

SDR 84/2016

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## Flying Start, summary statistics 2015-16

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 fourth 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.

During 2013-14 and 2014-15 there was an expansion of the programme into additional areas. 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 45.

Since the last statistical release was issued, two termly updates, providing unvalidated key management information for Wales only, have been published shortly after each data collection period. The purpose of these termly updates is to enable in-year high level monitoring of the programme. The data published is felt to be of sufficient value at a Wales level to be presented, but local authority data continue to be validated throughout the year and are only included in this annual statistical release.

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## Key Facts for 2015-16:

- 38,269 children benefited from, that is, were in receipt of Flying Start services in Wales at any time in 2015-16, exceeding the expected numbers (the children seen in the year exceed expectations for the year by 6 per cent).
- Flying Start children (on the health visitor caseload) of all ages up to age 4 were seen an average of 5.4 times during 2015-16 by health visitors and a further 2.0 times by members of the wider health team (a total of 7.4 contacts per child).
- 86 per cent of offers of childcare in a Flying Start childcare setting were taken up during 2015-16.
- 81 per cent of children in the pre-expansion Flying Start programme areas reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms<sup>1</sup> at age 2 years while 53 per cent reached 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 norms<sup>1</sup> at age 3 years while 52 per cent reached or exceeded their milestones at this age.
- 93 per cent of children aged 3 and living in Flying Start areas were on roll at a maintained school (2015).
- 83 per cent of children living in Flying Start areas were fully immunised by their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday (2014-15).
- The data shows that at the Wales level Flying Start areas have a lower prevalence (71 per cent) of healthy weight<sup>2</sup> children than non-Flying Start areas (74 per cent).

## Changes since 2014-15:

- There was expansion from 37,260 children in receipt of Flying Start services in 2014-15 to 38,269 children in 2015-16, an increase of 3 per cent.
- Nearly a tenth (8 per cent) more children were seen in 2015-16, 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 2015-16, 7.4 compared to 8.2 in 2014-15.
- There has been a small rise in childcare take-up at the all Wales level, from 84 per cent in 2014-15 to 86 per cent in 2015-16.
- Developmental assessments in pre-expansion areas:
  - There was a slight fall in the percentage of children assessed at age 2 that either reached or exceeded their developmental milestones.
  - There was no change in the percentage of children assessed at age 3 that either reached or exceeded their developmental milestones.
  - There was an improvement in the percentage of children assessed in the recommended age window, i.e. within a window of one month of their 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> birthdays.
- There was no change (93 per cent) to the proportion of children aged 3 and living in Flying Start areas that were on roll at a maintained school.
- There was no change between 2013-14 and 2014-15 in the proportion of children living in Flying Start areas that were fully immunised by their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday.

<sup>1</sup> For further information on developmental assessment please see [notes](#) on page 45

<sup>2</sup> Includes a very small number of underweight children: see notes on page 50.

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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 Speech, Language and Communication support (previously described as Early Language Development).

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://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/children-and-young-people/parenting-support-guidance/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 45.

A series of reports from the [National Evaluation of Flying Start](#) were published at the start of 2014.

More information about how Flying Start areas are chosen is provided under [Key Quality Information](#) on page 45.

### Expansion of the programme

Small expansions of the programme into additional areas occurred in 2012-13 and during 2015-16 with major expansions during 2013-14 and 2014-15. The expectation was that the number of children benefitting from the programme by the end of 2015-16 would be 36,000, but this figure was in fact met by the end of 2014-15. Map 1 on page 7 shows the areas, based on postcodes, targeted as recipients of Flying Start funding, as at 31 March 2015, that is, after two years of expansion. A map of pre-expansion postcodes (as at 31 March 2012) is included on page 44

### 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.

Selected basic counts from the data monitoring dataset are presented in Tables 1-3 starting on page 29 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 speech, language and communication and in section 5 on child development.



It should be noted that figures for local authorities can fluctuate substantially from year to year. There may be a number of reasons for this, including the transient nature of the programme population which may be more of an issue in some areas than others.

Validation and data amendments have resulted in some revisions to the previously published 2014-15 data. These revisions only relate to childcare and developmental assessment data. Please see further details in the [notes](#) on page 47.

### **Pre-expansion and expansion**

Since 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 the current and previous years. 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 previous years.

It should be noted that in some local authorities delays in recruitment and retention of health visitors and in establishing new childcare settings in some expansion areas have still been an issue in 2015-16 and it is likely that the statistics are impacted by this.

Additional target areas have been added to the programme throughout the remaining period of expansion i.e. during 2015-16.

### **Local authority programme sizes**

Note that, although every local authority in Wales has a Flying Start programme, they vary substantially in terms of the absolute numbers of children in receipt of services. Users should note the effect of this distribution on the statistics. Where a large absolute number and proportion of Flying Start children are concentrated in specific local authorities (such as Cardiff which has 15 per cent of the Wales caseload) trends in these areas can have a disproportionate impact on the all-Wales figures.

Local authorities where the programme size, in terms of caseload, is small can see greater fluctuations from year to year. Many of the areas with small caseloads are rural areas where there may be additional challenges relating to access and distribution of services which may impact on patterns and trends.

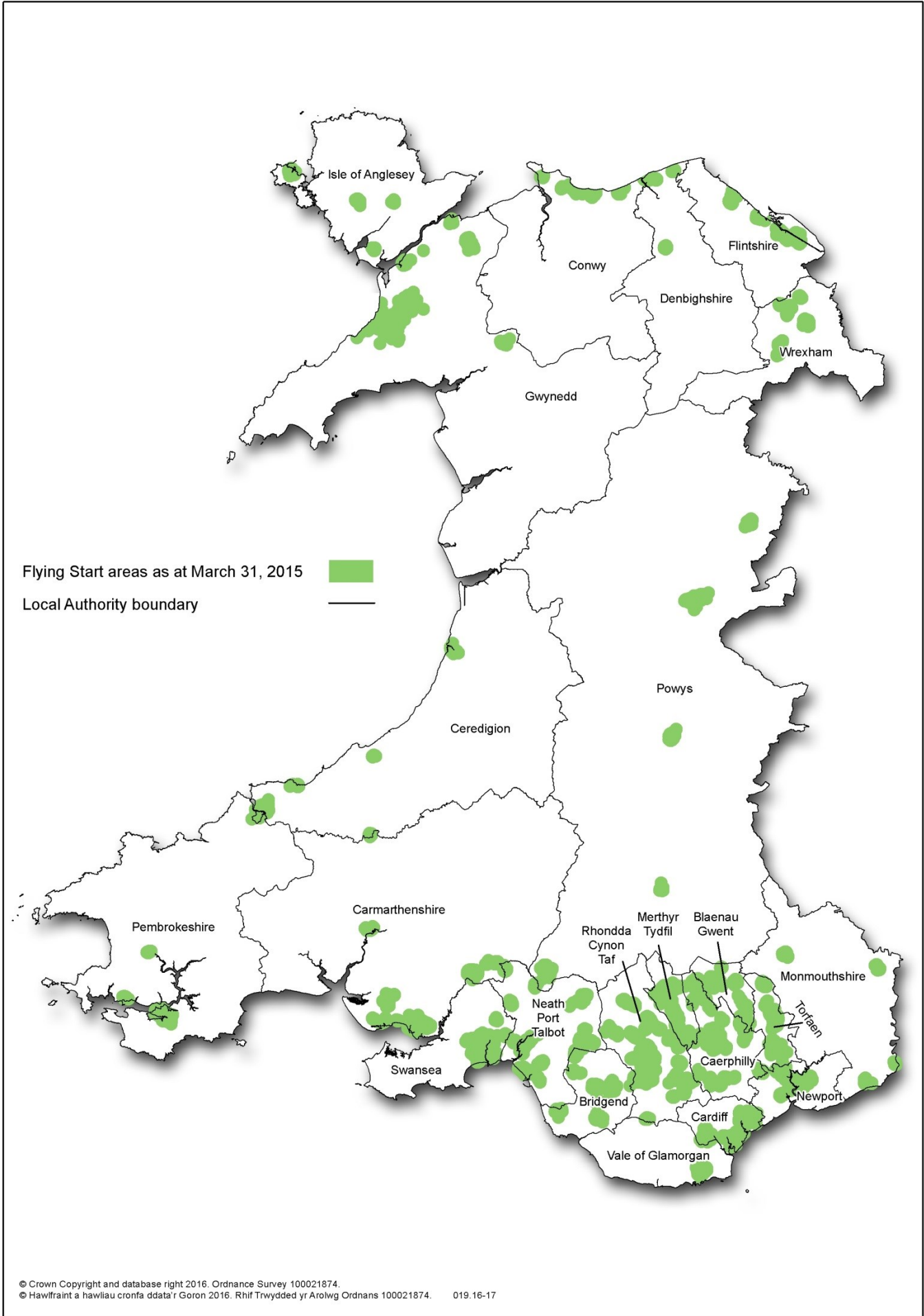
### **National databases**

Statistics showing additional health and education outcomes for children living in 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 49.

Statistics are presented in a series of charts throughout the release and detailed data tables are provided in Tables 1-12 beginning on page 29. Note that percentages in the tables are rounded to the nearest whole number, but unrounded data is used in the charts.

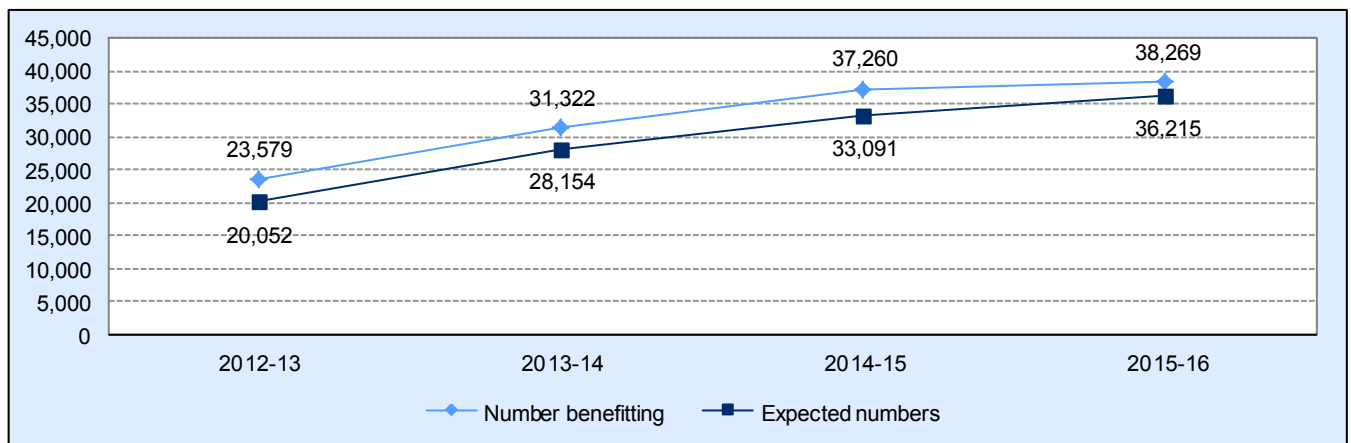
A baseline table of data from both these sources has been included for 2012-13, on page 43.

Map 1: Location of Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2015



## 1. Children receiving Flying Start Services

**Chart 1: Number of children in Wales in receipt of Flying start services (children benefitting), 2012-13 to 2015-16**

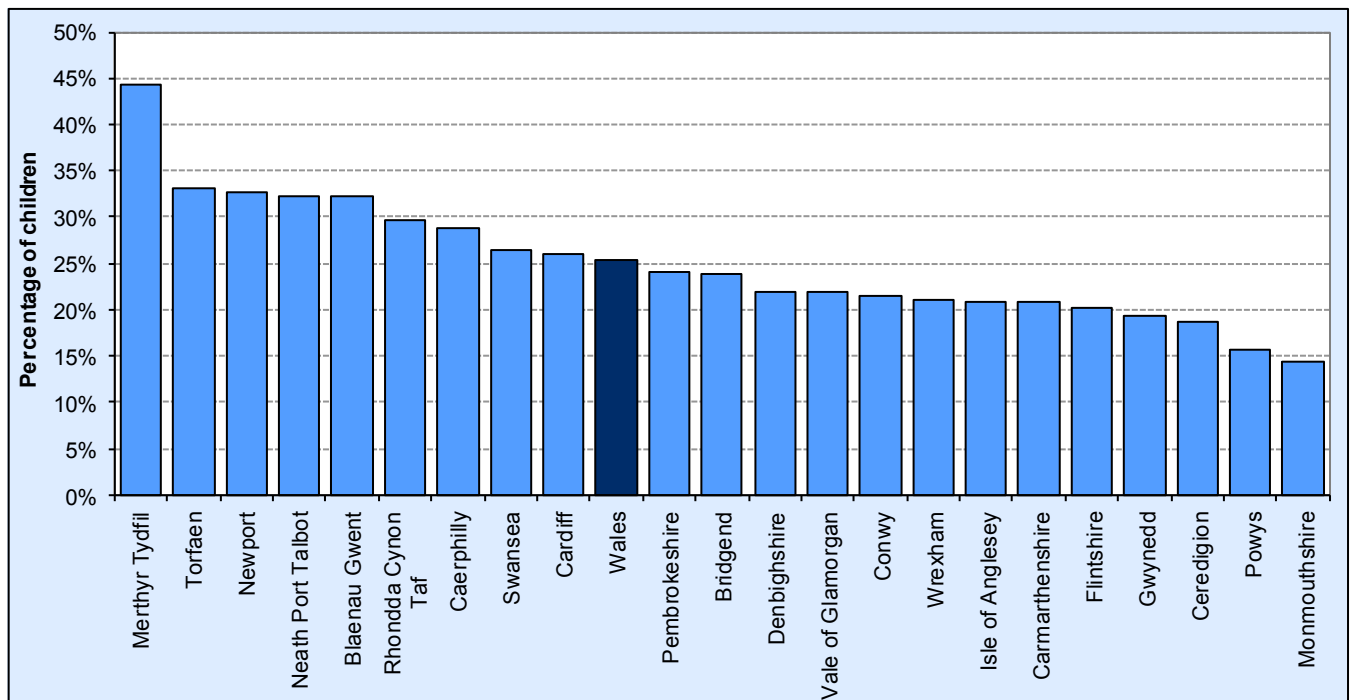


Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16

- Chart 1 shows that during 2015-16 38,269 children benefited from Flying Start, that is, they were in receipt of Flying Start services in Wales (Table 1). The expected numbers for each year are also shown.

