

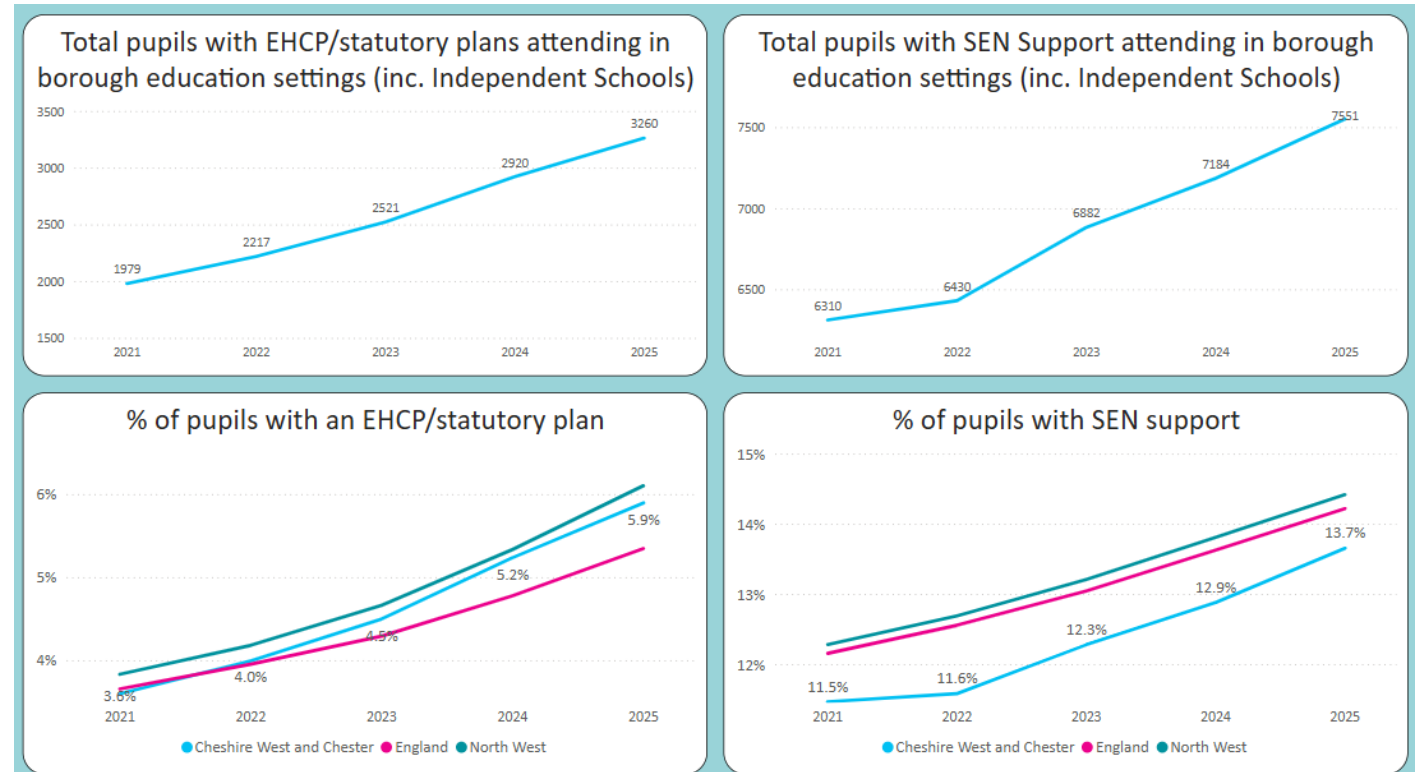
SEND Summit data pack

Special educational needs in England schools

- Over 1.7 million pupils in England have special educational needs (SEN).
- Increase of 93,700 pupils (5.6%) since 2024.
- 482,640 pupils have an education, health and care plan (EHCP).
- There was a 11.1% increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP in schools in England between 2024 and 2025.
- **5.3% of all pupils in England had an EHCP**, compared to 4.8% in 2024.
- In addition, 1,284,284 pupils have SEN support: 14.2% of pupils in England, which is an increase from 13.6% in 2024.
- The most common type of need for those with an EHC plan is autism and for those with SEN support is speech, language and communication needs.

Special educational needs in CW&C schools

- 10,811 pupils in CW&C have special educational needs (SEN)
- 3,260 pupils have an education, health and care plan (EHCP).
- There was a 11.6% increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP in schools in CW&C between 2024 and 2025 - 340 pupils.
- **5.9% of all pupils in CW&C had an EHCP**, compared to 5.2% in 2023.
- In addition, 7,551 pupils have SEN support: 13.7% of pupils in CW&C, which is an increase from 12.9% in 2024.

