



Education Data Hub Monthly report

July 2021



Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

There are two published sets of data relating to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). These are:

- **Education, health and care plans: England** – Information from the statutory SEN2 collection on children and young people aged 0 to 25 with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan maintained by local authorities (see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/education-health-and-care-plans-england-2020>).
- **Special educational needs in England** – Information from the January school census on pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and SEN provision in schools (see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england-january-2020>),

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

(Source: Special educational needs in England, January 2020 School Census)

The most recent published data is from the January 2020 school census.

In Gloucestershire, the number of pupils with special educational needs (SEN) has continued to increase from 13,381 (14.4%) in January 2016 to 16,251 (16.8%) in January 2020. Nationally, 1,373,800 pupils have SEN, representing 15.5% of all pupils. This is an increase from 14.9% of all pupils in 2019. In the county, as nationally, this is driven by an increase in both the number of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan and with SEN Support.

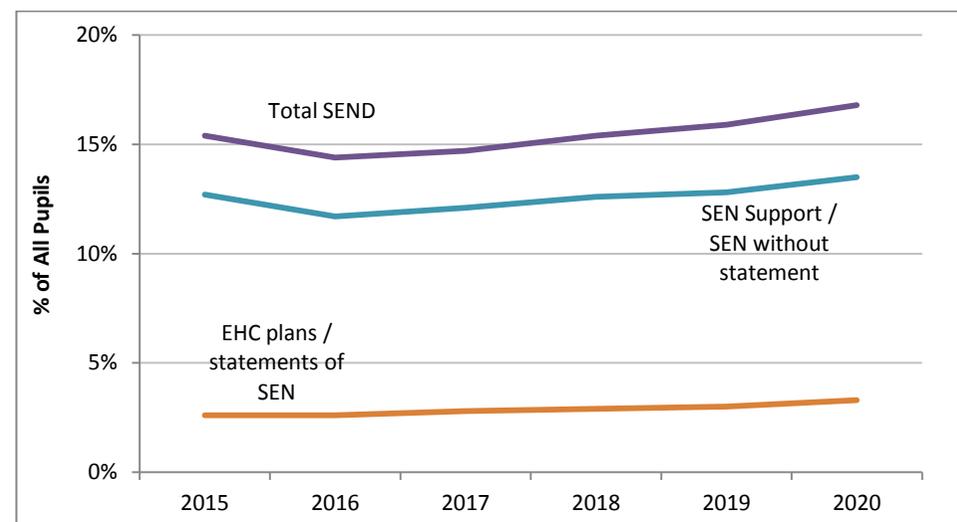


Figure 1: % of Pupils with Special Educational Needs (All schools), January 2015 to January 2020

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan

In January 2020, 3,148 pupils (3.3%) in Gloucestershire had a statement or an EHC plan. This is an increase of 229 compared to the previous year when 2,919 pupils (3.0%) were recorded as having a statutory plan. Nationally the percentage of pupils with a statement or an EHC plan has also increased, from 3.1% (271,200) of the total pupil population in January 2019 to 3.3% (294,800) in January 2020.

In Gloucestershire's state-funded schools and academies, 2,936 pupils (3.3%) had a statement or an EHC plan compared to 2,753 pupils (3.1%) in 2019. Nationally, 3.3% of pupils in state-funded schools (excluding state-funded nurseries) had an EHC plan compared to 3% in 2019.

Pupils with SEN Support

A further 13,103 pupils (13.5%) in Gloucestershire have SEN support, an increase from 12,372 (12.8%) in 2019. The number and proportion of pupils with SEN support has also increased nationally, from 11.9% of all pupils in 2019 to 12.1% in 2020.

In Gloucestershire's state-funded schools and academies, 11,728 pupils (13.3%) have SEN support compared to 11,276 (12.8%) pupils in 2019. Nationally, 11.9% of pupils in state-funded schools (excluding state-funded nurseries) have SEN support compared to 11.7% in 2019.

SEN Provision by school type

In January 2020, 82.7% of Gloucestershire pupils with SEN attended state-funded primary and secondary schools (54.3% of pupils with an EHC plan and 89.5% with SEN support). This is a decrease compared to the previous year (84.1%). The percentage of pupils with SEN attending state-funded primary and secondary schools nationally has remained relatively constant (82% in January 2020 and 82.3% in 2019).

