

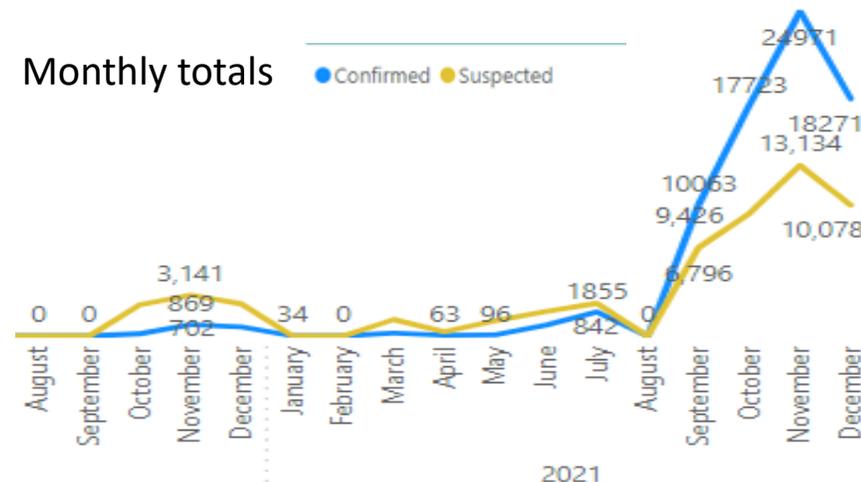
Overview of current position regarding COVID-19 context

- There was a sharp increase in the number of positive cases in schools in the Autumn term. The peak was seen on 25th November when 1895 pupils in 214 schools were absent due to a positive Covid-19 test.
- Multi-Agency IMT meetings helped keep our schools open and children physically attending. We have seen really good engagement from all schools and from Babcock staff who stepped into cover for isolating School Leaders.
- As a result attendance has remained above the National average, universally and for those in vulnerable groups, as seen in the graph on the bottom right.
- DCC provided corporate support from Covid Outbreak Management Funds giving all state funded schools £25 per head to help support them meet the demands placed upon them and to keep the focus on education for children.
- DfE funded 'Wellbeing for Education Return Programme' was successfully delivered in Devon. It aimed to provide a greater understanding of Mental Health during COVID and support to children, families and staff and on-going supervision and support (118 schools). The below is a quote from one school.

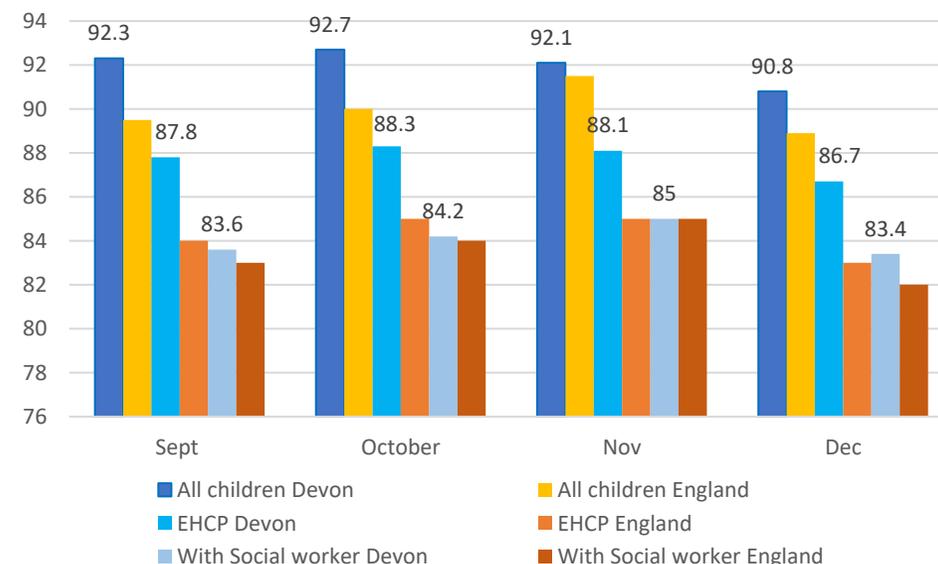
The training has really inspired the Y5 pupils to step up and act as good ambassadors for our school & wider community. They have already started to put together an action plan and have come away from the training with some great ideas.