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, 35,131 for 2015-16, 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 2015-16. The caseload is also used in Chart 2 below.

**Chart 2: Children aged under 4 on Flying Start health visitor caseloads as a percentage of all resident children aged under 4 (a) by local authority, 2015-16**



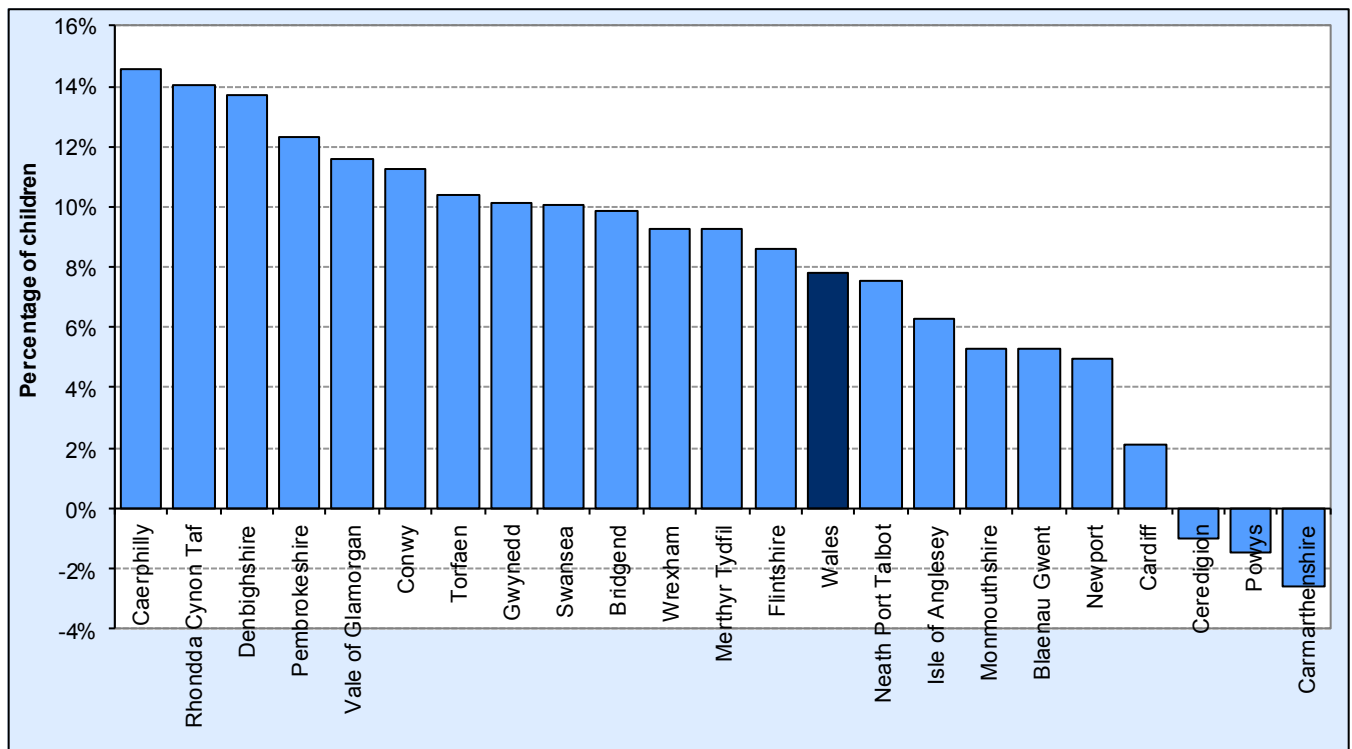
Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16 (health visitor caseload)  
(a) 2015 Mid Year Population Estimates, published by Office for National Statistics.



- Overall 25 per cent of children aged under 4 in Wales were on health visitor caseloads and received Flying Start services during 2015-16 (Chart 2), 1 in 4 Welsh children. This is an increase from 23 per cent in 2014-15.
- This figure, influenced by the targeting of areas in relative need, varied from 44 per cent of children under 4 in Merthyr Tydfil to 14 per cent in Monmouth.

In five local authorities the caseload was greater than the number of children benefitting from Flying Start services. This may 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 or because of a number of Health Visitor vacancies. In some areas temporary staffing problems may also have contributed.

**Chart 3: Percentage change in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads between 2014-15 and 2015-16, by local authority**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15 and 2015-16 (health visitor caseload)

Chart 3 shows substantial variation between local authorities in the change in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads between 2014-15 and 2015-16, ranging between a decrease in caseload of 3 per cent in Carmarthenshire to an increase of 15 per cent in Caerphilly. Overall in Wales, there was an 8 per cent increase in the number of children on Flying Start health visitor caseloads.

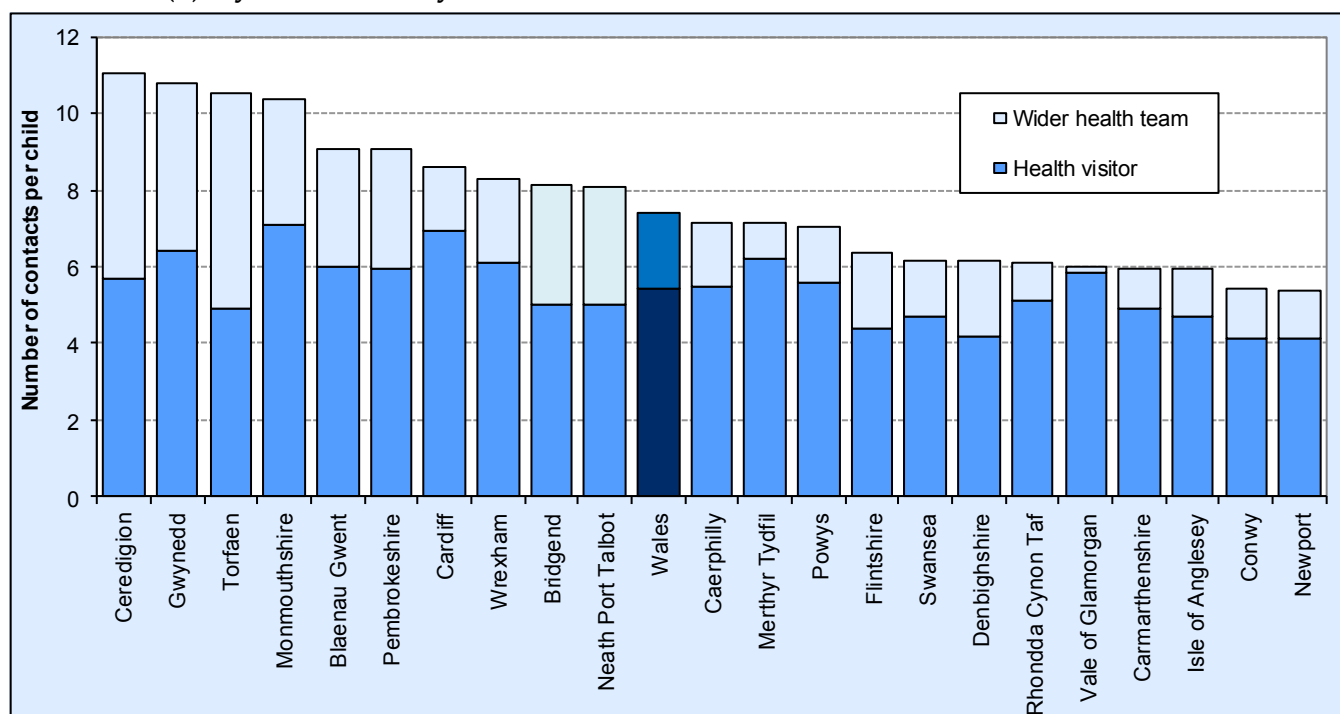
Note: Some local authorities reported continued problems with staffing levels during 2015-16, having an effect on the number of children in receipt of services and on caseloads. Also some areas have a high level of transiency, making it likely that some children would have transferred out of Flying Start 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 4: Number of contacts (a) per child during the year by Flying Start health visitor and wider health team (b), by local authority, 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

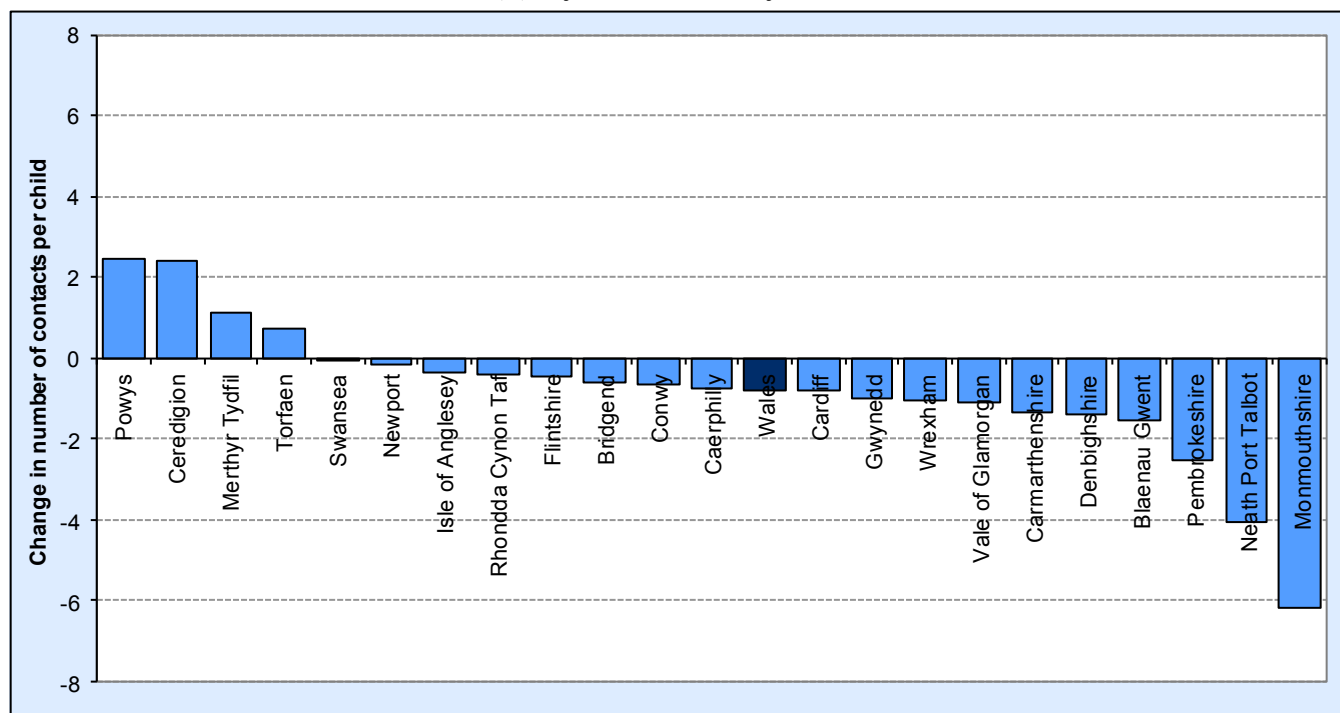
(a) Face-to-face contact by a health visitor or wider health team member in the financial year.

(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.

- Flying Start children of all ages up to age 4 on the health visitor caseload were seen an average of 5.4 times during 2015-16 by health visitors and a further 2.0 times by members of the wider health team, a slight decrease on 2014-15 (Chart 4 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 4 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 5: Change in number of contacts (a) per child between 2014-15 and 2015-16 by Flying Start health visitor and wider health team (b), by local authority**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15 and 2015-16

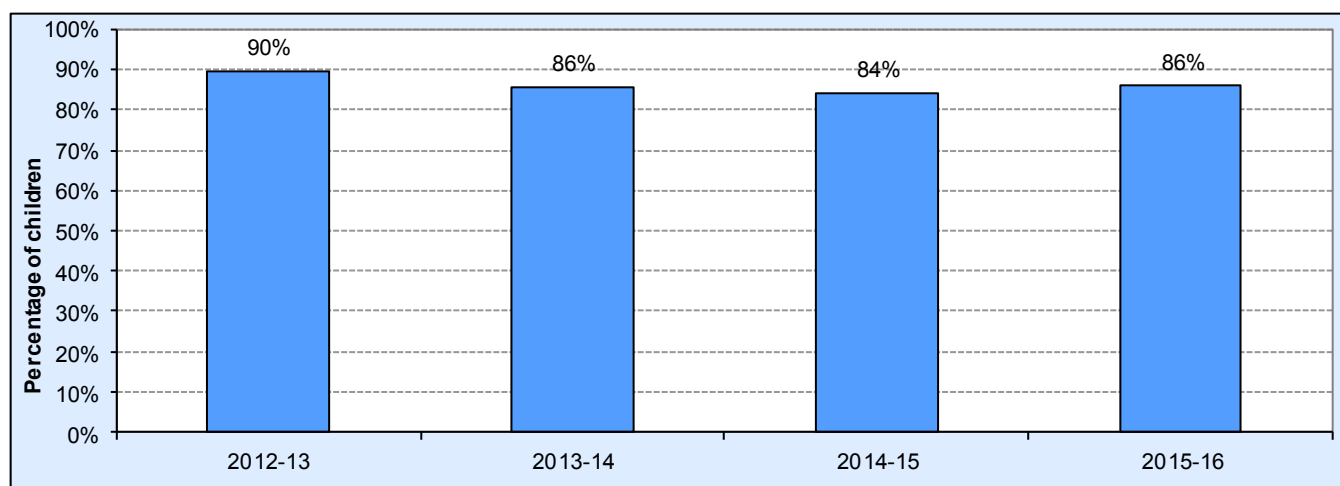
(a) Face-to-face contact by a health visitor or wider health team member in the financial year.

(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 5 shows the net change in the number of contacts per child (whether with the health visitor or the wider health team) between 2014-15 and 2015-16. More than three-quarters (18) 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 (compared to just over a third last year), with 4 local authorities increasing. Monmouthshire had the greatest decrease over the period (6 less contacts per child) compared to the previous year in which it had seen the greatest increase. Powys saw the greatest increase (2 contacts per child). However it is worth noting that these local authority level statistics fluctuate greatly from year to year. (Table 2)
- The balance of health visitor and wider health contacts has also changed in some cases.

