

Healthcare

Christie & Co Business Outlook Report 2024 – Children’s Nursery Focus

In January 2024, Christie & Co launched their annual Business Outlook report which reflects on the themes, activity and challenges of 2023 and forecasts what 2024 might bring across a range of sectors, including childcare.

The main findings from the report that impacts children’s nurseries include;

- 27% decrease in number of day nurseries sold in 2023 compared with 2022
- Historically a resilient sector due to demands for childcare, however, single settings are struggling with many owners not able to draw a wage
- Smaller number of regional groups coming to market leading to a shift in the type and size of nurseries sold, independents and smaller settings able to acquire as a result
- Growing trend for childcare providers to source/build sustainable and environmentally friendly buildings i.e. green materials, renewable energy sources

Price index

- down by 3.3% compared with increases of more than 5% in previous two years

Survey

- 48% of childcare & education professionals surveyed said they were looking to buy in 2024, 15% looking to sell and 8% buy and sell – 29% - no plans to do either

Finance

- 26% increase in the number of childcare and education related finance instructions in 2023. Surge in specialised lenders supporting the childcare and education sector e.g. private equity firms

Our EQ Healthcare team has extensive knowledge and experience in assisting clients through the journey of acquiring and selling a children’s nursery from start to finish. This may involve securing finance, undertaking the due diligence work, all the way through to assisting with the operational issues, such as local authority matters, specific nursery insurances and property regulations. We also work closely with healthcare intermediaries, which means we can refer other professional services, if required.

Please contact our EQ Healthcare team by emailing healthcare@eqaccountants.co.uk should you wish to discuss any aspects of buying or selling a nursery.



Want more information? Talk to EQ today.