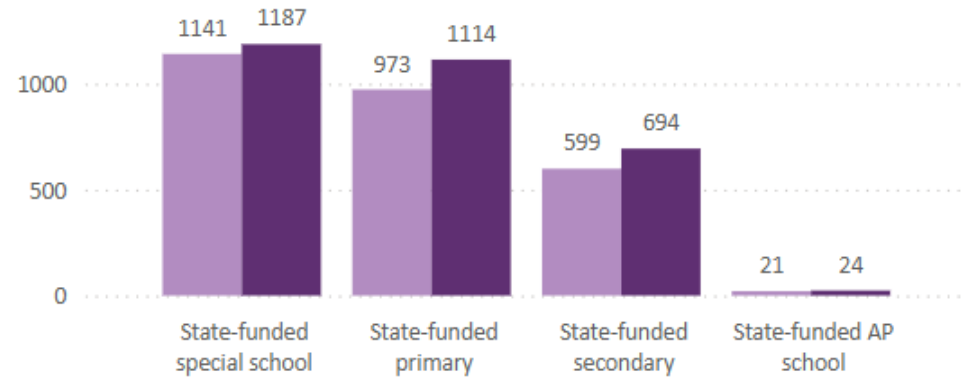


Special educational needs in CW&C schools

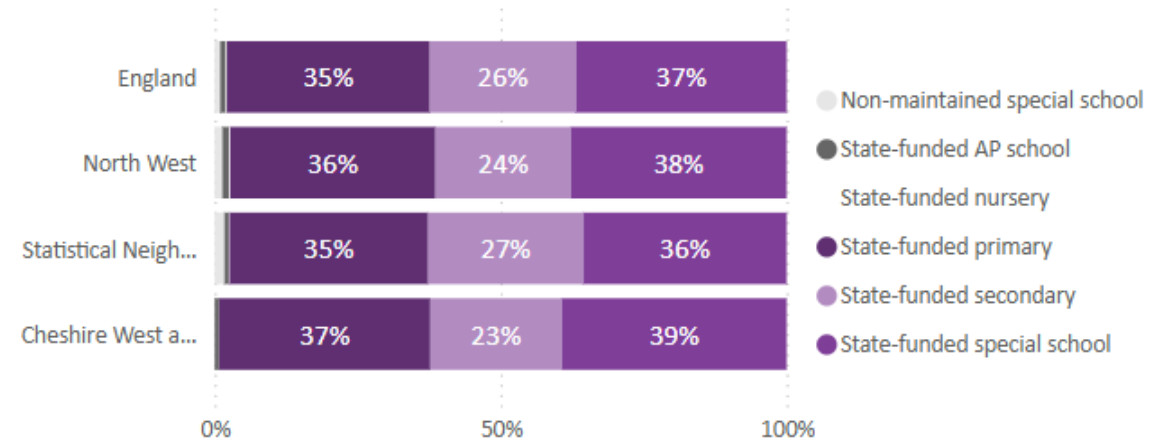
- 39% (1184) of the children with an EHCP who attend a CWAC funded school, attended a special school. This is above the national average of 37%.
- 23% (694) of the children with an EHCP who attend a CWAC funded school, attended a secondary school. This is below the national average of 26%.

Pupils with SEND by phase type

2024 2025

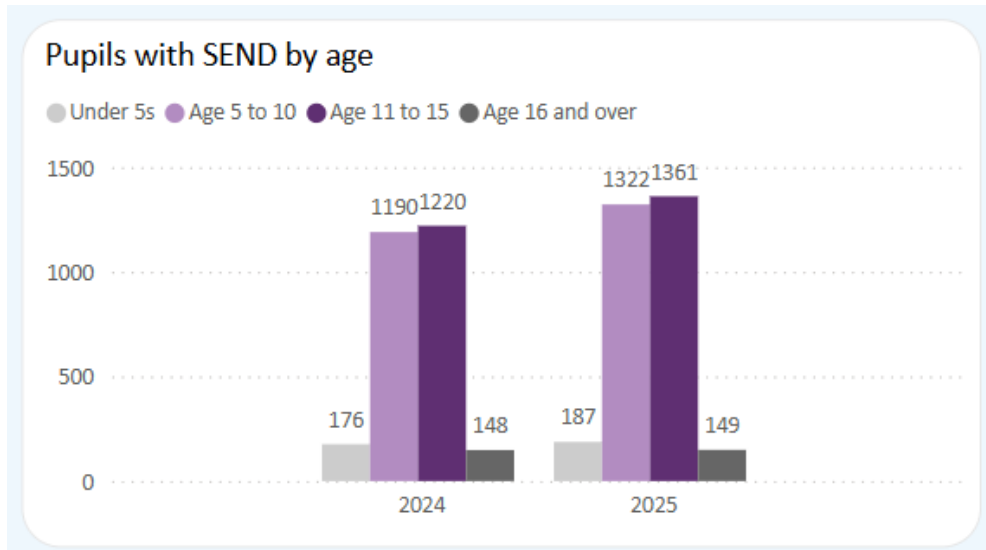


Pupils with SEND by phase type

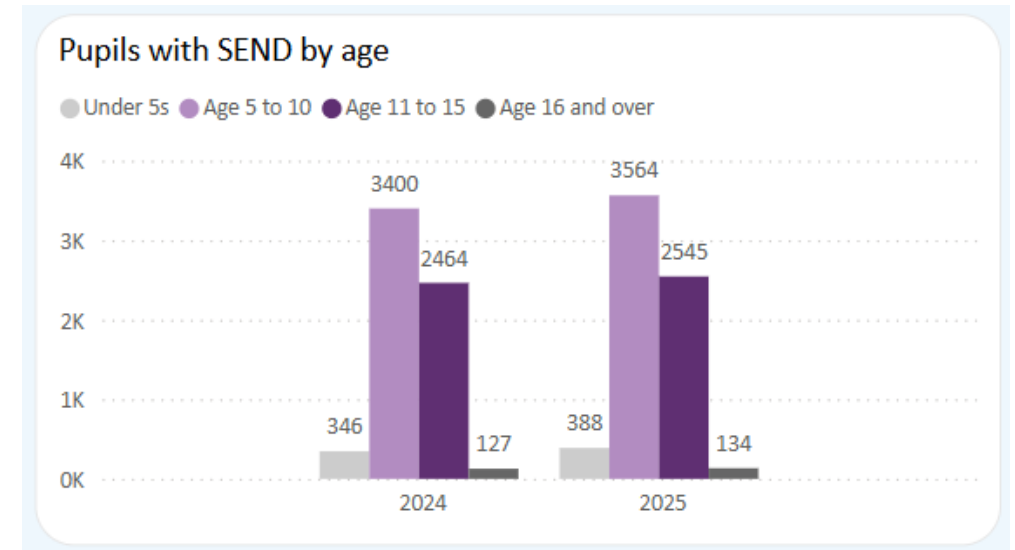


Special educational needs in CW&C schools

- **Children with EHCP:** 6% are aged under 5 years old, 44% are aged 5 to 10, 45% are aged 11 to 15 and 5% are aged 16 and over
- 72% of children with an EHCP are male.