### 3. Childcare

**Chart 6: Percentage of children taking up Flying Start-provided childcare, Wales, 2012-13 to 2015-16**

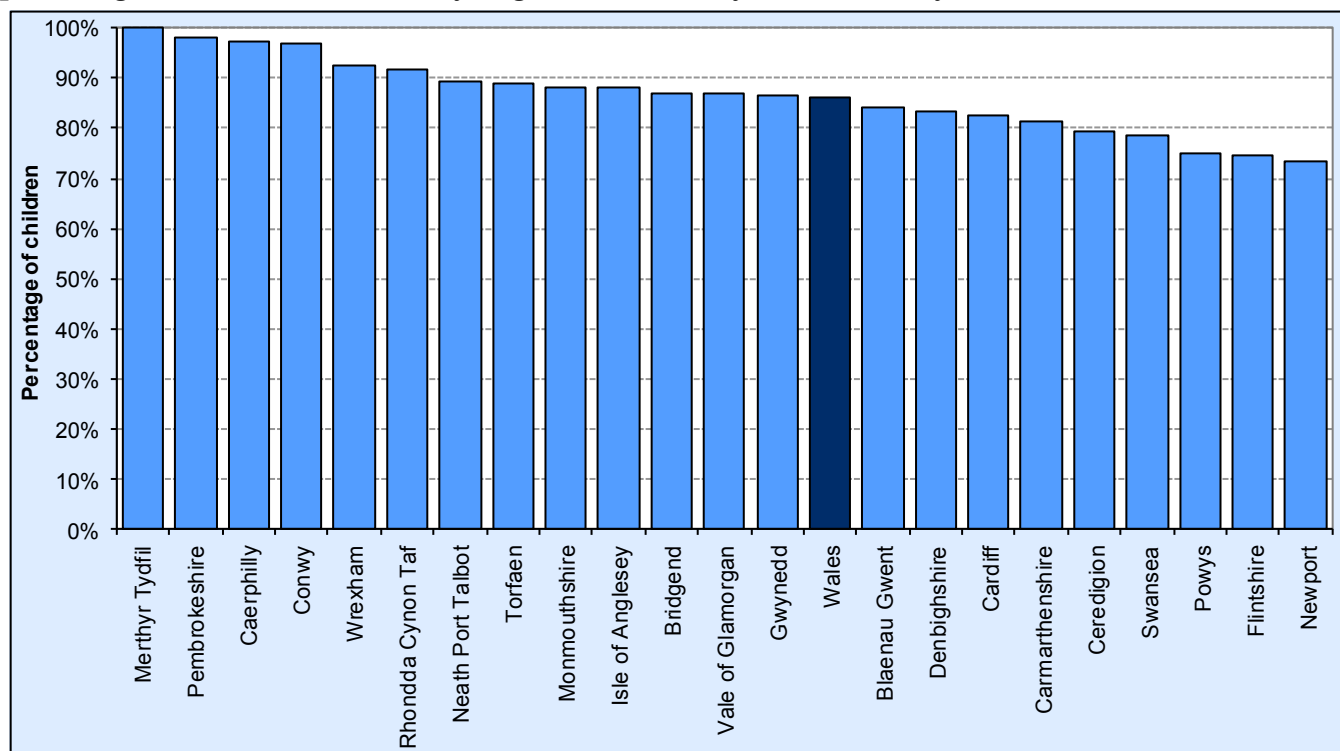


Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16

- The percentage of children taking up Flying Start-provided childcare fell for the first 3 years of the programme but improved in the most recent year (Chart 6).

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 7: 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, 2015-16**



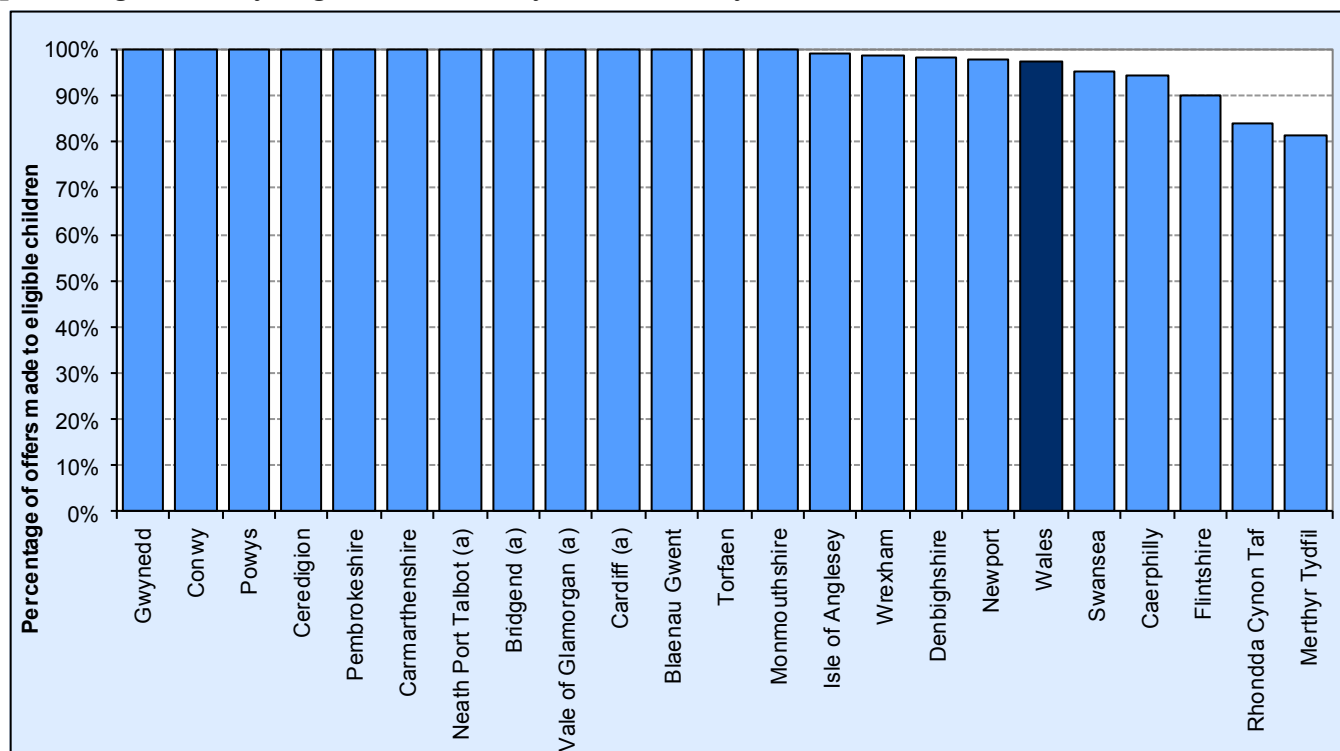
Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

Chart 7 illustrates childcare take-up for 2015-16. 2012-13 data is shown in Baseline Table: Key data for 2012-13 on page 43.

- It shows that overall 86 per cent of full or reduced offers of childcare in a Flying Start childcare setting were taken up, a 2 percentage point increase on the 2014-15 figure (84 per cent) and a 3.5 percentage point decrease on the 2012-13 figure (90 per cent). (Chart 6, Table 3 and Baseline Table).
- 6 out of 22 authorities had take up rates of over 90 per cent in 2015-16, no change on 2014-15, and the majority (12 local authorities) of take up rates had either stayed the same or risen in this period. Take up was as low as 73 per cent in Newport where it had decreased 12 percentage points from 85 per cent in 2014-15.



**Chart 8: Number of full or reduced offers of Flying Start-provided childcare made as a percentage of newly eligible children, by local authority, 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

(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 on page 47.

Chart 8 shows the extent to which local authorities made offers of childcare to eligible children in 2015-16.

- In 18 local authorities offers were made to more than 95 per cent of eligible children.
- Although Chart 7 showed that take-up was low in some authorities, Chart 8 shows that offers were made to all or nearly all eligible children in some of these areas e.g. Powys and Newport.

These statistics are 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 provision in new programme areas has continued to be problematic in several local authorities and rates have been affected by delays in registration of some settings. Continuing delays in the availability of new childcare settings have affected the offer rate in other local authorities. 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 47.

#### **Revisions to 2014-15 childcare data:**

During the 2015-16 data collection it was found that in 1 local authority the number of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare in 2014-15 had been incorrectly recorded, affecting the Wales total but not the overall percentage uptake.

#### 4. Parenting and Speech, Language & Communication

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, language and communication.

In 2015-16 across all Local Authorities:

- 4,756 places on formal structured parenting courses were offered to families with Flying Start children, a third (33 per cent) more than in 2014-15; three-quarters (75 per cent) of these places were taken up.

Local authority data for formal structured courses is presented in Table 11 on page 41.

As part of the Flying Start support for Speech, Language & Communication (SLC) (formerly called Early Language Development), 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 SLC 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 SLC 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 2015-16 across all Local Authorities:

- A further 9,085 places on informal structured parenting / SLC courses were offered, and more than two-thirds (72 per cent) of these places were taken up.
- 6,379 packages of enhanced one-to-one parenting / SLC or health support<sup>1</sup> were offered, and 45,468 parenting / SLC 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. Table 12 on page 42 shows numbers of places and packages in each local authority and demonstrates the variety of local choices being made in the types of support offered. It also shows rates per 1,000 children on the health visitor caseload in order to put the numbers in the context of the local programme size; for example, Swansea offered the highest number of places on formal and informal structured parenting courses but the rate per 1,000 children was similar to the average for Wales. See the [notes](#) section on page 49 for more detail of parenting courses and a list of accredited formal structured courses.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 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 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:

- Reached 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 reached or exceeded milestones in the others
- More than one age band below milestones: children who, in at least one of the skill areas, were more than 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 2013-14 and 2015-16 in order to compare like areas. The expansion areas (as at the end of 2015-16) are reported on separately in the second section below. In new programme areas 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. For completeness, a new table (Table 7 on page 37) presents developmental assessment data across all areas (pre-expansion and expansion).

#### Pre-expansion areas

##### Children assessed within the recommended age window

For the analysis in this Statistical Release, only children who are assessed in the recommended age window, i.e. within a month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 who 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 recommended 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.

#### Revisions to 2014-15 developmental assessment data:

During the 2015-16 data collection it was found that in 5 local authorities some development assessments had been incorrectly recorded in 2015-16 when in fact they had occurred in 2014-15. This resulted in some corrections to the 2014-15 data being necessary.

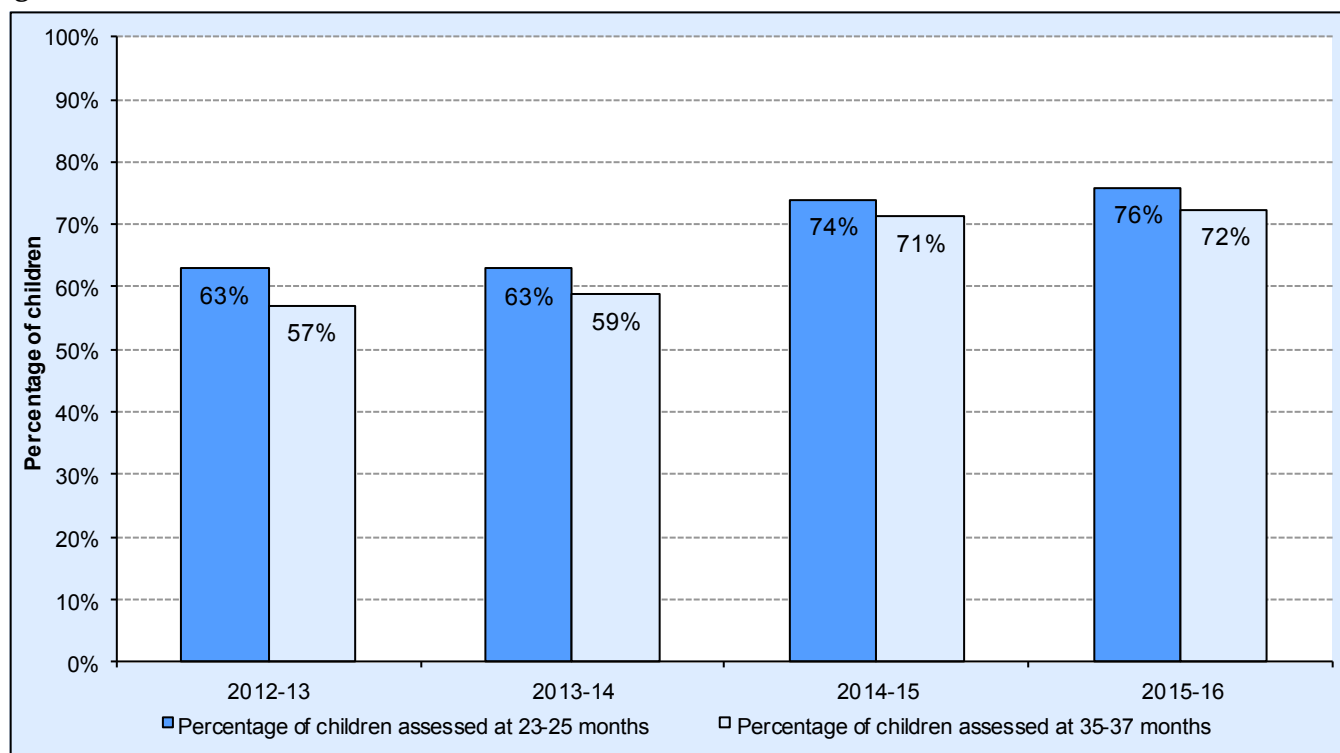
Table 4 contains revised 2014-15 data for the percentage of eligible children assessed in the correct age band. The percentage of eligible children assessed at 23-25 months for Wales figures remained unchanged for both measures.

Tables 5 and 6 from the 2014-15 release have been revised and are published in the 2015-16 release as Tables 5a and 6a respectively. At the Wales level, in both the pre-expansion and expansion areas, the 2014-15 percentages of children reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental norms were unchanged for both 2 year olds and 3 year old children. There were some minor changes to a small number of local authorities and these are detailed in the notes.

In 2015-16 for the pre expansion areas:

- Chart 9 shows that 76 per cent of 2 year olds and 72 per cent of 3 year olds in the Flying Start programme were assessed within the window of a month of their birthdays, an increase since 2014-15.