In state-funded primary schools in Gloucestershire, 2.2% of pupils have an EHC plan, a marginal increase from 2.1% in 2019. The percentage of pupils with SEN support has also risen from 14.7% in 2019 to 15.2% in 2020. The percentage of pupils with SEN in state-funded primary schools is higher in the county than nationally, with 1.8% of pupils with an EHC plan (compared to 1.6% in 2019) and 12.8% with SEN support (up from 12.6% last year). Pupils with SEN in state-funded primary schools constitute 51.2% of all pupils with SEN in the county compared to 49.9% nationally. Proportions are slightly lower both locally and nationally compared to 2019 (52.8% and 50.8%, respectively).

The percentage of pupils with an EHC plan in state-funded secondary schools remains constant at 1.6%. The proportion of pupils with SEN support has increased from 10.9% to 11.4%. In England, the percentage of pupils with an EHCP in state-funded secondary schools increased to 1.8% in January 2020 from 1.7% in 2019. The percentage of pupils with SEN support increased from 10.8% to 11.1%. Overall,

pupils in secondary schools make up 31.5% of all SEN pupils, this is slightly lower than in 2019 (31.3%). In England, pupils in secondary schools with SEN account for 32.0% of all pupils with SEN (31.4% in 2019).

The number of pupils in state-funded special schools continues to rise, from 1,172 pupils on roll in January 2019 to 1,292 in January 2020 (an increase of 4.9%). In England, the number of pupils in state-funded special schools has increased by 5.3%. Pupils with SEN in state-funded special schools constitute 7.6% of all pupils with SEN in the county compared to 9.3% nationally.

Nationally there has also been a large increase in the percentage of pupils with an EHC plan in pupil referral units, rising from 13.4% in 2019 to 16.4% in 2020. However, in the county the proportion of pupils with an EHC plan has decreased from 19.8% (41 pupils) in 2019 to 15.5% (21 pupils) in 2020. The percentage of pupils with SEN support has also fallen from 63.7% (132 pupils) in 2019 to 60.7% (82 pupils) in 2020. In England, the percentage of pupils with SEN support in pupil referral units has decreased from 67.6% to 64.9%.¹

The percentage of pupils with SEN in independent schools has also increased. In January 2020, 168 pupils (2.1%) had an EHCP compared to 100 pupils (1.2%) in January 2019. There were a further 1,287 pupils (15.9%) with SEN Support compared to 959 pupils (11.4%) the previous year. Nationally the percentage of pupils with an EHC plan in independent schools has risen to 3.3%, the same as the percentage of all pupils over all schools. The percentage of pupils with SEN but without an EHC plan has risen to 13.7% in 2020, from 12.7% in 2019.

Primary type of need

Severe learning difficulty (SLD) remains the most common primary type of need for pupils with a statement or an EHC plan in state-funded

¹ This includes pupil referral units, academy and free school alternative provision.

schools in Gloucestershire, however, the percentage of pupils recorded as having this need has continued to decrease from 22.8% in 2017 to 19.9% in 2019. Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) continues to be the second most prominent need identified, 19% of pupils were recorded as having this need. Nationally, ASD remains the most common primary type of need with 30% of pupils with an EHCP having this need.

There are a greater number of boys in all categories of need, although a significantly higher proportion of boys are in the ASD need category (20.9% compared to 14.6% of girls). The proportion of boys identified as having social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs is also higher (18.4% compared to 12.5% of girls). A higher proportion of girls are identified as having SLD (21.8% compared to 19.1% of boys) and moderate learning difficulty (MLD - 12.2% compared to 11.6% of boys).