- **Biggest challenge Teaching Assistant Recruitment**

Monthly totals

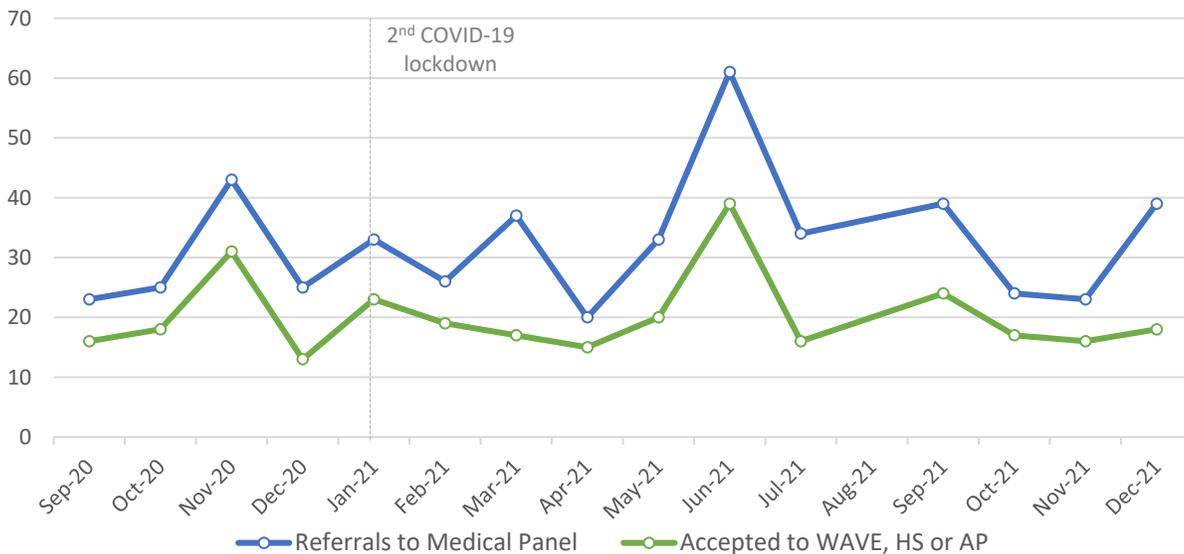


Monthly attendance



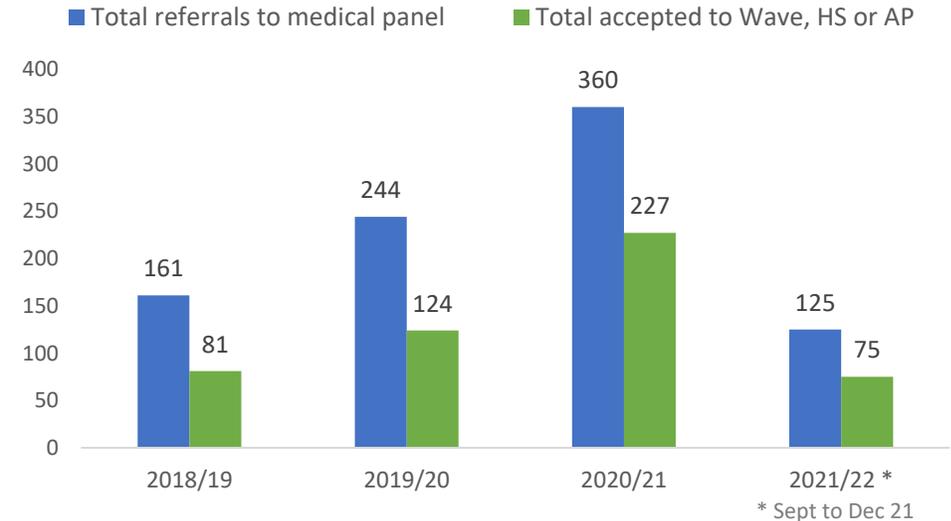
- In the Autumn term referrals to the children's panel, for those medically unable to attend their usual school, remained high but was significantly lower than in the summer term. December however, saw an upward trajectory again (as shown in the graph below).
- Based on the total number of referrals for this term (graph on the right) we are anticipating annual numbers may be similar to those seen last year
- The graph on the bottom right shows the majority of children being referred and supported are from year 8 (12 /13 years old) upwards.

