



# Children's Social Care: equalities data update

Quarter 4 2019/20 (June 2020)



**Hackney**

**This report provides a quarterly update based on data insight into what we know about the children that our Social Care services support, in relation to key equalities indicators.**

# Areas explored in this slide deck



- This report provides an analysis of the children we support based on data from Quarter 4 2019/20. This data has been explored against the following equalities indicators:
  - Gender
  - Ethnicity
  - Children with/ without a disability
  - Age
- This analysis includes insight into our current cohorts, as well as exploring parity in the quality of work we do with children and the outcomes this leads to, based on some selected key performance indicators.

# What caveats?



- There is a significant under-representation of Hackney's Charedi population in the cohort of children that the Children and Families Service work with (approximately 20% of Hackney's child population live in the Charedi community but this is not reflected in the cohort of children we work with). This contributes to a skew in data related to ethnicity (as is explored throughout this report); with an underrepresentation of children from a White background and a consequent overrepresentation of other ethnic groups.
- Proxy performance indicators, used in this report to explore parity in the support we provide, should be approached with caution. These seek to provide some insight into potential disparity in the effectiveness of the support we provide however **wider contextual factors can and do have an impact on performance against these indicators.**

## Note

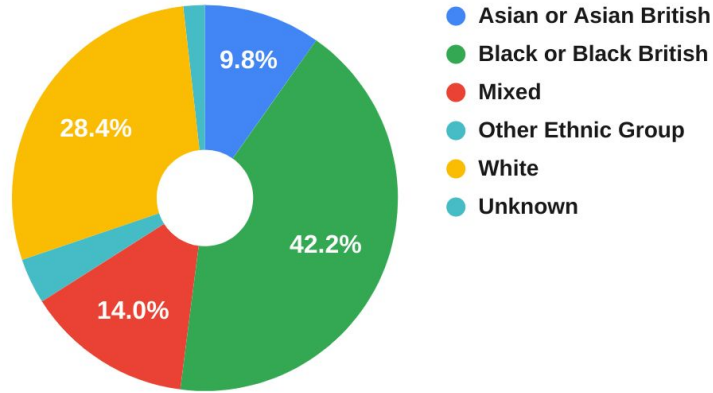
The 2019/20 provisional data included in these slides is currently subject to data clean up activity before it is submitted to the Department for Education by August 2020.

# **Who are the children that are supported by our services?**

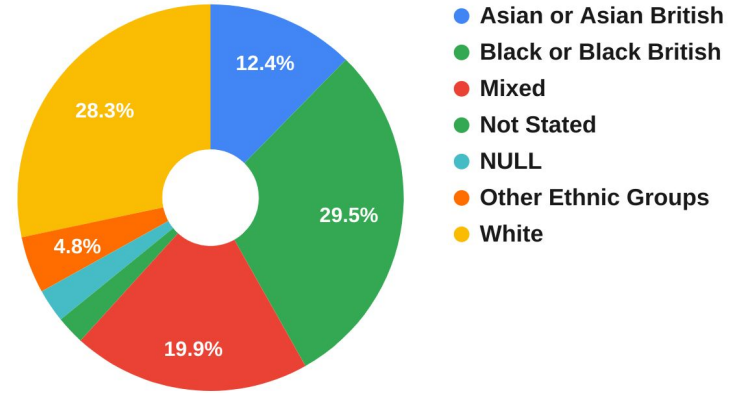
**The following slides breakdown our Children's Social Care cohort as of March 2020.**

