

Good morning

As you may be aware, the [Competition and Markets Authority \(CMA\)](#) [is carrying out a review \('Market Study'\) of early years education and childcare services in England](#). Our study is focusing on services for children from birth until they reach school age (i.e. 0 to 4 years) this includes childminders, nurseries and school-based settings.

We are writing to inform you that we have sent a small number of schools and private providers in your local authority a formal request for information. This request is primarily seeking to understand the financial position of different types of childcare providers and the impact of changes in government funding. The evidence we gather will help us assess whether the childcare sector is working well and, if not, how it could be improved. We have updated (or will shortly update) our webpage at [How to engage with the CMA's childcare market study](#) to similar effect.

We have chosen these nurseries at random, with contact details taken from Ofsted's Early Years Register and the Get Information About Schools database. For the avoidance of doubt, we have no concerns about the nurseries individually.

We are issuing this formal request for information to ensure we receive evidence from the range of different providers that operate in the sector.

The information will be gathered using a formal (i.e. statutory) notice under Section 174 of the Enterprise Act 2002 and is a legally binding request for information. Please note we have offered to support providers in this request by arranging a telephone call or MS Teams meeting if they require assistance. If you or a nursery in your local authority need support at any point, please contact us at ChildcareMS@cma.gov.uk



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