



Department
for Education

Department for Education

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Date: January 2026

Dear Wraparound Childcare Provider,

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing work to make wraparound a success. The national wraparound childcare programme is part of the Government's commitment to creating a modern childcare system that gives families choices, enables parents to work and delivers the best start for every child. The summer MI collection showed that over 75,000 wraparound places have already been created. The MI return is where you can showcase the work that you have been doing and the difference that it is making. Childcare Works are our delivery partner for the wraparound programme, and your local authority will share guidance from them to support you in completing the MI return.

The spring MI return will take place in January 2026. Your local authority will share the questions with you and you will need to submit your responses by 30 January at the latest. We will ask you about the number of places and attendance for the week commencing 19 January. Please note that you will not be able to submit a response after 30 January. Please ensure that you have resource in place during this period to complete the return. We have kept the format the same as in previous collections to help avoid the burden of learning any new processes.

Local authorities are required to complete all management information returns as a condition of continuing Wraparound programme grant funding – the provider MI return is a critical element of enabling funding to continue.

If you have any concerns about the upcoming MI return, please speak to your local authority. Information and resources on delivering childcare expansion are available in the Childcare Works HUB: HUB for Providers and Schools - childcareworks.org.uk.

Thank you again for all of the work you have been doing,

Kind Regards

Hannah Streatfeild and Emily Whitehead

Deputy Directors, Breakfast, Holiday, and Wraparound Provision