

Overview & Scrutiny

Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission

All Members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission are requested to attend the meeting of the Commission to be held as follows

Monday 31 October 2022

7.00 pm

Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA

The press and members of the public are welcome to join this meeting remotely via the live link below:

<https://youtu.be/aRMuvjSnDJw>

A backup link is provided in the event of technical difficulties:

<https://youtu.be/Mc21itqOW0Q>

If you would like to attend in person please note the guidance and confirm with the officer.

Contact:

Martin Bradford

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Mark Carroll

Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney

Members: Cllr Sophie Conway (Chair), Cllr Margaret Gordon (Vice-Chair), Cllr Alastair Binnie-Lubbock, Cllr Lee Laudat-Scott, Cllr Midnight Ross, Cllr Caroline Selman, Cllr Anya Sizer, Cllr Sheila Suso-Runge, Cllr Lynne Troughton and Cllr Claudia Turbet-Delof

Co-optees: Richard Brown, Andy English, Salmah Kansara, Michael Lobenstein, Jo Macleod, Steven Olalere and Monique Pink

Agenda

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Urgent Items / Order of Business**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Childhood Food Poverty: Free School Meals Eligibility and Uptake (19.05)** (Pages 9 - 26)
To review eligibility and uptake of free school meal entitlements, breakfast club provision and school's connection to wider food poverty networks.
- 5 School Moves (20.15)** (Pages 27 - 46)
To review all school move data including in-year transfers, elective home education, permanent exclusion and Managed Moves. Additional data has been requested on pupil absence (incl. persistent absence).
- 6 Work Programme 2022/23 (21.00)** (Pages 47 - 58)
To update, review and monitor the work programme for the remainder of 2022/23.
- 7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (21.20)** (Pages 59 - 60)
- 8 Any Other Business**
To include updates on children and young people related issues from other scrutiny commissions

Access and Information

Public Involvement and Recording

Public Attendance at the Town Hall for Meetings

Scrutiny meetings are held in public, rather than being public meetings. This means that whilst residents and press are welcome to attend, they can only ask questions at the discretion of the Chair. For further information relating to public access to information, please see Part 4 of the council's constitution, available at <https://hackney.gov.uk/council-business> or by contacting Governance Services (020 8356 3503)

Following the lifting of all Covid-19 restrictions by the Government and the Council updating its assessment of access to its buildings, the Town Hall is now open to the public and members of the public may attend meetings of the Council.

We recognise, however, that you may find it more convenient to observe the meeting via the live-stream facility, the link for which appears on the agenda front sheet.

We would ask that if you have either tested positive for Covid-19 or have any symptoms that you do not attend the meeting, but rather use the livestream facility. If this applies and you are attending the meeting to ask a question, make a deputation or present a petition then you may contact the Officer named at the beginning of the agenda and they will be able to make arrangements for the Chair of the meeting to ask the question, make the deputation or present the petition on your behalf.

The Council will continue to ensure that access to our meetings is in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in force from time to time and also in line with public health advice. The latest general advice can be found here - <https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the

start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting.

Disruptive behaviour may include moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording Councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease, and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.

Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

Hackney Council's Code of Conduct applies to all Members of the Council, the Mayor and co-opted Members.

This note is intended to provide general guidance for Members on declaring interests. However, you may need to obtain specific advice on whether you have an interest in a particular matter. If you need advice, you can contact:

- Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services
- the Legal Adviser to the Committee; or
- Governance Services.

If at all possible, you should try to identify any potential interest you may have before the meeting so that you and the person you ask for advice can fully consider all the circumstances before reaching a conclusion on what action you should take.

You will have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter if it:

- i. relates to an interest that you have already registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of you or your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner;
- ii. relates to an interest that should be registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner, but you have not yet done so; or
- iii. affects your well-being or financial position or that of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you (subject to the rules regarding sensitive interests).
- ii. You must leave the meeting when the item in which you have an interest is being discussed. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision.
- iii. If you have, however, obtained dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee you may remain in the meeting and participate in the

meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

Do you have any other non-pecuniary interest on any matter on the agenda which is being considered at the meeting?

You will have 'other non-pecuniary interest' in a matter if:

- i. It relates to an external body that you have been appointed to as a Member or in another capacity; or
- ii. It relates to an organisation or individual which you have actively engaged in supporting.

If you have other non-pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- ii. You may remain in the meeting, participate in any discussion or vote provided that contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matters are not under consideration relating to the item in which you have an interest.
- iii. If you have an interest in a contractual, financial, consent, permission, or licence matter under consideration, you must leave the meeting unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision. Where members of the public are allowed to make representations, or to give evidence or answer questions about the matter you may, with the permission of the meeting, speak on a matter then leave the meeting. Once you have finished making your representation, you must leave the meeting whilst the matter is being discussed.
- iv. If you have been granted dispensation, in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure you may remain in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a non-pecuniary interest.

Further Information

Advice can be obtained from Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services via email dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk

Getting to the Town Hall

For a map of how to find the Town Hall, please visit the council's website <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us.htm> or contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer using the details provided on the front cover of this agenda.

Accessibility

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

Further Information about the Commission

If you would like any more information about the Scrutiny Commission, including the membership details, meeting dates and previous reviews, please visit the website or use this QR Code (accessible via phone or tablet 'app')

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/individual-scrutiny-commissions-children-and-young-people.htm>



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Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission October 31st 2022 Item 4 - Childhood Food Poverty	Item No 4
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Outline

Given the current cost of living crisis, the Commission is assessing the role of schools in addressing childhood food poverty in relation to:

- Free School Meal (FSM) provision;
- Breakfast Club provision;
- Connection with wider local food programmes and networks.

The aim of the item is to help understand the nature of the childhood food hunger challenges faced by schools, their response and the identification of additional support where this may be necessary.

Reports

- Childhood Food Poverty: eligibility and uptake of FSM, breakfast club provision.

Attending:

- Paul Senior, Director of Education
- David Court, Head of Admissions and Pupil Benefits
- Andy English, Head Teacher, Our Lady's Secondary School
- Richard Brown, Executive Head Teacher, The Urswick School
- Jenna Clark, Executive Headteacher at Gainsborough
- Louise Nicholls, Executive Head Gayhurst, Kingsmead and Mandeville Primary Schools

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Report Title	Food Poverty: Eligibility, accessibility and update of Free School Meals
Meeting:	Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission
Date:	31st October 2022
Report Author	David Court, Head of School Organisation and Commissioning Hilary Smith, Head of Strategy, Policy & Governance
Report Authorised	Paul Senior, Interim Director of Education & Inclusion

Report Summary

It is estimated that after the cost of housing is taken into consideration, 48% of children are living in poverty in Hackney. Taking the current cost of living crisis into consideration, it is clear that poverty and food insecurity will have a significant impact on local children and families and for local services that support them, including local schools and education settings.

Children and Young People (CYP) Scrutiny Commission is assessing what role schools & settings can play in responding to local food insecurity and pupil hunger (i.e. FSM and breakfast club provision), along with assessing how schools & settings are supported in this role and what additional support could be provided.

All maintained schools, academies and free schools are required to provide free school meals (FSM) to eligible children. A pupil's eligibility for FSM is based upon their parents entitlement to certain welfare benefits, predominantly Universal Credit where annual income does not exceed £7,400. Parents can apply for FSM via local authority portals which automatically check ongoing eligibility.

Nationally there were 1.9m pupils known to be eligible for FSM in 2021/22 or 22.5% of all state funded pupils. This figure has risen year on year since 2019.

In 2022, there were 13,352 pupils eligible for FSM in Hackney, or 38% of all state funded pupils. This is significantly higher than national (22.5%) and regional (24.6%) figures and 7th highest among all English local authorities. There is considerable variation in FSM eligibility among local schools with rates varying from 6 to 67% among primaries and 3% to 68% among secondaries.

The current rate of funding for FSM is £2.41 per pupil meal. The funding rate (set by central government) for FSM has failed to keep pace with price inflation which

has led to pressures on school catering services (and their contractors). A collective approach to school catering may become more attractive to schools as this may offer cost efficiencies.

Many local schools also provide Breakfast Clubs to their pupils, whilst some of these were provided free of charge, the average daily cost was £2.15 per day. The nature, focus and reach of breakfast club provision varies from school to school.

Council wide food poverty reduction work will focus on awareness raising of local help available to local families amongst schools in the autumn term so that parents can be directed to appropriate support.

Food Poverty: eligibility, accessibility and uptake of free school meals (FSM) and breakfast club provision.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The cost of living crisis is affecting families across England. As food and energy prices increase, families are facing hardship and having to make difficult choices in balancing household budgets. There is strong evidence to suggest that the increase in the cost of living is contributing to increasing levels of food insecurity. September 2022 data from the [Office for National Statistics](#) (ONS) suggest that that of the 91% of adults in Great Britain who reported an increase in their cost of living:
- 95% saw the price of their food shopping go up; and
 - 44% had started spending less on essentials including food.
- 1.2 Food poverty will impact more on those families with lower household income or who may be reliant on state assistance (i.e. Universal Credit). [Data](#) from the Trussell Trust (2022) suggest that for families in receipt of Universal Credit:
- 56% were going without one of the basics of keeping warm, fed and clothed;
 - 50% were behind with their bills and 40% had fallen into debt;
 - 33% had not been able to afford adequate food (missing meals)
- 1.3 National food insecurity [tracking data](#) indicated that household food insecurity has been growing since August 2021 and that as of April 2022, 15.5% of all households were food insecure (where individuals have eaten less, skipped meals or not eaten at all). Standard definitions of food insecurity are:
- *Low food security*: where households reduce the quality, variety and desirability;
 - *Very low food security*: where household members disrupt eating patterns, miss meals or reduce intake because of the lack of resources.
- 1.4 There is now a growing commentary on the impact that poverty and food insecurity is having on households and on children in particular:
- With UK charities [reporting](#) families are skipping meals to pay for other household essentials (e.g. fuel);
 - Community food groups reported expected [Food bank usage](#) to increase to 1 in 10 parents;
 - [Schools, settings and community groups](#) and other [educational institutions](#) report that children are accessing school hungry, tired and anxious.
- 1.5 After the cost of housing is taken into consideration it is estimated that approximately 48% of children in Hackney are living in relative poverty. In this context, poverty and food insecurity is likely to be a significant challenge for schools in autumn and winter terms as the cost of living crisis intensifies.

2. Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission

2.1 Given their daily contact and general oversight of children, schools and education settings are in a relatively good position to identify children and families in need, including those that may be experiencing food insecurity. The aim of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission is to:

- Further understand the nature and extent of pupil hunger in schools and its impact on pupils and wider schooling;
- Assess what role schools currently play in responding to pupil hunger (e.g. access to free school meals and breakfast clubs);
- Understand how schools are supported in this role, and their connectivity to food poverty programmes / networks.
- Identify what additional support would help schools in this role.

2.2 The scrutiny session will aim to assess the following:

1) *Assess the eligibility, accessibility and uptake of FSM* entitlements of pupils across Hackney; how Hackney Education and local schools and settings are promoting FSM and efforts to ensure eligible families are applying and ensuring that the current system is effective in reaching those children in need? To assess how children in other educational settings such as Alternative Provision, Independent Schools, early years settings can access FSM provision.

2) Assess the nature, scope and extent of School Breakfast Clubs across Hackney; to understand how these are funded and supported how this provision is targeted.

3) Ascertain how Hackney Education and the wider Council supports schools and settings with particularly high levels of vulnerability and assess how aware/ prepared local schools, settings and teachers are to refer children and families identified to be in need to local food/help programmes?

4) Seek assurance on stability and continuity of school catering contracts: understanding that the cost of living crisis is also impacting the business sector to seek assurance on local arrangements with school catering and the maintenance of high quality standards of provision within the current funding scheme.

3. Free School Meals (FSM)

FSM Eligibility

3.1 Since September 2014, schools in England have been required to provide free lunches to all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 who are not otherwise entitled to benefits-related free school meals.

3.2 All maintained schools, academies and free schools are required to provide free school meals to children that meet the eligibility criteria. Where a child eligible for free school

meals attends alternative provision funded by their school, the school should advise the alternative provision provider and fund the lunch.

3.3 In early years settings, government funding is intended to cover the cost to deliver 15 (or 30) hours a week of free, high quality, flexible childcare for all three and four year olds and for two year olds who meet the eligibility requirement. It is not intended to cover the cost of meals, consumables, additional hours or additional services. This means parents may be charged for meals and snacks, and as well as for other consumables such as nappies, wipes and sun cream. In addition, eligible 2 year old's and children subject to targeted early help receive food vouchers during the holidays

3.4 Eligibility for FSM is determined by the government and the criteria are outlined [here](#) for parents with children attending Hackney schools. In summary, pupils are entitled to FSM beyond Primary Year 2 providing their parents meet the eligibility criteria. Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided annual net earned income is not more than £7,400)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided parents not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

3.5 Eligibility for FSM is now predominantly centred upon Universal Credit entitlement where income is not greater than £7,400 per annum. It should be noted that, despite the cost of living pressures, this income threshold (and other eligibility criteria) have not changed since 2018.

3.6 Prior to the Covid pandemic, children in households with *no recourse to public funds* were not eligible for FSM. During the pandemic however, this guidance was changed to allow households with no recourse to public funds to apply. In June 2022, FSM eligibility was [permanently extended](#) to all children in households with no recourse to public funding.

3.7 For comparison, different eligibility criteria exist across constituent countries of the UK.

- In Scotland FSM are now available for all children in years 1-5 with roll out to years 1-7 expected by 2024/25.
- In Wales, the government has committed to extend FSM eligibility to all primary school pupils by 2024.