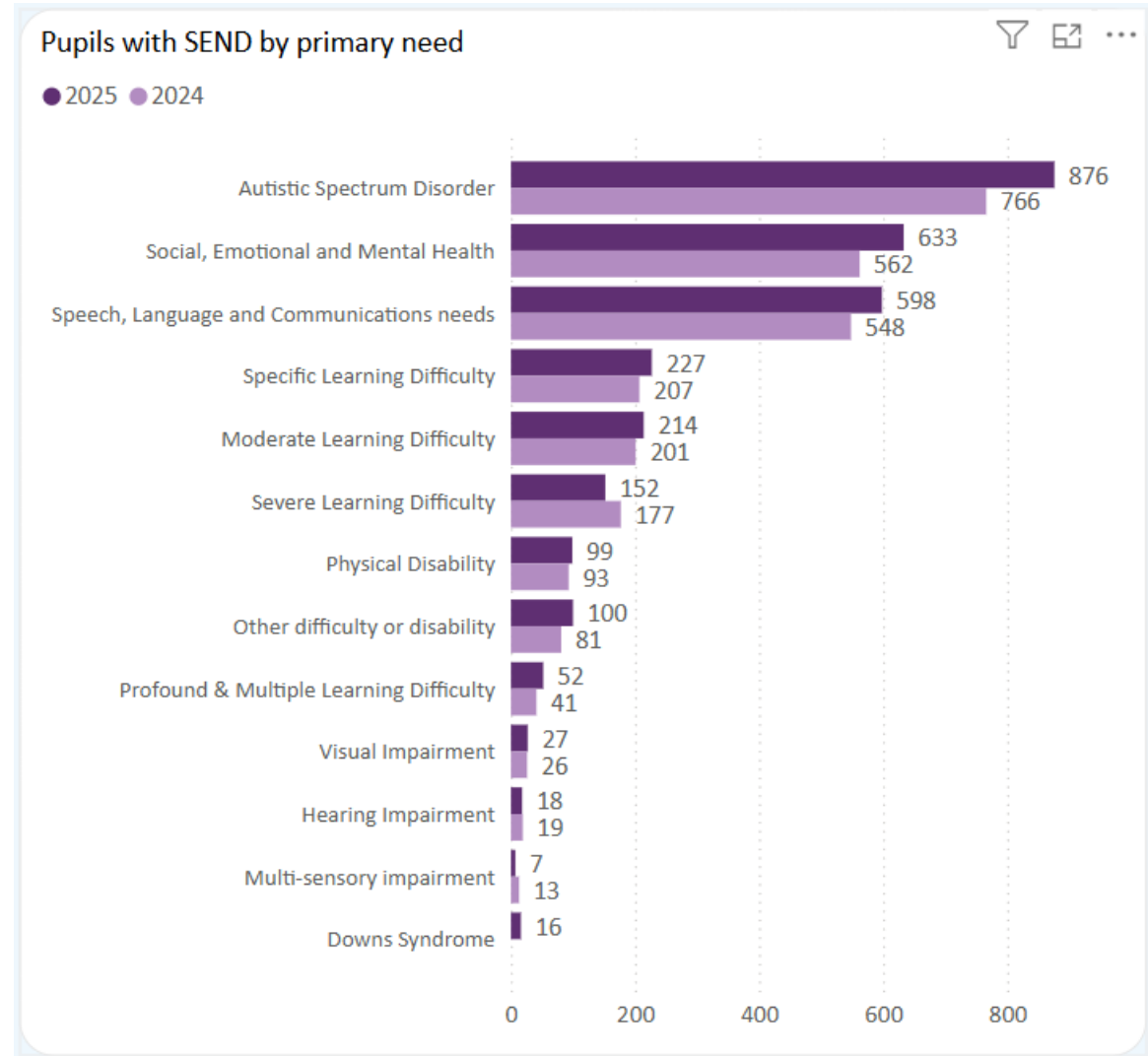
- **Children receiving SEN support:** 6% are aged under 5 years old, 54% are aged 5 to 10, 38% are aged 11 to 15 and 2% are aged 16 and over
- 61% of children receiving SEN Support are male.



Children with an EHCP attending CW&C schools

Top 3 primary needs for pupils in CW&C schools with an EHCP and the increases between 2024 and 2025:

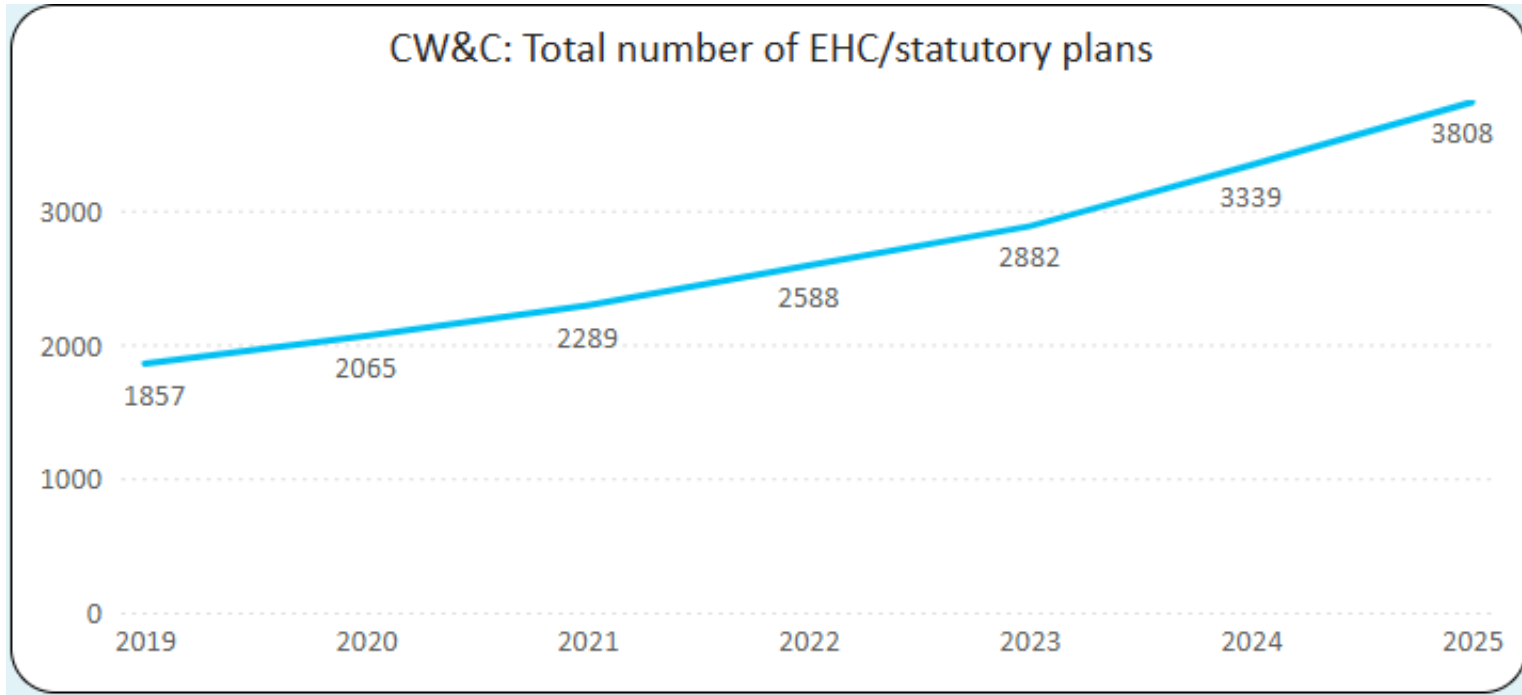
- 14.4% increase in **autism** (from 766 to 876)
- 12.6% increase in **social emotional and mental health** (from 562 to 633)
- 9.1% increase in **speech, language and communication needs** (from 548 to 598)



Education, health and care plans in England

- The number of children and young people with EHC plans increased to 638,700 in January 2025: 10.8% higher than January 2024. The number of EHC plans has increased each year since their introduction in 2014.
- 97,700 new EHCPs were issued during the calendar year 2024: 15.8% higher than 2023. The number of new EHC plans made during the year has increased each year since their introduction in 2014.
- 154,500 requests were received in 2024, 11.8% higher than 2023.
- LAs decided to proceed to an assessment for 65.4% of requests, slightly lower than in 2023 (67.3%).
- 105,300 EHC needs assessments were carried out during 2024: 15.7% higher than 2023.
- The decision was to issue an EHC plan in 93.6% of assessments, slightly lower than in 2023 (94.4%).
- 46.4% of new EHCPs were issued within 20 weeks during 2024 – lower than 50.3% in 2023.