Key headlines

- 16.8% of pupils in the county have special educational needs, an increase from 15.9% in January 2019.
 - 3.3% of pupils in Gloucestershire have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan compared to 3.0% in January 2019.
 - A further 13.5% of pupils have SEN support, a rise from 12.8% in January 2019.
 - Special educational needs remain more prevalent in boys than girls, with boys representing 74% of pupils with an EHCP and 62.6% of pupils with SEN support.
 - In line with the national picture, the proportion of pupils with SEND is highest in the last few years of primary school, with the percentage of pupils who have SEN increasing up to 21.7% at age 10 and decreasing through secondary years.
 - Severe learning difficulty (SLD) remains the most common primary type of need for pupils with a statement or an EHC plan in state-funded schools in Gloucestershire.
 - The majority of pupils on SEN Support have moderate learning difficulty (MLD) as a primary type of need.
- 82.7% of Gloucestershire pupils with SEN attended state-funded primary and secondary schools in January 2020 (54.3% of pupils with an EHCP and 89.5% with SEN Support).
 - The percentage of pupils with SEN in independent schools has increased, whilst there has been a decrease in the number of pupils with SEN in pupil referral units.
 - In Gloucestershire's state-funded schools, 6.3% of pupils with any other Black background recorded as their ethnicity have an EHC plan. The highest incidence for SEN support in the county is among travellers of Irish heritage (32.9%).
 - As in previous years, pupils with SEN are more likely to be eligible for free school meals. Pupils with EHC plans are three times more likely to be eligible for free school meals compared to pupils without SEN. The percentage of pupils with SEN support who are eligible for free school meals is more than double that for pupils with no SEN.
 - Gloucestershire pupils with SEND are six times more likely to be permanently excluded than pupils with no identified SEN.
 - The fixed period exclusion rate is also higher for Gloucestershire pupils with SEN - 17.54 for pupils with an EHC plan and 18.86 for pupils with SEN support, compared to 3.72 for pupils with no identified SEN.

Children and Young People aged 0 to 25 with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan

(Source: SEN2 census, January 2021)

There were 4,342 children and young people aged 0 to 25 with an EHC plan maintained by the local authority in January 2021 compared to 3,922 in January 2020. This number has continued to increase to 4,570 as at 1st July 2021.

Nationally the percentage of children and young people with an EHC plan increased by 10.4% (40,588 EHCPs), from 390,109 in 2020 to

430,697 in 2021. The numbers of children and young people with an EHC plan maintained by Gloucestershire's 10 statistical neighbour authorities also continued to increase from January 2020 to January 2021.

The table below shows the rate per 1,000 of 0 to 24 year olds with an EHCP in Gloucestershire as at January 2020 and January 2021 compared to Gloucestershire's statistical neighbour authorities and the national rate.

Local Authority	Rate (Jan-20)	Rate (Jan-21)
Bath and North East Somerset	21.2	24.2
Cambridgeshire	24.0	27.1
Devon	31.0	34.9
Dorset	28.3	33.0
Gloucestershire	22.3	24.6
Hampshire	23.9	27.6
Shropshire	24.0	24.9
South Gloucestershire	23.5	26.7
West Sussex	24.8	26.0
Wiltshire	27.5	29.6
Worcestershire	25.3	26.1
National	23.3	25.7
Statistical Neighbours (average)	25.3	28.0

Source: Locally calculated indicator based on data submitted for the SEN2 census and ONS mid-year population estimates for 2019 (0-24 year olds)

Age Range

In Gloucestershire, children aged 5 to 10 years old continued to account for the highest percentage of children and young people with an EHC plan (37%). Prior to 2018 the majority of children with a statement or an EHC plan were aged 11 to 15; nationally children in this age range continue to account for the largest percentage with an EHC plan (35.2%) as at January 2021. The majority of children with an EHC plan maintained by the statistical neighbour authorities were also aged 11 to 15 (35%).

Children under 5 years of age accounted for 3.7% and 3.8% of children and young people with a statement or an EHC plan in the county and nationally, respectively.

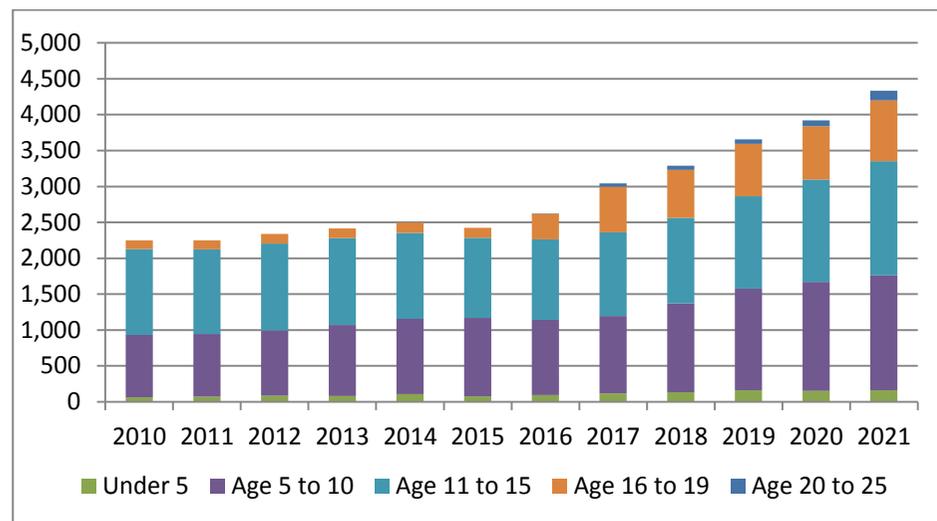


Figure 1: Number of C&YP aged 0-25 with a statement or an EHC plan by age range, 2010 to 2020

