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Out of School Care - survey of parents in Scotland



CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS



Out of School Care – survey of parents in Scotland

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Executive summary

Background

Out-of-school care is care provided to school-aged children outside of normal school hours. It can include both formal care (such as breakfast and after school clubs, holiday clubs and childminders) and informal care provided by family and friends.

There is evidence that out-of-school care can have benefits for both children and parents. For example, an NHS Health Scotland evidence review¹ published in 2015 found that out-of-school care can have a positive impact on children, especially younger children and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, including on relationships, self-confidence and, particularly, the opportunity for play in a safe environment. It also found good evidence that using out-of-school care allows some parents, especially single parents and those not in work, to secure employment, increase working hours or undertake further education or training.

The Scottish Government's out-of-school care policy dates back to 2003 when School's Out² was published. This has provided the underpinning policy framework and guidance for formal out-of-school care for the last 15 years.

The Programme for Government 2018-2019 committed to developing a draft strategic framework on after school and holiday childcare by summer 2019. This framework will be developed using a collaborative approach by engaging with the formal out-of-school care sector as well as parents and children.

Research aims and objectives

In developing the new framework, it will be important to understand what is currently available and what barriers prevent access to out-of-school care. The Scottish Government therefore commissioned a survey to provide data on parents' experiences of out-of-school care.

Specifically, the research looked at:

- the proportion of parents who use out-of-school care and what types of out-of-school care they use
- whether parents find out-of-school care accessible and affordable and what barriers exist to accessing out-of-school care

¹ Scott E and Scobie G. NHS Health Scotland Evidence briefing on the impact of care. NHS Health Scotland (2015). http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/26583-Evidence%20Briefing_Impact%20of%20out%20of%20school%20care_5681.pdf

² Scottish Government (2003). School's Out: Framework for the Development of Out-of-School Care. <https://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20180519002547/http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2003/02/16322/17823>

- the reasons parents use out-of-school care and whether affordable and accessible out-of-school care supports parents to engage in work, training, or study
- why some parents don't currently access out-of-school care, whether they would like to access it and, if so, why
- how important it is for parents that out-of-school care includes food provision and whether they see benefits from there being food provision at out-of-school care.

Methodology

The research was conducted using a quantitative approach, comprising telephone interviews with 2,002 parents of 5 to 13 year old children. The survey sample comprised a targeted set of landline and mobile telephone numbers, taken from national consumer survey data. Quotas were set by age of child and, to ensure the achieved sample was representative of the population, by the working status of parent(s), area deprivation (SIMD³), and region⁴.

Interviews were conducted by Ipsos MORI telephone interviewers, using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI), between 9 May and 2 June 2019. The interviews lasted an average of 6 and a half minutes.

Users of term-time childcare

- More than half (58%) of all parents used some form of childcare during term-time. It was more common for parents to use term-time care for younger children, aged 5 to 7 (62%) or 8 to 10 (64%), than older children aged 11 to 13 (48%).
- Term-time childcare was used more by families in which all parents were working, either full- or part-time (72%) than families where at least one parent was not working (30%). The main reason by far for using term-time childcare given by those who used it was that it allowed parents to work (79%).
- A third (33%) of all parents used only informal term-time childcare (such as grandparents, other family or friends) while 12% used only formal term-time childcare (such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs and childminders). Thirteen per cent used both informal and formal care. Overall, grandparents were the most commonly used type of term-time childcare (used by 37% of all parents).
- One in five (21%) of all parents used a breakfast and/or after-school club; 13% used breakfast clubs and 14% used after-school clubs. These clubs were used more for children aged 5 to 7 years old. Those in the most

³ SIMD (the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) provides a deprivation rank for each of the datazones in Scotland, from the most deprived to the least deprived. This study used SIMD quintile categories. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

⁴ The eight Scottish Parliament electoral regions were used.

deprived areas (SIMD 1⁵) were more likely to use breakfast clubs (16%, compared with 13% overall), while those living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) and on a higher income (more than £60,000 per annum) were more likely to use after-school clubs (both 23%, compared with 14% overall).

- Those who used breakfast and/or after-school clubs were overwhelmingly positive about their convenience and affordability, which suggests that these aspects are crucial in ensuring access to these services. Indeed, among term-time childcare users who did *not* use breakfast or after-school clubs, some of the main reasons they did not do so were because they were too expensive, there were none in their local area and the timings of the clubs did not suit them.

Non-users of term-time care

- Forty two per cent of all parents did not use any type of formal or informal term-time childcare. A third of all parents (33%) said they did not need term-time childcare because they/their partner could look after their child.
- Five per cent of all parents did not use any term-time care but said they would be interested in using an affordable breakfast club if there was one near them. Parents whose child was aged 5 to 7 years old were more likely to be interested than parents of older children. Eight percent said they would be interested in using an affordable after-school club if there was one near them. Families earning less than £20,000 per annum, single parents and those whose child was aged 5 to 7 were the most likely to be interested in an after-school club. The main reasons these parents would use a breakfast or after-school club would be to allow them/their partner to work, or to work more hours.

Users of holiday childcare

- More than half (61%) of parents used holiday childcare. Most (82%) of these parents also used childcare during term-time, while 36% of those who did not use childcare during term-time used it during school holidays.
- As with term-time childcare, holiday childcare was more likely to be used by families in which all parents were working, either full- or part-time (71%), and the main reason by far given by those who used it was that it allowed parents to work (65%).
- Forty two per cent of all parents used only informal holiday childcare, while just 7% used only formal holiday childcare. Twelve per cent used both.
- Grandparents were the most commonly used type of holiday childcare (used by 43% of all parents). Sixteen per cent of all parents used a playscheme or holiday club. These clubs were used more for children aged 5 to 7 years old (20%), and by those living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) (25%) and

⁵ This study used SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) quintile categories. SIMD provides a deprivation rank for each of the datazones in Scotland, from the most deprived (SIMD 1) to the least deprived (SIMD 5).

higher income families (27% of families earning more than £60,000 per annum).

- Users' views on playschemes or holiday clubs were largely positive, with the majority saying that the clubs were convenient and affordable. However, as with term-time childcare, holiday childcare users who did *not* use playschemes or holiday clubs indicated that the main reasons they did not do so were because they were too expensive, there were none in their local area or the timings of the clubs did not suit them.

Non-users of holiday care

- Thirty nine per cent of all parents did not use any type of holiday childcare. Their reasons for not using holiday childcare were very similar to the reasons parents did not use term-time childcare. A third (32%) of all parents said they did not need it because they/their partner could look after their child, 5% said they could not afford it and 2% said there was no holiday childcare nearby.
- Thirteen per cent of all parents did not use any holiday care but said they would be interested in using an affordable playscheme or holiday club if there was one available near to them. Families earning less than £20,000 per annum, single parents and parents whose child was aged 5 to 7 were more likely to be interested.
- The main reasons these parents would use an affordable playscheme or holiday club would be to give their child the chance to do other activities (50%) and to spend time with other children (49%). Smaller proportions said that it would allow them/their partner to work (13%) or to work more hours (6%), or reduce the need for them to take annual or unpaid leave from their work (8%).

The provision of free or subsidised food

- The provision of free or subsidised food was more likely to be a reason parents used breakfast clubs than after-school or playschemes/holiday clubs. Just over a third (35%) of breakfast club users agreed that free or subsidised food was a reason they used the club. In comparison, 16% of after-school club and 11% of playscheme or holiday club users said one of the reasons they used these clubs was for the provision of food.
- Single parents and those living in the most deprived areas were more likely to use term-time and holiday care for the provision of free or subsidised food.
- Among non-users interested in using affordable term-time or holiday care, the provision of free or subsidised food was rarely given as a reason they would use these types of care.

1. Background and aims

Policy background

Out-of-school care is care provided to school-aged children outside of normal school hours. It can include both formal care (such as breakfast and after school clubs, holiday clubs and childminders) and informal care provided by family and friends.

The Scottish Government's out-of-school care policy dates back to 2003 when School's Out⁶ was published. This has provided the underpinning policy framework and guidance for formal out-of-school care for the last 15 years. Policies relating to Early Learning and Childcare and school education have changed significantly in the same time period, as has the wider policy context, particularly in relation to child poverty and inequality.

The Programme for Government 2017-2018 committed to developing a strategic framework on after school and holiday childcare within the current parliamentary term. The Programme for Government 2018-2019 built on this and further committed to developing a draft framework by summer 2019. This framework will be developed using a collaborative approach by engaging with the formal out-of-school care sector as well as parents and children.

Formal out-of-school care services must operate within the same legal and regulatory requirements as Early Learning and Childcare settings. Out-of-school care is formally classified as a day care of children service, which means that all providers must be registered with, and inspected by, the Care Inspectorate and meet national care standards. Staff require to be qualified to the same level as Early Learning and Childcare practitioners and managers. There are currently just over 1,000 out-of-school care settings in Scotland, providing care for around 50,000 children. In addition to registered out of school care services, there are many activity clubs that operate during term-time and/or holidays, such as sport, art, drama, and music clubs, as well as activities such as Scouts. These clubs are not required to register with the Care Inspectorate (as their main function isn't to provide childcare), but nonetheless may be included in broader conceptions of out-of-school-care.

An NHS Health Scotland evidence review⁷ published in 2015 found that out-of-school care can have a positive impact on children, particularly younger children and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, including on relationships, self-

⁶ Scottish Government (2003). School's Out: Framework for the Development of Out-of-School Care.

<https://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20180519002547/http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2003/02/16322/17823>

⁷ Scott E and Scobie G. NHS Health Scotland Evidence briefing on the impact of care. NHS Health Scotland (2015). http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/26583-Evidence%20Briefing_Impact%20of%20out%20of%20school%20care_5681.pdf

confidence and particularly the opportunity for play in a safe environment. It also found good evidence that using out-of-school care allows some parents, especially single parents and those not in work, to secure employment, increase working hours or undertake further education or training.

A report by Save the Children⁸ published in 2018, based on a series of 'childcare conversations', highlighted the challenge for parents in Scotland in securing accessible, affordable and flexible childcare before and after school as well as during holiday periods. The report suggests that there are particular challenges for low income families.

The Scottish Government's Child Poverty Delivery Plan, Every Child Every Chance, highlights the importance of out-of-school care in enabling many parents, particularly lone parents to enter work or being able to increase their hours to a sufficient level to make work pay. The Poverty and Inequality Commission recently provided advice to Scottish Government regarding the links between food insecurity and holiday childcare. It recommended that Scottish Government, CoSLA and local authorities work together to take a strategic approach to developing and funding a coordinated package of school holiday support that addresses the full range of pressures faced by families with low incomes.

Research aims

In developing the new strategic framework for out-of-school care, it will be important to understand what is currently available and what barriers prevent access to out-of-school care. The Scottish Government therefore commissioned a survey to provide data on parents' experiences of out-of-school care.

Specifically, the research looked at:

- the proportion of parents who use out-of-school care and what types of out-of-school care they use
- whether parents find out-of-school care accessible and affordable and what barriers exist to accessing out-of-school care
- the reasons parents use out-of-school care and whether affordable and accessible out-of-school care supports parents to engage in work, training, or study
- why some parents don't currently access out-of-school care, whether they would like to access it and, if so, why
- how important it is for parents that out-of-school care includes food provision and whether they see benefits from there being food provision at out-of-school care.

