

CS/21/16

9 November 2021

Childrens Scrutiny Committee

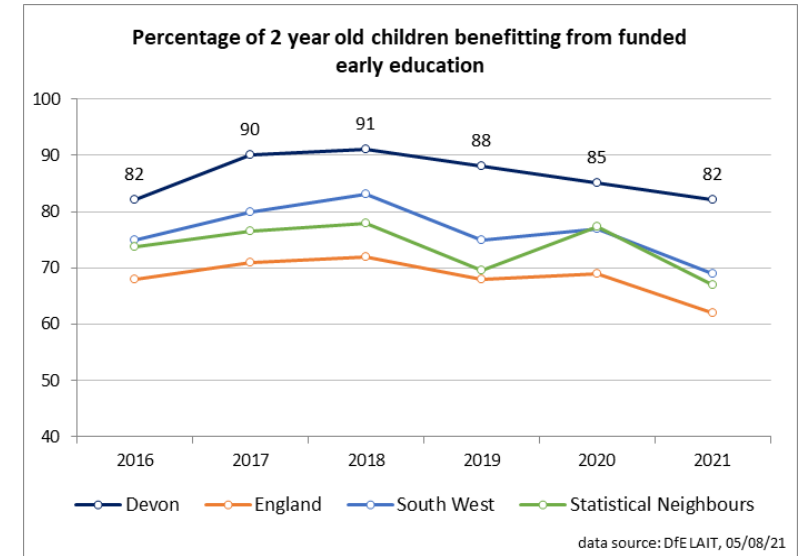
Education and Learning

Performance report Autumn 2021
Based on published data to 21/10/21



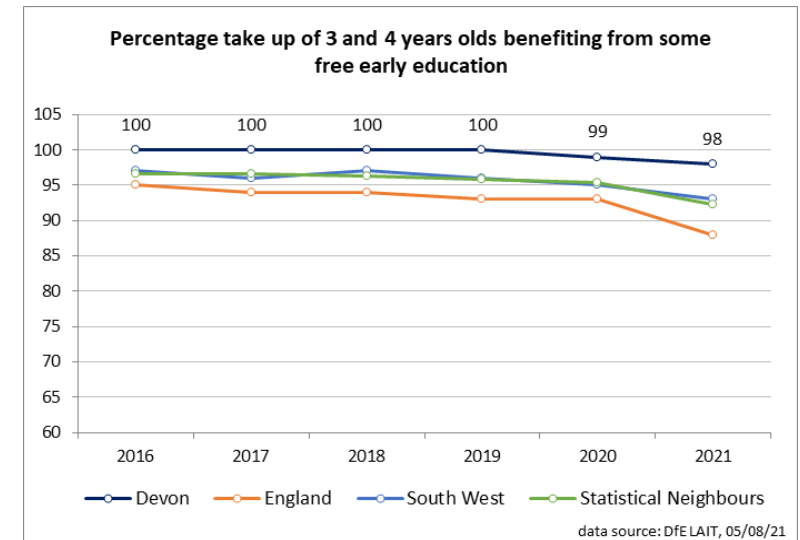
Review of Early Years Funding for 2-year olds

Nationally published information indicates that as of Jan 2021 there had been a slight fall in the percentage of 2-year olds benefitting from early years funded places, both nationally and in Devon (82% in Devon compared to 85% previously). Devon is still performing significantly better than nationally (62%) and is in the top performing quartile (ranked 7th of all Local Authorities).



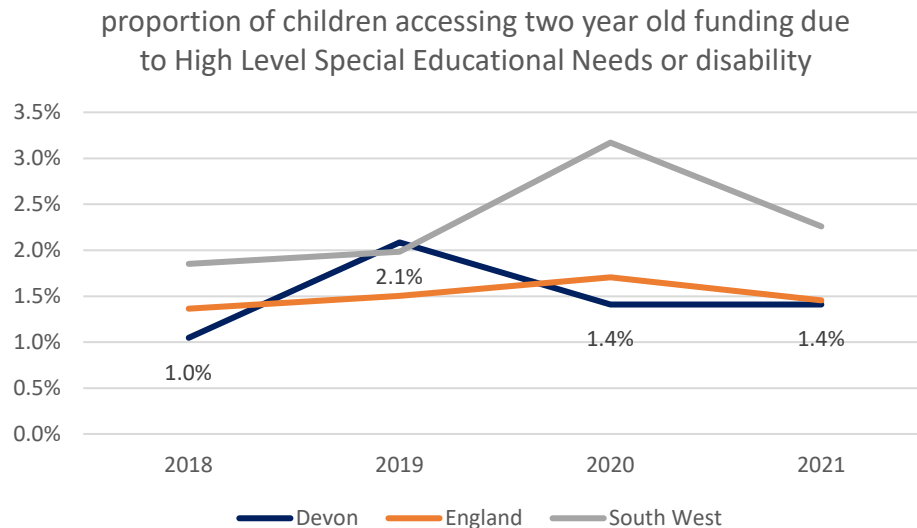
Review of Early Years Funding for 3 and 4-year olds

Over the same time period the percentage of 3 and 4-year olds benefitting from early years funded places continued to be high. Devon is again performing significantly better than both the national (88%) and regional (93%) averages. Devon is in the top performing quartile and is ranked 8th of all Local Authorities.

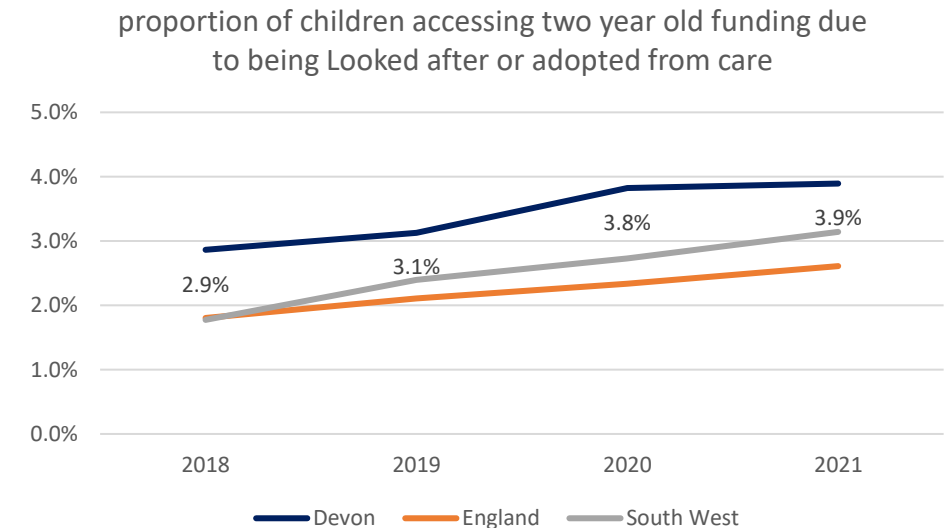


Early Years – basis of 2 year old funding

The proportion of children accessing 2-year old funding due to special educational needs has remained stable in the last year and is close to the national average (1.4% in Devon compared to 1.5% nationally).



The proportion of children accessing 2-year old funding due to care status has risen slightly in the last year. Devon has a higher rate than nationally (3.9% in Devon compared to 2.6% nationally).

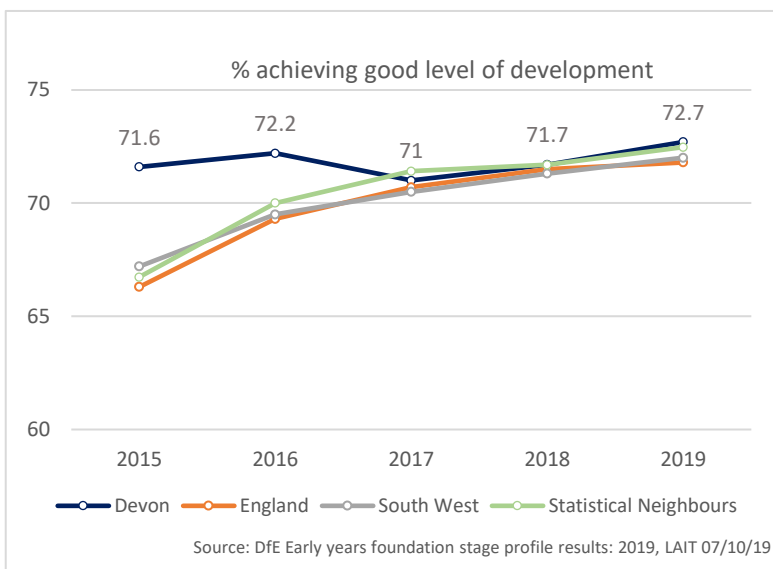


Early Years Outcomes - 2018/19 data due to Covid

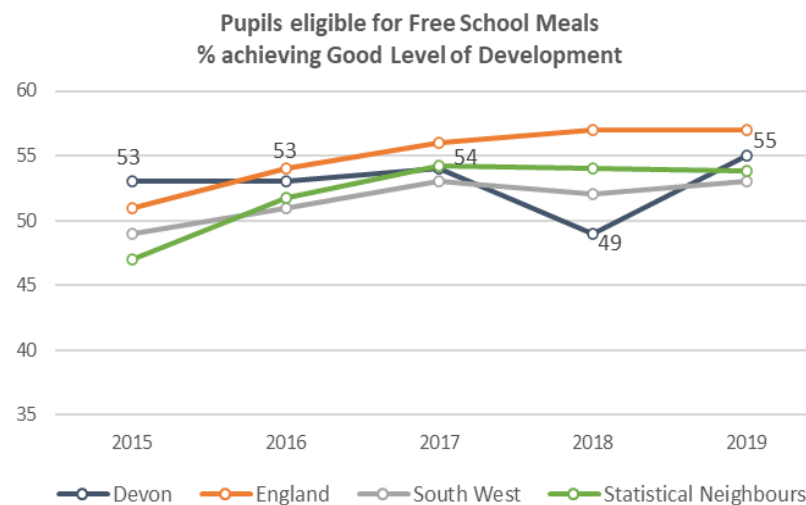
As a result of the coronavirus pandemic the Department for Education cancelled the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile for 2019/20 and for 2020/21. This means the latest available results are for 2018/19 academic year. These results have been reported on previously but are shown below for reference.

EYFS Good Level of Development (GLD)

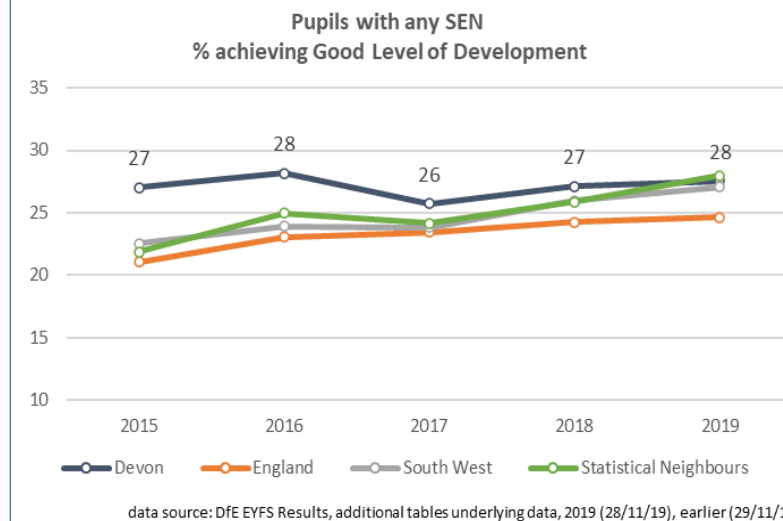
The percentage of **children** achieving a GLD in Devon rose slightly to 72.7%. Devon continued to perform better than nationally (71.8%) and regionally (72%). Devon was in the 2nd top performing quartile.



