

Re-setting the education agenda in North Somerset



**Pip Hesketh, Assistant Director for Education Partnerships,
North Somerset Council, June 2022**



Context

SEND Improvement Notice, November 2021 - 6 remaining areas of significant weakness

Pertinent findings:

- Strategic leadership – not felt at the front line
- SEND reforms Fewer children and young people in mainstream school with SEND
- Needs not identified or met early enough – perception that children’s needs being ‘held’ in primary schools, but needing intervention/support in secondary schools

Education Investment Area – February 2022 - ranks 43 of 55 lowest performing local authorities for ***progress and attainment*** for progress and attainment

- Most schools in North Somerset are academised
- No real clarity about who will receive funding and how much but majority will benefit academies

Schools White Paper – statute by January?

SEND Green Paper – in consultation



Context 2

North Somerset has a distinctive profile and patterns in outcomes for children

- Rate of EHCPs increased by 27% compared to 10% increase nationally
- Small percentage of children with SEND in Mainstream schools
- Gaps for our most vulnerable children are significant – FSM, children with SEND and children with a social worker
- Children with vulnerabilities are over represented in those who have persistent absence and who are excluded
- EHE rates have increased significantly
- COVID19 has created new levels of need – its impact for children and young people will endure
- Impact of COVID19 on school staff wellbeing (through continuous change, additional support and monitoring of vulnerable children)



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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Demographic profile part 1



Cohort snapshot date

07 March 2022

SEN stage (ctrl + click to select multiple)

EHCP

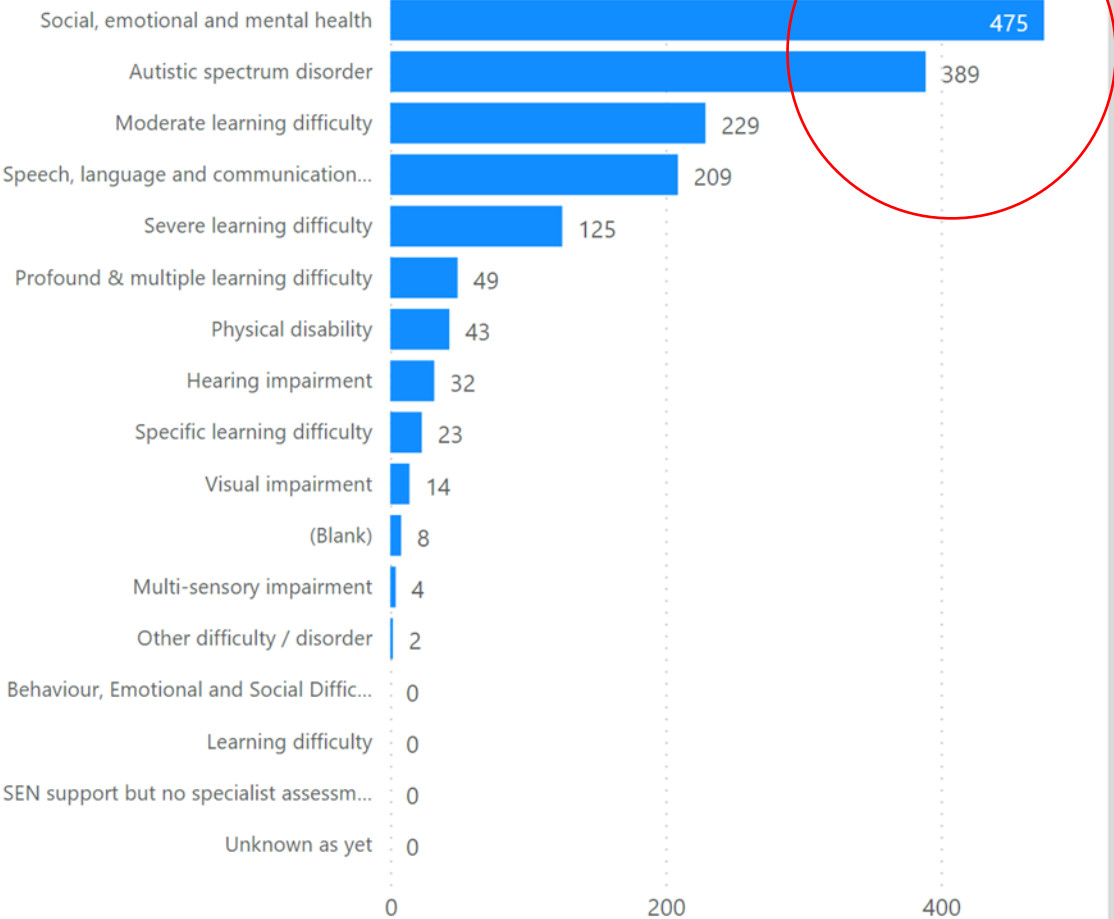
SEND school support

Not SEND

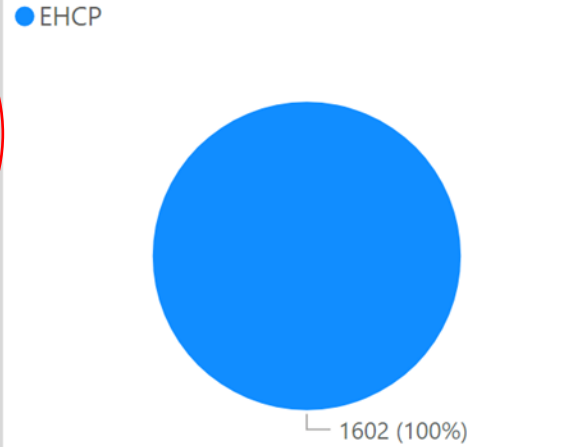
Commentary: Social, emotional and mental health is the most common primary need for EHCP students and the second most common for SEND school support students, for whom specific learning difficulty is the most common primary need. The proportion of students with an EHCP has increased yearly, with the number of students with SEND school support increasing at a lesser rate.

SEND cohort by primary need

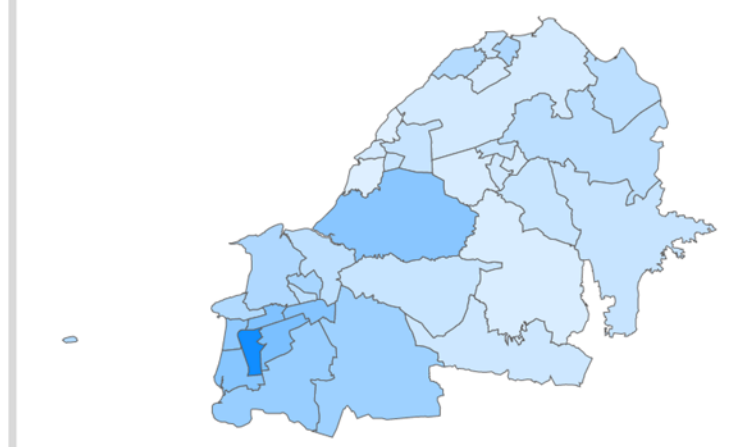
EHCP



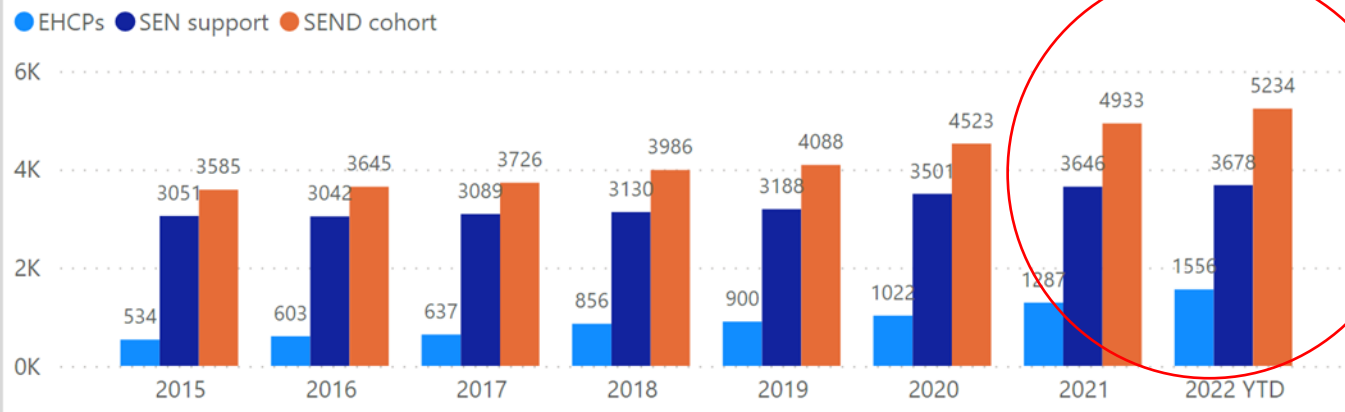
Cohort by SEN stage



Cohort by ward



SEND cohort size per year (census data)