This report provides the findings from that survey.

⁸ Lloyd E. Give us a Hand with Childcare. Save the Children (2018).
https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/node/13673/pdf/give_us_a_hand.pdf

2. Methodology

The research was conducted using a quantitative survey approach, comprising telephone interviews with 2,002 parents of 5 to 13 year old children.

The survey sample comprised a targeted set of landline and mobile telephone numbers, taken from national consumer survey data. It consisted of individuals who had agreed to be recontacted for research and marketing purposes. Quotas were set by age of child and, to ensure the achieved sample was broadly representative of the population of parents of children aged 5 to 13, by the working status of parent(s), area deprivation (SIMD⁹), and region. The questionnaire included a screener question to ensure the participant was the parent best placed to talk about their child's childcare arrangements. The majority (70%) of parents who took part in the survey were female.

The survey questionnaire was designed by Ipsos MORI in close consultation with the Scottish Government. Interviews were conducted by Ipsos MORI telephone interviewers, using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI), between 9 May and 2 June 2019. The interviews lasted an average of 6 and a half minutes.

The survey questionnaire included questions on parents' use of and views on out-of-school care and their reasons for using/not using this type of care. As a short quantitative survey, the aim of the research was to provide top-level data rather than to explore the issues in any depth.

Since most parents do not commonly use the term 'Out of School Care' when discussing their childcare arrangements, throughout the questionnaire and this report the terms 'childcare' or 'care' have been used instead. The survey questionnaire is attached as Appendix A.

During data processing, the survey data was weighted by working status, area deprivation, region and rurality¹⁰, using latest estimates from the Scottish Household Survey.

All aspects of the study were carried out to the international quality standard for market research, ISO 20252.

Presentation and interpretation of the findings

The survey findings represent the views of a sample of Scottish parents, and not the entire population of Scotland's parents. As such they are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that differences between sub-groups may not always be

⁹ SIMD (the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) provides a deprivation rank for each of the datazones in Scotland, from the most deprived to the least deprived. This study used SIMD quintile categories. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

¹⁰ This study used the Scottish Government's 6-fold Urban Rural Classification. <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification>

statistically significant. Throughout the report, we have commented only upon differences which are statistically significant (at the 0.05 level) i.e. where we can be 95% certain that they have not occurred by chance¹¹.

Where percentages do not sum to 100%, this may be due to computer rounding, the exclusion of 'don't know' categories or multiple answers. Aggregate percentages (e.g. "very interested/somewhat interested") are calculated from the absolute values. Therefore, aggregate percentages may differ from the sum of the individual scores due to rounding of percentage totals.

¹¹ Strictly speaking, sampling tolerances only apply to random probability surveys but they are commonly also applied to quota surveys.

3. Term-time childcare

Use of term-time childcare

- Overall, the majority of parents (58%) used some form of term-time childcare. It was more common for parents to use term-time care for younger children, aged 5 to 7 (62%) or 8 to 10 (64%), than older children aged 11 to 13 (48%).
- Working status was strongly associated with the use of term-time care, with families in which all parents were working more likely to use it than families with at least one non-working parent. As shown in Table 3.1, single parents working full-time were the family type most likely use term-time childcare (85%), while between 65% and 76% of other families in which all parents worked (either full-time or part-time) used childcare¹². In comparison, only around a third (between 28% and 33%) of families with at least one non working parent used childcare.

Table 3.1: Use of term-time care by working status

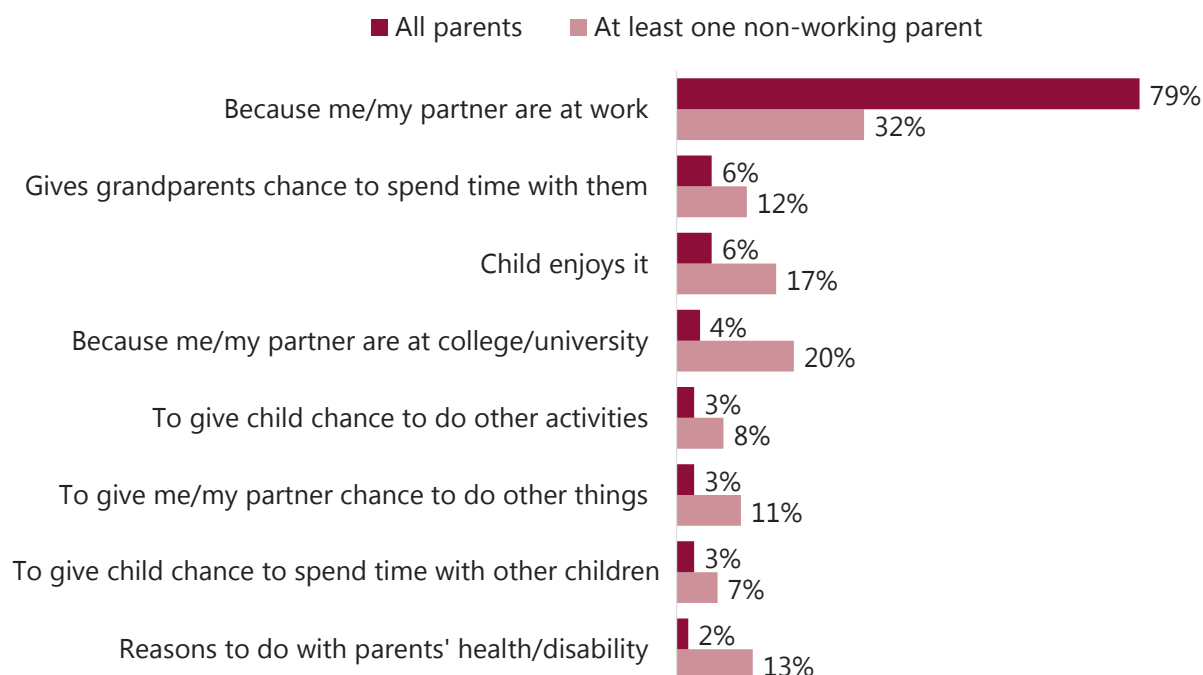
Family working status	% use term-time childcare	Base
All parents working (full-time or part-time)	72%	1,594
At least one parent not working	30%	408
Single parent – working full-time	85%	144
Single parent – working part-time	65%	108
Single parent – not working	30%	98
Couple – both working full-time	76%	671
Couple – one parent working full-time, one working part-time; or both working part-time	71%	668
Couple – one parent working full-time, one not working	28%	226
Couple – neither working	33%	52

- Indeed, the main reason by far that parents gave for using term-time childcare was because it allows them to work, mentioned by 79% of all those who used term-time childcare (Figure 3.1). Meanwhile, much smaller proportions, said they used term-time childcare for reasons such as giving grandparents a chance to spend time with their child (6%), their child enjoying it (6%), or

¹² These findings are in line with previous research for the Scottish Executive, which found that the characteristics most strongly related to use of childcare were whether the household contained one or two-parents, and whether they worked (see: <http://docs.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk/fulltext/parentscdem.pdf>)

allowing the participant and/or their partner to study/train at college or university (4%).

Figure 3.1: Reasons for using term-time care



*Base: All who use term-time childcare – all parents (1,253); at least one non-working parent (118)
Participants could give more than one response*

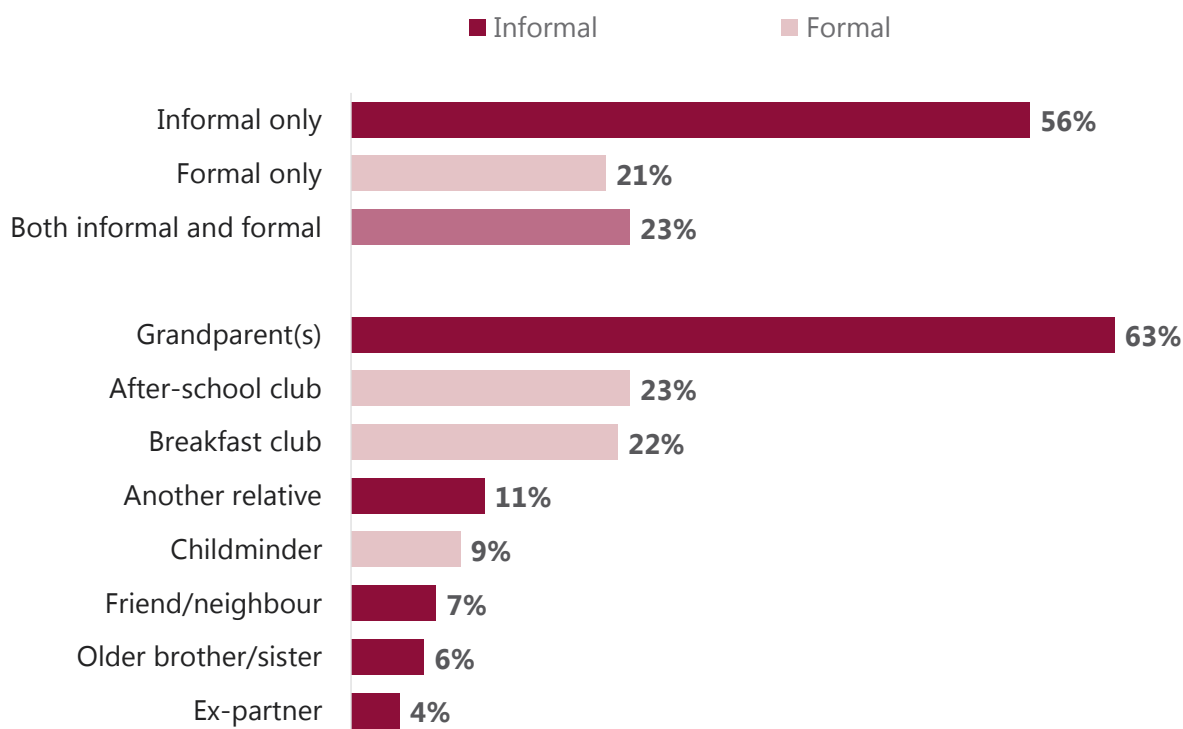
- Reasons for using term-time care differed somewhat for families with at least one non-working parent. While the most common reason was still that it allows the parents to work (32%), other reasons were more common – for example: it allows them or their partner to study/train at college or university (20%); their child enjoys it (17%); and for reasons related to the parents' health/disability (13%).

Types of term-time childcare used

- Among those who used term-time childcare, just over half (56%) of parents only used informal care (e.g. grandparents, other family or friends), and 21% only used formal care (e.g. breakfast or after-school clubs). Around a quarter (23%) used both formal and informal types of care¹³.
- As shown in Figure 3.2, grandparents were the most commonly used type of term-time childcare, used by 63% of parents who used any form of term-time care, while around a quarter used after-school clubs (23%) and breakfast clubs (22%).

¹³ Among all (2,002) participants, a third (33%) only used informal term-time care, 12% only used formal care and 13% used both.

