

Our little ones deserve big futures. Giving every child the best start is more than a question of fairness; it's an essential requirement for a country that works for everyone. But in England now, too many children are falling behind before they even get to school and that puts their life chances at risk. We're calling on the government to make sure that nurseries have the expert staff they need to help children develop and grow.

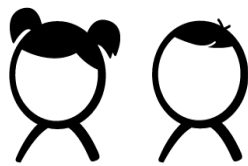
NATIONAL STATISTICS

Being behind at the start of school has a big impact on children's later educational attainment. We estimate that over the lifetime of this parliament:

- **210,000 children are at risk of finishing primary school without crucial skills in English.**
- 170,000 children at risk of finishing school without key Maths skills.

READY TO LEARN?

1/3



of children start school behind in their learning

#BigFutures

Parents want the government to address the shortage of Early Years Teachers:

- **Nearly 75% of parents say the government should ensure every nursery in England has a qualified Early Years Teacher.**
- 83% believe nurseries should play an important role in making sure children are ready for school.
- 71% say they would rather send their child to a nursery with an Early Years Teacher. (YouGov poll Jan 2017)

Teachers say children start school without the skills they need:

- **81% of teachers say they see children in Reception struggling with reading words or sentences.**
- 79% of teachers say that children joining primary school with poor speech and language skills creates a greater workload for teachers and support staff. 73% say it takes significant resources to help children catch up.

EQUAL CHANCE TO SUCCEED?

1/2



of the poorest children start school behind in their learning

#BigFutures



“By having a qualified early years teacher, I think it sets a standard. I like the early years environment, learning through play, the choice. And I think by having a qualified person who has learnt all about that, in a formal environment is a good thing.”

Anne Marie & son Frank, 2

(Photo: Louis Leeson/Save the Children)

Our ambition is for every child to have access to childcare with an Early Years Teacher:

- But in 2015, more than a **quarter of a million children**, attended a private, voluntary and independent setting without an Early Years Teacher.
- In 2014/15 there were only 860 applicants for Early Years Teacher programmes, down by 1467 applicants from 2013/14,



We need to act to deliver a high-quality nursery system that reaches every child. We urge the government to:

- **Invest £65 million a year in the most deprived parts of the country** over the next five years to ensure that children most likely to struggle have access to an Early Years Teacher.
- **Publish a workforce strategy at the earliest opportunity** to set out how to tackle the challenges in recruitment, progression and continuing professional development across the workforce.

Your support in Parliament and your constituency would be invaluable.

Share your support for our campaign with the Childcare Minister and locally by:

- **Asking the Childcare Minister, Caroline Dinenage to ask the Chancellor to include investment for Early Years Teacher in every nursery in the budget by writing to her or speaking to her directly.**
- **Contact us for statistics for children's early development and the number of Early Years Teachers in your constituency.**
- **Ask parliamentary questions** – we can provide you with suggested questions.
- **Secure or take part in a debate on the early years** – we can provide content.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP:

We would like to help you in whatever way we can to enable you to support the campaign, please do not hesitate to get in touch about any of the above or any other ideas you have.

CONTACT US:

For further details, please contact Emma Wagner, Parliamentary & Advocacy Officer

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'It [nursery] gives them a fantastic start up for life. I'm not an educated person myself, I didn't finish school so I wouldn't feel confident... **but when it comes to the actual learning through play, you can't beat a nursery, especially a nursery as good as this one**'.

Emma & daughter Liberty, 3

(Photo: Louis Leeson/Save the Children)



Save the Children