- In Northern Ireland the Universal Credit Cap for entitlement is £14,000 p.a (which is twice that of families resident in England).

Applying for FSM

- 3.7 Hackney Education provides a secure, robust and accessible system for families to apply for free school meals. The online FSM application form links directly with the DfE ECS (eligibility checking system) and parents are advised about whether they are eligible at the point of submitting their application online.
- 3.8 Families only need to apply once for each child because Hackney Education retains the details of all applicants throughout their compulsory education. Families who have applied previously but were ineligible at the time are regularly re-checked against the ECS to determine if any change in circumstances mean they become eligible.
- 3.9 Information about the eligibility of all pupils in Hackney schools is shared securely and in real-time with schools via SAM (school access module). Each child on the school's roll is reported as either a) applied and eligible, b) applied but not eligible or c) not applied. Immediately a FSM application is processed, the child and their eligibility status will be visible to their school who can update their local records to attract funding at the following census point.

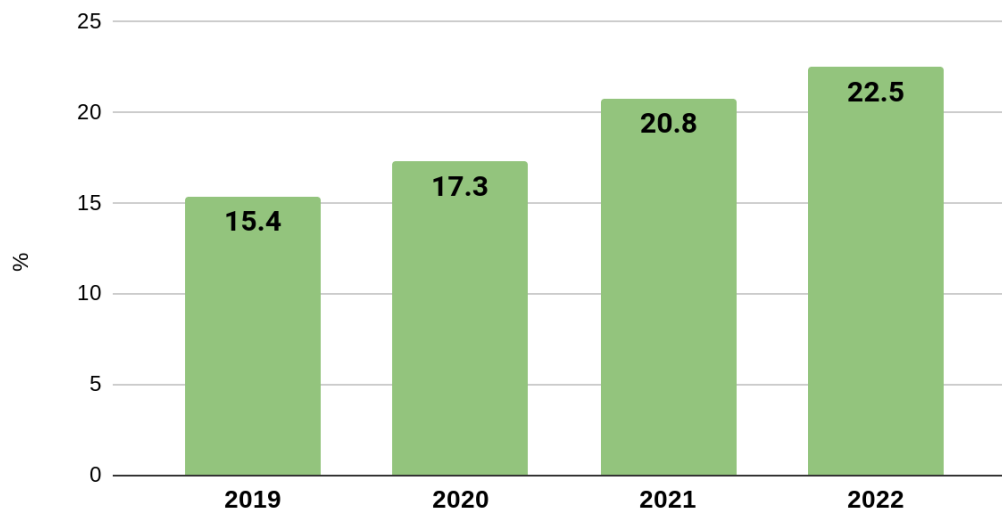
Promotion of FSM

- 3.10 Hackney Education's FSM application system effectively allows schools to focus their efforts targeting families in their school who have not applied. Schools are uniquely placed to communicate directly with their families, identifying those who are likely to qualify for FSM (or who they suspect may qualify) and prompt application.
- 3.11 Most local schools provide information for parents about how to access FSM on their websites, including a link to the Hackney Education FSM online application form. Schools can individually identify families who are eligible but do not access FSM for their children. The exact number of families who may be eligible but do not apply is unknown.
- 3.12 To ensure eligible children have applied and are known to schools, offers made by the Admissions team at the point of entry to reception and at transfer to secondary school promote FSM application and highlight the additional funding this brings schools.
- 3.13 The Hackney FSM website, with further details about the application process and the ECS, can be accessed [HERE](#).

FSM Data - National

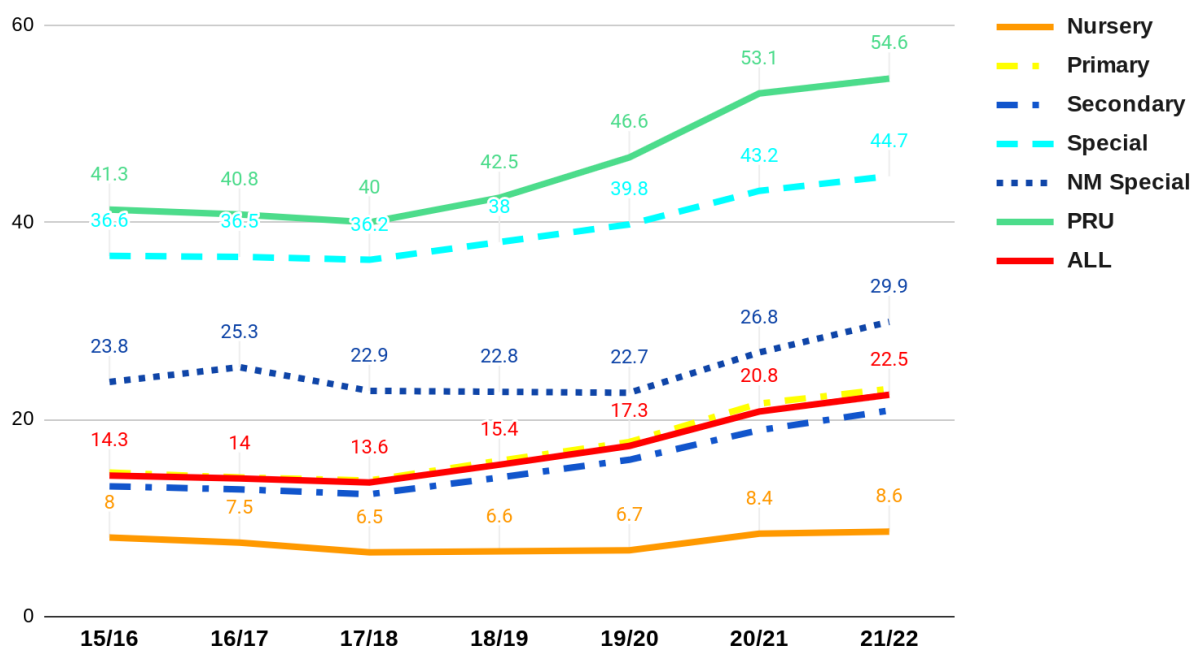
- 3.14 As of January 2022, there were 1.9 million pupils known to be eligible for FSM which equated to 22.5% of all state funded pupils. Nationally, the proportion of pupils entitled to FSM has increased year on year since 2019 (Chart 1)..

Chart 1 - Percentage of pupils eligible for FSM in state funded secondary schools (2019-2022)



3.15 Nationally, FSM eligibility has increased across all state funded educational settings since 2017/18. In 2021/22, FSM eligibility was highest among pupils attending Pupil Referral Units (PRU) where 54.6% of pupils were eligible (Chart 2). Higher rates of FSM eligibility are also recorded among pupils attending state funded special schools and non-maintained special schools than for either primary and secondary school settings (Chart 2).

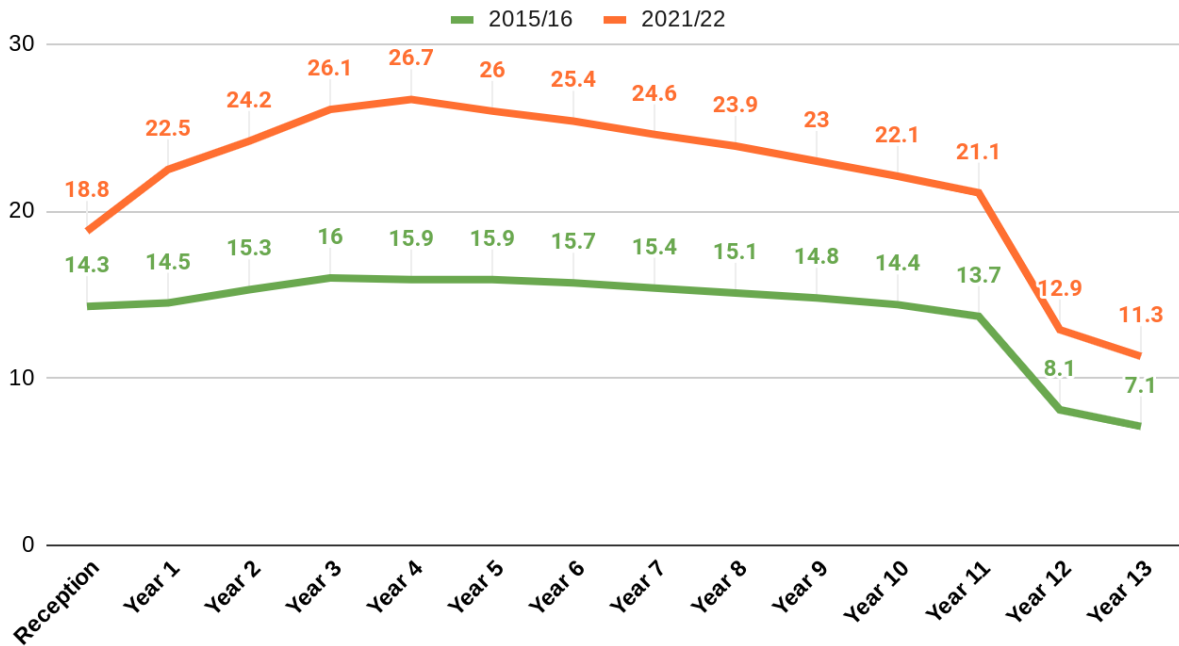
Chart 2 -FSM entitlement in state funded schools 2015/16 to 2021/22



3.16 FSM eligibility peaks for children in school year 4 and gradually declines thereafter (Chart 3). In 2021/22, 26.7% of year 4 pupils were eligible for free school meals compared to

21.1% of year 11 pupils. Eligibility decreases more sharply for children in post 16 education.

Chart 3 - Percentage of pupils eligible for FSM by year group 2015/16 and 2021/22



Hackney FSM Data

3.18 The most recent data (2021/22) indicates that there were 13,352 pupils who were eligible for FSM in Hackney which equates to 38.8% of pupils across all state funded education settings (Table 1).

3.19 FSM entitlement in Hackney is higher among secondary school pupils (41.1%) than primary school pupils (36.5%) (Table 1). Higher rates of FSM eligibility are recorded among pupils attending both special schools (62.6%) and PRU (47.4%) in Hackney (Table 1).

3.20. The proportion of pupils who are eligible for FSM in Hackney is higher across each educational setting (nursery, primary, secondary, special, PRU) compared to both national and regional figures (Table 1).

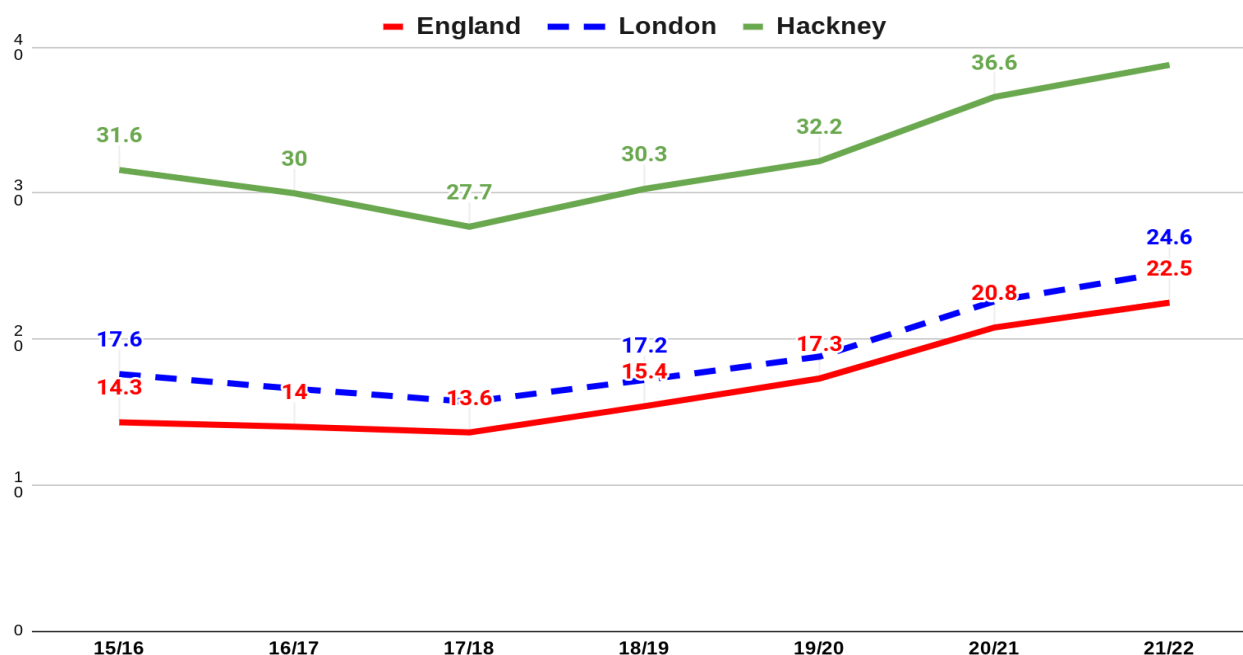
Table 1 - Percentage of pupils eligible for FSM across educational settings				
State funded setting		HACKNEY	London	England
Nursery	No.	56	1,017	3,267
	%	26.3%	12.3%	8.6%

Primary	No.	6,923	170,420	1,075,994
	%	36.5%	24%	23.1%
Secondary	No.	6,062	140,400	747,143
	%	41.1%	24.6%	20.9%
Special	No.	284	9,545	63,474
	%	62.6%	46.9%	44.7%
PRU	No.	27	924	6,385
	%	47.4%	46%	54.6%
Total*	No.	13,352	322,393	1,897,449
	%	38.8%	24.6%	22.5%

*Including NM Special (not tabulated)

3.21 The percentage of pupils eligible for FSM in Hackney is almost twice the figure compared to both regional and national averages, and has been a confirmed trend for the period 2015/16-2021/22 (Chart 4). The percentage of pupils eligible for FSM has been on an upward trajectory since 2017/18 in Hackney, London and England (Chart 4).