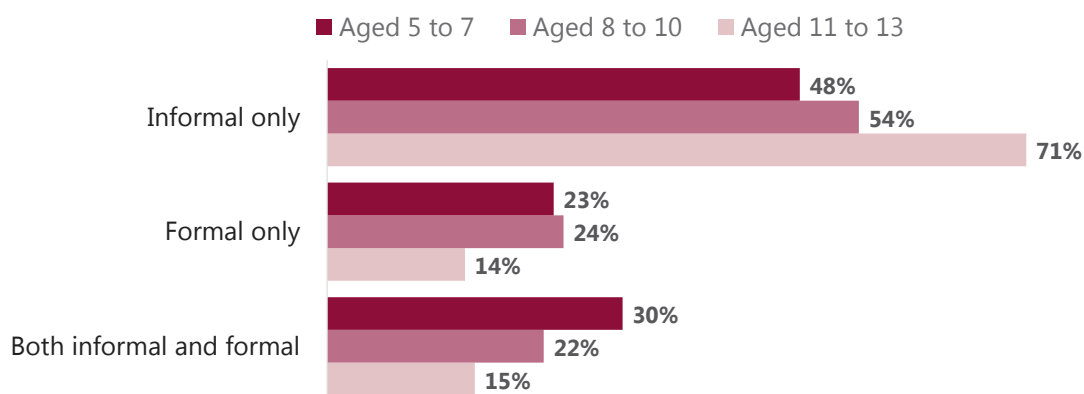
Figure 3.2: Types of term-time care used (among those who used any care)



Base: All who use term-time childcare (1,253)
 Participants could give more than one response.

- As shown in Figure 3.3, older children, aged 11 to 13 were more likely than younger children to receive informal care only (71% of those who received any form of term-time childcare, compared with 48% of 5 to 7 year olds, and 54% of 8 to 10 year olds). Meanwhile, children aged 5 to 7 and 8 to 10 were more likely than older children to receive formal care only (23% and 24% respectively, compared with 14% of 11 to 13 year olds).

Figure 3.3: Types of term-time care used by age



Base: All who use term-time childcare – parents of children aged 5 to 7 (456); 8 to 10 (461); 11 to 13 (336)

- The use of breakfast and after-school clubs was more popular for younger children, particularly those aged 5 to 7 – 28% of this age group (who received any term-time childcare) attended breakfast clubs, compared with 23% of 8 to 10 year olds and 13% of 11 to 13 year olds; and 30% of 5 to 7 year olds attended after-school clubs, compared with 23% of those aged 8 to 10, and 16% of those aged 11 to 13.
- Families living in the Lothians were more likely to use breakfast clubs (34%, compared with 22% overall) and after-school clubs (30%, compared with 23% overall).
- In terms of area deprivation, those in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1¹⁴) were more likely to use breakfast clubs¹⁵ (31%, compared with 22% overall), while those living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) were more likely to use after-school clubs (36%, compared with 23% overall).
- Higher income families, earning more than £60,000 per annum, were more likely to use after-school clubs (34% of those, compared with 23% overall) and childminders (14%, compared with 9% overall). Parents living in the Highlands and Islands were also more likely to use childminders (16%, compared with 9% overall).

Views on breakfast and after-school clubs

Breakfast clubs

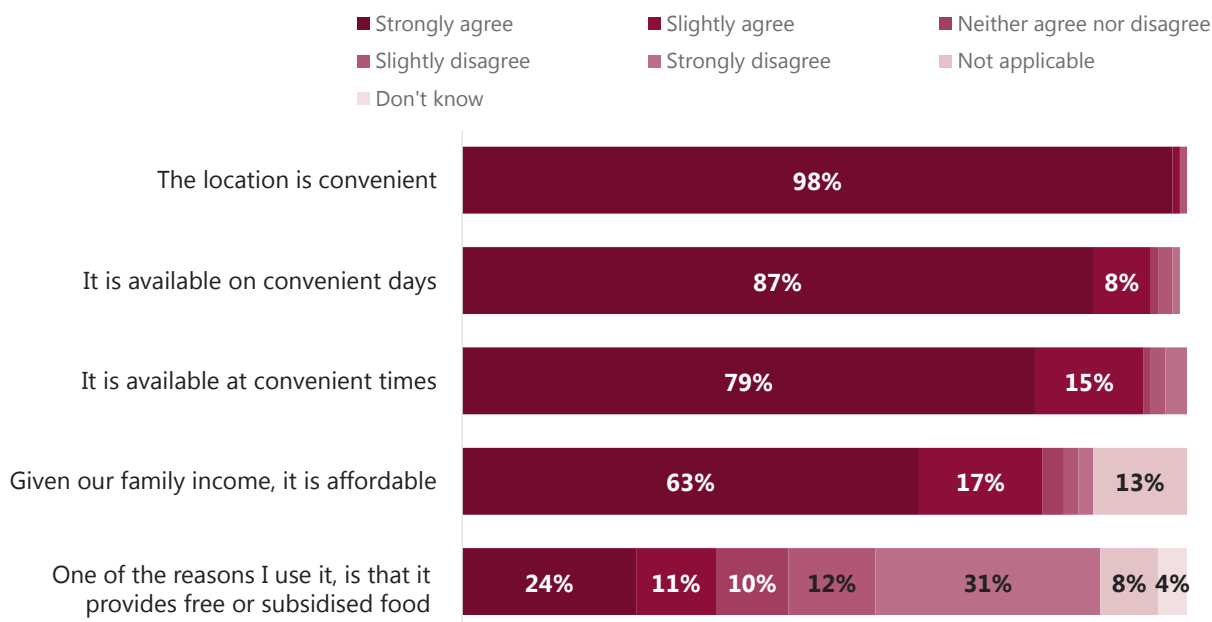
- Parents whose child attended a breakfast club (22% of those who used term-time care¹⁶) were very positive about the club, with almost all users saying it was both convenient and affordable.
- As shown in Figure 3.4, almost all (99%) parents who used a breakfast club agreed that its location was convenient, with 98% *strongly* agreeing. Almost all users also agreed that it was available on convenient days (96%) and at convenient times (94%). Most users also said that, given their family income, the breakfast club was affordable – 79% agreed, while 13% said this did not apply since they did not pay for the club. Only 4% of users disagreed with this statement. The fact that such small proportions disagreed with these statements on convenience and affordability suggests that these aspects are crucial in ensuring access to these services. (See Figure 3.6 below for reasons why other parents do not use breakfast or after-school clubs.)

¹⁴ This study used SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) quintile categories. SIMD provides a deprivation rank for each of the datazones in Scotland, from the most deprived (SIMD 1) to the least deprived (SIMD 5).

¹⁵ This is most likely due to the introduction of free or subsidised breakfast club schemes in these areas by local councils.

¹⁶ 13% of all (2,002) participants

Figure 3.4: Views on breakfast clubs



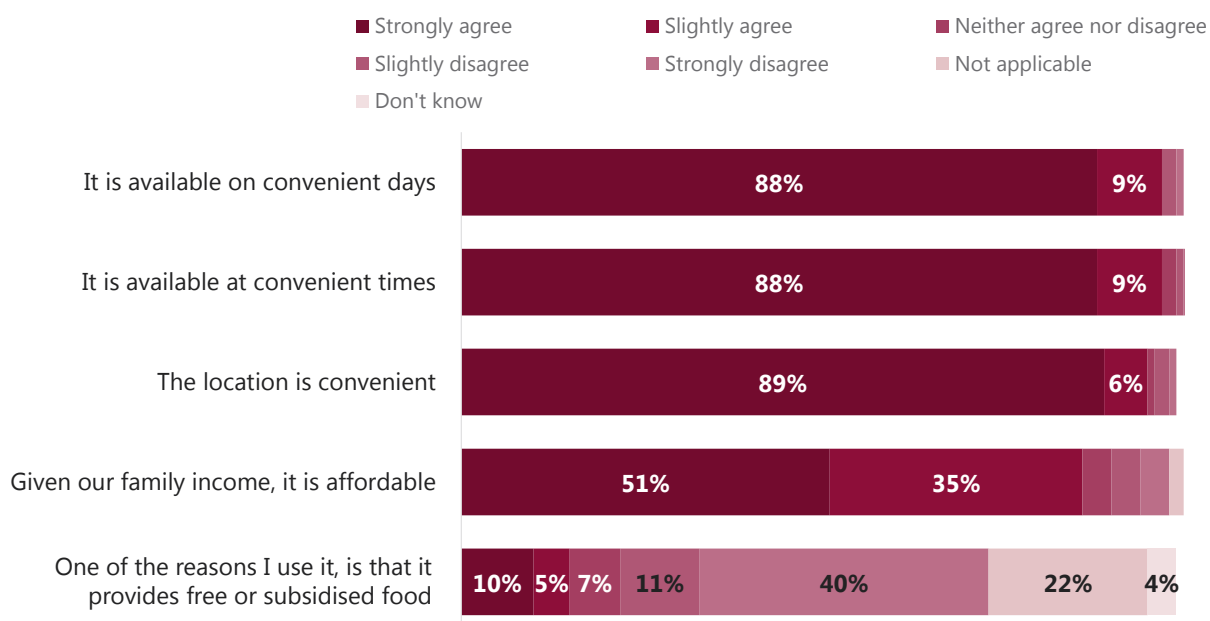
Base: All those who use breakfast clubs (266)

- A third (35%) of parents agreed the provision of free or subsidised food was a reason for using the club, while 43% disagreed and 8% said this did not apply since this was not provided by the club.
- Single parents and those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to agree that one of the reasons they used a breakfast club was for free or subsidised food (44% and 53% respectively, compared with 35% overall).

After-school clubs

- Views on the convenience and affordability of after-school clubs were similar to those on breakfast clubs, again more highlighting the importance to users of these factors. Among parents whose child attended an after-school club (23% of those who used term-time care, and 14% of all parents) almost all agreed that the club was available on convenient days (97%), at convenient times (97%) and in a convenient location (95%). A majority also agreed that the club was affordable – 86% agreed, while only 8% disagreed (Figure 3.5).
- In comparison to breakfast clubs, the provision of free or subsidised food was less likely to be a reason for using an after-school club. Only 16% of parents agreed they used an after-school club because it provided free or subsidised food. Half (52%) disagreed with this statement, while 22% said this was not provided by the club.
- As with breakfast clubs, single parents and those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to agree that one of the reasons they used an after-school club was for free or subsidised food (34% and 27% respectively, compared with 16% overall). Further, single parents were less likely to agree that their after-school club was affordable (74%, compared with 88% of couples).