**Chart 9: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas assessed in the recommended age window, Wales, 2012-13 to 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16

- The same data for each local authority is shown in Table 4 and shows some significant changes over this time period within individual local authorities, with Conwy having the lowest percentage for both 2 year olds and 3 year olds; Ceredigion had the highest percentages assessed in the recommended window for both age bands, although Powys showed significant improvement since 2014-15.
- Most (16) local authorities assessed proportionately more 2 year old children in the recommended window than 3 year old children.

## Developmental Milestones

Charts 10-13 below 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.

- 81 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 53 per cent reached 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 52 per cent reached or exceeded their milestones at this age (Table 6).

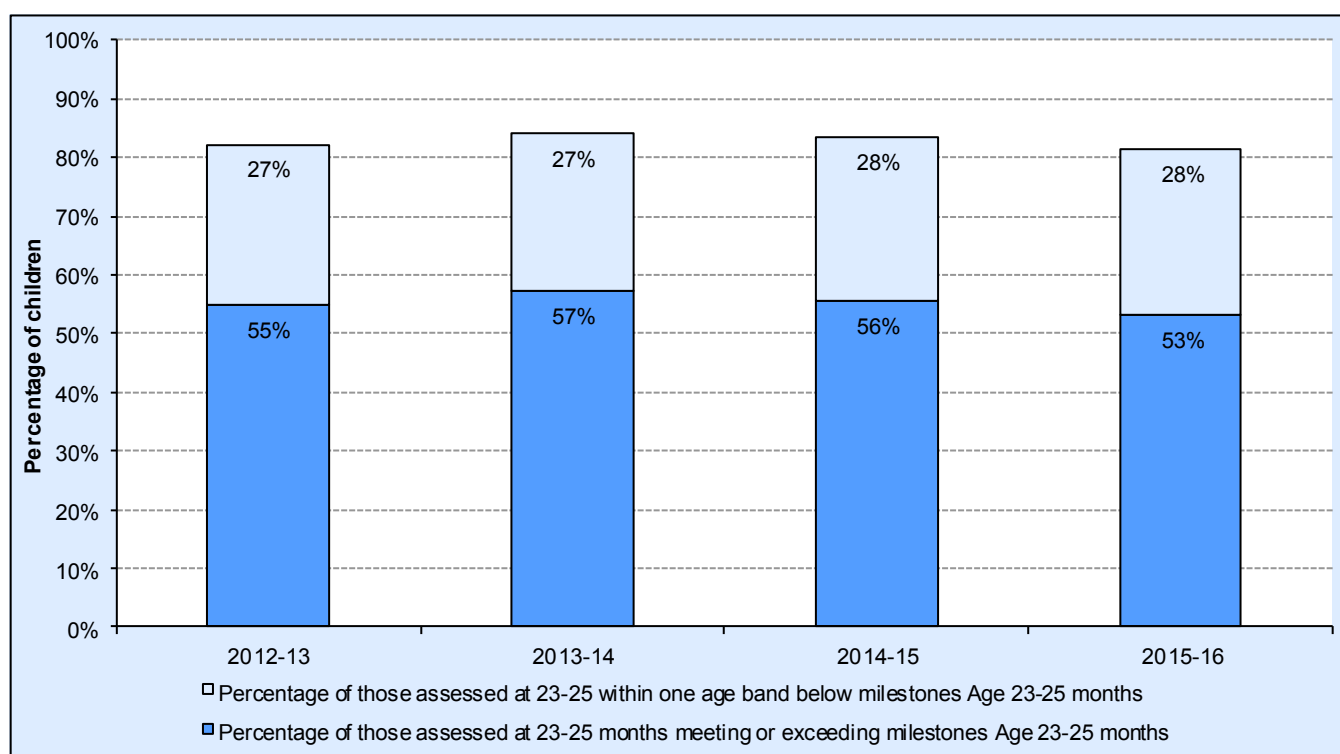
**Note that these children are different cohorts i.e. the children presented in Chart 11 were aged 2 in 2015-16, and those presented in Chart 13 were age 3 in the same year.** Note also that the level of transfers in and out of Flying Start areas means that not all children will have been resident in 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](#) (established under the previous Government) had 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 age 3; 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 2015-16 shows a decrease from the baseline year.

**Chart 10: 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), Wales, 2012-13 to 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16

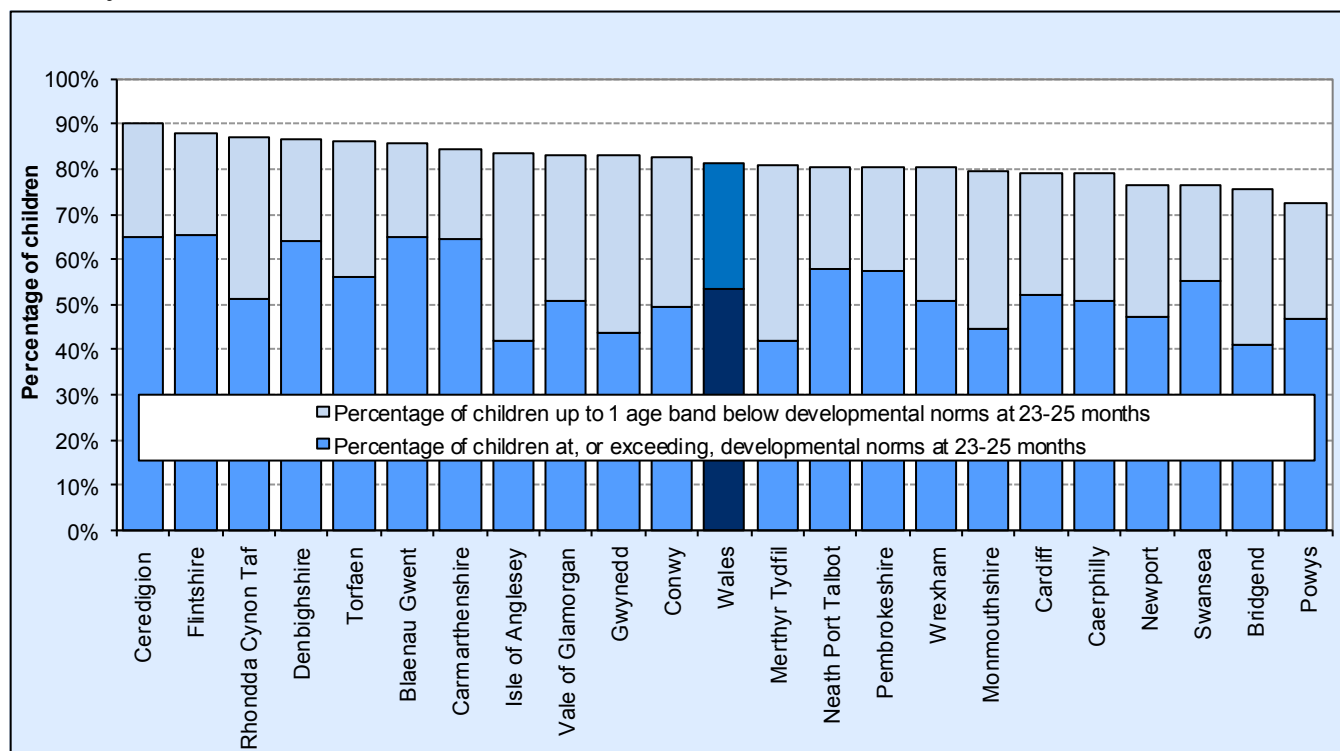
(a) See [notes](#) on page 48 for further details of developmental milestones.

Chart 10 shows that 53 per cent of the 3,815 Flying Start children assessed in the pre-expansion areas in 2015-16, reached or exceeded their developmental milestones at the age of 2 years (Table 5), a decrease from 56 per cent in 2014-15. 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 overall were reported to be within 1 age band of developmental norms, meaning that 81 per cent of children aged 2 that were assessed had reached or nearly reached the milestones for this age, a decrease since 2014-15. The remaining 19 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.

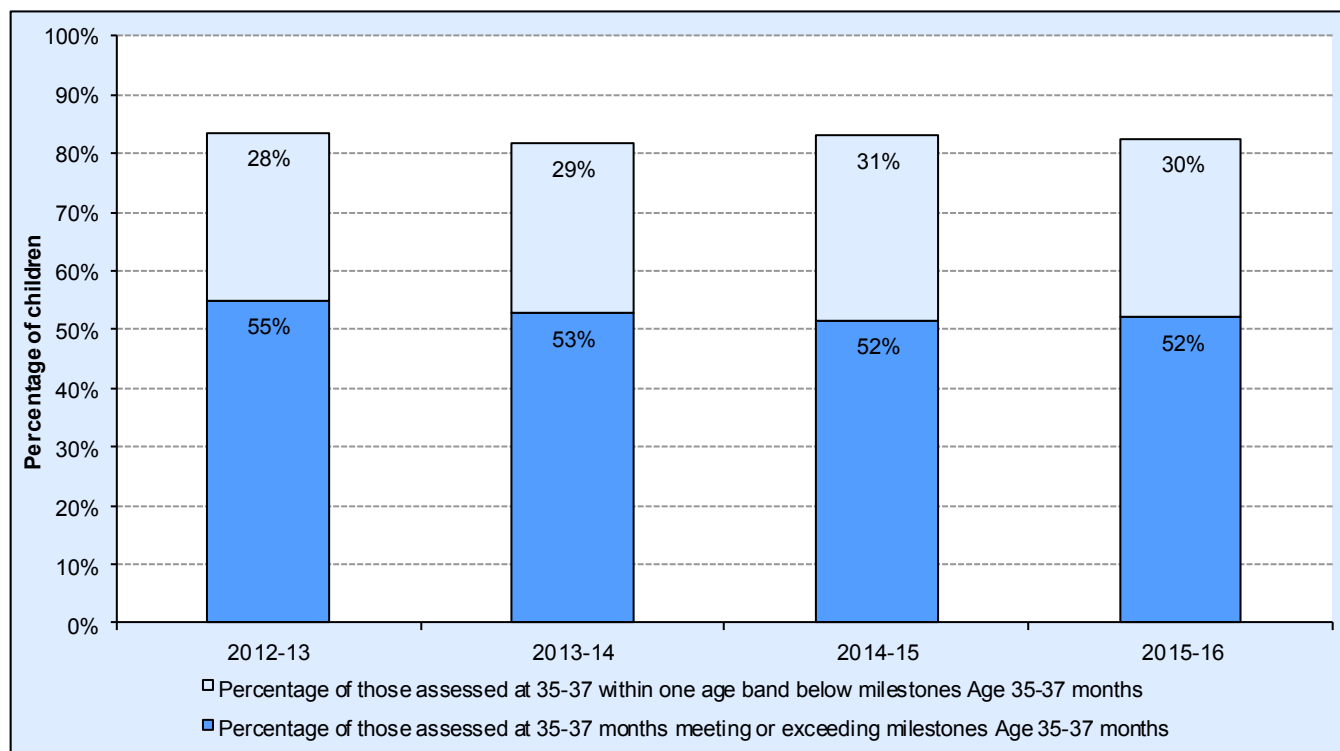
**Chart 11: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestones (a) at age 2 years (23-25 months), by local authority, 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16  
(a) See [notes](#) on page 48 for further details of developmental milestones.

At the local authority level (Chart 11), the proportion of children who reached or were within 1 age band of their milestones ranged from 90 per cent to 72 per cent. Just over a quarter of all local authorities (6 out of 22) saw an increase since 2014-15 (revised figures) in the percentage of children who reached or were within 1 age band of their milestones for this age. Those that saw falls were of between 0 and 9 percentage points. Those that had increased did so by up to 5 percentage points.

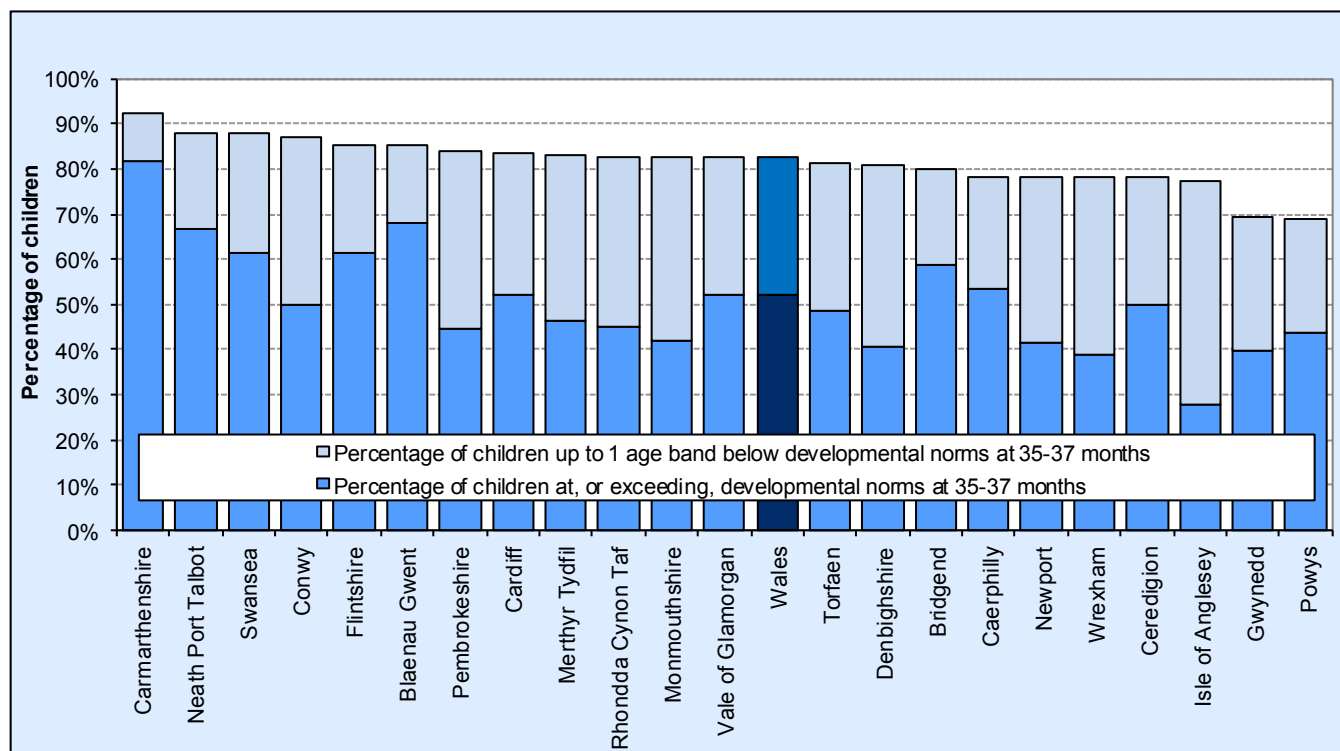
**Chart 12: Percentage of children in pre-expansion Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestones (a) at age 3 years (35-37 months), Wales, 2012-13 to 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16  
(a) See [notes](#) on page 48 for further details of developmental milestones.

