 and 3 has been grossed up to 12 months for comparison purposes. The grossed up numbers contribute to the 2012-13 Wales total also.

The management information shows that Flying Start children are likely to move in and out of the areas. Children transferring into Flying Start areas accounted for around 15-20 per cent of all children in receipt of Health Visitor services at some time during 2013-14.

Expansion areas

A small expansion of the programme into additional areas occurred in 2012-13 but the major expansion to date has been during 2013-14. Management data has been collected for some aspects of the programme separately for pre-expansion areas and for expansion areas. Where a split is not available the addition of the developing areas

into the statistics should be considered when interpreting the data. The release presents statistics for expansion areas in the following way:

- It has not been possible to split the number of children benefiting, the caseload counts, contacts or take-up of childcare places between pre-expansion and expansion areas. This should be noted when making comparisons between statistics for 2012-13 and 2013-14. However some background information on the numbers of children who have been offered childcare places in the two areas was collected.
- Assessment data has been collected separately for pre-expansion areas and expansion areas and these are presented separately with the pre-expansion areas being compared with statistics from 2012-13.

It should be noted that in some local authorities there has been relatively slow development into the expansion areas in some cases because of delays recruiting health visitors and in establishing new childcare settings. It is likely that the statistics are impacted by this.

Additional target areas will be added to the programme throughout the period of expansion i.e. during 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Data quality

Improvements in data collection methodology and validation continue to be made as the Welsh Government's Health Statistics team works closely with Flying Start teams in each local authority, with monitoring and support provided by Welsh Government account managers allocated to all the local authorities. The account managers meet with each of their Flying Start co-ordinators on a regular basis to discuss progress in the implementation of the programme. Since October 2013, account managers have agreed a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) with each local authority Flying Start co-ordinator. These QIPs are used to identify areas of concern and outline the activities needed to improve performance. This is still a relatively new data collection and so improvements to the dataset are continuing. This should be recognised when interpreting the statistics.

The following statistics are derived from this management information:

- 1. Children benefiting from, that is, in receipt of Flying Start services:** the data shows the number of individual Flying Start children, aged under 4 years, who are recorded as having received health visitor Flying Start services at some point between 1 April and 31 March. There were 2 local authorities in 2012-13 and 3 local authorities in 2013-14 where the number of children allocated to Flying Start Health Visitors' caseloads was greater than the number of children in receipt of Flying Start services. This is likely to be due to transfers in to Flying Start areas at the end of the term but before any first health visitor contact.

Note that from 2013-14 caseload was counted at the end of each term rather than the start of the term.

Flying Start staff also provide ante-natal services as well as services to some children aged 4 if there are younger Flying Start children in the family but these contacts are not presented in these statistics.

- 2. Children newly eligible and in receipt of Flying Start nursery provision:** the figure is the number of Flying Start children, aged 2 or 3 years, who are newly eligible for and have taken up full or reduced offers of childcare between 1 April and 31 March. The percentage shown is the number of children taking up childcare as a percentage of the number of offers made to newly eligible children. The majority of offers taken up are full (more than 90 per cent). Note that in 2012-13 in one local authority the count of childcare offers taken up was higher than the number of offers made to newly eligible children, and in addition in 2012-13 and 2013-14 the numbers of offers exceeded the numbers of eligible children in several cases. These apparent discrepancies are because the numbers eligible reflect only those eligible at the start of each term, excluding any children that moved into the Flying Start areas during each term and who were subsequently offered a place. From 2013-14 the collection has been improved so that numbers of offers will only exceed eligible children in cases where there is a catch up on offers not made in a previous year, which is likely to have a minimal impact on the data.

An offer is made in the term of the child's 2nd birthday and is taken up or otherwise. The provision will only start in the following term and attendance will not necessarily reflect take-up as a place may not be attended even if taken up (accepted).

Note that in expansion areas children who were very close to their 3rd birthdays may not have been made childcare offers.

3. Flying Start children within one age band / meeting or exceeding their development milestones at age two / three years, as measured by a standard development assessment tool: the figure is the number of Flying Start children, aged between 23 and 25 months / 35 and 37 months, who have been assessed by health visitors and either within one age band/meeting or exceeding the developmental norms for this age. The figure relates to children of this age who were assessed between 1 April and 31 March of each year.