Note that the above chart is based on census data, not snapshots, and is unaffected by the filters on this page



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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Experience of the system part 2



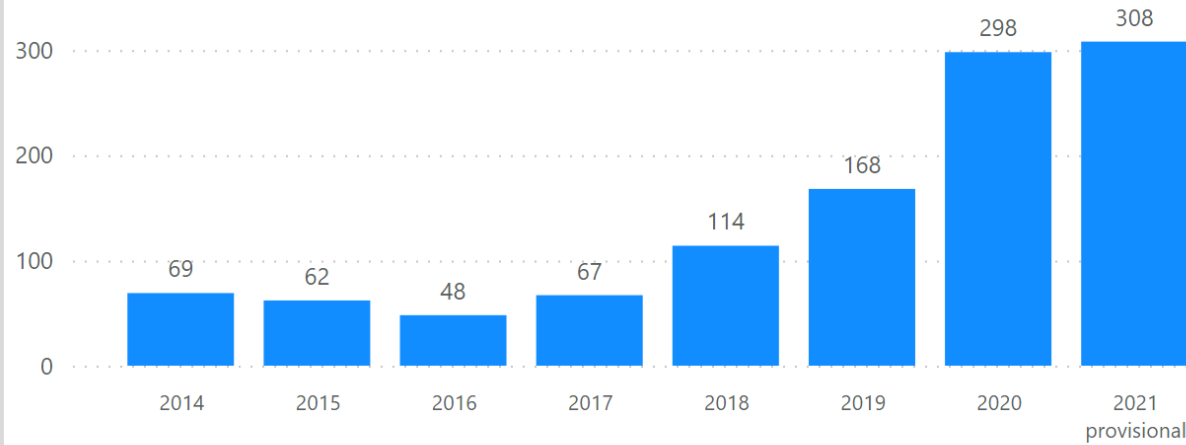
2014

2021

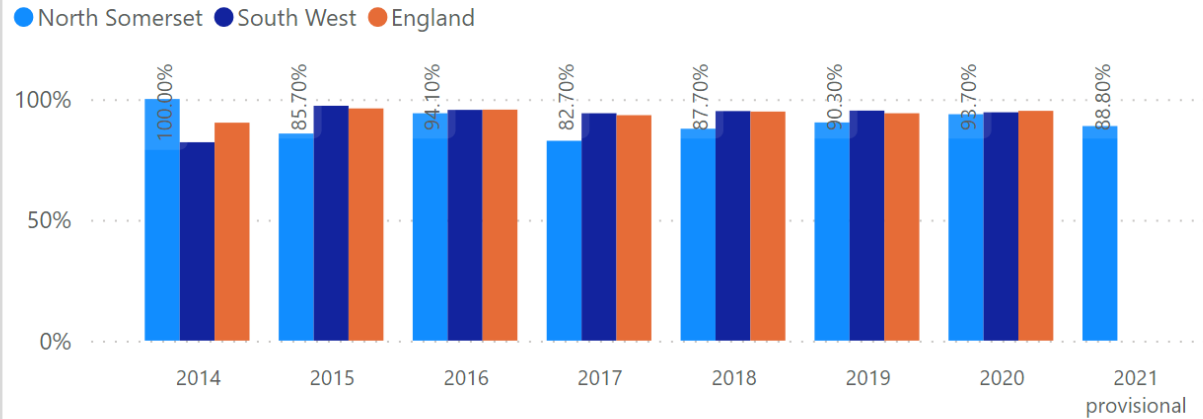


Commentary: While the rate of new EHCPs in the 0-25 population was significantly under comparator values from 2014-2019, 2020 saw the rate increase from 29 per 10,000 to 50 per 10,000, over 20% greater than 42 in the South West and far greater than England's 34. This rate was maintained into 2021. The rate so far in 2022 is 7 - without an increase in new plans later in the year, we are likely to see a drop in the total rate for 2022 compared to 2021.

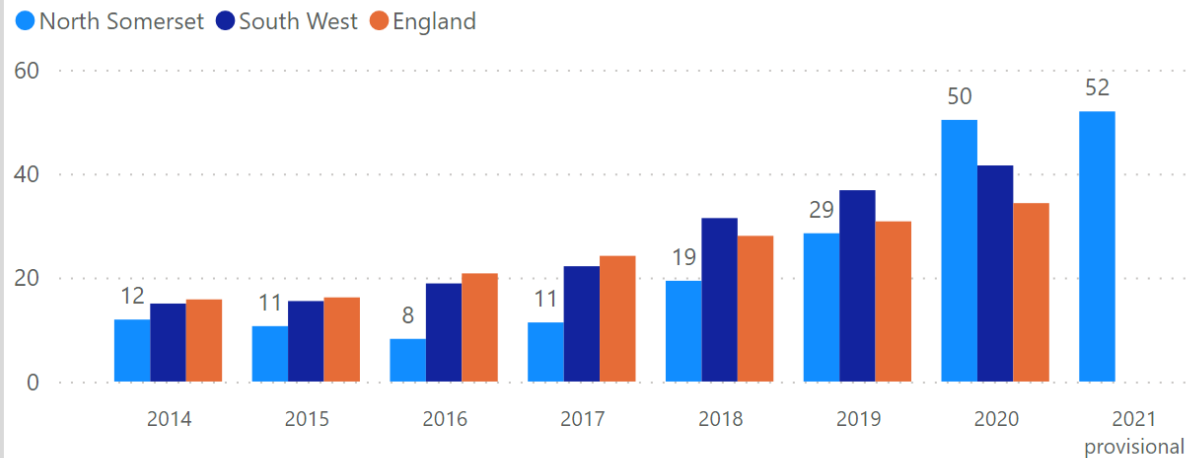
Number of new EHC plans



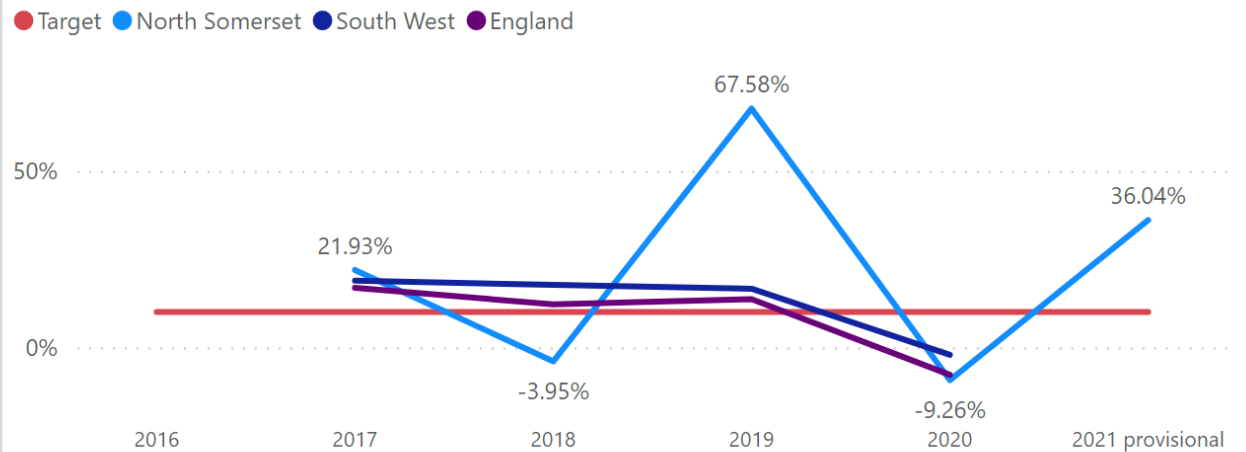
Percentage of children assessed for whom EHCPs were made for the first time during the year