Figure 3.5: Views on after-school clubs

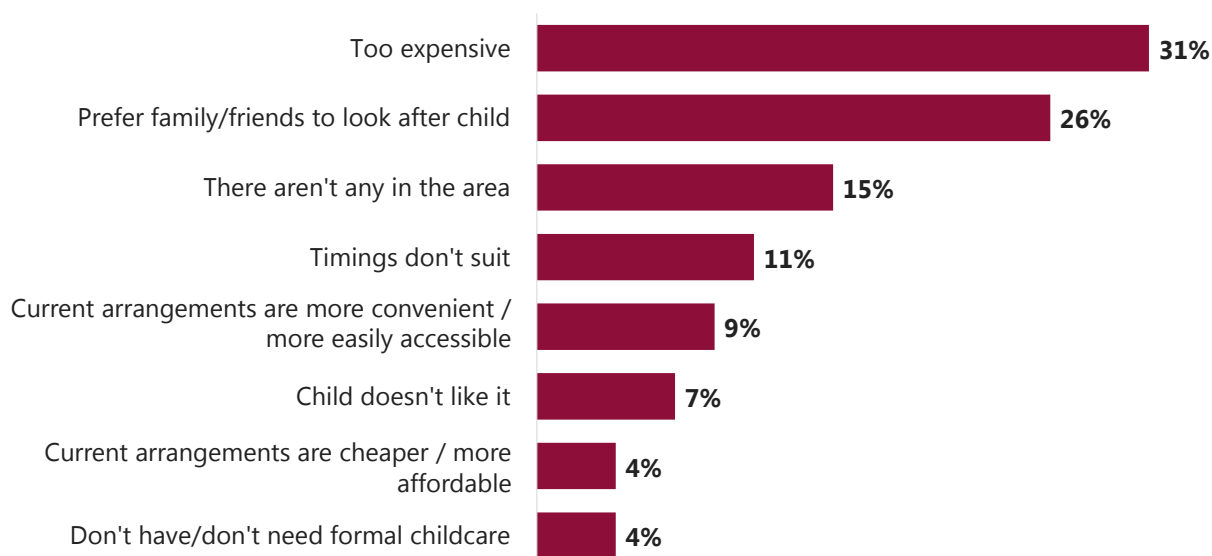


Base: All who use after-school clubs (271)

- Term-time childcare users who did *not* use breakfast or after-school clubs were asked why they did not use these types of formal care. The main reasons given were because they thought these clubs were too expensive¹⁷ (31%), and because they preferred family or friends look after their child (26%). Other reasons were that it was not possible or convenient to use breakfast or after-school clubs because there were no clubs in their area (15%), that the timings and availability of the clubs did not suit them (11%) and that they found their current arrangements more convenient and/or easier to access (9%) (Figure 3.6).

¹⁷ It is estimated that the average annual cost for a family with two school-aged children is around £3800 for five days per week of after-school care provision (see: http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/26583-Evidence%20Briefing_Impact%20of%20out%20of%20school%20care_5681.pdf)

Figure 3.6: Reasons for not using breakfast or after-school clubs (among users of other types of care)



*Base: All who use term-time childcare but do not use breakfast or after-school clubs (800)
Participants could give more than one response.*

- Parents living in remote rural areas¹⁸ were much more likely to say that there were not any breakfast or after-school clubs in their area (66%, compared with 15% overall). Those living in areas of mid-level deprivation (SIMD 3) were also more likely to say that there were none of these clubs nearby (23%, compared with 15% overall).

Non-users of term-time childcare

- Around two-fifths (42%) of all participants said they did not use any type of childcare during term-time.
- As noted above, the working status of a family strongly influenced the likelihood of term-time childcare use – 70% of families with at least one non-working parent did not use term-time care. Relatedly, families earning less than £20,000 per annum¹⁹ and those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD1) were less likely to use any type of term-time childcare (58% and 50% respectively did not use term-time childcare, compared with 42% overall).
- Families with three or more children were also less likely to use term-time childcare (54% did not use term-time childcare, compared with 40% of families with one or two children).
- As shown in Figure 3.7, the main reason by far that parents did not use term-time childcare was because they felt it was not currently needed, since

¹⁸ Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more.

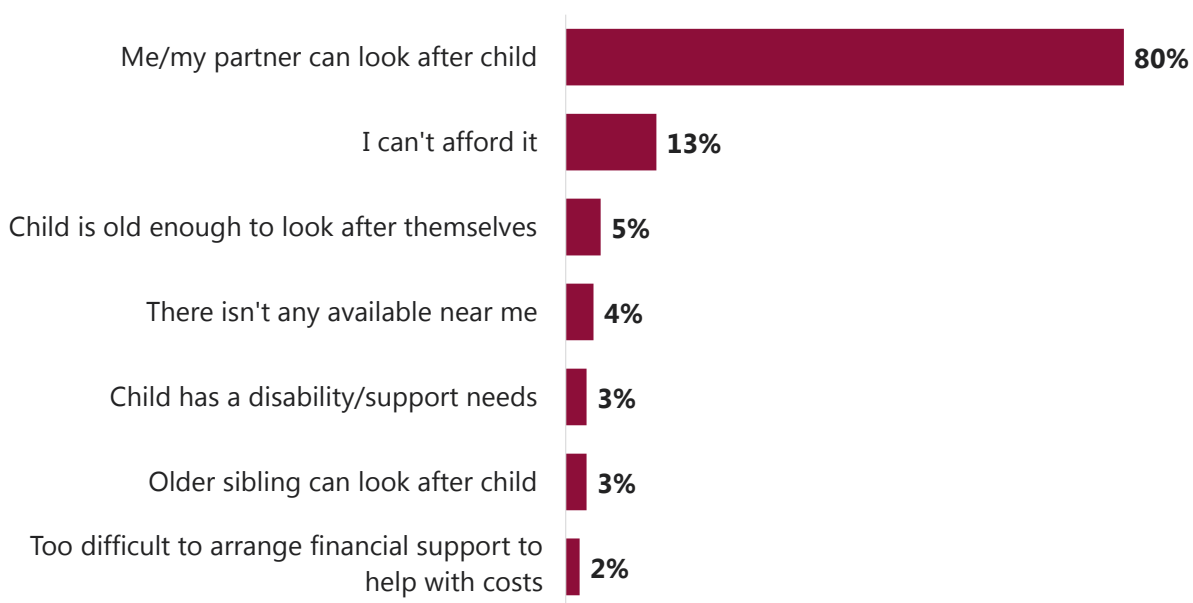
<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification>

¹⁹ Previous research has highlighted that childcare use is higher than average among families in higher income groups and in nonmanual occupations (see: <http://docs.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk/fulltext/parentsccdem.pdf>)

they/their partner could look after the child themselves (80%). Thirteen per cent said they could not afford formal childcare, while 5% said their child was old enough to look after themselves, and 4% said there was no childcare available nearby. Three per cent of parents said they did not use term-time childcare because their child had a disability or support needs, with some parents further commenting that appropriate childcare support was not available for their child in their local area.

- The availability of nearby childcare was more an issue for those living in remote locations than elsewhere, mentioned by 12% in those areas, compared with 4% overall.

Figure 3.7: Reasons for not using term-time childcare



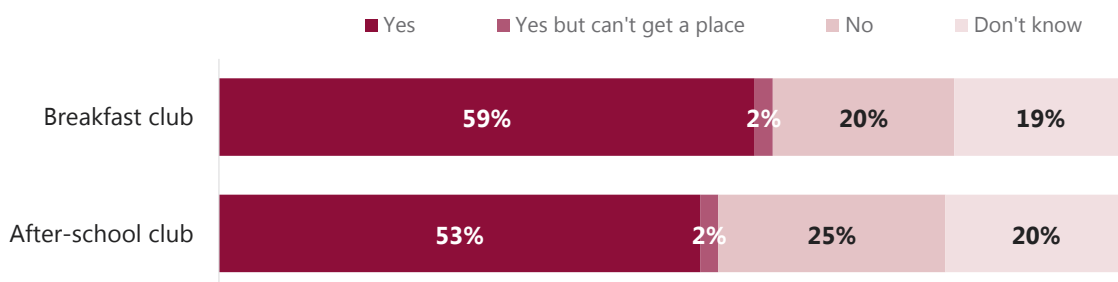
Base: All who do not use term-time childcare (749)

Participants could give more than one response.

Accessing breakfast and after-school clubs

- As shown in Figure 3.8, over half of parents who did not use term-time care were aware of affordable breakfast (61%) or after-school clubs (55%) near to them. However, overall 45% and 39% said that there were either no affordable breakfast or after-school clubs nearby (20% and 25% respectively) or that they did not know of any (19% and 20% respectively).

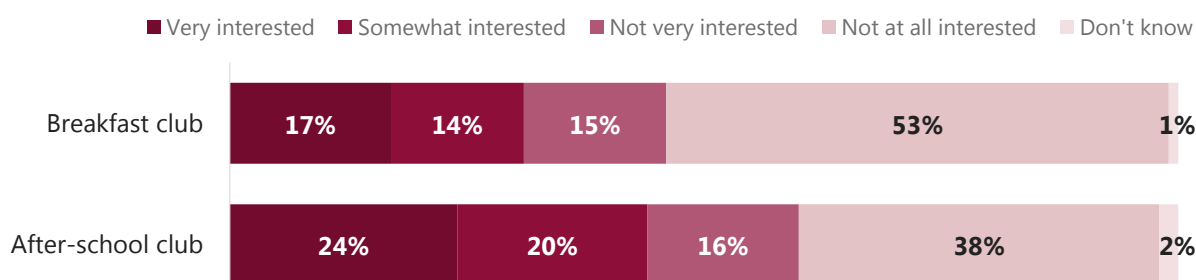
Figure 3.8: Awareness of nearby, affordable breakfast and after-school clubs among those who do not use any term-time care



Base: All who do not use term-time childcare (749)

- Those living in remote rural areas were more likely to say there were no nearby, affordable breakfast clubs (56%, compared with 20% overall), or after-school clubs (43%, compared with 25% overall).
- Those living in areas of deprivation SIMD 3 or 4 were also more likely to say there were no nearby, affordable breakfast clubs in their area (28% and 31% respectively, compared with 20% overall), while those with an income of less than £20,000 per annum were more likely to say there were no nearby, affordable after-school clubs in their area (36%, compared with 25% overall).
- Parents who said there were no affordable breakfast or after-school clubs near to them were asked if they would be interested in using these clubs if they were available. Forty four per cent of parents said they would be very/somewhat interested in using an affordable after-school club if it was available, and 31% said they would be very/somewhat interested in an affordable breakfast club (Figure 3.9).

Figure 3.9: Interest in affordable breakfast and after-school clubs

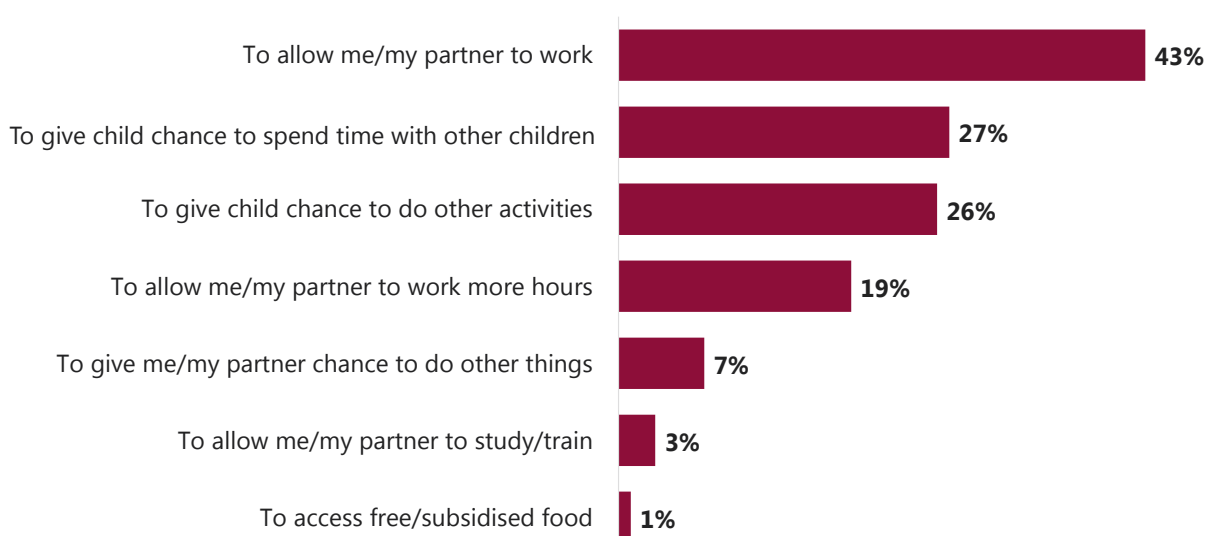


Base: All who do not use term-time childcare who said there were no affordable breakfast or after-school clubs nearby (296;320)

- In each case, parents were most interested in using these clubs for children aged 5 to 7 – 48% said they'd be interested in using a breakfast club for their 5 to 7 year old (compared with 34% for 8 to 10 year olds, and 18% for 11 to 13 year olds), and 62% said they'd be interested in using an after-school club for their 5-7 year old (compared with 47% for 8 to 10 year olds, and 29% for 11 to 13 year olds).