Monthly referrals to Medical Panel and accepted cases

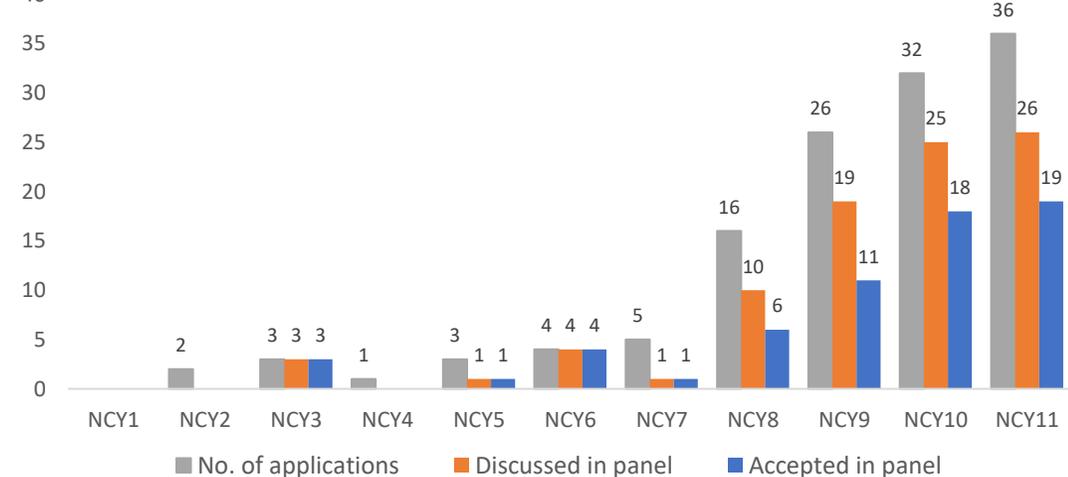


data source: Education Inclusion Team, Section 19 panel referrals, Dec 2021

Referrals to Medical Panel and accepted cases



Referrals to Medical Panel by NCY - Sept to Nov 2021



Pupils entitled to Free School Meals – Oct 2021 Census

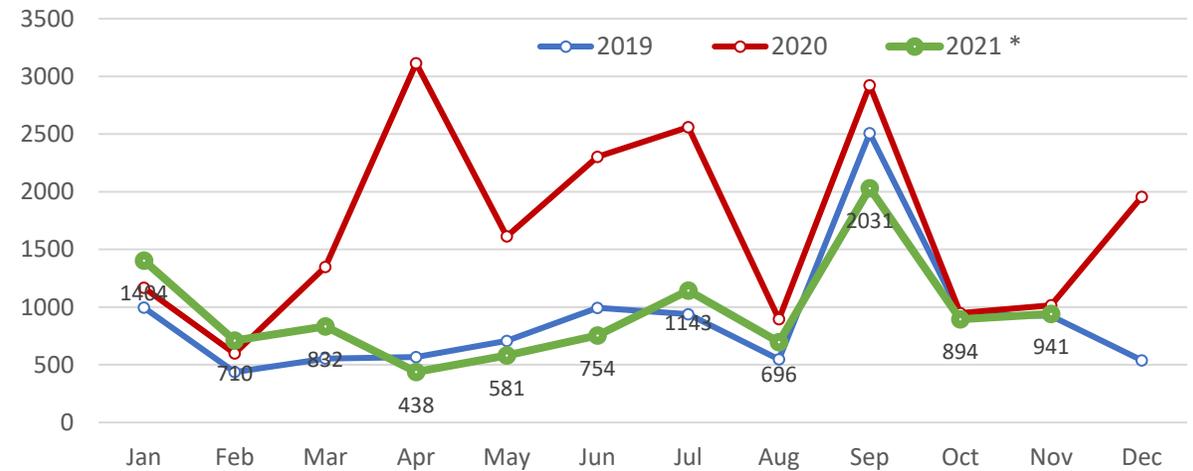
- The number of Children in Devon who are eligible for Free School Meals continues to rise.
- On the Oct 2021 census day nearly 17,000 pupils in Devon LA maintained schools and academies were eligible for Free School Meals. This is an increase of 6% (982 pupils) since Jan 2021.
- This means that 16.9% of the Devon pupil population in state funded schools is eligible for Free School Meals. This remains significantly lower than the National Average which now stands at 20%.
- The graph opposite shows that applications (claims) for Free School Meals have now (Green line) returned to a level similar to that of 2019 (Blue line).

October 2021 school census

Devon School Phase	Number of eligible pupils eligible for FSM	% of pupils on roll eligible for FSM
Nursery	22	16%
Primary	9,631	17%
Secondary	6,311	16%
All Through	333	21%
Special	608	40%
Pupil Referral Units	74	33%
Grand Total	16,979	16.9%