The percentage of **Free School Meals pupils** achieving a GLD rose to (55%). Devon's FSM pupils performed better than regionally (53%) and close to the national average of 57%. Devon's attainment gap between FSM pupils and all other pupils narrowed from 25% to 19%.



The percentage of **children with SEN** achieving a GLD was 28%. Devon performed better than nationally (25%) and regionally (27%). The attainment gap for SEN pupils is better in Devon than seen nationally (50% compared to 52% nationally).



School applications for 2020/21 academic year

Devon Primary Schools

- Devon's performance remains significantly better than that seen nationally with 97.6% of pupils in Devon being offered a place at their first preferred school compared to 91.8% nationally¹.
- **Devon is the top performing LA in the South West for meeting primary school first preferences. Devon is also in the top performing quartile of all² LAs.**
- 99.6% of pupils in Devon were offered a place at one of their preferred options, again this is above the national average (98%).

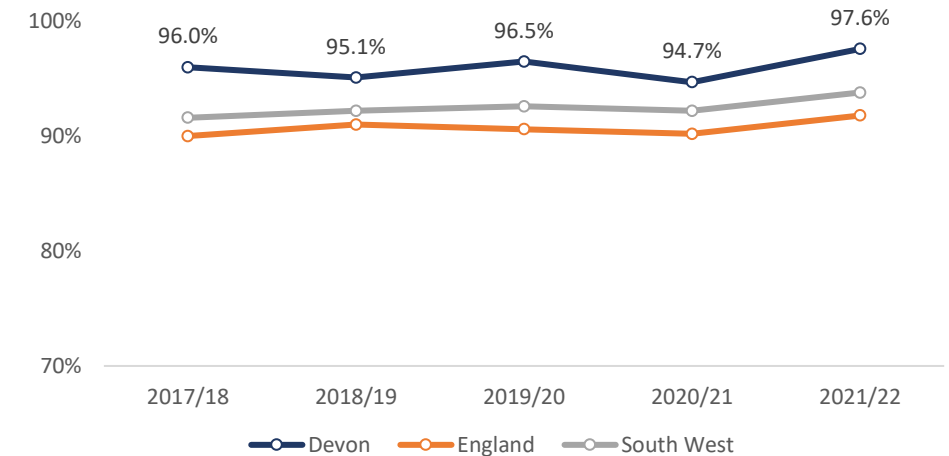
Devon Secondary Schools

- 91.2% were offered a place at their first preferred and 97.5% were offered a place at one of their preferred options. This is similar to last year where 97.4% were offered a place at one of their preferred options.
- Devon's performance continues to be significantly better than nationally. 91.2% were offered a place at their preferred school compared to 81.1% nationally¹. Devon is the sixth top performing LA in the South West for meeting secondary school first preferences. **Devon is also in the top performing quartile of all² LAs.**

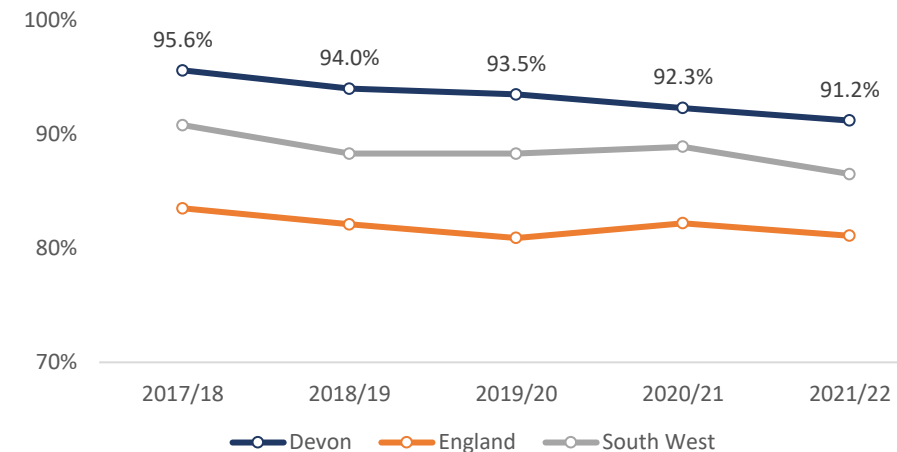
¹ DfE Secondary and primary school applications and offers: 2021, published 17/06/21

² excludes Isles of Scilly (one school all children attend)

First preference rate - primary school applications



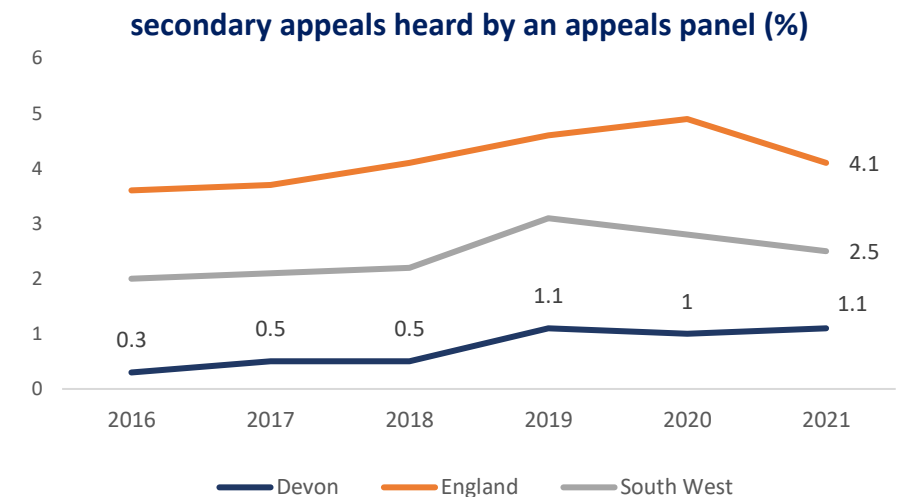
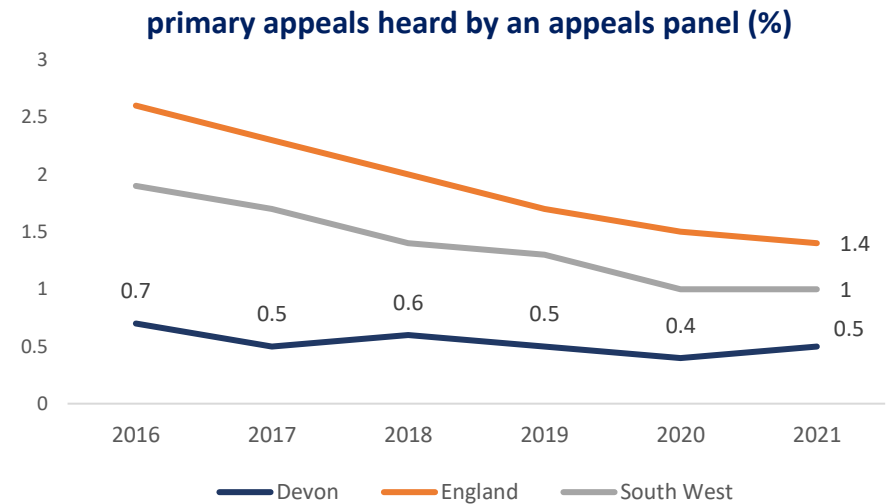
First preference rate - secondary school applications



School admission appeals for entry into 2020/21 academic year

- Devon has the lowest rate of admission appeals in the South West¹, with only 0.8% of admissions resulting in an appeal being heard. This is significantly better than the national picture which sees 2.7% of admissions resulting in an appeal being heard.
- Devon is in the top performing quartile for Local Authorities for its low rate of all appeals lodged and heard.
- Devon also has a low rate of appeals, where a decision is made in the parent's favour, with 16.8% of appeals heard being successful. This compares to 19% nationally and 24% in the South West.
- Devon primary schools saw fewer levels of admission appeals heard than secondary schools in 2020/21 (0.5% for primary and 1.1% for secondary). This pattern is also reflected regionally and nationally. Both Devon primary and secondary schools have significantly better appeal rates than regionally and nationally.
- Secondary school appeals heard were more likely to be successful than primary school appeals heard, with 18.7% of secondary school appeals decided in parent's favour compared to 13.5% primary school appeals.

¹excludes Isle of Scilly who had minimal admissions and is therefore not used as a comparator



School Attendance – Unauthorised and persistent absence - Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021

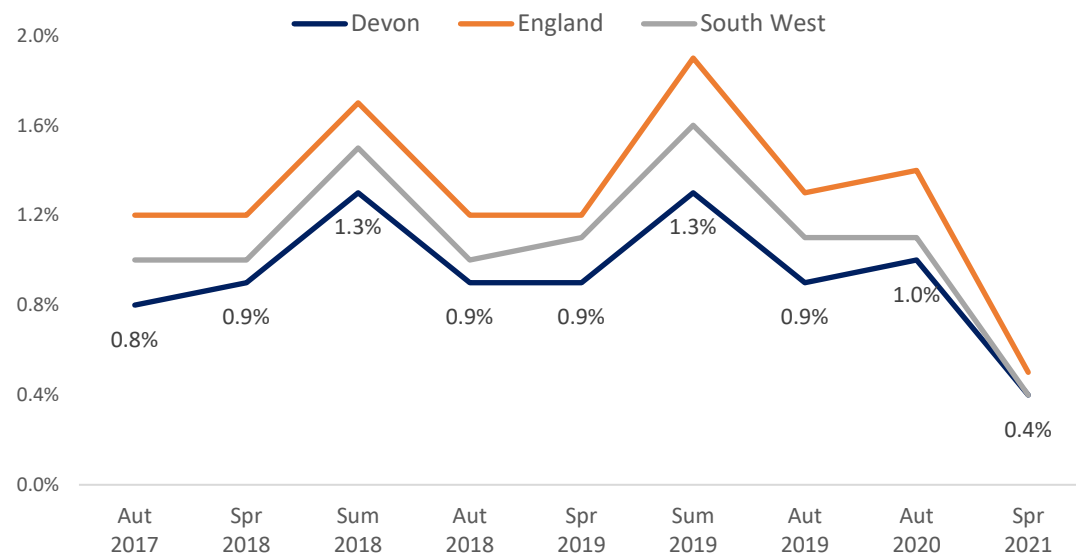


The DfE did not publish absence data for the for the 2020 spring and summer terms but we know from attendance data (see later slide) that figures in Devon were better than the national average during this time. Summer 2021 data is not yet published.

The chart on the left shows that unauthorised absence in Devon remained lower than the national average.

The chart on the right however shows a significant increase in persistent absence (>10% - roughly 6 days per term) in the spring 2021 term. This increase is due to medical and anxiety related authorised absence (for more detail see next slide).