# Ethnic Group

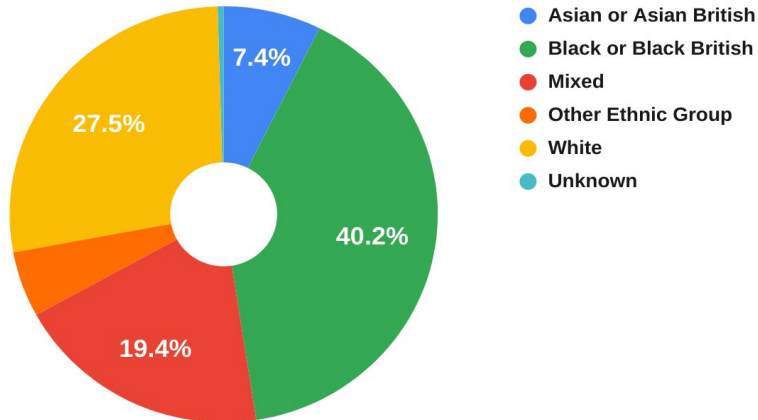
## Children subject to a Child in Need plan



## Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

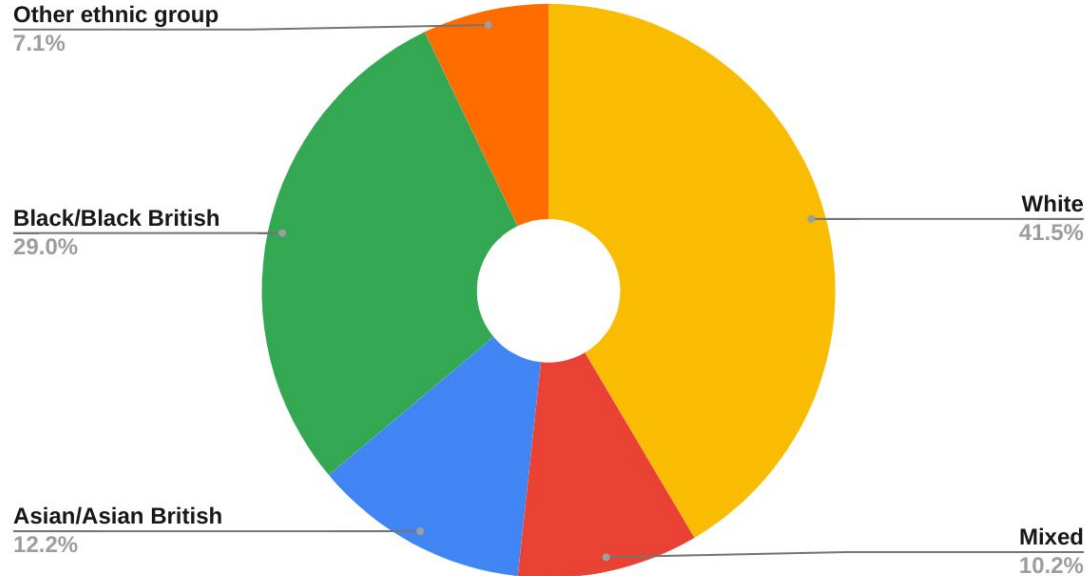


## Looked after children



# Ethnic Group: Disproportionality

## 0-17 Hackney Population by Ethnic Group (ONS)



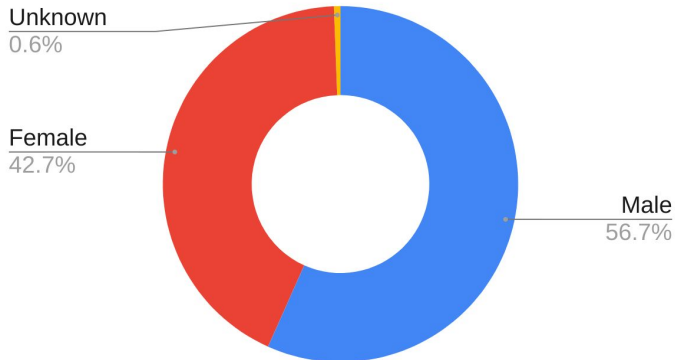
Based on a comparison with the 0-17 population count from the ONS 2011 Census, Black and Black British children are proportionally over-represented in both our Children in Need and looked after children cohorts, as well as receiving more support from our targeted Early Help services.

Children from a Mixed background are also proportionally over-represented in all our cohorts.