Rate of new EHC plans per 10,000 0-25 population



Percent change in requests for EHC plans per year





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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

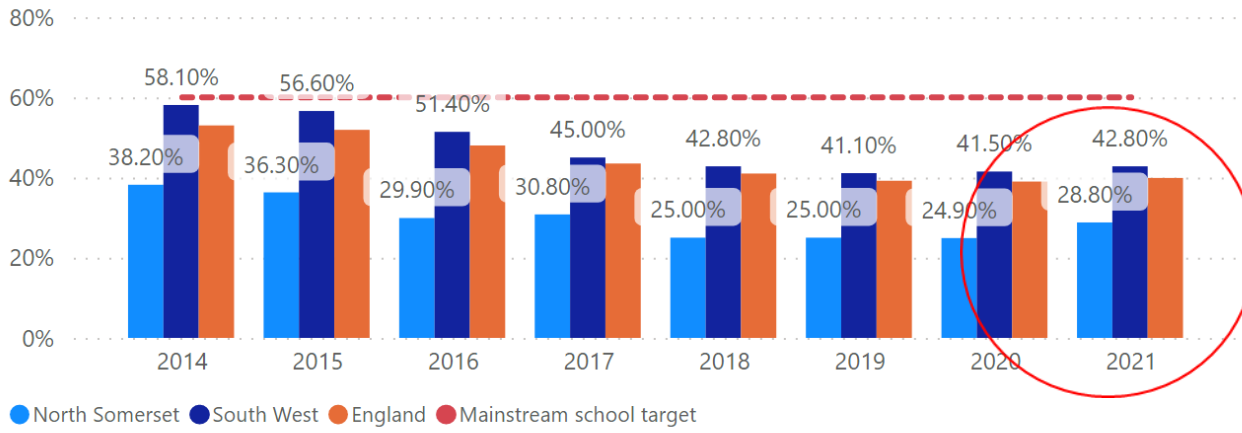
Destinations part 1



2014 2022

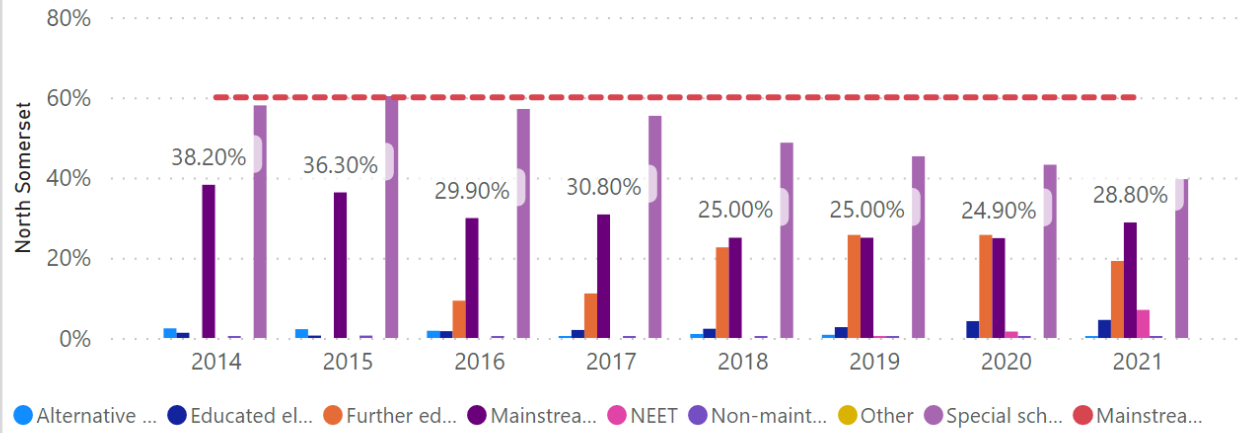


% in mainstream school - children and young people with LA-maintained EHCPs (from SEN2 census data)

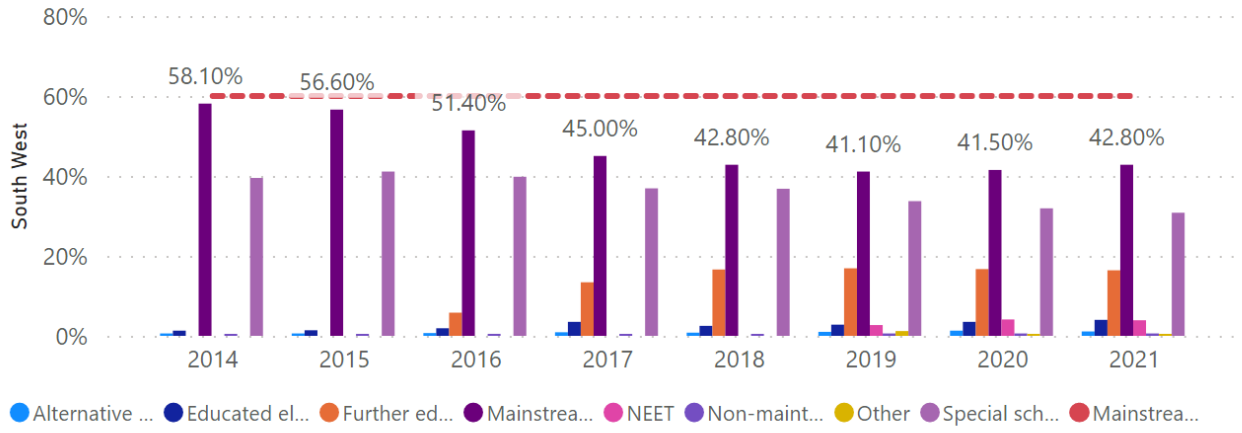


Commentary: North Somerset has consistently had a far smaller proportion of EHCP students at mainstream schools than the South West and England, generally 15-20% less. North Somerset has a greater proportion of EHCP students at special schools and in further education, accounting for much of this difference. NEET has increased across all areas over 2020 and 2021, likely as a result of COVID. North Somerset's NEET figure of 7% in 2021 compares poorly to 3.9% in the South West and 2.5% in England.

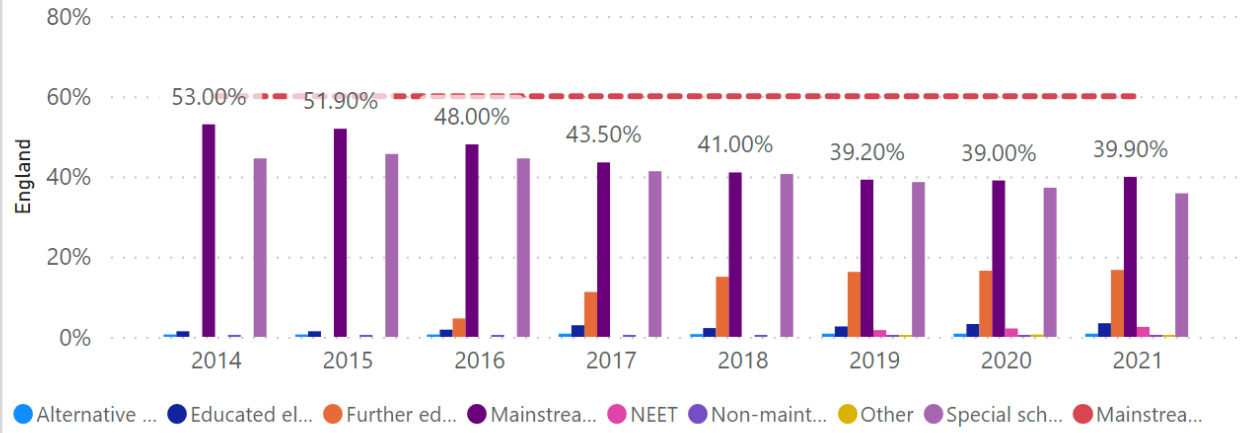
North Somerset - placements of children and young people with LA-maintained or EHCPs (from SEN2 census data)



