

Estimating the benefit you expect to provide

As part of the registration process, you are asked to estimate the benefit you expect to provide.

We suggest that you approach this as follows:

(i) Estimate how many servings you might expect to provide in one calendar day at your setting. This is likely, in the first instance, to be the same as the number of children who will attend the setting for 2 hours or more on that day.

(ii) Consider if there are days in the week for which this is not an appropriate proxy – add up to assess the total provision you might expect in the week to provide your average number of weekly servings.

(iii) Multiply average weekly servings by the number of weeks that your setting will be open between a) 1 August (or from registration if joining the Scheme after that date) and the end of the financial year (31 March) and b) from 1 April – 31 July. If you do not know how many weeks you expect to be open, please give a best estimate and let the local authority know that there is some uncertainty. You are required to notify the local authority of any significant change (defined as a change +/- 10%).

Over time, you may wish to adjust your projections to take account of seasonal change (e.g. lower attendance in holiday months); regular patterns of absence etc. E.g. If you are a nursery with a capacity of 80, you might have anywhere between 80 and 160 children attending for 2 hours or more in one calendar day. You might estimate provision as follows:

Average week

Day	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Weekly total
Average attendance/ required servings	110	112	110	114	88	538

Estimated annual total

Weekly total (average) - 538

Number of weeks open between 1 Aug* and 31 March: - 34

Number of weeks open between 1 April and 31 July: - 16

Total number of weeks open in Scheme year: - 50

Anticipated servings until 31 March = 34 x 538 = 18,292

Anticipated servings 1 April – 31 July = 16 x 538 = 8608

(* or registration if joining Scheme post 1 August)