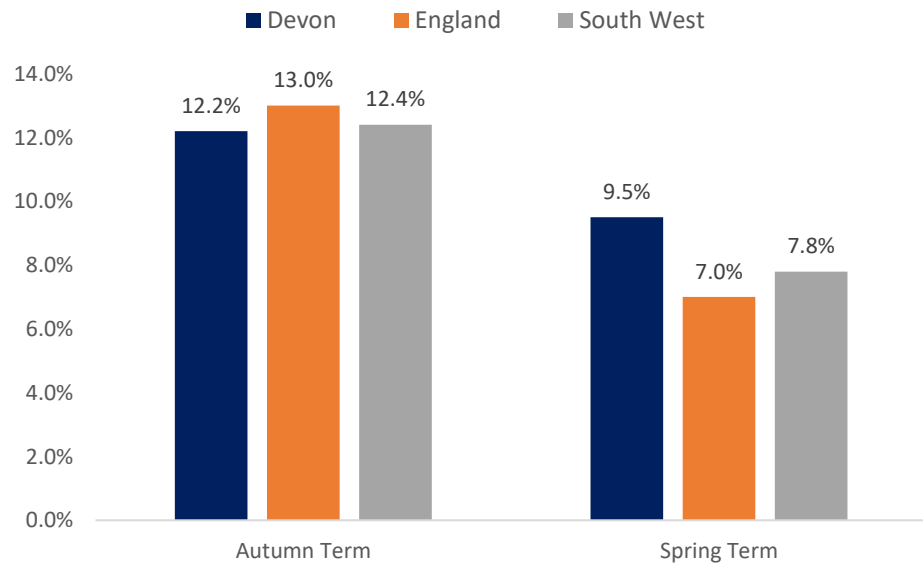
termly breakdown of unauthorised absence rates



Note: the DfE have not published absence data for the Spring and Summer 2020 terms

Data source: DfE Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn and spring terms, published 21/10/21

persistant absentee rates in 2020/21 autumn and spring terms



Note: the DfE have only published PA rates for the 2020/21 academic year, so comparisons to earlier years cannot be made.

data source: DfE Pupil absence in schools in England: autumn and spring terms, published 21/10/21

Schools have been providing a significant amount of support to reduce anxiety (child and parent) and prevent a more significant rise in persistent absence.

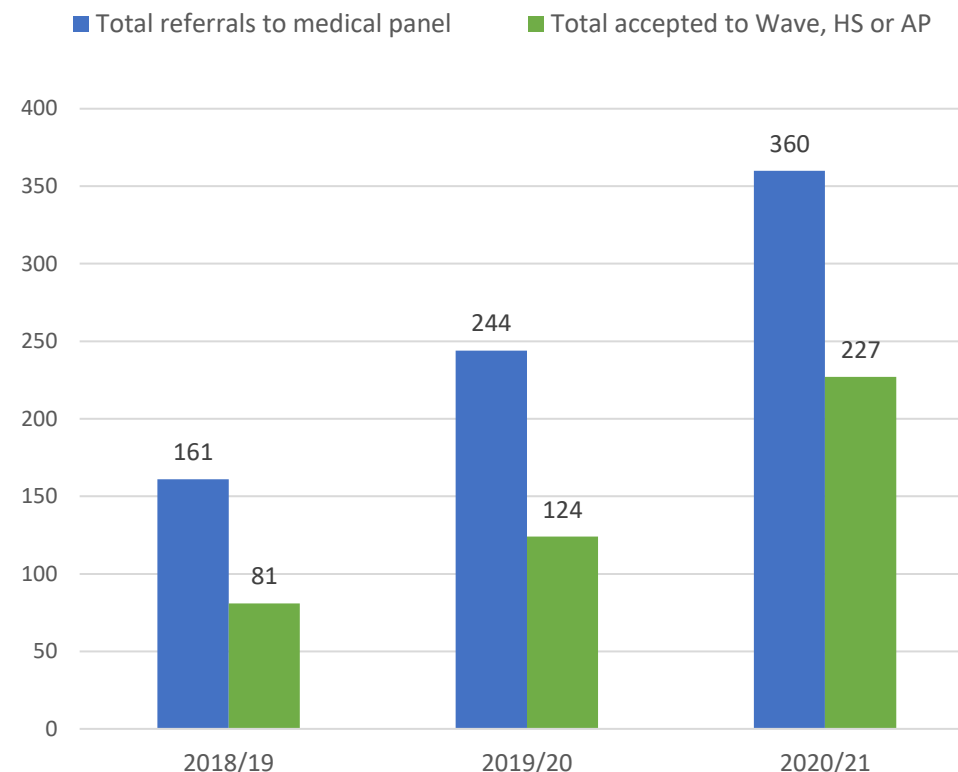
The Local Authority however also saw a significant increase in the number of children being referred for specialist educational support due to medical issues during the period of the pandemic. In the 2020/21 academic year referral more than doubled those seen in 2018/19. While the number accepted almost tripled.

The vast majority of these requests were due to anxiety related wellbeing and mental health issues.

The Council approved a bid for covid funding in the summer term to provide interventions to support the re-engagement in education and regular attendance of pupils experiencing these challenges.

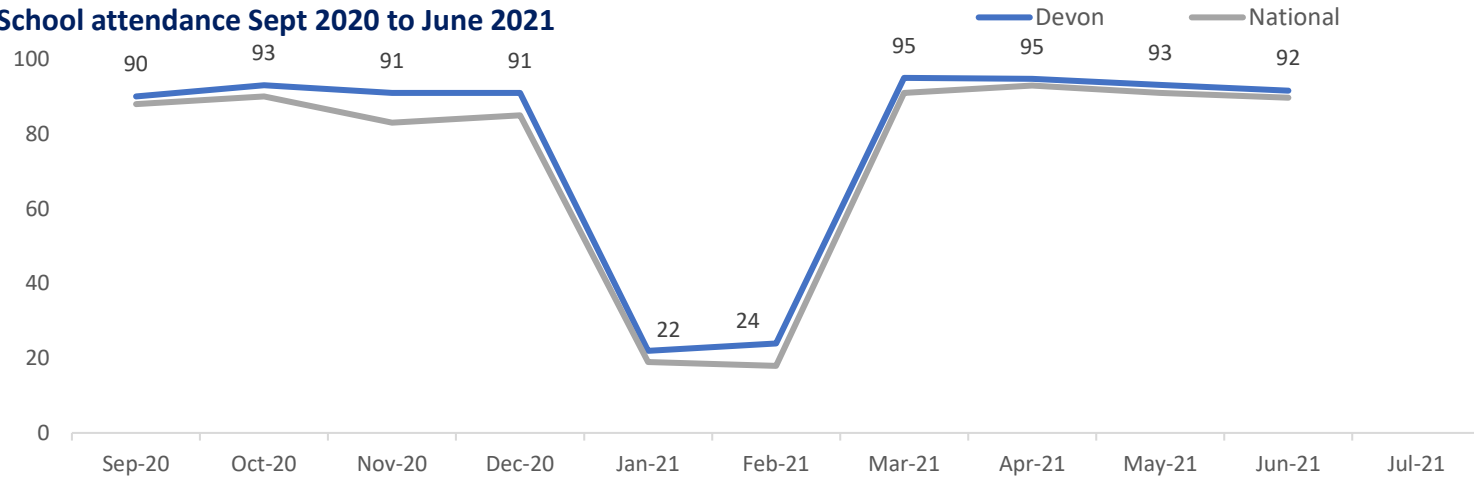
The increase in referrals has continued during the Autumn term, to date, however the earlier interventions are starting to show some impact in supporting those childrens' return to engagement in education. It is too early to provide detailed analysis in relation to this work.

Referrals to Medical Panel and accepted cases



School attendance – monthly 20/21 during Covid

School attendance Sept 2020 to June 2021



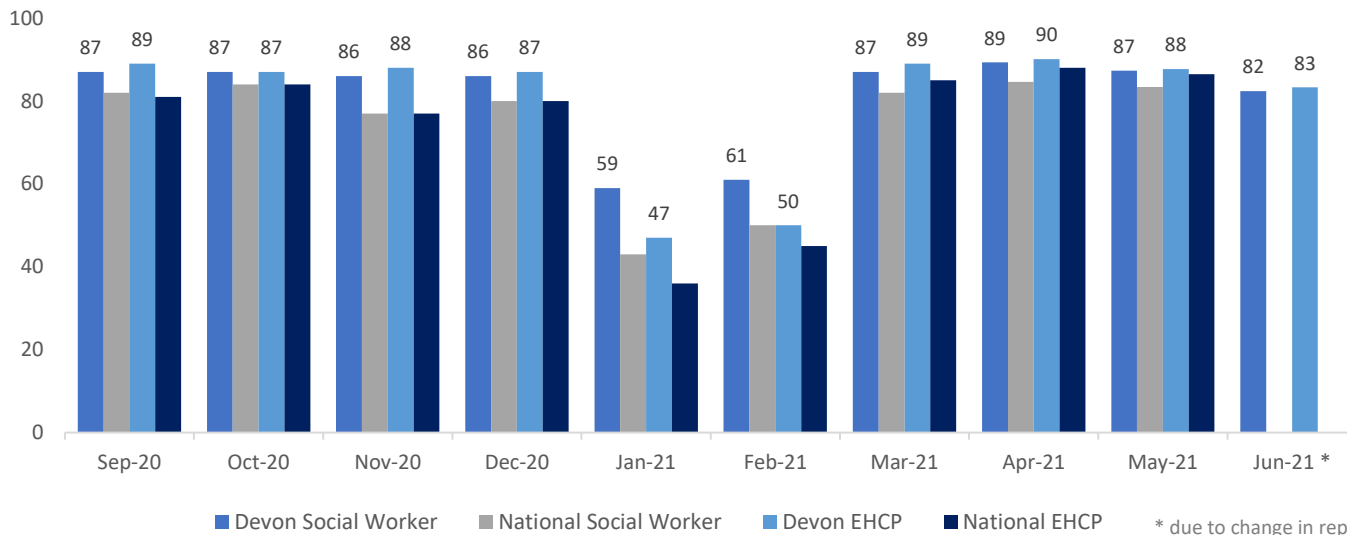
data source: Education Attendance Power BI report, national: DfE Attendance in education and early years settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Attendance in Devon at primary, secondary and special school level remained above the National Average throughout the pandemic.

This was the case for the universal group of students (left hand top graph) and for those with a social worker or an Education Health and Care Plan (bottom left hand graph).

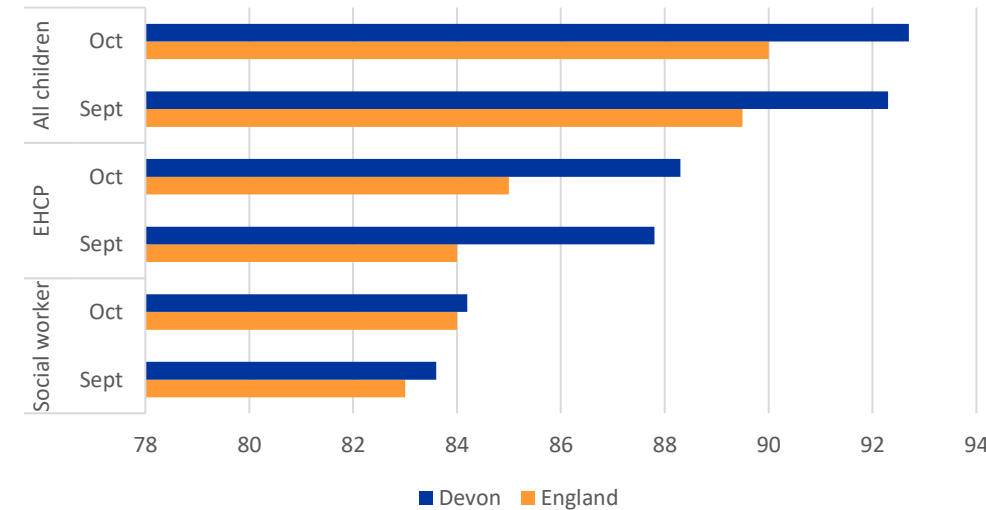
Autumn term initial data is shown below.

Vulnerable groups attendance from Sept 2020 to June 2021



* due to change in reporting, DfE have not published national data for all schools for June 2021

Attendance 2021/22



Key Stage 2 attainment - 2018/19 latest available results

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic the Department for Education cancelled the Phonics screening checks, Key 1 and Key stage 2 teacher assessments and tests. This means the latest available attainment information is for the 2018/19 academic year. This is shown below for reference only.