Education, health and care plans in CW&C



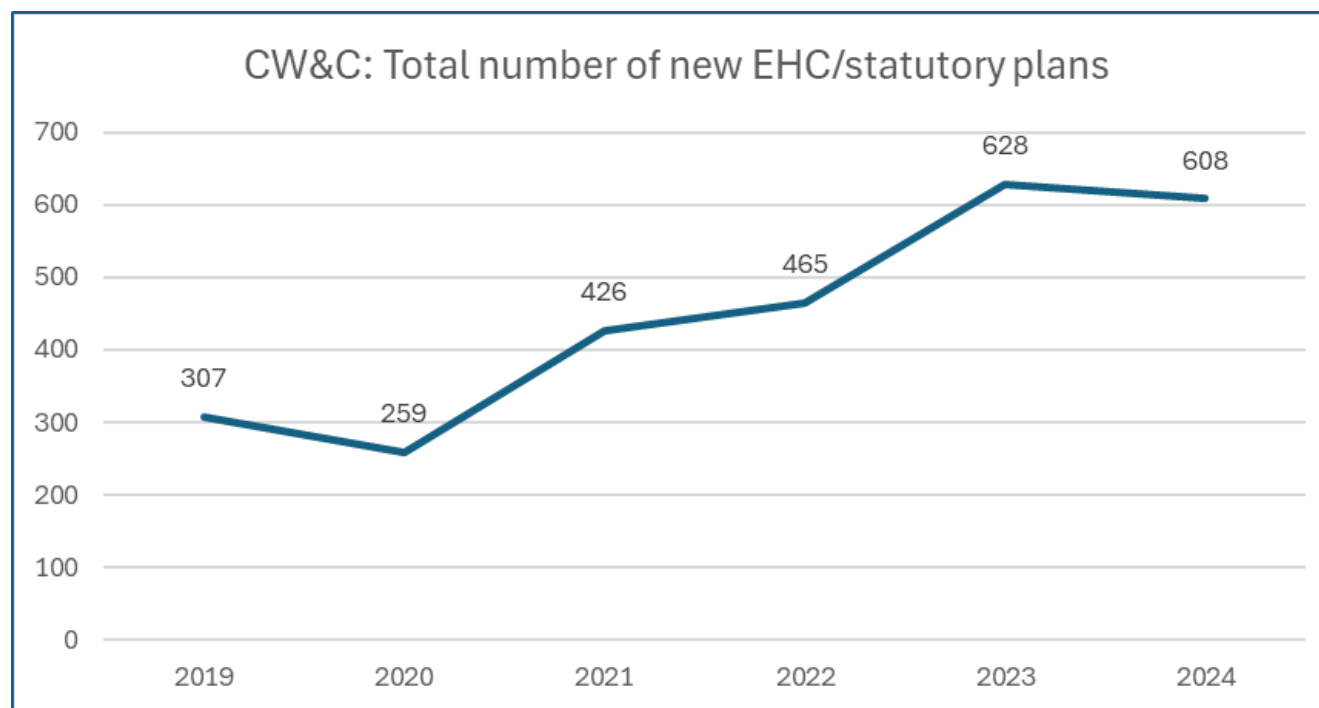
- There were 3,808 children and young people with EHC plans supported by CW&C at January 2025.
- **At the end of May 2025, this number has increased to 4,266: a 12% increase of 458 children and young people**

Provision in CW&C

- 1673 pupils with an EHCP were at a mainstream school in Jan 2025: a 12% increase from 2024
- 1263 were at a special school: 10% increase.
- 24% increase in further education and post 16: rising to 477
- 40% increase in educated elsewhere: rising to 328
- 20 children in alternative provision
- Reduction in non-maintained early years to 39 children

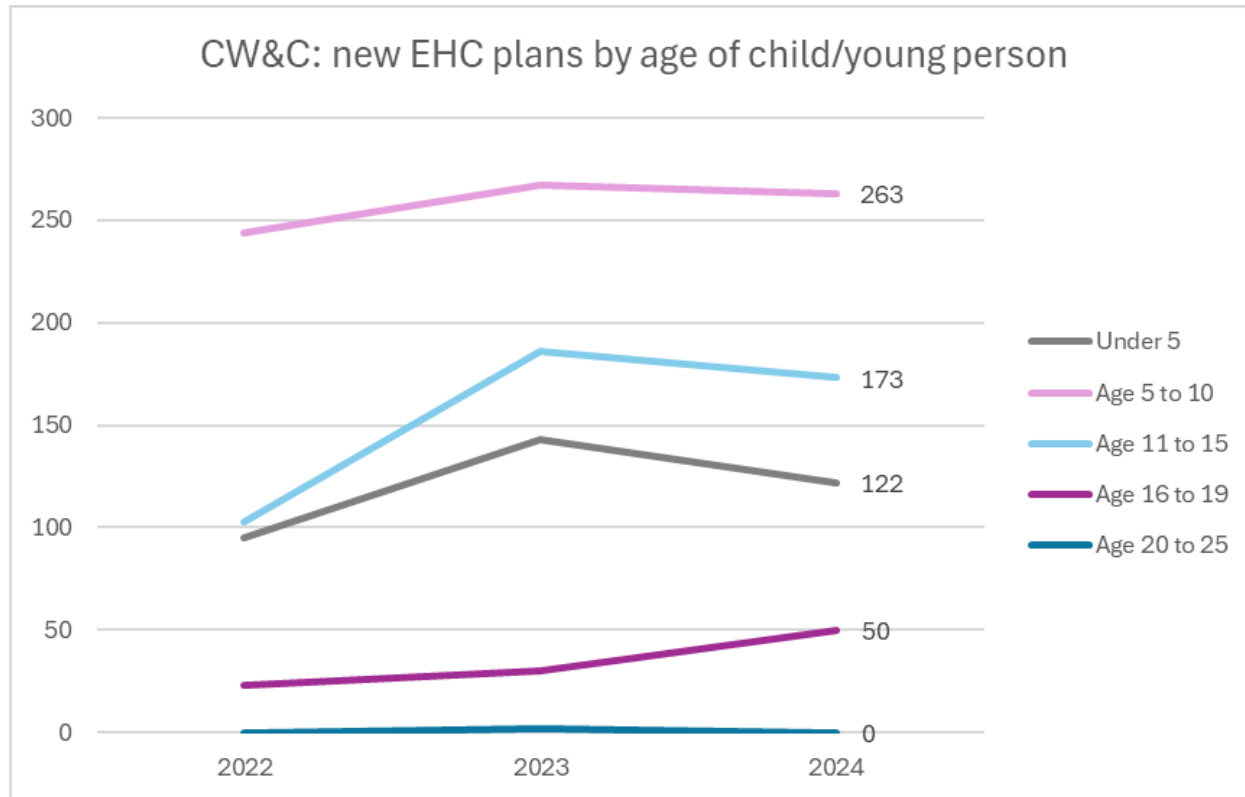


New education, health and care plans in CW&C



- 608 new plans were issued in 2024: an average of 51 per month
- 3% decrease between 2023 and 2024

