

Phil Norrey
Chief Executive

To: The Chair and Members of the
Devon Education Forum

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

(See below)

Your ref :
Our ref :

Date : 12 March 2019
Please ask for : Fiona Rutley 01392 382305

Email: fiona.rutley@devon.gov.uk

DEVON EDUCATION FORUM

Wednesday, 20th March, 2019

A meeting of the Devon Education Forum is to be held on the above date at 10.00 am in the Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

P NORREY
Chief Executive

***The meeting will be followed by a light buffet lunch.
It would be helpful if members were to confirm their attendance***

A G E N D A

PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)
Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2019 attached.
- 3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention
Items which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.
- 4 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting and Report back on Issues Raised with Cabinet
To consider any matters arising from the last meeting where no otherwise covered on this agenda and to report on items considered at the Cabinet.

5 Membership

6 Head of Education & Learning Update

10.10am Head of Education & Learning to report.

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS FOR DECISION

7 Finance Update (Pages 7 - 14)

10.30am Report of the Chief Officer for Children's Services and County Treasurer (DEF/19/02) attached.

8 Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Inspection Update
10.50am (Pages 15 - 18)

Report of the Head of Education & Learning (DEF/19/04) attached.

CQC/Ofsted inspection letter 28 January 2019 is available at:

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50054047>

ITEMS FOR DEBATE AND INFORMATION

9 Children with Special Educational Needs - Education Annual Report 2017/18
11.10am (Pages 19 - 52)

Report of the Head of Education & Learning (DEF/19/05) attached.

STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS FOR DEBATE AND INFORMATION

10 Post 16

11.25am Head of Education & Learning to report.

11 Headteacher Associations' (DASH & DAPH) formation of Devon Schools Leadership
11.40am Services Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Pages 53 - 56)

Report by Devon Association of Secondary Heads (DASH) and Devon Association of Primary Heads (DAPH) (DEF/19/03) attached.

12 Standing (and other) Groups (Pages 57 - 68)

11.55am To review action for the Forum from its groups and to receive minutes:-

(a) Schools' Finance Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019, attached.

Also available at

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/devon-education-forum/schools-finance-group>

(b) School Organisation, Capital and Admissions Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2019, attached.

Also available at

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/devon-education-forum/school-organisation-capital-and-admissions-group-soca>

13 Correspondence

14 Dates of Future Meetings

12 noon *Close*

VOTING (see below)

FAILED AMENDMENTS AND VOTING FIGURES MAY BE RECORDED WHERE REQUESTED BY AN ASSOCIATION OR SINGLE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (for contentious issues)

Voting Representatives are Schools, Academies and Non-Schools Members, excepting Regulations restrict the voting arrangements by only allowing Schools and Academy members and the PVI private, voluntary and independent sector early years to vote on the funding formula. Additionally for de-delegation matters only the relevant maintained schools members may vote (primary and secondary, vote by phase). In relation to the scheme for financing schools all maintained schools members may vote (all phases).

Coloured voting cards for restricted voting:-
Schools members (maintained) primary - gold
Schools members (maintained) secondary - beige
Academies (mainstream and alternative provision) - blue
Special Schools, Nursery Schools – pink
PVI - orange

FORMAL OBSERVERS, ATTENDEES AND ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBER ATTENDING IN ADDITION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE FULL MEMBER ARE EXEMPT FROM VOTING

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

The Devon Education Forum web is www.devon.gov.uk/schoolsforum
The proceedings of this meeting may be recorded for broadcasting live on the internet via the Devon Education Forum's website. The whole of the meeting may be broadcast apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public.

For information on travelling to County Hall please see <http://www.devon.gov.uk/travelling-to-countyhall.htm>

DEVON EDUCATION FORUM

23 January 2019

Present:-

Schools Members

Primary School Head teachers

Mr M Boxall

Mr A Dobson

Mr J Stone

Mr P Walker

Exeter Children's Federation

Marwood Primary

Denbury Primary

First Federation Trust (*Academy Member*)

Primary School Governors

Mrs A Blewett

Mr M Dobbins

Ms M Wallis

Mr A Walmsley

Kings Nympton Primary

Exmouth Marpool Primary

Whimble School (**Chair**)

First Federation (*Academy Member*)

Secondary School Head teachers

Mr R Haring

Ms A Mitchell

Mrs J Phelan

Ivybridge CC (*Academy Member*)

The Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Cullompton CC

Secondary School Governors

Ms J Elson

Mrs J Larcombe

Mrs T Sturtivant

Exmouth CC (*Academy Member*)

Uffculme Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Tiverton High

Nursery School

Mrs S Baker

Westexe

Special School HeadTeacher

Ms S Pickering

Millwater School

Special School Governor

Mrs F Butler

Marland School

Non-Schools Members

Mr R Gurney

Mr J Searson

Mrs L Wright

Mr B Blythe

Teachers Consultative Committee

Exeter Diocesan Board of Education

Early Yrs Private, Voluntary & Independent (*Substitute Member*)

16-19 West England School & College

Observer

Councillor J McInnes

Cabinet Member – Children's Services and Skills

Apologies

Ms M Marder

Mr T Newman

Mr R Gasson

The Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Chulmleigh Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

WAVE Multi Academy Trust (*Academy Member*)

Agenda Item 2

DEVON EDUCATION FORUM
23/01/19

96 Minutes

DECISION:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2018 be signed as a correct record.

97 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting and Report back on Issues Raised with Cabinet

DISCUSSION:

DAPH welcomed the clarification of the Regulations appended to the minutes of 20 November 2018 referred to in Minute 90 (bullet 1), in relation to the use of the DSG High Needs Block for students aged 19-25.

In response to whether there were likely to be further unforeseen costs regarding the small number of historic cases of 19-25 young people with EHCPs, the County Treasurer advised that it was not anticipated there should be any further young people within that category although Devon had no control over some factors eg consideration by tribunal.

98 Membership

DISCUSSION:

The Forum noted the resignation of Mrs S Barnett (Early Years Private, Voluntary and Independent representative).

Mrs L Wright was present as the current EYPVI substitute member.

Arrangements would be put in hand for the local authority to consider and appoint the EYPVI representative(s).

ACTION:

County Solicitor (Fiona Rutley)

99 Head of Education & Learning Update

DISCUSSION:

The Head of Education & Learning reported on:-

(a) Early Help for Mental Health (EH4MH) Members welcomed that following concern regarding the uncertainty around ongoing provision, the principles of EH4MH provision had now been confirmed. It had been confirmed as a priority included in the new service specification and wider funding had been made available. The detailed provision was now being worked upon.

(b) SEND Ofsted Inspection December 2018 Devon had had sight of the draft report affecting all providers (including CCG, schools and LA) within Devon. The final report was anticipated end January/beginning February 2019. The draft report had raised no new issues that Devon was not already aware of. Strategies to address these were therefore already being worked upon and implemented. Devon had made significant progress on the timing of EHCPs with a target of 95% EHCPs to be on time for October 2019.

In response to DAPH/DASH concerns:- reducing delays in the EHCP process was improving information becoming out of date from the draft plan stage; the Head of Education & Learning would continue to build and improve upon proactive communications and relationships with schools to help to resolve SEN issues before the draft plan stage, although educational

psychologist input continued to have a higher priority within the statutory SEND Code of Practice.

The SEND Improvement board (responsible for the action plan) and officers would further review and refresh the action plan to respond to the Ofsted report. A smaller action group would also be created to focus on the fine detail of specific actions. This would be chaired by Jo Olson as chair of the DCF Local Area Partnership

The Chair acknowledged the work driving SEND improvements over the last two years.

(c) Recruitment Associations were invited to participate in shaping a new Devon recruitment website/advertising campaign to help address recruitment issues including the shortage of high quality mathematics, physics and chemistry teachers.

(d) Attainment/Key Stage results (some figures unvalidated, summary tabled) compared nationally and by Devon's statistical neighbours. Although attainment was a more positive picture, work was being progressed to understand the generally downward trend in Devon's Progress results.

DECISION: that the Progress/Key Stage results summary be circulated electronically to DEF members.

ACTION:

Head of Education & Learning (Dawn Stabb)

100

Finance Update

DISCUSSION:

The Forum considered the report of the Chief Officer for Children's Services and County Treasurer (DEF/19/01).

The Forum also noted the respective minutes of the Schools Finance Group (SFG) of 9 January 2018.

The report (DEF/19/01) covered:

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2019/20 Budget Planning

Schools Block 2019/20

Central School Services Block 2019/20

High Needs Block 2019/20 (including pressures and planned actions)

Early Years Block 2019/20

Other Schools Grants 2019/20

Month 8 DSG Budget Monitoring Position 2017/18 (including DSG Month 8 forecast and major variations; High Needs Month 8 forecast and budgets).

The County Treasurer summarised sections 1-6 of the report. Discussion on these sections included:-

-members' had some reservations regarding the EFSA schools funding allocations 2019/20 announced 17 December 2018; Devon will be funded £294 per pupil lower than the national average, £26.8million in total.

-the continued considerable budget pressure of the High Needs Block (section 4) and whether there could be an increase in Alternative Provision places at least in the short term until strategies within the Devon Inclusion Project could take effect to support pupils with SEN and complex needs;

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DEVON EDUCATION FORUM
23/01/19

-that as a lot of the budget was needs-led, the LA could not guarantee demand and it therefore challenging to achieve the management action required in year 2019/20 to meet pressures of £5.34m; There was a request that DEF members be provided with a breakdown of the 2019/20 £2.4m management actions (paragraph 7.6 of the report) regarding the 3rd – 5th year action within FE. Actions were currently being worked on;

-the 16-19 representative would welcome continued dialogue to offer improved value SEN placements.

The County Treasurer further summarised section 7 of the report (Month 8 DSG budget monitoring) and members' discussion included:-

-it was acknowledged that Devon had played a considerable part in the additional £250m of funding for high needs 2018/19 and 2019/2020, with Devon receiving £1.54m each year;

-the Secretary of State decision regarding the disapplication request was expected shortly and by 28 February 2019 at the latest.

- Due to the local formula Devon Secondary schools will see a lower minimum funding per pupil level than those of Cornwall and Plymouth.

-any plan B for HNB budget pressures to avoid the ongoing cycle. Costs of independent sector high needs provision was a national issue and delays in additional Devon infrastructure had been beyond Devon's control. The growth to this budget line was therefore unfortunately expected to continue to grow but the rate of growth should slow down due to other action taken. This growth is recognised within the 2019/20 budget. The Children's Scrutiny Committee on 21 January 2019 considering the 2019/20 budget supported proposals (subject ratification by the full Council Budget meeting on 21 February 2019) to corporately set aside £3.5m next year to cover changes to accounting rules requiring the Council to finance any High Needs deficit from 2021/22;

-that as requested by SFG a communication to Headteachers to explain the revised disapplication request to 0.25% was being prepared by the County Treasurer in consultation with DAPH and DASH and would be sent out shortly.

- Governors requested as part of communication on budgeted it should include expectations for the next 3 year budgets, an explanation of the short term and guidance for the medium term, 3-5 years.

DECISION:

(a) that the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2019/20 EFSA announcement on 17 December 2018 as set out in section 1 of report (DEF/19/01) be noted;

(b) that the Schools Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block for 2019/20 as set out in sections 2 to 6 of the report be noted;

(c) that month 8 DSG monitoring position as set out in section 7 of the report be noted.

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Standing (and other) Groups

The Forum received the following minutes of its standing groups:-

(a) Schools' Finance Group (SFG)

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2019 (considered under Finance Update minute 100 above)

(b) School Organisation, Capital and Admissions (SOCA)

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2019.

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Dates of Future Meetings

Meetings to be held at County Hall, Exeter, at 10am (unless otherwise specified):

Wed 20 March 2019

Wed 19 June 2019

Wed 20 Nov 2019

Wed 22 January 2020

Wed 18 March 2020.

<https://democracy.devon.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.40 am

The Schools Forum web is www.devon.gov.uk/schoolsforum

Agenda Item 2

FINANCE UPDATE

REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Recommendations

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) Notes month 10 DSG monitoring position as set out in section 1

All to note

- b) Agrees the allocation of the deficit and surplus carry forward recommendations from 2018/19 as set out in section 2

Voting as set out in Table 3, 4 and 5, section 2.

1. Budget Monitoring Report - Month 10 (2018/19) – Dedicated Schools Grant

In November the DFE confirmed the revised DSG settlement allocation of £282.8millions including Early Years (before recoupment for academies). This is ring-fenced grant and any surplus/deficit will be shown as an assumed carry forward.

The 2017/18 carry forwards total £19.3millions have been approved by cabinet and are included within the above.

The increase from Month 9 of £420,000 predominately relates to the High Needs Block. The High Needs block has seen an overall increase of £418,000 due to reduction in the agreed contributions for Adult joint funded placements, plus increases in placements with Other AP Providers, Maintained Special Schools, SEN therapies and FE college placements

Table 1: Summary of Month 10 forecast position and major variations:

Dedicated schools Grant	Net Budget	Net spend Mth 10	Forecast at Mth 10	Variance	Ring fenced C/fwd	Deficit / (Surplus) Balance	Movement from Previous Mth
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools delegated budget	211,662	163,362	211,662	0	0	0	0
DSG and School funding	(307,856)	(258,563)	(308,224)	(368)	0	(368)	0
Total DSG	(96,194)	(95,201)	(96,562)	(368)	0	(368)	0
De-delegated budgets	6,333	3,511	4,608	(1,725)	1,657	(68)	6
Central Provision (Schools)	5,172	5,179	5,169	(3)	3	0	(12)
High Needs Funding	65,308	57,666	71,936	6,628	(2,407)	4,221	418
Early Years & Childcare Services	38,661	32,430	38,604	(57)	0	(57)	8
Total DSG central budgets	115,474	98,786	120,317	4,843	(747)	4,096	420
Overall Net DSG budget	19,280	3,585	23,755	4,475	(747)	3,728	420

1.1 Schools - Underspend £368,000

The underspend of £368,000 is due to the Early Years Spring 2018 lagged settlement which included additional income for 3- and 4-year olds £279,000; Disadvantaged 2-year olds £73,000; Early Years Pupil Premium £5,000 and Supplementary Early Years £11,000. Costs linked to this funding were seen in 2017/18.

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1.2 De-delegated budgets – Underspend £68,000 after carry forwards

De-delegated budgets are showing an underspend of £68,000 which relates to the surplus balances within Trade Unions and Copyrights.

In addition, there are ring fenced surplus budgets currently being forecast within Schools' Contingency of £1.1millions and the Maternity scheme of £590,000. These are ring fenced for the maintained schools and will be carried forward into 2019/20 to meet future costs/commitments on these budget lines.

1.3 Central Provision within Schools – Breakeven after carry forwards

Central Provision is near breakeven as the balances within School Growth and Phase budgets, whether deficit or surplus will be carried forward to 2019/20.

£109,000 forecast overspend for school growth commitments will be carried forward into 2019/20 whilst there is a current surplus of £112,000 on DAPH activities will be ring fenced and carried forward and/or paid out to the new separate trading entity.

1.4 High Needs – Overspend £4.2millions after carry forwards

On the 17 December the Secretary of State announced an additional £250millions of funding for high needs, across the two financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20. This has been allocated on the basis of ONS projections for 2 to 18-year-old population in 2019 and sees Devon receive £1.54millions in each year.

The overspend within the High Needs Block, following the adjustment for the carry forward request, is currently forecast at £4.2millions, a worsening of £418,000 from month 9. Excluding the carry forward adjustment the overspend is £6.6millions.

This overall increase is due to reduction in the agreed contributions for Adult Joint Funded placements, plus increases in placements with Other AP Providers, Maintained Special Schools, SEN therapies and FE college placements.

Table 2: Summary of High Needs budgets and forecast position as at Month 10:

High Needs	Budget	Mth 10 Forecast	Variance	Movement Previous Mth
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Alternative Provision	2,279	2,668	389	28
Children in Care and Exclusions	1,463	1,428	(35)	0
Closing the Gap	1,500	1,500	0	0
Inclusion	349	334	(15)	0
Nursery Plus	1,164	1,164	0	0
Safeguarding Every Learner	144	144	0	0
SEN Mainstream	10,821	10,981	160	66
SEN Services	924	924	0	0
Maintained Special Schools	29,529	29,957	428	21
Hospital Education Services	375	375	0	0
Recoupment	284	694	410	9
Other Special School Fees	15,112	18,031	2,919	294
Support Centre Funding	1,364	1,329	(35)	0
TOTAL	65,308	69,529	4,221	418

1.5 Early Years – Underspend £57,000

The underspend is in relation to Trajectory funding, pupil led factors in Deprivation and FSM which has been partially offset by Tresillian balance and SEND funding.

1.6 Disapplication Request

Devon has received notification from the ESFA that the disapplication request to move the 0.25% from the Schools block to the High Needs block has been unsuccessful. A revised School budget share calculator has been made available to schools via the Education Finance blog.

The ESFA have stated they are committed to working with Devon to develop future plans and a SEN Advisor will in contact to discuss our High Needs strategy and offer help with longer term planning process.

1.7 Closedown

The closedown timetable (Appendix A) has now been produced and as last year the timescales are very tight due to how Easter Holidays fall. It is important to ensure that all accruals and other year-end actions are completed by the 29th March 2019.

1.8 Recommendation

Schools Forum is asked to note the update as set out in section 1 above.

All to note

2. 2018/19 Advanced notice of planned carry forwards

As in previous years we are seeking agreement that any residual deficit balance in the growth fund and High Needs Block be carried forward, to be offset by continued management action to control spending and any further increased High Needs funding on the basis that no one sector is disadvantaged over the other in the netting off process.

Maintained School balances and Special School balances will automatically carry forward to 2019/20 in individual budgets. The values of these will not be known until year end accruals have been undertaken.

£2.4m of the request represents management action which is believed to be achievable in 2019/20 and discussions are taking place around the LA meeting the remaining £3.7m overspend as part of the Outturn process for 2018/19.

The tables below set out all current known (estimated) carry forward requests, these will be confirmed and finalised during the closedown process. The total DSG overspend as at month 10 is £3.7m after the £747,000 requested carry forwards as detailed below:

Table 3: Deficit budgets carry forward requests

Budget Line	Amount £'000	Notes	Recommendations
Growth Fund	109	Deficit Balance – recognised to be offset in 2019/20	2.1.1 All to vote
High Needs Block	2,473	Deficit Balance – recognised Management Actions in 2019/20	2.1.1 All to vote
Total Deficit requests	2,582		

Table 4: Surplus budget carry forward requests

Budget Line	Amount £'000	Notes	Recommendations
Maternity	590	Rolled forward 2018/19 underspend to fund ongoing maternity cover	2.1.2 All to note

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Schools and DSG Contingency	1,067	Rolled forward to fund contingency agreements in 2019/20 onwards	2.1.2 All to note
Total De-delegated budgets	1,657		
Hospital Education	49	Rolled forward 2018/19 underspend to fund ongoing Medical AP students	2.1.2 All to note
Mainstream SEN	17	Post 16 SEN – ESFA Funding that relates to summer term	2.1.2 All to note
Total High Needs	66		
Phase Associations	112	Traded income balance for 18/19 (£15k). Surplus income c/fwd prior to 18/19 (£97k)	2.1.3 All to vote
Total Central Provisions budgets	112		
Total Carry forward requested	1,835		

Table 5: Surplus budget no carry forward identified

Budget Line	Amount £'000	Notes
Licence and subscriptions	35	Accumulated savings no recognised demand in 2019/20
Trade Unions	33	Accumulated savings no recognised demand in 2019/20
Budget Underspends	68	

SFG discussed the option is to use the £68,000 underspend to offset in part the Growth and High Needs Block deficit budgets per guidance from the DfE for closedown in March 2017. However, they agreed that it would be better put to use as a grant for a specific piece of work, such as invest to save, which could have a higher impact on pupils than an allocation to the wider HNB deficit.

2.1 Recommendations

1. Agree deficit budgets carry forwards to 2019/20 as set out in Table 3 for Growth Fund and High Needs Block.
All to vote
2. Note the surplus budget carry forwards to 2019/20 as set out in Table 4 for De-delegated and High Needs budgets.
All to note
3. Agree surplus budget carry forwards to 2019/20 as set out in Table 4 for Phase Associations.
All to vote
4. Agree surplus budget carry forward 2019/20 in Table 5 to use for HNB projects such as invest to save.
All to vote

MARY DAVIS
County Treasurer

JO OLSSON
Chief Officer for Children's Services

Please ask for Adrian Fox
Adrian.fox@devon.gov.uk

TASKS AND DEADLINES 2018-19		
FIRST DATE	LAST DATE	ACTION REQUIRED BY SCHOOL
08 Apr	22 Apr	SCHOOL EASTER HOLIDAYS - Tasks during this period are shaded
		Undertake the housekeeping in SIMS
	05 Mar	Supply - Last day for supply upload for February
01 Mar	08 Mar	Printouts - Submission of Printout Queries for Period 11
01 Mar	08 Mar	Mutual Fund - Submission of claims to end February 2019
	08 Mar	LPS - Last day to raise debtor invoices to the LPS school (Withycombe Raleigh) only . Should you miss this deadline, you will need to raise the invoice in the new financial year. No maintained school whether LPS or central payment can raise year end debtors or creditors against another DCC maintained school.
	08 Mar	Capital - Schools with previous years' spending on intangible Assets (C701 & C702) need to confirm that they have not been impaired during the year and that they still exist.
	14 Mar	C£ASS - Last scheduled C£ASS run in March LPS Schools - Final scheduled C£ASS run before Year End returns
	15 Mar	Invoices - Last date for CT10/3 s to reach Revenue section for processing into Period 12.
	15 Mar	Banking - Cheques must be sent 1 st Class to County Hall and must be clearly marked on the cheque listing " OLD YEAR ". After the 15 March Revenue will not be able to process anything else in the old year. Add any external income (cash/cheques) received after 15 March to your debtor schedule.
	15 Mar	Banking - Last date for banking cash income to appear in Month 12 including giving money to G4S. Clear any remaining cash to bank. Last cash collections for old year
	15 Mar	Capital – supply Schools Leasing Review to Capital Team
	22 Mar	PFI – deadline for schools being charged their March contract values. PFI Schools will not need to raise an accrual. Should you have any queries relating to this matter please contact Leroy Venn on 01392 381200.
	22 Mar	Invoices - Central Payment School Online Internal Invoicing closes 5PM

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	22 Mar	Mutual Fund - Deadline for March. Any short-term absence relating to March is required to be submitted by this date. Any new absence commencing 25 – 29 March would not be entitled due to the minimum 5 days waiting period.
	25 Mar	C£ASS - Final C£ASS run for OLD YEAR – non-LPS Schools. Final posting run of old year internal invoices
	26 Mar	Petty Cash - Last day for Petty Cash to be reimbursed before end of term. Submit by 5PM
	29 Mar	Capital - Please ensure that all capital projects have been appropriately coded to capital codes (Please do not split invoices between revenue codes and capital codes) if the SBS is funding part or all of the project please e-mail Capital Team or call on 01392 383669 to arrange the appropriate SBS transfer. Capital - Deadline for submitting Capital Debtor / Creditor Information including supporting documentation to the Capital Team . Capital – 29 Mar – 5PM SCHOOLS CAPITAL ACCOUNTS CLOSED TO SCHOOLS
	28 Mar	SCRAPS – all submissions to be made 4PM – errors may mean costs not posted to OLD YEAR if no contact at school.
	29 Mar	EOY Accruals - Deadline for Final End of Year Accruals workbook and Pay – End of Year Accruals Workbook to E&L finance team – 5PM
	29 Mar	Old Year - Final BACS & Finest run for OLD YEAR – 12 noon
	29 Mar	LPS – deadline for March VAT returns 12 noon
	29 Mar	School accounts closed to Schools – 3PM (FINEST closes)
	29 Mar	Capital - Deadline for Capital “Spend by site” details to Capital team . Capital – In Year Intangible Asset spend (C701 & C702) information to Capital Team
	31 Mar	Effective deadline by which goods/services need to be received/supplied to be included in 2018/19 accounts
	01 Apr	FMS – Period 13 opens FINEST - NEW FINANCIAL YEAR OPEN AND AVAILABLE First Cheque and BACS run in the New Year
	01 Apr	Reconcile - Download and reconcile all transactions to date. Submit queries to finance team.
	01 Apr	LPS – LPS School will receive their Final Accounts return from the Schools Finance Team.

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	01 Apr	Journals - On-line Journal Transfers (journals not related to End of Year) close – 5PM
	04 Apr	Printouts - Schools Finance Team will run the normal monthly printouts
	05 Apr	FINAL ADJUSTMENTS - submission of <u>significant</u> corrections and <u>significant</u> omissions
	05 Apr	LPS - Submission of Final Accounts returns
	08 Apr	Easter Holiday (End of Spring term)
	12 Apr	SCHOOLS LEDGERS CLOSE – 5PM
	19 Apr	Good Friday Bank Holiday
	22 Apr	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
	23 Apr	Closedown - Run preliminary closedown of FMS after FMS period 12 reconciliation. Housekeeping complete.
	30 Apr	FINAL YEAR END CONFIRMATION PRINTOUTS available for download by schools – both Revenue and Capital
	30 Apr	Carry forward confirmed by issue of final printout. FMS – Close of Period 13 and Financial Year 2018/19
01 May	31 May	Once the school has submitted their end of year FRS monitoring report and it has been confirmed by the School Finance Team that it matches to FINEST, the school can Run final closedown of FMS system.