Chart 12 shows that 52 per cent of the 3,754 Flying Start children assessed in 2015-16, reached or exceeded their developmental milestones at the age of 3 years (Table 6), no change from the 2014-15 figure. 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 30 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 reached or nearly reached 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.

**Chart 13: 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, 2015-16**



Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16  
(a) See [notes](#) on page 48 for further details of developmental milestones.

At the Local Authority level (Chart 13), the proportion of children who reached or were within 1 age band of their milestones ranged from 92 per cent to 69 per cent. Just under half of all local authorities (10 out of 22) saw an increase since 2014-15 (revised figures) in the percentage of children that had reached or nearly reached the milestones for this age. The others had fallen by between 0 and 11 percentage points. Those that had increased did so by up to 5 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 local issues such as recruitment issues and to different levels of deprivation within Flying Start areas.

### Expansion areas

The table below shows developmental assessment data for the expansion areas added to the programme in 2013-14, 2014-15 and in 2015-16 at all-Wales level. It shows that there has been improvement at both ages in the proportion of children assessed at the recommended time despite further expansion.

For 2015-16 in all expansion areas:

- 82 per cent of children reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms at age 2 years
- 82 per cent of children reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms at age 3 years

Tables 5 and 6 include the data for local authorities but note that in 2015-16 in expansion areas in 3 local authorities fewer than 50 children were assessed at age 23-25 months and in 3 at age 35-37 months.

## Assessments within Flying Start expansion areas, Wales

	2015-16 <sup>(a)</sup>		2014-15 <sup>(b)</sup> (r)		2013-14 <sup>(c)</sup>	
	Age 2 (23-25 months)	Age 3 (35-37 months)	Age 2 (23-25 months)	Age 3 (35-37 months)	Age 2 (23-25 months)	Age 3 (35-37 months)
Numbers of children eligible	3,629	3,737	3,091	2,875	1,889	1,586
Numbers of eligible children assessed within one month of birthday	2,722	2,697	2,331	1,987	985	681
Percentage of eligible children assessed within one month of birthday	75%	72%	75%	69%	52%	43%
Percentage of children at or exceeding developmental milestones	54%	49%	55%	50%	57%	45%
Percentage of children within one age band below developmental norm	28%	33%	27%	31%	25%	35%

(a) Expansion areas included areas added to the programme during 2014-15 and 2015-16

(b) Expansion areas included areas added to the programme during 2013-14 and 2014-15

(c) Expansion areas included areas added to the programme during 2013-14

(r) Some minor revisions have been made by some local authorities to 2014-15 data; see notes.

**Note that these children are different cohorts** i.e. the children aged 2 in 2014-15 are not the same children aged 2 in 2015-16, and similar for 3 year olds. Also the 3,737 children aged 3 in 2015-16 would include *some but not all* of the 3,091 children who were 2 in 2014-15. This is due to the level of transfers in and out of Flying Start areas, which also means that not all children will have been resident in Flying Start areas for the assessments at both ages 2 and 3.

Expansion has occurred at a variable rate across Wales and some local authorities report that development assessment data is still being adversely affected by recruitment delays.

Table 7 presents developmental assessment data across all areas (pre-expansion and expansion).

- 82 per cent of children in all areas of the Flying Start programme reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental norms at age 2 years while 53 per cent reached or exceeded their milestones at this age.
- 82 per cent of children in all areas of the Flying Start programme reached, exceeded or were within 1 age band of their developmental milestones at age 3 years while 51 per cent reached or exceeded their milestones at this age.

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

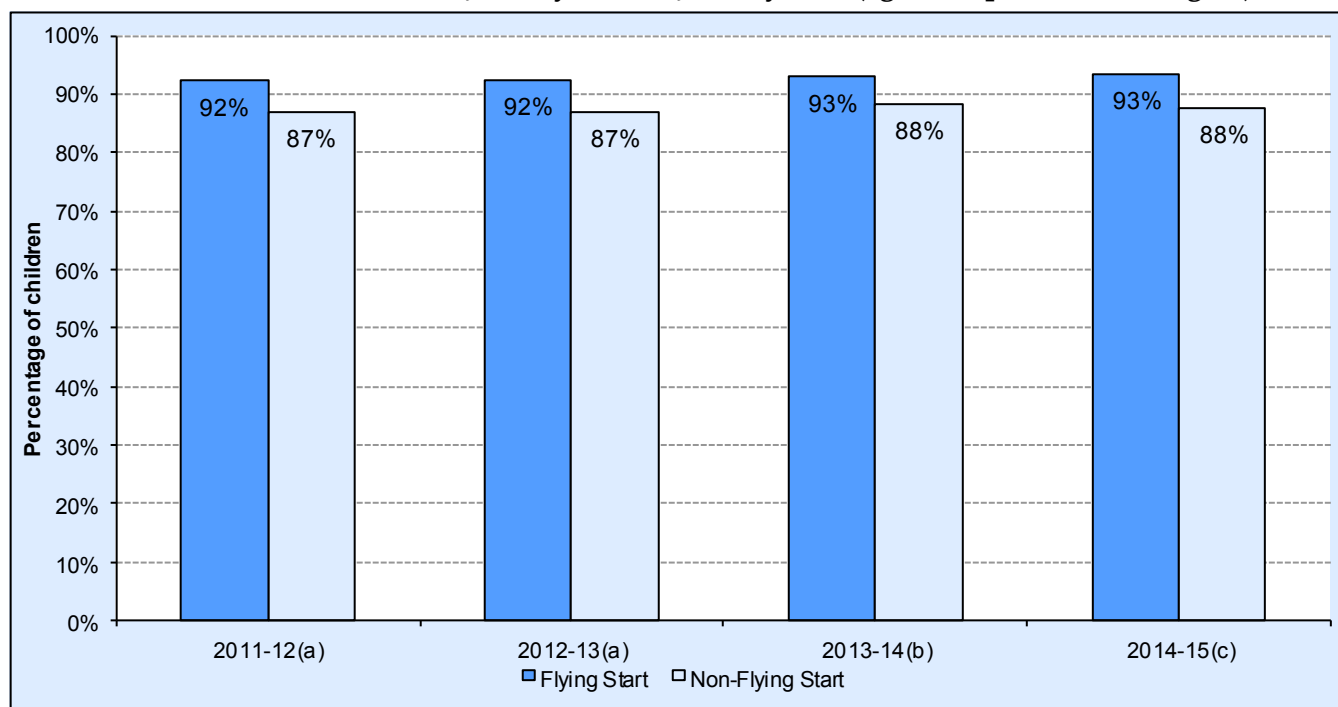
Looking at the numbers of Flying Start children starting Foundation Phase measures the degree to which Flying Start children are taking up early years education opportunities. The Foundation Phase is the statutory curriculum for all 3-7 years old children in Wales in both maintained and non-maintained 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 relating to 2011-12 and 2012-13 are based on the pre-expansion areas, that is, the area of the programme as it existed at 31 March 2012. Data from 2013-14 relates to children living in the programme area as defined at the end of each financial year. This means that technically we are not comparing like areas from 2013-14 and the previous years but it is important to reflect outcomes for children living in the relevant programme areas.

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.

Table 8 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 14: Percentage of children in Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas aged 3 recorded on a roll at a maintained school, Wales, January 2012 to January 2015 (age as at previous 31 August)**



Source: Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 (denominator)

(a) Pre-expansion areas as at 31 March 2012

(b) Programme areas as at 31 March 2014

(c) Programme areas as at 31 March 2015

- Chart 14 shows that in 2014-15 93 per cent of children at age 3 living in Flying Start programme areas were recorded on school rolls, no change since 2013-14.
- For children living in non-Flying Start areas the percentage has also remained the same between 2013-14 and 2014-15 (88 per cent). The percentage in most Flying Start areas continues to be higher than in non-Flying Start areas.
- Table 8 compares children living in Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas for the last two years. Over half of all Local Authorities (13 out of 22) saw the proportion of children at age 3 living



in Flying Start programme areas and recorded on school rolls increase between 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The variation seen between local authorities may be partially explained by some of the following factors: differences in the size and local utilisation 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.

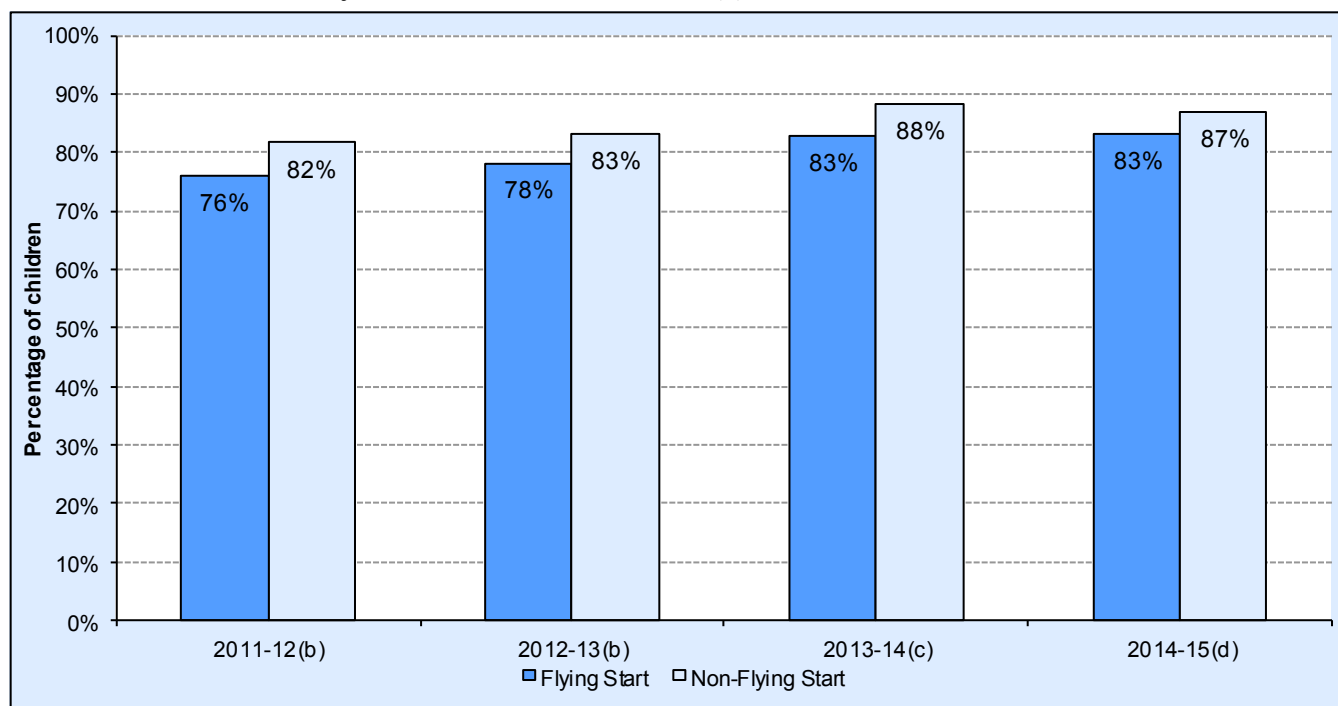
## 7: Health outcomes: Uptake of routine childhood immunisation

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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. As with the education outcomes data relating to 2011-12 and 2012-13 are based on the pre-expansion areas and data for 2013-14 and 2014-15 relates to children living in the programme area as defined at 31 March 2014 and 31 March 2015 respectively.

Table 9 shows data on children fully immunised in both Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas for each local authority.

**Chart 15: Percentage of children in Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas that are fully immunised at 4th birthday, Wales, 2011-12 to 2014-15 (a)**



Source: Public Health Wales COVER report 2011-2012, 2012-13, 2013-4, 2014-15, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 (denominator)

(a) Due to technical difficulties relating to the 2014-15 dataset the statistics for 2014-15 have been constructed using an extract taken from NCCHD in April 2016 and therefore totals will differ slightly from published COVER statistics.

(b) Pre-expansion areas as at 31 March 2012

(c) Programme areas as at 31 March 2014

(d) Programme areas as at 31 March 2015

- In 2014-15, 83 per cent of children living in Flying Start areas were fully immunised at age 4 year areas (a slight increase since 2013-14), compared to 87 per cent of children living in non-Flying Start areas (a slight decrease since 2013-14).
- Uptake of immunisations in 2014-15 of children living in Flying Start areas ranged between 93 per cent (Isle of Anglesey) and 75 per cent (Cardiff). In most local authorities the uptake rates were higher for children living in non Flying Start areas than in Flying Start areas.

- Just under half of all local authorities (9) saw the uptake of immunisations of children living in Flying Start areas increase between 2013-14 and 2014-15, compared to just 5 local authorities seeing an increase in non-Flying Start areas (Table 9).

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. Note that in some local authorities there may be children who are omitted from immunisation coverage statistics either because they are new to the country and were immunised elsewhere or because they were privately immunised.

## 8: Health outcomes: Healthy weight

The Child Measurement Programme for Wales is a surveillance programme set up in 2011 when the Welsh Government asked Public Health Wales to undertake a national height and weight measuring programme for Wales, to give a better understanding about how children in Wales are growing. The programme standardises the way in which primary school children (aged 4 and 5) are measured across Wales.

For further information on the measurement of healthy weight and other background information about the Child Measurement Programme for Wales, please see notes on page 50 for further details.