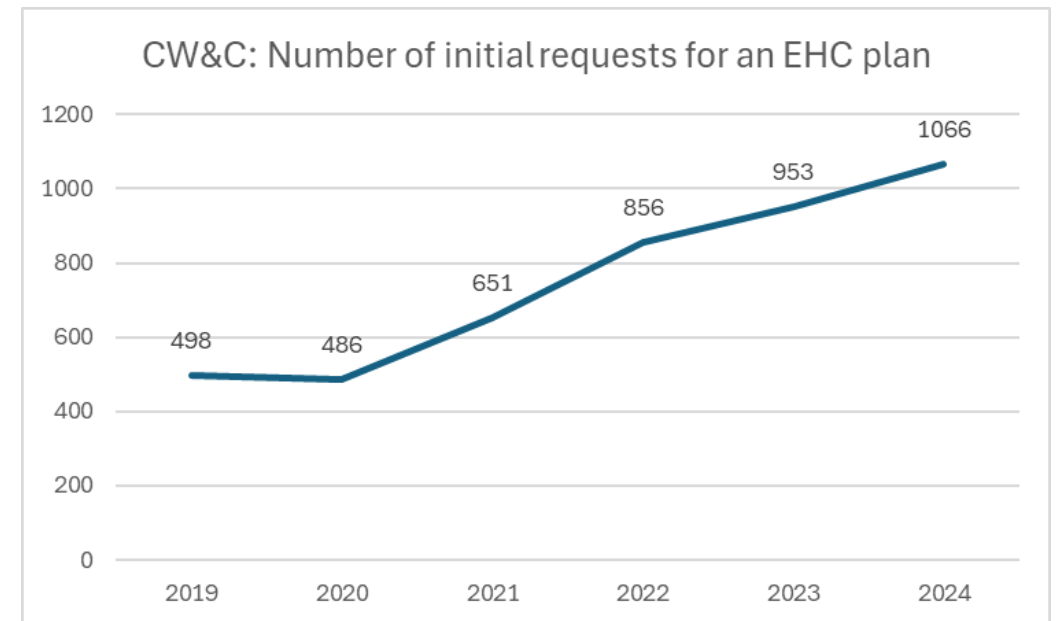
New EHC plans by age in CW&C



- In 2024:
 - 43% of new plans were for children and young people aged 5 to 10
 - 28% for age 11 to 15
 - 20% for aged under 5
 - 8% for age 16 to 19
- New plans for children and young people aged 16 to 19 increased by 67% between 2023 (30) and 2024 (50).

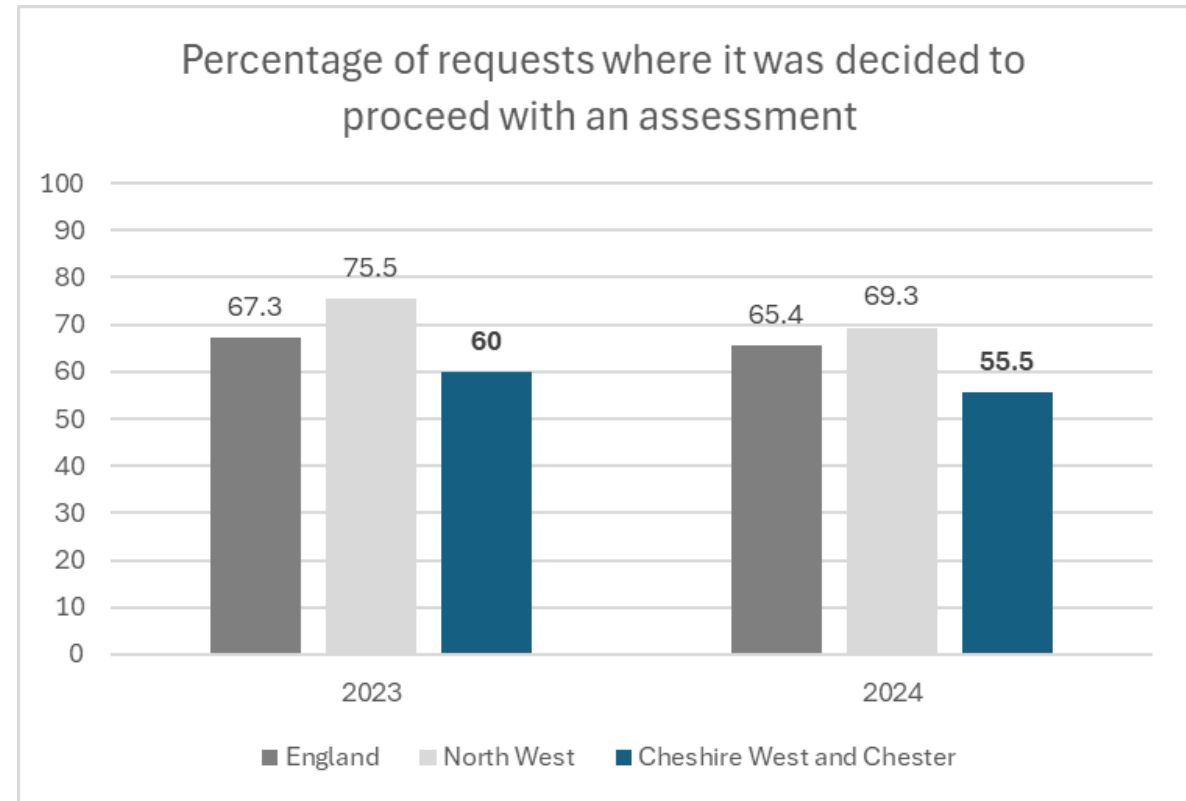
Assessment requests for an EHC plan in CW&C

- 2024 saw the highest number of assessment requests for an EHCP to date.
- 1066 assessment requests for an EHC plan were received by the LA during 2024: an average of 89 requests per month.
- Between January 2025 and May 2025 there have been 495 assessments requests: an average of 99 requests per month – indicating a continued increasing trend.
- 67% of requests so far in 2025 were from settings and 32% were from parents.