From September 2014, EHC plans replaced Learning Difficulty Assessments (LDAs) for young people in post-16 education. In line with the national position, the percentage of children and young people aged 16 to 19 years old with a statement or an EHC plan (excluding LDAs) has subsequently increased year on year from January 2014 (5.8%) to January 2018 (20.3%) before stabilising in recent years. In January 2021, 19.6% of young people with an EHCP were in this age range in the county. A similar proportion of young people with an EHC plan were aged 16 to 19 in the statistical neighbour authorities (21.1%).

The percentage of young people aged 20 to 25 has also increased since the introduction of EHC plans in 2014. In the county, 3.1% of young people with an EHCP were in this age range. Nationally 6.9% of

young people with an EHCP were aged 20-25 and 6.7% for the statistical neighbour authorities.

Establishment type

The number of children with an EHC plan in mainstream education in Gloucestershire has continued to increase, whilst the proportion of overall EHC plans in these settings has decreased, from 46.3% in 2020 to 45.3% in 2021. Nationally and for Gloucestershire's statistical neighbour authorities, the proportion of pupils in mainstream education has increased.

In the county, among neighbouring authorities and nationally the proportion of pupils in Special Schools has continued to decrease despite increasing numbers of children in these settings. Of those pupils in special settings in the county, 28.4% were receiving provision in state-funded special schools and academies, this is a decrease compared to the previous year (29.9%) and is slightly lower than nationally (30.7%) but higher than the proportion for neighbouring authorities (27.5%). Fewer pupils with statements and EHC plans maintained by Gloucestershire were receiving provision in non-maintained and independent special schools (4.5%) than nationally (5%) and the neighbouring authorities (5.5%).

The proportion of young people in further education in Gloucestershire has increased from 11.9% in 2020 to 12.5% in 2021. The majority of post 16 learners with a statement or an EHC plan were receiving provision in general FE colleges (10.9% in Gloucestershire compared to 13.2% nationally and 14.1% for statistical neighbour authorities). The percentage of young people receiving provision in Specialist post-16 institutions in the county (1.6%) was the same as nationally (1.6%) and lower than the statistical neighbour authorities (1.9%).

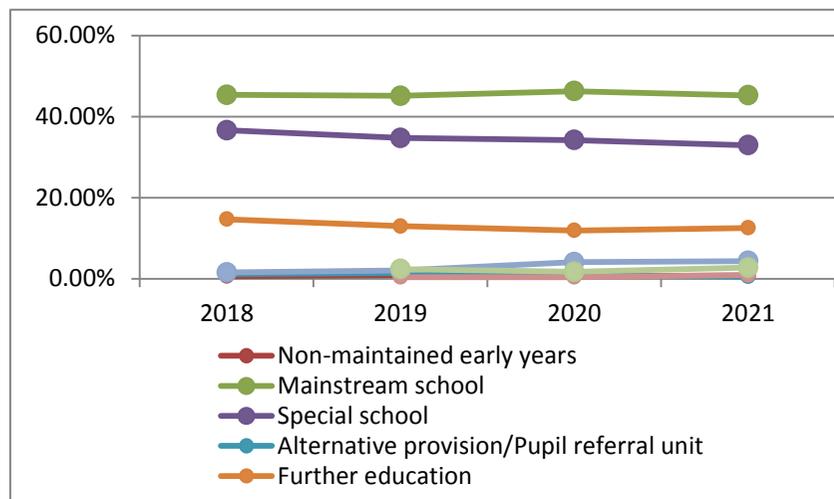


Figure 2: Number of C&YP aged 0-25 with an EHCP in by Establishment Type, 2018 to 2021

Information from SEND dashboards

As at 1st July 2021, 4,570 children and young people aged 0 to 25 had an EHC plan maintained by the local authority. Children aged 5 to 10 continue to account for the highest percentage of children and young people with an EHC plan (37.4%), followed by young people aged 11 to 15 (36%).