data source: DfE Autumn School Census 07/10/21

Total claims for Free School Meals



* as at 01/12/21

data source: ONE database, accessed 01/12/21

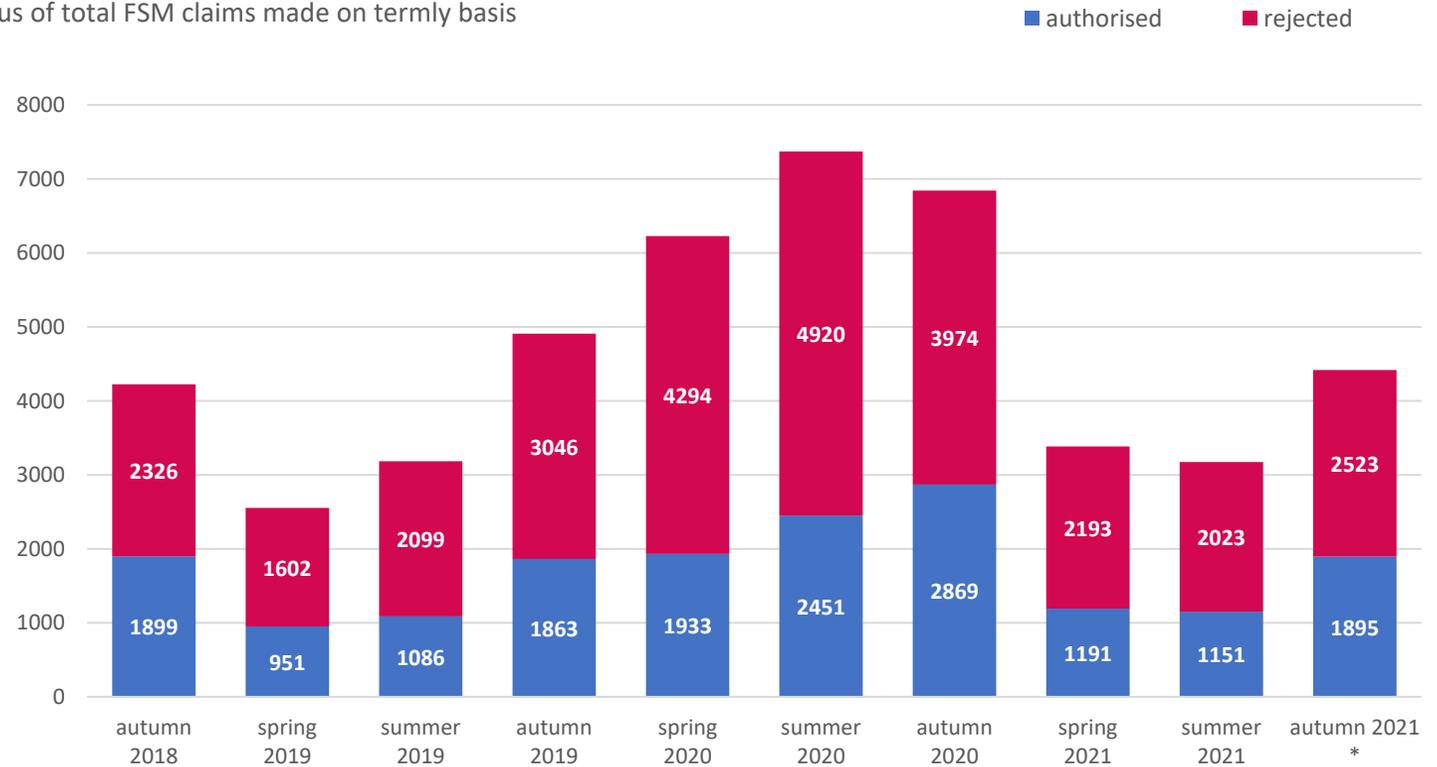
Free School Meal claims that met National Criteria

The figures on the previous chart reflect the claims (applications) made but do not show the number of claims that met or did not meet the nationally set criteria.

The chart opposite reflects the successful applications and the number rejected on a termly basis.

The chart shows that during the pandemic there have been many more families requesting Free School Meals than the National Criteria allowed to be authorised.

status of total FSM claims made on termly basis



Note: Autumn: Sept to Dec, Spring: Jan to Apr, Summer: May to August

* data source: ONE database 15/12/21

In the November Annual Education report we shared that, despite a rise at various points throughout the last academic year, by the time we reached the October 2021 census the number of children being Electively Home Educated (1519) had returned to levels similar to the October 2020 census (1508).

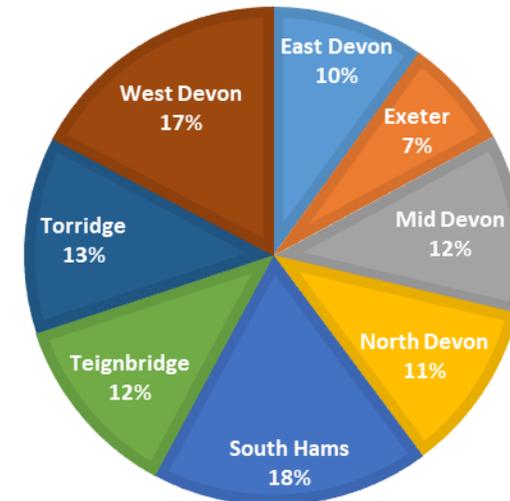
The pie chart opposite now shows how children registered as Electively Home Educated in Oct 2021 are split across the districts.

The chart opposite shows the number of children becoming Electively Home Educated in this academic year (2021/22 - green line), is lower than seen in the last 2 years.