All Key Stage 2 results have been reported on previously but are shown below for reference.

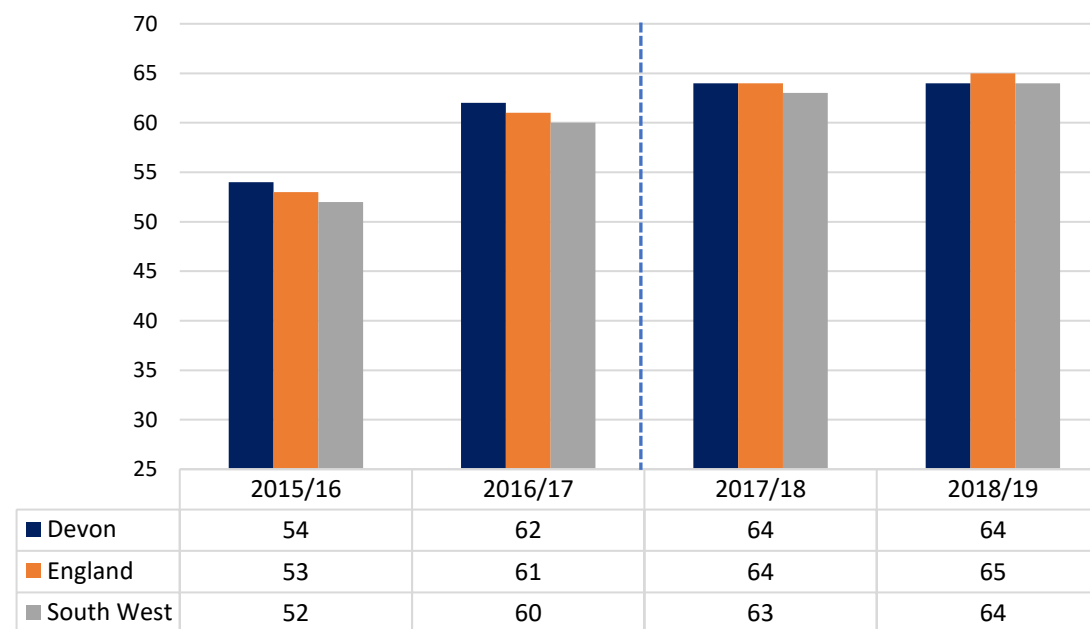
Key Stage 2 Published Results 2018/19

Devon's performance in reading, writing and maths remained stable with 64% of pupils reaching the expected standard.

This was in line with the regional average and our statistical neighbours and close to the national picture (65%).

Disadvantage children however do not achieve well at Key Stage 2 and this was particularly the case in 201/19. This impacts on the overall key Stage figures as well as on the individual Children. Further information is provided on the next page

Percentage of pupils reaching expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics



----- changes to the writing TA framework

data source: DfE 2018/19 Key Stage 2 revised results (13/12/19), 2017/18 and earlier, DfE LAIT (09/07/19)

Key Stage 2 – Disadvantaged* Pupils 2018/19

45% of Devon’s disadvantaged pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics in 2018/19. Devon’s disadvantaged pupils were not achieving as well as disadvantage children nationally (45% compared to 51% nationally).

For the 2019/20 academic year the ONE Devon school improvement strategy had a focus on improving standards in literacy with specific projects being commissioned across the county in vocabulary and additionally in Torridge (a category 5 area) in Oracy. Work with our Maths Hubs aimed to further address outcomes in mathematics.

As all assessments at this key stage were stopped due to Covid it is not possible to report on impact of these measures in terms of pupils outcomes but feedback from teachers engaged in the training and pupil’s programmes reported a positive impact in pupil’s work.

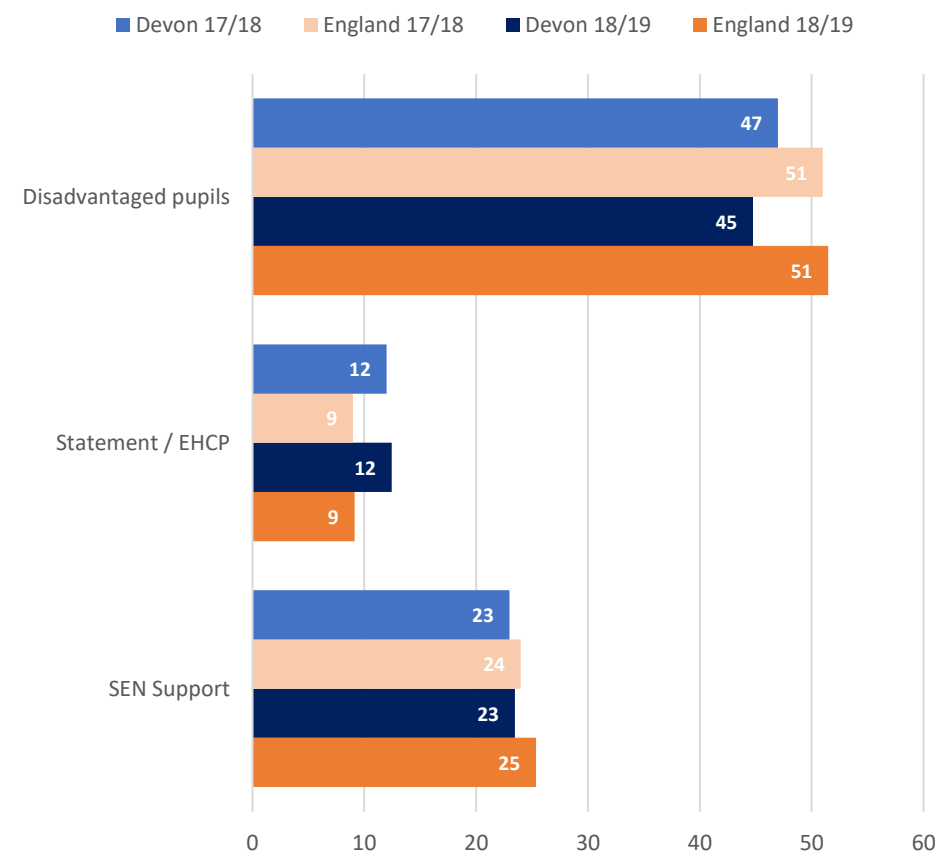
Key Stage 2 – Special Educational Needs Pupils

The performance of Devon SEN pupils with an EHCP improved in 2019. 12% of Devon pupils with a Statement / EHCP reached the expected standard in all of reading, writing and mathematics. Devon continues to perform considerably better than nationally (9%).

The performance of Devon pupils with SEN Support has remained stable in the last year (23% achieving the expected standard). Devon’s SEN Support pupils were not achieving quite as well as nationally where 25% achieved the expected standard at Key Stage 2.

- those registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years, children looked after by the LA and children who left care in England and Wales through adoption or via a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order.

Percentage of pupils reaching expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics (KS2)



Key Stage 4 attainment – 2019/20 published results

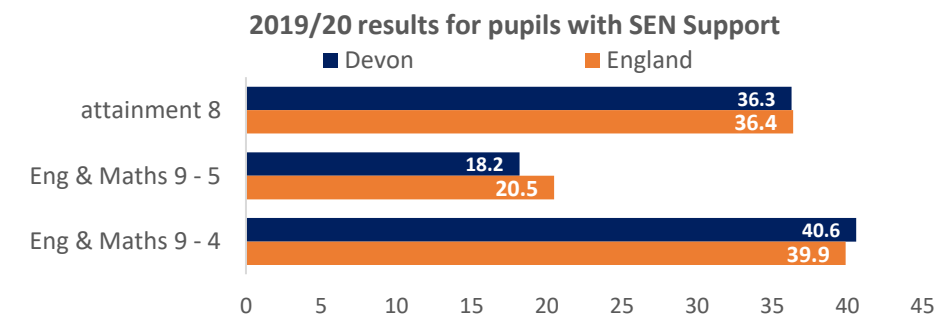
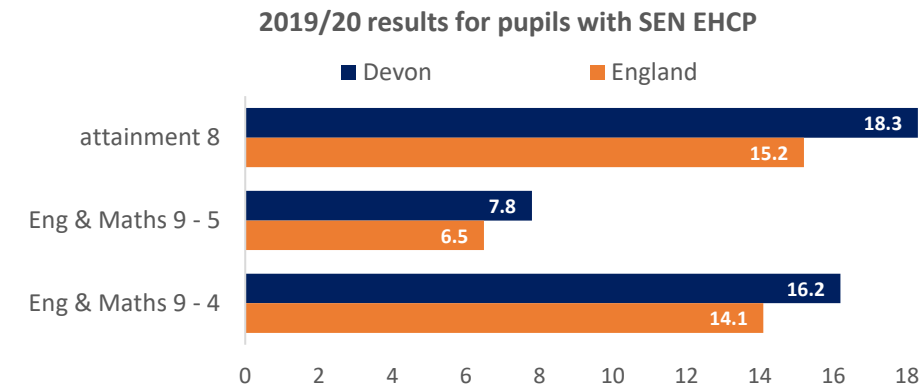
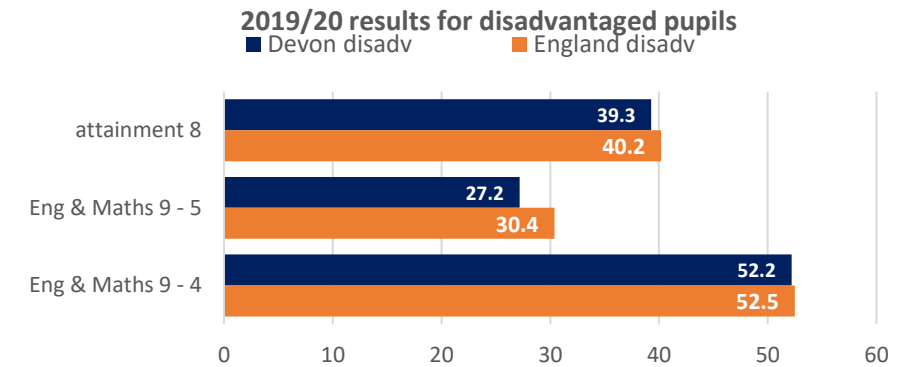
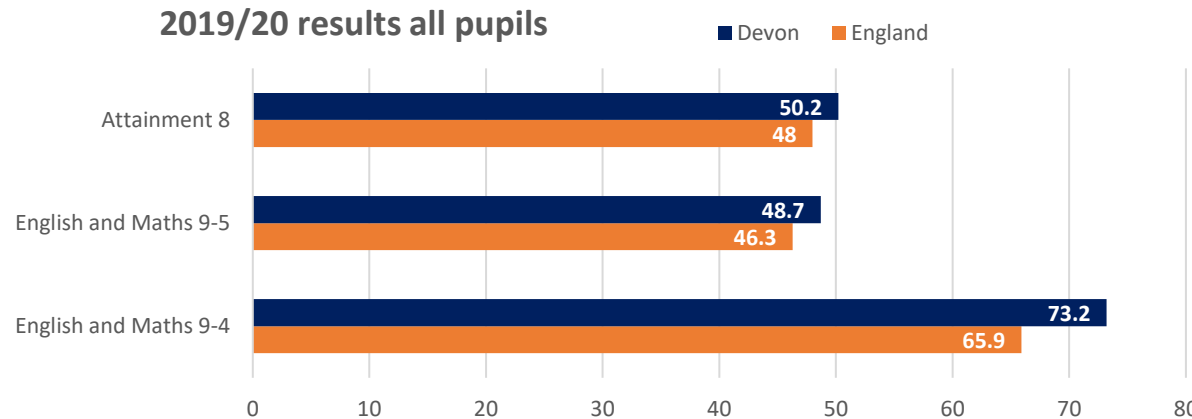
Key Stage 4 (GCSE's etc) did take place in 2019/20 and results were based on nationally moderated teacher assessment using examination level guidance.