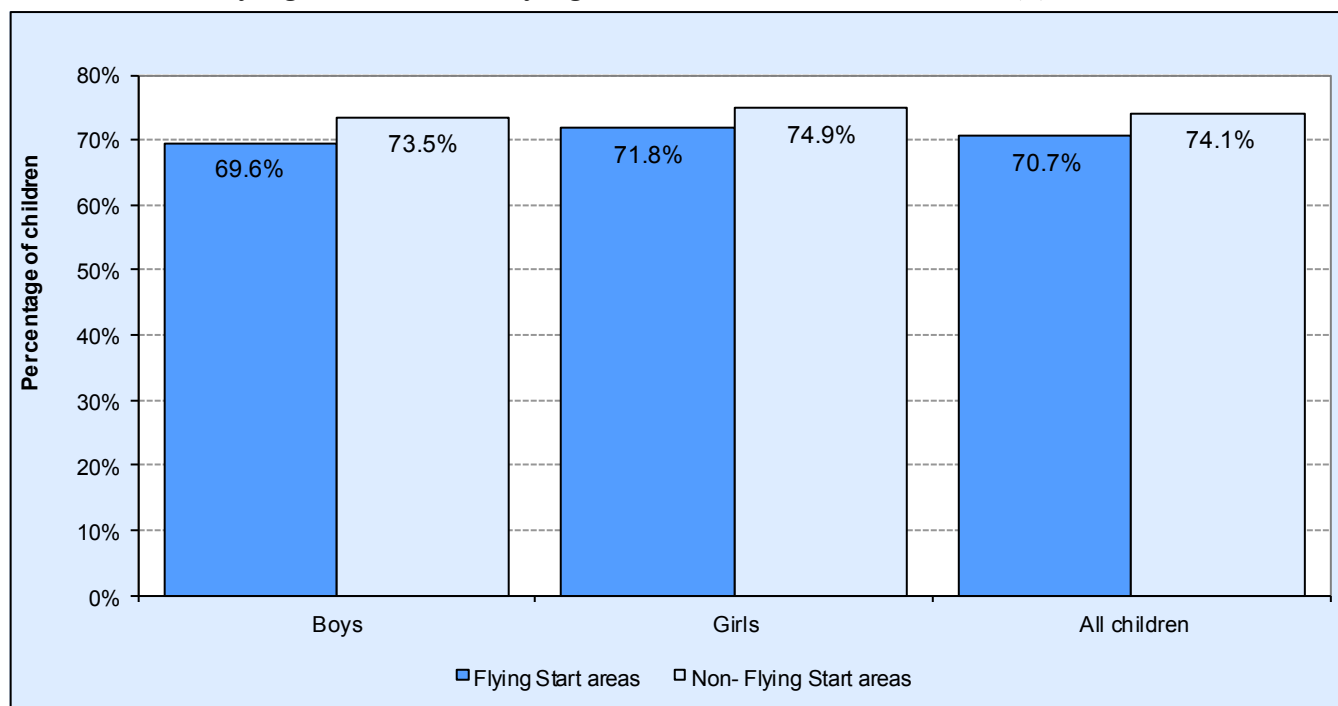
As with the education and immunisation outcomes, data from the Child Measurement Programme has been analysed according to Flying Start areas, based on the postcodes provided by Flying Start coordinators. In this case two years' data have been combined (school years 2011/12 with 2012/13 and 2012/13 with 2013/14) and the analysis carried out in relation to the areas as at 31 March 2012.

Chart 16 shows the proportion of children resident in Flying Start and non Flying Start areas (and included in the Child Measurement Programme) who had a body mass index (BMI) classified as being of a healthy weight.

For further information on the Child Measurement programme for Wales please see:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/page/67762>

**Chart 16: Prevalence of children in 'healthy weight' (a) categories for children aged 4-5 years resident within Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas, 2012/13 and 2013/14 (b)**



Source: Child Measurement Programme (CMP) for Wales 2011/12 and 2012/13, 2012/13 and 2013/14 produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using CMP data (NWIS)

(a) 'Healthy weight' includes healthy weight or underweight

(b) Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2012

- The data shows that at the Wales level Flying Start areas have a lower prevalence of healthy weight or underweight children than non-Flying Start areas: 71 per cent of children living in Flying Start areas in the two school years 2012/13 and 2013/14 were of a healthy weight or underweight (70 per cent of boys and 72 per cent of girls). This is less than in non-Flying Start areas, where 74 per cent of children were of healthy weight or underweight (73 per cent of boys and 75 per cent of girls).

- This pattern mirrors the Child Measurement Programme data where the most deprived fifth of areas has a lower prevalence of healthy weight or underweight children than each of the other deprivation fifths.

Local authority level data is available in Table 10 on page 40.



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

Local Authority	2014-15				2015-16				Percentage change between 2014-15 and 2015-16 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	691	604	3,217	19%	747	642	3,074	21%	6%
Gwynedd	900	883	5,209	17%	1,086	972	5,054	19%	10%
Conwy	957	884	4,638	19%	1,084	984	4,564	22%	11%
Denbighshire	1,045	821	4,354	19%	910	933	4,266	22%	14%
Flintshire	1,515	1,244	6,956	18%	1,479	1,351	6,718	20%	9%
Wrexham	1,468	1,286	6,946	19%	1,742	1,405	6,694	21%	9%
Powys	817	785	5,052	16%	852	773	4,927	16%	-1%
Ceredigion	502	488	2,661	18%	552	483	2,588	19%	-1%
Pembrokeshire	1,120	1,083	5,209	21%	1,295	1,217	5,049	24%	12%
Carmarthenshire	1,858	1,645	7,973	21%	1,838	1,602	7,723	21%	-3%
Swansea	2,788	2,527	10,585	24%	3,109	2,780	10,542	26%	10%
Neath Port Talbot	2,375	1,841	6,160	30%	2,408	1,980	6,149	32%	8%
Bridgend	1,672	1,398	6,598	21%	1,478	1,536	6,436	24%	10%
Vale of Glamorgan	1,302	1,101	5,681	19%	1,343	1,228	5,621	22%	12%
Cardiff	5,288	4,661	18,534	25%	5,269	4,759	18,229	26%	2%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	3,088	2,924	11,578	25%	3,222	3,335	11,276	30%	14%
Merthyr Tydfil	1,247	1,201	2,902	41%	1,518	1,313	2,960	44%	9%
Caerphilly	2,044	2,114	8,455	25%	2,690	2,422	8,403	29%	15%
Blaenau Gwent	951	943	3,168	30%	974	993	3,089	32%	5%
Torfaen	1,499	1,263	4,338	29%	1,654	1,394	4,214	33%	10%
Monmouthshire	576	464	3,481	13%	545	489	3,394	14%	5%
Newport	3,557	2,422	7,664	32%	2,474	2,541	7,775	33%	5%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>37,260</b>	<b>32,581</b>	<b>141,359</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>38,269</b>	<b>35,131</b>	<b>138,745</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>8%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16

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

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

(c) 2014 Mid Year Population Estimates, children aged 0,1,2,3 years, published by Office for National Statistics.

(d) 2015 Mid Year Population Estimates, children aged 0,1,2,3 years, published by Office for National Statistics.

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

Local Authority	2014-15			2015-16		
	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	3,807	5.5	0.8	3,823	4.7	1.3
Gwynedd	10,407	7.9	3.9	10,500	6.4	4.4
Conwy	5,367	4.7	1.3	5,329	4.1	1.3
Denbighshire	6,200	5.8	1.7	5,734	4.2	2.0
Flintshire	8,477	4.4	2.4	8,594	4.4	2.0
Wrexham	12,019	5.6	3.7	11,631	6.1	2.2
Powys	3,606	4.3	0.3	5,456	5.6	1.5
Ceredigion	4,201	3.9	4.7	5,326	5.7	5.3
Pembrokeshire	12,564	6.0	5.6	11,012	5.9	3.1
Carmarthenshire	11,980	4.9	2.4	9,548	4.9	1.0
Swansea	15,751	4.9	1.3	17,089	4.7	1.5
Neath Port Talbot	22,302	6.0	6.1	15,960	5.0	3.1
Bridgend	12,223	5.8	2.9	12,500	5.0	3.1
Vale of Glamorgan	7,811	6.4	0.7	7,384	5.9	0.1
Cardiff	43,719	7.5	1.9	40,890	6.9	1.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	19,041	5.4	1.1	20,315	5.1	1.0
Merthyr Tydfil	7,191	5.2	0.8	9,349	6.2	0.9
Caerphilly	16,640	5.7	2.1	17,284	5.5	1.7
Blaenau Gwent	10,002	6.8	3.8	8,999	6.0	3.1
Torfaen	12,416	5.3	4.5	14,705	4.9	5.6
Monmouthshire	7,678	7.8	8.8	5,068	7.1	3.3
Newport	13,403	4.6	1.0	13,634	4.1	1.2
<b>Wales</b>	<b>266,805</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>260,130</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16

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

Local Authority	2014-15 (r)				2015-16			
	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	191	191	154	81%	144	143	126	88%
Gwynedd	216	175	174	99%	283	283	245	87%
Conwy	270	270	258	96%	241	241	234	97%
Denbighshire	223	208	196	94%	257	253	211	83%
Flintshire	331	331	279	84%	400	360	268	74%
Wrexham	416	403	319	79%	347	343	317	92%
Powys	227	227	191	84%	229	229	172	75%
Ceredigion	151	151	121	80%	126	126	100	79%
Pembrokeshire	297	294	291	99%	281	281	276	98%
Carmarthenshire	392	392	363	93%	442	442	360	81%
Swansea	722	696	557	80%	719	685	537	78%
Neath Port Talbot	662	697	535	77%	583	595	531	89%
Bridgend (r)	356	361	252	70%	308	366	319	87%
Vale of Glamorgan	301	301	251	83%	334	338	294	87%
Cardiff	1,479	1,357	1,050	77%	1,232	1,269	1,050	83%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	877	844	724	86%	1,008	848	777	92%
Merthyr Tydfil	399	362	362	100%	342	279	279	100%
Caerphilly	554	554	489	88%	598	564	549	97%
Blaenau Gwent	277	277	248	90%	306	306	258	84%
Torfaen	363	363	265	73%	367	367	327	89%
Monmouthshire	142	116	95	82%	127	127	112	88%
Newport	547	532	452	85%	600	587	430	73%
<b>Wales (r)</b>	<b>9,393</b>	<b>9,102</b>	<b>7,626</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>9,274</b>	<b>9,032</b>	<b>7,772</b>	<b>86%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15, 2015-16

(r) The 2014-15 number of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare in Bridgend, and therefore Wales, has been revised, see notes on page 47

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

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Percentage of eligible children assessed at 23-25 months</b>		<b>Percentage of eligible children assessed at 35-37 months</b>	
	<b>2014-15 (r)</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2014-15 (r)</b>	<b>2015-16</b>
Isle of Anglesey	88%	89%	80%	87%
Gwynedd (r)	65%	80%	66%	75%
Conwy	58%	61%	61%	59%
Denbighshire	76%	78%	63%	63%
Flintshire	79%	87%	72%	79%
Wrexham (r)	56%	70%	52%	60%
Powys	42%	82%	56%	83%
Ceredigion	69%	93%	73%	88%
Pembrokeshire	85%	86%	65%	79%
Carmarthenshire (r)	78%	86%	66%	80%
Swansea	78%	79%	76%	68%
Neath Port Talbot	68%	69%	65%	72%
Bridgend	75%	64%	74%	77%
Vale of Glamorgan	80%	84%	75%	85%
Cardiff	75%	75%	73%	73%
Rhondda Cynon Taf (r)	85%	69%	83%	60%
Merthyr Tydfil	79%	83%	80%	79%
Caerphilly	76%	62%	76%	64%
Blaenau Gwent	89%	88%	91%	79%
Torfaen	76%	76%	66%	76%
Monmouthshire	70%	78%	74%	87%
Newport (r)	71%	74%	72%	66%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>72%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15 and 2015-16

a) 'Recommended 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 48.

(r) Some minor revisions have been made by some local authorities to 2014-15 data; see notes.

**Table 5: Percentage of Flying Start children reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 2 by local authority, 2015-16**

Local Authority	Pre-expansion areas (a)					Expansion areas				
	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	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
Isle of Anglesey	75	71	67	84%	42%	55	55	52	79%	23%
Gwynedd	131	126	105	83%	44%	124	125	110	88%	68%
Conwy	142	104	87	83%	49%	99	105	93	81%	59%
Denbighshire	160	152	125	86%	64%	53	45	39	87%	69%
Flintshire	178	167	155	88%	65%	172	155	131	88%	65%
Wrexham	211	210	148	80%	51%	115	93	78	90%	46%
Powys	115	100	94	72%	47%	79	77	73	78%	48%
Ceredigion	98	94	91	90%	65%	22	21	20	90%	60%
Pembrokeshire	160	157	138	80%	57%	126	125	101	78%	59%
Carmarthenshire	236	225	203	84%	65%	173	167	147	86%	65%
Swansea	370	345	293	76%	55%	296	284	208	85%	58%
Neath Port Talbot	322	273	221	81%	58%	201	178	166	78%	52%
Bridgend	204	183	131	76%	41%	139	126	107	81%	50%
Vale of Glamorgan	219	209	185	83%	51%	94	87	80	86%	65%
Cardiff	662	544	496	79%	52%	494	394	346	85%	48%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	423	333	291	87%	51%	509	351	307	84%	56%
Merthyr Tydfil	155	131	129	81%	42%	148	112	104	79%	44%
Caerphilly	307	251	191	79%	51%	241	224	180	73%	49%
Blaenau Gwent	165	160	146	86%	65%	104	105	95	82%	57%
Torfaen	180	158	137	86%	56%	143	136	118	74%	43%
Monmouthshire	81	73	63	79%	44%	46	31	25	64%	40%
Newport	431	382	319	76%	47%	196	168	142	77%	49%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>5,025</b>	<b>4,448</b>	<b>3,815</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>3,629</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>54%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

(a) Does not include children assessed in 2015-16 expansion areas

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

**Table 5a: REVISED - Percentage of Flying Start children (a) reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 2 by local authority, 2014-15**

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	121	118	106	83%	51%	32%	98%	88%
Gwynedd (r)	173	160	112	86%	53%	33%	92%	65%
Conwy	183	151	106	85%	63%	22%	83%	58%
Denbighshire	191	184	146	82%	53%	29%	96%	76%
Flintshire	185	156	147	88%	76%	12%	84%	79%
Wrexham (r)	231	168	129	78%	44%	34%	73%	56%
Powys	131	78	55	80%	56%	24%	60%	42%
Ceredigion	113	90	78	86%	60%	26%	80%	69%
Pembrokeshire	179	185	153	82%	55%	27%	103%	85%
Carmarthenshire (r)	223	218	175	89%	64%	25%	98%	78%
Swansea	326	307	255	78%	55%	22%	94%	78%
Neath Port Talbot	309	251	210	84%	58%	27%	81%	68%
Bridgend	228	210	170	79%	51%	29%	92%	75%
Vale of Glamorgan	210	190	167	85%	56%	29%	90%	80%
Cardiff	736	649	555	83%	52%	30%	88%	75%
Rhondda Cynon Taf (r)	354	358	302	90%	60%	30%	101%	85%
Merthyr Tydfil	162	138	128	88%	57%	30%	85%	79%
Caerphilly	267	278	204	77%	52%	25%	104%	76%
Blaenau Gwent	169	161	150	83%	57%	27%	95%	89%
Torfaen	212	199	161	87%	71%	16%	94%	76%
Monmouthshire	88	73	62	89%	45%	44%	83%	70%
Newport (r)	375	338	265	82%	44%	38%	90%	71%
<b>Wales (r)</b>	<b>5,166</b>	<b>4,660</b>	<b>3,836</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>74%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15

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

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

(r) Some minor revisions have been made by some local authorities to 2014-15 data; see notes on page 47.