Chart 4 - Percentage of pupils eligible for FSM at state funded schools in Hackney, London and England 2015/16-2021/22.



3.22 In comparison to all other local authorities in England, Hackney currently has the 7th highest rate (38.8%) of pupil entitlement to FSM (Table 2). Other neighbouring boroughs

also figure prominently in this ranking with Islington ranking 1st (41.1%) and Tower Hamlets 8th (38.4%) (Table 2). There are, however, wide differences in the proportion of pupils who are entitled to FSM among other local authorities.

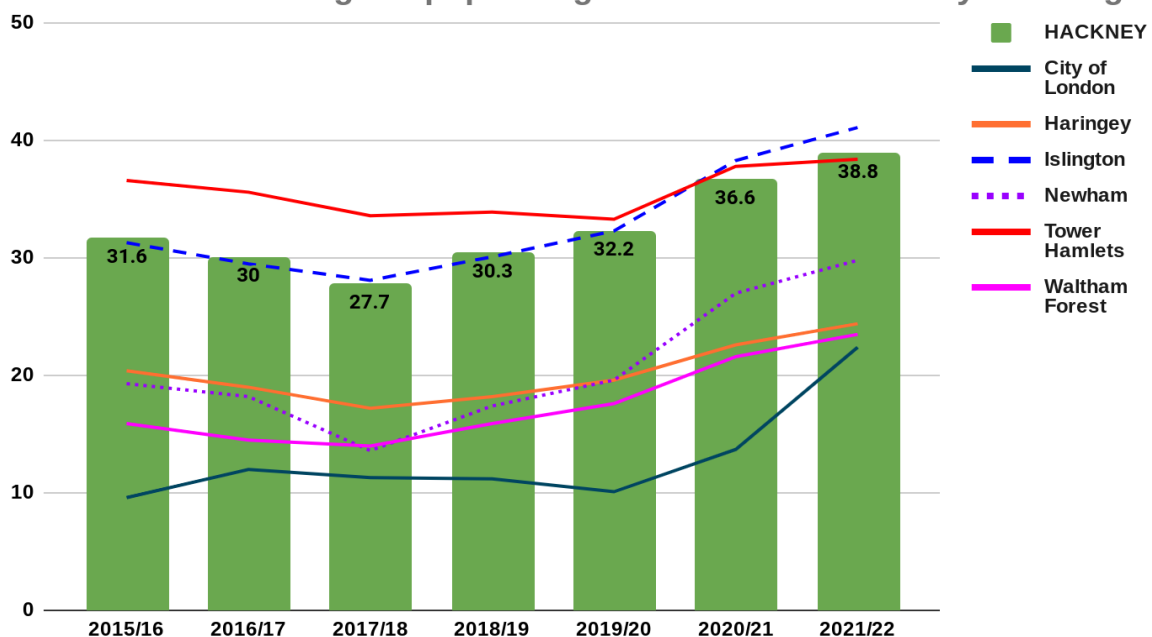
Table 2

Local Authorities with the highest and lowest rates of FSM eligibility					
January 2022, pupils attending state-funded schools, %					
Highest			Lowest		
1	Islington	41.1	1	Isles of Scilly	1.9
2	Manchester	40.8	2	Wokingham	9.0
3	Blackpool	40.4	3	Rutland	9.8
4	Camden	39.2	4	Windsor and Maidenhead	11.7
5	Knowsley	39.2	5	Bracknell Forest	11.8
6	Newcastle upon Tyne	38.8	6	Central Bedfordshire	12.3
7	Hackney	38.8	7	Buckinghamshire	12.3
8	Tower Hamlets	38.4	8	Richmond upon Thames	12.4
9	Middlesbrough	38.2	9	Surrey	12.8
10	Halton	37.3	10	Kingston upon Thames	12.9

Source: Department for Education, [Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2022](#), 9 June 2022

3.23 Comparing the percentage of FSM entitlement across neighbouring boroughs confirms that Hackney has a similar rate with both Islington and Tower Hamlets, but higher than other adjacent boroughs over the past 7 years (Chart 5).

Chart 5 - Percentage of pupils eligible for FSM in Hackney and neigh...

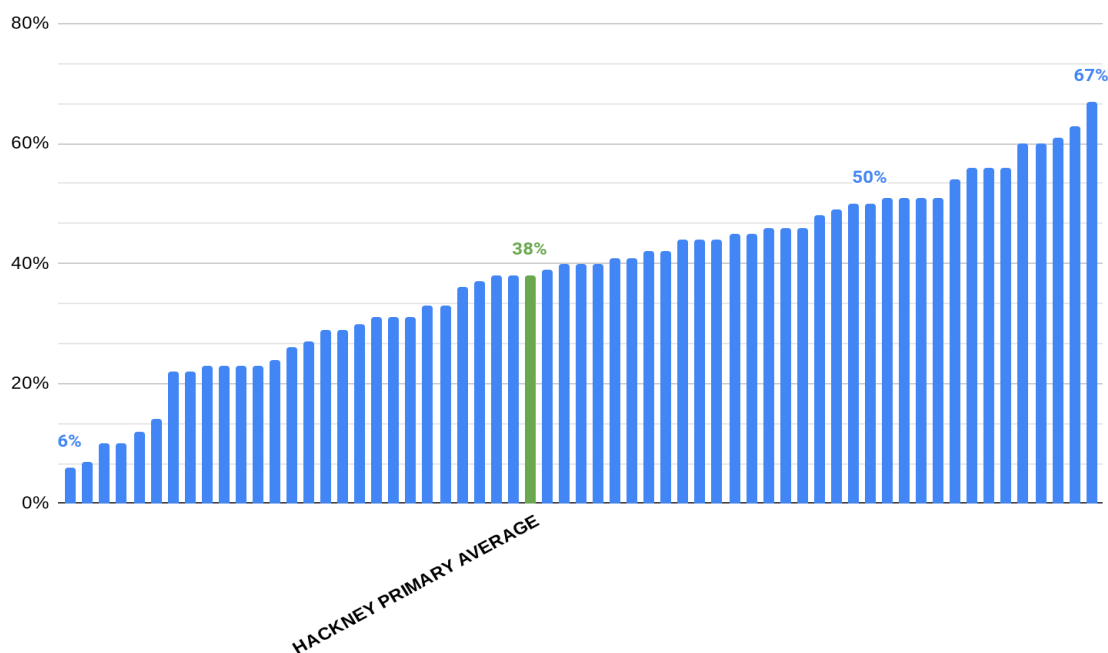


3.24 It should be noted that a small number of London boroughs provide free school meals to all *primary school* children irrespective of entitlement.

- [Tower Hamlets](#) introduced FSM to all primary school aged children in 2014 which was initially [part-funded through Public Health](#).
- [Islington](#) has provided FSM to all primary school children since 2011, where a recent (2019) [audit report](#) suggests a 94% uptake amongst infants and 84% among primary school children at an annual cost of £2.45m.

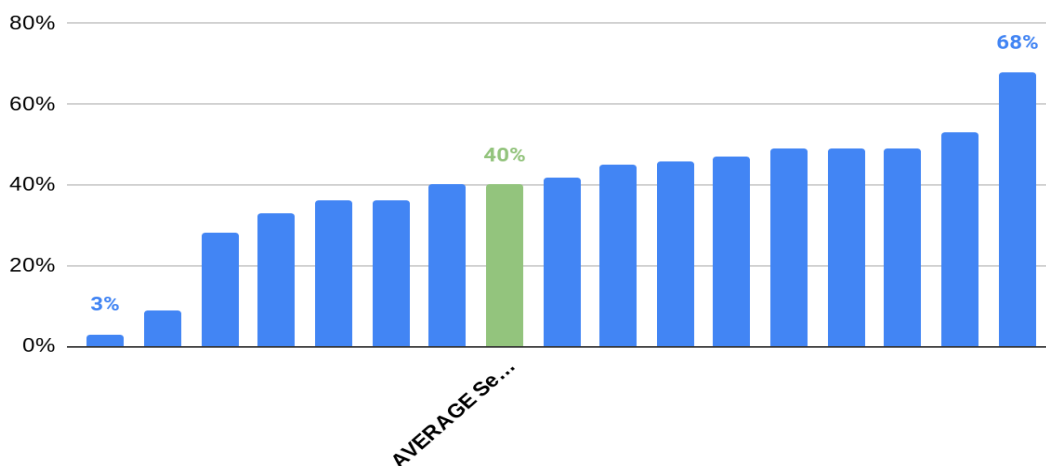
3.25 The percentage of children entitled to FSM across individual primary schools varies widely. Of the 60 state funded nurseries and primary schools in Hackney, FSM entitlement ranged from 6% (lowest) up to 67% (highest) (Chart 6). The average for all state funded nurseries and primary schools was 38% (Chart 6).

Chart 6 - Percentage of children entitled to Free School Meals at Hackney PRIMARY schools (at 2022 Census)



3.26 A similarly broad range of pupil entitlement to FSM is demonstrated across 17 secondary schools in Hackney. The range of FSM entitlement ranged from 68% (highest) to 3% (lowest), the average being 40% (Chart 7).

Chart 7 - Percentage of children entitled to Free School Meals Hackney SECONDARY Schools (at school census...



3.27 A small number of primary and secondary schools in Hackney provide a universal FSM service to all their pupils, irrespective of their FSM entitlement. These include the Urswick Secondary School and St Mary's Primary School in Stoke Newington (other schools may also provide universal FSM).

3.28 In Hackney, children attending Children Centres and early years settings over the lunch time generally receive a meal as part of the setting fees or free entitlement. It is unusual for a charge for lunch to be made on top of setting fees. Where a child is funded through free entitlement alone, settings are expected to offer reasonable options to a parent regarding food during the day; in most cases where the child attends over the lunch period, this will be included as part of the free entitlement.

3.29 Children attending early years settings classed as vulnerable (i.e., on a social care plan) will have lunches funded whilst at the setting.

Cost of school meals to parents in Hackney

3.30 Costs of school meals to parents that are required to pay is set by the school and varies from school to school. A brief audit across a sample of primary and secondary schools produced the following range of costs (where a charge was made):

- Primary School £2 to £2.40
- Secondary school £2.40-£2.50

Funding for FSM

3.31 Funding for FSM is provided by the central government via a unit rate per meal. The current unit rate of funding for FSM (May 2022) is £2.41 per meal, which is allocated through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and is not ring-fenced.

- 3.32 Funding levels for FSM have not increased significantly over the past 8 years rising from £2.30 in 2014 to £2.41 in 2022, which equates to a 9.6% increase. The most recent rate announcement uplifted the rate from £2.34 in 2021 to £2.41 in 2022, 7p or 3% increase.
- 3.33 Using data from the most recent [school census](#) (21/22), approximately 1.9 million pupils were eligible for FSM. This suggests that the national cost of FSM is around £4.6m per day.

School Catering Services

- 3.34 LACA, the school caterers association, noted that the failure to keep the FSM funding rate in line with rises in food and energy prices was placing [acute pressures](#) on its members. LACA reported that all caterers were having to reflect on the inclusion of more expensive (meat and fish) products within their [menus](#), and that there were viability concerns around smaller contractors.
- 3.35 Until recently, a catering framework for maintained primary schools was in place. However, due to low uptake, this was recently handed back to schools. As such, all maintained schools & academies will directly contract their own catering providers or provide this service inhouse.
- 3.36 Olive Catering recently took over catering for 6 primary schools previously using the framework. Whilst it is felt that this company offers stability to those schools working with them, the per price unit for each meal did increase as a result of the new contract which coincided with the start of the general increase in the cost of living. Future re-procurement will likely be at risk of similar price increases. For information, the unit price per meal for the 6 schools under this contract averages at £2.38
- 3.37 In light of this, the collective approach through a catering framework may become more attractive to schools in the future and Hackney Education will keep this discussion open with schools. If sufficient interest is seen, a project would need to be undertaken to determine requirements and formally procure providers.
- 3.38 Whilst there is no catering framework for schools, Hackney Education does hold a framework for Children's Centres. This contract is currently held by Ashlyns Organic. The contract is subject to regular review with feedback generally being positive. It is felt that the provision is stable in the current climate.
- 3.39 The Children's Centres catering framework has been extended to January 2023 with a further extension under consideration to tie it in with the ongoing Early Years review. Once the framework is reviewed, it is likely that costs will increase, as witnessed in the recent primary school procurement exercise.

FSM and Pupil Premium

- 3.40 Free School Meal entitlement is also linked to [Pupil Premium](#) funding for schools. Pupil

premium is funding to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in schools in England. This equates to an additional **£1,385** for a primary school aged child and **£985** for secondary school aged child.

FSM Commentary

3.41 The cost of living crisis has precipitated wide ranging analysis and commentary of the free school meals. A summary of key themes within this is provided below:

- *Children living in poverty but not able to access FSM:* [CPAG estimates](#) that 800,000 children currently living in poverty are not entitled to FSM under current eligibility criteria. Many of these children are in working families who exceed the threshold but continue to be in poverty;
- A more simplified process and extension of the income threshold would increase FSM to those that qualify: [LGA](#) estimates that more than 1 million school children could be eligible for FSM if the sign up process was simplified and extended. LGA and CPAG estimate that 215,000 additional children would be entitled to FSM under automatic enrollment;
- [National Food Strategy](#), [Public campaigns](#), [political campaigning](#), and [strong public support](#) for expansion of FSM entitlements;
- Recent [Cost Benefit Analysis](#) by Urban Health (2022) suggests that there are significant long term financial benefits (education and employment as well as health and nutrition) for the expansion of FSM to those families in receipt of Universal Credit *and* for the universal roll out of the service to all pupils.