If you have any queries on the processes, please direct these through to your Finance Officer
01392 287209 email: schoolsfinance@babcockinternational.com

Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Inspection Update

Report of the Head of Education & Learning

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendation(s)

That the committee;

- a) Note the findings of Devon's Local Area SEND Inspection and the requirement for the local area to produce a Written Statement of Action within 70 days
- b) Note that the Inspection is of the area not the Local Authority
- c) Note the actions already taken or in progress by the local area
- d) Consider how the work of the Scrutiny Task and Finish informs and dovetails with the work in response to the findings of the Inspection

1. Background

- 1.1. The Children and Families Act 2014 sets out legal duties to reform the way support is provided for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), which are being implemented by local authorities, CCGs and partners nationwide. The Act requires a culture change in the ways that professionals work with families and with each other, this is set out in the SEND Code of Practice 2015.
- 1.2. From May 2016, the Minister of State for Children and Families tasked Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) with inspecting the effectiveness of local areas in fulfilling their duties.
- 1.3. The focus of the Local Area SEND Inspection is concentrated on three key areas;
 - The effectiveness of the local area in identifying children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities
 - The effectiveness of the local area in assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities
 - The effectiveness of the local area in improving outcomes for children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities

2. Devon Local Area SEND Inspection

- 2.1. Between 10 and 14 December 2018, Ofsted and CQC conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Devon. Inspectors produced a letter summarising their findings.

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Devon SEND
Inspection Outcome L

- 2.2. The inspection identified strengths in relation to positive academic outcomes, support for children with the most complex needs and the strong commitment and dedication from staff across the local area. Inspectors also recognised that the strategies and plans that are in place are the right ones, but they are not yet sufficiently impacting on the lived experience of children and families in Devon. The Inspection findings validated Devon's self-assessment which was recognised as robust and accurate.
- 2.3. Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) has determined that a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) is required to address four areas of weakness identified by Ofsted and CQC;
 - i) Strategic plans and the local area's SEND arrangements are not embedded or widely understood by stakeholders, including schools, settings, staff and parents and carers.
 - ii) The significant concerns that were reported about communication with key stakeholders, particularly with parents and families.
 - iii) The time it takes to issue Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) and the variable quality of these plans.
 - iv) Weaknesses in the identification, assessment, diagnosis and support of those children and young people with autism spectrum disorder.
- 2.4. The local authority and the clinical commissioning group are jointly responsible for submitting the written statement to Ofsted within 70 working days of receipt of the report. In Devon's case, the written statement needs to be submitted no later than Friday 10 May 2019.
- 2.5. Senior leaders in the local authority and clinical commissioning group are developing the detailed priority actions that will form the WSoA. The local area is supported in the development of the WSoA by advisors from the Department for Education and NHS England. The advisors reported their confidence in the actions being taken and the progress made since the inspection. The open and active approach has given advisors assurance of the capacity to further drive improvement.
- 2.6. The multi-agency SEND Improvement Board is responsible for the SEND Improvement Programme. The Board reports to the executive of the Devon Children and Families partnership. The WSoA needs to be understood in the context of the wider SEND Improvement Programme which has incorporated all of the findings from the Inspection in its work programme and action plans.
- 2.7. The required outcome is that lived experience for children and families involved with SEND will be good and will match the good educational outcomes achieved by children and young people with SEND in Devon.

3. Actions taken or in progress

- 3.1. The WSoA is in development. It will set out the detailed outcomes and actions that the local area will deliver to address the four areas of concern. The draft will be sent to parents, schools and other stakeholders before the Easter break so that their contributions can inform the final draft. Work has already begun to drive forward improvements.

- 3.2. As recognised in the inspection report, the local area has begun to implement plans to improve **the timeliness and quality of EHCPs**;
- Increased senior leadership oversight and ownership of performance across education, health and care.
 - Streamlined EHC assessment processes to increase efficiency and more granular performance monitoring of assessments (process and quality)
 - Additional staffing to meet increased demand
 - Contract escalation processes applied appropriately with commissioned services.
 - Agreed multi-agency standards (based on standards by Council for Disabled Children)
 - Training, which is in development, providing clear expectations about quality and specificity that will ensure content of EHCPs is appropriate to needs.
 - Multi-agency quality audits to support workforce development
- 3.3. The rate of EHCPs being issued is now higher than the rate of requests. Whilst there is still a backlog of EHCPs to complete, productivity has increased. The balance of on time/late will improve as the number of overdue plans reduces week on week. The local area is developing clear performance targets, these are included in the SEND annual report.
- 3.4. Radical **change in relationships with partners and parents** is required which builds on the good progress and outstanding services that are in place in some parts of the system;
- The Chair of the Devon Children and Families Partnership wrote to parents of children and young people with an EHCP to reinforce the local area's complete commitment to delivering the improvements identified through the inspection. A commitment to write again in has been made to keep parents up to date with progress.
 - The Head of Communication & Media is advising on **communicating with all stakeholders about the local area's vision and strategic plans**
 - A revised EHCP format agreed with parents is in place, making the child and parent/carer views and aspirations more prominent and central to the Plan.
 - Pro-active written communication to parents and young people, who are experiencing delays in the EHC assessment process, is now common practice
 - Refresh of case management arrangements in the SEN 0-25 team so parents and young people have a single named contact to support improved communication and relationship building from the point of request for an EHCP
- 3.5. The inspection identified weaknesses in **the identification, assessment, diagnosis and support for children and young people with ASD**. This is not just about waiting times but how our whole system responds to the support and planning for these children and young people, to meet their needs effectively, while undergoing and following assessment. Adult services are similarly experiencing delays in diagnosis and post diagnosis support for people with autism.
- 3.6. We are working across the system and age range to improve how people with autism are supported across Devon. To enhance provision and practice across all educational settings, schools in Devon have completed the Devon Enhanced Autism Programme of training.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 Members have received regular updates about SEND and put in place a task and finish in order to penetrate more deeply. The Council has responded positively and with

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determination and commitment to the findings of the Inspection, which essentially validated the area self-assessment. This has been recognised and endorsed by the DfE advisors supporting us in the development of our WSoA. The draft WSoA will be shared with parents, schools and other stakeholders at the end of March. The actions that will lead to the improvements are already underway. Inspectors will return within 18 months to assess the progress and impact of the Improvement Programme.

- 4.2 Members will also want to assess progress and impact. We would suggest an update report in Autumn 2019

Electoral Divisions: All

Cabinet Member for Children Services and Schools: Councillor James McInnes

Chief Officer for Childrens Services: Jo Olsson

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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Children with Special Educational Needs Education Annual Report 2017/18

Part A - SEN Statements / EHCPs maintained by Devon

This section of the report covers all children and young people **with a statutory plan maintained by Devon** including those placed out of Devon County. It does not include data for those in Devon schools who have plans which are maintained by other local authorities.

The SEN 0-25 Service undertakes the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority in assessment for and reviewing of Education Health and Care Plans. The information provided is based on latest published national data taken from the statutory SEN2 data collection (annual Special Educational Needs survey). This is the Department for Education's only source of data on all statements of SEN and EHCPs maintained by individual local authorities. The latest published return is for data submitted by Local Authorities in January 2018. We have however provided below, where possible, local data for 2019.

The SEN2 return is not a pupil level return and therefore the Department for Education does not publish pupil cohort characteristics and outcomes. Information on this for those pupils in Devon schools is provided in Part B of this document.

Total Statutory Plans managed by the Local Authority

As of the January 2018 SEN2 return, the local authority managed a total of 4,093 statutory plans (including both EHCPs and Statements) across the 0-25 age range. This is an increase of 10% from Jan 2017 and represents 2.8% of the overall Devon pupil cohort. This is slightly lower than the latest national average of 2.9%. Figures for trends with previous years are shown below. Local data indicates that as of January 2019 the number of pupils with an EHCP plan maintained by Devon has increased to 5,162. This is a further 26% increase on the previous year.

Table A1. Number of pupils with a Statement/EHC Plan maintained by Devon LA

	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18
Pupils with Statement/EHCP maintained by Devon LA*1	3,572	3,510	3,718	4093

In January 2018 the majority of plans were for children of compulsory school age, however following the extended responsibilities in the Code of Practice the numbers post 16 have significantly increased (by 55%) as plans are now maintained in the FE sector.

The chart below shows how these plans are distributed across the age range and also provides information relating to the pupils primary SEN need.

Table A2 Number of statutory plans maintained by Devon by primary need

Age at 31/8/17	ASD	HI	MLD	MSI	PD	PMLD	SEMH	SLCN	SLD	SpLD	VI	NIPN	Total 2018	Total 2017
Pre School incl.reception	32	4	7	1	2	5	1	12	17	1		9	91 ↑	72
Primary	247	32	100	8	79	15	178	316	78	8	20	12	1093 ↓	1125
Secondary	338	38	161	2	135	18	470	410	74	50	18	4	1718 ↓	1748
16-19	217	25	122	1	94	9	285	171	63	45	13	4	1049 ↑	725
19+	35	2	39	1	12	2	11	7	25	2	5	1	142 ↑	48
Total	869	101	429	13	322	49	945	916	257	106	56	30	4093 ↑	3718

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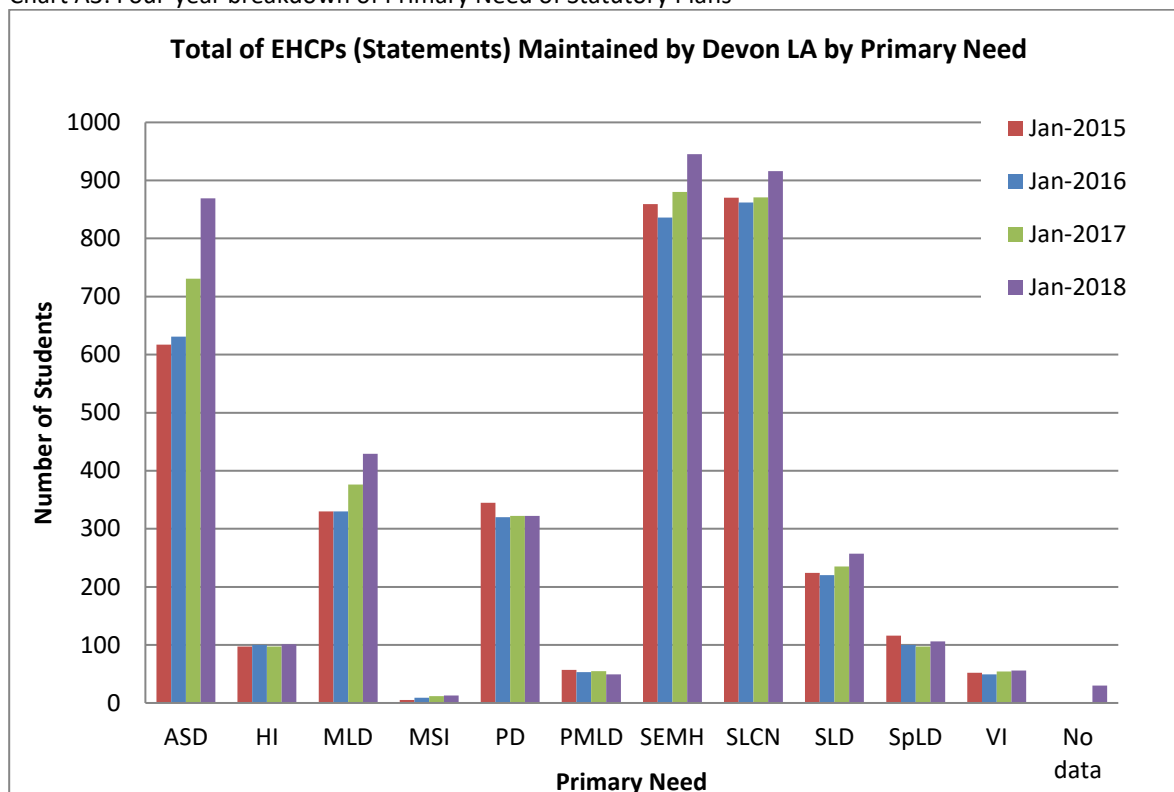
The top three categories of need for this cohort of young people, making up two thirds of the cohort, are as follows:

- SEMH: Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties
- SLCN: Speech, Language and Communication needs
- ASD: Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

These categories have remained the most prolific over the four years to January 2018, however ASD has seen the largest increase.

The Chart below shows the trend over 4 years based on the primary need.

Chart A3: Four-year breakdown of Primary Need of Statutory Plans



Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018

The Devon Enhanced Autism Programme was launched in 2016 and rolled out over that academic year. Whilst direct correlation is difficult to evidence the increase in identification in subsequent years could reflect the impact of this project.

Statutory Plans issued in timescales.

The statutory duty of the Local Authority is to complete first assessments within the 20-week timescale as directed by the Code of Practice. Currently this time scale is not being met for the majority of pupils and Local Area timeliness outcomes are amongst the lowest in the country. This has been acknowledged as a significant concern. The SEND Improvement Board and the associated work stream has been active in securing funding for additional capacity in the SEN 0-25 team, health & care; putting in place a new process for timeliness of professional responses and securing additional monitoring by health through a single point of referral.

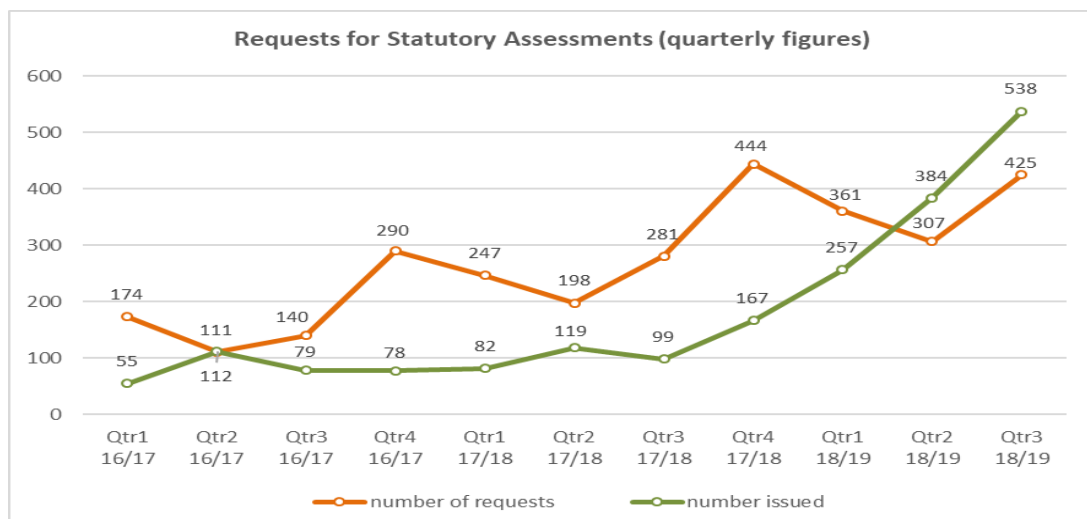
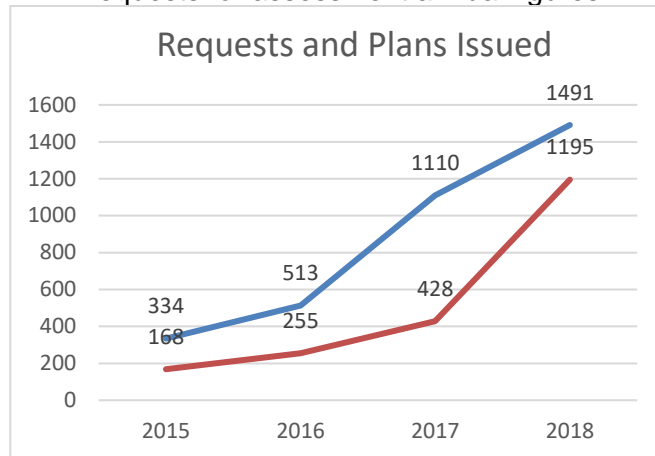
Cases under assessment are reliant on the professional advice being received in full before a plan can be issued. However, the timeliness of advice received from Educational Psychologists, Health and Care professionals was far too low. Where work was being undertaken by a commissioned service, DCC and the Clinical Commissioning group have used contract escalation processes in deliver improvement. The impact of this is evident and the

percentage of professional advice received on time has risen from a low of 5% in January 2018 to 75% in December 2018.

The larger SEN Team was put in place in April 2018 and this has helped to ensure that plans are issued as soon as possible after the professional advice has been received.

Our improved output in terms of the number of plans issued is clearly visible in the graphs below.

Requests for assessment annual figures



The number plans issued in 2018 was 1,195, compared to 384 in 2017. This represents a 211% increase

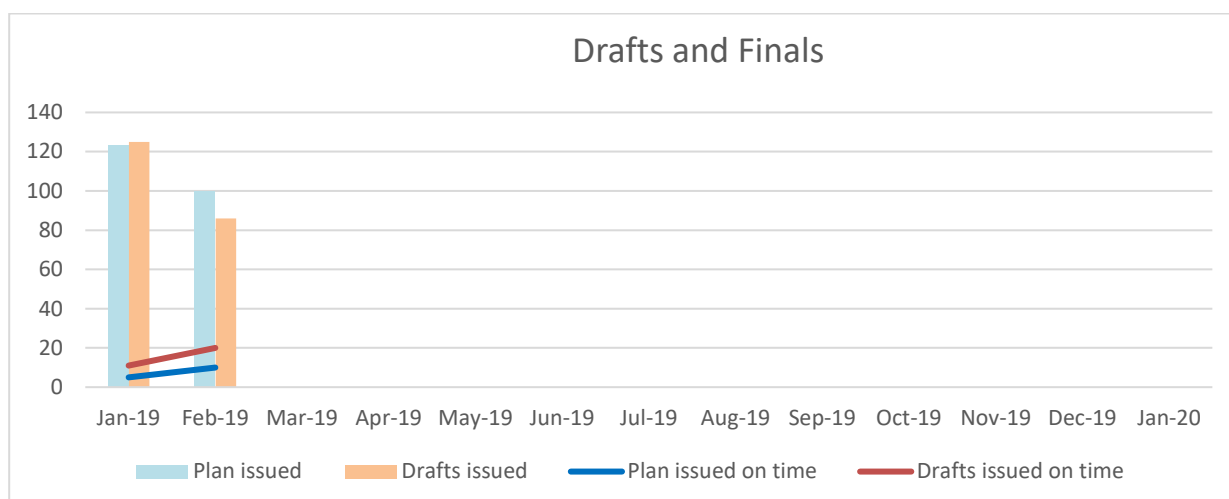
Despite this progress, the backlog of cases under assessment means that there is still a significant delay in realising the impact of the improvements. Monthly tracking is monitoring, and taking action where needed, to ensure the number of plans being issued continues to exceed the number being received (as shown in the graphs above). In addition, we have mapped our trajectory against a forecast number of requests for assessment, the current backlog and the number of plans issued. The spreadsheet we are working with is complex and so a summary is shown below.

Forecast	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20
Outstanding plans	726	754	742	670	598	526	454	382	310	238	166	94	22
Actual	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20
Outstanding plans	726	691											

Based on the above forecast we predict that 90% of plans should be issued on time by October (this would be well above the current national average). This of course is dependent on the requests received not exceeding the forecast numbers. The present trend for drafts and

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finals issued each month is starting to show improvement in those issued in statutory timescales, if this continues not only is the backlog reduced but the timeliness is addressed.

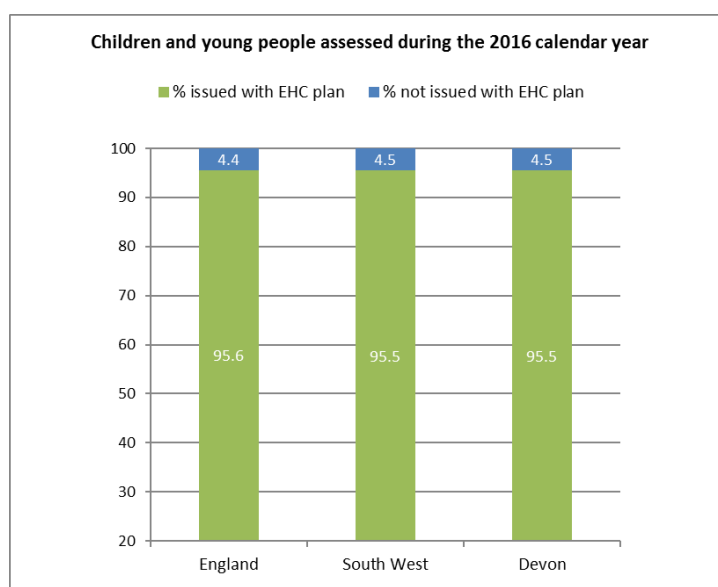


It should be noted that there are times of the year when the focus on new assessments is affected by reviews for full year groups; February requires all existing plans in year 6 to be reviewed and amended identifying the secondary school for year 7 and March requires the same for year 11 naming post 16 settings.

Assessment resulting in EHC Plans

The chart below shows the most recent National information relating to the percentage of plans progressing to full assessment and which result in an EHCP plan being issued.

Chart A4: EHC Assessments resulting in EHC Plans



Local figures suggest that in 2017 the number of plans being issued after full assessment reduced to 90.4%. This reflects the interpretation of Code of Practice threshold at 6 weeks as a lower threshold for assessment meaning more plans now proceed to full assessment. Not all of these additional assessments result in an EHCP being issued.

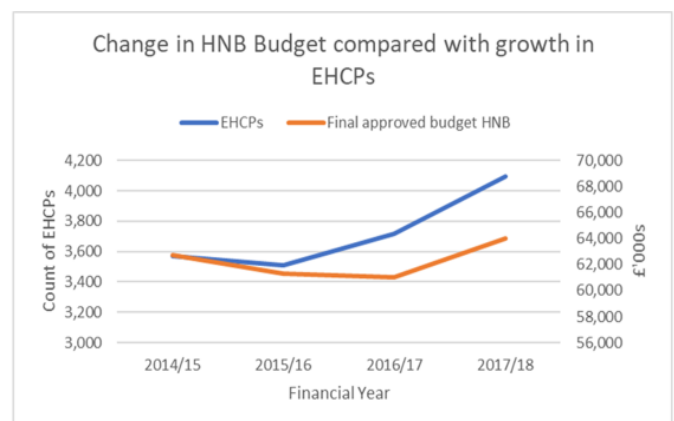
SEN Placements

Learners with statutory plans are mostly placed within mainstream schools and LA maintained special schools. This is in line with both the Code of Practice and the Devon SEND strategy which outlines the SEN funding priorities which are:

- Ensure statutory provision is in place in mainstream schools;
- Ensure there are sufficient special school places in Devon to meet demand;
- Use specialist independent providers only when the SEN of a child or young person requires that level of specific provision and it cannot be met in mainstream or special schools.

As of January 2018, the number of pupils with plans maintained in mainstream schools had decreased. This causes pressure on both special school places and the High Needs Block, (due to increased use of the independent sector which is more costly). This is especially relevant given that the increase in the number of children supported with EHCPs has grown significantly more than the High Needs Block funding growth available to the local authority to support them.

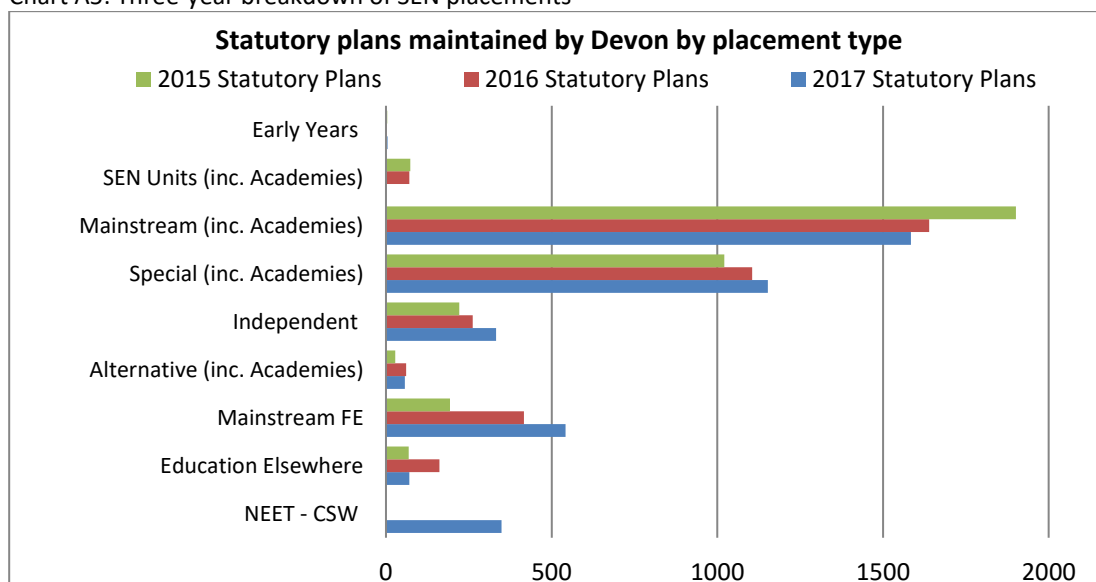
SEN High Needs funding.



The graph opposite shows the difference between the High Needs Block Funding and the number of EHC plans.

The chart below shows the distribution of pupils between types of schools and settings and includes both in and out of county placements.