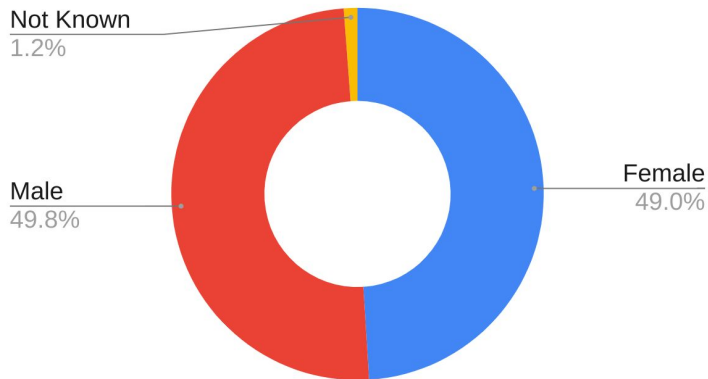
Children from a White background are proportionally underrepresented in all our cohorts.

# Gender Identity

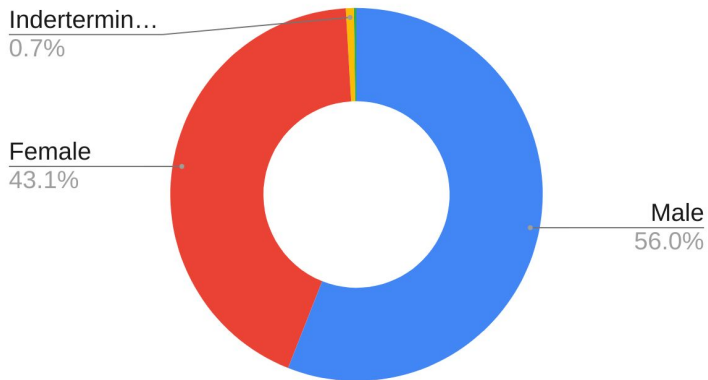
Children subject to a Child in Need Plan



Children subject to Child Protection Plan



Looked After Children



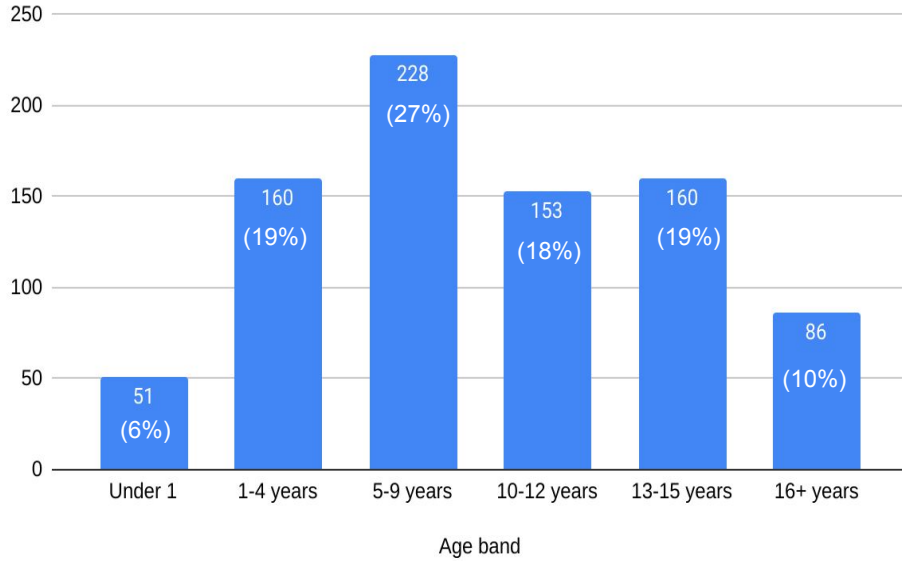
Children identifying as Male are proportionally over-represented in our Children in Need cohort (56.7%) and our Looked After Children cohort (56%).

Children identifying as Male are only slightly over-represented in our Child Protection cohort, at 49.8%.