South West - placements of children and young people with LA-maintained or EHCPs (from SEN2 census data)



England - placements of children and young people with LA-maintained or EHCPs (from SEN2 census data)





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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Destinations part 2



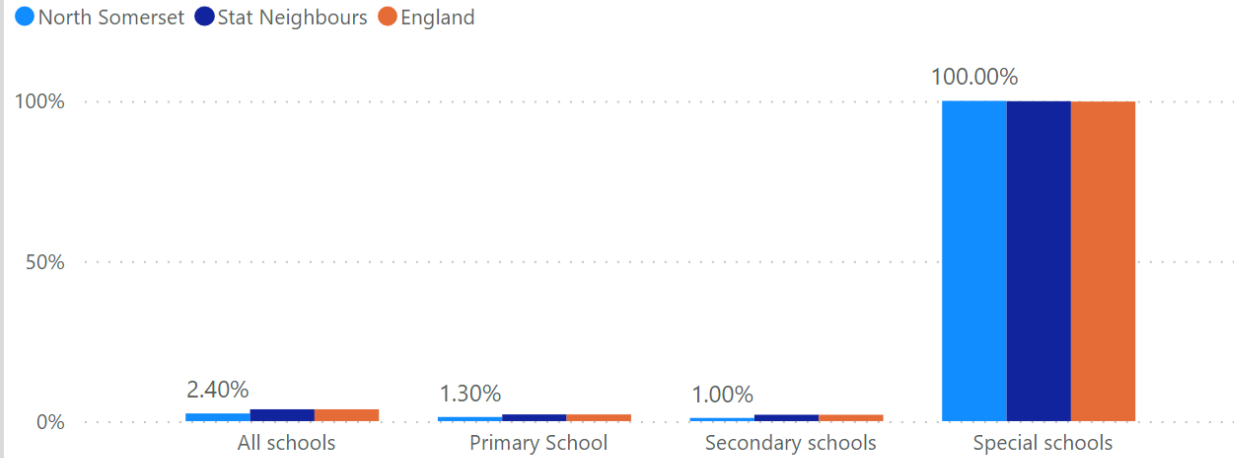
2014

2022

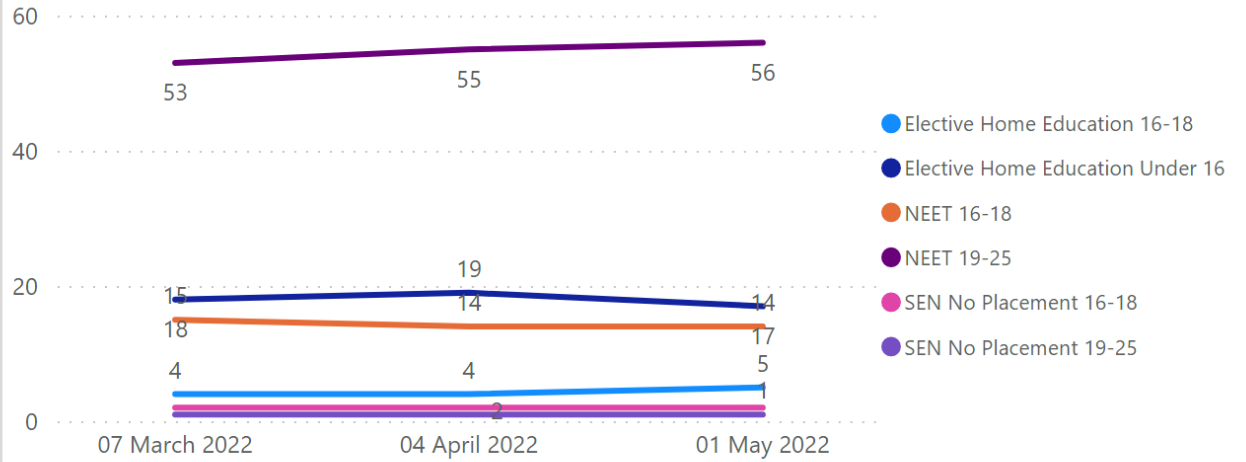


Commentary: In the January 2022 census 2.4% of students at North Somerset schools had an EHCP, significantly less than the 3.7% seen at South West and England levels. For SEN school support, while the overall proportion of students was very similar to comparators, the proportion in primary schools was significantly less and the proportion in secondary schools significantly higher than comparators.

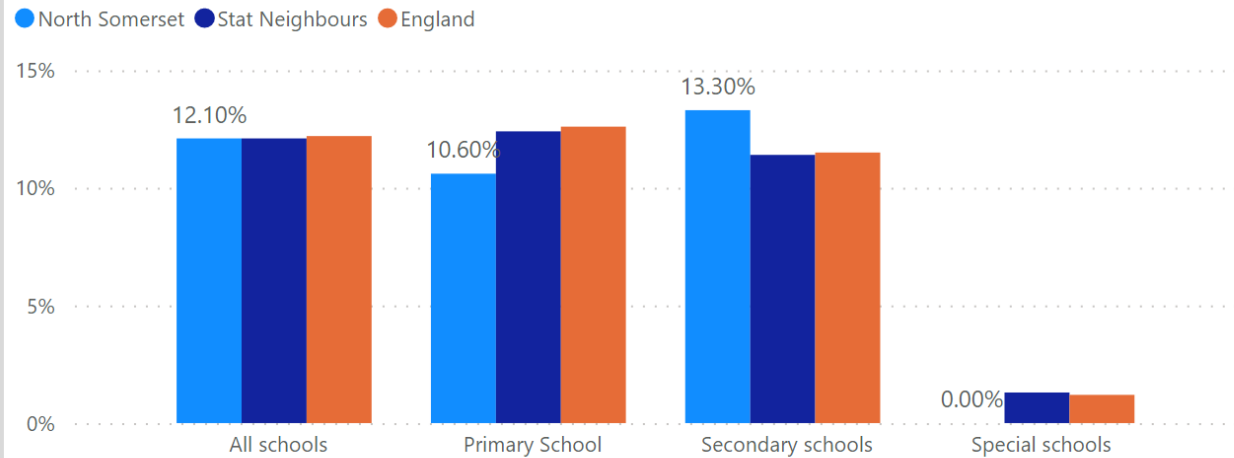
Percentage of students with an EHCP per setting type (from Jan 2022 census)



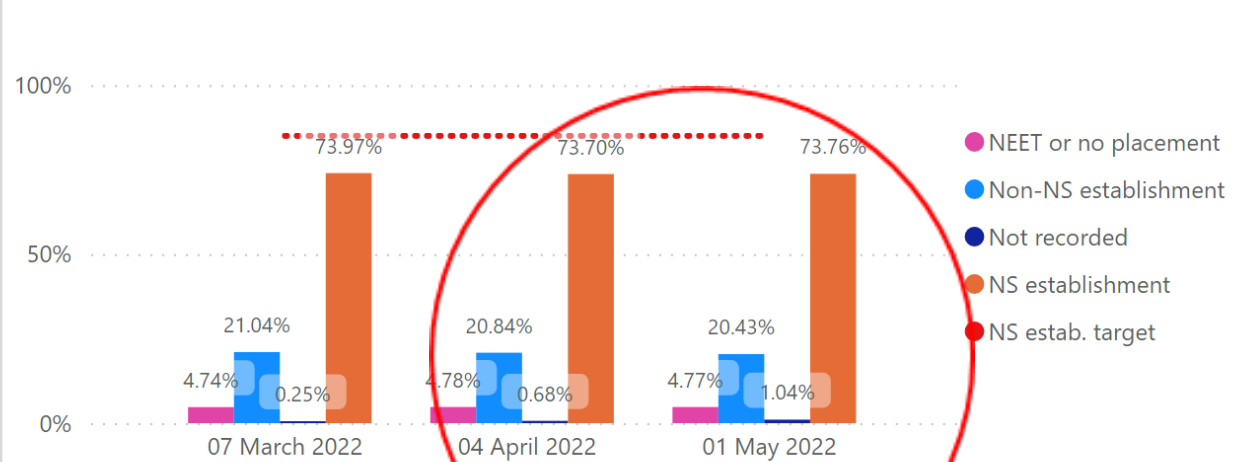
EHCP students EHE, NEET and no placement per snapshot