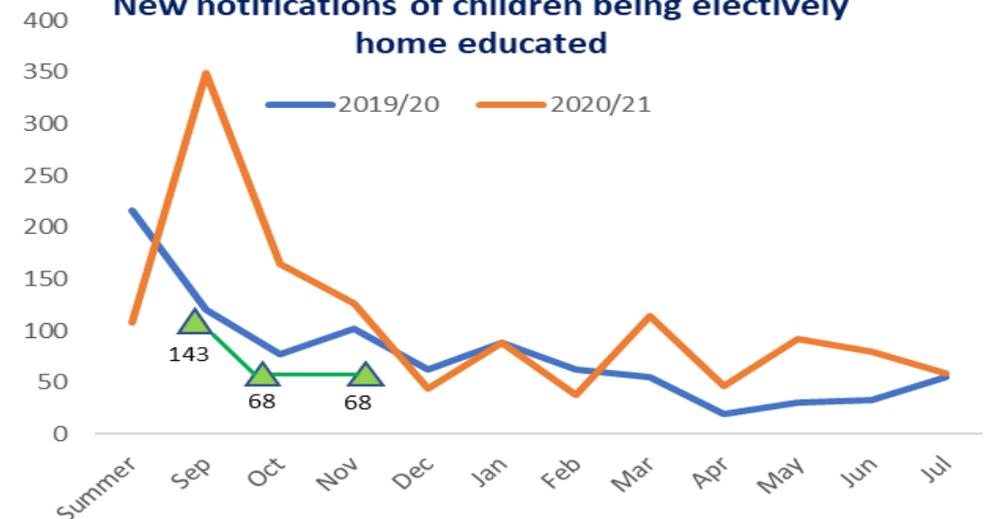
In addition between September and November 2021, 215 children stopped being Electively Home Educated;

- 175 (81%) returned to school
- 12 (6%) became CME (EHE unsuitable)
- 8 (4 %) moved abroad
- 20 (9%) moved out of county

% OF PUPILS WHO ARE EHE OCT 2021



New notifications of children being electively home educated



Permanent Exclusions

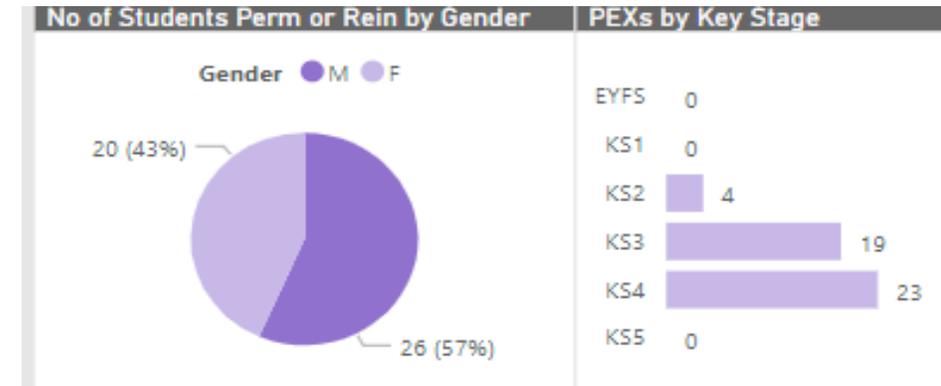
Since 2017 we have seen a downward trend in the number of permanent exclusions – this has been supported by the introduction of the Devon Inclusion toolkit which provided strategies, advice and training to schools to support inclusive practice. The 2020/21 figures however, need to be treated with caution as lockdowns will have impacted numbers.

Permanent Exclusions	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number of permanent exclusions in Devon ⁽¹⁾	105	93	60	51
Devon exclusion rate (exc'ns as % of school pop'n) ⁽²⁾	0.11%	0.09%	0.06%	0.05%
National exclusion rate ⁽³⁾	0.10%	0.10%	0.06%	not avail

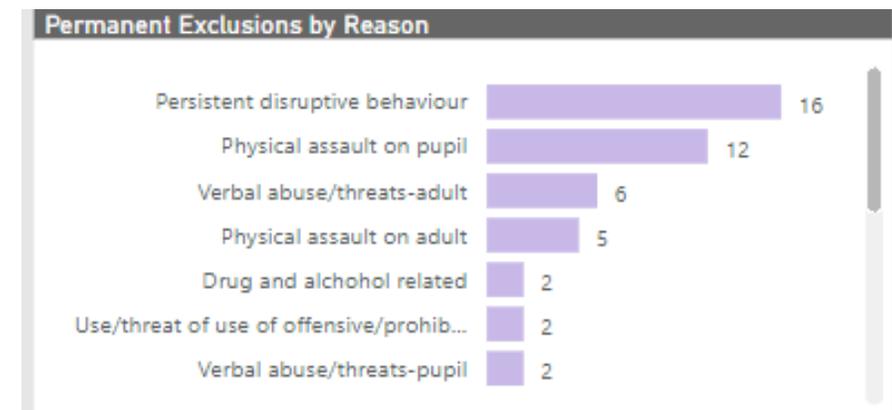
During the recent Autumn term 46 permanent exclusions were made (41 of which were from secondary schools); 4 of these exclusions were later overturned by the Governing body and 1 more was overturned by an independent appeal panel. Meaning that 41 children were permanently excluded from their school. This is a significant and concerning rise for the start of the 2021/22 academic year and schools attention has been drawn to this. The inclusions team continue to support schools and governing bodies to ensure support and appropriate challenge is in place

Of these 46 children, at the time of the exclusion, 1 student had an Education Health and Care plan (out of a cohort of 8000 children with an EHCP).