- Single parents and families earning less than £20,000 per annum were also more interested in using after-school clubs (59% and 54% respectively, compared with 44% overall).
- Those interested in breakfast and after-school clubs said the main reasons they would use them would be to allow them/their partner to work (43%), while one in five (19%) said using them would allow them/their partner to work more hours (Figure 3.10)²⁰. Around a quarter said they would use the club to give their child the chance to spend time with other children (27%) or do other activities (26%).

Figure 3.10: Reasons parents (who currently do not use any term-time care) would be interested in using affordable breakfast and after-school clubs



Base: All who do not use term-time childcare, who said no affordable breakfast/after-school clubs nearby, but interested in using them (168)

Participants could give more than one response.

²⁰ As shown in previous research, one of the key benefits of out-of-school care is the economic benefit it offers families by enabling parents to work/work more hours (see: https://soscn.org/downloads/library/Out_of_School_Care/Assessment_of_Benefits_and_costs_of_OSC.pdf)

4. School holiday childcare

Use of holiday childcare

- The proportion of parents using childcare during the school holidays was similar to those using childcare during term-time. More than half (61%) of parents said they used childcare the school holidays.
- Most (82%) parents who used childcare during term-time also used childcare during the school holidays²¹, while 36% of parents who did *not* use any childcare during term-time *did* use it during the school holidays. Twenty three percent of all parents used neither.
- Again, the working status of a family influenced the likelihood of childcare use. As shown in Table 4.1, families in which all parents were working were more likely to use holiday childcare than families in which at least one parent was not working (71%, compared with 41%). Again, single parents working full-time were the family group most likely to use holiday childcare (76%).

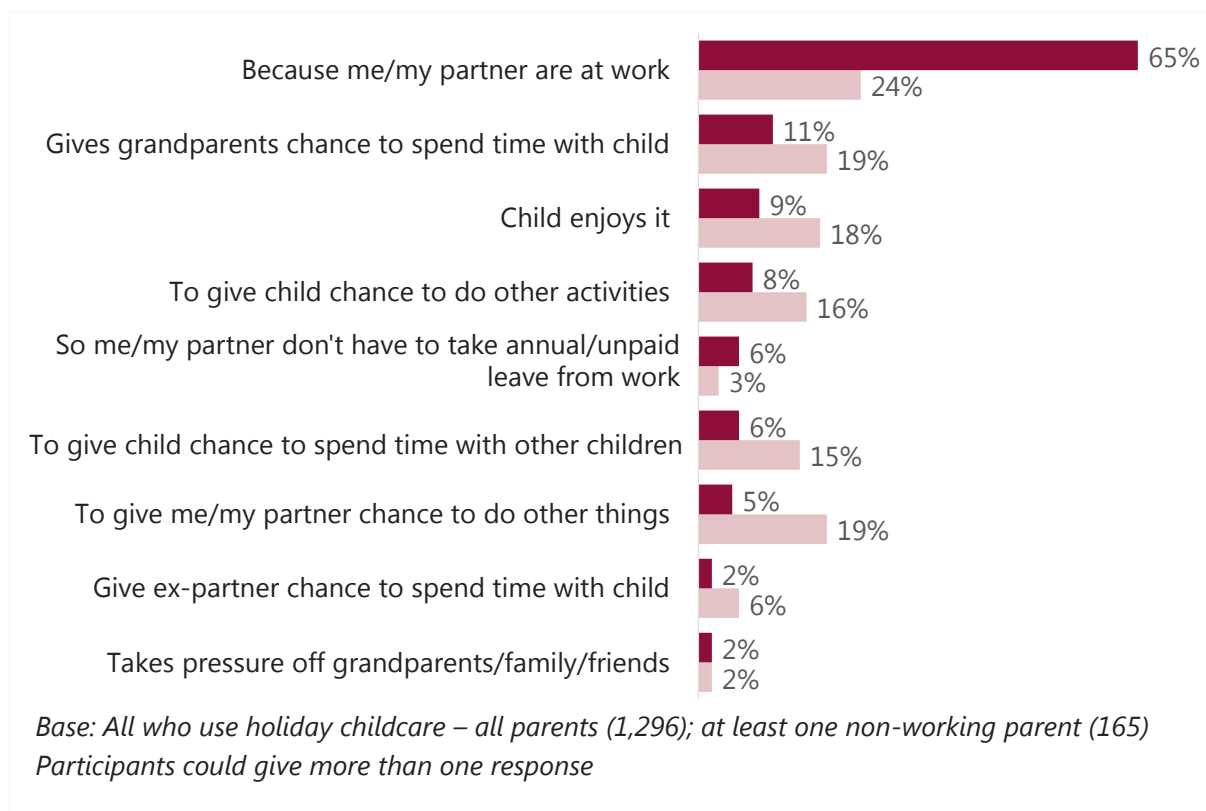
Table 4.1: Use of holiday care by working status

Family working status	Use holiday childcare	Base
All parents working (full-time or part-time)	71%	1,594
At least one parent not working	41%	408
Single parent – working full-time	76%	144
Single parent – working part-time	70%	108
Single parent – not working	43%	98
Couple – both working full-time	72%	671
Couple – one parent working full-time, one working part-time; or both working part-time	71%	668
Couple – one parent working full-time, one not working	39%	226
Couple – neither working	42%	52

- The reasons parents used holiday childcare were very similar to those for using term-time childcare (Figure 4.1). The most common reason was because the participant and/or their partner were working, mentioned by two thirds (65%) of participants. Six per cent said that they used holiday childcare so that they did not have to take annual or unpaid leave from their work. Around one in ten used holiday childcare to give grandparents a chance to spend time with the child (11%), because the child enjoyed it (9%) or because it gave the child a chance to do other activities (8%).

²¹ 50% of all (2,002) participants.

Figure 4.1: Reasons for using holiday care



- Among families with at least one parent not working, the main reason for using holiday care was still because the participant or their partner was at work (24%). However, greater proportions than overall said they used holiday care because: it gave grandparents a chance to spend time with the child (19%); it gave the parents a chance to do other things (19%); their child enjoyed it (18%); it gave the child a chance to do other activities (16%); and that it gave the child a chance to spend time with other children (15%).

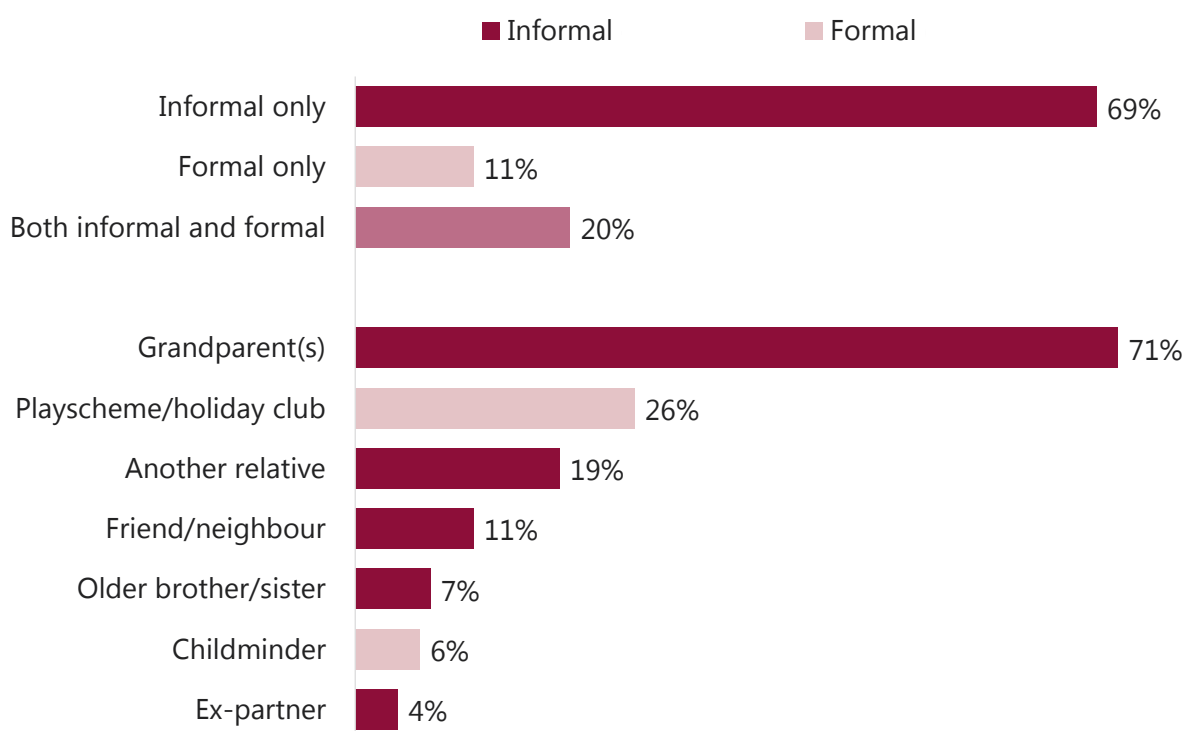
Types of holiday childcare used

- Among those who used childcare during the school holidays, a majority (69%) of parents only used informal childcare (mainly grandparents), while 11% only used formal care, such as playschemes/ holidays clubs or a childminder. Twenty per cent of parents used both informal and formal holiday childcare (Figure 4.2)²².
- In terms of the use of both term-time and holiday childcare, 22% of all parents only used informal care during both term-time and the holidays, 4% only used formal care, while 4% used both.
- Again, grandparents were the most commonly used type of childcare, used by 71% of all those who used childcare during the school holidays. Playschemes/holiday clubs were used by 26% of parents, while 19% used

²² Among all (2,002) participants, a third (42%) only used informal holiday care, 7% only used formal care and 12% used both.

relatives (other than older siblings or ex-partners) and 11% used friends or neighbours.