Chart A5: Three-year breakdown of SEN placements



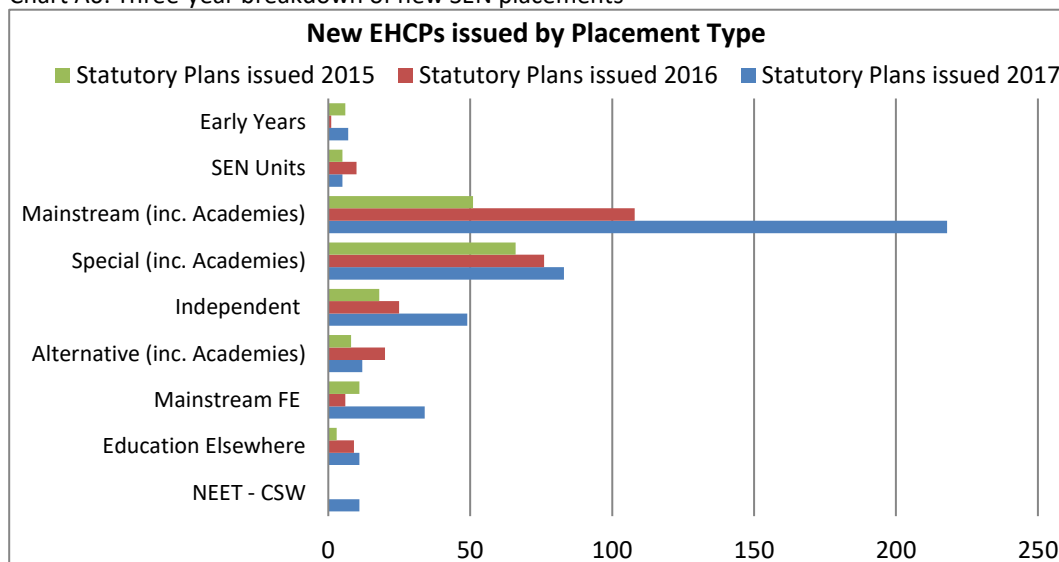
Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2016, 2017 and 2018

The figures with EHCPs showing as NEET is a concern and so the LA has agreed with partners that we will work for two terms to try to reengage young people who do not engage with further education or training when leaving school; the data is collected at the end of the first term, so this will become a continuing annual statistic. It is the intention that close monitoring of this cohort will be incorporated into the monitoring of the work undertaken by Careers South West.

New placements following First Assessment

In 2017 calendar year (the most recent statistical release) most new plans issued specified mainstream education. New plans were also issued in the FE Sector for the first time. The data below does not include those that have transferred from statements. A concern is the increase in first plans resulting in placement in the independent sector which is often either due to a lack of capacity or parental preference indicating a lack of confidence in the mainstream sector.

Chart A6: Three-year breakdown of new SEN placements

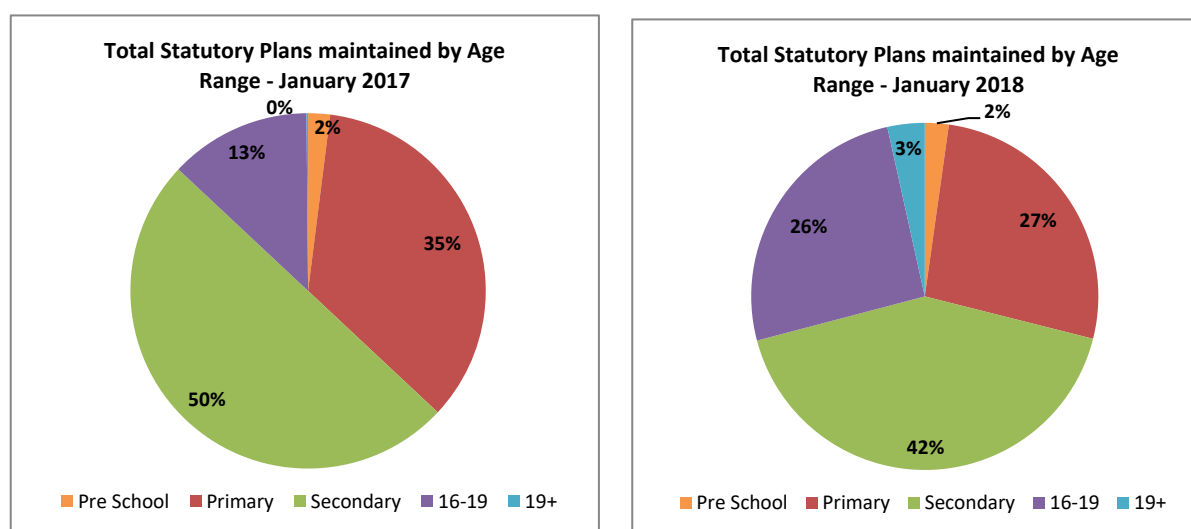


Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2016 and 2017

Age breakdown of Statutory Plans

The Code of Practice clearly placed a statutory responsibility on Local Authorities across the 0-25 age range. While we have seen an increase in the number of plans across all age ranges, it is the post 16 sector increase that is greatest. This was expected following the transfer of all statements to EHC Plans. Figures should now remain steady as all transfers were completed by March 31st 2018. The post 19 age range however is likely to continue growing as more and more young people wish to remain in education. Further work with Adult Care to increase confidence in a local care offer may reduce anxiety about leaving education.

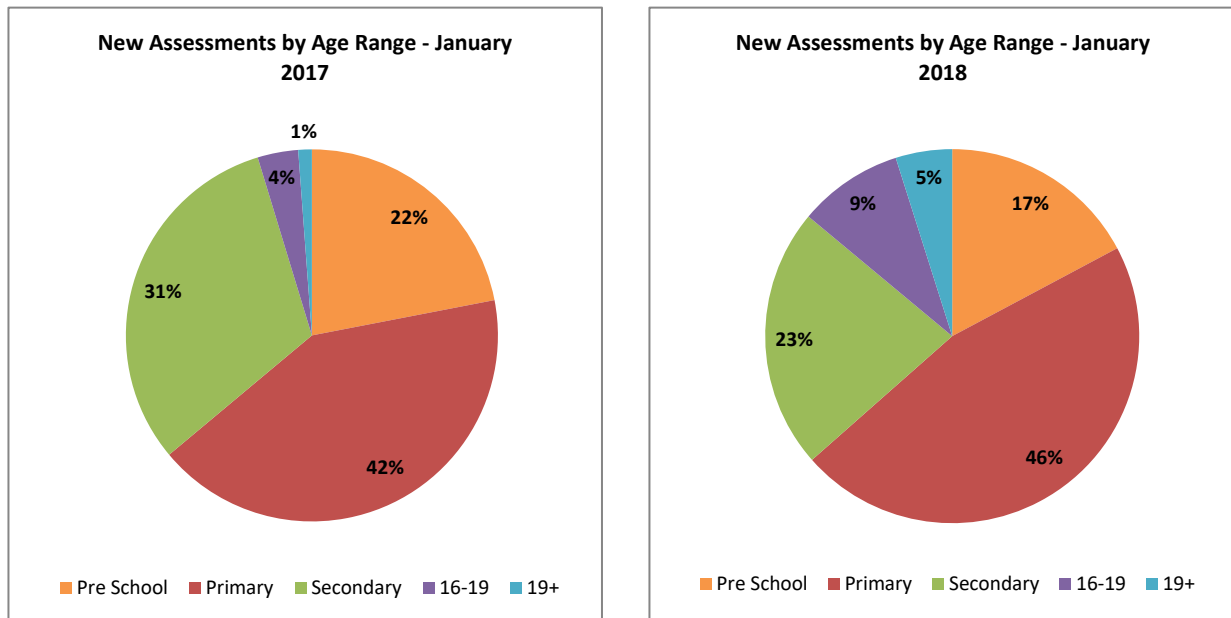
Charts A7 Total Statutory Plans maintained by age in 2017 and 2016



Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2018 and 2017

The total statutory plans charts above show that overall the early years and post 19 make up 5% of existing plans. However, as the charts below indicate, these age ranges account for almost a quarter (23%) of the number of first assessments in 2017 and 22% in 2018. As explained above in 2018 there was also a significant increase in first assessments in the post 16 sector.

Chart A8 New Assessments by age in 2017 and 2016

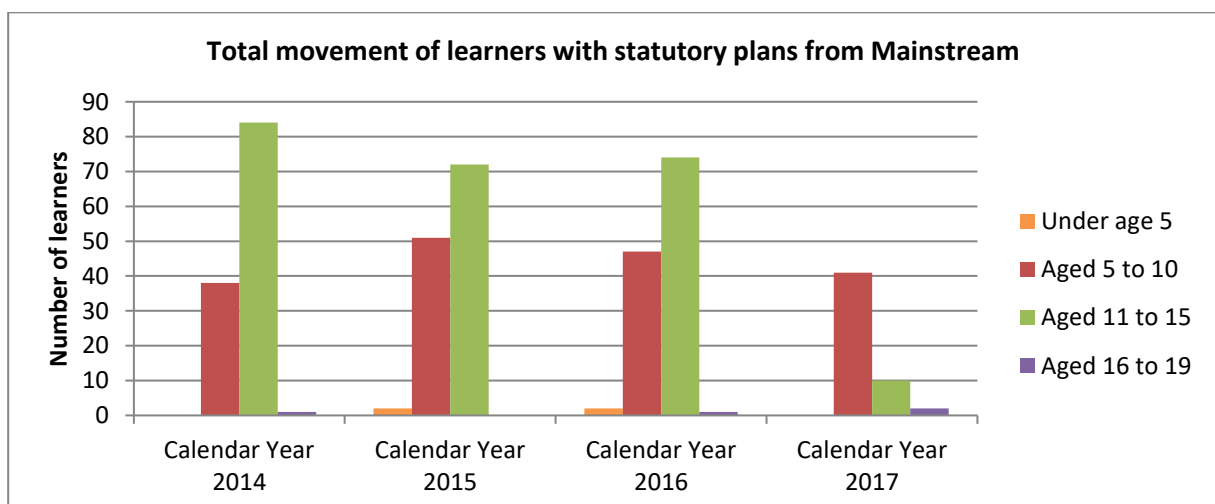


Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2018 and 2017

Movement of children and young people with statutory plans from Mainstream Sector by age.

The chart below shows that the number of children with statutory plans moving out of mainstream reduced significantly in 2017 especially in the secondary sector. This may be due to the significant increase in the use of non-statutory plans seen at the time but will require further analysis alongside the 2018 figures when they become available in May.

Chart A9: Four-year breakdown of movement from mainstream sector



Data source: SEN2 Data Return Jan 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018

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Children supported by Devon Local Authority Children Services

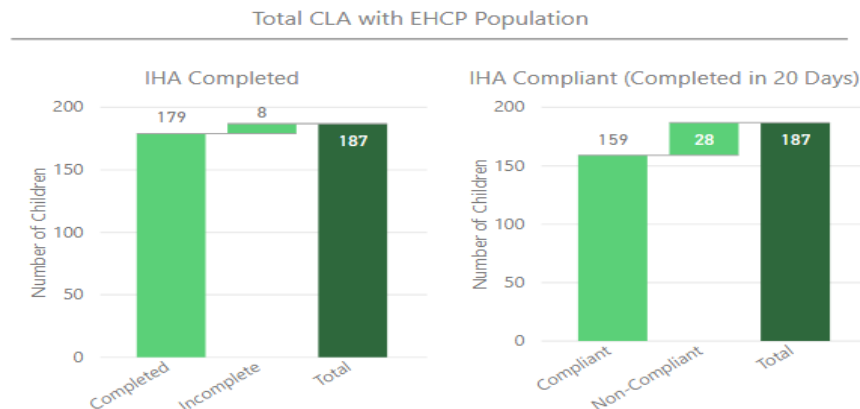
The table below illustrates the percentage of children supported at a level, above just advice and support, by Devon Local Authority social care who also have an Education, Health and Care Plan. One in four Children Looked After by Devon Local Authority have an EHC Plan maintained by Devon (25.8%), whilst one in six Children in Need have an EHC Plan (15.8%). **72% of children supported by the Disabled childrens service have an EHC plan.**

Information as at 30th November 2018					
	CLA	CPP	CL	CIN	Disabled*
Total Number	728	523	466	1924	368
SEN status K (Autumn Census)	119	119	1	380	39
%	16.3%	22.8%	0.2%	19.8%	10.6%
EHCP	188	46	66	304	264
%	25.8%	8.8%	14.2%	15.8%	71.7%

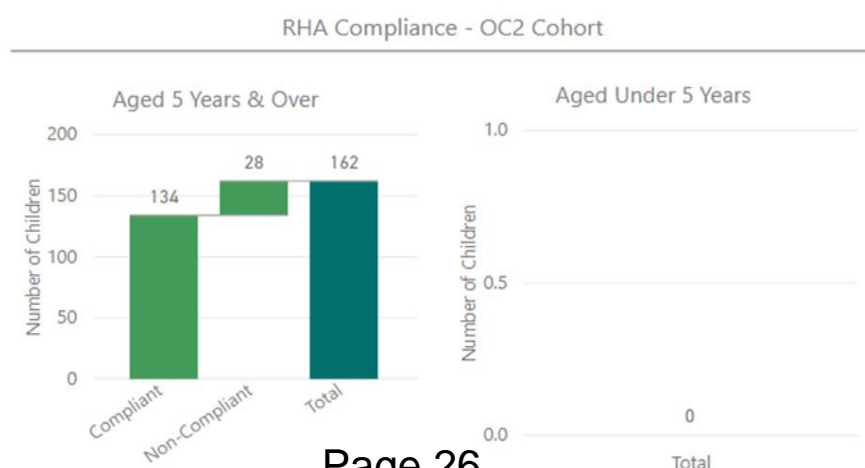
Data source: DCC 0 – 25 SEN Team Dec 2018, DCC Children Services MI Team, Dec 2018

*Disabled Column is all children known to disabled services, excluding "Advice & Support" and "Finance Only" cases. These will also be included in the other totals (CLA, CL, CIN & CP) so the disabled column should read as a subset of the other columns.

As at the 3rd December 2018, there are 187 CIC with an EHCP, of these 159 (85%) had their Initial Health Assessment completed within 20 days. Of the 187 CIC with an EHCP, 162 have been looked after continuously for 12 months (OC2 cohort).



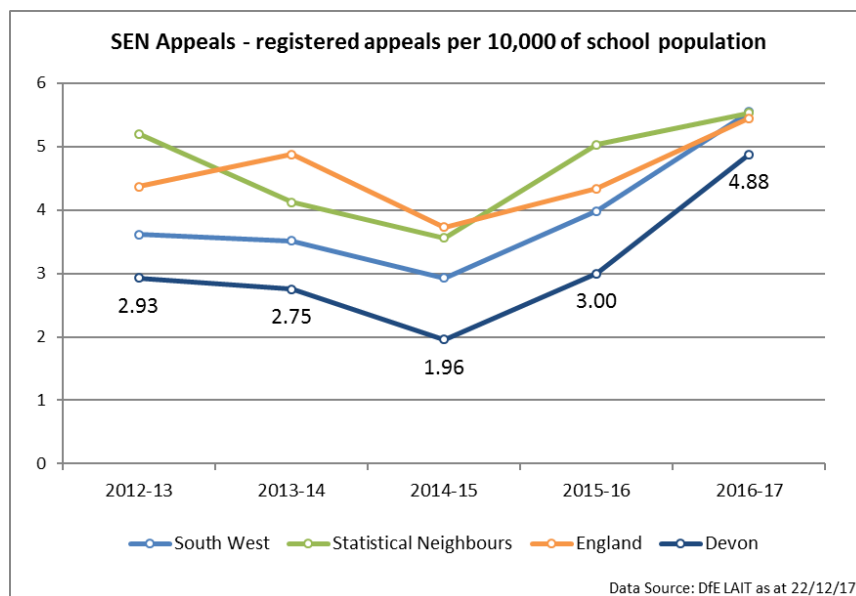
134 of the 162 (82%) had a RHA that was compliant to timescales.



EHCPs maintained by Devon - SEN Appeals (Tribunals)

SEN Appeals can be registered against a number of different decisions made by a Local Authority. These include the refusal to assess a child with special educational needs and the refusal to issue an EHCP following that assessment or the contents of the EHCP once it has been finalised, including name of placement.

Whilst the rate of appeals registered has risen in Devon and nationally, Devon continues to be significantly lower than the national average and its statistical neighbours. As can be seen from the graph below the rise in the last few years (including regionally and nationally) coincides with changes brought in under The Children and Families Act 2014¹. The Department for Education advises these increases should be treated with some caution. The years shown relate to academic years.



Whilst not shown in the graph above, it should be noted that the number of appeals in Devon has remained at the same level over the last two years despite the significant increase in assessments in progress and plans issued. As a percentage of plans issued the appeals have decreased from 13.8% to 6.3% (2016/17, 51 appeals compared to 2017/18, 52 appeals).

* Note: includes non-maintained early years settings in the private and voluntary sector, mainstream schools (LA maintained schools, academies, free schools, independent schools), special schools (LA maintained, academies, free schools, independent special schools, non-maintained special schools), hospital schools, alternative provision, pupil referral unit, post 16 institutions (general FE and tertiary colleges/HE, other FE, sixth form college, specialist post-16 institutions). Data source: DfE SFR22/2017 Statements of SEN and EHC plans: England 2017

¹ The number of families who can appeal has increased as a result of the extension of EHC plans to those aged 0-25 (with certain additional criteria attached to the upper age group) where previously statements of SEN covered only school aged children and those in the early years; the granting of appeal rights to young people themselves and those in custody; and because the transfer process from statements and LDAs to EHC plans has opened up new opportunities to appeal. (Tribunals and Gender Recognition Certificate Statistics Quarterly July to Sept 16-17).

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Part B - Children with Special Educational Needs attending Devon Schools

This section of the report provides information on pupils with Special Educational Needs **attending Devon schools regardless of which local authority maintains the EHC Plan.**

The cohort in this section of the report is based on pupils' Special Educational Needs status as at the time of the Spring School Census in January 2018 and taking exams in Summer 18. There are two sets of pupil cohorts within this section, i) pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and ii) pupils recognised as having Special Educational Needs and receive support in school (SEN Support) but do not have an EHCP.

Special Educational Needs Pupil Cohorts Attending Devon Schools

The total number of pupils with Special Educational Needs attending Devon schools rose in the last year (17,910 in 2017/18 compared to 17,777 in 2016/17). When considered against the increase in overall pupil population, the percentage of pupils with Special Educational Needs has remained stable at 17%. The number of pupils with EHCPs attending Devon state funded schools saw a drop of 2% on last year. It should be noted however that based on the official SEN2 return 58% of the pupils with EHC Plans in Devon are in mainstream schools. This is above the National average of 50.9%. The number of pupils attending Devon schools classified as SEN Support continues to rise with a 1.3% increase from 2016/17. This increase was also reflected nationally.

Table B1. Pupils with an EHCP by school type attended in Devon (excludes independent schools)

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n
primary schools	1,144	2.1	929	1.7	765	1.3	699	1.2
secondary schools	1,125	2.9	1,036	2.7	917	2.3	854	2.2
special schools	1,027	100	1,054	99.9	1,105	99.8	1,139	99.5
all schools	3,597	3.5	3,227	3.1	3,035	2.9	2,969	2.8

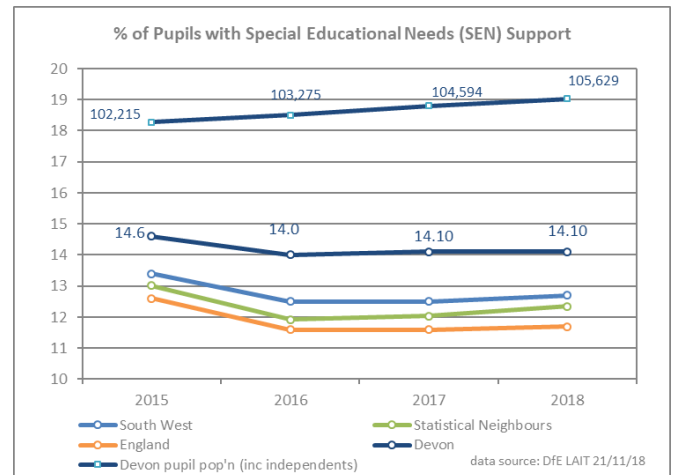
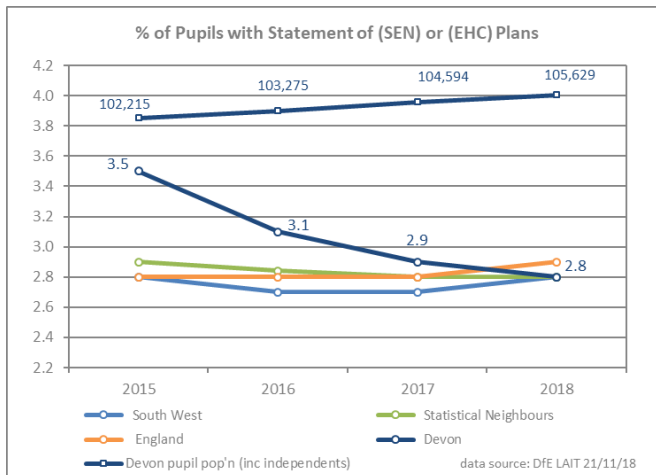
Table B2. Pupils with SEN Support by school type attended in Devon

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n	No	% of pop'n
primary schools	9,060	16.5	8,700	15.5	8,873	15.5	9,029	15.6
secondary schools	4,966	12.6	4,674	12.0	4,664	11.9	4,724	12.0
special schools	-		1	0.1	2	0.2	6	0.5
all schools	14,926	14.6	14,438	14.0	14,742	14.1	14,941	14.1

Note: Includes state funded primary and secondary schools, all academies including free schools, state-funded and non-maintained special schools, middle schools as deemed, all-through schools, city technology colleges, university technology colleges, studio schools, and general hospital schools. Excludes nursery schools, independent schools and pupil referral units. 2015 data assumes all special school pupils are statemented or EHCP

Data source: DfE SFRs Special Educational Needs in England, SFR25/2015, SFR29/2016, SFR37/2017, SFR 2018

The following graphs illustrate the percentage of pupils with SEN attending a school in Devon across the previous four years. The top line in the graphs illustrate Devon's overall pupil population.

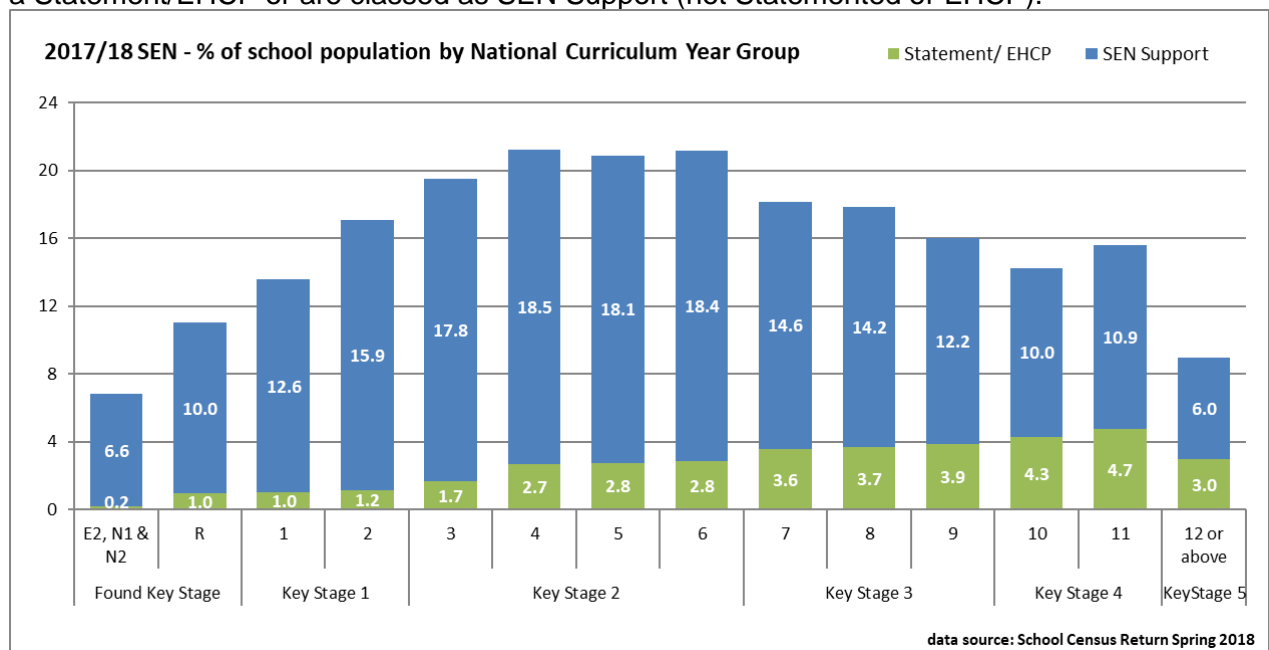


Data source: DfE LAIT 21/11/18 based on DfE SFR Special Educational Needs in England: January 2018

Note: the above figures are based on where a pupil attended school in January each year and are published from data collected in the school census. This census contains pupil numbers from state funded primary and secondary schools, all academies and free schools, state funded and non-maintained special schools, middle schools as deemed, all-through schools, city technology colleges, university technology colleges, studio schools, direct grant nursery schools, pupil referral units and general hospital schools.

Special Educational Needs Pupils by Key Stage and NCY Group (Devon Schools)

The following chart illustrates the percentage of pupils within each year group who either have a Statement/EHCP or are classed as SEN Support (not Statemented or EHCP).



Note: pupils in NCY X, defined by DfE as 'National curriculum not followed – available only for special schools where pupils are not following a particular NC year', are not included in the above chart.

As can be seen from the chart, Key Stage 2 year groups have the greatest percentage of pupils with SEN Support (5,795 pupils) with 18.5% of pupils in NCY 4 classified as SEN Support (1,504 pupils). This is higher than the national picture where 14.5% of NCY 4 pupils are SEN Support.