4. Children assessed "in the correct age window"

For the analysis in this Statistical Release, only children who are assessed in the correct age window, i.e. within a month of the 2nd or 3rd birthdays, are considered, because the norms against which the assessment is made will not be appropriate for children who are assessed late or early. Children that are assessed when they are aged between 23 and 25 months inclusive (i.e. between 23 months and 0 days and 25 months and 0 days) are considered to be assessed 'in the correct age window', children who are assessed before they turn 23 months are considered as being assessed early, and children assessed age 25 months and 1 day or over are considered as being assessed late. Similarly for 35-37 months. Of the children assessed on time around 80 per cent were in pre-expansion areas (3,498 of children assessed at 23-25 months and 3,201 assessed at 35-37 months).

The Flying Start Health Visitor assesses each child in receipt of Flying Start services using an appropriate Welsh Government approved developmental assessment tool. This tool assesses a child's development across key areas relating to movement, manipulation, visual, hearing, speech and language, and social interaction, comparing the child's progress with a norm derived from a standard reference group of children of a similar age. Assessments may be carried out at home or in a childcare setting.

The Data Monitoring return captures the numbers of children within one age band or meeting or exceeding norms for their age in relation to seven skill areas. For example if a child scores at or above the norms for their age for all seven skill areas, they are counted as meeting or exceeding developmental norms. However, if that child scores below norms but within one age band in one or more skill areas, then they will be counted overall as within one age band of norms for their age. The children who are more than one age band below in any of the seven skill areas are counted as being outside one age band as a whole and are also shown in this release.

A developmental age of one age band below the age-appropriate band is not generally considered to be important in terms of identifying developmental delay or abnormality in an individual child and whilst health visitors will often determine that children who are assessed to be more than one age band below developmental norms require additional support, such a decision will be based on their professional judgement in respect of that child alone. Therefore the numbers of children shown here as more than one age band below is only an approximation of the number children requiring additional support.

Outside Flying Start areas Local Health Boards carry out assessments as clinically indicated using a common tool and according to local pathways. Therefore whilst statistics can be presented relative to the norm in the Flying Start areas, it is not currently possible to draw comparisons with children living in non-Flying Start areas.

Further information on child development can be found here:

[The Child Surveillance Handbook - Health For All Children](#)

Parenting and Early Language Development

The core purpose of the parenting strand is about working with parents of children under 4 years old to strengthen parenting capacity and reduce risks, covering issues such as basic care, ensuring safety, emotional warmth, stimulation, guidance and boundaries and stability.

Every family with a Flying Start child must be offered formal parenting support at least on an annual basis. This can be in groups or one to one in the home with a mix of formal and informal support depending on need. In addition to the formal parenting offer, other parenting programmes may be delivered, such as informal parenting support, bespoke enhanced one-to-one sessions and informal drop-in sessions.

Structured formal parenting and early language development courses are defined as those with a structured curriculum and a set start and end date, as listed below:

- Incredible Years: Parent and Babies Programme
- Incredible Years: Parents and Toddlers Programme
- Triple P: Standard
- Triple P: Stepping Stones
- Parents Plus Early Years Programme (PPEY)
- Parenting Positively
- Incredible Years: School Readiness Programme
- Family Links Nurturing Programme (FLNP)
- Incredible Years: Pre-school BASIC Parent Programme
- Solihull Approach Parenting Group
- Handling Children's Behaviour

Structured informal parenting and early language development courses also have a structured curriculum and a set start and end date, such as Language and Play or Number and Play (LAP/NAP), and other structured early language development.

In both cases, a 'place' on a course is defined as one allocated to an individual parental figure. If two (or more) parental figures are allocated a place on a course, would be recorded as two (or more) places. Any children attending with a parent for any reason would *not* be counted as a place.

The measure of 'take up' of a place on a course refers to the number of places made available on courses that were eventually taken up, and is defined as the number for which the place was attended at the first session.

Bespoke enhanced distinct packages of support are defined as planned, time bound series of sessions, delivered on a one-to-one basis, that have been identified as a requirement via a specific referral from within the Flying Start programme in respect of parenting or speech and early language development. Usually such a package will last for a minimum of four dedicated sessions to a relevant family unit, delivered in the home or elsewhere.