Percentage of students with SEN school support per setting type (from Jan 2022 census)



EHCP students by location of principle establishment per snapshot





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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Outcomes - children's social care



Cohort snapshot date

04 April 2022

SEN stage (ctrl + click to select multiple)

EHCP

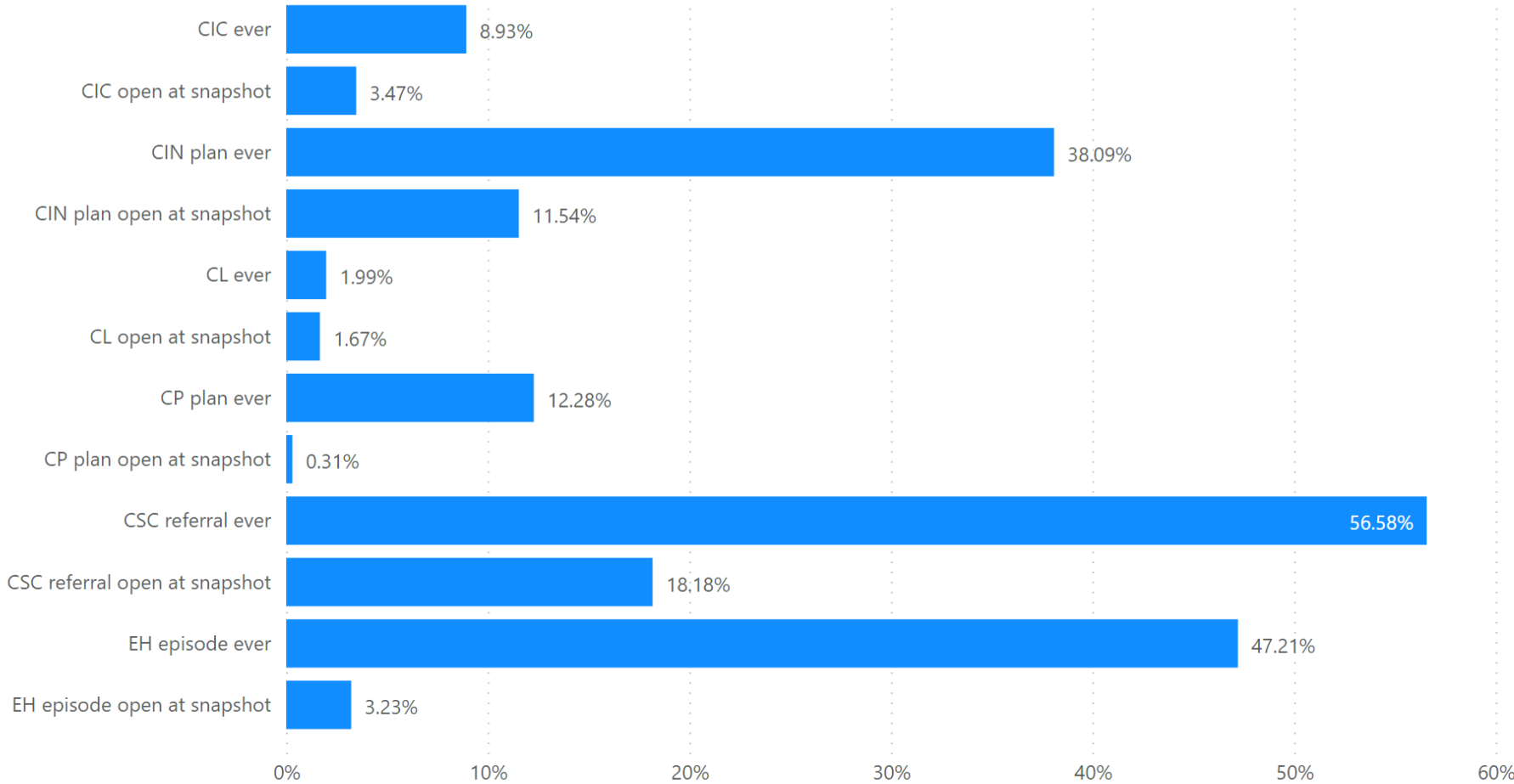
SEND school support

Not SEND

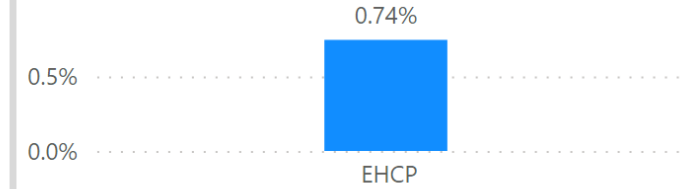
Commentary: 56% of the current EHCP cohort and 24% of the SEN school support cohort have had a CSC referral at some point in the past, compared to 9% of non-SEND students. Currently 18% of EHCP students have a open CSC referral, compared to a proportionally far smaller 2.8% of SEN school support students and 0.7% of those without SEND.

Children's support and safeguarding for children in the snapshot cohort

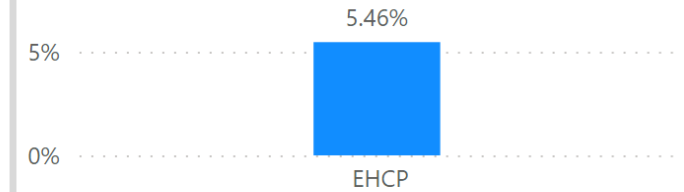
● EHCP



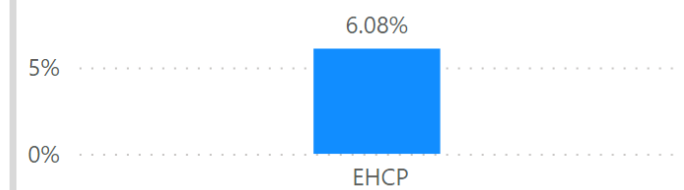
% of cohort with a YOS statutory intervention ever



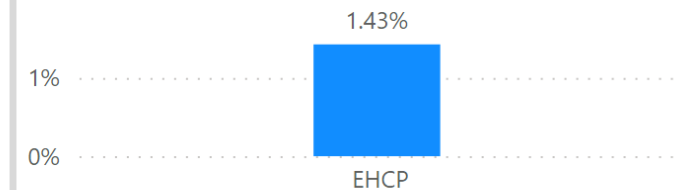
% of cohort with a YOS non-statutory intervention ever



% of cohort with a missing episode ever



% of cohort with CSE flag ever





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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Outcomes - attendance and exclusions



Cohort snapshot date

04 April 2022

SEN stage (ctrl + click to select multiple)

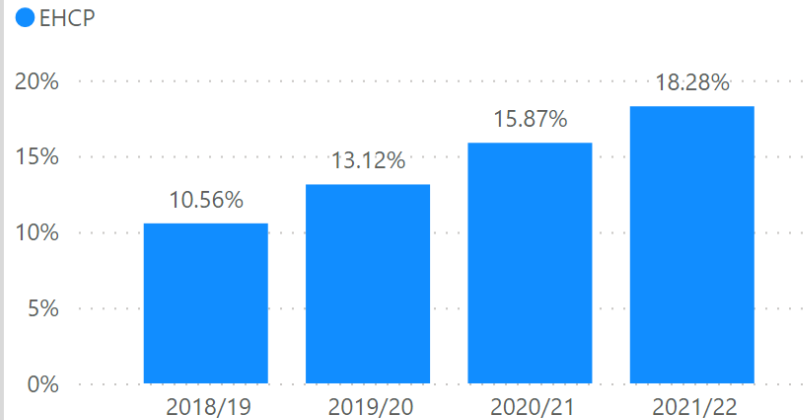
EHCP

SEND school support

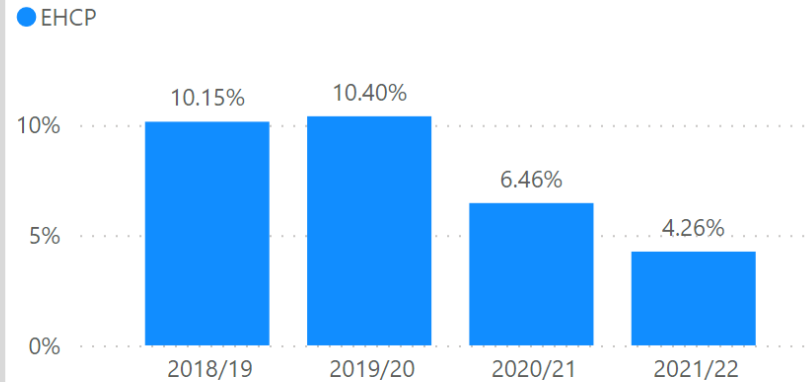
Not SEND

Commentary: These measures categorise students based on their current SEND status, not the status as of the given exclusion / absence. Looking at our cohort of EHCP students as of 04/04/2022, 1% of them had a permanent exclusion in 2018/19. This dropped to 0.74% in 2019/20 then 0.08% in 2020/21 which is a fantastic improvement.