Devon's results for **all pupils** (as shown in the graph below) were better than the National Average in all 3 attainment measures.

Outcomes for **disadvantaged pupils** improved by 6% from the previous year and Devon results were ranked in the top 50% of the country. This was above regional and statistical neighbours but still slightly below the national average.

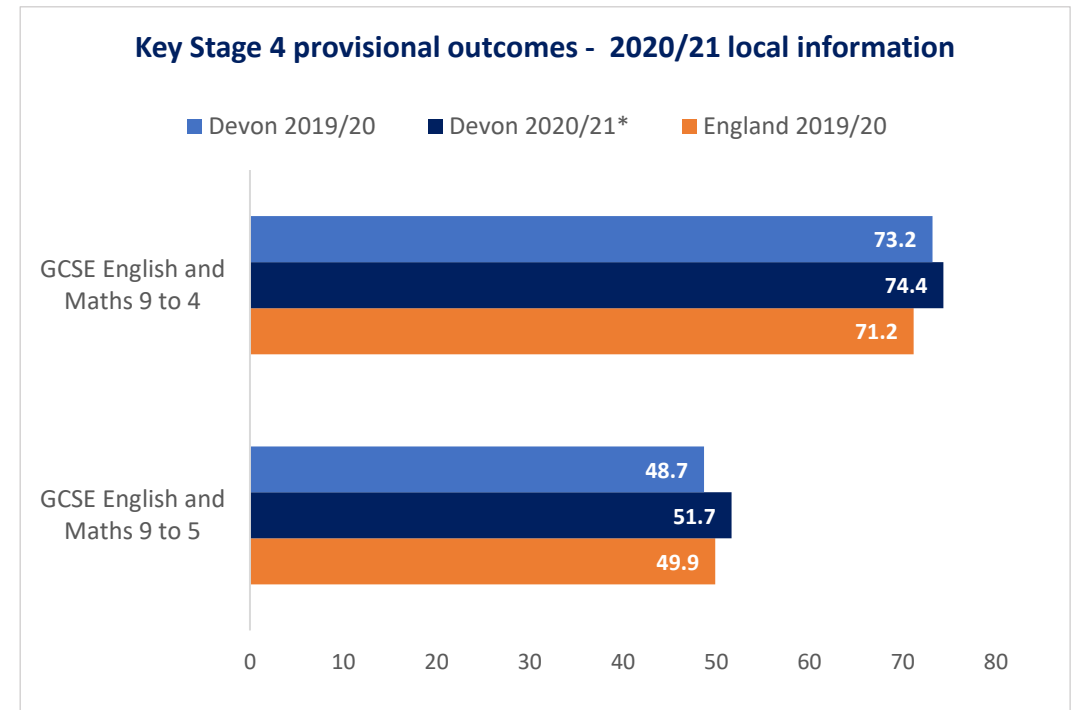
Outcomes for children with an **Education Health and Care plan** remain well above the National average in all 3 attainment measures and Devon is ranked in the top 25% of all LAs.

Children with **SEN supported at school level** achieve higher grades than those with EHCP plans (due to different levels of need). Results were broadly in line with National averages with only those achieving a level 5 or above at GCSE falling below.



Key Stage 4 attainment – Early indicators 2021 subject to change

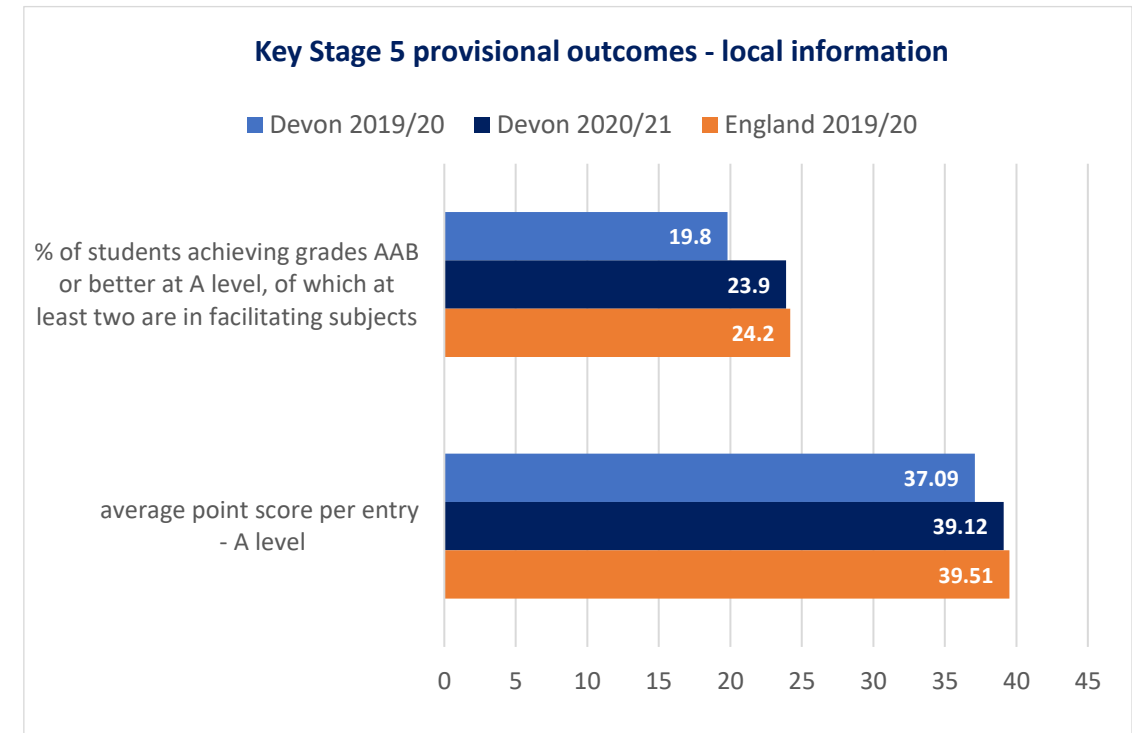
- In 2021/21 Key stage 4 school level performance tables were once again suspended. The information provided here has been gathered locally and aims to give an indication of Devon's performance at KS4. Based on these early indicators performance has improved in 2020/21 but this is subject to change when/if national figures are produced at county level. This is usually between December and March.
- 74.4% of KS4 pupils achieved a standard pass in English and Maths (9 to 4), an increase on the previous year when 73.2% achieved.
- 51.7% of pupils achieved a strong pass in English and Maths (9 to 5), an increase on the previous year (48.7%).
- Devon's KS4 pupils are performing better than the latest available national rates in both measures.
- Attainment 8 and disadvantage data are not available locally.



* Devon 2020/21 is based on information provided by 39 out of 42 secondary schools (3 Academies did not provide information) Data is therefore subject to change in any National tables.

- Information gathered locally from Devon **School based 6th forms** indicates that Devon's performance has improved in 2020/21.
- Nearly 24% of students in Devon achieved grades AAB or better at A level, an increase on the previous year when 19.8% achieved. Devon's students are performing close to the latest available national rate (24.2%).
- The average point score per A level entry has improved in the last year and is close to the latest available national average rate.

Please note: these figures are based on local information gathered from the schools and are therefore subject to change when the DfE publish national data in November 2021.

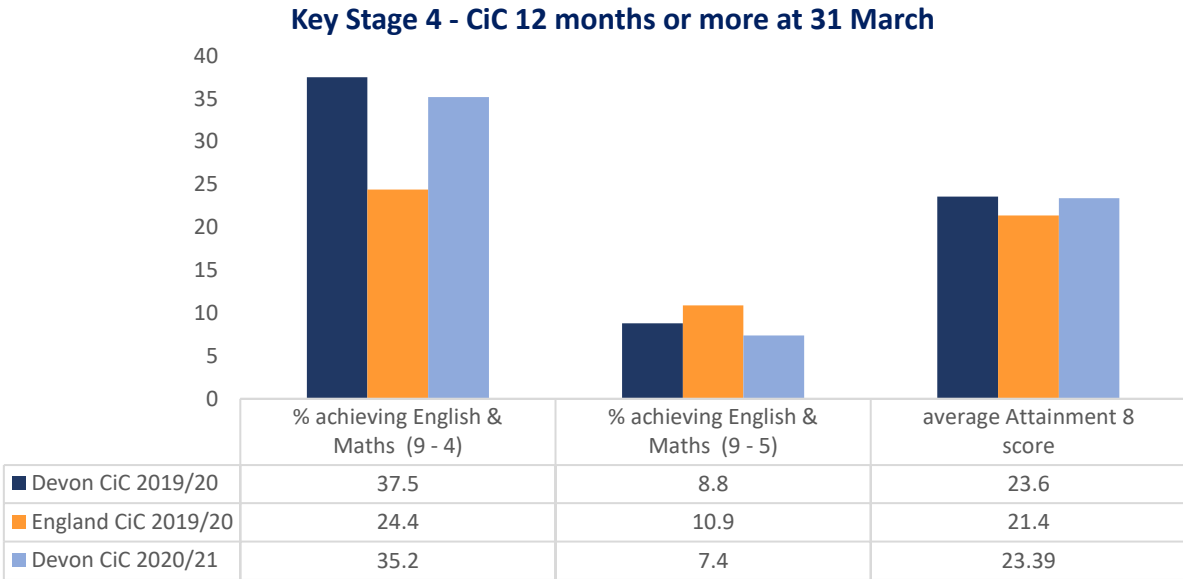


* Devon 2020/21 is based on information provided by 21 out of 23 secondary schools (2 Academies chose not to provide any information)

Key Stage 4 Outcomes (local information)

In 2021, results for Devon Children in Care for 12 months or more (OC2 cohort) dropped slightly. However they still achieved better than the latest available national average in both the English and Maths grades 9 to 4 and Attainment 8 measures.

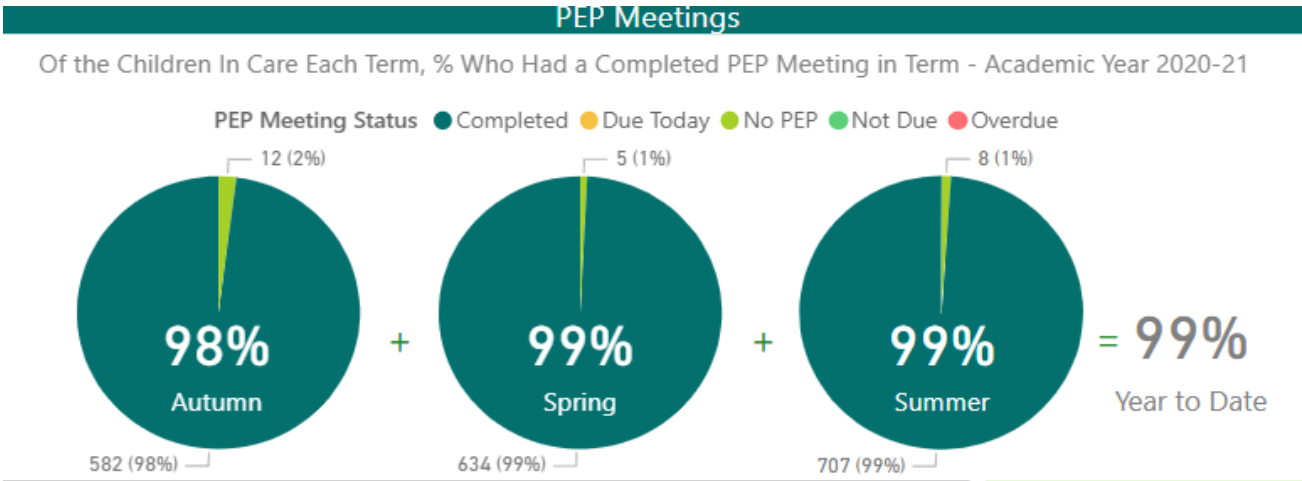
Please note: these figures are based on local information gathered from the schools and are therefore subject to change when the DfE publish national data in March 2022.



data source: 2019/20: DfE Outcomes for children looked after by LAs: 31 March 20 (25/03/21), 2020/21 Babcock LDP local data collection from schools, 06/10/21

Personal Education Plan (PEP) Update

During the academic year 2020-2021 the Virtual School have been able to attend all PEPs virtually to offer support to young people, schools, carers and Social Workers. It has given a very clear overview of progress and interventions needed to accelerate progress for each young person.