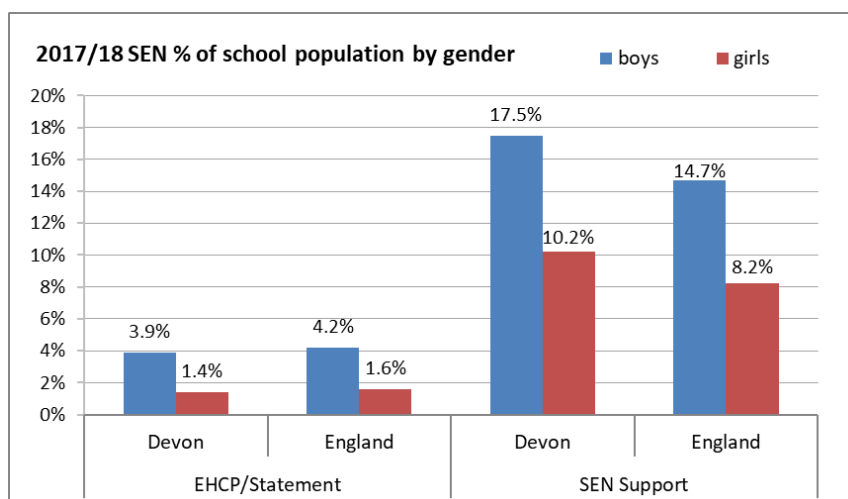
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Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 year groups have the greatest percentage of pupils with an EHCP (total of 1,414 pupils). This is also reflected nationally. 4.3% of Devon pupils in NCY 10 (300 pupils) and 4.7% of pupils in NCY 11 (312 pupils) have an EHCP. This is higher than nationally with 3.7% and 3.8% respectively.

When compared against the previous year, the Reception NCY group has seen the greatest increase in percentage of pupils with SEN Support at primary phase, rising from 8.7% in 2016/17 to 10% in 2017/18 (increase of 81 pupils). At secondary phase, NCY 9 has seen the greatest increase in percentage of pupils with SEN Support, rising from 10.5% to 12.2% (increase of 121 pupils). The percentage of pupils with Statements or EHCPs in each NCY has, in the majority, changed by less than 0.5 percentage points, with some rising and others falling. NCY 11 saw the greatest increase, rising from 4.3% to 4.7% in 2017/18 (increase of 17 pupils).

Special Educational Needs Pupils by Gender (Devon Schools)

A greater percentage of boys in Devon have Special Educational Needs than girls. Nearly 4% of boys in Devon have a Statement or EHCP which is similar to the national average. 17.5% of boys and 10.2% of girls in Devon have SEN Support, which is considerably higher than the national picture.



Data source: England: SFR Special Educational needs in England: January 2018, National Tables, Devon: January School Census 2018

¹ includes state-funded primary, secondary schools, all-through schools, city technology colleges, where state-funded schools include all academies and free schools. Also includes special schools (maintained special schools, non-maintained special schools and special academies). Excludes general hospital schools, independent special schools and independent schools approved for SEN.

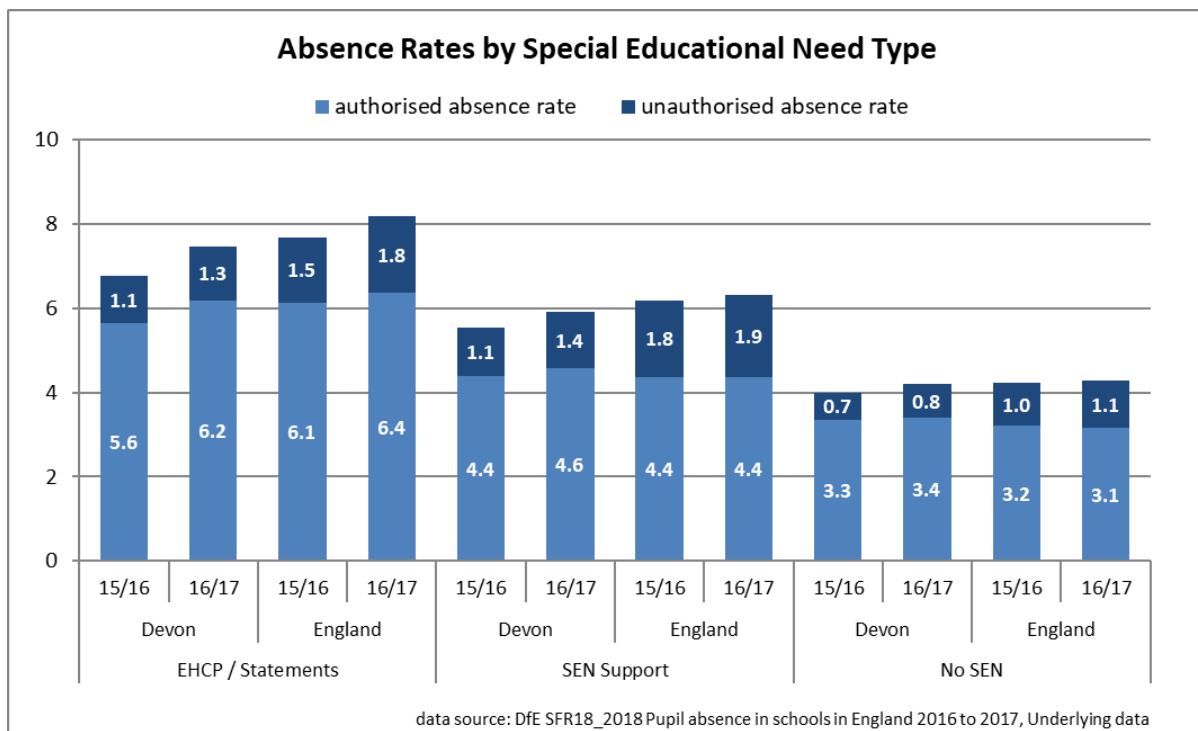
2016/17 Absence Rates in Devon Compulsory Schools¹

Absence rates for the 2017/18 academic year are not due to be published until March 2019. This section therefore reports on absence for the 2016/17 academic year.

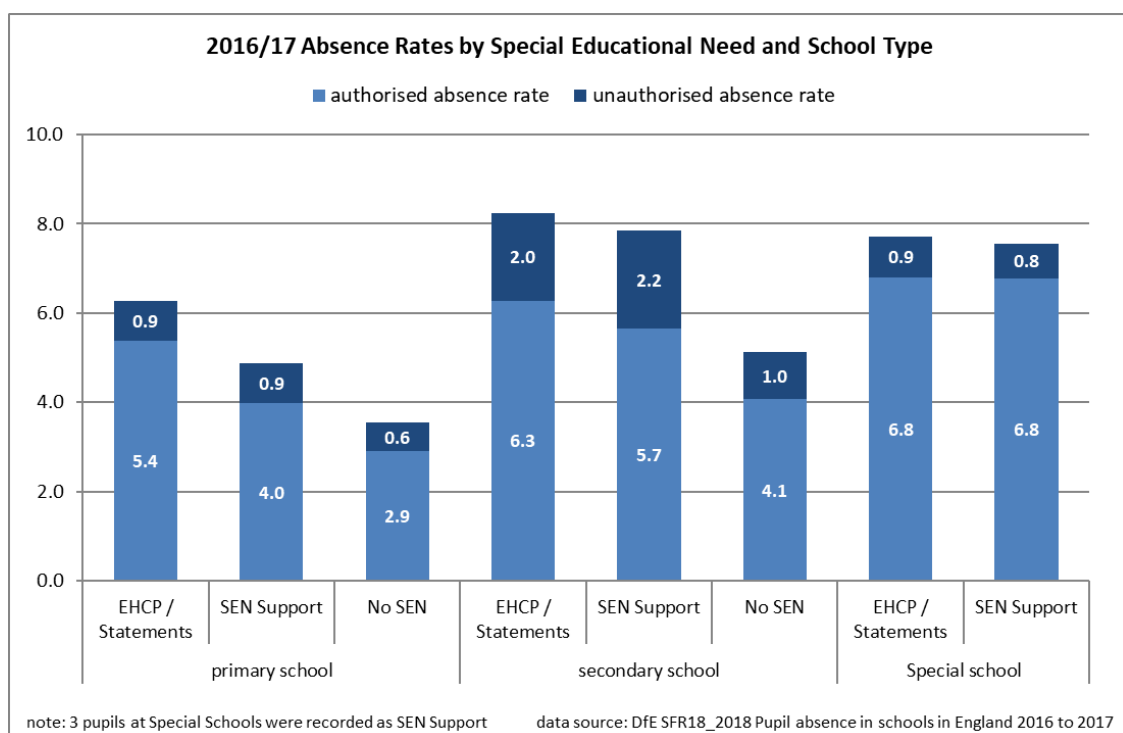
Absence rates for Special Educational Needs pupils attending state funded primary, secondary and special schools have risen slightly in the last year, both in Devon and nationally. Devon absence however remains well below the national average. Pupils with Special Educational Needs continue to have higher absence rates than their peers who have no SEN. Devon pupils with a Statement/EHCP had an overall absence rate of 7.5% compared to 4.2% for Devon pupils with no identified SEN. This is also reflected nationally and is often linked to medical absence.

Overall absence rates for Special Educational Needs overall cohorts attending Devon primary, secondary and special schools are also lower than national averages. Devon pupils with a

Statement or EHCP have an overall absence rate of 7.5% compared to 8.2% nationally, whilst Devon pupils with SEN Support have an overall absence rate of 6% compared to 6.3% nationally.

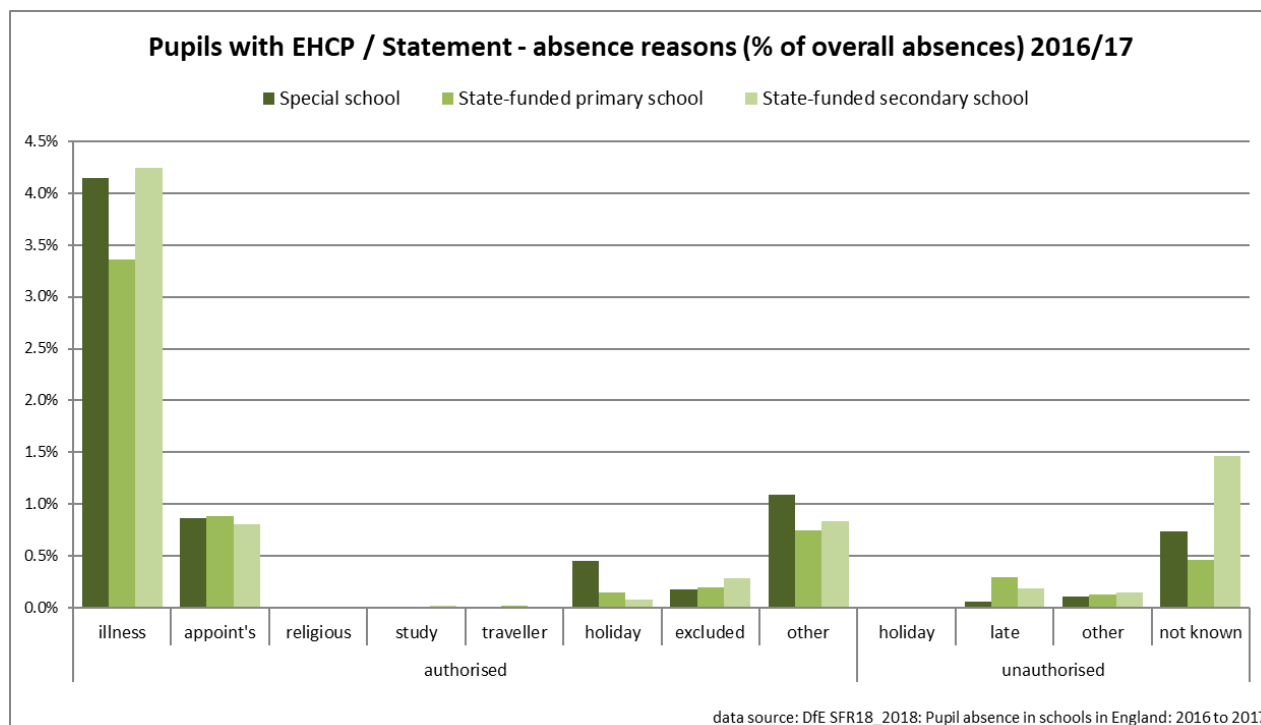


2016/17 absence rates are lowest in primary schools and highest in secondary schools. The overall absence rates for pupils with statements/EHCPs is highest in secondary schools (8.3% absence rate), followed by special schools (7.7%). This is due to higher unauthorised absence rates. The chart overleaf illustrates the absence rates across special, primary and secondary schools.

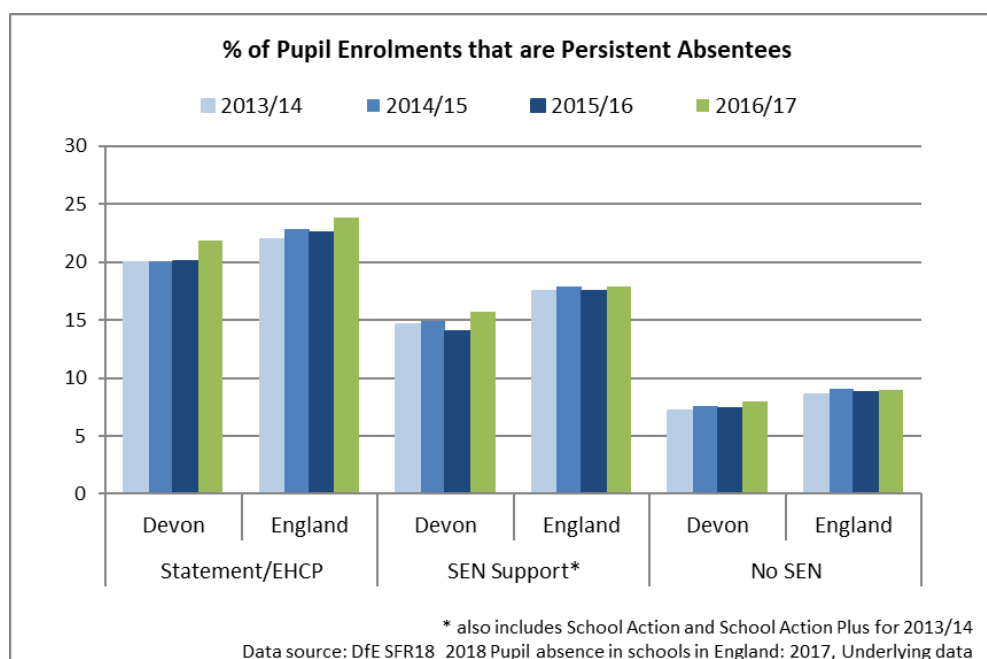


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The chart below illustrates absence reasons for the 2016/17 academic year. Illness is the most common absence reason across all three school types, followed by authorised absence reason of 'other' for special schools, medical appointments for primary schools and unauthorised absence reason of 'not known' for secondary schools.



The percentage of persistent absentees for pupils with SEN has risen slightly in the last year, both in Devon and nationally. The percentage of Statement/EHCP pupils attending Devon schools that are persistent absentees is 21.9% which is lower than the national rate of 23.8%. The persistent absentee rates for pupils with Statements/EHCPs and SEN Support are higher than those for pupils with no identified SEN.

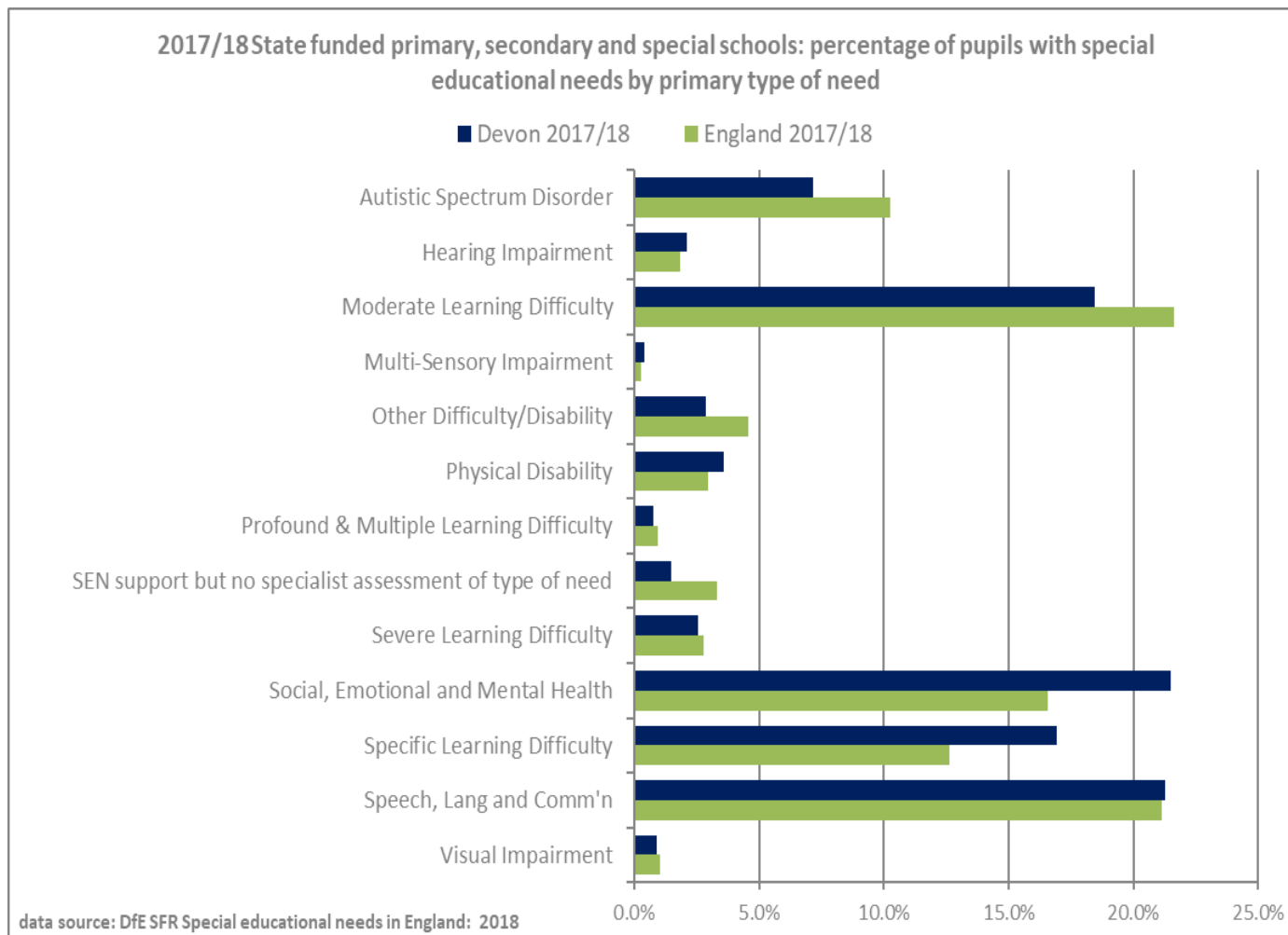


Note: pupils are classed as persistent absentees if their attendance falls below 90%.

Primary Need of Pupils with SEN support attending Devon Schools

Nationally the most common type of Special Educational Needs in 2017/18 was Moderate Learning Difficulty. However, in Devon schools the most common type of need continues to be Social, Emotional and Mental Health, with just over one fifth of pupils with Special Educational Needs having this as their primary need. The second most common need type, both nationally and in Devon schools, is Speech, Language and Communication with 21% of pupils having this as their primary need.

The table below illustrates the more prevalent need types and compares Devon schools against the national picture.



Over the last five years there has been some change in the primary need of pupils with SEN. Moderate Learning Difficulty and Specific Learning Difficulty need types have seen increases whilst the majority of the other types of need have either remained relatively stable or have seen a slight decline.

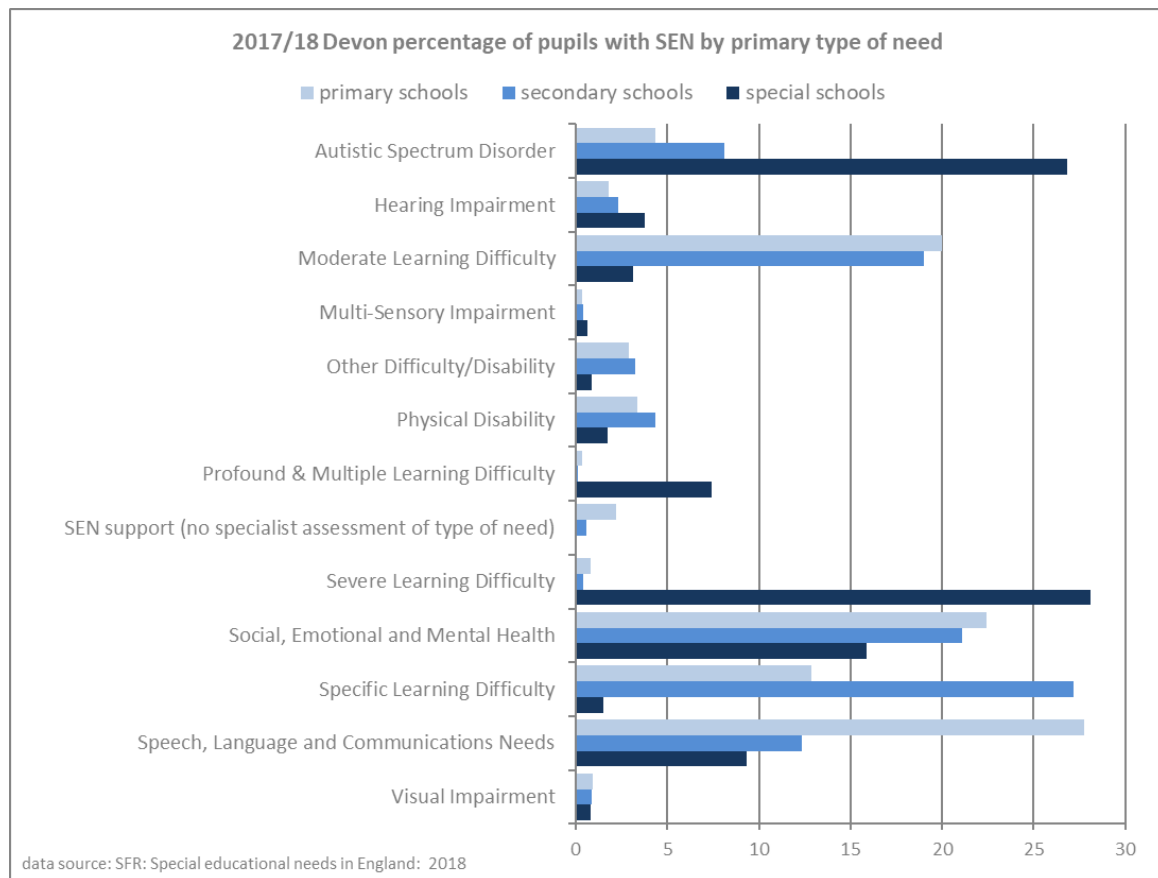
However, in the last year Specific Learning Difficulty and Social, Emotional and Mental Health primary needs have seen a decline whilst Moderate Learning Difficulty needs has risen. This may be due to early identification of need before subsequent assessments identify a different primary need.

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When reviewed at school type, the most common category of need in primary schools is Speech, Language and Communication (27.8%) followed by Social, Emotional and Mental Health (22.4%). The picture varies at secondary schools, where the most common need is Specific Learning Difficulty (27.2%) followed by Social, Emotional and Mental Health (21.1%). As can be seen from the chart below, Social, Emotional and Mental Health is prevalent across all three school types.

In special schools the most common categories of need are Severe Learning Difficulty (28.1%) and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (26.8%) which reflects the specialisms of the schools.



Attainment across all Key Stages

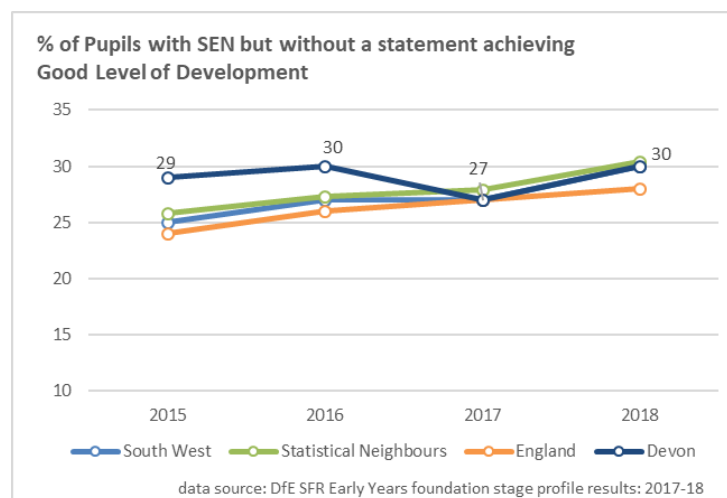
The outcomes of pupils attending Devon schools with Special Educational Needs is based on information provided by National assessment criteria (KS1, KS2) and awarding bodies information (KS4). The pupils' special educational needs status is based on the national pupil database which is informed by the school census returns.

In Devon and nationally pupils with SEN generally achieve less well than their peers with no SEN. This is because children with complex and significant Special Educational Needs face greater difficulties than their peers with no SEN. This should however in no way limit our aspirations for them.

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Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2017/18

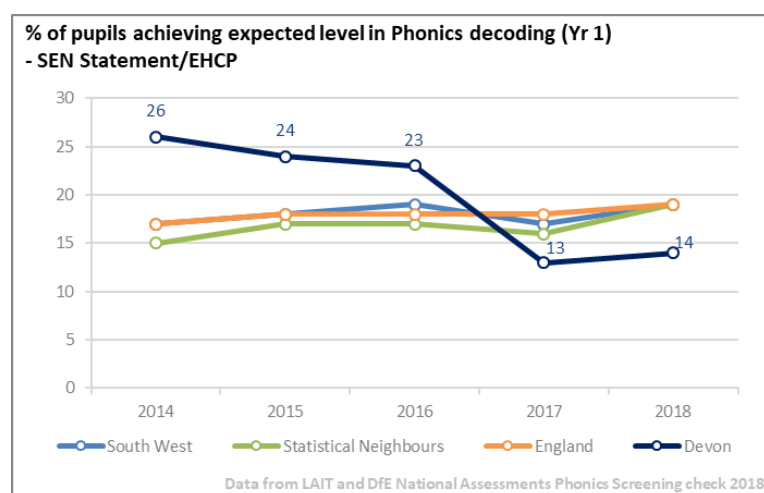
The percentage of children with SEN but without an EHCP achieving a good level of development has improved in the last year and is higher than nationally (30% compared to 28% nationally). Devon is in line with both the regional picture and its statistical neighbours (also 30%).