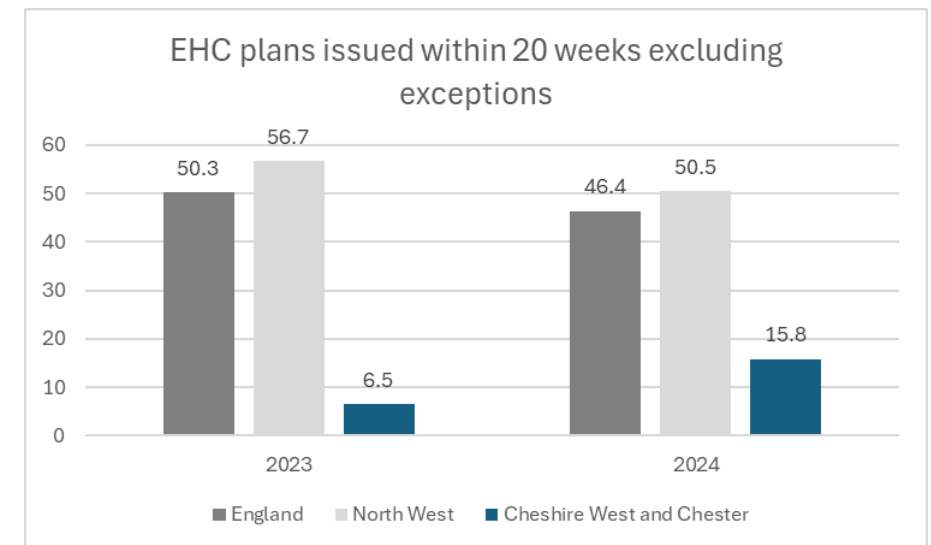
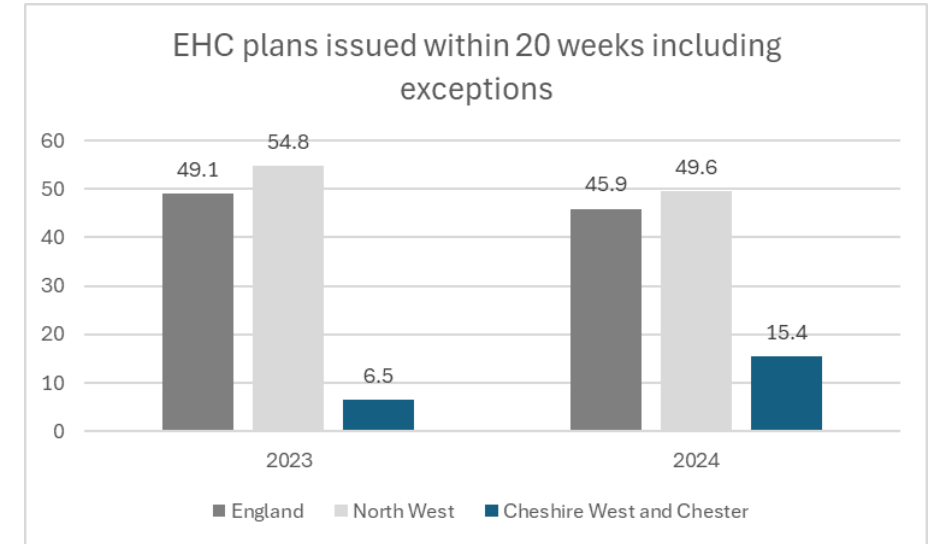
Outcomes of assessment requests for an EHC plan in CW&C

- 55.5% of requests had a decision to proceed with an assessment: a decrease from 60% in 2023
- This is below the national (65.4%) and regional (69.3%) averages.



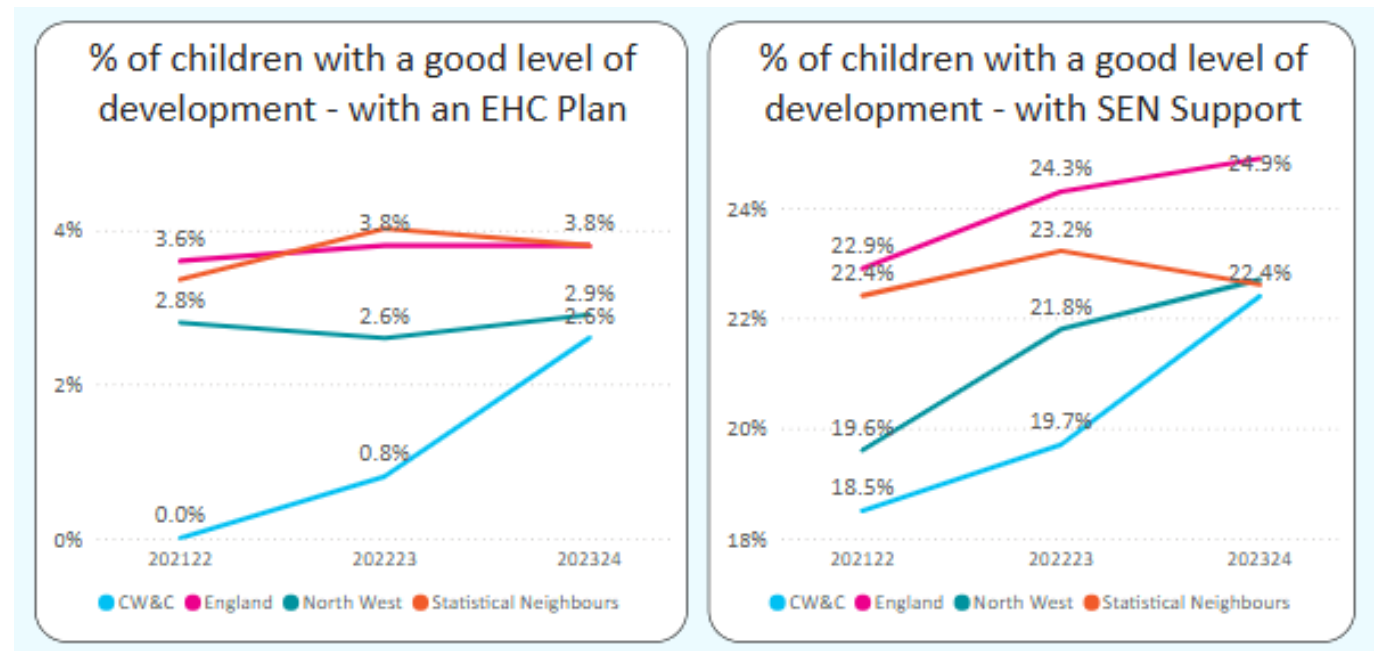
New EHC plans in time in CW&C

- 15.4% of new EHC Plans (including exceptions) were issued within the statutory 20 weeks timeframe, compared to 45.9% nationally and 49.6% regionally.
- 15.8% of new EHC Plans (excluding exceptions) were issued within the statutory 20 weeks timeframe, compared to 46.4% nationally and 50.5% regionally.
- Annual performance improved compared to 2023 (6.5%).