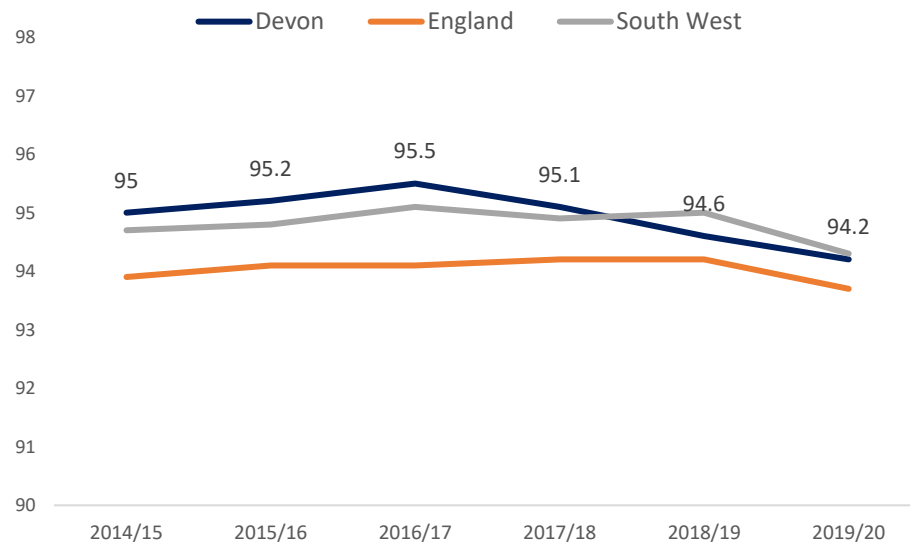


Pupil Destinations (after completing KS4) Year 19/20 published 21/10/21

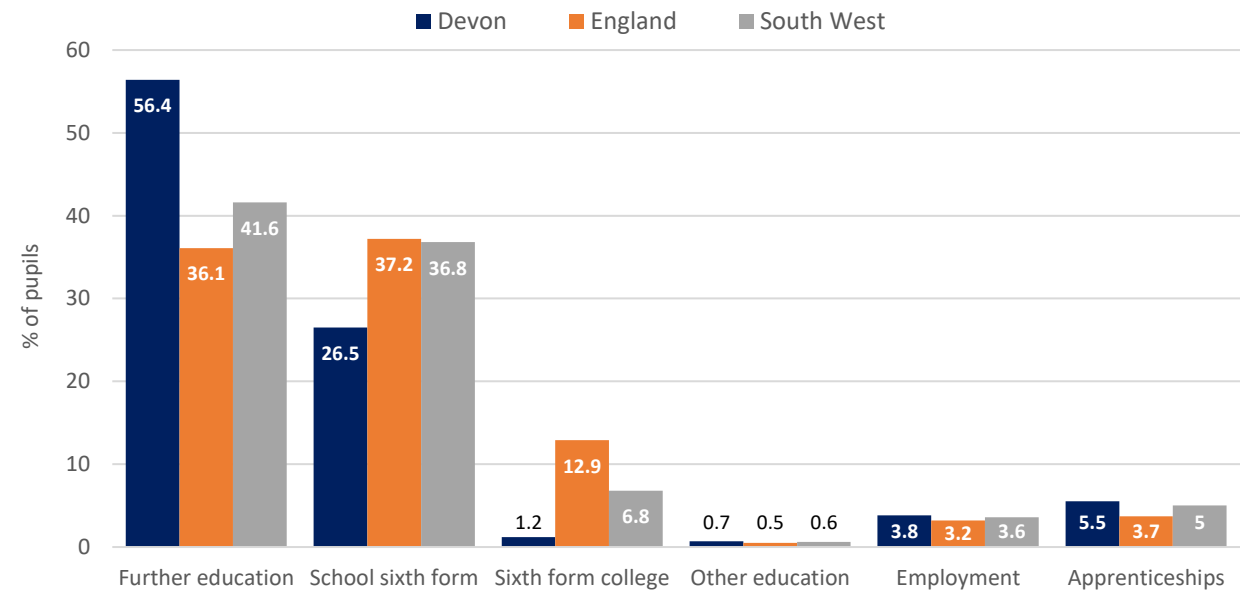
- 94.2% of Devon pupils were in sustained education, employment or apprenticeships after completing Key Stage 4. This is slightly better than nationally (93.7%).
- This is broken down as 84.8% of Devon pupils were in sustained education whilst 3.8% were in employment and 5.5% were in apprenticeships.

- Of the education destinations, 56.4% of Devon pupils were in further education and 26.5% were in school sixth forms. This differs from the national picture where 36.1% were in further education and 37.2% were in school sixth forms. The split between sixth forms and further education in Devon reflects the provision within the Local Authority.

percentage of pupils in sustained education, employment & apprenticeships after key stage 4



destinations of pupils after completing key stage 4

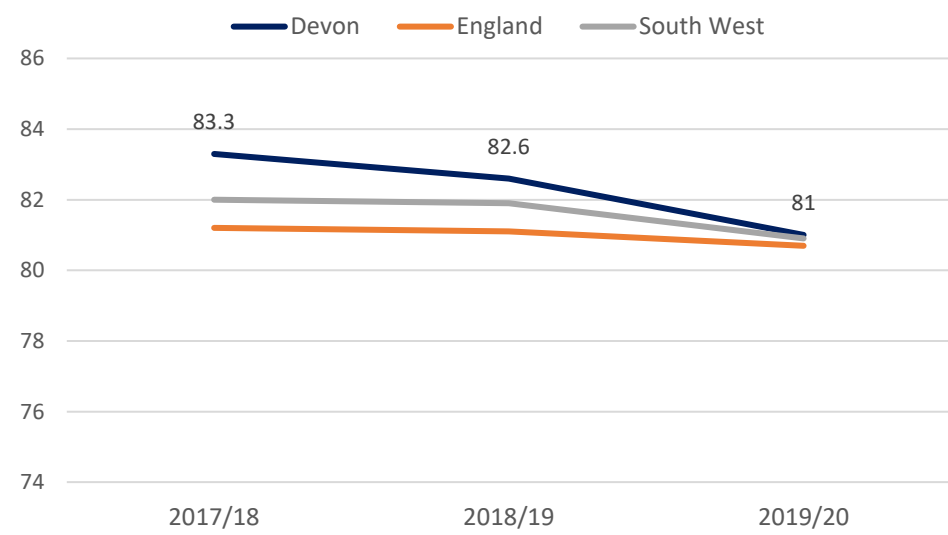


Pupil Destinations (after completing 16-18 study programmes) Published 21/10/21

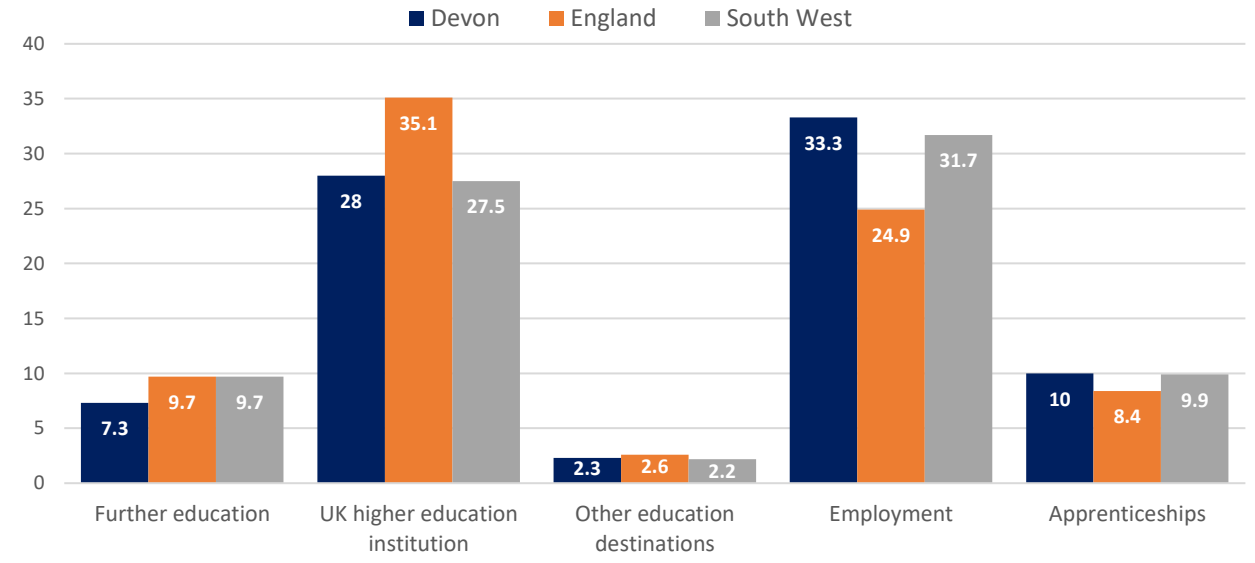
- 81% of Devon students who reached the end of their 16 to 18 study in 2018/19 were in education, employment or apprenticeships in the following year. This is slightly better than nationally (80.7%).
- 37.6% of Devon students were in education whilst 33.3% were in employment and 10% were in apprenticeships.