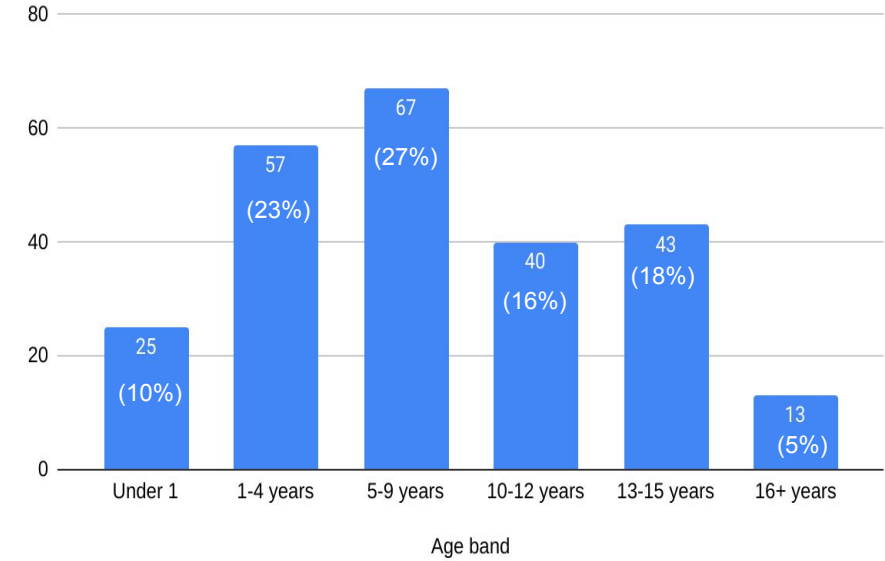




## Age of children with a Child in Need Plan

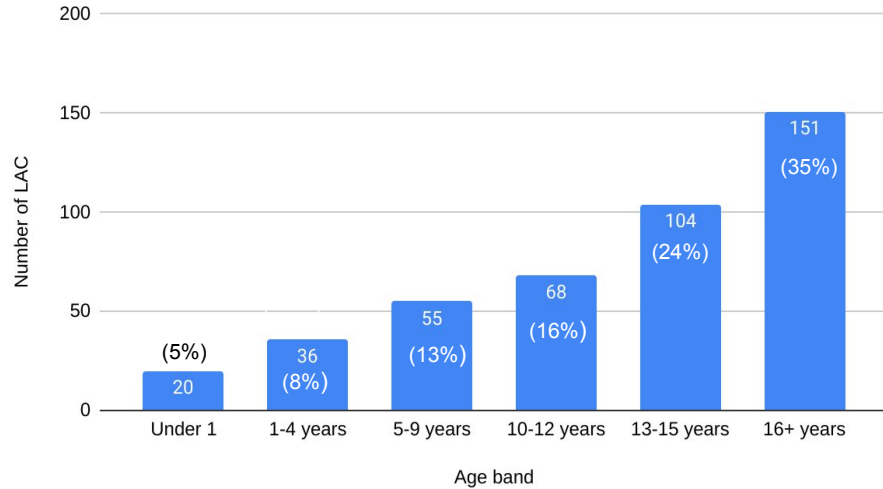


## Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan

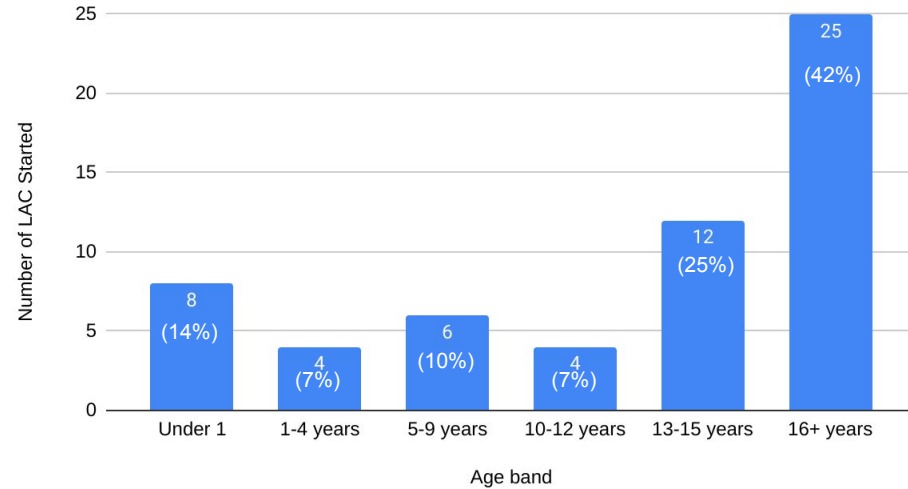




## Age of Looked After Children



## Age of children who became Looked After Children



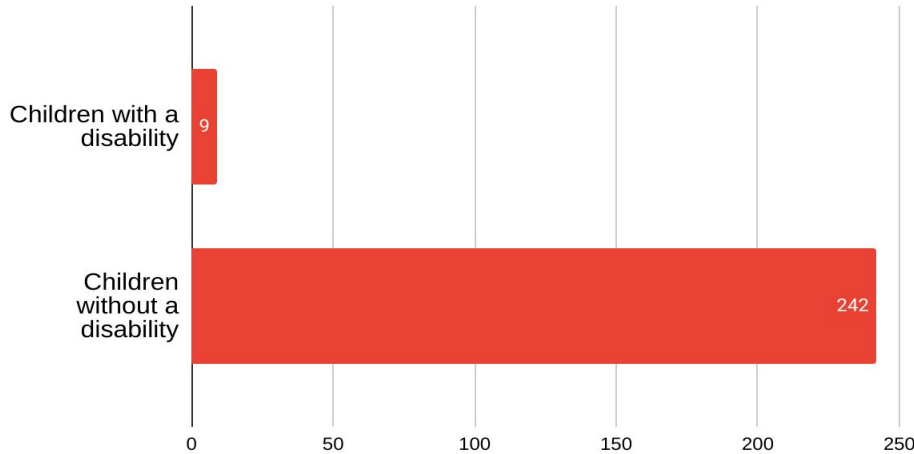
Children aged over 16 represent 35% of our current looked after children cohort, and 42% of the total number of children who became looked after in Quarter 4 2019/20.