4. Breakfast Clubs

4.1 Breakfast Clubs are not required, though many schools do provide these for their pupils. Many schools & settings in Hackney now offer breakfast clubs and can charge between £1 and £4 a session. See [here](#) for information regarding afterschool & breakfast clubs in the borough.

4.2 [Data collated by Hackney Education](#) demonstrates that most local primary schools (52) provided some form of breakfast club provision for their pupils (though the nature of and focus of such clubs vary). Data revealed that:

- Provision took place between the hour range of 7.30am - 9.00am;
- Daily costs ranged from free to £6.50 with the average cost being £2.15;
- Some schools provided subsidies for children on FSM, with in-school siblings.

4.3 A [national school breakfast club programme](#) supports schools to provide this service in areas of high social disadvantage (where more than 40% of pupils in bands A-F of the income deprivation affecting children index - IDACI). Participating schools receive a 100% subsidy for Breakfast Club provision through to July 2022, but this is reduced to 75% thereafter with the expectation that remaining funding will be topped up by other sources.

- 4.4 The Breakfast Club Programme has supported over 2,400 schools (1,812 in its general programme and 650 through its Covid programme) to provide Breakfast Clubs to over 375,000 pupils. The programme provides free healthy breakfast foods which are delivered weekly to participating schools as well as a start up grant (£500) for new facilities (i.e. toasters). The programme is designed to support new breakfast club provision in schools as well developing existing provision where there was scope for improvement.
- 4.5 All educational settings are included (primary, secondary, special PRU etc) are eligible to apply to be part of the national Breakfast Club Programme. Breakfast Clubs are provided in a wide range of formats to reflect needs of the school:
- Classic - sit down breakfast in dining halls;
 - Classroom - 'soft start' incorporated as part of a 15 min earlier start to lessons;
 - Playground bagels - tray of warm bagels for children in the playground in the morning;
 - Healthy grab and Go - healthy flexible options which can be provided quickly to large numbers of pupils;
 - Late provisions - for pupils arriving late in school (with no breakfast).
- 4.6 Data from the National Breakfast Club programme (supported by Family Action) indicates that among schools in Hackney:
- 75 schools in Hackney which were eligible to participate in the scheme (at least 50% of pupils fell within IDACI bands A-F);
 - 29 schools had expressed an interest in joining;
 - 9 schools had joined.
- 4.7 Aside from addressing pupils accessing schools hungry and wider family food insecurity , school breakfast clubs have shown positive impacts in relation to:
- School attendance;
 - School behaviour;
 - Readiness to start the day, classroom concentration and attainment;
 - Social skills;
 - Parental engagement.
- 4.8 The full impact assessment of the national Breakfast Club programme can be read [here](#) .

5. Working with Schools

- 5.1 Hackney's schools and settings are well placed to signpost support available for residents outlined on the [Hackney money help and advice](#) webpage on our website. The food poverty reduction work currently underway with the Council's Policy & Strategy and Here to Help teams will be promoted over the Autumn Term, with a focus on awareness raising amongst schools of the support available and how schools can direct parents & carers to appropriate support.

5.2 Currently schools cannot directly refer to food banks, due to the numbers asking for this service. [Hackney Food Bank](#) has instead asked that parents in need are signposted onto organisations that work closely with the food bank (e.g., Shoreditch Trust and Family Action) .



Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission October 31st 2022 Item 5 - School Moves	Item No 5
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Outline

School moves is a standing item on the work programme of the Commission to review the range and number of pupil moves across schools in Hackney in relation to:

- Permanent exclusions;
- School Moves;
- Children in Elective Home Education
- Children in Alternative Provision.

The Commission also requested additional demographic information in relation to SEND status for the above. In light of rising rates of pupil absence and persistent absence the Commission also requested a brief update on local data.

Reports

- Childhood Food Poverty: eligibility and uptake of FSM, breakfast club provision.

Attending:

- Paul Senior, Director of Education
- Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding

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Overview & Scrutiny

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 31st October 2022
Title of report: Pupil Movement (2021/22)
Report author: Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing & Education Safeguarding
Authorised by: Paul Senior, Director of Education & Inclusion
Brief: <p>This report is to provide the commission with an update on pupil movement.</p> <p>All schools experience pupil movement as children and young people change schools, either as a result of moving into or out of Hackney or a change of school is requested due to parental preference. Hackney Education monitors roll movement and where schools are considered to have above average movement this is explored with the individual school.</p> <p>There is a specific focus on pupils who have left their school for one of the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-year transfers via admissions and SEND• To elective home education• Been permanently excluded• Been subject to a managed move• Are absent from school• As well as those who are classified as children missing education <p>The report will consider those categories and consider those alongside the much greater levels of pupil movement that exists.</p> <p>Finally the report also covers pupils who attend alternative provision. The report covers the period from September 2021 to August 2022.</p>

Report to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Report title: Pupil Movement

Meeting date: 31st October 2022

Report originator: Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing & Education Safeguarding

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. This report will provide Councillors with an overview of pupil movement in Hackney
- 1.2. There is a specific focus on pupils who have left their school for one of the following reasons:
 - 1.2.1. In-year transfers via admissions and SEND
 - 1.2.2. To elective home education
 - 1.2.3. Been permanently excluded
 - 1.2.4. Been subject to a managed move
 - 1.2.5. Are absent from school
 - 1.2.6. As well as those who are classified as children missing education
- 1.3. The report will consider those categories, which are a relatively small cohort of pupils and consider those alongside the much greater levels of pupil movement that exists.
- 1.4. The report will look at the available locally reported data from September 2021 to August 2022. This will provide the commission with an overview of the picture of pupil movement for that academic year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Commission members are asked to note the contents of this report.

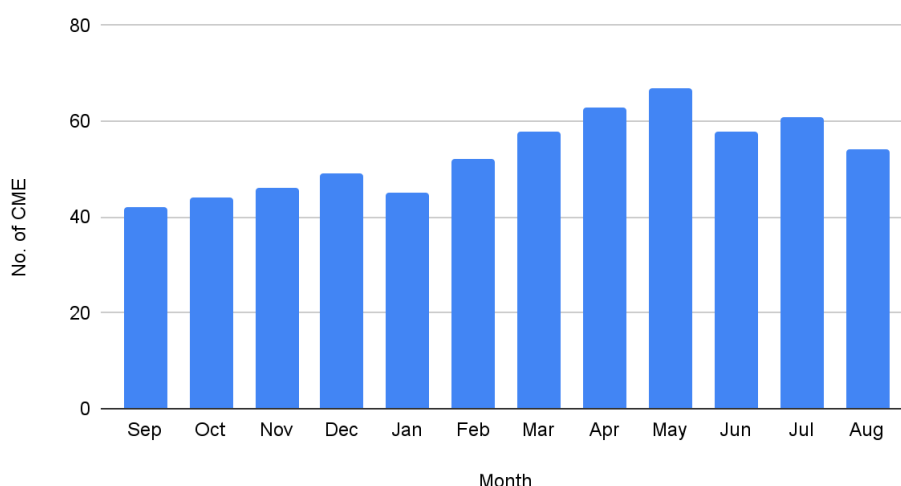
3. Pupil movement

- 3.1. All schools in Hackney experience some level of pupil movement during the period under consideration with pupils joining and leaving the school.
- 3.2. The majority of pupil movement relates to pupils:
 - 3.2.1. Moving into Hackney and needing a local school place;
 - 3.2.2. Moving out of Hackney and no longer needing a local school place; or
 - 3.2.3. Parents applying to move from one local school to another.
- 3.3. Within this wider picture of pupil movement it is not always possible to identify a new school for the pupil (i.e. because they have moved abroad) and these children are recorded as Children Missing Education (CME).
- 3.4. In addition there is a small cohort of children and young people who are moving from one school either because they are moving into elective home education, have been permanently excluded or have been subject to a managed move.

4. Additions/removals from school admission registers and Children Missing Education

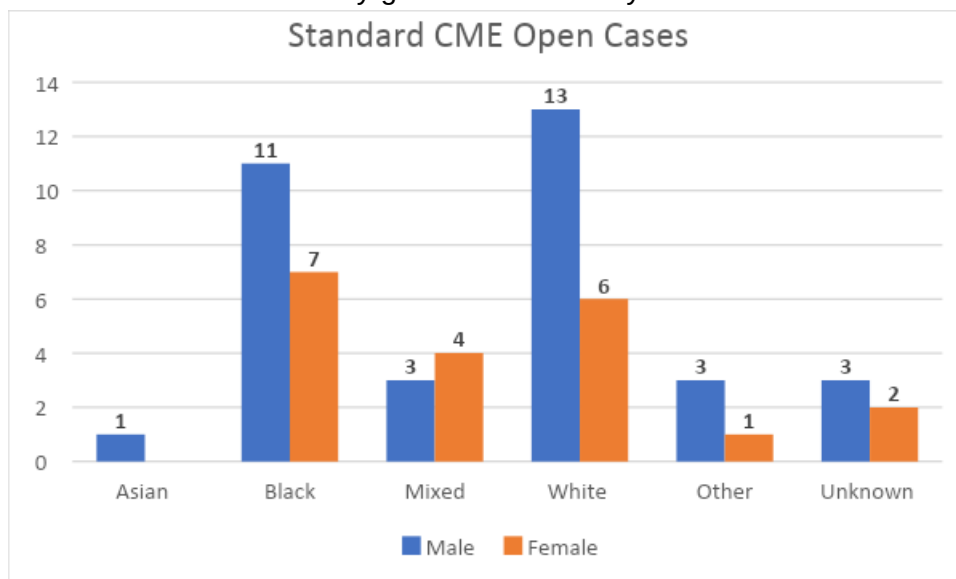
- 4.1. Since September 2016, all schools, including academies and independent schools, have been legally required to notify their local authority the details of all pupils who have been either added to or removed from their admission register (this is also known colloquially as the school roll).
- 4.2. Schools are required to notify the local authority within five school days of an addition to the admission register and within one school day of a removal.
- 4.3. Pupils can only lawfully be removed from the admission register on one of the grounds set out in the regulations.
- 4.4. Once a school has added or removed a pupil from the admission register they are required to submit a joiner/leaver report to Hackney School Admissions.
- 4.5. In 2021/22 Hackney school admissions were notified of 1,834 children who were deleted from their school admission register. This was from all schools, including independent schools. The majority of these were on the grounds that the child was now registered at another school.
- 4.6. If, having undertaken reasonable enquiries, the school does not have a confirmed new school for that pupil they should also submit a Children Missing Education (CME) referral to Hackney's Pupils Out of School team.
- 4.7. A Child Missing Education is a child of compulsory school age who is not on the admission register of a state funded or independent school and who is also not receiving a suitable education otherwise than at a school.
- 4.8. CME cases typically come into two categories. Those that are open for a relatively short period of time and are closed once the child has been located and those that are long term cases. The latter are typically cases where the child is believed to have gone abroad but we are unable to confirm education arrangements. These are subject to periodic review.
- 4.9. In Hackney we record two categories of children missing education. The first category covers our standard children missing education cohort and the second relates to those from the Orthodox Jewish community.
- 4.10. The month by month children registered as standard CME cohort is as follows:

No. of CME 21/22 (monthly total)

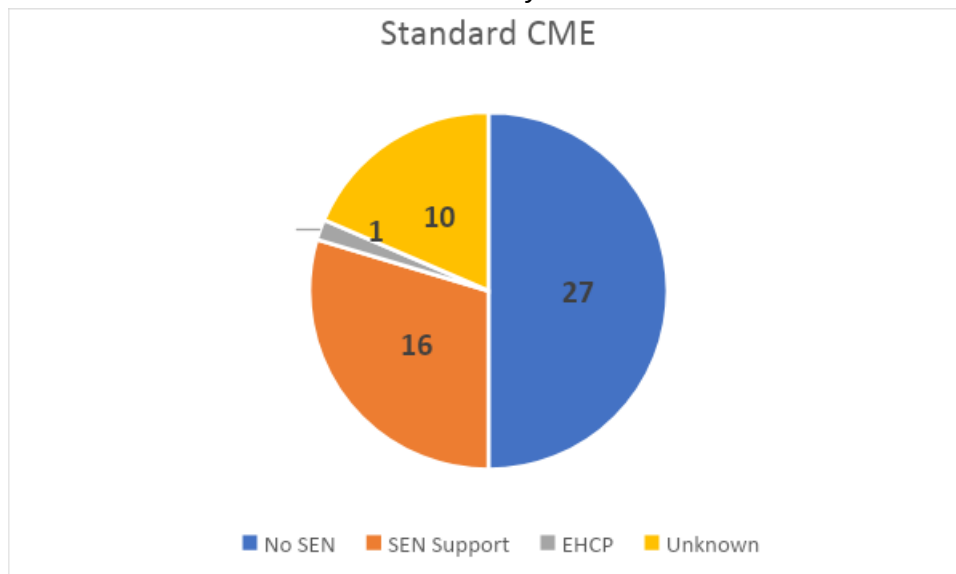


- 4.11. In August 2022 we had 54 children registered as CME in our standard cohort.