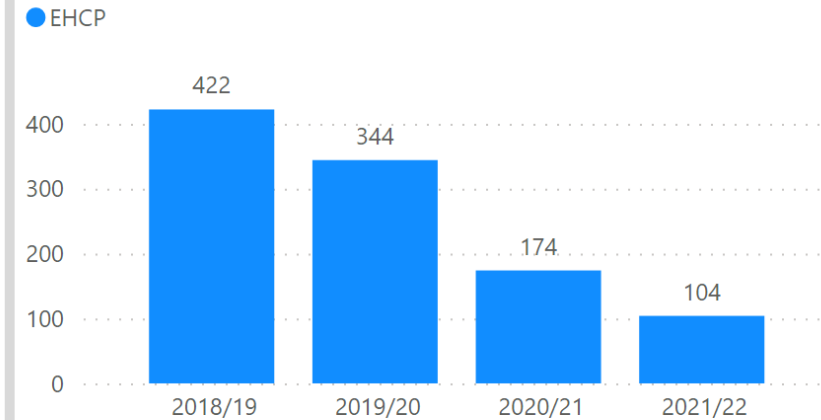
Authorised absences - average percentage of sessions for snapshot cohort during the given year



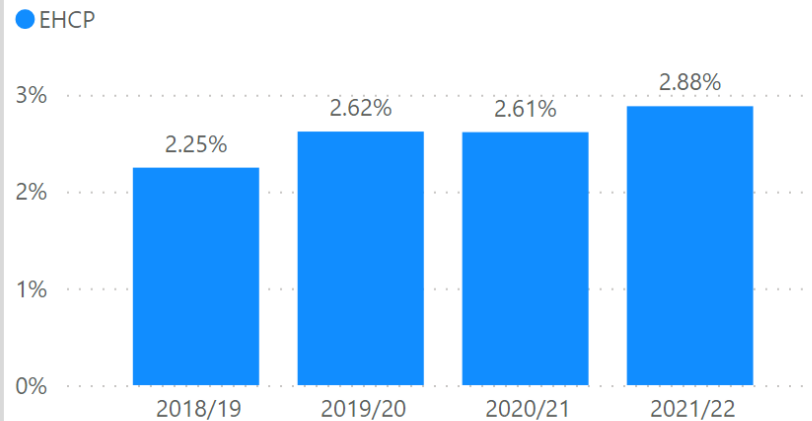
Fixed exclusions - percentage of snapshot cohort with at least 1 during the given year (for academic ages 4-15 during the given year)



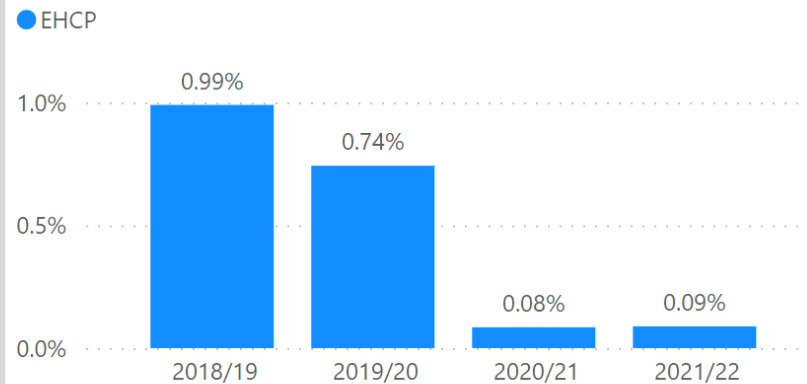
Fixed exclusions - total (for academic ages 4-15 during the given year)



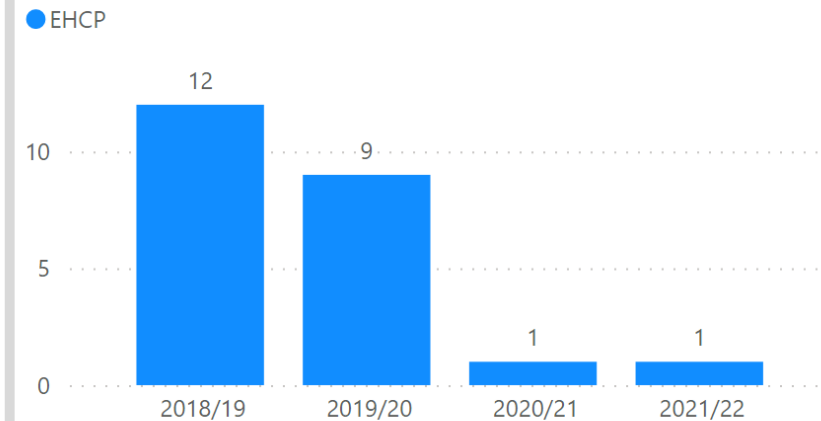
Unauthorised absences - average percentage of sessions for snapshot cohort during the given year



Permanent exclusions - percentage of snapshot cohort with at least 1 during the given year (for academic ages 4-15 during the given year)



Permanent exclusions - total (for academic ages 4-15 during the given year)





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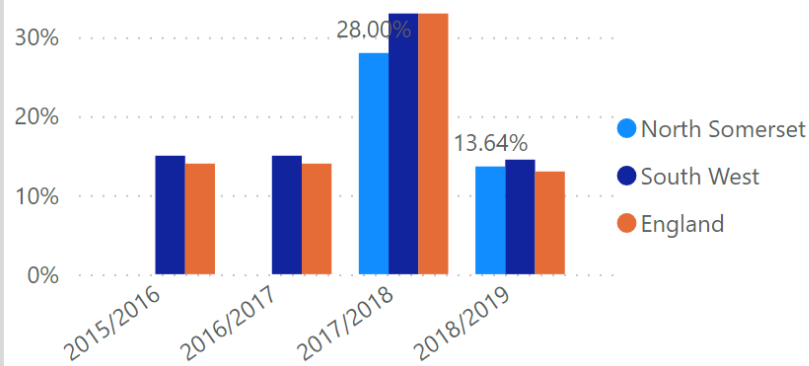
North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Attainment - primary

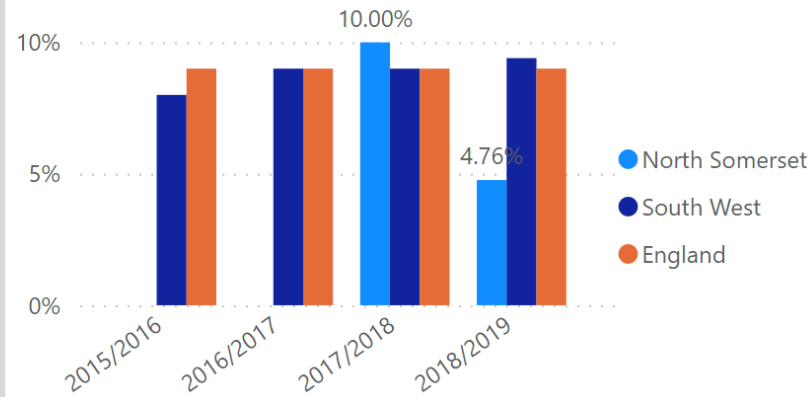


Commentary: Data is not available for 2020 or 2021 due to COVID-19. Suppressed figures have been filled with local data where available. KS1 reading attainment was poor against comparators in 2017/18 but this improved in 2018/19. KS1 writing shows poor performance against comparators in 2018/19, a significant drop from the previous year. KS1 maths shows fairly strong historical attainment, but in 2018/19 this dropped to under the South West average, but was very similar to the England average. KS1 science attainment has consistently underperformed comparators with a downward trend over the available years. KS2 attainment in reading, writing and maths has similarly trended downwards over available years.