25 of the children excluded had Special Educational needs being supported at school level. As there are 14,500 children in this cohort it means they are disproportionately represented as a percentage of the excluded cohort. This reflects a national picture but the Inclusion Teams at DCC and Babcock are working with schools to provide further training to support this group of young people.

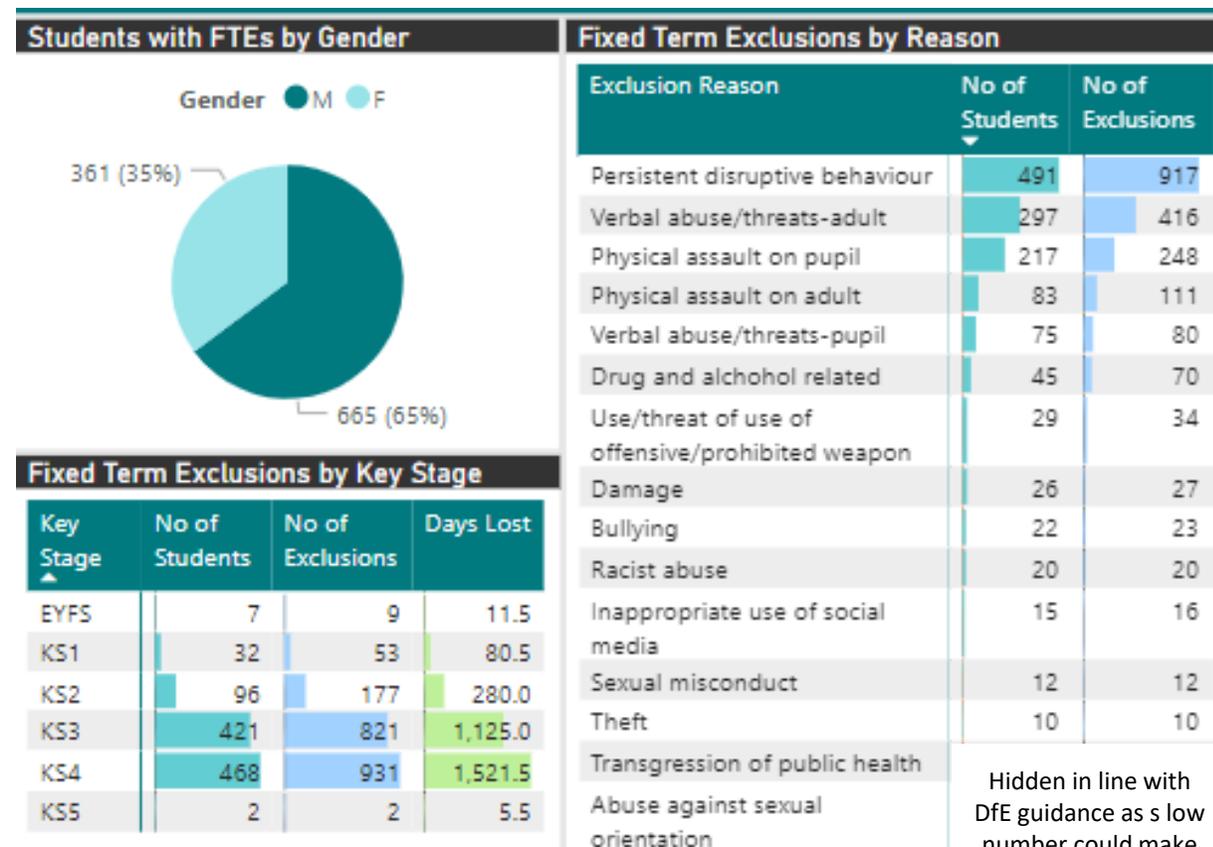


The chart above shows that the majority of permanent exclusions occur in key stage 3 and 4 (secondary schools). The most common reason remains persistent disruptive behaviour (as shown below).



- During the Autumn term 1026 students experienced at least one suspension from school - (1.15% of pupils in state funded schools).
- 891 of these young people were in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 (Secondary school).
- 65% of the pupils were male.
- The most common reason for the suspension was persistent disruptive behaviour.
- 140 of the children suspended had an EHCP (1.7% of the cohort).
- A further 388 young people had SEN needs which were being supported at school level (2.6%).
- Children with SEN have higher levels of suspensions nationally. For example the national rate for all pupil suspensions in the whole 2019/20 academic year (latest available) was 3.76 compared to 10.98 for those on SEN support.