Moderate learning difficulty (MLD – 26.6%) continues to be the most prevalent need recorded in a child and young person’s EHC plan, followed by Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH – 22.1%) and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD – 19.3%).²

Primary Need:	Current	
	No.	%
ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder	884	19.3%
HI - Hearing Impairment	49	1.1%
MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty	1216	26.6%
MSI - Multi-Sensory Impairment	10	0.2%
OTH - Other	0	0.0%
PD - Physical Disability	269	5.9%
PMLD- Profound & Multiple Learn Diff	78	1.7%
SEMH - Social, Emotional and Mental Health	1010	22.1%
SLCN - Speech Lang & Comm Needs	765	16.7%
SLD - Severe Learning Difficulty	157	3.4%
SPLD - Specific Learning Diff	96	2.1%
VI - Visual Impairment	36	0.8%

Of the 4,570 children and young people with an EHC plan, 4.4% are children in care, 1.4% are subject of a Child Protection Plan and 5.1% are children in need.

² Based on the need recorded in the child / young person’s EHC plan. This may differ to the need designated by a school in the January School Census.

The following table provides a breakdown of the number of children and young people with an EHCP by provision type.

Provision Type:	No.	%
EY settings	82	1.8%
State-funded Primary	1,193	26.1%
State-funded Secondary	734	16.1%
State-funded Special	1,215	26.6%
OLA State-funded Primary	23	0.5%
OLA State-funded Secondary	37	0.8%
OLA State-funded Special Schools	22	0.5%
Alternative Provision School	27	0.6%
OLA Alternative Provision Schools	5	0.1%
NMS / Independent Schools / Social Care placement	322	7.0%
General FE / Training Providers	437	9.6%
Special Post 16 Institutions (SPIs)	71	1.6%
Child missing education	2	0.0%
Elective Home Education	60	1.3%
No registered base - Awaiting provision	230	5.0%
No registered base - Consider cease / cease letter issued	110	2.4%

The following table provides further information about the registered bases recorded on Capita for the 238* pupils included under the 'No registered base – Awaiting provision' category:

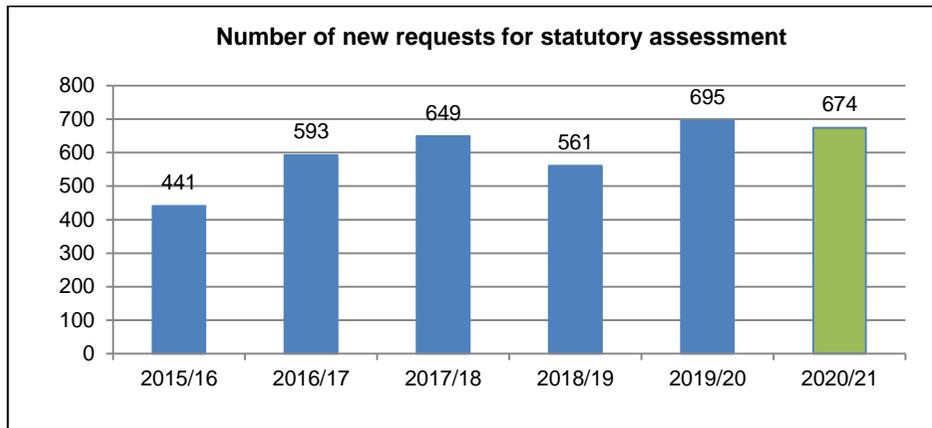
Registered base on Capita	No.
EHCP - Personal Budget	1
EHCP = EY	1
EHCP - Awaiting Placement	71

EHCP - CIC OOC	3
EHCP - EOTAS	9
EHCP - Miscellaneous - C	1
EHCP - Moved In waiting placement	16
EHCP - Placement Referral Sent	23
EHCP - Placement not yet identified	77
EHCP - Tutor Long Term	7
EHCP - Tutoring	24
EHCP Traineeship	1
EHCP Waiting confirmation of placement	2
Blank (no base recorded)	2

