



**Olivia Bailey MP**

Minister for Early Education and Minister for Equalities

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Monday 23 March 2026

Dear Sir Julian Smith MP,

## **PHASE 2: SCHOOL-BASED NURSERIES CAPITAL GRANT – 2025-2026**

In continuing our work to ensure that every child gets the best start in life and all families have access to quality, affordable and flexible early education and childcare, we are pleased to be taking the next step in the School Based Nurseries programme. Today, we will announce the second tranche of successful schools.

I am delighted to write to you to share the successful project(s) in your constituency:

**Bentham Community Primary School**  
**Brougham Street Nursery School**

Sitting alongside the brilliant childcare offered by childminders and private, voluntary and independent settings, School-based nurseries add to the vibrant childcare market, helping parents to balance work and family life, reducing the need for multiple drop-offs and pick-ups and cutting travel time for busy families. School-based nurseries are also improving access to childcare in disadvantaged areas particularly where families face the greatest barriers to provision.

We are investing £45 million in 331 schools across the country to open or expand school-based nurseries. This will create over 6,000 additional nursery places. These nurseries will provide children with quality early education and enable schools to build deeper, longer-term relationships with families—supporting a smooth transition into primary school.

This marks an important milestone in our ambition to create tens of thousands of school-based nursery places. To deliver this programme effectively and at scale, we will continue to work closely with the 331 successful schools and their local partners. The full list of successful projects will be published today at: [School Based Nursery Capital Grant application outcomes.](#)

Alongside this, we are progressing phase 3 which invites local authorities to develop multi-year funding proposals to deliver new and extended school-based nurseries between 2027 and 2030. This is a fundamental shift to prioritising local need – ensuring investment goes where childcare demand and disadvantage are greatest. Guidance to support the process was published in February and LAs have until 30 September to submit proposals: [School-based Nursery Capital Grant 2027 to 2030 - GOV.UK](#)

I encourage you to visit the new provision in your constituency to see first-hand the difference this programme is making for young children and their families.

With best wishes,

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