Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb hwn i'r <u>Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg</u> ar gyfer yr ymchwiliad: <u>A oes gan blant</u> a phobl ifanc anabl fynediad cyfartal at addysg a gofal plant?

This response was submitted to the <u>Children, Young People and Education Committee</u> for the inquiry: <u>Do disabled children and young people have equal access to education and childcare?</u>

AEC 04

Ymateb gan: Unigolyn
Response from: Individual

Dear Sir /Madam

My name is and I have a year old son . I am a resident of 18 years having moved here for university in 2005.

I am emailing you because I having great difficulty accessing early years education for my son, who should be entitled to 12 hours in total but instead gets just 5. I am also unable to access childcare of which he is entitled to 17 hours but instead gets none.

In brief began attending in April 2022. Staff expressed concerns he had additional needs and referred him to early years inclusion unit in June 2022. He had two observations over the course of the year but in January 2023 the manager called me in telling me needed 1:2:1 support which they were unable to provide and asked me to look elsewhere for nursery provision.

In February 2023 I enrolled nursery school in . Again he struggled. I was advised to put him on a reduced timetable of I hour a day, which I agreed to as I felt it was this or nothing. By this point I had suffered a breakdown with the stress of it all so was not in a position to contest. No other support was offered so I formally requested an IDP for him in May this year. I am awaiting the outcome

I have contacted private nursery providers to see if he could do some addional sessions in the afternoons but none get back to me when I am honest about his needs.

I am left doing a full time job on 5 hours childcare a week. is missing out on the early years foundation phase he's entitled to. He spends large parts of his days underestimated in front of screens as I have no other way of keeping him occupied so he doesn't cause disturbance while I take work calls, many of which are of a sensitive nature. I work with victims of domestic violence and modern day slavery.

As a full time working parent I am reaching crisis point. I have no family		
members who can care for	I cannot use a childminder as	is
impulsive around roads and runs very fast and there is a high risk he would run		
Into a road and a childminder be unable to catch him.		

I own my own home with a mortgage. I cannot stop work as won't be entitled to benefits.

I fear is deteriorating and will not cope with reception in 15 months, an expected day of 6 hours.

Therefore in response to your research question it is a resounding no.

Disabled and ALN children do not have equal (or any in my case) access to education and childcare.

Kindest regards