Please note that percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

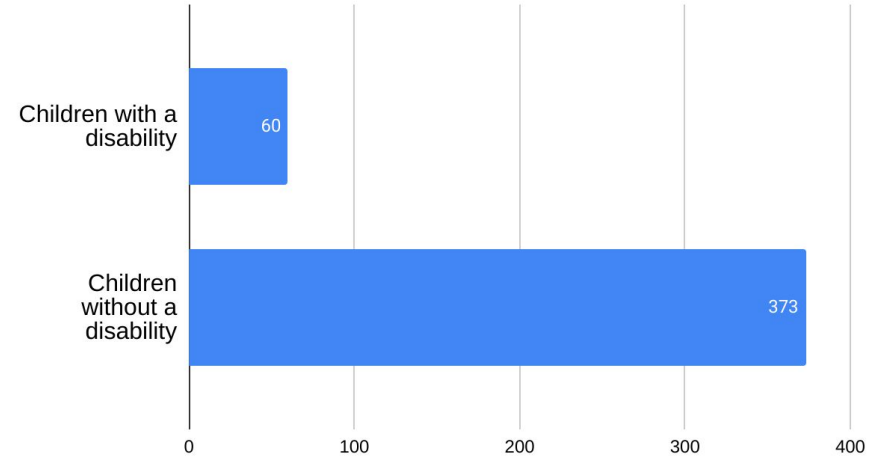
# Children with a disability



Children subject to a Child Protection Plan



Looked After Children



**3.6%** of children subject to a Child Protection Plan have a disability.

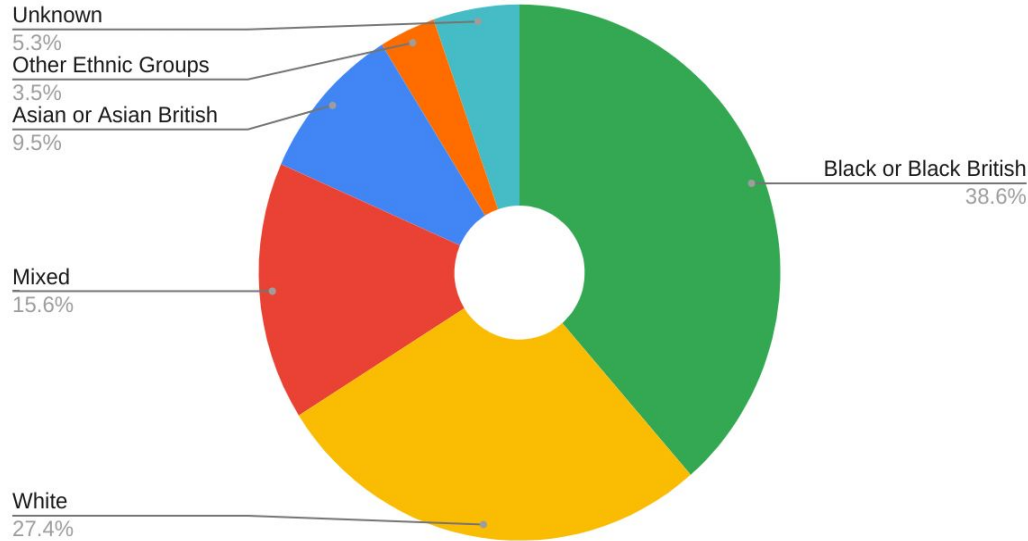
**14%** of our Looked After Children have a disability.

Breakdown data for children subject to a Child in Need plan includes children supported by our Disabled Children's Service. Our Disabled Children's Service supports **27%** of the total number of children subject to a Child in Need plans.