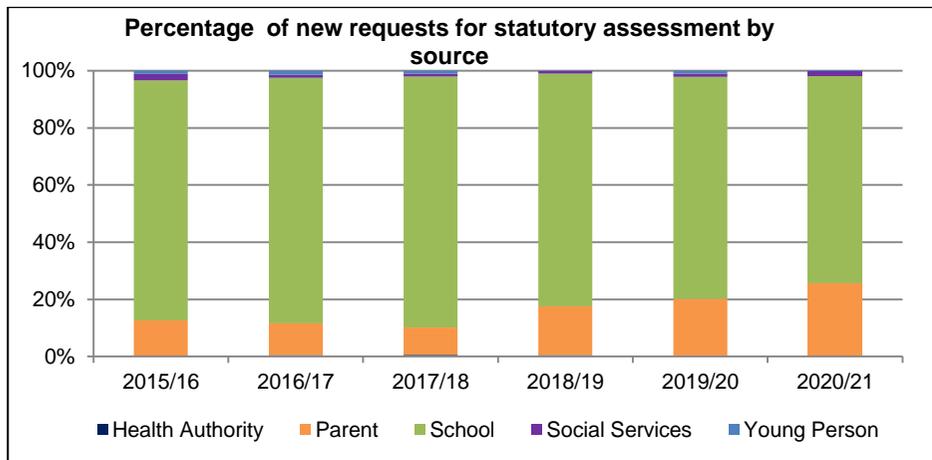
*Please note the data for the awaiting provision table is as at 5th July 2021, therefore, the figures in the above table are slightly higher than those included in the provision table.

Assessment process

During the 2019/20 academic year, 695 initial requests were made for assessment for an EHC plan. This is an increase of 134 (23.9%) compared to the previous academic year when 561 requests were made. This academic year to date (1st September 2020 to 31st June 2021), 674 requests have been made; fewer requests were received during the same period in 2019/20 (606). The majority of requests received are for pupils aged 5 to 10.



The majority of requests continue to be received from schools (540 – 77.7% in 2019/20). However, there was a large increase in the number of requests made by parents during the 2019/20 academic year (137) compared to the previous academic year (96).



New EHC plans issued

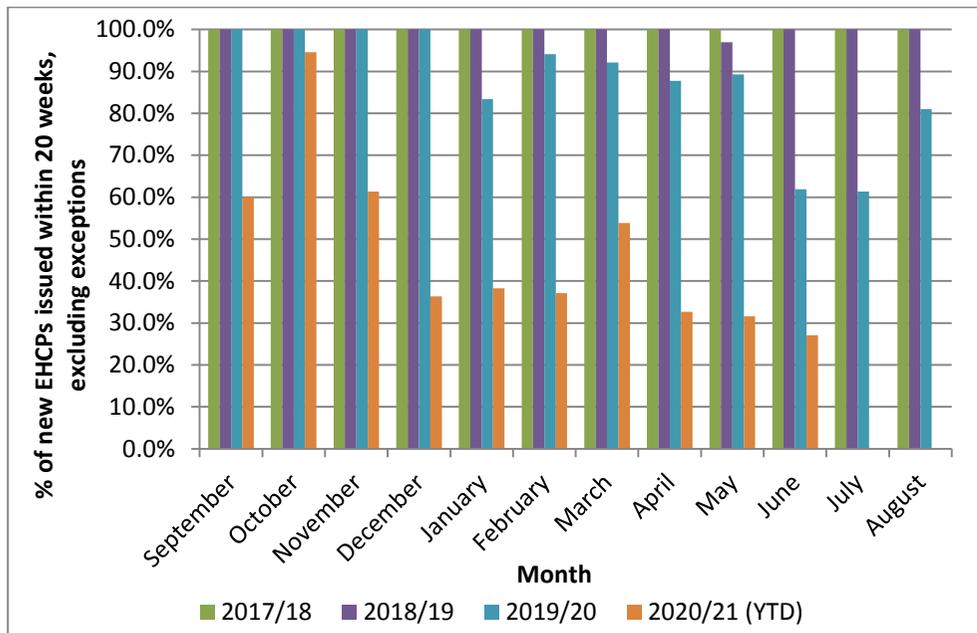
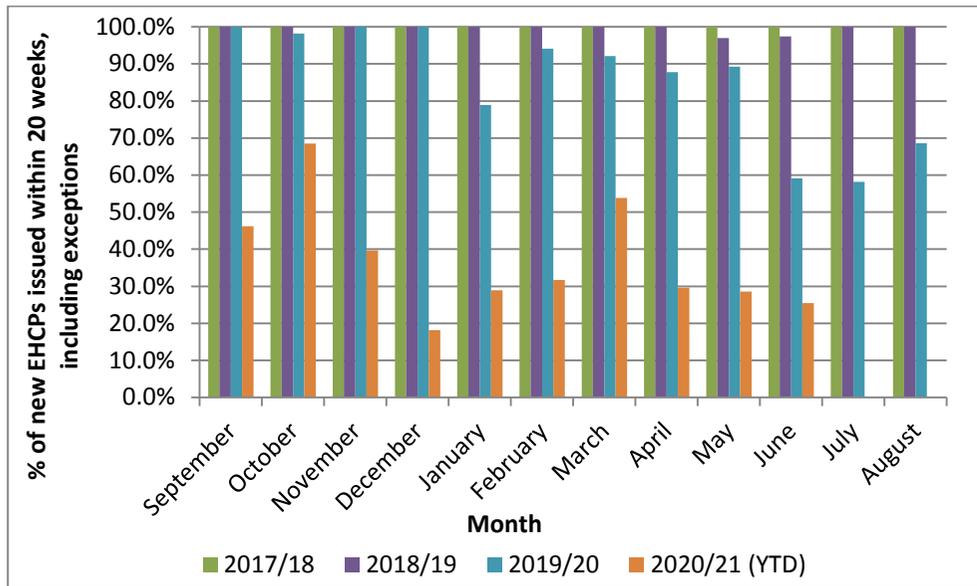
During the academic year to date (1st September 2020 to 30th June 2021), 503 new EHC plans have been issued for children and young people aged 0 to 25. This is an increase compared to the same period during the previous academic year (421). The majority of new EHCPs issued are for pupils aged 5 to 10. SEMH is the most prevalent need identified in new EHCPs issued.