Figure 4.2: Types of holiday care used



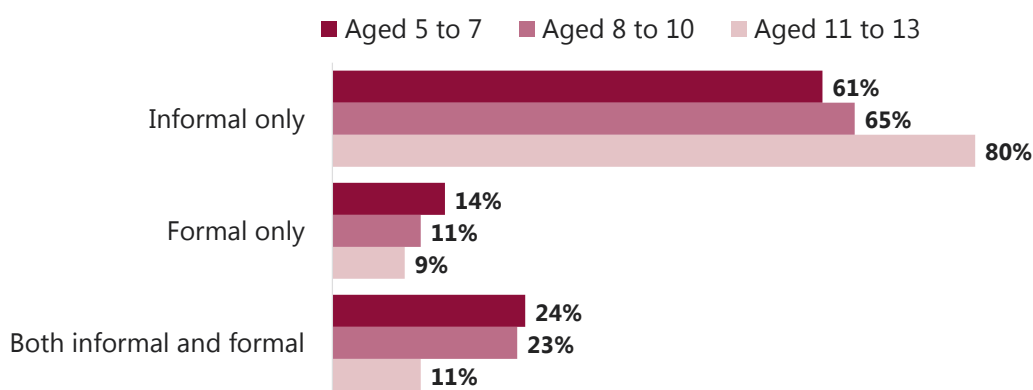
Base: All who use holiday childcare (1,296)

Participants could give more than one response.

- Older children, aged 11 to 13, and those living in Central Scotland²³ or in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to receive informal care only during school holidays (80%, 78% and 75% respectively, compared with 69% overall). In particular, children aged 11 to 13 were more likely than younger children to be looked after by an older brother or sister (12%, compared with 5% of those aged 5 to 10). Children aged 5 to 7 were more likely to receive formal care only during school holidays (14%, compared with 11% of 8 to 10 year olds, and 9% of 11 to 13 year olds) (Figure 4.3).

²³ The Central Scotland Scottish Parliament electoral region comprises Falkirk, North Lanarkshire and parts of South Lanarkshire.

Figure 4.3: Types of holiday care used by age



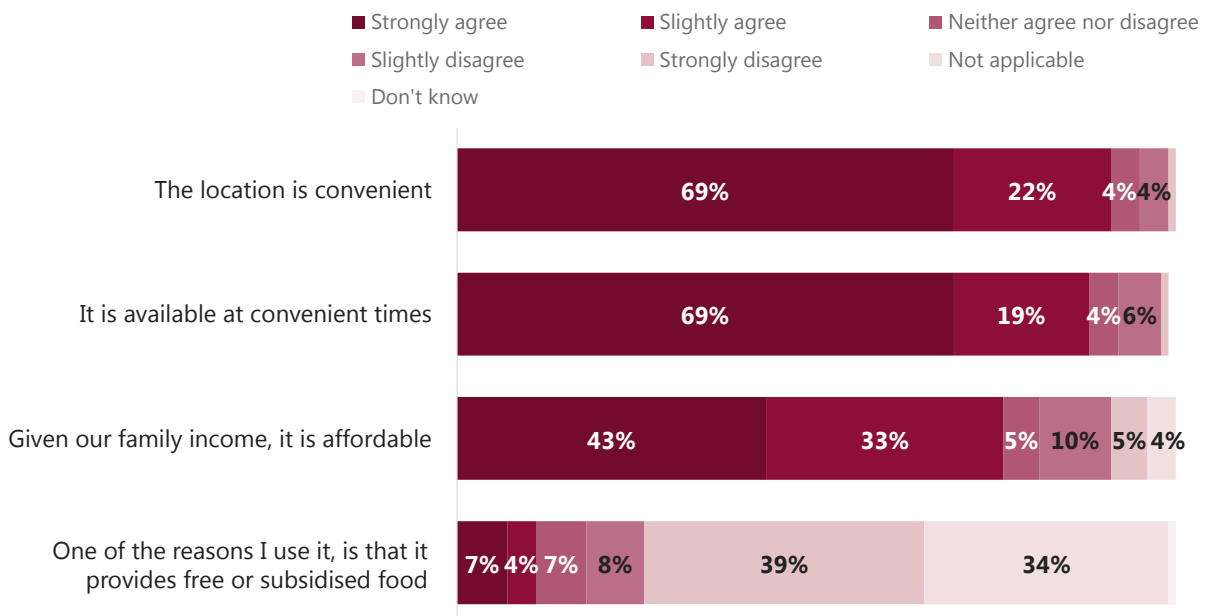
Base: All who use holiday childcare – parents of children aged 5 to 7 (434); 8 to 10 (443); 11 to 13 (419)

- Those living in the Lothians and younger children, aged 5 to 7, were more likely to attend playschemes/holiday clubs (38% and 34% respectively, compared with 26% overall). Families living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) and those earning more than £60,000 per annum were also more likely to use playschemes/holiday clubs (40% and 38%, compared with 26% overall).

Views on playschemes / holiday clubs

- Users of playschemes/holiday were largely positive about them. As shown in Figure 4.4, convenience was a key factor, with most parents agreeing that the playscheme/club was convenient in terms of its location (91%), and the times it was available (89%). Three quarters (76%) agreed that, given their family income, it was affordable, though 16% disagreed with this statement.
- Eleven per cent of parents said that the provision of free or subsidised food was one of the reasons they used the playscheme/club, while 47% disagreed and 34% said their playscheme/club did not provide this.
- Single parents and those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to say that one of the reasons they used the playscheme/club was the provision of free or subsidised food (32% and 21% respectively, in comparison to 11% overall).

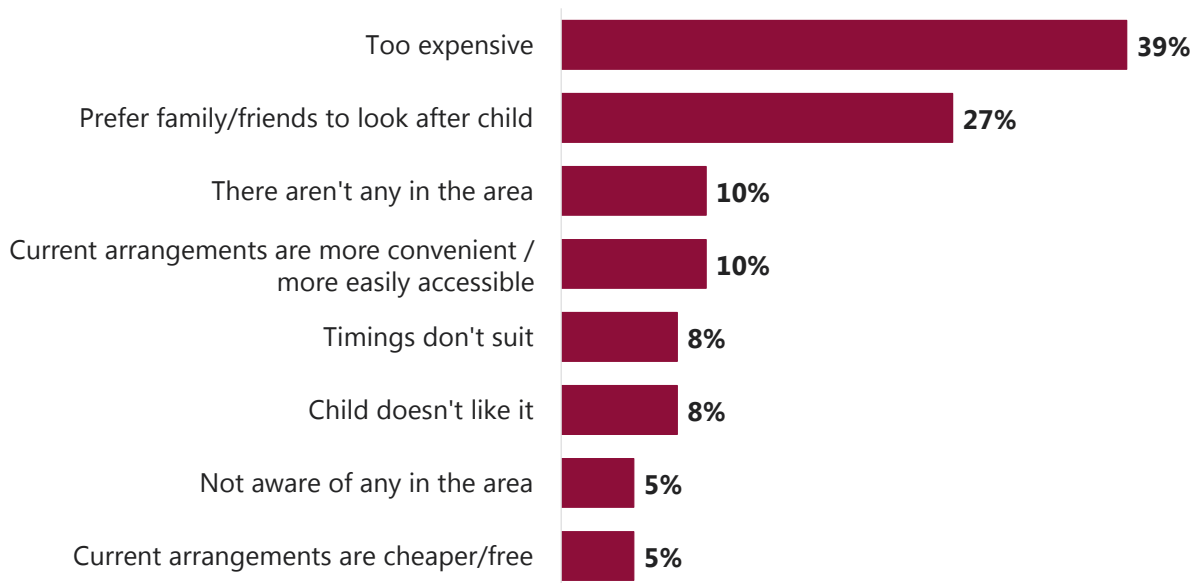
Figure 4.4: Views on playschemes / holiday clubs



Base: All who use playscheme / holiday clubs (351)

As shown in Figure 4.5, users of holiday childcare who did *not* use playschemes or holiday clubs said the main reasons they used other types of care was because they thought playschemes or holiday clubs were too expensive (39%) or that they preferred family or friends to look after their child (27%). One in ten (10%) said there were no playschemes or clubs available in their area, while 5% were not aware of any in their area. Around one in ten also said their current arrangements were more convenient or accessible (10%), that the timings of the playscheme/club were not convenient (8%), or that their child did not like it (8%).

Figure 4.5: Reasons for not using playschemes / holiday clubs (among users of other types of care)



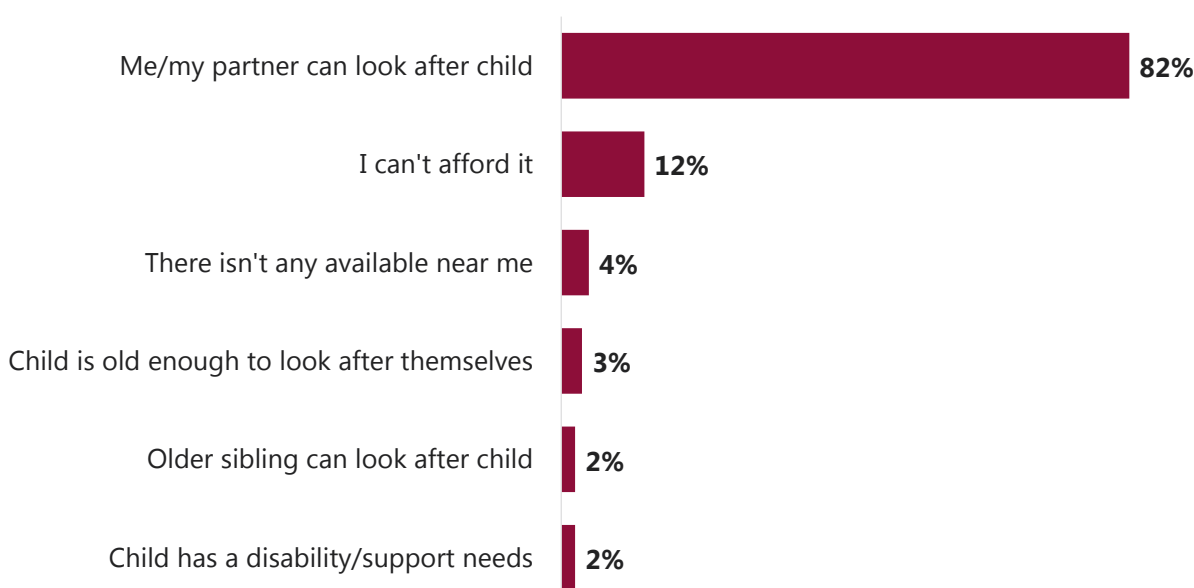
*Base: All who use holiday childcare but do not use playschemes or holiday clubs (945)
Participants could give more than one response.*

- Parents living in remote rural locations and in the Highlands and Islands were more likely to say that there were no playschemes or holiday clubs in their area (45% and 32% respectively, compared with 10% overall), while those in areas of mid-level deprivation (SIMD 3) were more likely to say they were not aware of any playschemes/clubs in their area (8%, compared with 5% overall).

Non-users of holiday care

- Thirty nine per cent of parents did not use any type of holiday childcare and the profile of these parents was very similar to non-users of term-time childcare. Those who did not use holiday childcare were more likely to be in families with a least one non-working parent (59%), families earning less than £15,000 per annum (54%) or those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) (49%).
- Families with three or more children were also less likely to use holiday care than smaller families (54% did not use holiday childcare, compared with 36% of families with one or two children).
- By far the main reason for not using holiday childcare was because it was not currently needed, since parents could look after the child themselves (82%) (Figure 4.6). Much smaller proportions said that they could not afford this type of childcare (12%) or that there was no other holiday childcare available to them nearby (4%).