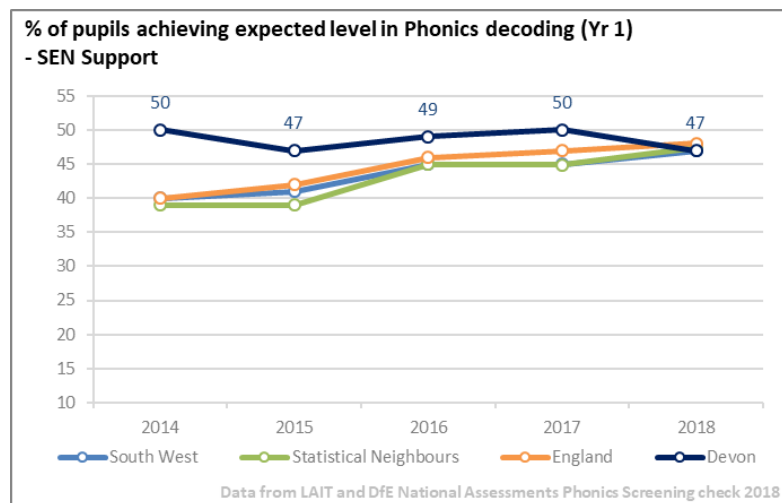
Performance data for Devon children with a Statement/EHCP has not been published, due to low numbers and pupil confidentiality.

Year 1 Phonics 2017/18

The percentage of pupils in Devon with a SEN Statement/EHCP who met the expected standard in Year 1 has risen slightly (14%) in the last year. Devon pupils are not performing as well as nationally or their statistical neighbours (both 19%). Whilst the number of pupils is small (79) meaning each child makes a 1.3% difference this is a concerning trend and so a new early excellence programme (lighting up learning) has been developed as part of our school improvement work to further improve practice in this phase.



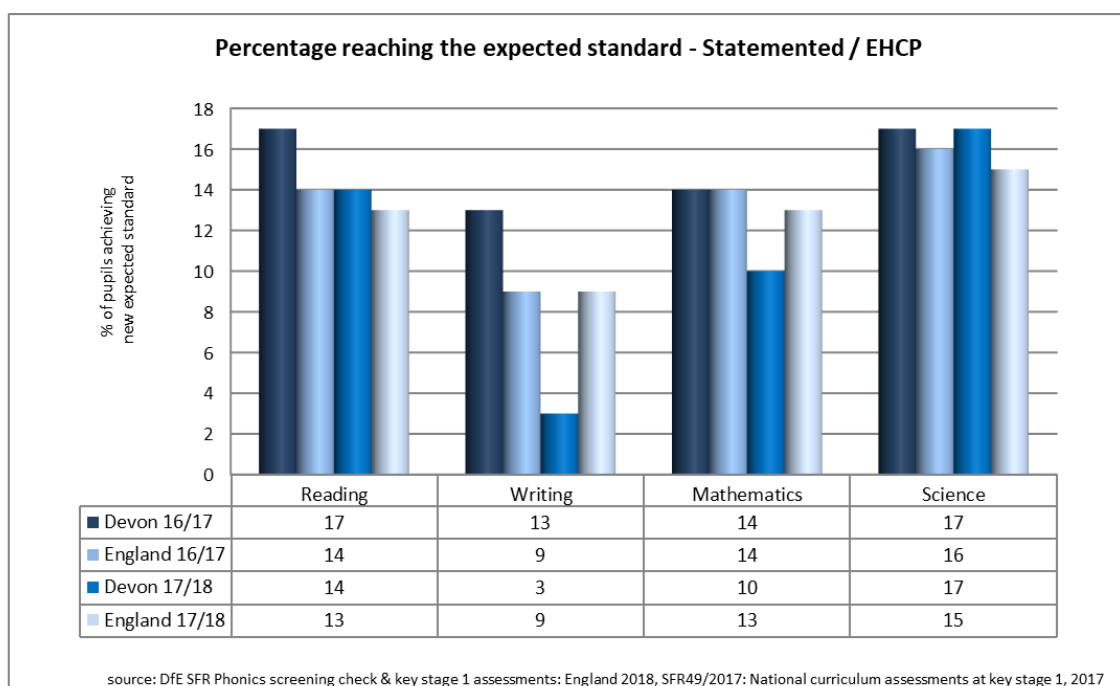
Nearly half of pupils in Devon with SEN Support continue to meet the expected standard in Year 1 (47%). This is a slight fall on the previous year however Devon is still performing in line with the regional picture and its statistical neighbours (both 47%) and is close to the national picture (48%).



No information has been published on Year 2 Phonics.

Key Stage 1 2017/18

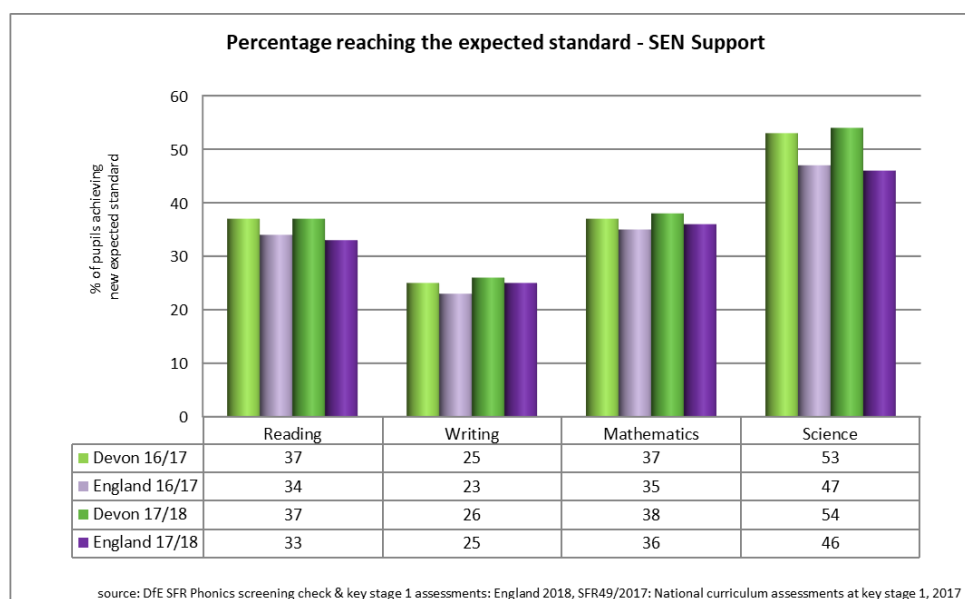
Key Stage one results nationally are based on Teacher assessments. Devon's performance remains above the national average in Reading (14% compared to 13% nationally) and in Science (17% compared to 15%). We did not perform as well as nationally in Writing and Mathematics and this is a change from last year where Devon was above the National average in all subjects. The new One Devon school improvement strategy has this as a focus. Caution should be used when comparing year on year or benchmarking figures due to low cohort numbers (92 in 2017/18).



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KS1 Pupils on SEN support

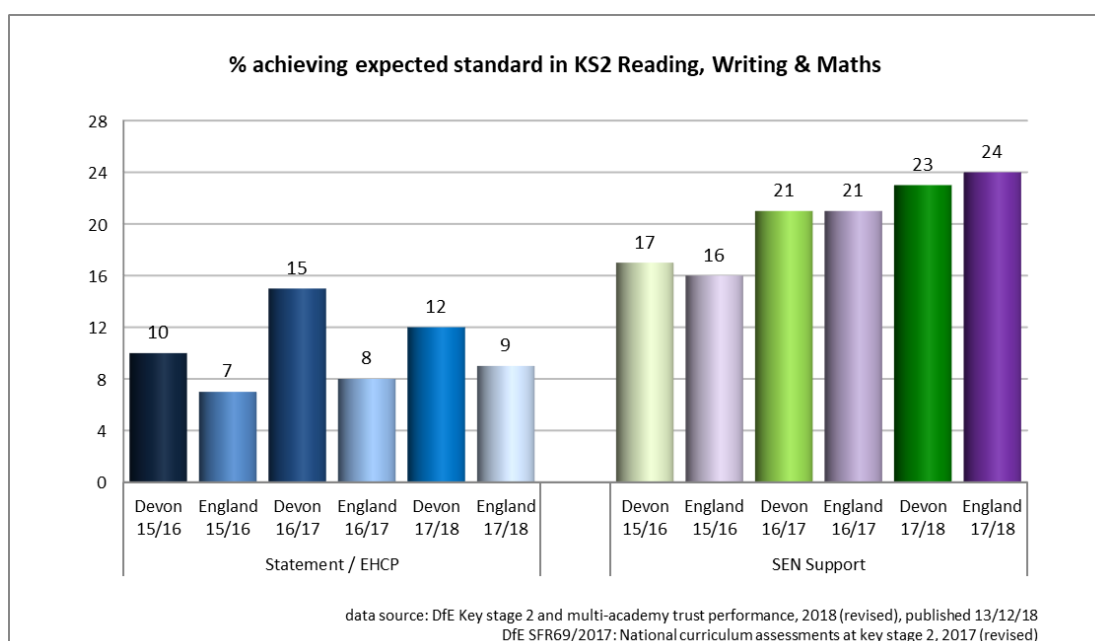
Devon continues to perform better than nationally across all subject areas and is performing significantly better in Science (8 percentage points) and Reading (4 percentage points).



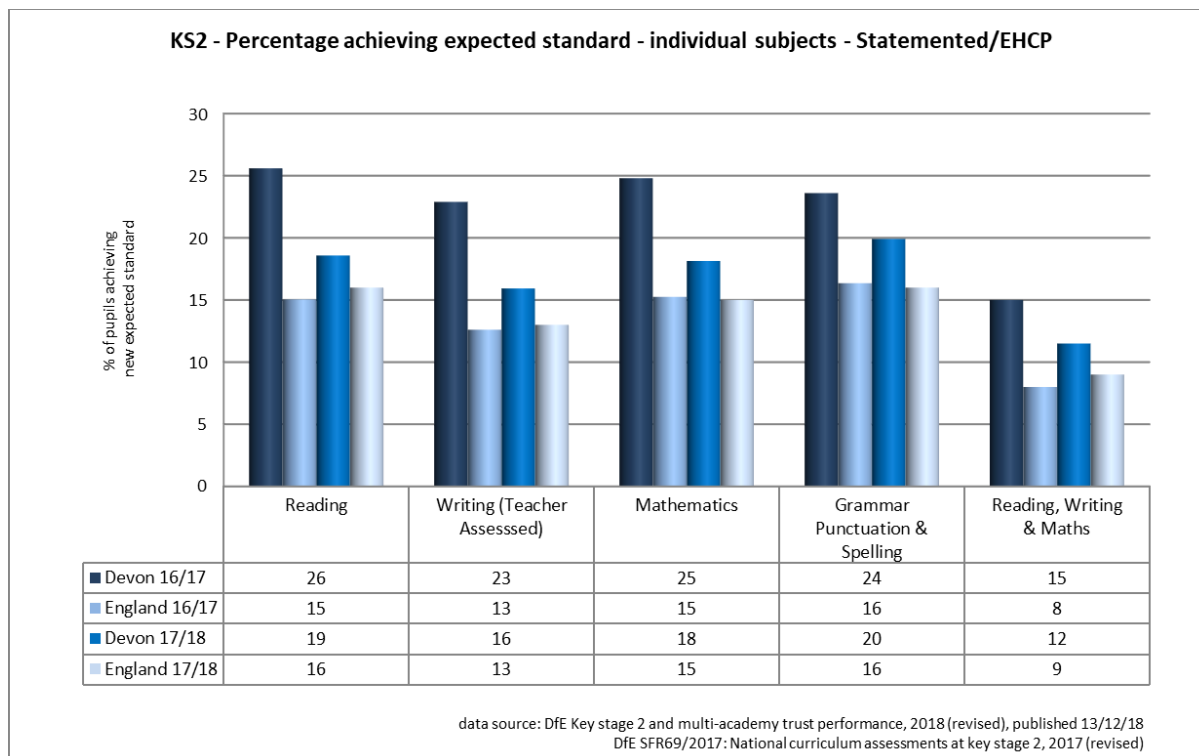
Key Stage 2 2017/18

The percentage of pupils with Statements/EHCPs in Devon meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths continues to be higher than nationally (12% compared to 9% nationally).

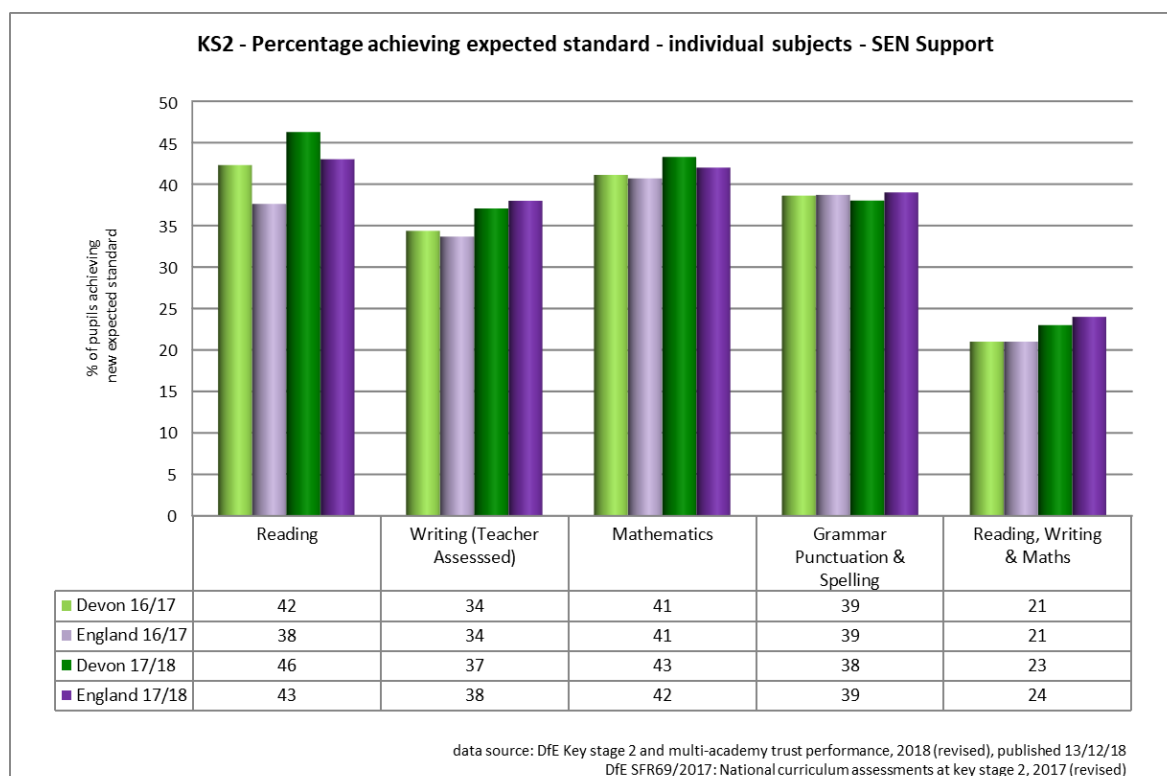
The percentage of pupils with SEN Support meeting the expected standard has improved and is close to the national average (23% compared to 24% nationally). The table below provides a breakdown of performance by SEN cohort with comparisons against the national averages.



Performance in the individual subjects is also better than national. Pupils with Statements / EHCPs are performing significantly better than national averages. Outcomes are above statistical neighbours in all subjects and in line with regional averages. The graph below illustrates performance in each of the subjects.



Results for pupils with SEN support have improved in almost all subjects and above the national average in reading and maths and are close to national averages in the other subject areas. Outcomes are above statistical neighbours in all subjects and in line with regional averages.



Note: national rates are based on LA tables and underlying data provided by the DfE in support of their Statistical First Release, to ensure consistency of datasets.

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Devon pupils with Statements/EHCPs and SEN Support are not making quite as good progress as that seen nationally. The National average for all pupils is set to 0 so the closer a negative number is to 0 the better. The table below provides further details of progress made by both cohorts.

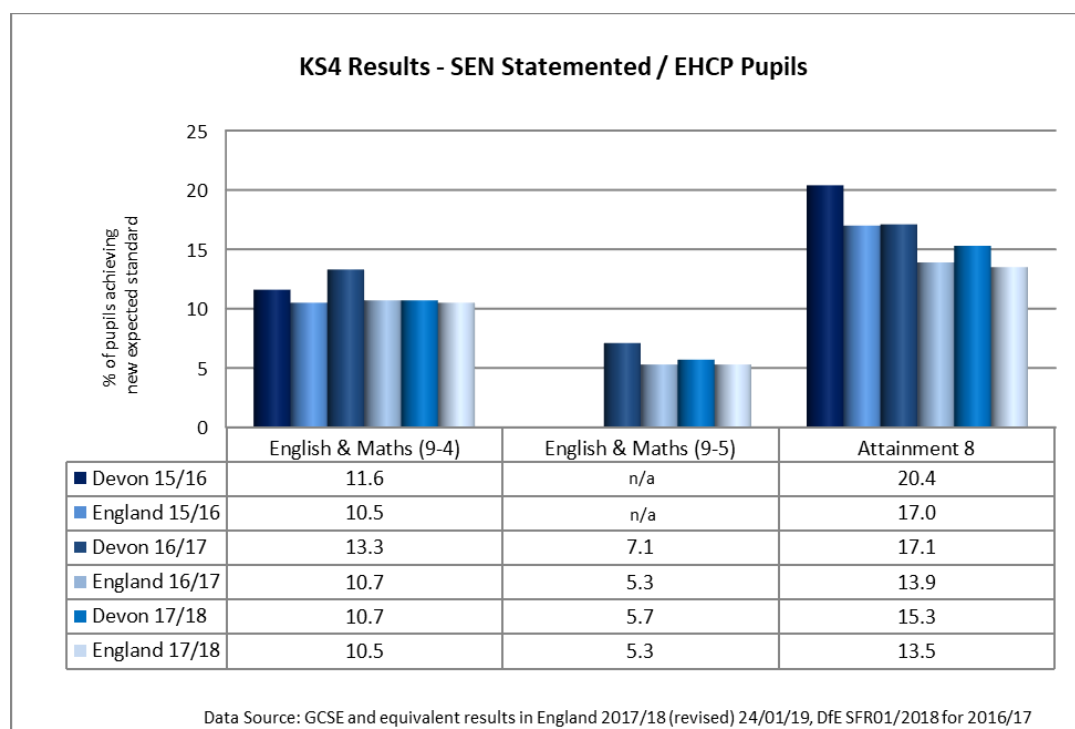
Table 4. Progress scores of pupils at the end of key stage 2 (state funded schools)

	Statement / EHCP			SEN Support		
	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths
Devon	-5.1	-5.7	-5.4	-1.4	-3.2	-1.5
Statistical Neighbours	-4.0	-4.5	-4.5	-1.3	-2.4	-1.6
England	-3.8	-4.1	-3.8	-1.0	-1.8	-1.0

Data source: DfE SFR: National curriculum assessments at key stage 2, 2018 (revised), table L9b

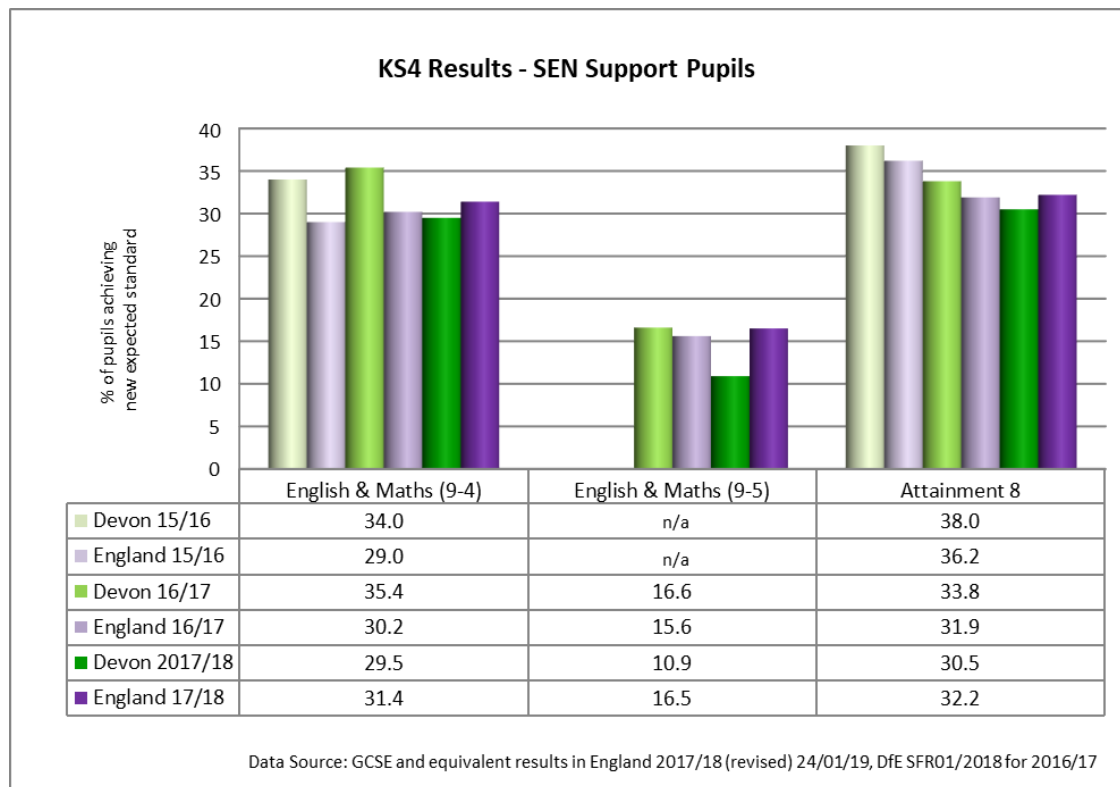
Key Stage 4 - 2017/18

Devon children with a Statement/EHCP continue to perform better than nationally in the English and Maths (9 – 5) and Attainment 8 measures. EBACC grades 9 to 5 (strong pass) indicate that Devon pupils with a Statement / EHCP are again performing better than nationally Devon pupils with a Statement/EHCP are progressing as well as nationally (both have progress 8 score of -1.09).



Note: the new GCSE grading structure came into being in the 2016/17 academic year, so no information is available in relation to the English & Maths (9 – 5) measure for 2015/16.

Devon children with SEN Support have seen a dip in performance and are now achieving below that seen nationally. Devon pupils with SEN Support are making slightly less progress than that seen Nationally nationally (-0.61 compared to -0.41 nationally).



Note: the new GCSE grading structure came into being in the 2016/17 academic year, so no information is available in relation to the English & Maths (9 – 5) measure for 2015/16.

Table 5. Progress 8 score for SEN pupils

	Statemented / EHCP	SEN Support
Devon 17/18	-1.09	-0.61
England 17/18	-1.09	-0.43
Devon 16/17	-0.91	-0.40
England 16/17	-1.04	-0.43
Devon 15/16	-1.00	-0.35
England 15/16	-1.03	-0.38

data source: DfE GCSE and equivalent results in England 2017/18 (revised), DfE SFR01/2018: revised GCSE and equivalent results in England 2016/17, DfE SFR03/2017 revised GCSE and equivalent results in England 2015/16

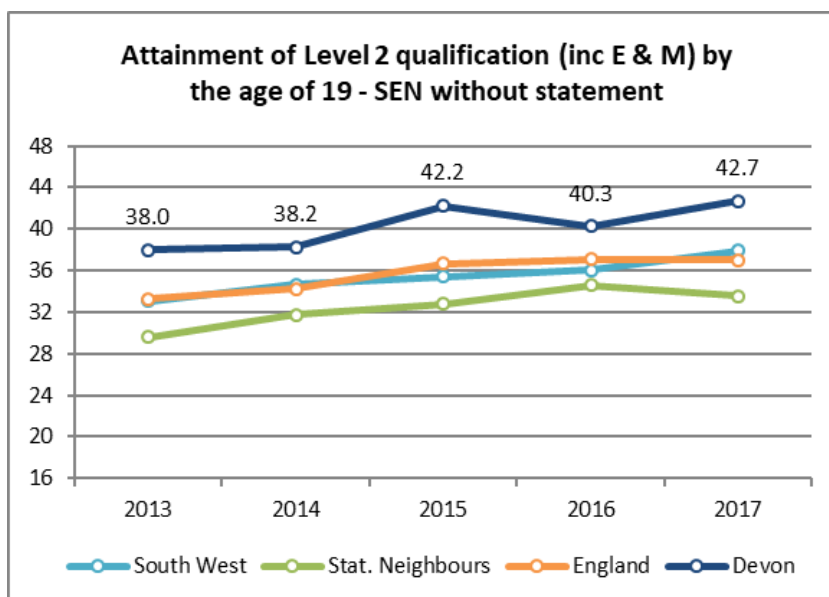
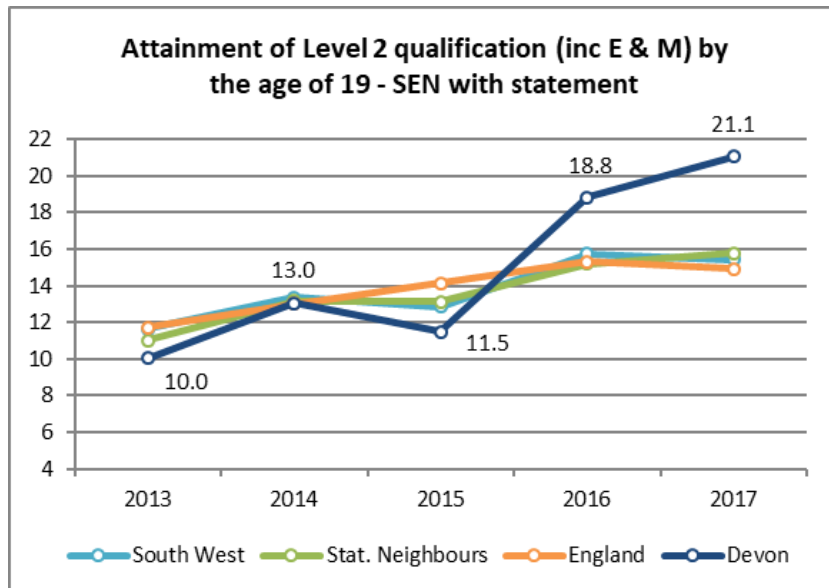
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Attainment of Level 2 qualifications by those aged 19 at the end of the 2016/17 academic year

Attainment rates for pupils aged 19 at the end of the 2017/18 academic year are not due to be published until March 2019. This section therefore reports on attainment for those aged 19 at the end of the 2016/17 academic year.