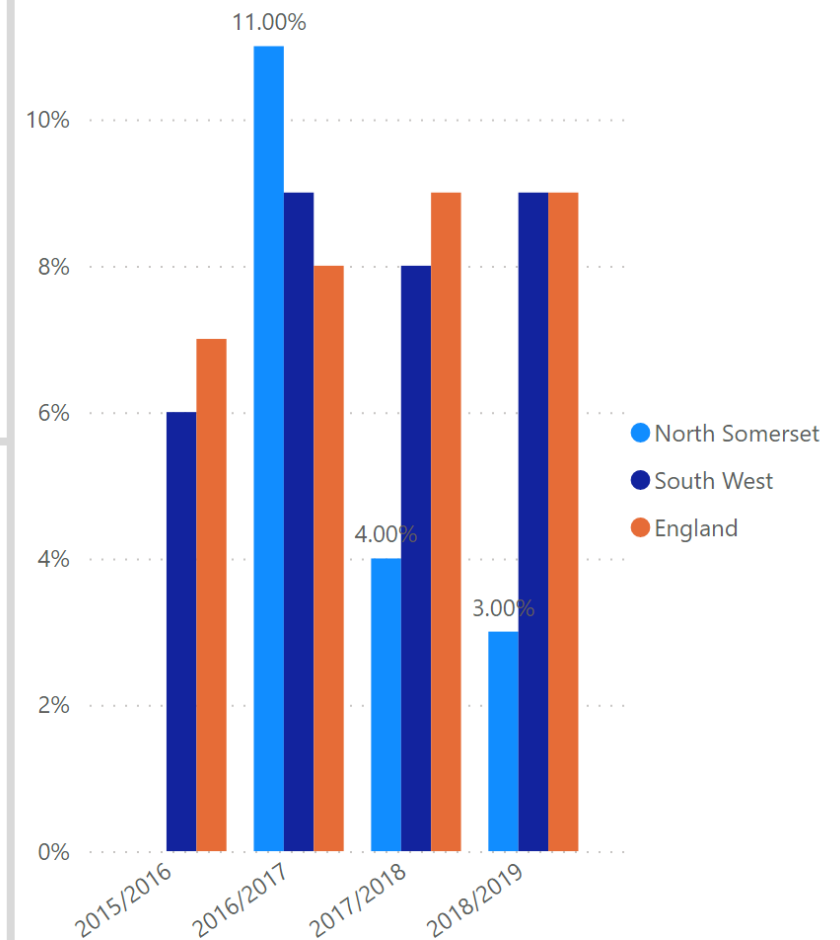
KS1 reading - percentage of EHCP pupils achieving expected standard



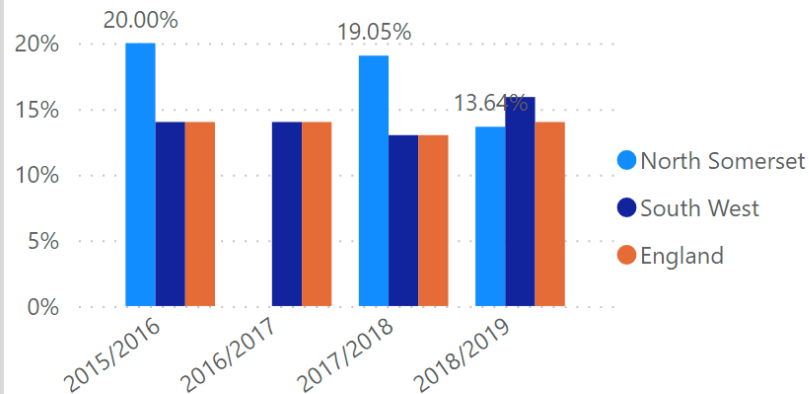
KS1 writing - percentage of EHCP pupils achieving expected standard



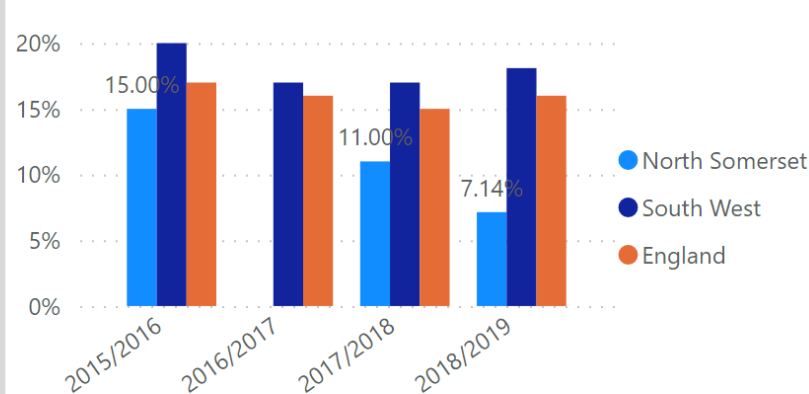
KS2 - percentage of EHCP pupils achieving expected standard in reading, writing and maths



KS1 maths - percentage of EHCP pupils achieving expected standard



KS1 science - percentage of EHCP pupils achieving expected standard





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North Somerset SEND data dashboard

Overall demographic profile - age, gender and ethnicity



Cohort snapshot date

04 April 2022

SEN stage (ctrl + click to select multiple)

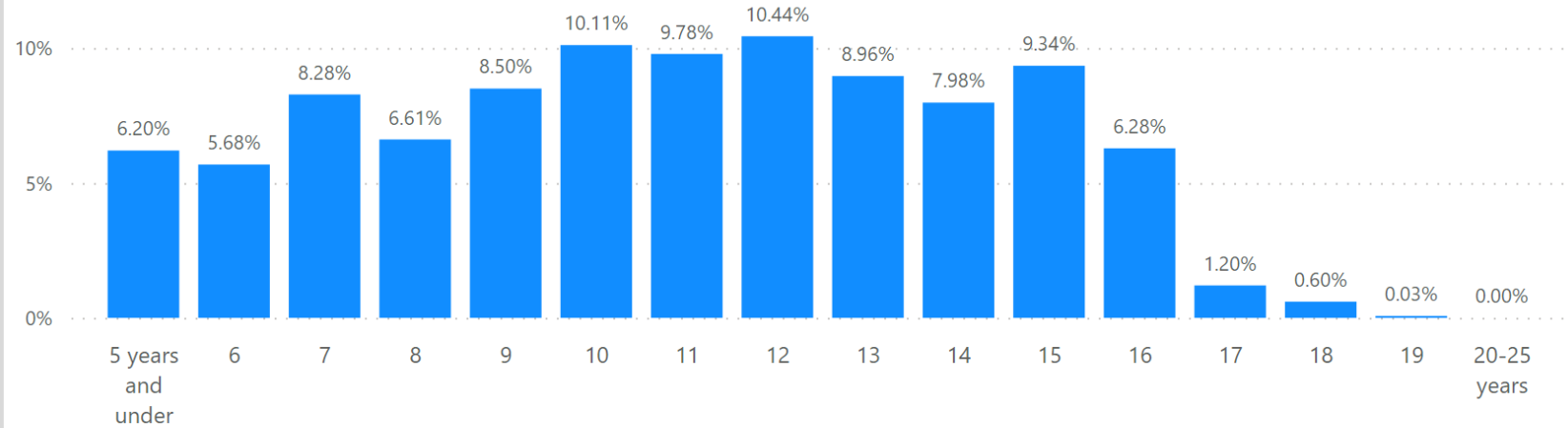
EHCP

SEND school su...