4.12. When broken down by gender and ethnicity this cohort is as follows:



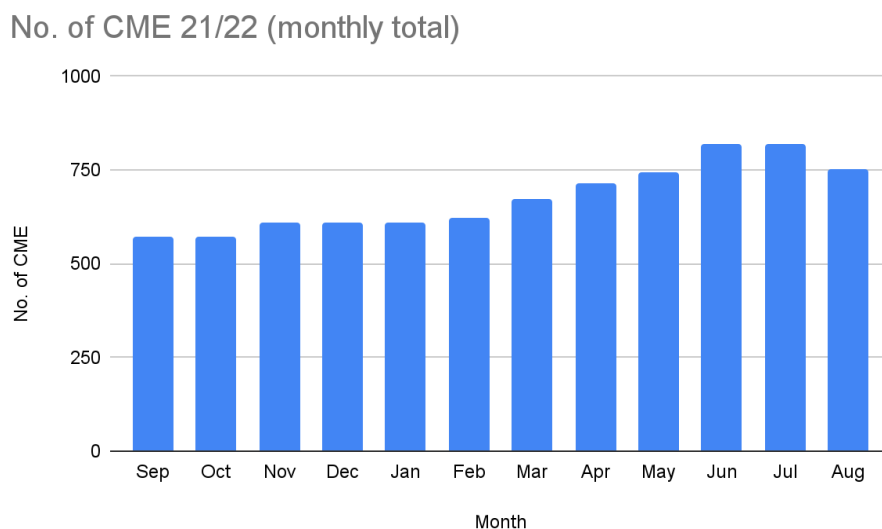
4.13. When the cohort is broken down by SEND status it is as follows:



4.14. In addition to regular CME referrals, which relate to children and young people moving into or out of Hackney without a known new school, there is also a sizable cohort of teenage boys from the Orthodox Jewish community in Hackney who are educated at Yeshivas. These boys leave their registered independent schools at around twelve years old and then attend a setting that has a curriculum that is deemed too narrow for them to be a school.

4.15. When asked, parents of children who attend these settings state that they are educating their children otherwise than at school. However the nature of the settings means we are unable to assess the suitability of the child's education. Department for Education guidance states that in order for education otherwise than at school to be deemed suitable it must contain sufficient secular education. Given we know that Yeshiva's only provide a narrow faith based education the children attending these settings are therefore classified as children missing education.

4.16. The month by month number of children registered in the Orthodox Jewish CME cohort is as follows:



- 4.17. In August 2022 there were 751 children registered as CME within the Orthodox Jewish community. These are teenage boys who attend Yeshiva's. We do not have information on their SEND status.
- 4.18. In addition to the children in this cohort that are known to the Hackney Council there are believed to be further cohort children whose details are not known.
- 4.19. The commission has previously been updated on unregistered education settings and this cohort continues to present a significant challenge for Hackney Education.
- 4.20. The school admissions team reminds all schools annually of arrangements for reporting additions and removals to their admissions register and the process for doing so. The most recent occasion was September 2022.
- 4.21. Hackney Council does not currently have the legal powers to inspect the attendance and admission registers of academies and independent schools, though the Department for Education has proposed changes in this regard.

5. Hackney Education's response to schools with above average roll movement

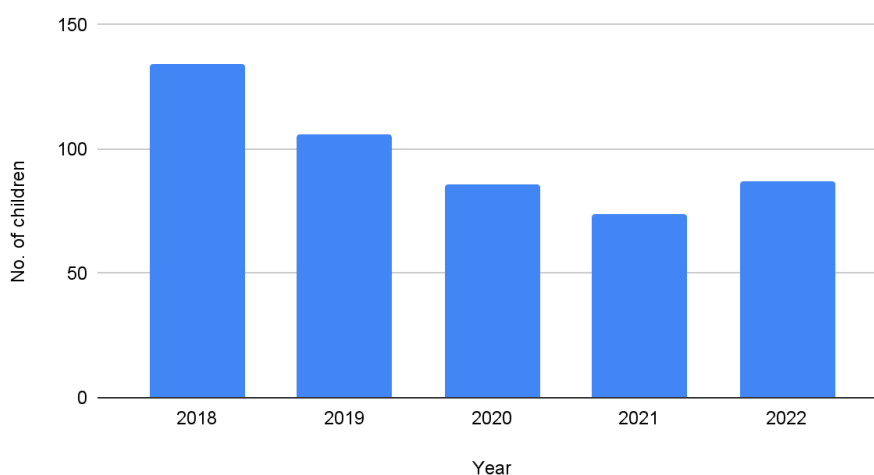
- 5.1. The commission has previously recommended that follow up action continues to be taken in respect of schools that have above average levels of roll movement. Roll movement between Years 10 and 11 has previously been highlighted as an area the commission was particularly concerned about.
- 5.2. Data on Year 10 to 11 roll movement is analysed annually in the Autumn term and schools that have 5% or more roll movement between Year 10 and 11 are subject to further scrutiny by School Improvement Partners in the form of focused meetings with headteachers. In 2021/22 four schools had roll movement of 5% or more.
- 5.3. Similar meetings have been held in previous years with headteachers of schools where roll movement is 5% or more.
- 5.4. At total 87 children left secondary school admission registers between Year 10 and Year 11, giving a borough wide rate of 4%. Movement varied between schools with the range between 1% and 7%.

5.5. The pupil profile of these 87 children is as follows:

Characteristic	No. of Y10/11 leavers	% of cohort	% of secondary pop.
Female	40	46%	54%
Male	47	54%	46%
Bangladeshi	3	3%	5%
Black Caribbean	9	10%	9%
Black African	19	22%	22%
White British	10	11%	17%
Indian	1	1%	4%
Mixed	7	8%	10%
Turkish/Kurdish	5	6%	8%
Other	12	14%	25%
Unknown/refused	21	24%	
EHCP	10	11%	4%
SEN Support	19	22%	14%
No SEND	58	67%	82%

5.6. There has been an overall reduction in the rates of roll movement since 2018. In that year 134 children left their secondary school admission registers between Years 10 and 11, giving a rate of 6%. The range in school level movement in 2018 varied from 0% and 13%.

Year 10-Year 11 Roll Movement since 2018

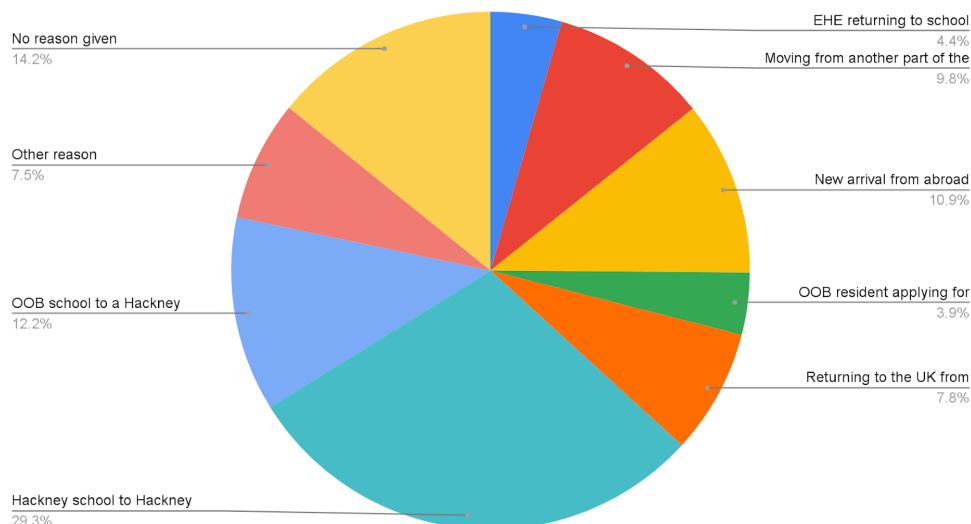


- 5.7. An analysis of the data relating to roll movement between Years 10 and 11 has shown the following:
 - 5.7.1. There has been a gradual fall in the level of Year 10 to 11 roll movement from 6% in 2018 to give borough wide five year average of 4%.
 - 5.7.2. This represents 47 fewer children leaving their school in last year's Year 11 cohort compared to the 2018 Year 11 cohort.
 - 5.7.3. The borough wide two year average currently stands at 3% with all bar four schools below 5%
- 5.8. In previous years headteachers have been able to provide clear and convincing reasons why pupils had been removed from their admission register. They were able to provide information as to the circumstances (e.g. changed schools; moved away from London; etc.).
- 5.9. All schools viewed removal from the admission register as a potential safeguarding issue.
- 5.10. In secondary schools it is now practice for headteachers to authorise all removals from the admission register and to report information on pupil movement to their governing body.

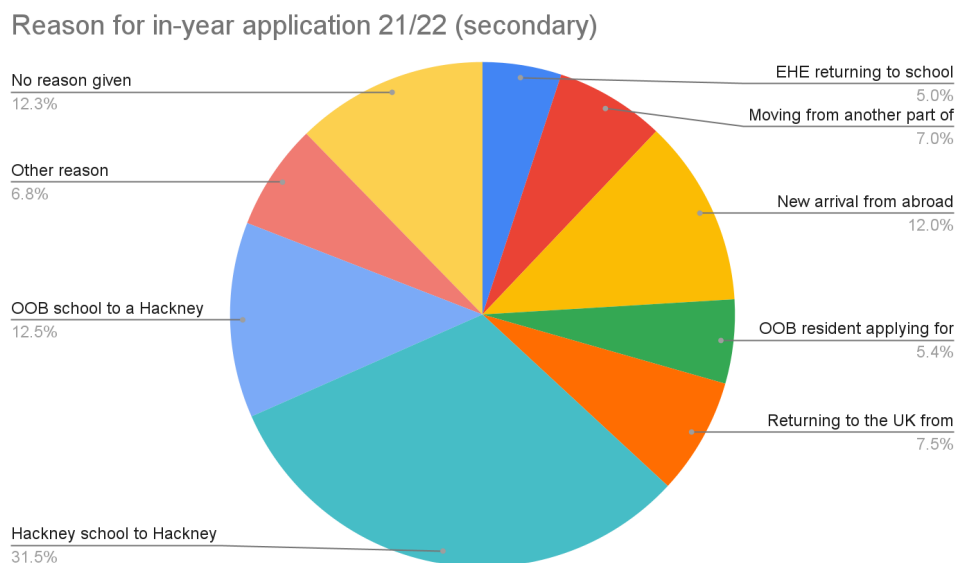
6. In-year school admissions & Fair Access

- 6.1. Any parent can apply for a school place for their child at any time to any school outside the normal admissions round (admission to reception and transfer from primary to secondary school) and admission authorities must comply with that preference unless it would prejudice the provision of education or the efficient use of resources.
- 6.2. A total of 1,451 children were offered places at Hackney schools through the in-year admissions process between September 2021 to August 2022. Of this number:
 - 6.2.1. 1,063 were offers for primary school places; and
 - 6.2.2. 388 were offers for secondary school places.
- 6.3. The reasons given for in year applications for primary schools was as follows:

Reason for in-year application 21/22 (primary)



6.4. The reasons for in year applications for secondary schools was as follows:



6.5. Not every application will result in an offer of a school place. Some parents of children who already have a school place within a reasonable travel distance make applications so they remain on the waiting lists for oversubscribed schools in the hope of a place becoming available.

6.6. Admissions do not hold data on the SEND status of children applying through in-year admissions, though none of these children would have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) as they would utilise a different admission process.

6.7. Each local authority must have a Fair Access Protocol, agreed with the majority of schools in its area to ensure that – outside the normal admissions round - unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible.

6.8. The majority of pupils considered under the Fair Access Protocol are pupils who have been out of school for two months or more; have challenging behaviour; are being reintegrated from an AP setting or could not be offered a place because schools applied to were full.

6.9. Between September 2021 and December 2022 a total of 35 children have been offered places under the protocol. Of these one was a primary school place and 34 were for secondary school places. Five were reintegrations of previously permanently excluded children from New Regent’s College.

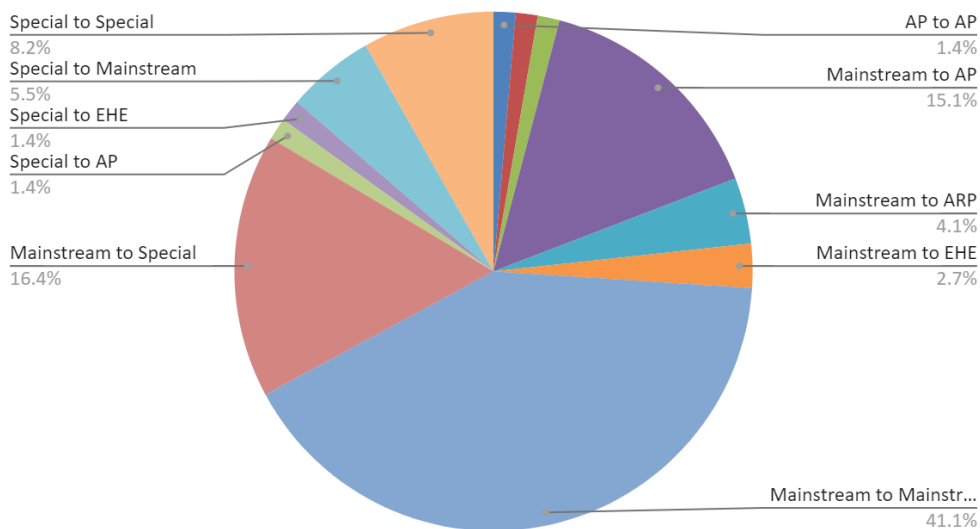
7. In-year transfers (EHCPs)

7.1. Children with an EHCP do not utilise the same process for changing school or setting as children without one. These transfers are coordinated by the child’s plan EHCP coordinator.