**Table 6: Percentage of Flying Start children reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 3 by local authority, 2015-16**

Local Authority	Pre-expansion areas (a)					Expansion areas				
	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	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
Isle of Anglesey	95	91	83	77%	28%	60	58	50	78%	30%
Gwynedd	144	129	108	69%	40%	121	97	93	91%	65%
Conwy	195	136	116	87%	50%	104	106	103	83%	41%
Denbighshire	191	147	121	81%	40%	53	37	33	85%	36%
Flintshire	201	173	158	85%	61%	175	156	139	76%	44%
Wrexham	199	150	119	78%	39%	164	129	114	75%	22%
Powys	115	104	96	69%	44%	82	76	72	79%	42%
Ceredigion	113	103	100	78%	50%	20	19	19	63%	42%
Pembrokeshire	180	163	143	84%	45%	141	128	103	86%	67%
Carmarthenshire	210	197	169	92%	82%	202	184	152	86%	78%
Swansea	316	283	215	88%	61%	356	299	235	87%	63%
Neath Port Talbot	333	285	241	88%	67%	178	159	149	86%	58%
Bridgend	213	191	165	80%	59%	164	137	119	78%	39%
Vale of Glamorgan	231	215	196	83%	52%	88	82	76	84%	54%
Cardiff	745	629	545	83%	52%	502	404	344	75%	39%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	424	309	255	83%	45%	428	315	248	88%	52%
Merthyr Tydfil	148	122	117	83%	46%	151	123	115	82%	40%
Caerphilly	261	236	166	78%	54%	208	197	157	83%	52%
Blaenau Gwent	163	139	128	85%	68%	94	78	78	81%	62%
Torfaen	212	180	161	81%	48%	163	142	114	87%	49%
Monmouthshire	93	86	81	83%	42%	52	33	28	82%	36%
Newport	412	310	271	78%	41%	231	175	156	81%	45%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>5,194</b>	<b>4,378</b>	<b>3,754</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>2,697</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>49%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

(a) Does not include children assessed in 2015-16 expansion areas

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

**Table 6a: REVISED - Percentage of Flying Start children (a) reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 3 by local authority, 2014-15**

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	122	114	98	84%	40%	44%	93%	80%
Gwynedd (r)	149	130	98	81%	50%	31%	87%	66%
Conwy	160	136	98	90%	51%	39%	85%	61%
Denbighshire	182	157	115	77%	46%	30%	86%	63%
Flintshire	188	152	136	89%	63%	26%	81%	72%
Wrexham	193	144	101	77%	37%	41%	75%	52%
Powys	126	95	70	71%	36%	36%	75%	56%
Ceredigion	95	78	69	81%	49%	32%	82%	73%
Pembrokeshire	164	144	107	79%	54%	24%	88%	65%
Carmarthenshire (r)	256	226	169	93%	73%	20%	88%	66%
Swansea	400	365	302	86%	56%	29%	91%	76%
Neath Port Talbot	332	264	217	86%	54%	32%	80%	65%
Bridgend	238	208	175	80%	58%	22%	87%	74%
Vale of Glamorgan	228	190	171	79%	47%	32%	83%	75%
Cardiff	738	623	536	79%	45%	34%	84%	73%
Rhondda Cynon Taf (r)	355	358	295	87%	51%	36%	101%	83%
Merthyr Tydfil	185	155	148	83%	57%	26%	84%	80%
Caerphilly	280	264	213	89%	58%	31%	94%	76%
Blaenau Gwent	132	126	120	90%	68%	22%	95%	91%
Torfaen	196	166	130	76%	48%	28%	85%	66%
Monmouthshire	80	66	59	81%	41%	41%	83%	74%
Newport (r)	396	317	285	80%	43%	37%	80%	72%
<b>Wales (r)</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>3,712</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>71%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15

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

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

(r) Some minor revisions have been made by some local authorities to 2014-15 data; see notes on page 47.



**Table 7: Percentage of children living in ALL Flying Start areas (a) reaching, exceeding or within one age band of developmental milestones (b) at age 2 years (23-25 months) and at age 3 years (35-37 months) by Local Authority, 2015-16**

Local Authority	Age 2 years (23-25 months)					Age 3 years (35-37 months)				
	Number of children eligible	Number of children assessed	Number of children assessed at 23-25 months	Percentage of those assessed at 23-25 months reaching, exceeding or within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones	Number of children eligible	Number of children assessed	Number of children assessed at 35-37 months	Percentage of those assessed at 35-37 months reaching, exceeding or within one age band below developmental norm	Percentage reaching or exceeding milestones
Isle of Anglesey	130	126	119	82%	34%	155	149	133	77%	29%
Gwynedd	255	251	215	86%	56%	265	226	201	80%	51%
Conwy	241	209	180	82%	54%	299	242	219	85%	46%
Denbighshire	213	197	164	87%	65%	244	184	154	82%	40%
Flintshire	350	322	286	88%	65%	376	329	297	81%	53%
Wrexham	326	303	226	84%	49%	363	279	233	77%	30%
Powys	194	177	167	75%	47%	197	180	168	73%	43%
Ceredigion	120	115	111	90%	64%	133	122	119	76%	49%
Pembrokeshire	286	282	239	79%	58%	321	291	246	85%	54%
Carmarthenshire	409	392	350	85%	65%	412	381	321	89%	80%
Swansea	666	629	501	80%	56%	672	582	450	87%	62%
Neath Port Talbot	523	451	387	79%	56%	511	444	390	87%	64%
Bridgend	343	309	238	78%	45%	377	328	284	79%	50%
Vale of Glamorgan	313	296	265	84%	55%	319	295	270	84%	53%
Cardiff	1156	945	844	82%	51%	1247	1038	893	80%	47%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	932	684	598	85%	54%	852	624	503	85%	48%
Merthyr Tydfil	303	243	233	80%	43%	299	245	232	82%	43%
Caerphilly	548	475	371	76%	50%	469	433	323	80%	53%
Blaenau Gwent	269	265	241	84%	62%	257	226	213	83%	66%
Torfaen	323	294	255	80%	50%	375	322	275	84%	49%
Monmouthshire	127	104	88	75%	43%	103	119	109	83%	40%
Newport	627	550	461	77%	48%	643	485	427	79%	43%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>8654</b>	<b>7619</b>	<b>6539</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>8889</b>	<b>7524</b>	<b>6460</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>51%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

(a) Includes children assessed in ALL areas, i.e pre-expansion areas AND expansion areas

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

**Table 8: 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 2014 and in January 2015 (age as at previous 31 August)**

Local Authority	2013-14						2014-15					
	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	114	506	620	100%	74%	77%	145	488	633	98%	74%	79%
Gwynedd	244	978	1,222	97%	94%	95%	220	931	1,151	100%	91%	92%
Conwy	198	948	1,146	96%	96%	96%	240	885	1,125	97%	97%	97%
Denbighshire	178	901	1,079	99%	100%	100%	195	932	1,127	90%	100%	100%
Flintshire	219	1,461	1,680	97%	97%	97%	289	1,375	1,664	98%	97%	97%
Wrexham	307	1,330	1,637	100%	98%	98%	306	1,343	1,649	94%	97%	97%
Powys	132	843	975	81%	80%	80%	160	760	920	70%	71%	71%
Ceredigion	108	365	473	79%	60%	64%	114	344	458	81%	62%	66%
Pembrokeshire	195	989	1,184	99%	90%	91%	239	952	1,191	98%	87%	89%
Carmarthenshire	322	1,270	1,592	91%	78%	81%	402	1,249	1,651	86%	78%	80%
Swansea	481	2,122	2,603	95%	99%	98%	698	2,029	2,727	98%	97%	97%
Neath Port Talbot	416	1,089	1,505	95%	96%	95%	536	1,039	1,575	99%	94%	96%
Bridgend	255	1,347	1,602	96%	96%	96%	309	1,368	1,677	98%	96%	97%
Vale of Glamorgan	284	1,208	1,492	95%	96%	96%	273	1,182	1,455	93%	96%	96%
Cardiff	853	3,011	3,864	89%	84%	85%	1,073	2,879	3,952	91%	84%	85%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	647	2,154	2,801	99%	96%	96%	806	2,085	2,891	100%	95%	96%
Merthyr Tydfil	200	449	649	100%	98%	99%	323	380	703	96%	97%	97%
Caerphilly	467	1,619	2,086	99%	98%	98%	588	1,569	2,157	100%	97%	98%
Blaenau Gwent	207	566	773	98%	96%	97%	197	547	744	100%	96%	97%
Torfaen	268	602	870	88%	75%	79%	294	573	867	88%	75%	79%
Monmouthshire	80	296	376	72%	38%	42%	97	261	358	74%	34%	40%
Newport	507	904	1,411	80%	67%	71%	589	926	1,515	85%	70%	75%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>24,958</b>	<b>31,640</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>8,093</b>	<b>24,097</b>	<b>32,190</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>89%</b>

Source: Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 (denominator)

**Table 9: 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 (b)**

Local Authority	2013-14						2014-15 (c)					
	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	106	563	669	86%	88%	87%	125	597	722	93%	92%	92%
Gwynedd	217	907	1,124	88%	92%	91%	217	882	1,099	87%	93%	92%
Conwy	165	855	1,020	83%	89%	88%	195	808	1,003	81%	89%	88%
Denbighshire	152	771	923	80%	90%	88%	181	755	936	88%	87%	88%
Flintshire	227	1,300	1,527	89%	90%	90%	252	1,285	1,537	91%	91%	91%
Wrexham	239	1,234	1,473	83%	91%	89%	315	1,185	1,500	88%	92%	91%
Powys	143	931	1,074	90%	86%	87%	194	882	1,076	88%	87%	87%
Ceredigion	104	491	595	91%	91%	91%	120	475	595	91%	88%	88%
Pembrokeshire	146	942	1,088	81%	87%	86%	200	882	1,082	82%	85%	84%
Carmarthenshire	274	1,362	1,636	82%	88%	87%	332	1,278	1,610	81%	84%	83%
Swansea	397	1,840	2,237	83%	87%	87%	509	1,727	2,236	81%	86%	85%
Neath Port Talbot	324	1,003	1,327	82%	88%	86%	427	941	1,368	84%	88%	86%
Bridgend	192	1,189	1,381	77%	88%	86%	248	1,105	1,353	81%	85%	84%
Vale of Glamorgan	225	1,136	1,361	89%	89%	89%	240	1,014	1,254	85%	88%	88%
Cardiff	708	2,926	3,634	76%	85%	83%	874	2,793	3,667	75%	85%	82%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	510	1,946	2,456	87%	91%	90%	645	1,792	2,437	87%	91%	89%
Merthyr Tydfil	169	430	599	88%	92%	91%	269	339	608	87%	89%	88%
Caerphilly	363	1,517	1,880	85%	89%	88%	483	1,329	1,812	82%	86%	85%
Blaenau Gwent	169	508	677	88%	88%	88%	172	458	630	84%	83%	84%
Torfaen	242	687	929	81%	89%	87%	276	631	907	82%	83%	82%
Monmouthshire	98	654	752	90%	87%	87%	112	648	760	89%	86%	86%
Newport	483	1,115	1,598	77%	84%	82%	550	1,062	1,612	82%	81%	81%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>5,653</b>	<b>24,393</b>	<b>30,046</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>6,936</b>	<b>22,929</b>	<b>29,865</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>86%</b>

Source: Public Health Wales COVER report 2012-2013, 2013-14, National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2012-13, 2013-14 (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 86 children in 2013-14 and 61 children in 2014-15 in non Flying Start / All areas.

(c) Due to technical difficulties relating to the 2014-15 dataset the statistics for 2014-15 have been constructed using an extract taken from NCCHD in April 2016 and therefore totals will differ slightly from published COVER statistics.

**Table 10: Prevalence of children in 'healthy weight' (a) categories for children aged 4-5 years resident within Flying Start and non-Flying Start areas, 2012/13 and 2013/14 (b)**

<b>Local Authority (c)</b>	<b>All Children</b>		<b>Boys</b>		<b>Girls</b>	
	<b>Flying Start</b>	<b>Non-Flying Start</b>	<b>Flying Start</b>	<b>Non-Flying Start</b>	<b>Flying Start</b>	<b>Non-Flying Start</b>
Isle of Anglesey	68.6%	70.7%	64.8%	69.2%	73.2%	72.2%
Gwynedd	63.4%	70.7%	66.0%	68.8%	60.6%	72.8%
Conwy	77.7%	75.8%	74.6%	75.8%	81.4%	75.7%
Denbighshire	71.4%	71.7%	71.3%	71.6%	71.5%	71.7%
Flintshire	70.9%	75.4%	69.5%	75.5%	72.7%	75.2%
Wrexham	69.7%	73.1%	64.7%	72.1%	75.1%	74.1%
Powys	65.3%	77.2%	68.3%	76.3%	62.5%	78.2%
Ceredigion	71.6%	74.8%	67.1%	76.1%	75.3%	73.6%
Pembrokeshire	74.0%	70.4%	75.3%	66.9%	72.7%	73.9%
Carmarthenshire	67.3%	74.0%	64.9%	73.8%	69.4%	74.1%
Swansea	73.8%	73.9%	73.8%	73.4%	73.8%	74.4%
Neath Port Talbot	68.8%	73.4%	69.0%	72.9%	68.5%	73.9%
Bridgend	67.9%	73.2%	65.8%	72.7%	70.0%	73.7%
Vale of Glamorgan	73.4%	79.1%	71.3%	78.4%	75.5%	79.8%
Cardiff	72.9%	77.1%	72.7%	75.9%	73.1%	78.4%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	66.9%	73.1%	67.4%	72.7%	66.5%	73.6%
Merthyr Tydfil	66.0%	67.4%	62.7%	69.2%	69.6%	65.6%
Caerphilly	68.6%	72.9%	66.2%	71.4%	71.2%	74.5%
Blaenau Gwent	66.9%	72.8%	63.5%	72.2%	71.0%	73.5%
Torfaen	73.4%	74.6%	75.3%	74.3%	71.3%	74.9%
Monmouthshire	77.5%	77.9%	77.4%	77.4%	77.6%	78.4%
Newport	73.6%	74.7%	71.4%	74.7%	76.0%	74.7%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>70.7%</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>69.6%</b>	<b>73.5%</b>	<b>71.8%</b>	<b>74.9%</b>

Source: Child Measurement Programme (CMP) for Wales 2012/13 and 2013/14, produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using CMP data (NWIS)

(a) 'Healthy weight' includes healthy weight or underweight

(b) Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2012

(c) Note that, in some local authorities, the numbers of children living in Flying Start areas may be relatively small and differences may not be statistically significant.