The information in this section is based on those pupils attending Devon state funded schools¹ in the academic year they turned 16 and the outcomes are for young people who are aged 19 at the end of the academic year.

The percentage of 19 year olds with SEN statements qualified to Level 2 (Inc. English & Maths) continues to improve, with 21.1% in 2017 compared to 18.8% in 2016. Devon young people continue to perform better than nationally and regionally (14.9% and 15.5% respectively). The percentage of 19 year olds with SEN but without a statement qualified to Level 2 has also improved (42.7% compared to 40.3% in 2016). Devon continues to perform significantly better than the national picture (42.7% compared to 37% nationally).



data source: Level 2 and 3 Attainment in England: Attainment by age 19 in 2016, May 2018

The percentage of pupils achieving a level 3 qualification is just below the National average with 12.3% of children with EHC Plans achieving this level in Devon compared to 12.9% Nationally. Devon is ranked 70 out of 152 LAs. This gap is larger for those on SEN support 29.1% compared to 31.9%.

It has been identified that English and Maths (grade C+) is the main concern in moving forward. This has been recognised nationally and from September 2015 FE colleges were obliged to ensure all young people study English and Maths (or equivalent) at Post 16 if they do not already hold the qualification. Work is underway with FE colleges to improve this picture.

Exclusions for Pupils with Special Educational Needs attending Devon Schools

Exclusions information is collected via the school census (pupils attending Devon schools) for state-funded primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units. This covers LA maintained schools, academies, free schools and non-maintained special schools. It is not collected from independent and nursery schools.

Whilst exclusions information relates to all exclusions across the full academic year, the pupil population used to inform exclusion rates is based on pupils on roll as at the January Census. The pupils' SEN status is based on their status at the term of the exclusion, any missing characteristic is then based on the census term reporting the data (two terms after the exclusion term).

Children with Special Educational Needs are more likely to be excluded than their non-SEN peers. In 2016/17 nationally, pupils with identified Special Educational Needs (SEN) accounted for almost half of all permanent exclusions and fixed period exclusions¹. In this year nearly 77% of children in schools for excluded pupils have recognised special educational needs or disability (SEND)².

¹ DfE Sfr Permanent and fixed-period exclusions in England: 2016 to 2017, published 19 July 2018.

² CSN Policy Briefing 'Alternative provision to social exclusions: IPPR – Making the Difference: Breaking the link', published 3 Nov 2017.

Permanent Exclusions 2017/18 in Devon Schools

The number of pupils with Special Educational Needs who have been permanently excluded has fallen significantly in the last year. The percentage of pupils with Statements/EHCPs who have been permanently excluded has reduced from 0.50% in 2016/17 to 0.19% in 2017/18 and is now close to the latest available national average (0.16%). The Devon Inclusion Project has supported this improvement.

Table 6. Permanent Exclusions by SEN cohort

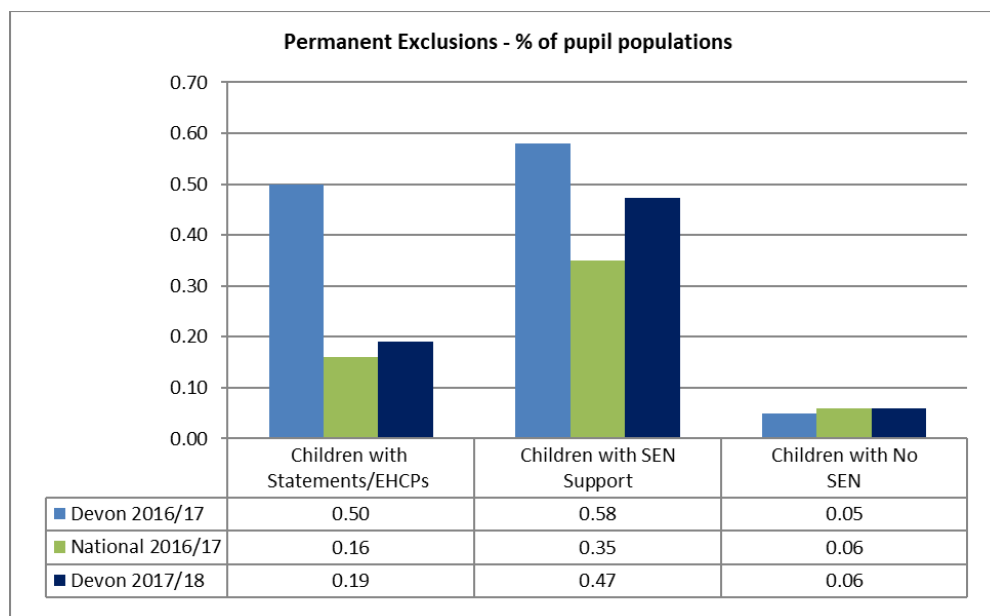
Permanent Exclusions against;	2015/16			2016/17			DfE 2016/17 % SEN cohort population	2017/18		
	No's	% of PEX cohort	% of SEN cohort pop'n	No's	% of PEX cohort	% of SEN cohort pop'n		No's	% of PEX cohort	% of SEN cohort pop'n
Children with Statements/EHCPs	13	14.9	0.43	14	10.4	0.50	0.16	5	4.2	0.19
Children with SEN Support	50	57.5	0.37	79	59.0	0.58	0.35	65	55.1	0.47
Children with No SEN	24	27.6	0.03	41	30.6	0.05	0.06	48	40.7	0.06

Data sources: 2017/18: ONE database, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE Statistical First Release Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions from Schools in England: 2016 to 2017 academic year (Underlying Data: LA Characteristics), published July 2018

Note: the percentage of SEN cohort population is based on cohort populations from the DfE's Statistical First Release for Exclusions and not the SEN cohort population from the DfE's Statistical First Release on Special Educational Needs.

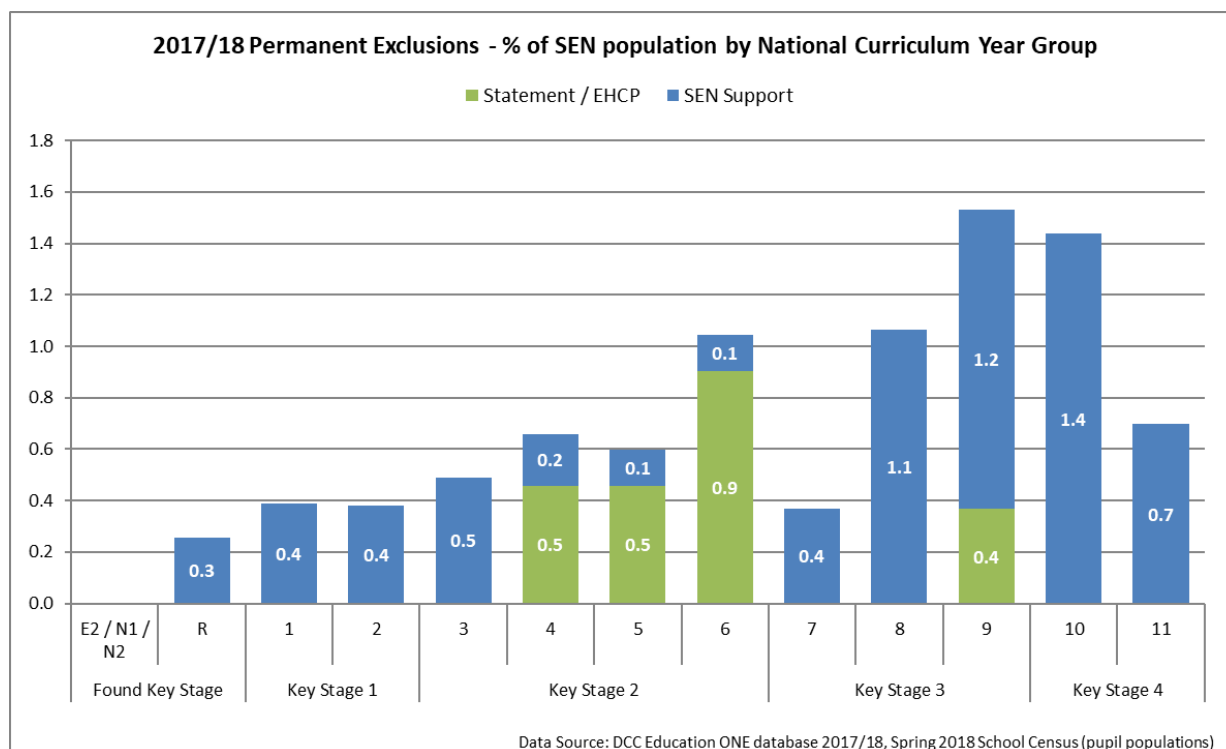
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The chart below compares the percentage of SEN pupils permanently excluded in Devon against the latest available national average (2016/17). It should be noted that national exclusion numbers are expected to have seen a rise in 2017/18.

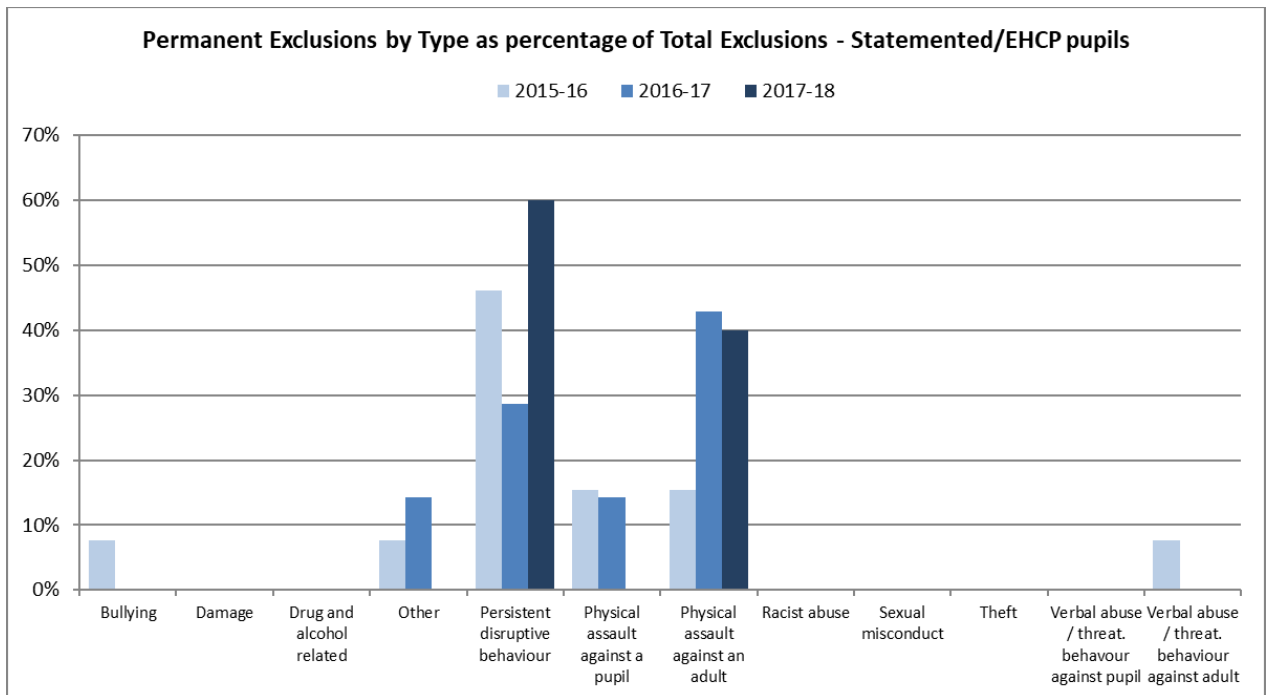


Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

When reviewed at SEN cohort and NCY group level, permanent exclusions were highest in NCY6 for pupils with Statements / EHCPs and NCY10 for those with SEN Support.

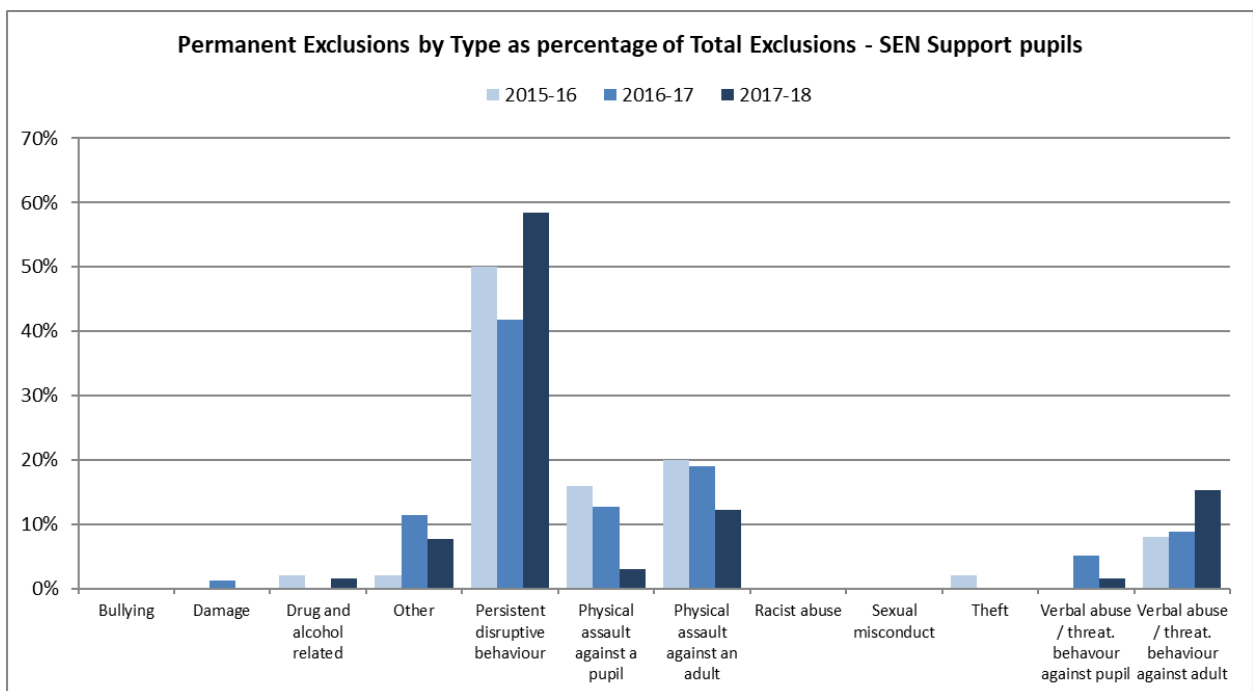


The most common reasons for the permanent exclusion of pupils with Statements/EHCPs in 2017/18 are persistent disruptive behaviour and physical assault against an adult. Whilst there is a significant increase in the percentage of exclusions due to persistent disruptive behaviour the number of pupils involved is small (less than 5 in 2017/18).



Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

The most common reason for the permanent exclusion of pupils with SEN Support is persistent disruptive behaviour, which has seen an increase in the last year. The next most common reasons are verbal abuse against and physical assault an adult.



Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

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Fixed Term Exclusions 2017/18 in Devon Schools

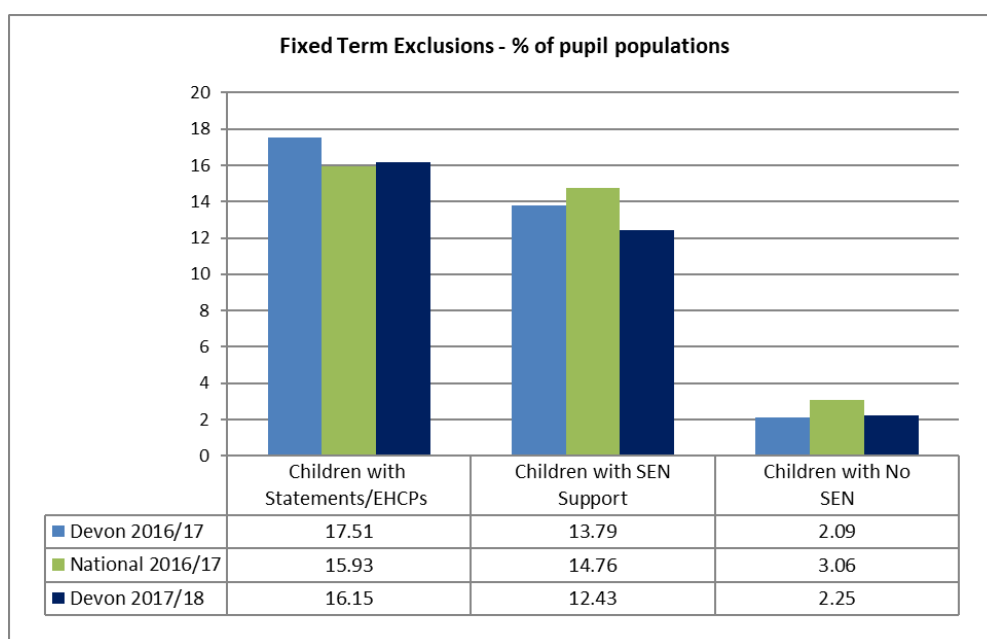
The number of fixed term exclusions against pupils with Special Educational Needs has also fallen significantly in the last year, with the percentage of fixed term exclusions falling for both SEN cohorts. Fixed term exclusions against pupils with SEN Support continue to be lower than the latest available national average (12.43% compared to 14.76% nationally).

Table 7. Fixed Term Exclusions by SEN cohort

Fixed Term Exclusions against;	2015/16			2016/17			DfE 2016/17 % of SEN cohort pop'n	2017/18		
	No's	% of FTE	% of SEN cohort pop'n	No's	% of FTE	% of SEN cohort pop'n		No's	% of FTE	% of SEN Cohort pop'n
Children with Statements/EHCPs	557	16.3	18.45	488	12.0	17.51	15.93	424	10.6	16.15
Children with SEN Support	1515	44.2	11.33	1867	46.0	13.79	14.76	1710	42.9	12.43
Children with No SEN	1354	39.5	1.69	1705	42.0	2.09	3.06	1851	46.4	2.25

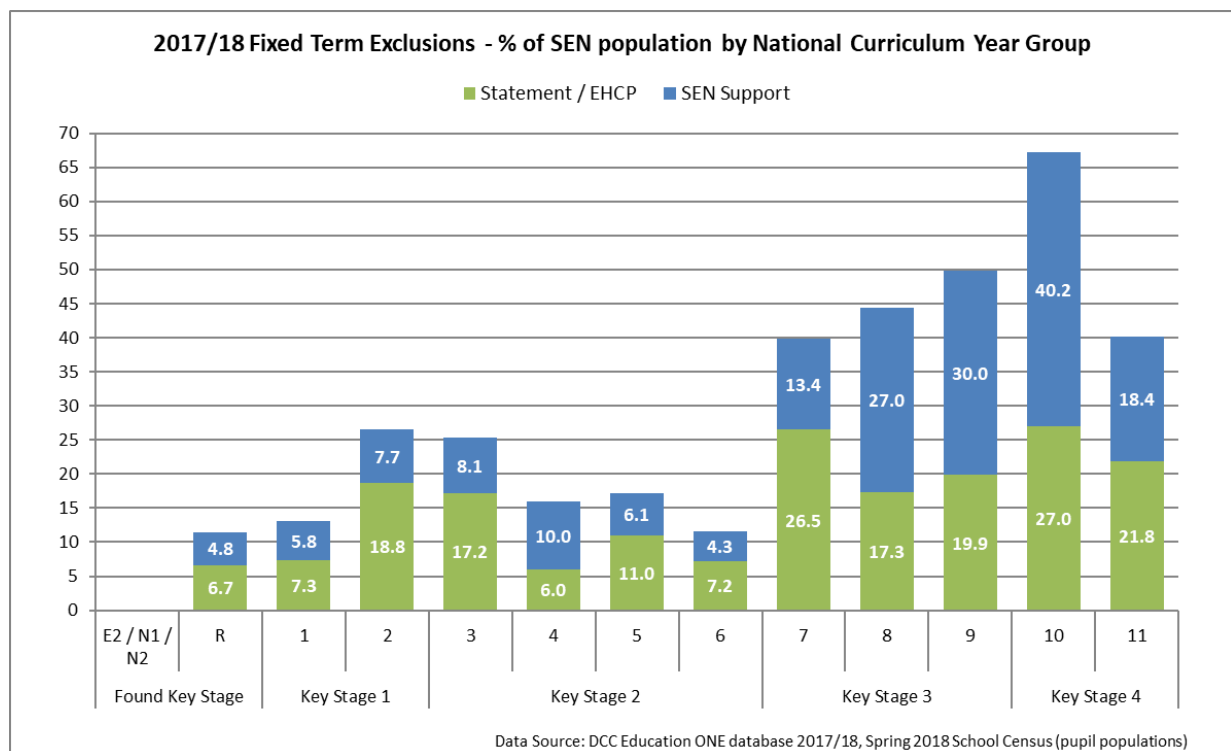
data sources: 2017/18: ONE database, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE Statistical First Release Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions from Schools in England: 2016 to 2017 academic year (Underlying Data: LA Characteristics), published July 2018

Note: the percentage of SEN cohort population is based on cohort populations from the DfE's Statistical First Release for Exclusions and not the SEN cohort population from the DfE's Statistical First Release on Special Educational Needs.

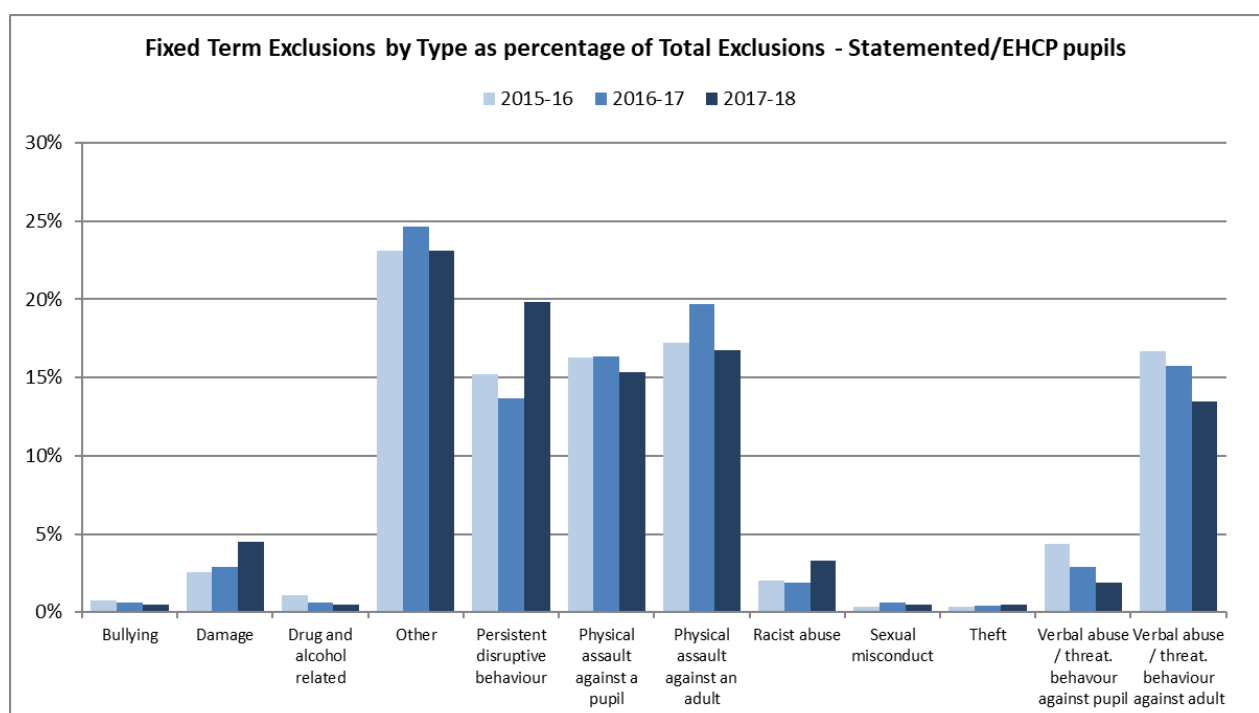


Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

When reviewed at SEN cohort and NCY group level, fixed term exclusions were highest in NCY10 for both pupils with Statements / EHCPs and those with SEN Support. Fixed Term Exclusion rates were generally higher across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 for both SEN cohorts.