7.2. During 2021/22 there were 73 in-year transfers of pupils with an EHCP.

7.3. The largest single cohort, with 41% of transfers were from one mainstream school to another mainstream school. The breakdown of the various types of move can be found here:

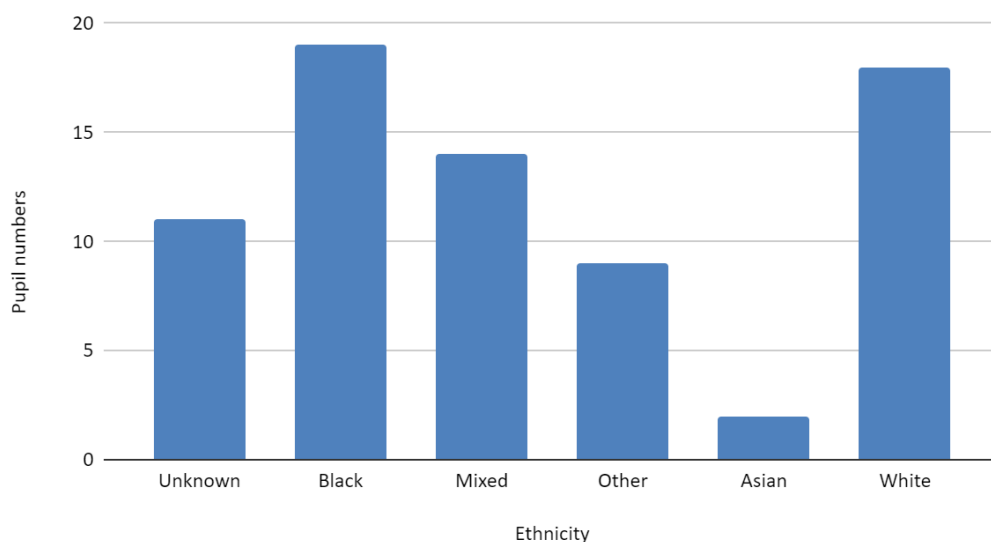
EHCP in-year transfers 21/22



7.4. Of these 16 were children in Key Stage 1, 24 were children in Key Stage 2 and 33 were children in Key Stage 3.

7.5. This cohort, when broken down by ethnicity is as follows:

EHCP in-year transfers 21/22 by ethnicity

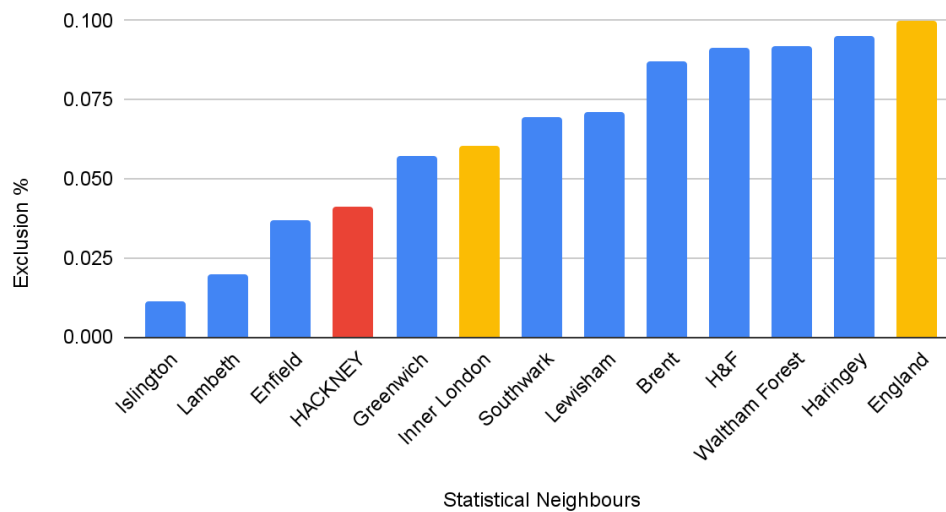


8. Permanent exclusions

8.1. Permanent exclusions declined significantly during the pandemic with only six permanent exclusions from Hackney secondary schools in 2020/21. There were no permanent exclusions from Hackney primary schools.

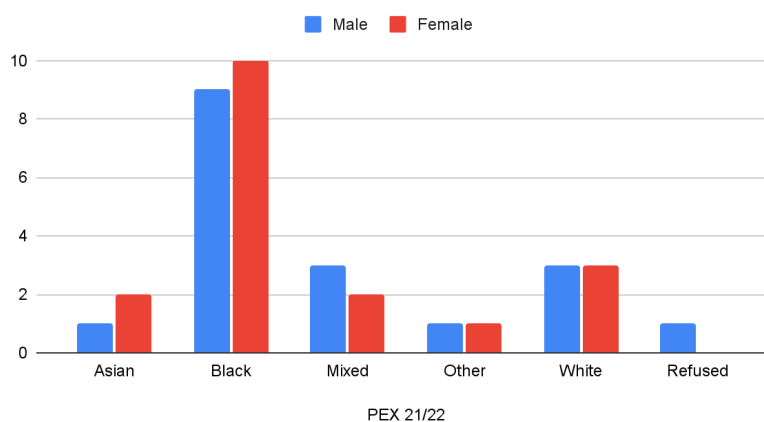
8.2. Whilst nationally there was also a reduction in permanent exclusions as a consequence of the pandemic the fall in Hackney was steeper and took our percentage rate below that of the comparable rates for England, Inner London and the majority of our statistical neighbours.

Secondary Exclusion % Rate 20/21 - Statistical Neighbours



- 8.3. The low number of permanent exclusions in 2020/21 was not sustained into 2021/22 however it has not returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- 8.4. The provisional locally reported data for 2021/22 show we have 35 permanent exclusions from Hackney secondary schools. If confirmed then this is lower than the 52 permanent exclusions there were in 2017/18 and 44 permanent exclusions there were in 2018/19.
- 8.5. This data remains provisional and unvalidated at this stage with three of the exclusions still subject to due process
- 8.6. Of those 35 Black and Global Majority children continue to be disproportionately represented. Children from a Black ethnic background accounted for 52% of our permanent exclusions.
- 8.7. The reduction compared to pre-pandemic numbers has been entirely a reduction in the number of boys being permanently excluded, with the number of girls remaining largely static. Girls not represented 50% of our permanent excursions, whereas pre-pandemic it was between 25% and 35%.
- 8.8. The number of permanent exclusions broken down by ethnicity and gender:

No of PEX 21/22 by ethnicity and gender

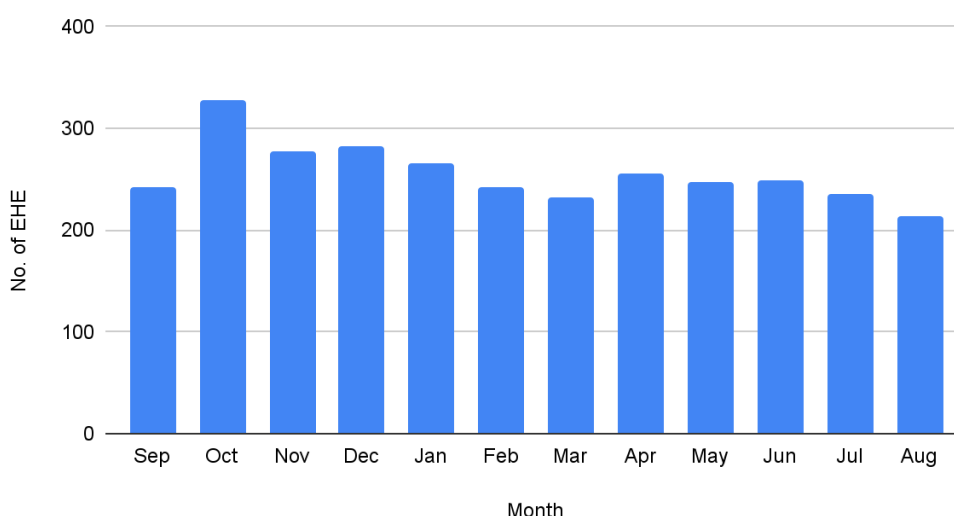


- 8.9. Of these 35 permanent exclusions five had EHCPs (14%), 18 were on SEND Support (50%) and 12 had no identified SEND (36%) .
- 8.10. Twenty-eight (80%) of the permanent exclusions were for pupils in Key Stage 3, with just seven in Key Stage4.
- 8.11. Reducing rates of exclusion and disproportionality is a strategic priority for Hackney Council. From September 2022 the Re-engagement Unit (REU) has been expanded and transitioned from a traded service in primary schools to offer a universal service for primary and secondary schools. This will significantly enhance our capacity to provide support to schools with children who otherwise could be vulnerable to exclusion.
- 8.12. In addition we are developing a number of strands to promote whole school inclusive practice and address disproportionality. This includes working with secondary headteachers to develop an Inclusion Charter to provide an agreed framework for inclusive practice and a schools conference focused on promoting anti-racist practice and approaches.
- 8.13. This work is coordinated by the Reducing Exclusions Officer group, which is chaired by the Director of Education. The approach adopted and work is then overseen by a Board, which includes head teacher representatives.

9. Elective Home Education

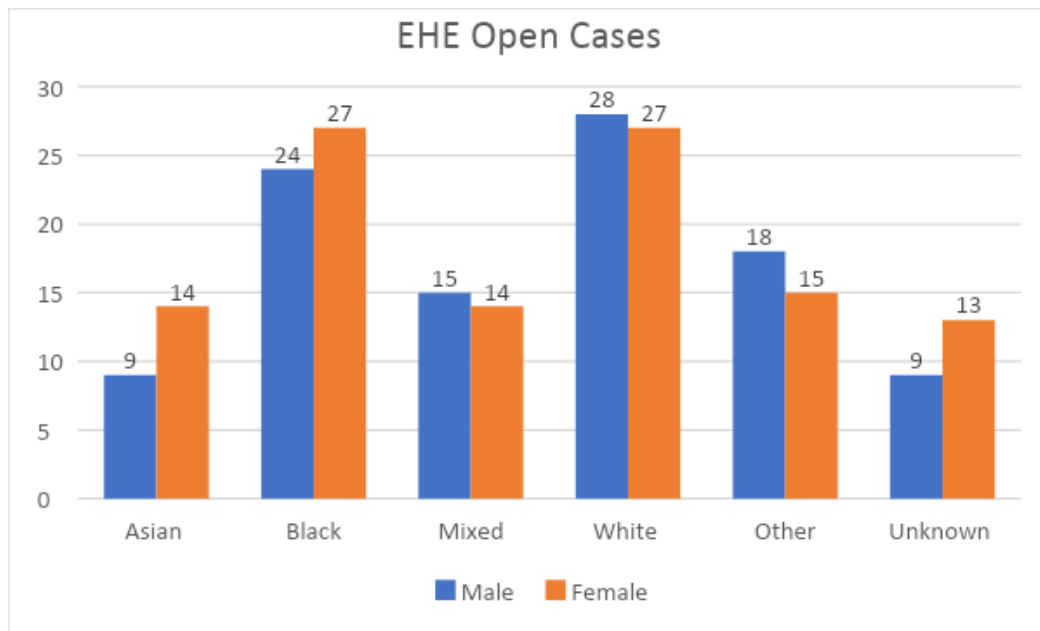
- 9.1. Parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that their school age children receive an education that is suitable for their age, ability and aptitude as well as any special educational needs they may have. This can be done through regular attendance at school or by educating them otherwise than at school. Education otherwise includes elective home education (EHE).
- 9.2. In September 2020, when pupils resumed full attendance at school following the first lockdown there was a significant increase in the number of families opting for elective home education over attendance at school. That has steadily reduced back to pre-pandemic levels as parents have increased confidence and children have returned to school.
- 9.3. The month by month children registered as elective home education is as follows:

No. of EHE 21/22 (monthly totals)

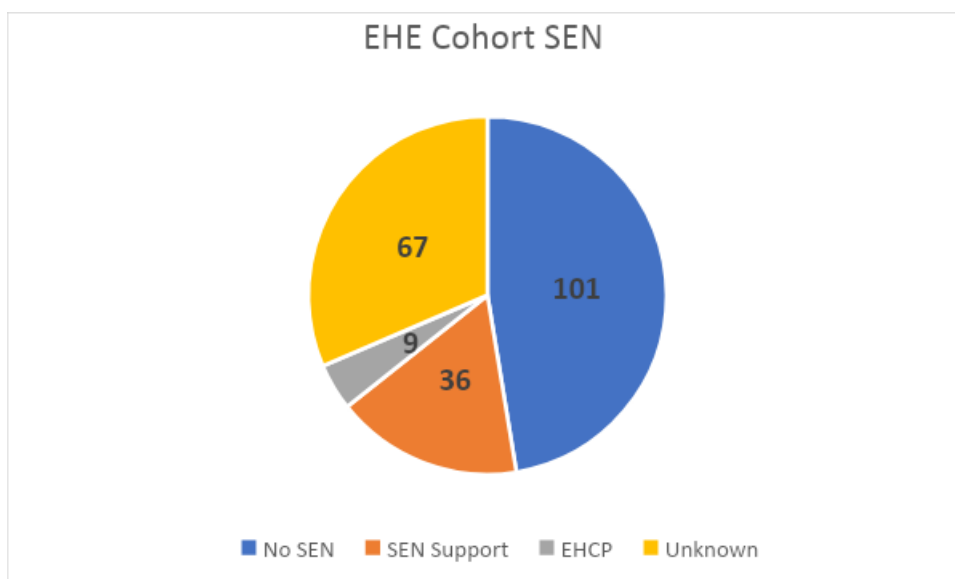


- 9.4. All new EHE referrals receive an education suitability assessment within 12 weeks and, if deemed suitable, will then receive an annual assessment.

