

# Denmark - 2024 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

*This overview highlights extracted from the Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee in Denmark. It is not exhaustive nor does it evaluate the report.*

## Roll out of key services

**Early childhood education and care:** While the Act on ECEC mandates municipalities to subsidise 75% of the child care costs, the 2024 regulations set minimum adult to child ratios. The *1,000-day program* supports vulnerable families. Legislation to limit the use of digital tools in ECEC will be effective from July 2024.

**Education:** As of 2021, mandatory tests for reading difficulties and a *Notice Book* for students with special needs have been introduced. The *Children First initiative* ensures education for vulnerable children, while a 2023 Government commission focused on child wellbeing.

**Healthy meals in schools:** The Act on ECEC mandates healthy lunches in child care settings, while municipalities can establish meal schemes in schools. Parents receive financial support to ensure nutritious diets for children.

**Housing:** Housing support is available for low-income families. A 2023 reform introduces child allowances for leisure activities and medication. Municipalities manage access to social benefits. Single parents in Denmark also receive specific child allowances.

**Healthcare:** Expanded healthcare services are provided to families in need, including parents and pregnant women. All children receive preventive dental and medical care.

**The Child's Act:** The 2024 Child's Act ensures the right of the child to be heard in judicial proceedings.

## Eurochild resources

- [Full Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)
- [Denmark's Child Guarantee National Action Plan - An overview](#)

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The Biennial Reports are based on *The Social Policy Statement*, and supplemented by data from relevant ministries.

## Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

In 2022, Denmark allocated 19.2 billion Danish Krone in support of vulnerable children and young people aged 0-22. This includes 10.9 billion Krone for alternate care placements, 7.2 billion for preventive measures, and 1.1 billion for day-care centres. Spending has increased by 1.0 billion Krone since 2020.

## Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and [Eurochild's overview](#).

## Lessons learnt and further development

- The importance to ensure that children in need continue to have access to key services such as quality education and health care.
- Work will begin in terms of seeking out whether the *Social Policy Statement* could be adjusted to better monitor specific objectives of the European Child Guarantee.

## Relevant trends

- The first statistic on children with disabilities was published in June 2023 and is expected to become part of the 2024 edition of the Danish *Social Policy Statement*.
- There has been an increase in children who are not eligible for a free place allowance in ECEC, from 64% in 2020 to 67% in 2022.
- There has been an increase from 11% to 23% of children from a migrant background in municipal schools and boarding schools from 2020 to 2022.
- While 79,220 children and young people received social support in 2022, around 60,000 of these received support in the form of preventive measures, ensuring that these children and young people do not end up in a situation of social exclusion in the first place.