New EHC plans issued within time limits

During the 2019/20 academic year, 88.1% (443/503) of new plans were issued within the 20 week timescale excluding exceptions, and 85.2% (449/527) within timescale including exception cases. This is a decrease compared to the previous academic year (99.8% (489/490) and 99.6% (490/492) respectively).

This academic year to date (1st September 2020 to 30th June 2021), 47.5% (188/396) of new plans have been issued within the 20 week timescale excluding exceptions, and 37.8% (190/503) within timescale including exception cases.

The following charts show the percentage of new EHC plans issued within timescales on a monthly basis over the last four academic years (including the 2020/21 academic year to date). These reflect the decrease in the percentage of new EHC plans issued within timescales due to COVID-19. Of the new EHCPs issued during the 2019/20 academic year, 15 had a COVID-19 related exception recorded rising to 92 for those issued during the 2020/21 academic year.



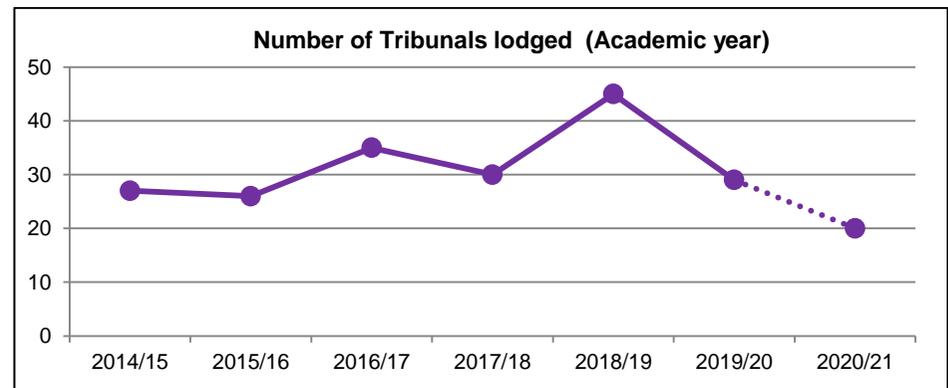
SEND Exclusions

During the 2020/21 academic year to date, 29 pupils with SEND have been permanently excluded compared to 34 during the previous academic year (53% and 48% respectively).

There have been 1,695 instances of fixed term exclusions for pupils with SEND during the 2020/21 academic year to date compared to 2,105 during the previous academic year (49% and 48% respectively).

SEND Appeals

During the 2020/21 academic year to date, 20 appeals have been lodged; 25 appeals were lodged during the same period in 2019/20. The majority of appeals are lodged for children aged under 16 (19 appeals - 95%). Fewer appeals were lodged during the 2019/20 academic year compared to the 2018/19 academic year.



For more information on EHCP and SEN Support please see the linked dashboard here:

[Current SEND dashboard](#)