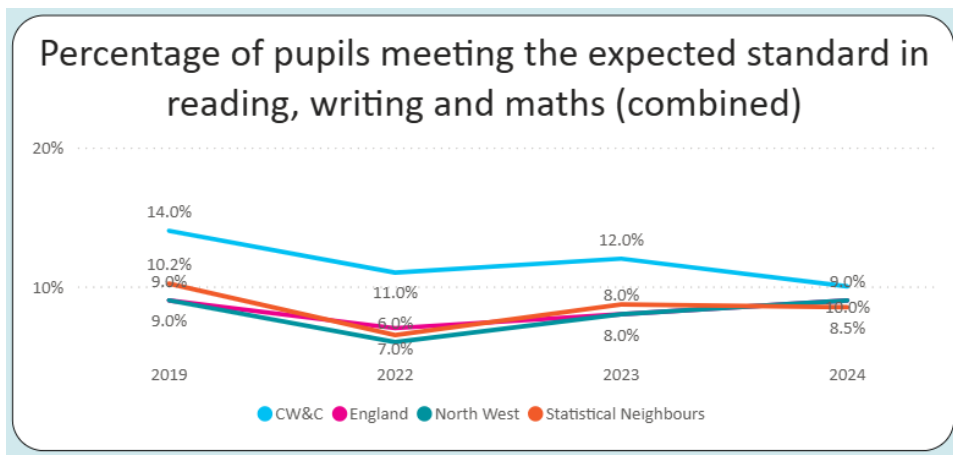
Attainment – Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

- Pupils with an EHCP: 2.6% of all children are achieving GLD in CW&C: an increase from 0.8% in 2022-23, and below the national average of 3.8% and the regional average of 2.9%
- Pupils with SEN Support: 22.4% of all children are achieving GLD in CW&C: an increase from 19.7% in 2022-23, and below the national average of 24.9% and the regional average of 22.7%

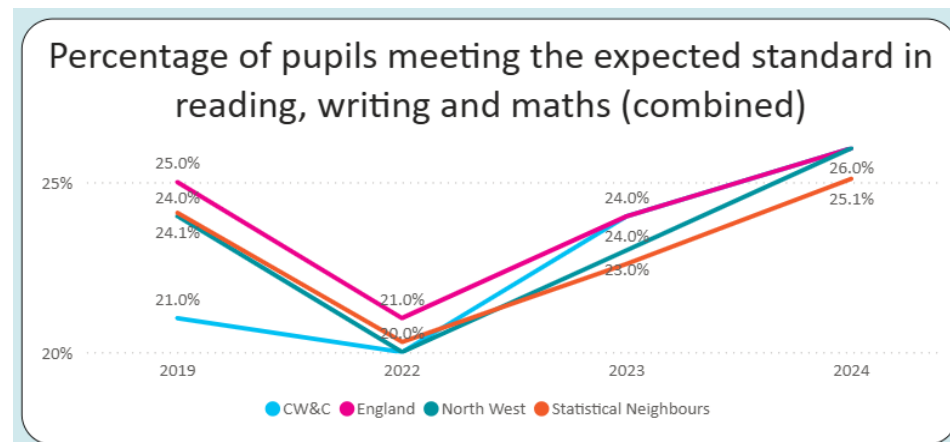


Attainment – Key Stage 2

- **Pupils with an EHCP:** 10% of pupils with and EHCP achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths (combined). This is above the national average of 9% and regional 9%. Performance declined compared to 12% in 2022-23.

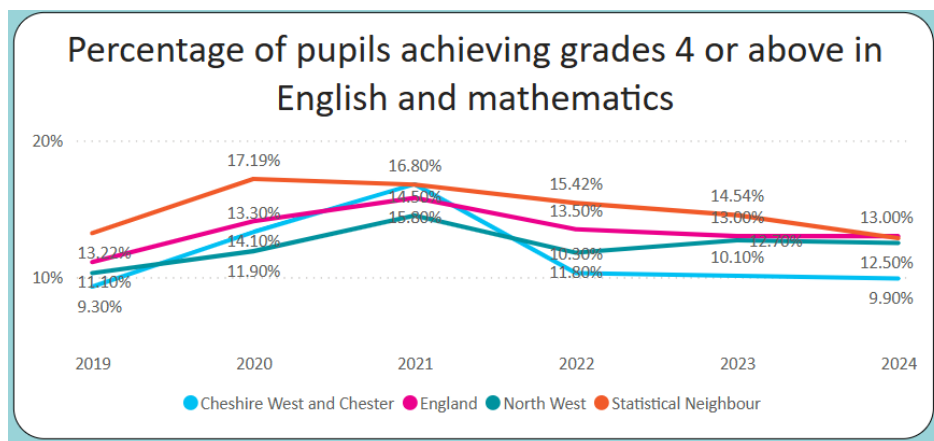


- **Pupils with SEN Support:** 26% of pupils with SEN support achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths (combined). This is in line with the national average of 26% and regional 26%. Performance increased compared to 24% in 2022-23.

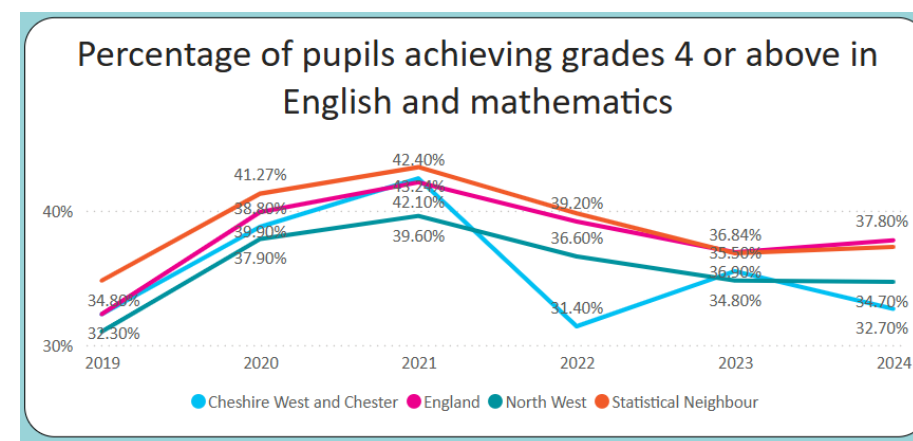


Attainment – Key Stage 4

- **Pupils with an EHCP:** 9.9% of pupils with and EHCP achieved grade 4 or above in english and maths. This is below the national average of 13% and regional 12.5%. Performance declined compared to 10.1% in 2022-23.