# Poverty Indicators

Of *all* the children currently supported by the Children & Families Service, **35%** are *either* from a **low income household**, **reside in Temporary Accommodation** or **receive Free School Meals**.

## Children supported by our services and meeting at least one of the poverty criteria



Of the children supported by our services who meet at least one of the above poverty indicators, 39% are from a Black British Background.

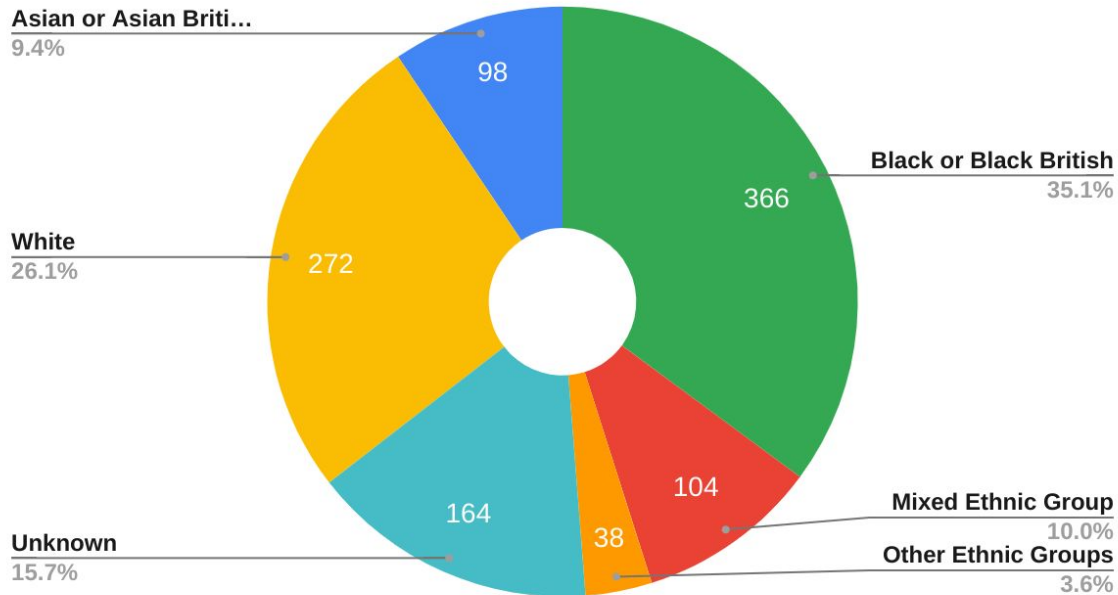
This is a slightly lower proportional representation than for children receiving support from our early help services, children subject to a Child in Need plan and looked after children. This is a slightly higher representation than children subject to a Child Protection plan.