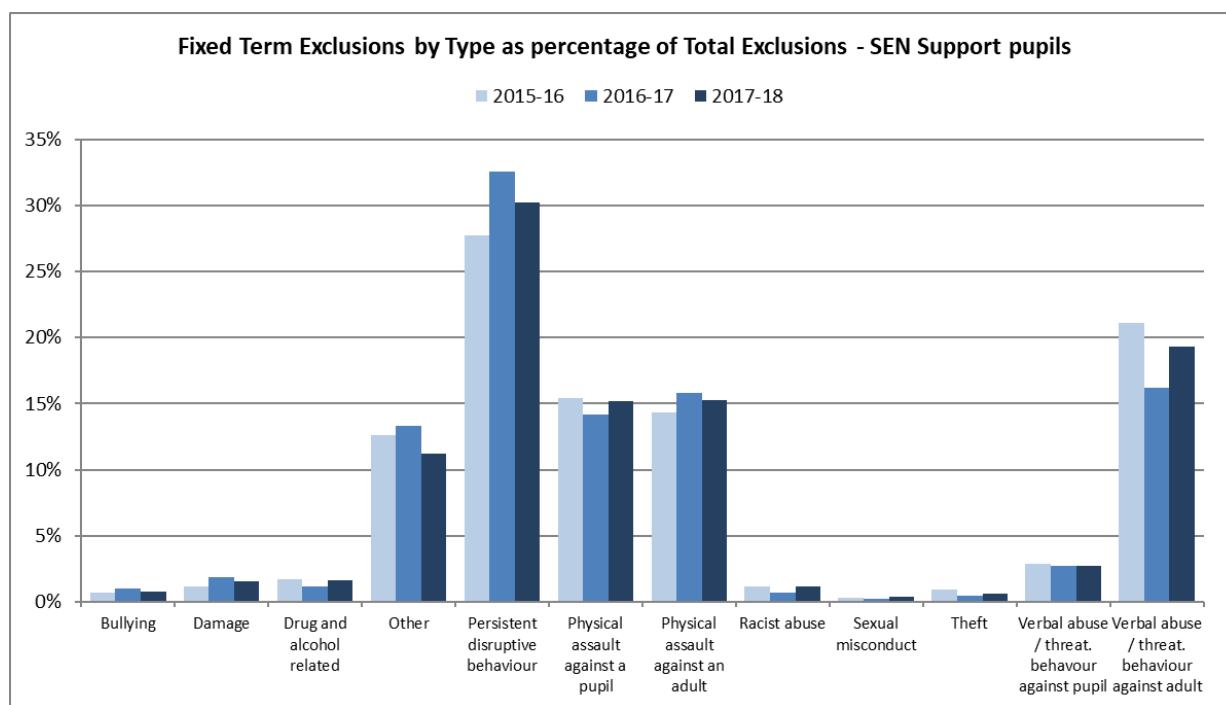


The most common reason for fixed term exclusions against pupils with Statements/EHCPs continues to be Other. Follow up indicates that other is often used where a combination of reasons has resulted in exclusion. The exclusion reason of 'Other' has seen a slight fall in the last year whilst persistent disruptive behaviour has risen. The table below provides further details.



Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

The most common reason for fixed term exclusions against pupils with SEN Support continues to be persistent disruptive behaviour. The second most common reason is verbal abuse / threatening behaviour against an adult. Persistent disruptive behaviour has seen a slight fall in the last year whilst verbal abuse / threatening behaviour against an adult has risen.



Data source: 2017/18: ONE database Aug 2018, 2016/17 and earlier: DfE School Census returns

¹ academies, city technology colleges, community schools, voluntary aided schools, voluntary controlled schools, foundation schools, free schools, university technical colleges, studio schools, FE colleges with 14-16 provision. Note: Independent mainstream and independent special schools are not included in the measures.

Elective Home Education

As can be seen from the table below the number of children with a Statement / EHCP who have been Elective Home Educated children at some point over the academic year has risen. However, when considered as a percentage of the EHE cohort the percentage with a Statement / EHCP has remained stable at 4.5%.

Table 8. Elective Home Education students and % Statements / EHCPs

Academic Year	Number of EHE students with statement	Number of registered EHE students	% of students with Statements / EHCPs
2017/18	72	1,588	4.5%
2016/17	57	1,275	4.5%
2015/16	37	1,018	3.6%
2014/15	37	766	4.8%
2013/14	44	750	5.9%
2012/13	33	521	6.3%
2011/12	36	560	6.4%

Data Source: 2017/18 Elective Home Education Annual Report, Babcock LDP

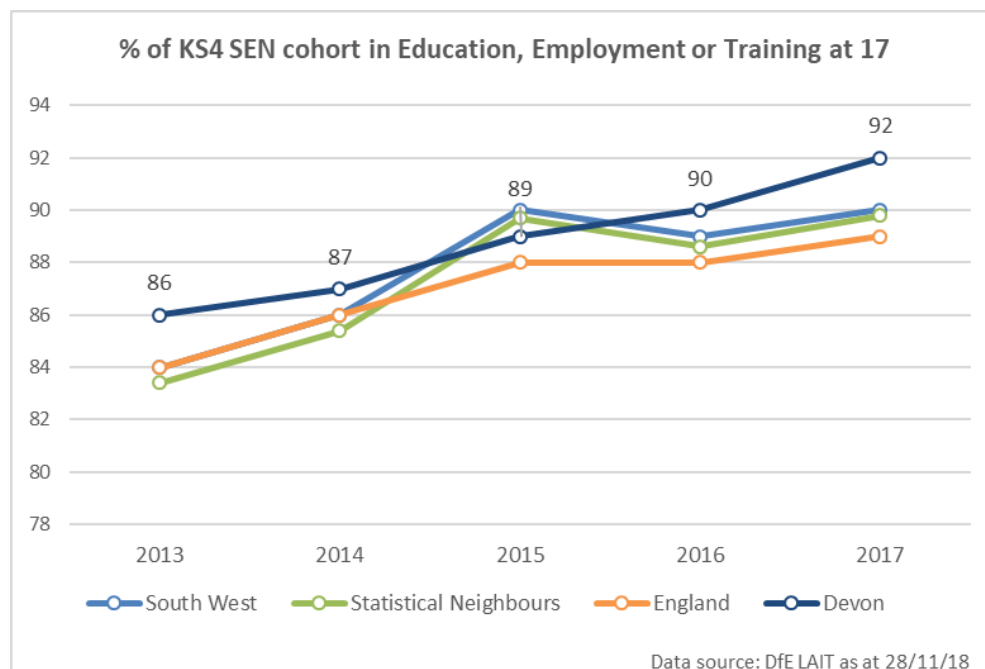
The SEN Strategic Review has included the increase in EHE and the concluded that the reasons behind it is one of the areas that needs to be considered in further provision planning.

Key Stage 4 (Year 11) Destination Information - 2016/17 data

This section illustrates what young people with SEN move on to in the academic year after they complete key stage 4, and indicates whether they were in sustained education, employment or training for at least the first two terms (period October to March). The pupil cohort is from state-funded mainstream schools only¹.

The latest available information is the destinations is 2016/17. The SEN status is based on the pupils' status at year 11 as recorded in the January 2016 school census. Education destinations are based on information from colleges and FE providers, special post 16 institutions, state-funded schools, non-maintained special schools, alternative provision and higher education institutions.

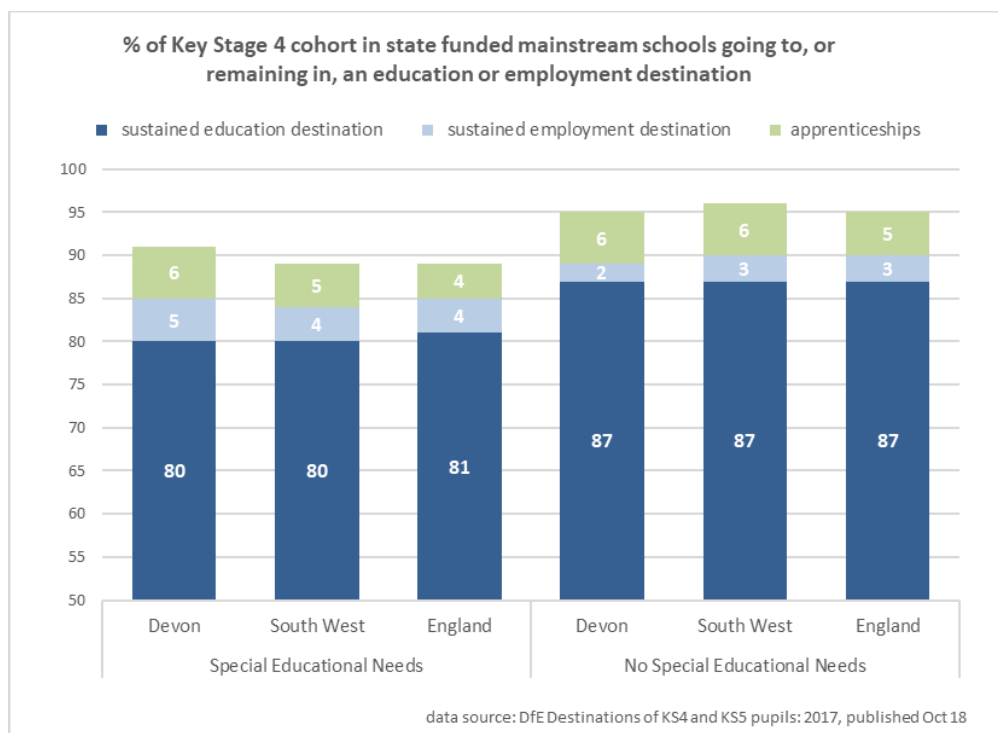
The percentage of SEN pupils remaining in Education, Employment or Training at the age of 17 continues to rise in Devon. Devon is performing better than nationally (92% compared to 89% nationally) and is also performing better than regionally and its statistical neighbours. **Devon is ranked 14 out of 152 LAs and is in the top performing quartile.**



When reviewing the percentage of pupils by SEN cohort there is little variation between the two cohorts. 91% of pupils with a Statement/EHCP remained in Education, Employment and Training compared to 93% of pupils with SEN without a statement/EHCP. Devon is in line with the national average for pupils with a Statement/EHCP (91%) and is performing better than the national and regional averages for pupils with SEN without a statement/EHCP. **Devon is ranked 9 out of 152 LAs and is in the top performing quartile** for these pupils.

Breakdown of Destinations for young people with SEN

The following chart compares the headline destinations for young people with Special Educational Needs against their peers who have no Special Educational Needs.



Note: Sustained is defined as participation for the first two terms (October to March) 2016/17.

Comparisons to previous years destination information cannot be made due to a change in the way apprenticeships are reported (now reported as a primary destination to ensure there is no double counting in other destinations). This impacts on the reporting of other destinations.

When the destinations are reviewed in further detail, the most common destination for Devon pupils with SEN is further education (61% in 2016/17), followed by state funded school sixth forms (18%). Pupils with SEN, in Devon and nationally, are more likely to have a destination which is not sustained when compared to their peers with no SEN. 7% of Devon pupils with SEN did not have a sustained destination compared to 4% of Devon pupils with no SEN. The table below provides a more detailed breakdown of destinations.

Table 9. Percentage of the KS4 cohorts going to, or remaining in, an education or employment destination

	Special Educational Needs			No Special Educational Needs		
	Devon	South West	England	Devon	South West	England
Any sustained education or employment	1055	6815	68570	5815	44660	461980
Any sustained education destination	93	90	89	96	96	95
Further education college or other FE provider, e.g. higher education institutions offering qualifications at L4 or below	80	79	80	87	87	87
School sixth form - state funded	61	57	52	52	39	31
Sixth form college	18	19	20	33	42	41
Other education destinations, e.g. independent schools, alternative provision, special schools	x	2	7	2	5	14
Apprenticeships	1	1	1	1	1	1
Intermediate apprenticeships (level 2)	7	6	5	6	6	5
Advanced and Higher apprenticeships (level 3 and above)	7	5	4	5	4	4
Sustained employment destination	-	1	1	1	1	1
Destination not sustained, some participation between Aug and July but not sustained for period Oct to Mar	6	5	4	2	3	3

Data Source: DfE SFR Destinations of KS4 and KS5 pupils: 2017, published October 2018

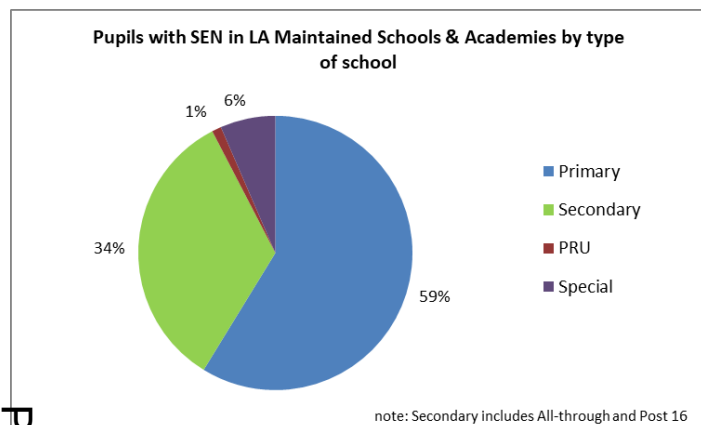
Key: x indicates DfE suppression due to low numbers.
- indicates percentage is less than 0.5% but greater than 0%.

Note:

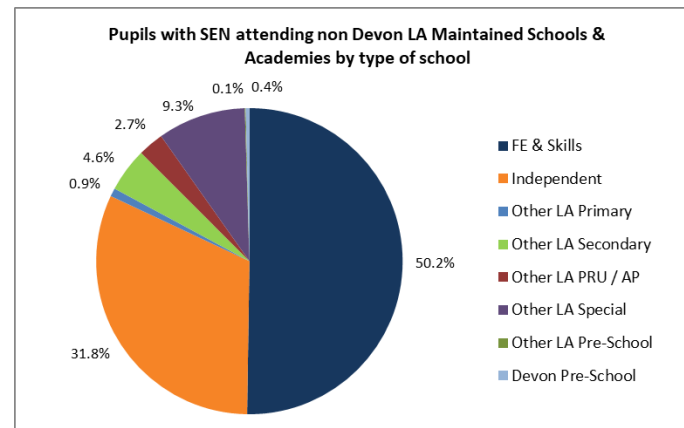
- To count as a 'sustained' destination, the young person has to be participating for 'two terms' or 'six months' the following academic year – the period considered is October to March.
- Individual lines may not add up to totals due to rounding of cohort numbers within the methodology

Quality of Provision

The graphs below show the percentage of children with any form of SEN attending each category of provision.



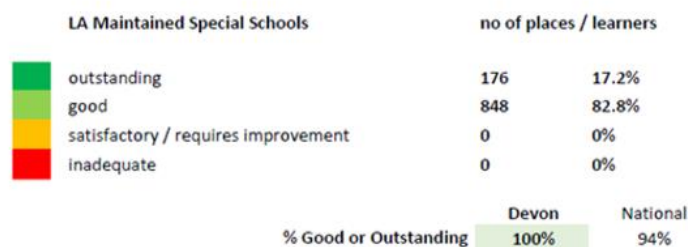
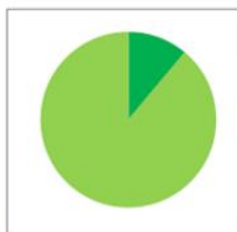
The percentage breakdown in LA Maintained Schools and Academies remains similar to the previous year.



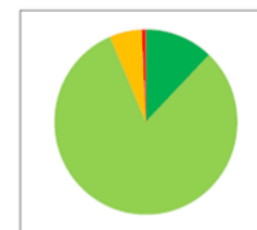
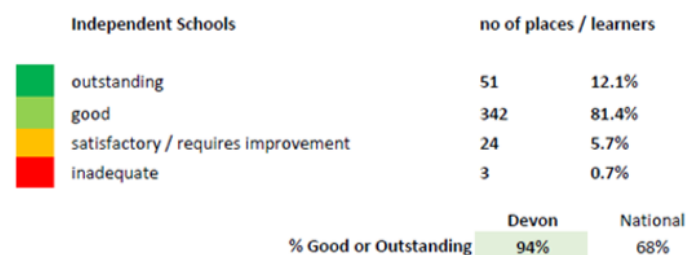
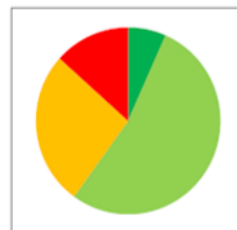
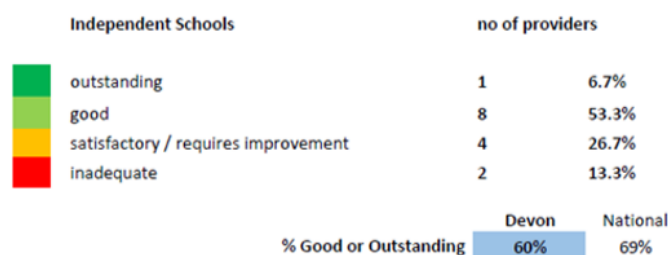
The % attending FE & Skills and Independent Schools are similar to the previous year. Fewer children are attending other LA mainstream schools (5.4% compared to 7.6% previously), whilst the percentage attending other AP has risen (2.7% compared to 0.3% previously).

The charts below show the quality of provision in Devon and of the quality of Devon provision where our pupils attend.

Special Schools



Independent Schools - including Other Independent Special schools - (as at 31st Aug 2018)



Update on Headteacher Associations (DASH & DAPH) forming Devon Schools Leadership Services (SLS) Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Recommendation

It is recommended that Devon Education Forum:

- (a) Note the present position regarding implementation of DASH & DAPH forming a CIO to represent school leaders and to work in partnership with Devon County Council.

All to note.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Report (DEF/18/04) submitted to Devon Education Forum (DEF) on 21 March 2018 provided the background and detail of DASH & DAPH proposals to form a Community Interest Company (CIC) to represent school leaders and to work in partnership with Devon County Council.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the DEF membership with an update as to progress to date and planned implementation timescales.

2. Formation of New Entity

- 2.1 Since the last report the DAPH and DASH have further strengthened partnership working across the primary and secondary phases. The two Executive Committees have invested time together to agree the strategic vision for the new business and operational structure which ensures the voice of schools remains paramount.
- 2.2 The two Executive Committees now hold regular joint meetings to focus on issues arising from representation at various local authority groups and strategic groups. This has proved to be especially effective in terms of aligning and strengthening the schools' standpoint notably around funding and SEND.
- 2.3 Collaborative working has also extended to the wider membership with joint DAPH & DASH Briefings being organised with programme content addressing key topics relevant to school leadership across both phases.
- 2.4 Following financial advice, it was established that the proposed Community Interest Company (CIC) was not the most tax efficient with a recommendation that a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) would be a more appropriate legal structure for the 'not for profit' enterprise.
- 2.5 CIOs are designed specifically for charities, allowing them to register just once with the Charity Commission as an incorporated form of charity which is not a company. This negates the additional requirement to register with and report to Companies House.
- 2.6 Apart from the reduced administrative burden, the CIO would have its own legal identity and can enter into contracts rather than in the name of individual trustees. Trustees also have limited liability.
- 2.7 CIO members still have key rights in law and under the Constitution and trustees are still responsible for managing the organisation. Note that trustees for CIOs will only be trustees, they will not have the dual role of Company Director.
- 2.8 There are two possible model structures for CIOs: Foundation or Association.

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- 2.9** A Foundation model is where the only voting members are the charity trustees whereas the Association model is with voting members other than its charity trustees.
- 2.10** Further information on Charity Structures and CIOs can be found on the Gov.uk website [here](#).
- 2.11** Devon Schools Leadership Services (SLS) CIO has been constituted based on the Foundation model initially, with a view to adopting the wider Association model once fully established. This will enable the interim Board of Trustees to progress implementation as the sole members to the point of launch with a view to adopting the Association model with schools as members once the CIO is fully trading.
- 2.12** The interim Board comprises of 8 trustees including 6 headteachers (3 Primary and 3 secondary) plus legal and financial representation from Michelmores and Bishop Fleming respectively.
- 2.13** An application to register the CIO at the Charity Commission was made in February and confirmation of acceptance is awaited.
- 2.14** Meanwhile the redundant Schools Leadership Services (SLS) CIC was formally dissolved on 5 February 2019 and removed from the register at Companies House.
- 2.15** Owing to current funding arrangements, it is intended that DAPH & DASH will continue to exist in respect of the existing Core functions of the Associations alongside the new CIO for the time being. However, traded activities and other commissions will be routed via the new CIO from 2019/20 financial year.

3. Devon Schools Leadership Services CIO – Ethos and Values

3.1 Evolving from the well-established DAPH & DASH phase associations, Devon SLS CIO aims to become a significant organisation in terms of its ambition and scope for school leadership. However, in structural terms, it will be a lean and streamlined small business, employing a maximum of 3 staff working to a skilled and specialist Board of Trustees – elected and steered by the total membership of schools/academies.

3.2 It has been shaped to be relevant for schools' needs in the immediate and longer-term future. It will play a critical role as part of the continuum in the maturing and schools-led system of the future educational landscape in the following ways:

- It is independent from the Local Authority and reflects the schools led direction of travel in the new complex system of multiple providers.
- It forms strategic partnerships alongside the other key players in the system.
- It coherently supports schools through being the universal vehicle providing connected leadership experiences underpinned by effective communication.
- It can be a catalyst for partnership working.
- It manages and mobilises knowledge relating to education matters.
- It operates as a one-stop shop for issues affecting schools.
- It spreads excellence through joint practice development.

3.3 Devon SLS values, ethos and modus operandi are to:

- Architect/orchestrate and facilitate collaboration.
- Advocate for a community of learning and leadership – an entitlement model.
- Promote inter and intra-dependence between schools and reduce isolation.
- Act as the conduit for the component parts of outstanding local improvement partnerships.
- Focus on similarities rather than differences - balancing information and support with challenge.
- Operate as 'One Local Voice' to influence and shape education policy not only within Devon but also the national agenda e.g. the campaign for fairer funding.

4. Services to Schools

- 4.1** The CIOs intention is to provide a comprehensive and innovative portfolio of core and value-added traded services for its schools' membership – whatever their legal status or structure. The offer will be targeted at a broad definition of middle and senior leaders working across the governance, financial, administrative, technical, learning support, subject and strategic educational leadership arenas and will seek to address existing leadership development needs in the current educational context, and stay 'ahead of the game' in anticipating and preparing leaders for future initiatives.
- 4.2** Devon SLS will not be establishing an unwieldy infrastructure to provide its offer. In line with its stated intent to be an organisation 'for schools, by schools with schools', it will seek to establish a range of Associate Partnerships and Commissioning Agreements with the existing and emerging quality provision and expertise within many schools and school groupings such as:
- Teaching School Alliances
 - Multi-Academy Trusts
 - Federations and Learning Partnerships
 - Nationally Accredited Specialist Award schools
 - Consortia
- 4.3** Also, where appropriate regional and national players such as Ofsted, ESFA, DfE, RSC, centres of excellence e.g. EEF, Sutton Trust or reputable independent consultants.
- 4.4** It will work through brokering, commissioning, procuring and contracting with a range of local, regional, national, and where necessary, international best practice, to meet the expressed (and anticipated) needs of leaders working in schools.
- 4.5** From April 2019, DAPH will be commissioned by DCC to deliver the headteacher support function currently known as School Leadership Support Service (SLSS). Funding for this service is presently routed through Babcock LDP with DAPH sub-contracted to operate the front line first point of contact. The service will be relaunched and re-branded and will in due course form part of the Devon SLS Core offer to members.

5. Resources and Funding Streams

- 5.1** Devon Phase Association funding presently forms part of the Historical Commitments within the Schools Central Services Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant and is subject to annual consultation and agreement by schools.
- 5.2** In autumn 2018, Devon schools voted to continue the existing funding arrangements for 2019/20. This will enable DAPH and DASH to continue supporting schools as at present as well as allow for a degree of financial stability during the forthcoming transitional period whilst establishing and developing the new CIO.
- 5.3** It is not yet known whether this top-slice can continue under the new National Funding Formula arrangements due to be implemented in April 2021 but as a worst-case scenario, it has been assumed that current phase association funding arrangements could cease on 31 March 2019.
- 5.4** If this is the case, phase association top-slice funding would be delegated to schools and the current membership of DAPH and DASH will transfer to the new CIO on a subscription basis. In other words, schools will subscribe to the new organisation to benefit from the core offer and services e.g. schools voice via consultation and representation across all working and statutory LA groups, communications, access to resources, leadership networks and CPD.
- 5.5** This will be on the basis that funding has been returned to schools' budgets and subscription rates will be modelled on the sum delegated back and to reflect the size of school and structure to achieve a cost neutral position for the maximum number of schools.

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- 5.6** In addition to school subscriptions, Devon SLS will generate income from other education stakeholders via an Associate membership scheme, sponsorship or partnership arrangements as well as the traded activities forming part of the Prospectus Offer with member discounts for subscribing schools.
- 5.7** Any surplus generated will be retained and reinvested by the CIO for the benefit of member schools to include subsidising future events or possibly by offering a rebate on annual subscriptions.
- 5.8** Initial set up costs and working capital will be partly funded from existing DAPH Reserves. Financial advice has been formally sought as to tax implications on incoming capital, trading revenue and VAT. However, having been constituted as a CIO following advice, charities are generally exempt from paying corporation tax.

6. Staff – TUPE & Pensions

- 6.1** DAPH presently employs two permanent members of staff and HR advice has confirmed that protection under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) regulations (TUPE) will apply.
- 6.2** The Trustees are in the process of considering the options for ongoing employee pension arrangements. An Actuary report has been obtained and is liaising with DCC regarding the options available to include the local authority acting as possible guarantor to any likely bond liability required to enable Devon SLS CIO to acquire Admitted Body Status to the LGPS, being the preferred option.
- 6.3** The effective date of any TUPE transfer is yet to be agreed as this will be subject to finalising revised pension arrangements, appropriate consultation with staff members and unions as well as Trustee's satisfaction that the CIO is fully established and viable going forward.