9.5. When broken down by ethnicity and gender the profile of this cohort is:



9.6. And when broken down by SEND status:



9.7. Parents who opt to electively home educate their children assume full responsibility for provision of their child's education. This includes providing any resources to support that education.

- 9.8. The Schools Bill before Parliament proposes that local authorities must maintain a register of Children Not in School. At present it is not a legal requirement for parents who opt to electively home educate their children to register with their local authority and it is not a legal requirement for local authorities to maintain a register of those children in their area who are not being educated otherwise than at school. The Bill, once it becomes law, will change those requirements..
- 9.9. This will have a significant impact on those children in the Orthodox Jewish community who are currently being educated in Yeshivas as it will become a legal requirement for those families to register with the local authority.

10. Managed moves

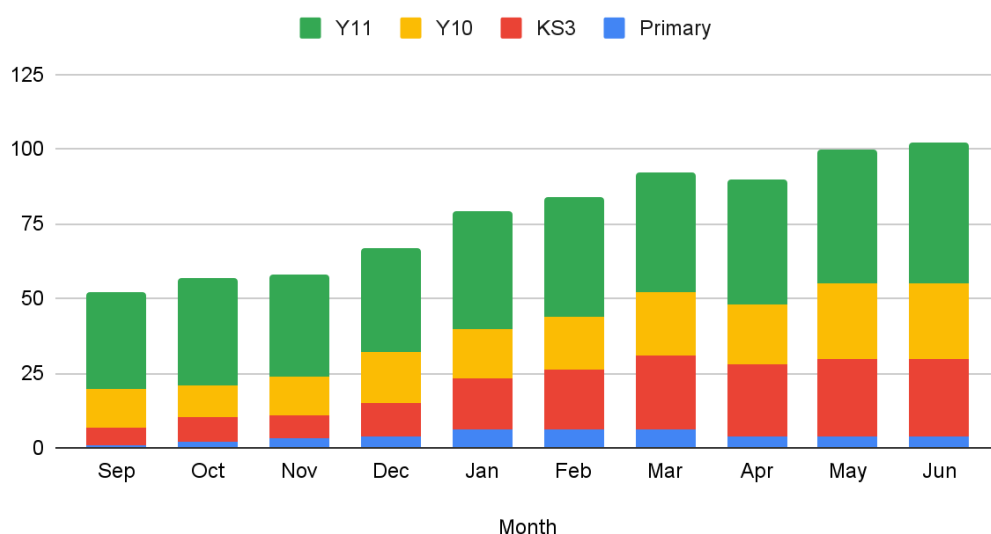
- 10.1. Managed moves are a voluntary arrangement between two schools when it is felt that a pupil would benefit from a fresh start in a new school. This could be because of a serious breach of the schools behaviour policy, which has meant the pupil is at risk of permanent exclusion or it may be for some other reason. It is an alternative to permanent exclusion.
- 10.2. A managed move should only take place with the agreement of both schools and the pupil's parents/carers.
- 10.3. When a managed move is agreed the pupil will have a trial period at the new school. During the trial period the pupil will remain on the admission register of both schools. This is known as dual registration. At the end of the trial period, if it is successful, the pupil transfers permanently to the new school. If it is unsuccessful the pupil returns to their former school.
- 10.4. The Department for Education has recently published guidance on the use of managed moves within the updated 'suspension and exclusion from school' guidance. This emphasises that managed moves should only occur when it is in the best interests of the child, it should be part of a planned intervention and that parents should not be pressured into a managed move.
- 10.5. In Hackney most managed moves are agreed at a school level and are not centrally coordinated by the local authority. Therefore when a headteacher wishes to arrange a managed move they arrange this directly with another head teacher either in their geographical vicinity or within multi-academy trust. Sometimes the Exclusion Officer within Hackney's Pupils Out of School team will be involved and assist in brokering a managed move as an alternative to permanent exclusions.
- 10.6. In the latter half of 2021/22 Hackney Education piloted with a small group of secondary schools co-ordinating managed moves through a panel. The purpose of this was to promote collaboration between schools and resulted in five managed moves being brokered.
- 10.7. Schools can report successful managed moves, where the child was at risk of permanent exclusion, between Hackney schools to the Fair Access Panel in order to obtain 'weighting credit' under the protocol. Between September 2021 and August 2022 there were nine successful managed moves (five boys and three girls) reported to the Fair Access Panel for credit.
- 10.8. As with exclusions pupils from black and global majority backgrounds are more likely to undergo a managed move. Pupils from a black ethnic background made up 47% of our known managed moves. The Young Black Men project and other Hackney Council, Hackney Education and school based initiatives are working to tackle disproportionality and improve the outcomes for this group of young people. Work on equalities has been reported to scrutiny in the last year.

11. Alternative Provision

- 11.1. Hackney has a statutory duty under section 19 of the Education Act 1996 to 'make arrangements for the suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them'.
- 11.2. This duty is discharged by New Regent's College, which is our pupil referral unit (PRU). These arrangements are overseen by a Service Level Agreement between Hackney Council and New Regent's College.
- 11.3. Pupils may attend New Regent's College for a range of reasons. The largest cohort is those who have been permanently excluded from school, although there are other reasons why a pupil may be on roll. These include short term partnership placements, where the pupil attends on a dual registration basis with their home school and new arrivals from overseas in Year 11 for whom ESOL provision is considered more appropriate.
- 11.4. Not all pupils attend the New Regent's College site itself. Arrangements are made for some pupils to be educated at independent sector alternative provision or colleges in Hackney and the neighbouring boroughs.

- 11.5. The number of pupils on roll at New Regent's College during 21/22 was as follows:

New Regent's College 21/22 No. on roll (by phase)



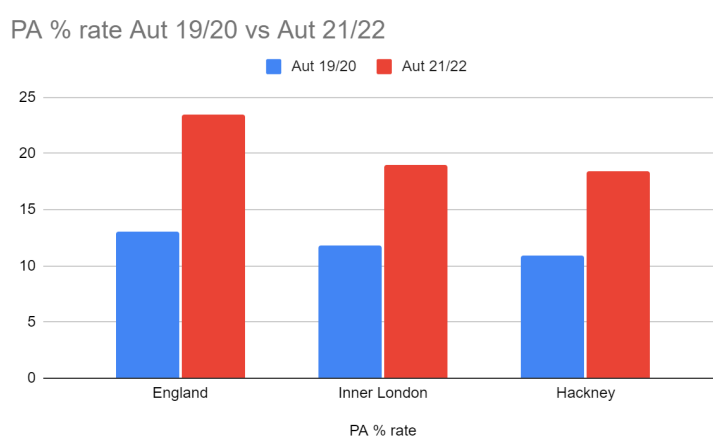
- 11.6. At the end of June 2022 there were 102 pupils on roll at New Regent's College.
- 11.7. The pupil cohort at New Regent's College is reflective of Hackney as a whole and reflects the already known disproportionality in exclusions, where Black and Global Majority children are more likely to be excluded from school than their white peers. As stated above there are efforts across the education system in Hackney to address this.

12. Persistent Absence

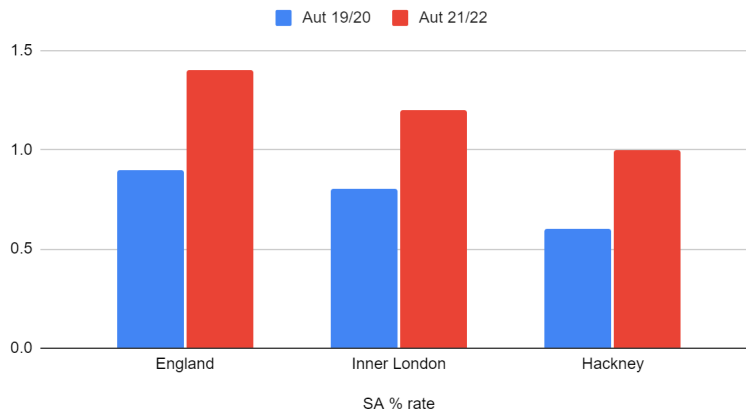
- 12.1. Children are classified as being persistently absent (PA) if their attendance for the academic year is below 90%. Those with attendance below 50% are also classified as being severely absent (SA).
- 12.2. Data is released by the Department for Education two terms behind, making the most recent available absence data the Autumn term of the 2021/22 academic year. Data for the whole of the 2021/22 year will be published in March 2023.
- 12.3. During the autumn term there were 5,197 persistently absent children in Hackney schools, of which 282 were severely absent. The breakdown by phase is as follows:

Autumn term 2021/22	No. of PA children	No. of SA children
Primary	2,416	100
Secondary	2,669	175
Special	112	7
TOTAL	5,197	282

- 12.4. Comparing the Autumn 2020/21 data with the data for the same period in 2019/20, which was pre-pandemic shows a significant increase in the number of PA and SA children. This increase is not unique to Hackney with similar percentage increases across England and Inner London.
- 12.5. The increase on the percentage of pupil who are persistently and severely absent is shown below:

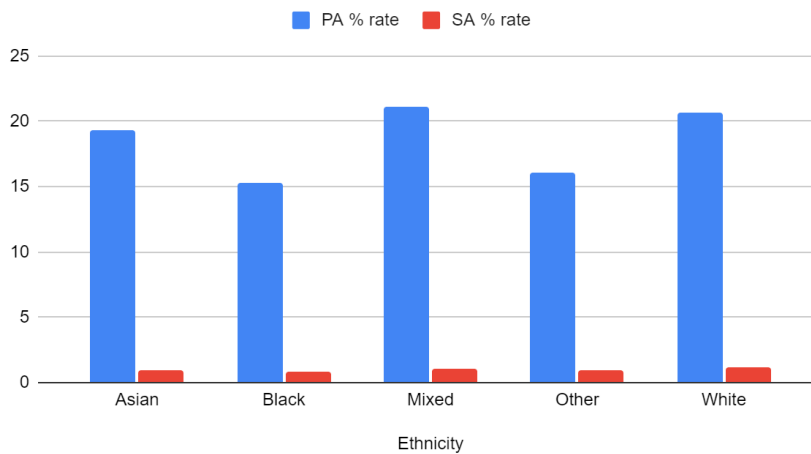


SA % rate Aut 19/20 vs Aut 21/22



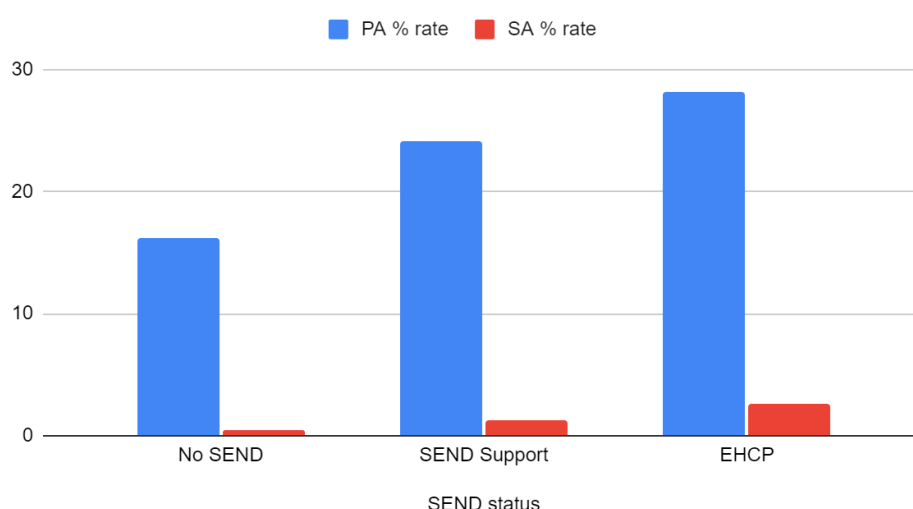
- 12.6. Compared to the percentage rate for children who are persistently and severely absent in England and Inner London, Hackney compares favourably with lower comparable rates. However despite comparing favourably the increase is still a cause for concern as lower attendance will impact upon children’s academic progress.
- 12.7. When looking at the profiles of persistent and severely absent children in Hackney those from White and Mixed ethnic backgrounds have the highest rates of absence. Rates for severe absence evenly spread across all ethnic backgrounds.

PA & SA % rate Aut 21/22 by ethnicity



- 12.8. When looking at the SEND status of persistent and severely absent children those with SEND that are supported at either SEND Support or have an EHCP are more likely to be amongst the PA and SA cohort.

PA & SA % rate Aut 21/22 by SEND status



- 12.9. During the Autumn term of 21/22 the overall attendance rate was 94.2%. This was lower than the rate for the comparable period pre-pandemic, which was 95.8%. This is better than the overall attendance rates for England and Inner London for that period, which were 93.1% and 94% respectively.
- 12.10. For PRUs the overall attendance rate during the Autumn term in 21/22 was 78%. Of these children 66.4% were persistently absent and 14.5% were severely absent. The rate of persistent absent is almost the same as pre-pandemic, which was 66.3% and there has been a reduction in the percentage of severely absent pupils. This is an improvement on the 19.9% pre-pandemic rate.
- 12.11. Rates of absence at our PRU are also favourable compared to absence rates in PRUs nationally. The overall attendance rate nationally was 64.4% in Autumn 21/22 and their rates for persistent absence was 75.7% and for severe absence 31.0%.
- 12.12. The DfE has issued revised guidance to schools and local authorities on school attendance with the aspiration of ensuring greater consistency of support for children with poor attendance.
- 12.13. The new guidance becomes statutory from September 2023, subject to the passing of the Schools Bill that is before Parliament. This gives local authorities a year to transition to the requirements of the new guidance.
- 12.14. This guidance defines the expectations of schools, governing bodies, academy trusts and local authorities in relation to school attendance and states that all parties should work together to address this.
- 12.15. Whilst the DfE has placed new duties and expectations through this guidance they have not provided any additional funding to local authorities to implement them. The 'new burdens' assessment carried out by the Department concluded that these could be met from existing resources.