- Of the education destinations, 7.3% of Devon students were in further education and 28% were in higher education.
- Fewer Devon students were in education than nationally as more were in employment (33.3% compared to 24.9% nationally) and apprenticeships (10% compared to 8.4% nationally).

percentage of students in sustained education, employment or apprenticeships after 16-18 study



destinations of students after completing 16-18 study



data source: 16 – 18 destination measures, academic year 2019/20, published 21/10/21

NEETs (not in education, employment or training) local data

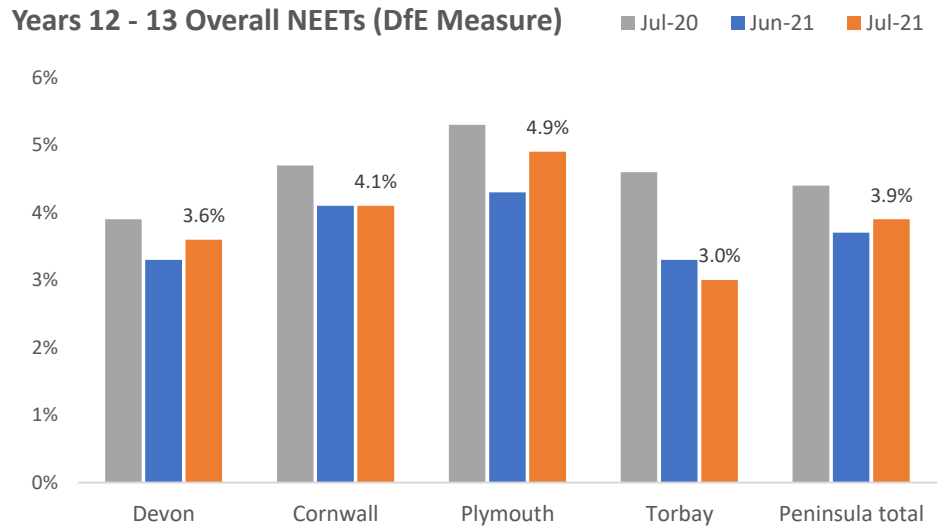
July 2021 rates

	Devon		SW Peninsula	
	NEET	Not Known	NEET	Not Known
Years 12 - 13 overall *	3.6%	1.7%	3.9%	2.0%
Years 12 – 14 overall	4.4%	3.1%	4.7%	3.4%
Year 12 – 14 vulnerable groups;				
LDD	10.4%	1.7%	11.1%	2.0%
Children in Care	14.6%	2.2%	17.8%	2.6%
BME	3.0%	3.0%	3.5%	3.4%

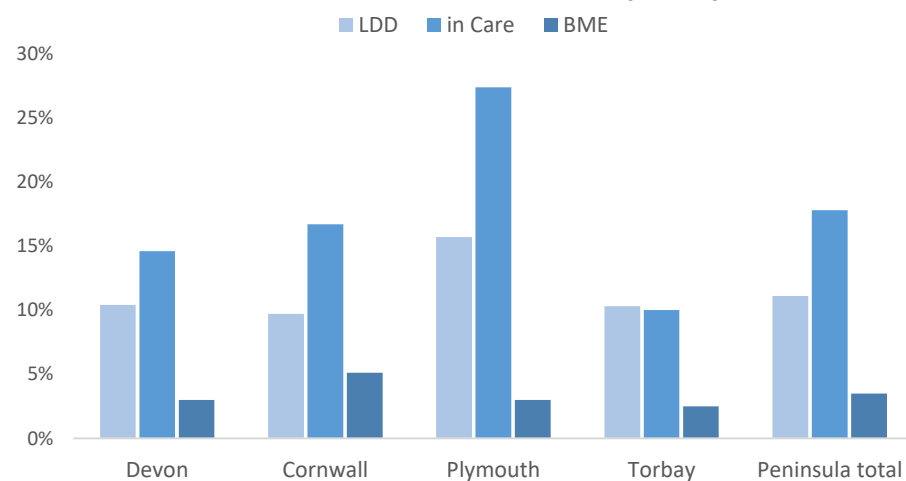
* DfE measure

data source: CSW Group, July 2021 monthly MI package

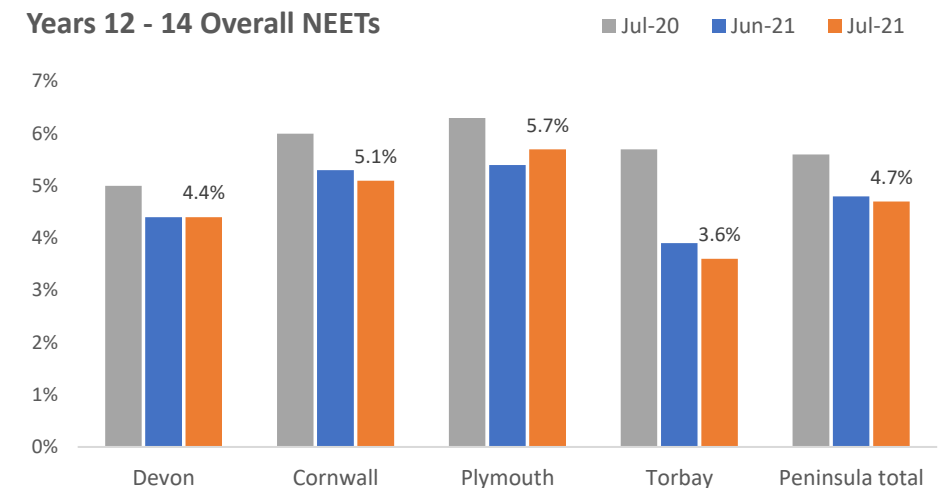
Years 12 - 13 Overall NEETs (DfE Measure)



Years 12 - 14 NEET % Vulnerable Groups - July 2021



Years 12 - 14 Overall NEETs



Permanent Exclusions

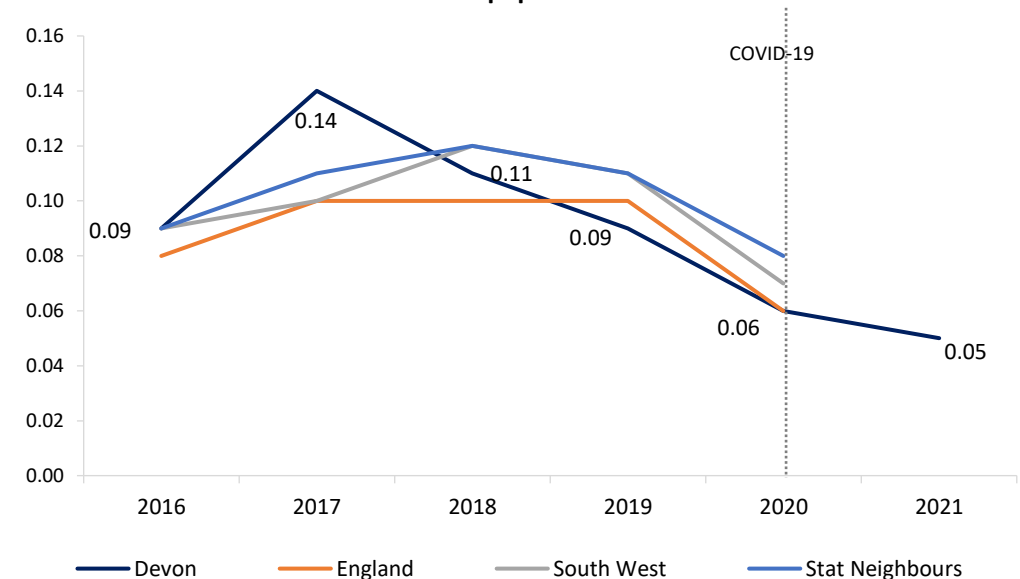
- Local information indicates that permanent exclusion numbers continue to reduce, dropping from 60 in 2019/20 to 51 in 2020/21. It is likely however that these numbers have been impacted by the Pandemic.
- Before the pandemic Devon’s exclusion trend was downward and this has continued. Exclusion figures are better than the latest available national averages, with only 0.05% of Devon’s pupils subject to a permanent exclusion, compared to 0.06% nationally.
- Permanent exclusions in Devon primary schools fell from 21 in 2019/20 to 7 in 2020/21. Devon’s primary school exclusion rate is now 0.01%, better than the latest national rate of 0.02%.
- Permanent exclusions in Devon secondary schools rose slightly, from 38 to 42. Devon’s secondary school exclusion rate is now 0.10%, also better than the latest available national rate of 0.13%.
- Permanent exclusions in Devon special schools has remained stable, with only 1 exclusion in each of the last two years.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Total Permanent Exclusions upheld in Devon Schools	105	93	60	51
Devon Exclusion Rate (exclusions as % of school pop'n) ⁽¹⁾	0.11%	0.09%	0.06%	0.05%
National Exclusion Rate ⁽²⁾	0.10%	0.10%	0.06%	not avail

¹ State funded primary, secondary, all-through and special schools (excludes alternative provision).

² School population figures based on numbers on roll in each Spring School Census, sole or main registrations in state funded primary, secondary, all-through and special schools (excludes alternative provision).

Permanent Exclusions as a % of the school population



Fixed Term Exclusions

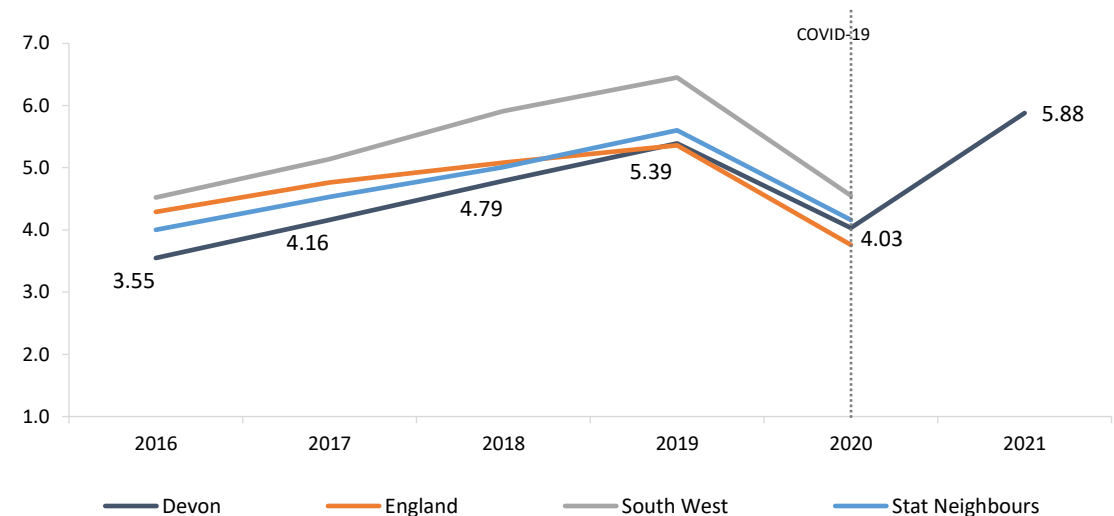
- Local information indicates that fixed period exclusions have risen in Devon in the last year. **This is however, often the case when permanent exclusions fall.**
- Additionally we have seen an increase in disruptive behaviour in school as pupils struggle to cope with the changes in routine. Analysis shows the increases directly reflect the return to school after lockdowns. Data is not yet available to see if this is reflected Nationally.
- In the latest comparative figures Devon’s exclusion rate of 4.03% compared to 3.76% nationally. 1.78% of Devon’s pupils were subject to a fixed term exclusion compared to the latest available national rate of 1.87%.
- In 2021 there were 568 fixed term exclusions in Devon primary schools this is lower than the 696 exclusions in 2019/20. Devon’s primary school exclusion rate is 0.98% and remains slightly better than the latest national rate of 1.0%.
- Devon secondary school exclusions rose from 3,235 in 2019/20 to 4,963 in 2020/21. At 12.23% this is not as good as the latest known nationally rate of 7.43%. This is a significant increase and reflects the challenges mentioned above. It may also be a reflection of new “ready to learn” policies in schools.
- Fixed term exclusions in Devon special schools rose slightly from 94 to 101 in 2020/21. Devon’s special school fixed term exclusion rate of 7.07% remains better than the latest available national rate (7.76%).

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number of fixed term exclusions in Devon ⁽¹⁾	4728	5363	4025	5886
Devon exclusion rate (exc’ns as % of school popn) ⁽²⁾	4.79%	5.39%	4.03%	5.88%
National exclusion rate ⁽²⁾	5.08%	5.36%	3.76%	not avail
Devon - no of pupils subject to fixed term exclusion	2062	2256	1777	2414
Devon – pupils subject to a fixed term exclusion rate	2.09%	2.27%	1.78%	2.41%
National – pupils subject to a fixed term exclusion rate	2.33%	2.44%	1.87%	not avail

¹ State funded primary, secondary, all-through and special schools (excludes alternative provision).

² School population figures based on numbers on roll in each Spring School Census, sole or main registrations in state funded primary, secondary, all-through and special schools (excludes alternative provision).

Fixed Period Exclusions as a % of the school population



Exclusions – pupil characteristics (2020/21 local data, 2019/20 national data July 21)

In Devon and nationally, children in vulnerable groups are more likely to be permanently excluded than their peers.

More boys received a permanent or fixed term exclusion than girls. This is also reflected Nationally.