National databases

The list of postcodes provided by the Flying Start programme has been used to identify children of the relevant age on both the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) and the National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD). It should be noted that biases may be created where children who have received Flying Start services had moved at some stage and were counted on national databases outside the Flying Start postcodes areas or where not all children took up Flying Start services.

For further information about the annual School Census, PLASC, see:

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/schools-census/?lang=en>

The PLASC covers all maintained schools in Wales. Pupils are included in PLASC if they are on roll at any maintained school in Wales. This will include pupils who live in England. Pupils who live in Wales but go to school in England are not included (they will be counted in the annual school census in England). Pupils in

independent schools are not counted. The NCCHD counts children where they are resident, and these small definitional differences should be noted.

We published a bulletin in 2010 that analysed cross border flows of pupils. It showed that annually some 1,700 pupils live in England but go to school in Wales (these will be counted in PLASC), and almost 2,000 live in Wales but go to school in England (these will not be counted in PLASC). The majority of these live in four authorities – Flintshire, Wrexham, Powys and Monmouthshire. The bulletin can be found here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/cross-border-flows-education/?lang=en>

The National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) is Wales' national community child health database and consists of anonymised records for all children born, resident or treated in Wales and born after 1987. It brings together data from local Child Health System databases which are held by Local Health Boards.

For further information about the National Community Child Health Database see:

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/births-national-community-child-health-database/?lang=en>

and

<http://www.infoandstats.wales.nhs.uk/page.cfm?orgid=869&pid=40968>

The following statistics are derived from national databases:

- 1. Children living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services, aged 3, who were recorded on school rolls:** this statistic relates to children living in Flying Start areas who were aged 3 as at 31 August and also recorded on school rolls as reported by the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) as at the following January. It is presented as a percentage of all children aged 3 as at 31 August, who were living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services identified according to postcodes included in the programme and recorded on the National Community Child Health Database as at the following 31 January. Each year a small number of children resident in postcodes which were partially included in the programme have been apportioned according to the proportions of dwellings included in Flying Start. Note that not all children in a Flying Start area may take up the services offered.
- 2. Children living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services who are fully immunised by age 4:** this statistic relates to children reaching their 4th birthday during each financial year (between 1 April and 31 March) and measures the percentage of children living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services who were fully up to date with their immunisations by their 4th birthday. Children living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services are identified according to postcodes included in the programme and recorded on the National Community Child Health Database. Each year a small number of children resident in postcodes which were partially included in the programme have been apportioned according to the proportions of dwellings included in Flying Start. Note that not all children in a Flying Start area may take up the services offered.

The composite measure of fully immunised by 4 years of age uses the following immunisations as proxy: the 5 in 1 primary immunisation (dose 3), the Hib/MenC booster, the pneumococcal conjugate booster, MMR dose 2 and the 4 in 1 preschool booster.

The analysis of immunisation data was done by Public Health Wales Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre and Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme.

For further information on immunisation coverage see Public Health Wales COVER reports at:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=457&pid=54144>

Users and uses:

The aim of these statistics is to present data which is available from a routine administrative source together with national databases in an accessible format providing a statistical summary for the Flying Start programme.

We believe the key users of these statistics are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;
- Flying Start Programme and local teams
- local authorities;
- the research community;
- students, academics and universities;
- individual citizens;
- NHS organisations.

The statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of the uses include:

- advice to Ministers;
- to inform debate in the National Assembly for Wales and beyond;
- to make publicly available data on the Flying Start programme for monitoring, benchmarking and improvement;
- to provide additional contextual information for Programme for Government indicators;
- to help further develop policy in the area of tackling poverty in Wales.

Programme for Government Indicators

TR038: Number of children benefiting from Flying Start coverage

Number of children benefiting from Flying Start nursery provision

Percentage of children living in areas benefiting from Flying Start who are fully immunised by age 4

Percentage of Flying Start children reaching their developmental milestones at age three years, as measured by a standard developmental assessment tool.

Further information on the Programme for Government can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/programmeforgov/?lang=en>

Tackling Poverty indicator

By 2016, increase the proportion of 3 year olds receiving Flying Start services that have achieved or exceeded their developmental milestones by 5 percentage points.

Further information about the Welsh Government Tackling Poverty Action Plan can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/programmeforgov/poverty/actions?lang=en>

We welcome comments from users of our publications on content and presentation. If you have any comments or require further information, please contact:

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