- **Pupils with SEN Support:** 32.7% of pupils with SEN support achieved grade 4 or above in english and maths. This is below the national average of 37.8% and regional 34.7%. Performance declined compared to 35.5% in 2022-23.



Pupil absence

- **Pupils with an EHCP:** absence rate increased from 11.7% to 12.3% in 2023/24. The absence rate in 2023-24 is below the national average (12.6%), regional average (12.5%).
 - Primary - increased from 8.5% to 8.9% in 2023/24. Below the national average (10.0%) and regional average (9.3%).
 - Secondary - increased from 17.6% to 20.1% in 2023/24. Above the national average (15.8%) and regional average (16.3%).
 - Special - decreased from 11.6% to 10.9% in 2023/24. Below the national average (12.8%) and regional average (12.9%).
- CW&C's persistent absence rate decreased from 35.3% to 33.6% in 2023/24. Below the national average (35.5%) and regional average (35.1%).

Absence Rates	12.3%	12.6%	12.5%
	CW&C	England	Regional
Primary Absence	8.9%	10.0%	9.3%
	CW&C Primary	Eng Primary	Reg Primary
Secondary Absence	20.1%	15.8%	16.3%
	CW&C Secondary	Eng Secondary	Reg Secondary
Special Absence	10.9%	12.8%	12.9%
	CW&C Special	Eng Special	Reg Special

- **Pupils with SEN Support:** absence rate increased from 10.3% to 10.8% in 2023/24. The absence rate in 2023-24 is above the national average (10.2%) and regional average (10.1%).
 - Primary - stayed the same at 7.4% in 2023/24. Below the national average (7.5%) and above regional average (7.3%).
 - Secondary - increased from 15.0% to 15.7% in 2023/24. Above the national average (13.8%) and regional average (14.0%).
- CW&C's persistent absence rate increased from 30.8% to 31.0% in 2023/24. Above the national average (30.1%) and regional average (30.0%).

Absence Rates	10.8%	10.2%	10.1%
	CW&C	England	Regional
Primary Absence	7.4%	7.5%	7.3%
	CW&C Primary	Eng Primary	Reg Primary
Secondary Absence	15.7%	13.8%	14.0%
	CW&C Secondary	Eng Secondary	Reg Secondary

Pupil exclusions

SEN Pupils - Permanent exclusion rates for 2021/22 and 2022/23 by school

- CWAC had a lower rate of permanent exclusions for pupils with an EHC Plan (0.13) than national (0.20) and regional (0.21) in 2022-23
- CWAC had a higher rate of permanent exclusions for pupils with SEN Support (0.51) than national (0.37) and regional (0.49) in 2022-23

Permanent exclusions (rate) for 'Suspensions and permanent exclusions - full year by characteristic' for SEN provision - No SEN, SEN provision - SEN with an EHC plan, SEN provision - SEN without an EHC plan/SEN support, State-funded primary, State-funded secondary and 1 other filter in Cheshire West and Chester, England and North West between 2021/22 and 2022/23

Move and reorder table headers

			North West		England		North West	
							Cheshire West and Chester	
			2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
SEN provision	SEN provision - No SEN	Total	0.08	0.10	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.04
		State-funded primary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		State-funded secondary	0.18	0.23	0.11	0.15	0.13	0.10
		State-funded special	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.45	no data	no data
	SEN provision - SEN with an EHC plan	Total	0.09	0.21	0.13	0.20	0.05	0.13
		State-funded primary	0.10	0.18	0.13	0.20	0.00	0.00
		State-funded secondary	0.21	0.59	0.27	0.41	0.26	0.43
		State-funded special	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.00	0.09
	SEN provision - SEN without an EHC plan/SEN support	Total	0.34	0.49	0.25	0.37	0.32	0.51
		State-funded primary	0.08	0.13	0.08	0.13	0.03	0.00
		State-funded secondary	0.74	1.04	0.50	0.71	0.80	1.29
		State-funded special	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00

Pupil suspensions

SEN Pupils - suspension rates for 2021/22 and 2022/23 by school

- CWAC had a lower rate of suspensions for pupils with an EHC Plan (12.88) than national (21.60) and regional (19.90) in 2022-23
- CWAC had a lower rate of suspensions for pupils with SEN Support (21.78) than national (24.42) and regional (22.41) in 2022-23

Suspension (rate) for 'Suspensions and permanent exclusions - full year by characteristic' for SEN provision - No SEN, SEN provision - SEN with an EHC plan, SEN provision - SEN without an EHC plan/SEN support, State-funded primary, State-funded secondary and 1 other filter in Cheshire West and Chester, England and North West between 2021/22 and 2022/23

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			North West		England		North West	
							Cheshire West and Chester	
			2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
SEN provision	SEN provision - No SEN	Total	5.13	6.55	4.69	6.38	3.63	5.19
		State-funded primary	0.30	0.36	0.35	0.42	0.18	0.20
		State-funded secondary	11.89	15.06	10.28	13.90	8.16	11.80
		State-funded special	650.00	500.00	59.32	60.87	no data	no data
	SEN provision - SEN with an EHC plan	Total	16.58	19.90	17.63	21.60	10.33	12.88
		State-funded primary	10.38	12.27	13.75	16.40	13.71	15.47
		State-funded secondary	39.26	49.56	38.03	47.17	27.46	35.14
		State-funded special	10.50	10.58	9.60	10.92	2.06	1.72
	SEN provision - SEN without an EHC plan/SEN support	Total	17.22	22.41	18.59	24.42	13.65	21.78
		State-funded primary	4.62	5.74	6.27	7.73	4.03	4.49
		State-funded secondary	36.72	47.75	36.19	47.82	29.79	48.34
		State-funded special	10.88	5.13	7.12	16.81	0.00	0.00

Children in need and TAFs with a disability

- 355 children in need have a disability in May 2025: 18% of all children in need
 - Of which: 55 children had a child protection plan (20% of children with a CP plan) and 128 children were in care (making up 22% of children in care).
- Children who have TAFs open who have SEND has been consistently reducing – 20.2% reduction at the year end. Note that TAF activity has reduced alongside this but not as significantly as SEND.