7. Way Forward & Timescales

- 7.1** The outcome of the application to register the CIO at the Charity Commission is presently awaited with estimated timescales 12 weeks.
- 7.2** In the meantime, communication and consultation with DAPH & DASH memberships will take place during the spring and summer terms with a view to formalising proposals at the respective AGMs when permanent Board membership will be established comprising elected Education Trustees together with the remainder appointed based on professional expertise.
- 7.3** It is anticipated that Devon SLS CIC will formally commence trading from 1 September 2019 shadowing DAPH & DASH until 31 March 2020 when the current top-slice funding arrangements are expected to cease. Once fully established, the legacy DAPH & DASH unincorporated Associations will be wound up.

Aimee Mitchell
DASH Chair
on behalf of
DASH Executive Committee

Alun Dobson
DAPH Chair
on behalf of
DAPH Executive Committee

Please ask for:
Clare Coates
clare.coates@devon.gov.uk

SCHOOLS FINANCE GROUP on 6 March 2019 at Larkbeare House

ISSUES FOR DEF ON 20 MARCH 2019

Item 2	<p>DSG Monitoring – month 10</p> <p>i. Joint funded residential placements SFG wished to convey to DEF and to the Chief Officer Children's Services that the group was extremely unhappy with the ongoing fundamental position of imbalance and inequity in the contributions to provision from children's services (social care) and adults services for joint funded residential placements made by the LA through its responsibility under SEN the Code of Practice. Children's Services have a working practice agreeing a 50/50 split in costs which is not currently honoured by Adult Services. This ongoing situation is likely to pose a fundamental barrier to ongoing harmonious joint working. During the recent Ofsted SEND review it was expected that a whole area response would be put in place, and SFG felt strongly that this should be recognised, with equitable funding contributions from all parties, as a One Devon approach. A speedy response is required to ensure a swift improvement in post-Ofsted outcomes and appropriate budget management prior to the end of the financial year.</p> <p>ii. ESFA SEN Adviser Support Further information to be requested about the nature of the support to be offered to the local authority by an ESFA SEN Adviser following the refusal of disapplication of DSG funding by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>iii. Quality and Safeguarding Assurances re. Tier 4 placements SFG wished to escalate concerns to the DEF and the Devon Children and Families Partnership as a matter of urgency to ensure that there is reassurance that appropriate measures are in place to check and monitor safeguarding and quality of health and education provision in Tier 4 placements for children with highly complex needs.</p>
Item 4	<p>Growth Fund Criteria SFG agreed to proposed updates and amendments to the Growth Fund Criteria. Simon Niles to provide a redrafted guidance document and some modelled examples of expected costs to the next SFG meeting.</p>
Item 5	<p>Carry Forwards 2019/20 SFG noted the proposed surplus and deficit DSG carry forwards. SFG agreed that surplus carry forwards relating to Trade Unions and Licences would be ringfenced for carry forward for the purpose of providing a grant for a specific piece of work within the High Needs Block, with the intention to invest to save.</p>
Item 6	<p>Mutual Fund Board Mutual Fund Board members noted the current position and agreed that there would be no rebate or refund of premiums proposed for the 2018/2019 financial year.</p>

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SCHOOLS FINANCE GROUP Notes of meeting on 6 March 2019 at Larkbeare				
		Attendance		
		6/3/19	9/1/19	7/11/18
DCC				
Adrian Fox (Chair)	Head Accountant (E&L)	✓	✓	✓
Dawn Stabb	Head of Education & Learning	✓	✓	✓
Julia Foster	SEN Strategy Manager	✓	✓	✓
Karlien Bond	Senior Accountant (Schools)	Apologies	✓	Apologies
Heidi Watson-Jones	Service Support Officer (E&L)	✓	✓	✓
DAPH				
David Barnett	Chudleigh Primary	✓		✓
Jonathan Bishop	Broadclyst Primary	✓	✓	Apologies
Alun Dobson	Marwood Primary	✓	✓	✓
Jamie Stone	Denbury Primary	✓	✓	✓
Paul Walker	First Federation	Apologies	✓	✓
DASH				
Daryll Chapman	Dartmoor MAT	✓	✓	✓
Gareth Roscoe	The Park Community School	✓	✓	✓
Lorraine Heath	Uffculme School	Apologies		
Matthew Shanks	Coombeshead Academy	✓	✓	✓
SHAD				
Keith Bennett	Marland School	✓	Apologies	✓
Jacqui Warne	Learn to Live Federation	✓	✓	Apologies
DAG				
Faith Butler	Special	✓	Apologies	✓
Malcolm Dobbins	Primary	✓	✓	✓
Alex Walmsley	Secondary	✓	✓	Apologies
EY Providers				
Lydia Wright	Early Years – PVI providers	✓		
Sandra Barnett	Early Years – PVI providers		✓	✓
In Attendance				
Katrina Harverson	Senior Accountant (E&L)	✓		

1. Item/Focus: Minutes and Matters Arising from meeting on 9 January 2019	
Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SFG group welcomed Lydia Wright as the new DEF and SFG representative for Early Years / PVI providers Fairer Funding – AD to meet with James McInnes to discuss school case studies. Considered proposed consultation dates – HWJ to look at possibility of moving one event to week beginning 14 October. 	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	Minutes agreed as an accurate record.
Action:	HWJ to review proposed funding consultation event dates

2. Item/Focus: DSG Monitoring – month 10

DSG

- Increase of £420k from month 9 due mainly to high needs block increases and reduction in agreed payments from adult services towards joint funded residential placements.
- JF outlined the individual assessment process undertaken in adult services to arrive at a level of funding contribution from Adult Services for joint funded residential placements. Proposed contributions are not at the level expected. Noted that Children's Services have agreed to contribute 50% of costs but this is not being replicated in Adults. The issue has now been escalated to Jo Olsson by JF.
- SFG strongly felt that further discussion at DEF would be required – funding assumptions for the year have been made based on an assumed 50/50 contribution. (SFG voted unanimously AD proposed. DC seconded, with Unanimous vote) to write to the Chief Executive and Chairs of Children's and Adults Scrutiny Committees.
- Discussed recoupment line. Considered the position of children in tier 4 provision and joint funding arrangements with NHS England, usually in costly independent sector. Tier 4 accommodation provision is not planned-for in Devon. There are ongoing concerns about how the quality of education provided in private hospital schools is monitored; noted that Devon SEN team often has some difficulty in obtaining information about the child or evidence of educational progress being made.
- SFG raised concerns about safeguarding arrangements for these young people which the LA is unable to obtain information. It is concerning that SEN 0-25 team appears to be the default service to manage these cases, even though some do not have an EHCP. Placements are recommended and made by CAMHS. **Julia Foster** to discuss safeguarding issues with Virtual School Head and CAMHS to ensure that LA is having quality assurance conversations with providers and families. SFG recommended issue to be referred to DCFP as a safeguarding concern.
- SFG felt that following this discussion, as a duty of care to Devon children this should be raised more widely within children's services and the DCFP about safeguarding and appropriate quality of education for children in tier 4 beds. Discussed Advocacy provision for the children in these placements as their liberty will be withdrawn for safeguarding purposes but SFG wanted to be reassured that appropriate safeguarding checks are being made through the Devon Children and Families Partnership.
- Noted savings achieved through high needs management action already in place. Discussed correlation between impact of management actions and the outcomes from recent Ofsted SEND review. Recognised that additional costs have increased as the number of children entering the system significantly increases. As a result, there were concerns about how achievable the future management plans will be. The group discussed how SEND budgets are publicly presented at a static position year on year.
- Secretary of State did not approve the disapplication but has offered the support of an ESFA SEN adviser to assist with longer term high needs planning. To date no contact has been made. Further information about the nature of the proposed support to be requested by **AF**.
- Closedown timeframe noted – schools to close down accounts by 29 March 2019.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

- **SFG** wished to convey to DEF and to the Chief Officer Children's Services that the group was extremely unhappy with the ongoing fundamental position of imbalance and inequity in the contributions to provision from children's services (social care) and adults services for joint funded residential placements made by the LA through its responsibility under SEN the Code of Practice. Children's Services have a working practice agreeing a 50/50 split in costs which is not currently replicated by Adult Services. This ongoing situation is likely to pose a fundamental barrier to ongoing harmonious joint working. During the recent Ofsted SEND review it was expected that a whole area response would be put in place, and SFG felt strongly that this should be recognised, with equitable funding contributions from all parties, as a One Devon approach. A speedy response is required to ensure a swift improvement in post-Ofsted outcomes and appropriate budget management prior to the end of the financial year.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF to contact ESFA to request further information about the SEN adviser support • Report noted
Action:	<p>SFG members to raise issue of funding contributions for joint funded placements at DEF</p> <p>SFG letter to be sent to Chief Executive, Chief Officer Children's Services and Chairs of Children's and Adult Scrutiny committees regarding joint funding of residential placements.</p> <p>JF to escalate concerns to the Devon Children and Families Partnership to ensure appropriate measures are in place as a matter of urgency to check safeguarding arrangements and quality of health and education provision in tier 4 placements.</p>

3. Item/Focus: Independent Sector SEN Placements

Discussion:

- Average cost in independent placements has been reduced by 21% in one year.
- Noted ongoing work in negotiating costs on an individual placement level.
- Post 19 growth and new placement requirements continue to increase, in spite of the additional capacity invested in Devon maintained special schools.
- Noted very few children leave the independent sector once placed.
- Discussed use of non-section 41 independent providers.
- Considered the considerable difference in cost levels for day and residential educational placements. **KH/JF** to look at analysis of the cost differential in the education provision. Noted that some residential placements are made by children's social care, on the basis of a 50/50 cost contribution by education. Mindful that costs increase considerably for residential /out of hours provision.
- Suggested it would be helpful to work more closely with social care / adult services to scrutinise the cost and effectiveness of residential placements.
- The group was mindful of the national projected increase in high needs costs. In Devon this is an increase in complexity of need as well as larger numbers of children entering the system. Discussed increasing prevalence of children with autism.
- Noted the predicted increase in Devon EHCPs will result in the LA being above national average for the proportion of EHCPs issued.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF: Report noted

Action: **KH/JF** – to look at the considerable cost differential between day and residential independent placements for pre-16 learners.

4. Item/Focus: Growth Fund Criteria

Discussion:

- Considered report outlining intention to update Growth Fund criteria.

One off class payments

- SFG were asked to consider whether academies and free schools should receive a full year effect payment rather than 7/12th. DAPH and DASH agreed that moving to a full year effect for academies and free schools and 7/12th for maintained schools would be most equitable approach.
- Considered whether a school would still be eligible for growth fund if it chose to reorganise class numbers throughout a year group rather than open a new class. Under normal basic need growth the school would be funded for additional students, but currently a new class would trigger additional lump sum. SFG agreed that it would be unhelpful for the LA to prescribe how a Head would best accommodate the additional children being admitted.
- Discussed current differential in the criteria between primary and secondary salary costs (currently M4 in primary and UPS2 in secondary). Following discussion SFG suggested that primary M6 and secondary UPS2 would enable both sectors to look realistically at attractive recruitment solutions.

- SFG discussed the calculation for growth numbers being based solely on the differential between year 7 and year 11 and the difference in overall numbers would not be a factor in calculating growth.

Exceptional Growth

- SFG discussed a situation where a school elects to admit in excess of the published PAN at year 7, due to parental preference, while a neighbouring school has surplus capacity. SFG agreed that no growth fund would be payable where a decision to admit over PAN is as a result of a business decision by the school; funding for the additional students should be covered without additional resource. SFG agreed however that in areas where there was more than one secondary school, they should be treated the same as single school areas.
- Considered 80% in-area rule for urban areas e.g. Exeter where there is a larger number of neighbouring schools and a very small surplus capacity across the area. SFG agreed that the 80% rule would be dropped when surplus capacity for year 7 PAN is 5% or under.
- DAPH endorsed proposal that growth fund underwrites additional places in new primary academies/ free schools based on 30, 60 and 90 places in the first three years of operation.
- Noted concerns around inconsistent and inaccurate IDACI levels for schools being built in new developments. AF confirmed that this has been raised with DfE as an APT issue, not specifically for growth fund, and an average would be used.
- SFG discussed October census continuing to be the point at which numbers on roll and growth are calculated. Considered difficulties around allocating growth on admission allocations rather than census. Mindful that ESFA would be more amenable to allocating on census on basis of actual pupils, rather than an expectation that pupils with allocated places would actually attend a specific school.
- Simon Niles to re-draft the Devon growth criteria and model the potential impact of the proposed changes.
- SFG considered the growth fund budget monitoring and projections to 2020/21. Mindful that growth fund position is currently is more flexible but with additional growth continuing into the future. The group felt that the proposed implementation of growth criteria changes should be affordable.
- Discussed potential plans and capital funding for a special school in Cranbrook. Suggest this is still a few years away. DCC has proposed that additional provision will be required in Torridge, Cullompton and Cranbrook areas in the future. Section 106 contributions are being collected to include SEN. Considered geographical difficulties around West Devon, with a low quantum of housing but with children remaining in the area who will need special provision locally and travelling time reduced.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

- **SFG agreed** that Academies and Free Schools would move to a full year effect for salary costs within growth.
- **SFG agreed** that a reorganising school would receive the higher payment of a new class or eligible growth funding.
- **SFG agreed** that salary scales Primary M 6 and Secondary UPS 2 would be adopted within the growth criteria to enable both sectors to look realistically at attractive recruitment solutions.
- **SFG agreed** that no growth would be payable to a school electing to admit over PAN as a result of a business decision, where surplus capacity in a neighbouring school.
- **SFG (DAPH) agreed** that growth fund would underwrite new primary school places over and above what is currently included in Devon's growth guidance.
- **SFG agreed** that in urban areas with more than one secondary school, the 80% rule would be dropped when surplus capacity across the area for year 7 PAN is less than 5%.

Action:

5. Item/Focus: Carry forwards 2019/20

Discussion:

- SFG noted the deficit and surplus budget carry forward requests.
- Noted licence and trade union surplus carry forwards was proposed to be allocated to high

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needs block. SFG discussed and agreed that this £68k might be better put to use as a grant for a specific piece of work which could have a higher impact on pupils than an allocation to the wider HNB deficit.	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	<p>SFG agreed that £68k be carried forward to fund a specific invest to save project within the HNB.</p> <p>SFG agreed deficit carry forwards as set out in table 1</p> <p>SFG agreed surplus carry forwards as set out in table 2</p>
Action:	
6. Item/Focus: Mutual Fund Board and Appeals	
<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £370k surplus projected at year end. Not currently looking at any rebates or refund of premium. All February claims to be submitted by 8 March 2019. Year-end claims to be submitted by 22 March 2019. DfE have discussed Devon's Mutual Fund arrangements – pleased with the set up and Devon is providing more information. Noted other providers cover absence due to other conditions e.g. mental health concerns, and recognised that Devon offer is different to that from some private providers. SFG felt that further development of the Mutual Fund could be explored. 	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No refunds or rebates expected Report noted
Action:	
7. Item/Focus: Any Other Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NJC information has been circulated through finance blog. Guidance for Schools has now been released. Mindful that HR advice is still awaited regarding special school specific issues. 	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	
Action:	

Next meeting: Wednesday 5 June 2019 – at Okehampton Community College.

SCHOOLS ORGANISATION, CAPITAL AND ADMISSIONS GROUP

Notes of meeting on 26 February 2019 at Larkbeare

Items for DEF on 20 March 2019

Item 8	Primary Surplus Capacity SOCA endorsed Devon's position that any school offering a published admission number over and above the capacity of the school, does so on the basis that they are able to sustain these numbers and future PANs without the need for capital investment to expand the school. Capital investment in expanding schools will only be agreed where there is a basic need to meet in-area demand and will be agreed in advance with schools.			
		Attendance		
		26/2/19	8/1/19	25/9/18
DCC				
Neil Pateman (Chair)	Built Environments Capital Programme Manager	✓	✓	✓
Andrew Brent	Policy Officer	✓	✓	✓
Fran Butler	EY Childcare Sufficiency Lead	✓	✓	✓
Christine McNeil	School Organisation Policy Manager	Apologies	✓	Apologies
Heidi Watson-Jones	Service Support Officer (Education)	✓	✓	
DAPH				
Hilary Priest	The Grove Primary	✓	Apologies	✓
Colin Butler	Otter Valley Federation	✓	✓	✓
Penny Hammett	Payhembury Primary	✓	✓	✓
Mel Smallwood	Bishops Tawton Primary	✓	✓	✓
DASH				
Daryll Chapman	Dartmoor MAT	Apologies	✓	✓
Rob Haring	Ivybridge Community College	Apologies	✓	Apologies
SENTient Heads				
Sam Barham	Lampard Community School	✓	Apologies	✓
DAG				
Ian Rogers	DAG	Apologies	✓	✓
Diocesan Representatives				
tbc	Plymouth CAST	-	-	-
Christina Mabin	Exeter Anglican Diocese (Admissions)	✓	✓	✓
Richard Power	Exeter Anglican Diocese (Capital)	-	✓	✓
Union Representatives				
Nigel Williams	Corporate Forum (Education) NASUWT	✓	✓	-
In Attendance				
Nigel Coleman	NPS	✓	✓	✓
Simon Niles	DCC	✓		

1. Item/Focus: Minutes and Matters Arising from meeting on 8 January 2019

Discussion:

- Noted that Church of England Schools are not classed as 'faith' schools.
- AB has sent email to all own admission schools which included details around 6th form protocols
- Further arrangements are being considered to address issues around re-integration, children in care and how these link to Fair Access Protocol. Draft guidelines to be shared with Phase Associations when available.
- **NP** to respond directly to Ian Rogers regarding enquiry about Green Energy Pilot
- Understand no buildings in the Devon estate suffering from building material failure as discussed at last meeting.
- Noted that AB and CM have met with non-compliant MAT re. making changes to admissions arrangements.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

- Minutes of previous meeting agreed as an accurate record.

Action:

- **NP** to provide response to Ian Rogers re. outcome of Schools involvement in Green Energy Project

2. Item/Focus: Admissions – Determination of Admission Arrangements 2020-21

Discussion:

- Cabinet on 15 Feb approved proposed admission arrangements.
- There was recognition of the complex admissions landscape in Devon with increasing numbers of own-admissions authority schools. Admissions team continues to be committed to working with all admissions authorities to maximise parental preference within compliance of the Admissions Code.
- Some academy trusts have determined arrangements independently of the LA.
- Discussed issues arising where VC schools enter cooperative trusts and subsequently become an own-admissions authority, sometimes without full understanding the obligations.
- Considered producing an admissions fact sheet outlining expectations of the LA on admissions processes, and action which can be taken by the Local Authority where there is non-compliance.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

Action:



Admission
timescales 2021-22.c

AB to draft admissions fact sheet to clearly outline the admissions procedures and responsibilities for Heads and Governors. **(Completed – see attached)**

3. Item/Focus: LA Annual Admissions Report 2019

Discussion:

- Draft annual report had been circulated. Any comments to be included in the annual admissions report should be forwarded to Andrew Brent.
- Discussed difficulties of a child moving into Devon with an incomplete EHCP.

Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:

Report noted

Action:

ALL to submit any comments to AB

4. Item/Focus: Early Years Update

Discussion:

- Noted update on opening and closures of Early Years settings. Noted Tresillian Nursery, last remaining LA run nursery, is now being run by a private provider.
- Considered Free School Meals for Nursery children – feel that many parents are unaware that

<p>they might be eligible for a FSM, and that schools with nurseries (not Governor-run) may not be aware that they are obliged to offer FSM to eligible children (attending am and pm sessions, whether free or paid for, and meeting FSM eligibility criteria). Early Years now planning to raise awareness of this for parents and primary schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted there have been some schools (age range 3-11 or 3-8) incorrectly claiming 2-year old funding for some 3 year old pupils. These schools may need to consider extending age range to 2-11 or 2-8 if appropriate. • Noted that schools need to update 'Get information on Schools' database when an age-range is amended. Understand there are technical issues currently with the system. • Considered Early Years take-up. Need to encourage more families to take up the maximum number of hours they are entitled to. Noted Ofsted will now begin to ask settings how they are encouraging parents to take up their full entitlement. • Early Years Pupil Premium – providers are being encouraged to ask eligible parents to claim. Suggested that primary school websites could include a link to the Early Years website. FB to look at drafting a factsheet that schools could print out and discuss with / give to parents. • Noticeable reduction in delayed entry to school in the last academic year. Noted reasons for a Head to refuse delayed entry must be child-specific which can be difficult when a child enters reception and background history is unknown. • New DEF and SFG representative for Early Years: Lydia Wright will be replacing Sandra Barnett. • Early Years Capital bid – notification expected by end of March. 	
Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:	Report noted
Action:	FB to draft leaflets to help encourage eligible parents to claim for Early Years Pupil Premium and free school meals in school nursery classes and circulate to DAPH for distribution.
5. Item/Focus: NPS Update Report	
<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that DMP and VA Schools data has now been separated. Some differences between compliance level for the 2 different schemes is thought to be due to time lag in maintenance work in DMP schools (who are responsible for their own budget) compared to VA Promise Schools (which have first £2,500 of maintenance work delegated to NPS to manage). • Discussed some concerns regarding discrepancies in accuracy of service term contract provider reports. Any concerns by Heads on the quality of the service should be taken up directly with NPS through nigel.coleman@nps.co.uk • Discussed data on varied compliance with scheduled inspection dates. This can be due to schools delaying significant contracted work until school holidays. • Capital team looking at specific issues with particular contracts. • Discussed service items which are not covered on the VA scheme which are the responsibility of the individual school's leadership team to ensure compliance. 	
Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:	Update noted
Action:	Phase Associations to remind Heads to report concerns around the quality of service contract provider reports to Nigel Coleman at NPS to enable concerns to be followed up.
6. Item/Focus: Capital Programme Update	
<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Programme approved by Cabinet on 15 Feb, and available to view on DCC website. • Some projects from previous year due to take place at Easter or September 2019 due to lack of tenders. • Capital funding announcement from DfE still awaited. DCC has been prudent in setting the 2019/20 programme. Any allocation of additional resources above expected figures will result in further schemes being considered. 	
Key Decision/ Issues for DEF:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update noted

Action:	
7. Item/Focus: School Organisation Update	
Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOI enquiry received re. sixth forms. Noted there is a number of own admission authorities no longer offering 6th form provision as outlined in their funding agreement – Regional School Commissioner looking into this. Meeting convened before Easter break for schools to discuss issues and complexities of post-16. • Noted SEN consultations re. changes to Resource bases. • Additional places being sought from Ellen Tinkham School for September 2019. Orchard Manor development plan complete but costs exceed SEN Strategic Fund. Legal agreement secured for Glendinning Special School, providing 120 special places in Newton Abbot; DfE has started enabling works, planning to be submitted. • DCC considering admissions concerns at Roundswell Community Primary Academy which is not coordinating admissions arrangements with the LA. This is potentially impacting on local families applying for oversubscribed places in North Devon, as separate applications currently need to be made to the LA and to Roundswell School. Representation from DCC Admissions team to DfE on this issue. • Charlton Lodge special school development in Tiverton going ahead for September 2019 opening. • Unable to pursue HIF funding awarded to NDDC for a new school linked to Ilfracombe housing developments due to risk of losing funding for marginal viability housing site. • Schools were reminded of issues to consider when looking to lower age range. • Greater Exeter Strategic Plan consultation expected to be published in June, allocating housing across Exeter, Teignbridge, Mid and East Devon up to 2040. • SEN Strategic Fund – to provide additional Special School places. Significant additional investment from Devon in excess of the government funding has been allocated from basic need funding but this is not sustainable. • Deep-Dive being conducted into Independent Special School placements. • Draft term dates circulated for 2020/21 and 2021/22 academic year. SOCA felt they were appropriate. 	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	Report noted
Action:	
8. Item/Focus: Primary Surplus Capacity	
Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary numbers are reducing. • Analysis of capacity in each of Devon's schools is being undertaken, looking at rural and urban schools. Overall numbers on Roll / Net Capacity is currently 91% • Some concerns around ongoing sustainability of rural schools under 50. • Deep dive into numbers and risk of high cohorts transitioning to secondary and impact of low numbers coming in. Will be liaising with schools and MATs to look at future sustainability. • Noted there is a range of processes involved for consultation and decision making when considering the future of a school dependent on the type of school it is. • Considered impact of wrap-around and early years provision on parental preference for primary schools. • Noted that DCC is unable to invest capital funding into schools with low pupil numbers from within catchment but that is full due to number of children from outside of catchment. Criteria are clearly set out within Education Infrastructure Plan. • Discussed frustrations around ensuring sufficiency and quality of accommodation in schools, and options available including consideration of a reducing PAN if the buildings are unable to accommodate children at PAN. 	
Key Decision/Issues for DEF:	SOCA noted the content of the report and endorsed the LA approach that any school offering a published admission number over and above the capacity of the school, does so on the basis that they are able to sustain these numbers and future

	PANs without the need for capital investment to expand the school. Capital investment in expanding schools will only be agreed where there is a basic need to meet in-area demand and will be agreed in advance with schools.
Action:	
NEXT MEETINGS	
<p>Agreed: electronic circulation after Easter of information regarding SEN Capital Funding and strategic review.</p> <p>Additional meeting to be reinstated for end May / beginning June.</p> <p>Confirmed: <u>next meeting 9.30am on Tuesday 11 June 2019 at Larkbeare Exe Room</u></p> <p>Tuesday 24 September 2019 9.30am – Larkbeare (Knightshayes Room)</p> <p>Tuesday 7 January 2020 9.30am at Larkbeare (Exe Room)</p> <p>Tuesday 3 March 2020 9.30am at Larkbeare (Exe Room)</p>	