Permanent Exclusions

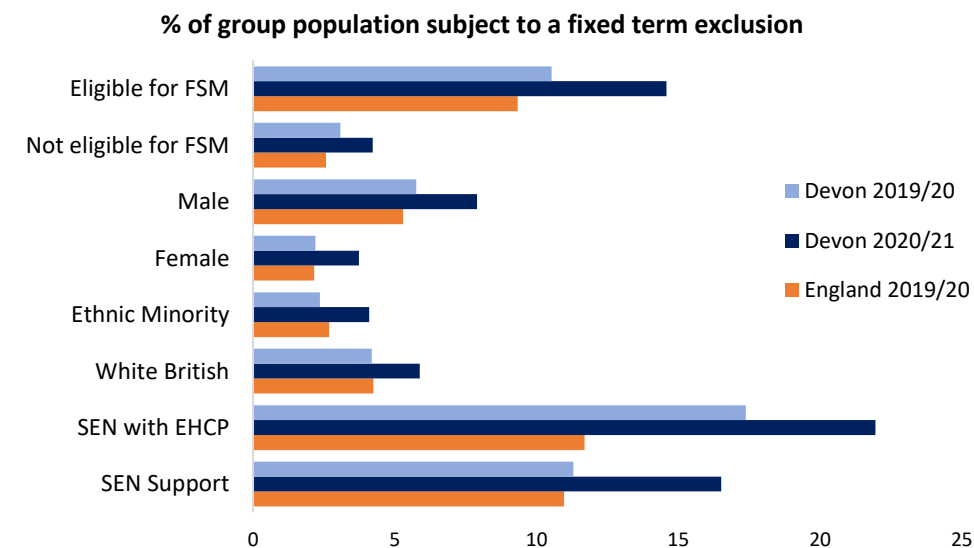
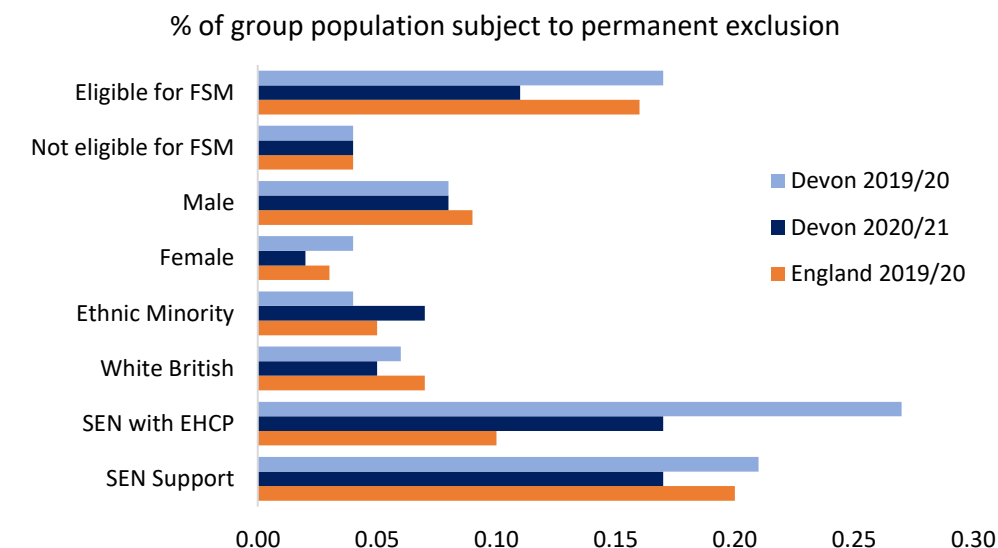
The level of permanent exclusions has reduced for both pupils eligible for FSM and those with special educational needs. Devon now has a better rate than nationally for FSM pupils and pupils with SEN Support. However Devon SEN pupils with an EHCP have a higher exclusion rate than nationally.

Fixed Term Exclusions

The level of fixed term exclusions has risen across all pupil cohorts. Devon does not perform as well as the latest national rates for each of the groups however this is also a reflection of lower permanent exclusions.

Permanent exclusions	51
Eligible for FSM	18
Not eligible for FSM	33
Male	41
Female	10
Ethnic Minority	6
White British	44
SEN with EHCP	8
SEN Support	23
No SEN	20

Fixed term exclusions	5886
Eligible for FSM	2319
Not eligible for FSM	3567
Male	4054
Female	1832
Ethnic Minority	335
White British	5326
SEN with EHCP	1012
SEN Support	2218
No SEN	2656



The number of children being Electively Home Educated rose sharply during the pandemic.

However effective monitoring by the EHE team has ensured children receive their statutory right to an education and the number of EHE children on the October 2021 census day had reduced to less than those seen on the Oct 2020 census day.

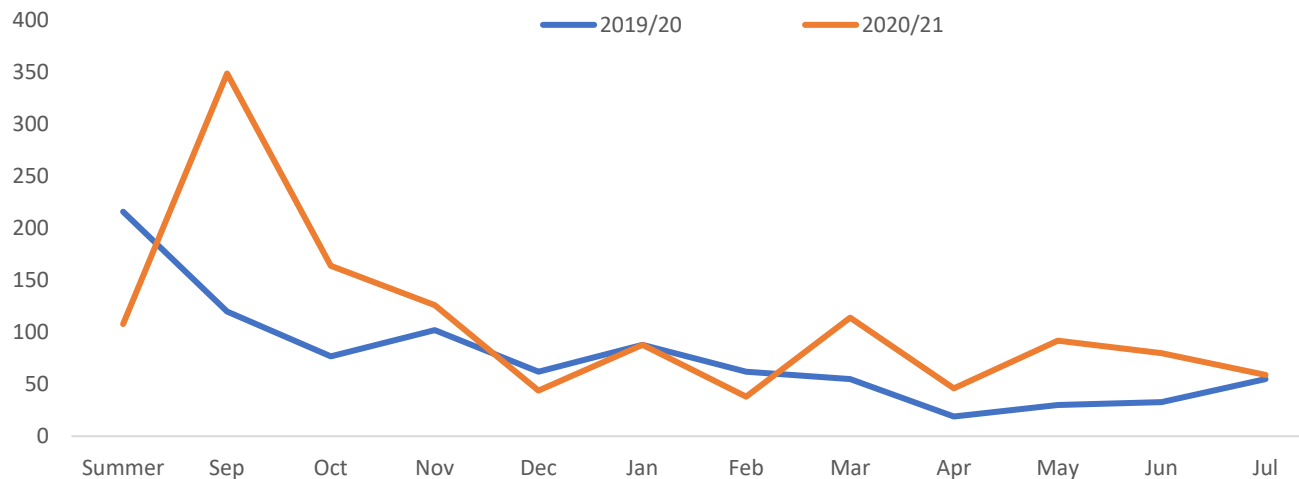
Of the 633 children who stopped being electively home educated in 2020/21;

- 80% were supported to return to school (505 cases)
- 6% became recorded as a Child Missing Education (40 cases). These children will now be supported through statutory processes which could result taking legal action with the parents.
- 2% moved abroad (15 cases)
- 12% moved out of county (73 cases)

The percentage of children returning to schools has risen when compared to the same periods in the previous year.

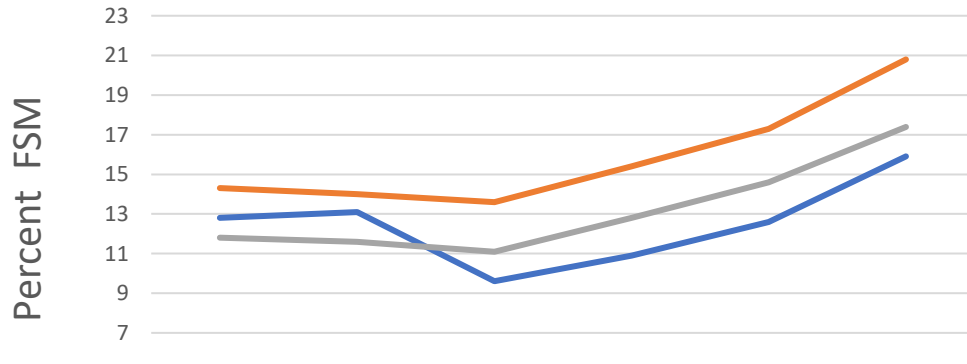
EHE Students on Census Day	Oct 2018	Oct 2019	Oct 2020	Jan 2021	May 2021	Oct 2021
All pupils reg and unreg inc. below school age	1348	1456	1703	1897	1948	1692
Number of EHE pupils registered	1126	1238	1508	1702	1750	1519
Number (%) with EHCP	57 (5%)	100 (8%)	110 (7%)	125 (7%)	143 (8%)	157 (10%)
Gender split (m/f)	583 / 538	663 / 571	773 / 732	860 / 839	890 / 857	776 / 741

New notifications of children being electively home educated



Pupils entitled to Free School Meals

Free School Meals



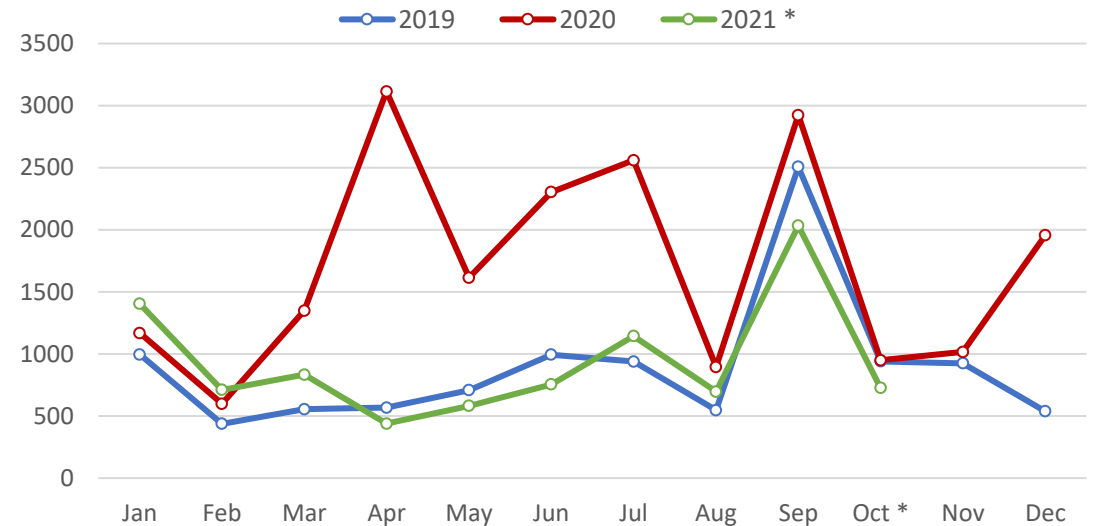
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Devon	12.8	13.1	9.6	10.9	12.6	15.9
England	14.3	14	13.6	15.4	17.3	20.8
South West	11.8	11.6	11.1	12.8	14.6	17.4

- Devon has seen a significant increase in the number of children eligible for free school meals. However as the graph on the left shows the number remains lower than the national and southwest average.
- A significant amount of funding is based on deprivation factors linked to free school meals and this is a contributing factor in why Devon receive less overall funding than seen nationally. 121/151 Local Authorities.
- The graph below shows the spike in applications during the first part of the pandemic.

January 2021 school census

Devon School Phase	Number of pupils eligible for FSM	% of pupils on roll eligible for FSM
Nursery	27	16%
Primary	9358	16%
Secondary	5638	14%
All Through	318	21%
Special	578	40%
Pupil Referral Units	78	31%
Grand Total	15997	15.9%

Total claims for Free School Meals



* as at 21/10/21

data source: ONE database, accessed 21/10/21