**Table 11: Formal structured parenting courses offered by local authority**

	2014-15		2015-16	
	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)	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)
Local Authority				
Isle of Anglesey	57	74%	91	62%
Gwynedd	199	60%	205	72%
Conwy	164	70%	262	63%
Denbighshire	117	73%	108	60%
Flintshire	252	82%	229	68%
Wrexham	96	65%	222	45%
Powys	103	96%	104	88%
Ceredigion	138	66%	174	72%
Pembrokeshire	66	44%	110	60%
Carmarthenshire	131	89%	184	94%
Swansea	413	91%	297	89%
Neath Port Talbot	167	90%	336	63%
Bridgend	64	91%	382	65%
Vale of Glamorgan	70	104%	120	73%
Cardiff	163	86%	237	90%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	131	74%	137	80%
Merthyr Tydfil	75	77%	130	65%
Caerphilly	228	72%	354	69%
Blaenau Gwent	172	65%	246	97%
Torfaen	169	63%	200	78%
Monmouthshire	174	61%	156	71%
Newport	422	76%	472	91%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>3,571</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>4,756</b>	<b>75%</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2014-15, 2015-16

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

**Table 12: Parenting places and packages offered by Local Authority, 2015-16**

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Number of places on formal and informal structured parenting courses ending in the year</b>	<b>Places on formal and informal structured parenting courses per 1,000 caseload</b>	<b>Number of packages of enhanced one-to-one parenting support ending in the year</b>	<b>Packages of enhanced one-to-one parenting support per 1,000 caseload</b>
Isle of Anglesey	652	1,016	29	45
Gwynedd	759	781	79	81
Conwy	737	749	196	199
Denbighshire	321	344	120	129
Flintshire	570	422	128	95
Wrexham	601	428	167	119
Powys	370	479	48	62
Ceredigion	438	907	50	104
Pembrokeshire	286	235	16	13
Cardiganshire	826	515	288	180
Swansea	1,139	410	353	127
Neath Port Talbot	837	423	65	33
Bridgend	770	501	124	81
Vale of Glamorgan	411	335	278	226
Cardiff	332	70	202	42
Rhondda Cynon Taf	432	130	215	64
Merthyr Tydfil	422	321	119	91
Caerphilly	500	206	20	8
Blaenau Gwent	369	372	2	2
Torfaen	1,048	752	11	8
Monmouthshire	403	824	173	354
Newport	1,618	637	105	41
<b>Wales</b>	<b>13,841</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>79</b>

Source: Welsh Government Flying Start Data Monitoring Return 2015-16

**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%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>23,579</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>78%</b>

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)

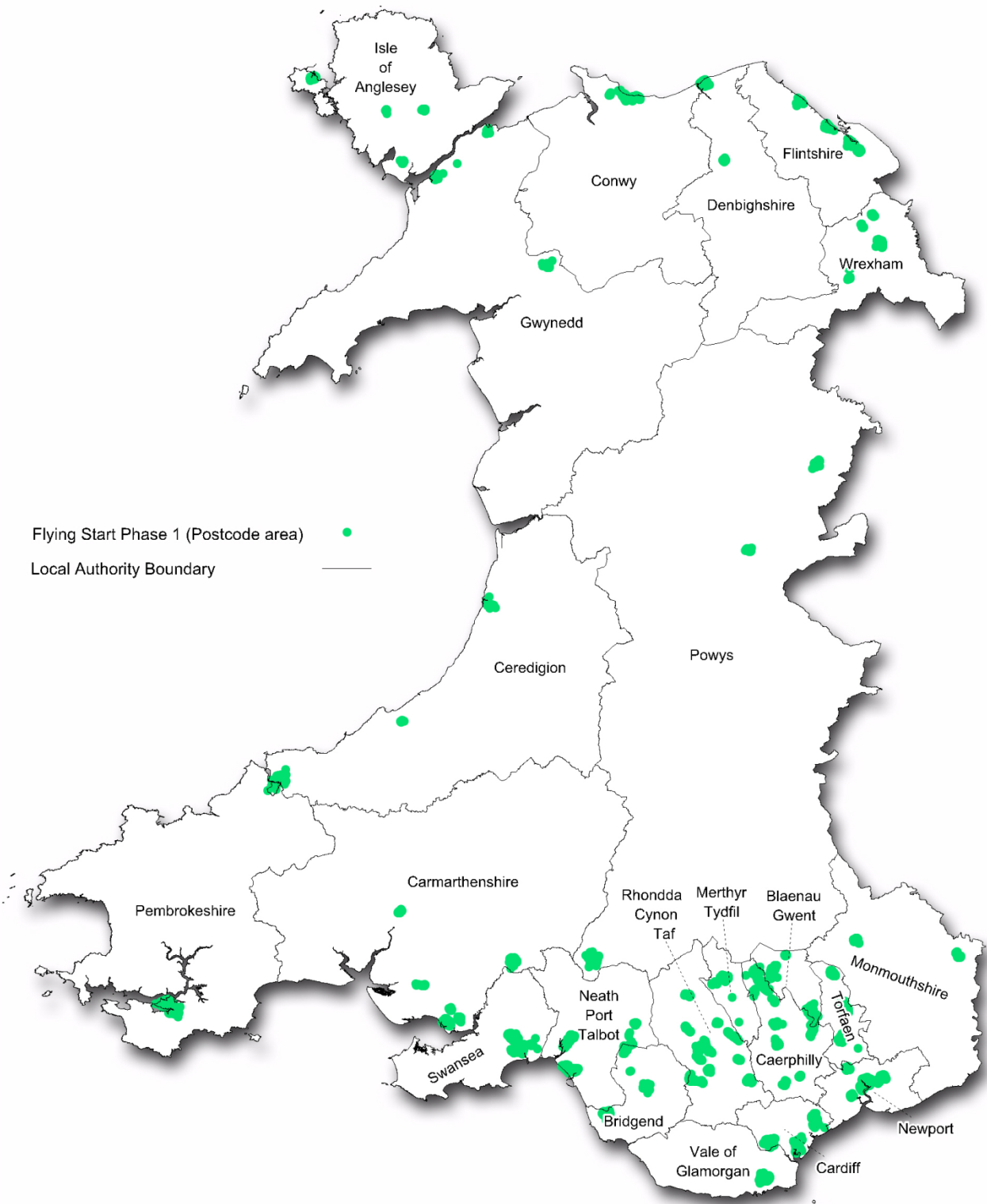
(a) Cumulative count of individual children receiving health visitor Flying Start services

(b) For information on developmental milestones, please see notes on page 48.

(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.

Baseline Map: Location of Flying Start areas as at 31 March 2012



(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.



## 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 Speech, Language and Communication support (previously described as Early Language Development).

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 flexible provision for the family during the school holidays.

### 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.

This release provides data for each complete financial year based on the final data collection of each year. Since the last statistical release was issued, two termly updates, providing unvalidated key management information for Wales only, have been published shortly after each data collection period. The purpose of these termly updates is to enable in-year high level monitoring of the programme. The data published is felt to be of sufficient value at a Wales level to be presented, but local authority data continue to be validated throughout the year and are only included in this annual statistical release.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> birthdays, the proportion of children aged 4-5 who are of healthy weight based on their BMI 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 2 and Table 1 of this release; for 2012-13 the 2012 mid year estimates have been used. For 2013-14 the 2013 mid year estimates have been used. For 2014-15 the 2014 mid year estimates have been used. For 2015-16 the 2015 mid year estimates have been used. The estimates are published on our StatsWales website here:

<https://statswales.gov.wales/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 2015. 2015-16 expansion areas are not yet available for mapping.

## **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.

The management information shows that Flying Start children are likely to move in and out of the areas. In most local authorities children transferring into Flying Start areas accounted for around 15-25 per cent of all children in receipt of Health Visitor services at some time during 2015-16.

## **Expansion areas**

A small expansion of the programme into additional areas occurred in 2012-13 but the major expansion to date was during 2013-14 and 2014-15. The expectation was that the number of children benefitting from the programme by the end of 2015-16 would be 36,000, but this figure was in fact met by the end of 2014-15. 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 benefitting, the caseload counts, contacts or take-up of childcare places between pre-expansion and expansion areas. This should be noted when making comparisons of statistics between years. 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 areas being compared with statistics from earlier years.

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 were added to the programme throughout the remaining period of expansion i.e. during 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.

## Revisions

### Revisions to 2014-15 childcare data:

During the 2015-16 data collection it was found that in 1 local authority the number of children taking up full or reduced offer of childcare in 2014-15 had been incorrectly recorded, affecting the Wales total but not the overall percentage uptake.

### Revisions to 2014-15 developmental assessment data:

During the 2015-16 data collection it was found that in 5 local authorities some development assessments had been incorrectly recorded in 2015-16 when in fact they had occurred in 2014-15. This resulted in some corrections to the 2014-15 data being necessary.

Table 4 contains revised 2014-15 data for the percentage of eligible children assessed in the correct age band. The percentage of eligible children assessed at 23-25 months changed for 4 local authorities while the percentage of eligible children assessed at 35-37 months changed for 3 local authorities. The Wales figures remained unchanged for both measures.

Tables 5 and 6 from the 2014-15 release have been revised and are published in the 2015-16 release as Tables 5a and 6a respectively. At the Wales level, in pre-expansion areas, the 2014-15 percentage of children aged 2 reaching or exceeding milestones and those aged 2 reaching, exceeding or within one age band of norms were unchanged, but in 1 local authority the percentage changed with respect to those reaching or exceeding milestones. In expansion areas, there was no change at the Wales level, but in 1 local authority the percentage changed for children reaching or exceeding milestones and also for children reaching, exceeding or within one age band of norms. At the Wales level, in pre-expansion areas, the 2014-15 percentage of children aged 3 reaching or exceeding milestones and those aged 3 reaching, exceeding or within one age band of norms were unchanged, but in 1 local authority the percentage changed with respect to those reaching or exceeding milestones. In expansion areas, there was no change at the Wales level, but in 2 local authorities the percentage changed with respect to children reaching or exceeding milestones.

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. In each year there is a small number of local authorities where the number of children allocated to Flying Start Health Visitors' caseloads is 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 each year in a small number of authorities the count of childcare offers taken up was higher than the number of offers made to newly eligible children, and in addition 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 recommended age window"**

For the analysis in this Statistical Release, only children who are assessed in the recommended age window, i.e. within a month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 recommended 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.

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 Speech, Language & Communication

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 Speech, Language & Communication (SLC) courses are defined as those with a structured curriculum and a set start and end date, as listed below (but note that decisions as to which courses to offer are made locally):

- 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 SLC 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 SLC. 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://gov.wales/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://gov.wales/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://gov.wales/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. Note that in some local authorities there may be children who are omitted from immunisation coverage statistics either because they are new to the country and were immunised elsewhere or because they were privately immunised.

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>

- 3. Reception aged children living in areas in receipt of Flying Start services who were assessed as having a healthy weight:**

The Child Measurement Programme for Wales is a surveillance programme set up in 2011 when the Welsh Government asked Public Health Wales to undertake a national height and weight measuring programme for Wales, to give a better understanding about how children in Wales are growing. The programme standardises the way in which primary school children are measured across Wales.



The information collected will help people working in health services and other public sector services understand patterns of child growth so they can plan services accordingly.

Prevalence rates (healthy (including a small number of under-weight children), overweight or obese) were calculated using the age and sex-specific body mass index (BMI) centiles calculated using the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) (from a method proposed by Cole et al (1995)). The body mass index (BMI) was calculated using a method proposed by Keys et al (1972). The following weight categories have been assigned:

- underweight: less than but not including 2nd centile;
- healthy weight: 2nd centile up to but not including 85th centile;
- overweight: 85th centile up to and not including 95th centile;
- obese: 95th centile and above.

Keys, A. et al (1972) Indices of relative weight and obesity. *Journal of Chronic Diseases*, 25:329-343.

Cole, T.J. et al (1995) Body mass index reference curves for the UK. *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, 73: 25-9. Cited in Dinsdale H, Ridler C, Ells L J. A simple guide to classifying body mass index in children. Oxford: National Obesity Observatory, 2011.

Public Health Wales combine weight categories for healthy and underweight so that there is access to counts and proportions of overweight and obesity together and separately. For the data presented under 0.6% of the total sample were underweight.

Records are included in the Child Measurement Programme for Wales if they meet all of the following criteria:

- location of residence can be determined;
- residence in Wales;
- school located in Wales;
- born in the period September 2007 to August 2008 for 2012/13 data;
- born in the period September 2008 to August 2009 for 2013/14 data;
- sex is recorded.

Eligible records are determined to be valid, and will be counted in the number measured, if they meet all of the following criteria:

- height measurement recorded and is not an implausible measurement;
- weight measurement recorded and is not an implausible measurement;
- consent not withdrawn;
- measurement collected during the academic years 2012/13 and 2013/14.

The Child Measurement Programme was implemented in reception year across Wales for the first time during the 2011/12 academic year. As the programme was under development during this period, this first year is regarded as a transitional year.

For further information on the Child Measurement programme for Wales please see:  
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/page/67762>

### **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.

### **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://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/tackling-poverty/taking-forward-tackling-poverty-action-plan/?lang=en>

### **National Indicators**

This is a list of the indicators that was laid before the National Assembly for Wales as required under section 10 of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

Further information on the National Indicators can be found at: <http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/national-indicators/?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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