Autumn Term 2021 Suspension Data



Hidden in line with DfE guidance as a low number could make children identifiable

NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training)

In November the number of young people in Devon in years 12, 13 and 14 (age 16 to 18) who were not in Employment, Education or Training was in line with that seen in the other Peninsula Local Authorities.

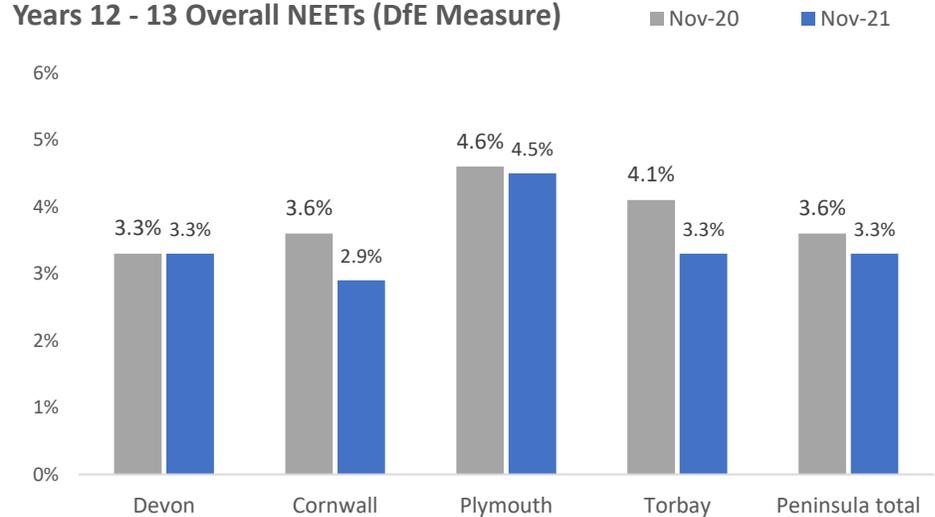
Nov 2021 rates	Devon		SW Peninsula	
	NEET	Not Known	NEET	Not Known
Years 12 - 13 overall *	3.3%	1.7%	3.3%	2.1%
Years 12 – 14 overall	4.3%	3.3%	5.0%	3.5%

Year 12 – 14 vulnerable groups;

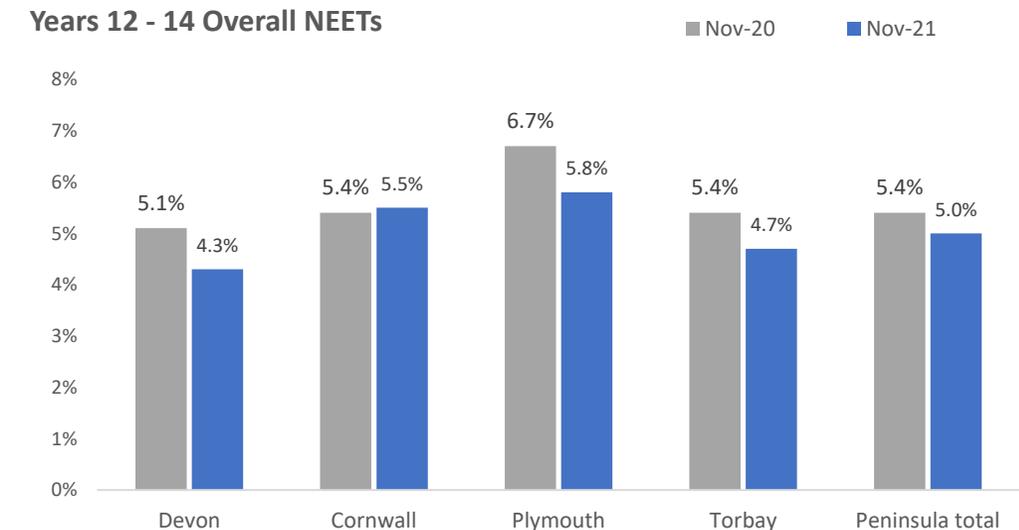
Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	10.1%	2.7%	9.5%	2.7%
Children in Care	16.0%	6.5%	17.7%	5.9%
BME	2.6%	3.5%	3.5%	4.0%

A comparison with the same period last year is shown opposite and shows the figure for Devon for year 12 and year 13 young people is the same as last year but the figure for year 12 to year 14 young people has improved.