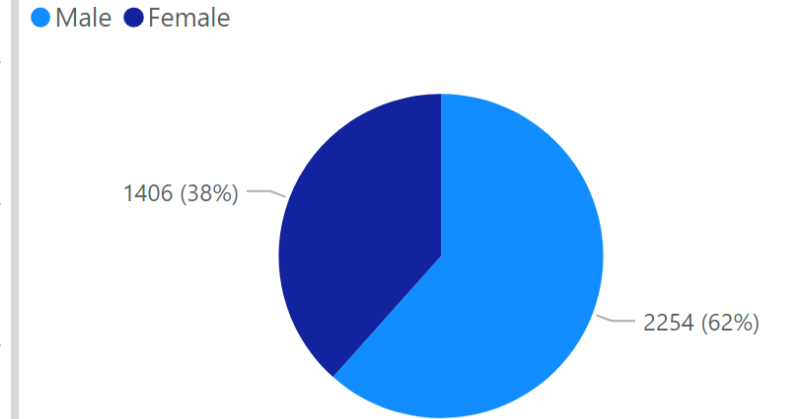
Not SEND

Commentary: Note that non-EHCP snapshot data is sourced sourced from the school census. Due to this, non-EHCP data generally ends at age 18. Therefore all students in the 20-25 age category are expected to be EHCP students.

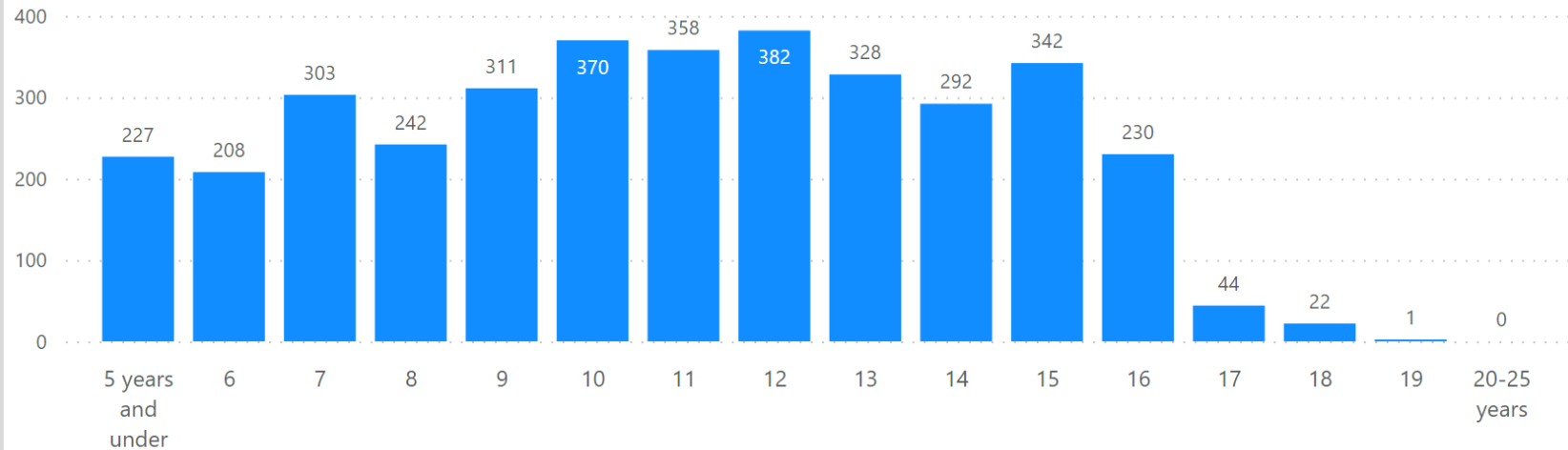
Cohort by age (%)



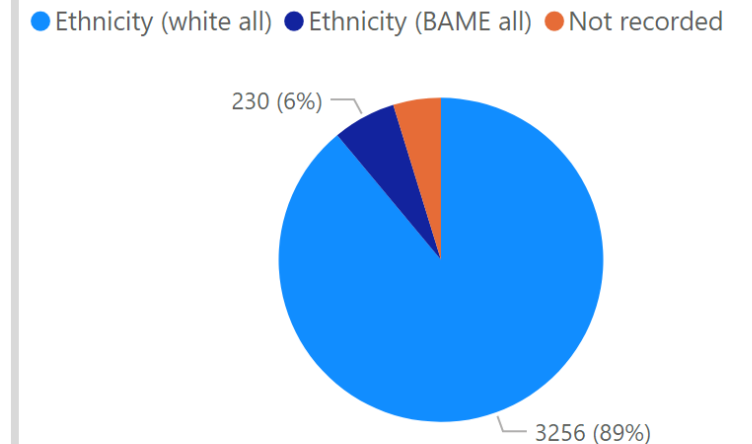
Cohort by gender



Cohort by age (numbers)



Cohort by ethnicity



An Education Strategy for North Somerset

Principles

- Every child receiving a relevant high quality education in their *local* area alongside their peers
- Every child known well – diversity of need and talent recognised as a strength of a healthy and high performing educational provision
- Needs identified and met early – a multi-agency approach to supporting children and their families
- Trusted relationships and nurture fostered in every school
- Children and young people setting the agenda
- Focus on closing gaps for the most vulnerable
- Operating in a climate of accountability, transparency and challenge to achieve best value for public money

What will this achieve?

- A diverse population in every school and a culture which **identifies needs early**
- Normalisation of SEND and mental health issues and a deep sense of belonging which **reduces the need to leave the system**
- All children making better progress and achieving more highly
- Smoother transitions between education stages
- Increased parental confidence in the mainstream system
- Improved transitions into adulthood

What pain will be spared?

Improved engagement – including children and young people with anxiety

Reduced escalation of need

Reduced requests for statutory needs assessments

Reduced requests for Special School Places

Reduced requests for additional funding

Reduced complaints and tribunals

More efficient and user friendly systems that support those who need them quicker



SEND Improvement Plan – May 2022 Update

- Programme Manager now appointed – Paul Wilson
- DfE now attending SEND Improvement Board and formal reports being submitted each month
- Education workstream – Area 3 largely **GREEN**
- Audits of SEND Information Reports - 85% Green
- ASP Reports and Training delivered – to be re-run in term 6
- Governor and QFT Training delivered and to be re-run in term 6
- Two MATS creating SEND and Inclusion Strategy (that we know of – there may be more)
- <https://worle-school.org.uk/new-page> – worth a look!
- Additional places to be provided at Baytree and through new SEMH school
- Additional capacity to support children in mainstream schools through Nurture Groups
- TUF Review (including Review of SEN provision) in process of being commissioned
- Children and young people’s SEND Council – setting the agenda for their own priorities
- Scrutiny Panel now visiting schools to meet parents with children and young people with SEND

DSG Management Plan

1. Early Identification of Need / prevention of escalation of need

Keep children at SEND Support levels in Mainstream Schools

- Graduated Response – refresh and roll out June 2020
- 7 Nurture Groups being commissioned in mainstream schools
- Mental Health in Schools Project
- Training and support of schools – SEND and Trusted Relationships/ Trauma Informed practice
- Extension of SENDIAS contract
- Of 31 families using SENDIAS SEND Support Worker, only 5 went on to request SNA
- Transition support projects
- Early Help in Schools Project (EH Team plus health co-located located in highest need secondary schools)
- Improved communication with parents and carer through improved Local Offer

2. Increasing local SEND Provision

- SEMH School – 22 places this year, 65 places overall
- Baytree school expansion

3. Improvements in Commissioning

- Review of Truro Pathways
- Review of Special School Provision
- Use of AP Framework for all AP – transfer students at transition stages from bespoke packages
- Renegotiate unit cost of NM Independent Placements

4. Other efficiency measures

- Re-forecast need
- Top Up Funding Review
- Increase Health contributions
- Review of Post 16 provision
- Review of arrangements to SEN school reserves
- Management of duration of EHCPs

5. To support this, we need

Cap and national rates for Independent sector

Re-enforce the message to parents/carers and schools that mainstream is a positive choice

Focus of Education Investment Area to be SEND

Ofsted focus on prevention/early identification and closing gaps

More realistic funding and clarification on education/health split of funding

Examples of authorities who have achieved balanced book and managed demand