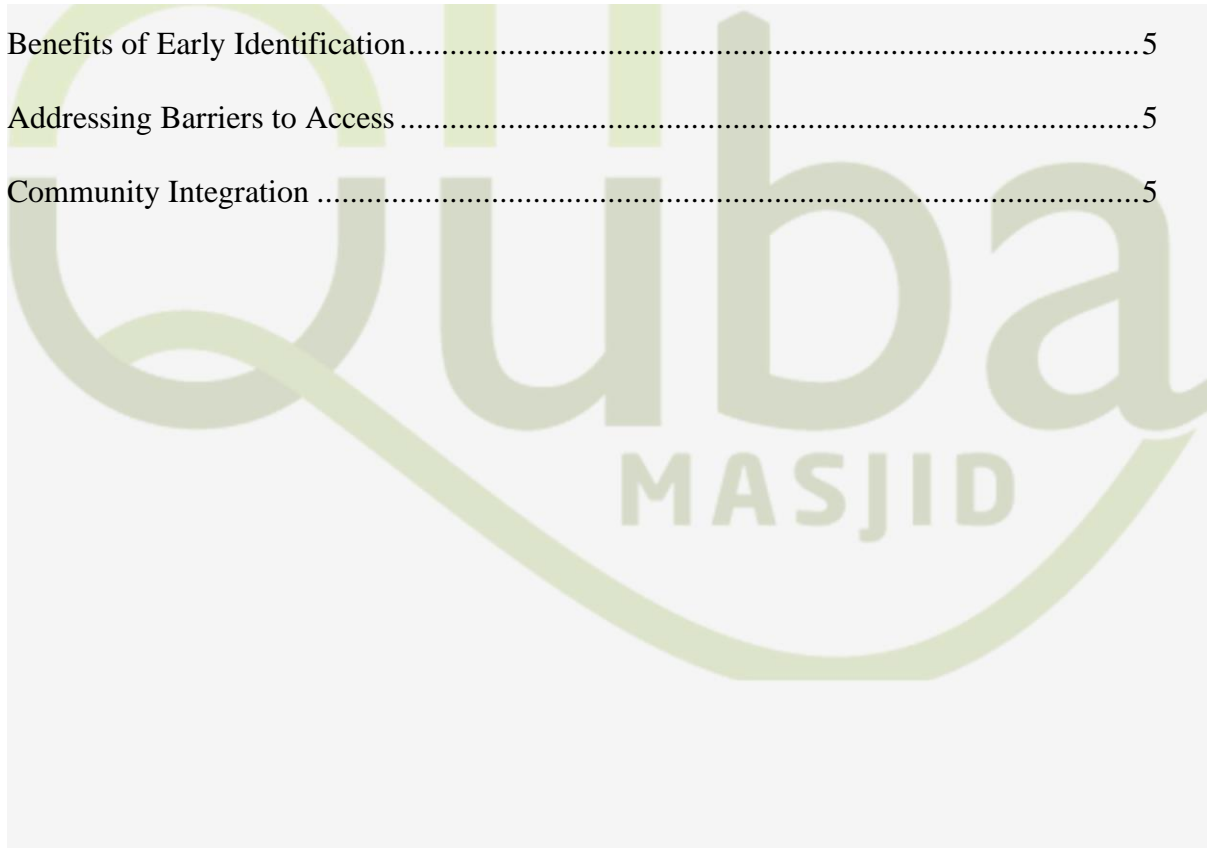


# **Quba Nursery and Pre-school Demand Statement**

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## **Demand Statement for Quba Nursery and Pre-school**

### **Overview**

The proposed Quba Nursery aims to address the significant need for early years childcare provision in Botwell, now known as Hayes Town Ward. This demand statement outlines the necessity for such a facility, based on local demographic trends, childcare needs, and community-specific challenges.

### **Childcare Needs in Hayes Town Ward**

#### **Insufficient Childcare Places**

The Childcare Sufficiency Report prepared by Hillingdon Council identifies that while most wards in the London Borough of Hillingdon have sufficient childcare places for children under five, there are notable exceptions. Specifically, there is a documented insufficiency of childcare in the following wards: Barnhill, Botwell (now Hayes Town Ward), Uxbridge North, West Drayton, and Yeading. This indicates a clear and urgent need for additional childcare facilities in Hayes Town Ward to meet the growing demand from local families. Please see Local authority sufficiency report <https://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/documents/s57936/Appendix%20B%20-%20Childcare%20Sufficiency%20Assessment%20December%202022.pdf>

#### **Demographic Trends**

Hayes Town Ward has experienced significant population growth, particularly among young families, increasing the demand for early years education and care services. The local birth rate and the number of families with young children have risen, creating a pressing need for more nursery places to accommodate this demographic shift.

## **Specific Community Needs**

### **Somali Community Engagement**

The Somali community, which forms a significant part of the local population in Hayes Town Ward, has historically shown a low uptake in early years settings. Cultural and language barriers have contributed to this low participation rate. Establishing Quba Nursery will provide a culturally sensitive environment tailored to the needs of Somali families, encouraging greater engagement with early years education and improving overall educational outcomes.

### **Importance of Early Child Development**

Research consistently highlights the critical importance of early childhood education in fostering social, emotional, and cognitive development. High-quality early years settings like Quba Nursery can provide the necessary support and resources to help children develop essential skills, laying a strong foundation for their future educational journey.

## **Special Educational Needs (SEN) in the Community**

### **High Levels of SEN**

The Somali community in Hayes Town Ward has a relatively high prevalence of special educational needs (SEN). However, these needs often go unidentified and unsupported due to low attendance in early years settings. By offering an accessible and inclusive nursery, Quba Nursery will play a pivotal role in the early identification of SEN, allowing for timely interventions and support.

## **Benefits of Early Identification**

Early identification and intervention are crucial in managing and supporting SEN. Children who receive early support are more likely to achieve better educational and developmental outcomes. Quba Nursery will work closely with families and local health and education services to ensure that children with SEN are identified and supported from an early age.

## **Addressing Barriers to Access**

### **Cultural and Language Barriers**

Cultural and language barriers have been significant obstacles for many Somali families in accessing early years education. Quba Nursery will employ bilingual staff and provide culturally relevant programs to bridge these gaps, making early years education more accessible and welcoming for Somali families.

### **Community Integration**

By creating a nursery that is sensitive to the cultural and linguistic needs of the community, Quba Nursery will help integrate families into the local education system. This will foster a sense of community and belonging, encouraging more families to take advantage of early years education opportunities.

The establishment of Quba Nursery in Hayes Town Ward is not only a response to the documented insufficiency of childcare places but also an essential step towards addressing the specific needs of the local community. By providing culturally sensitive, inclusive, and high-quality early years education, Quba Nursery will support the development of all children, particularly those from the Somali community, and contribute to better educational and developmental outcomes. The nursery will also create local employment opportunities, further benefiting the community. This demand statement underscores the urgent need and strong justification for the establishment of Quba Nursery in Hayes Town Ward.