Figure 4.6: Reasons for not using holiday childcare



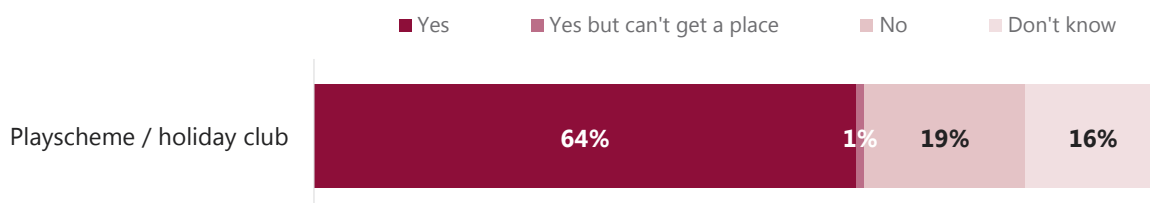
Base: All who do not use holiday childcare (706)
 Participants could give more than one response.

Those living in remote rural locations were more likely to say there were no available playschemes or holiday clubs near to them (18%, compared with 4% overall).

Accessing playschemes/holiday clubs

The majority (64%) of parents who did not use any holiday care were aware of playschemes and holiday clubs near to them, while 19% said there were none nearby and 16% did not know of any (Figure 4.7).

Figure 4.7: Awareness of nearby playschemes or holiday clubs

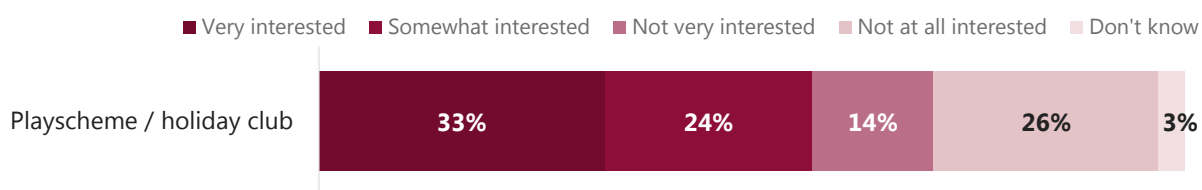


Base: All who do not use holiday childcare (706)

- Parents living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) were more likely to say that there were playschemes or holiday clubs near to them (73%, compared with 64% overall), while those in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to say they did not know of any nearby playschemes/clubs (22%, compared with 16% overall). Those in remote rural locations were more likely to say there were no nearby playschemes or holiday clubs (34%, compared with 19% overall).

- Among parents who said that there were playschemes or holiday clubs near to them, 64% said the playscheme/club was affordable to them, while 21% said it was not affordable and 14% did not know. Single parents and families earning less than £20,000 per annum were more likely to say that the playscheme or holiday club was not affordable (both 40%, compared with 21% overall).
- As shown in Figure 4.8, there was a considerable level of interest in affordable playschemes or holiday clubs among those with none nearby. Fifty seven per cent said they would be very/somewhat interested in using one, while 40% were not interested.

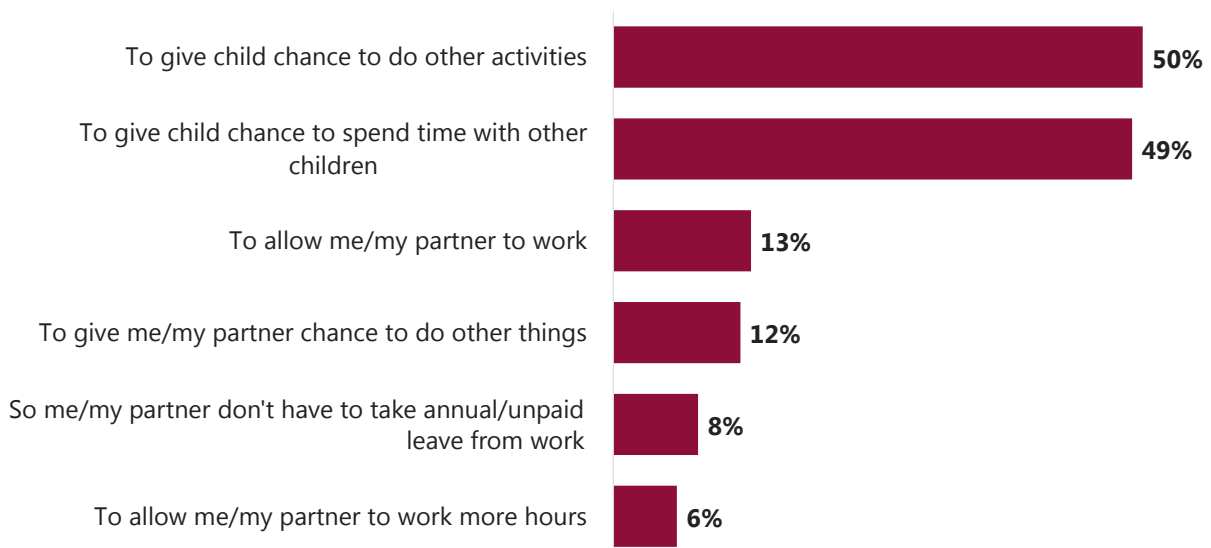
Figure 4.8: Interest in affordable playschemes or holiday clubs



Base: All who do not use holiday childcare with no nearby playschemes/holiday clubs (397)

- Those most interested in using a playscheme or holiday club were families with an income of £20,000 or less per annum (76%), single parents (70%), and parents whose child was aged 5 to 7 (70%).
- As shown in Figure 4.9, the reasons non-users gave for wanting using a club were quite different from those given by current users (see Figure 4.1). While current users of holiday care primarily said they used this care to allow them to work, non-users said the main reasons they would do so would be to give their child the chance to do other activities (50%) and to spend time with other children (49%). Smaller proportions said that it would allow them/their partner to work (13%) or to work more hours (6%), give them a chance to do other things (12%), or would reduce the need for them to take annual or unpaid leave from their work (8%).

Figure 4.9: Reasons for using an affordable playscheme or holiday club



*Base: All who do not use holiday childcare interested in using a playscheme/holiday club (218)
Participants could give more than one response.*

5. Conclusion

- The use of out-of-school childcare was similar across both term-time and the school holidays, with more than half of parents using term-time care (58%) and holiday care (61%). Half of all parents (50%) used both, while 23% used neither.
- Families in which all parents were working were the most likely to use out-of-school care and, relatedly, by far the main reason for using it was to allow parents to work.
- Those least likely to use out-of-school were families earning less than £20,000 per annum, those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) and larger families (with three or more children). The main reason parents gave for not using out-of-school care was that it was not currently needed, since they/their partner could look after the child.
- The use of informal and formal care was fairly similar across term-time and the school holidays. During term-time, 33% of all parents used informal care only, 12% used formal care only and 13% used both. During school holidays, 42% used informal care only, 7% used formal care only and 12% used both.
- Grandparents were the most commonly used type of out-of-school care (used by 37% of all parents during term-time and 43% during school holidays). Previous research has shown the benefits of this type of care include allowing the grandparent(s) to spend time with the child, and providing parents with convenient, flexible, cost-free childcare²⁴. However, a reliance on grandparents to provide childcare can also be problematic for parents. For example, it can cause difficulties if grandparents have other commitments or are away or ill, while parents can feel guilty about relying on grandparents, particularly as they get older and/or if they have health problems. Therefore, the availability of other forms of affordable and accessible childcare is important to help reduce any burden upon grandparents providing childcare.
- In terms of the use of formal care, similar proportions used breakfast clubs (13%), after-school clubs (14%) and holiday clubs/playschemes (16%). These types of care were used mostly for younger children (aged 5 to 7), and by families living in the Lothians. Further, use of breakfast clubs was more common among those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1), most likely due to the introduction of free or subsidised breakfast club schemes in these areas by local councils. Meanwhile after-school clubs and holiday clubs/playschemes were used more by families in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) or on a higher income (more than £60,000 per annum).

²⁴ For example: Eunson, J. and Murray, L. Early Learning and Childcare: experiences of parents. Audit Scotland (2017). Available at: https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2018/nr_180215_early_learning_supp.pdf and;

Statham, J. Grandparents providing child care. Department of Education (2011). Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/181364/CWRC-00083-2011.pdf

- Users' views highlighted that the convenience and affordability of formal care is crucial in ensuring access to these services. Indeed, some of the main reasons parents gave for not using these services were because they were unaffordable and/or difficult to access (due to location or unsuitable timings). It should be noted however that those most likely to use formal care tended to be families in which all parents were working, those on a higher income, and/or living in the least deprived areas, and so consequently more likely to agree that they were affordable.
- A third of all parents said they did not need term-time (33%) or holiday childcare (32%) because they/their partner could look after their child, and only fairly small proportions said they would be interested in using an affordable breakfast (5%) or after-school club (8%) or holiday clubs (13%) if one was available near to them.
- The main reason non-users said they would use breakfast clubs and after-school club was to allow them/their partner to work. It could be that parents who said they were not interested in using affordable, formal out-of-school care were considering these services primarily as childcare to enable them to work, rather than as opportunities for their child to participate in extracurricular activities, and so may not have reflected on whether access to out-of-school care could have other benefits. However, since the survey was designed to be brief and straightforward, it was unable to probe in depth into the reasons parents did not use out-of-school care.
- The provision of free or subsidised food was more likely to be a reason parents used breakfast clubs than after-school or playschemes/holiday clubs. Just over a third (35%) of breakfast club users agreed that free or subsidised food was a reason they used the club. In comparison, 16% of after-school club and 11% of playscheme or holiday club users said one of the reasons they used these clubs was for the provision of food.
- Single parents and those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1) were more likely to use term-time and holiday care for the provision of free or subsidised food.

Appendix A: Survey questionnaire

18-094667-01 Out of School Care Survey V4

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is XXX. I'm calling from Ipsos MORI Scotland, the independent research organisation. We're conducting a short survey about childcare on behalf of the Scottish Government. We are interested in talking to parents who do NOT use childcare as well as those who do.

MRS STATEMENT AND GDPR CONSENT (READ OUT TO ALL RESPONDENTS): Before we begin, I'd like to inform you that Ipsos MORI is a member of the Market Research Society.

All information that you give us will be treated in the strictest confidence and your identity will not be passed on to any third parties or connected to your answers in any way without your consent.

Taking part is completely voluntary – you are free to stop the survey at any time and to skip any questions you do not wish to answer. Your answers will be kept for up to one year, will be only accessible to the research team, and will be securely deleted once the research is finished.

ASK ALL

S1 Could you spare 5 minutes or so to answer some questions please?

Yes	1
No	2

IF S1= No (code 2) Thank and close.

ASK ALL

S2 Can I just check, are there any children aged 5 to 13 in your household?

Yes	1
No	2

IF S2= No (code 2) Thank and close.

ASK ALL

S3 How many children are there in each of the following age groups?

Aged under 5	Enter value_____
Aged 5, 6 or 7	Enter value_____
Aged 8, 9 or 10	Enter value_____
Aged 11, 12 or 13	Enter value_____

RECRUIT TO QUOTA OR THANK AND CLOSED IF QUOTA FILLED

Can I just check your postcode? (IF NECESSARY – we won't send anything to you, we just want to check that we include people from different parts of Scotland).