Years 12 - 13 Overall NEETs (DfE Measure)



Years 12 - 14 Overall NEETs



* DfE bench marking measure

data source: CSW Group, November 2021 monthly MI package

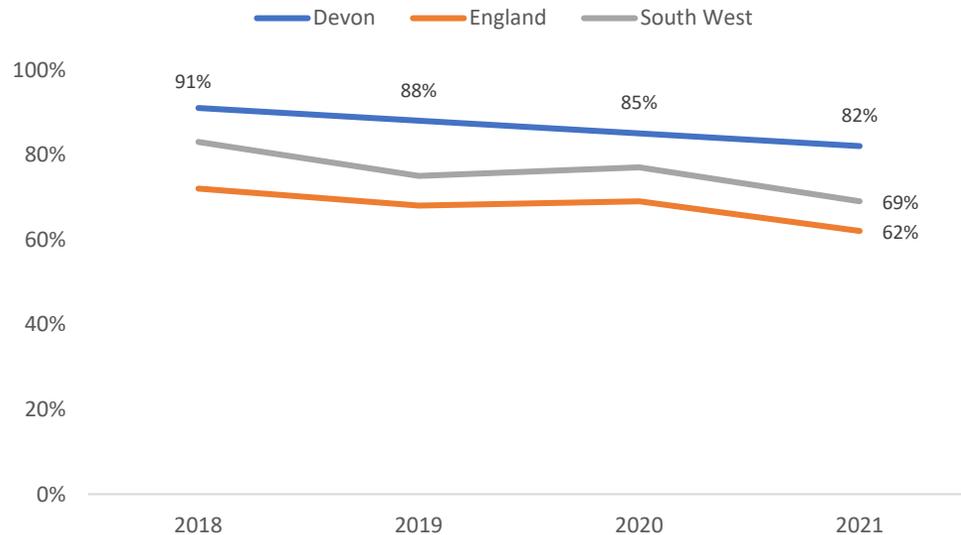
Early Years – Children accessing Early Years funded places

DfE Information – annual update

The % of children accessing the allocated 2-year old funding in Devon is consistently higher than national and regional – which is positive.

The 2021 figures are lower due to Covid lockdowns.

National percentage take up of 2 year old funding

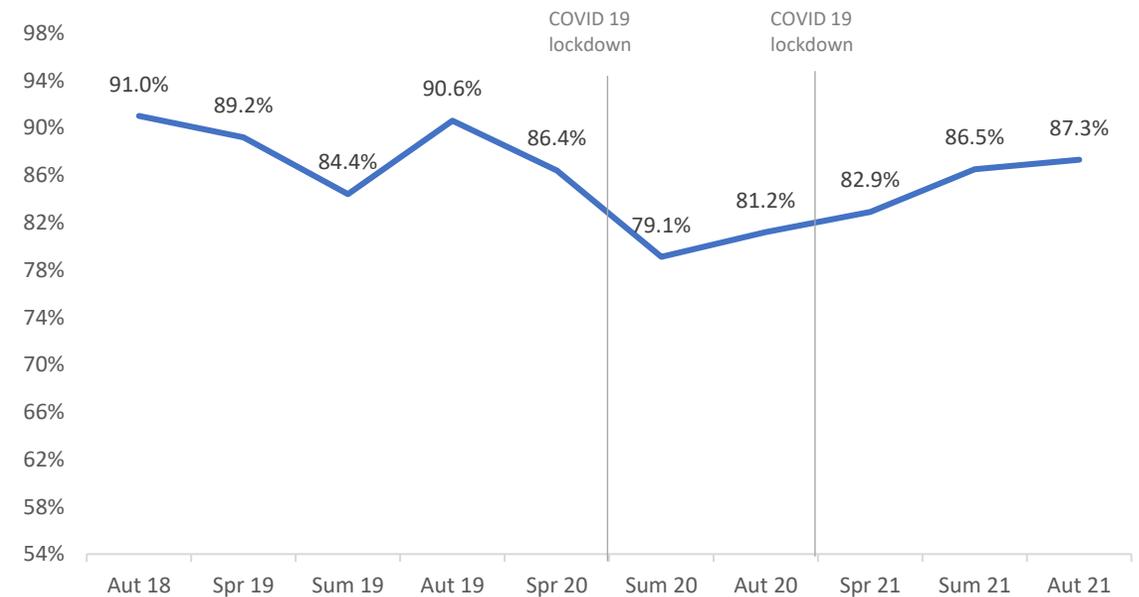


data source: DfE Education provision: children under 5 years of age 2021, 01/07/21

Local Information – termly update – provisional rate for Autumn 2021

Autumn 2021 figure are currently draft as they are based on take up during headcount week. The take up rate is therefore likely to increase once the full term’s data has been analysed.

% Take Up Of Early Years Funding For 2 Year Olds



latest available benchmarks from Spr 2021: national: 62% regional: 69%

data source: DCC Early Years team, draft figures 10/12/21