13. Conclusion

- 13.1. Hackney Education has oversight of pupil movement in the borough through various teams who are responsible for their cohorts of pupils

- 13.2. The number of parents opting to educate their children at home has returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- 13.3. The number of teenage boys leaving Orthodox Jewish registered independent schools to be educated in Yeshivas, which are unregistered education settings, continues to be a sizable flow of pupil movement. We remain unable to assess the suitability of the education these children receive.
- 13.4. Hackney Education continues to monitor pupil movement locally. There are systems in place to monitor pupil movement between schools and for identifying pupils who are missing from education or at risk of becoming so.
- 13.5. Reducing exclusions is a priority for Hackney Council and is taking a number of steps to support inclusion in schools.
- 13.6. Absence from school is an increasing concern with rates higher than they were pre-pandemic. The DfE has issued revised guidance and placed new duties on local authorities in this area. Additional resourcing will need to be identified in order to meet the new duties.

Report originator: Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing & Education Safeguarding

Other contributors: David Court, Head of School Organisation & Commissioning

Billy Baker, Principal Officer, Pupils Out of School team

Mitzie Miller, In-Year Admissions Manager

Portia Williams, EHCP Processes & Project Manager

Date: 19th October 2022

Cleared by: Paul Senior, Director of Education & Inclusion



Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission October 31st 2022 Item 6 - Work Programme	Item No 6
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Outline

To, update, review and monitor the work programme for the remainder of 2022/23.

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Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Bold= confirmed **Red =- to be scoped /agreed**

July 11th 2022	September 29th 2022 (Moved from 8th September 2022)
School Admissions (40)	Foster Carers (i) Recruitment and Retention Strategy (ii) Assessing local support offer (ii) (75)
Childcare Sufficiency Strategy (40)	Update on GCSE and A Level results in Hackney (20)
Outcome of School Exclusion - Cabinet response (10)	Demographic Analysis of EHCPs in Hackney (40)
Work Programme - Consultation Reporting 2022/23 (40)	Work Programme - Outline 2022/23 (10)
October 31st 2022 -	November 30th 2022
School Exclusions and School Moves Monitoring (45m) (To include absence, persistent absence, emotional withdrawal)	Budget Monitoring - Children & Families Service (30-45)
Ofsted Focused Visit Outcome (10m) verbal update	Children & Families Annual Report (45)
Childhood food poverty - eligibility, accessibility and uptake of FSM (60)	SEND Strategy (30)
January 16th 2023	February 27th 2023
City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership (45)	Cabinet Q & A - Cllr Woodley (Early Years, SEND, Parks and Play (45) Areas of questioning to be agreed
Unregistered Educational Settings (15)	SEND Action Plan (60 min)
Outcome of School Exclusions - Progress of Recommendations (45)	
Budget Monitoring - Hackney Education (30)	
March 20th 2023	April 17th 2023
Race, racism and children's social care (TBC and scoped)	Accessibility of CAMHS - single point of access (to be scoped)
Pupil Attainment - Attainment Gap (45) Focus on children in AP (To be scoped)	Support for young parents (TBC) - Family Nurse Partnership (to be scoped)
Cabinet Q & A - Cllr Bramble (Children, Education & Children's Social Care) (45) Areas of questioning to be agreed	

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 1	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: Monday 11th July</p> <p>Deadline for reports: 28/6/22</p> <p>Publication 1/7/22</p>	<p><u>School Admissions</u> To review sufficiency of primary and secondary school places ahead of September 2022 school entry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● David Court TBC ● Annie Gammon, Director of Education and Head of HLT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Background reports to be circulated
	<p><u>Childcare Sufficiency</u> It is a statutory requirement for members to review local childcare sufficiency reports which are produced bi-annually. The Commission to review the full assessment report for 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Donna Thomas, Head of Early Years, Early Help & Well-being ● Tim Wooldridge, Early Years Strategy Manager ● Annie Gammon, Director of Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus groups with small number of nursery providers
	<p><u>Outcome of School Exclusions</u> The note and review the Cabinet response to the Commission's review of the Outcome of School Exclusions.</p>	<p>Members of the Commission</p>	
	<p>Development of new CYP Work Programme for 2022/23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commission/ Scrutiny officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To consult local stakeholders ● Meet with service Directors ● Collate topic suggestions ● Informal meeting with Commission

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 2	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: Thursday 29th September</p> <p>Papers deadline: 30/8/22</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 21/9/22</p>	<p><u>Recruitment & Retention of Foster Carers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to review the progress of Commissions recommendations contained in an earlier review - to assess the local offer to in-house foster carers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care • Laura Bleaney, Head of Corporate Parenting • Korinna Steele, Head of Fostering Placements • Hackney Foster Carer Council representatives 	<p>Consultation with in house foster carers set for 31st August 2022</p> <p>Supported by a survey to all in-house foster carers.</p>
	<p><u>School Exam Results 2022</u></p> <p>A brief verbal update on the performance of young people at GCSE and A Level in Hackney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anni Gammon, Director of Education 	
	<p><u>Demographics of EHCPs in Hackney:</u></p> <p>The Commission has requested the following data for the past 3 years (age group, ethnic group, originating setting (inc those not in education):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children with EHCPs in Hackney; - New EHCPs granted in Hackney; - Number of EHCP requests - Number of requests for assessments refused - Requests for assessments which do not result in EHCP issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Wilson, Head of SEND • Annie Gammon, Director of Education 	
	<p><u>Work programme 2022/23</u></p> <p>To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission • Scrutiny Officer 	

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 3	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: <u>Monday</u> <u>October</u> <u>31st</u> <u>2022</u></p> <p>Papers deadline: <u>18/10/22</u></p>	<p>School Exclusions and School Moves: (45) This is a standing item on the work programme of the Commission to review the number of school exclusions, School Moves, children in Elective Home Education and in Alternative Provision (with demographic analysis including SEND status). In light of rising rates (in connection with exclusion) a short section on school /AP absence, persistent absence to be included. Including missing children - emotional withdrawal etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding Paul Senior, Director of Education 	
<p>Agenda dispatch : <u>21/10/22</u></p>	<p>Ofsted Focused Visit (15) A focused visit by Ofsted was announced for 21st and 22nd of September 2022. Ofsted will focus on front door service for children’s social care (e.g. assessments, thresholds etc).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacque Burke, Group Director for Children and Education Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care 	
	<p>Childhood food poverty: eligibility, accessibility and uptake of free school meals (FSM) (60) In response to the scrutiny consultation which raised childhood food poverty, the Commission is assessing schools response: the eligibility and uptake of FSM, breakfast club provision and connection to wider food poverty networks and programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Senior, Interim Director of Education David Court, Head of School Organisations, Admission and Pupil benefits and Commissioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite local head teachers for illustrative work they have been doing in relation to FSM, accessibility On site visits to local schools and community food programme projects
	<p>Work programme 2022/23 To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission Scrutiny Officer 	

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 4	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Officers	Preparatory Work
<p>Meeting Date: November 30th 2022</p> <p>Papers deadline: 18th November 2022</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 22th November 2022</p>	<p><u>Children and Families Annual Report (45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme which provides a year end summary of children’s social care activity for the period April 2021 to March 22. Members to review overall activity, trends, new service developments (in alignment with budget monitoring)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care • Jacquie Burke, Group Director of Children and Education 	
	<p><u>Children and Families - Budget Monitoring (30-45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme which reviews and monitors in year budgets for Children and Families Service, including progress against agreed savings proposals. This is taken alongside the CFS Annual report, so scrutiny of policy and budgets are aligned. The Commission has requested a more detailed breakdown of the Corporate Parenting Budget (e.g. foster care, residential placements, supported housing etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naeem Ahmed, Director of Finance (Children, Education, Adults, Health & Integration) • Sajeed Patni, Head of Finance Children's and Education, Finance • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care 	
	<p><u>SEND Strategy (20-30)</u> Alongside partners, the Council has developed a SEND Strategy for 2022-2025 which is due for approval at Cabinet in November 2022. This item is predominantly to note the key priorities set out in the Strategy and to update the Commission on the progress on the subsequent Action Plan, and scrutiny role in the oversight and monitoring of that.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Senior, Director of Education • Nick Wilson, Interim Head of High Needs & School Places • Joe Wilson, Head of SEND 	
	<p><u>Work programme 2022/23</u> To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission • Scrutiny Officer 	

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 5	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
Meeting Date: January 16th 2023	<p><u>City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership (45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme which reviews the annual report and activities of the local safeguarding children partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jim Gamble, Independent Chair, CHSCP ● Rory McCallum, Senior Professional Adviser 	
Papers deadline: 4th January 2023	<p><u>Unregistered Educational Settings (15)</u> This is a short item to review progress against the Commission's recommendations made in 2018.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding ● Jim Gamble, Independent Chair, CHSCP ● Rory McCallum, Senior Professional Adviser 	To invite UOHC to present on progress?
Agenda dispatch: 6th January 2023	<p><u>Outcome of Schools Exclusions (30):</u> The Commission to follow up the recommendations made in its review which was completed in December 2021 and approved by Cabinet March 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding ● Paul Senior, Director of Education 	
	<p><u>Hackney Education - Budget Monitoring (30)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme to review in year budgets and progress against savings proposals for Hackney Education.</p> <p>The Commission has also requested a more detailed budget breakdown for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Childrens Centres (budget circa £10-12m); - Commissioning of (SEND) Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools (budget circa £14m). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sajeed Patni, Head of Finance Children's and Education, Finance ● Naeem Ahmed, Director of Finance (Children, Education, Adults, Health & Integration) 	

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 6	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
Meeting Date: 27th February 2023	<p>Cabinet Q & A The Commission may question the Cabinet member on three policy areas for which they are responsible within their Cabinet portfolio.</p> <p>Cabinet members to verbally present on these three areas and take questions from the Commission.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cllr Caroline Woodley, Cabinet member for Families, Parks and Leisure 	Cabinet member notified of topics 6 weeks in advance: January 11th 2023
Papers deadline: 14th February 2023	<p>SEND Action Plan The SEND Strategy was agreed by the Cabinet in November 2022. A partnership action plan has been developed in response which the Commission will maintain oversight, review delivery and progress.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paul Senior, Director of Education ● Nick Wilson, Interim Head of High Needs & School Places ● Joe Wilson, Head of SEND ● Health Partner tbc ● CVS Partners tbc 	
Agenda dispatch: 17th February 2023			

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 7	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
Meeting Date: 20th March 2023 Papers deadline: 7th March 2023 Agenda dispatch: 10th March 2023	<p><u>Cabinet Q & A</u> The Commission may question the Cabinet member on three policy areas for which they are responsible within their Cabinet portfolio.</p> <p>Cabinet members to verbally present on these three areas and take questions from the Commission.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bramble, Deputy Mayor and cabinet member for education, young people and children’s social care 	Cabinet member notified of topics 6 weeks in advance: February 1st 2023
	<p><u>Race, Racism and Children’s Social Care</u> As part of its broader work on disproportionality Commission will assess how children’s social care and social work practice may lead to different outcomes for different ethnic cohorts of children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looked after children - Children in Need - Children on a Child Protection Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's social Care 	To be scoped with the Director.
	<p><u>Pupil Attainment - Attainment Gap (45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme where the educational attainment of children in Hackney is reviewed.</p> <p>This will be the first year since returning to in person exams. The Commission has indicated that in addition to usual focus on the attainment gap between key cohorts (Black Caribbean boys, Turkish Cypriot boys, Gipsy Roma/ Irish Traveller) there will be an additional emphasis on children in Alternative Provision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Senior, Director of Education • Jason Marantz, Interim Assistant Director, School Standards & Improvement 	To be confirmed with the Director.

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

Meeting 8	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: 17th April 2023</p> <p>Papers deadline: 31st March 2023</p>	<p>Accessibility of CAMHS The accessibility of CAMHS figured prominently in the scrutiny consultation 2022. There were ongoing concerns around waiting times, access to services and plans to develop a single point of access.</p> <p>This item is being scoped with respective service leads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Wilkinson, Workstream Director Integrated Commissioning: Children, Young People, Maternity and Families, NHS North East London London Borough of Hackney • Nadia Sica, Children, Young People, Maternity and Families Workstream Programme Manager, Public Health 	<p>Scoping 24th October 2022: Amy Wilkinson, Integrated Commissioning Director</p> <p>Ahead of this meeting the Commission to visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - key CAMHS services - CYP Mental Health Groups
<p>Agenda dispatch: 5th April 2023</p>	<p>Support for Young Parents Following on from the work n in relation to disparities in maternity outcomes, the Commission is wanting to assess what support is available to young parents, how this is coordinated across statutory partners and other responsible agencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Nurse Partnership 	<p><i>To scope with Officers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Wilkinson ? • Visit Family Nurse Partnership

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Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission October 31st 2022 Item 7 - Minutes	Item No 7
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Outline

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th September were not available to be published for this meeting. This will be presented at the next meeting.

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