RECRUIT TO QUOTA OR THANK AND CLOSED IF QUOTA FILLED

ASK ALL

S4 Are you currently working full-time, part-time or not working?

- Full-time (30 hours + a week) 1
- Part-time (less than 30 hours) 2
- Not working 3

ASK ALL

S5 Do you live with a spouse or partner?

- Yes 1
- No 2

ASK IF S5=YES (CODE 1)

S6 Are they currently working full-time, part-time or not working?

- Full-time (30 hours + a week) 1
- Part-time (less than 30 hours) 2
- Not working 3

RECRUIT TO QUOTA OR THANK AND CLOSE IF QUOTA FILLED.

IF S5=1 CHECK: And, are you the parent or carer of the child/children aged [INSERT WHICH QUOTA APPLIED: 5,6 or 7/8,9 or 10/11,12 or 13] who would be best placed to talk about any childcare arrangements?

IF NO – ARRANGE TO CALL BACK WHEN OTHER PARENT/CARER AVAILABLE

IF YES, CONTINUE

IF MORE THAN ONE CHILD IN AGE RANGE [VALUE > 1 AT THE S3 CODE WHERE THE QUOTA APPLIED], For the purposes of the survey, please just answer about the child aged [INSERT WHICH QUOTA APPLIED: 5,6 or 7/8,9 or 10/11,12 or 13] who had the most recent birthday.

ASK ALL

Q1 Thinking about a typical week during term-time, does anyone apart from you [IF LIVING WITH PARTNER: or your partner] look after your child before or after school? Please include a breakfast or after-school club, a childminder, grandparent, or other friends or family.

Yes	1
No	2

ASK IF Q1=YES (CODE 1)

MULTICODE OK

Q2 Who looks after him/her? PROBE Does anyone or anywhere else regularly look after him/her? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

Breakfast club	1
After-school club	2
Childminder	3
Nanny/babysitter	4
Grandparent(s)	5
Ex-partner (not living in house)	6
Older brother/sister	7
Another relative	8
Friend/neighbour	9
Other (write in)	10

ASK IF Q1=YES (CODE 1)

MULTICODE OK

Q3 And what are the main reasons you use childcare? DO NOT PROMPT

Because me/my partner are at work	1
Because me/my partner are at college/uni/studying/training	2
To give child chance to spend time with other children	3
To give child chance to do other activities	4
Child enjoys it	5
Gives grandparents chance to spend time with him/her	6
To give me/my partner chance to do other things	7
It provides food	8
Other (write in)	9

ASK IF Q2 = BREAKFAST CLUB (CODE 1)

Q4 And thinking about the breakfast club, how much would you agree or disagree with the following statements.... READ OUT

	Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Not applicable – don't pay	Not applicable – doesn't provide this
The location is convenient								
It is available at convenient times								
It is available on convenient days								
Given our family income, it is affordable								
One of the reasons I use it, is that it provides free or subsidised food								

ASK IF Q2=After-school club (CODE 2)

Q4a

Is the after-school club that your child goes to one that is mainly set up to provide child-care after-school (for example, for parents who are working), or is it mainly for the activity itself (for example, sports, music, Brownies, Beavers)?

- Mainly for child-care 1
- Mainly for the activity 2
- Child goes to both kinds 3

ASK IF Q4a = Mainly for child-care or Child goes to both kinds

Q5 And thinking about the after-school club [IF CODE 3 AT Q4A ADD: that is mainly for child-care] how much would you agree or disagree with the following statements.... READ OUT

	Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Not applicable – don't pay	Not applicable – doesn't provide this
The location is convenient								
It is available at convenient times								
It is available on convenient days								
Given our family income, it is affordable								
One of the reasons I use it, is that it provides free or subsidised food								

ASK IF Q1=YES (CODE 1) AND Q2 NOT BREAKFAST OR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (NOT CODE 1 OR 2)

Q5A Why do you use this childcare rather than a breakfast or after-school club? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

There aren't any in the area	1
Not aware of any in the area	2
No spaces available	3
Too expensive	4
Timings don't suit	5
Lack of transport/can't pick up or drop off	6
Child doesn't like it	7
Too long a day/too long to be away from home	8
Prefer family/friends to look after him/her	9
Other (write in)	10

ASK IF Q1=NO (CODE 2)

MULTICODE OK

Q6 What are the main reasons you don't use any of these forms of childcare? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

Don't need it – me/my partner can look after him/her	1
Don't need it - child is old enough to look after themselves	2
Don't need it – older sibling can look after them	3
I can't afford it	4
There isn't any available near me	5
It's not flexible enough	6
Too difficult to arrange financial support with costs	7
Other (write in)	8

ASK IF Q1=NO (CODE 2)

Q7 As far as you know, are there any affordable breakfast clubs near you?

Yes	1
Yes but can't get a place	2
No	3
Don't know	4

ASK IF Q7=NO or DON'T KNOW (CODE 4 OR 5)

Q8 And if there was an affordable breakfast club near you, how interested would you be in using it? READ OUT...

Very interested	1
Somewhat interested	2
Not very interested	3
Not at all interested	4
Don't know	5

ASK IF Q1=NO (CODE 2)

Q8a As far as you know, are there any affordable after-school clubs near you?

Yes	1
Yes but can't get a place	2
No	3
Don't know	4

ASK IF Q8=NO or DON'T KNOW (CODE 4 OR 5)

Q8b And if there was an affordable after-school club near you, how interested would you be in using it?

Very interested	1
Somewhat interested	2
Not very interested	3
Not at all interested	4
Don't know	5

ASK IF Q8 OR Q8b=VERY/SOMEWHAT INTERESTED (CODE 1 OR 2 at EITHER)

Q9 What would be the main reasons you would use [a breakfast club/an after school club/a breakfast club and after-school club]? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

To allow me/my partner to work	1
To allow me/my partner to work more hours	2
To allow me/my partner to study/train	3
To give child chance to spend time with other children	4
To give child chance to do other activities	5
To give me/my partner chance to do other things	6
To access free or subsidised food	7
Other (write in)	8

ASK ALL

Q10 Now thinking about the school holidays, in a typical week, does anyone apart from you [IF LIVING WITH PARTNER: or your partner] look after him/her? Please include playschemes, holiday clubs, a childminder, grandparent, or other friends or family.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| Yes | 1 |
| No | 2 |

ASK IF Q10=YES (CODE 1)

MULTICODE OK

Q11 Who looks after him/her? **PROBE** Does anyone or anywhere else regularly look after him/her during the holidays? **PROMPT IF NECESSARY**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Playscheme/holiday club | 1 |
| Childminder | 2 |
| Nanny/babysitter | 3 |
| Grandparent(s) | 4 |
| Ex-partner (not living in house) | 5 |
| Older brother/sister | 6 |
| Another relative | 7 |
| Friend/neighbour | 8 |
| Other (write in) | 9 |

ASK IF Q10=YES (CODE 1)

MULTICODE OK

Q12 And what are the main reasons you use this care during the holidays? **PROMPT IF NECESSARY**

- | | |
|--|----|
| Because me/my partner are at work | 1 |
| Because me/my partner are at college/uni/studying/training | 2 |
| So me/my partner don't have to use up so many holidays | 3 |
| So me/my partner don't have to take unpaid leave | 4 |
| To take the pressure off grandparents/family/friends | 5 |
| To give child chance to spend time with other children | 6 |
| To give child chance to do other activities | 7 |
| Child enjoys it | 8 |
| Gives grandparents chance to spend time with him/her | 9 |
| Gives ex-partner chance to spend time with him/her | 10 |
| It provides food | 11 |
| Other (write in) | 12 |

ASK IF Q11 = HOLIDAY CLUB (CODES 1)

Q13 And thinking about the playscheme/holiday club, how much would you agree or disagree with the following statements.... READ OUT

	Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Not applicable – don't pay	Not applicable – doesn't provide this
The location is convenient								
It is available at convenient times								
Given our family income, it is affordable								
One of the reasons I use it, is that it provides free or subsidised food								

ASK IF Q10=YES (CODE 1) AND Q11 NOT HOLIDAY CLUB (NOT CODE 1)

MULTICODE OK

Q14 Why do you use this childcare rather than a playscheme or holiday club? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

- There aren't any in the area 1
- Not aware of any in the area 2
- No spaces available 3
- Too expensive 4
- Timings don't suit 5
- Lack of transport/can't pick up or drop off 6
- Child doesn't like it 7
- Prefer family/friends to look after him/her 8
- Other (write in) reason 9

ASK IF Q10=NO (CODE 2)

MULTICODE OK

Q15 What are the main reasons you don't use any of these forms of childcare during the holidays? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

- | | |
|--|---|
| Don't need it – me/my partner can look after him/her | 1 |
| Don't need it - child is old enough to look after themselves | 2 |
| Don't need it – older sibling can look after them | 3 |
| I can't afford it | 4 |
| There isn't any available near me | 5 |
| It's not flexible enough | 6 |
| Too difficult to arrange financial support with costs | 7 |
| Other (write in) | 8 |

ASK IF Q10=NO (CODE 2)

Q16 As far as you know, are there any play schemes or holiday clubs near you?

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Yes | 1 |
| Yes but can't get a place | 2 |
| No | 3 |
| Don't know | 4 |

ASK IF Q16=YES (CODE 1)

Q16b And are they affordable for you?

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Yes | 1 |
| No | 2 |
| Don't know | 3 |

ASK IF Q16=NO or DON'T KNOW (CODE 3 OR 4) OR Q16b =NO OR DON'T KNOW (CODE 2 OR 3)

Q17 And if there was an affordable playscheme or holiday club near you, how interested would you be in using it?

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Very interested | 1 |
| Somewhat interested | 2 |
| Not very interested | 3 |
| Not at all interested | 4 |
| Don't know | 5 |

ASK IF Q17=VERY/SOMEWHAT INTERESTED (CODE 1 OR 2)

Q18 What would be the main reasons you would use it? PROMPT IF NECESSARY

So me/my partner don't have to use up so many holidays	1
So me/my partner don't have to take unpaid leave	2
To take the pressure off grandparents/family/friends	3
To allow me/my partner to work	4
To allow me/my partner to work more hours	5
To allow me/my partner to study/train	6
To give child chance to spend time with other children	7
To give child chance to do other activities	8
To give me/my partner chance to do other things	9
To access free or subsidised food	10
Other (write in)	11

DEMOGRAPHIC SECTION

ASK ALL

D1 And what is your household's total annual income before any deductions for income tax, National Insurance, and so on? IF NECESSARY: We are asking this because we want to look at whether the use of childcare varies between households with different incomes.

£15,000 or less	1
£15,001 to £20,000	2
£20,001 to £30,000	3
£30,001 to £45,000	4
£45,001 to £60,000	5
£60,001 to £80,000	6
£80,001 to £100,000	7
More than £100,000	8

ASK ALL

D2 How would you describe your gender identity? Would you describe yourself as a... READ OUT

Man	1
Woman	2
In another way (if you would like to, please tell me what other words you use)	3

How to access background or source data

The data collected for this social research publication:

- are available in more detail through Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
- are available via an alternative route
- may be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact socialresearch@gov.scot for further information.
- cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.



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