Although similar, the representation of White children is slightly lower than in the Children's Social Care cohorts explored in this report.

**What do we know about the reasons  
for children entering our services?**

# Referrals

## Breakdown of total referrals in Quarter 4, 2019/20



Children from a Black or Black British background are the most represented ethnic group, in relation to the total number of referrals we received in the Quarter, representing 35% of all referrals.

This reflects a lower representation than of Black or Black British children subject to Child in Need Plans and of Looked After Children, but a higher representation than children subject to Child Protection Plans.

Children from a Mixed Ethnic background represented a lower rate of referral, in comparison to their representation in our Children's Social Care cohorts.

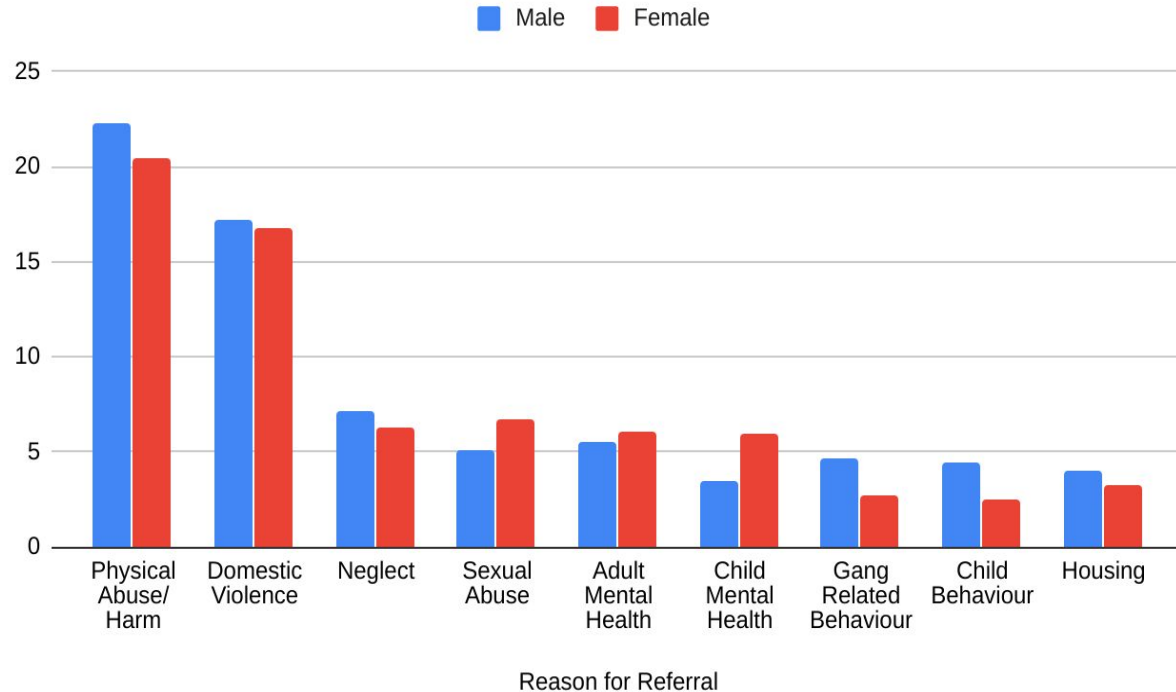
## Reasons for referral



- 'Physical Abuse/ Harm' was the most frequent reason for referral for Black or Black British children (28%), and occurred at an 11% higher rate than in any other ethnic group.
- 'Gang Related Behaviour', 'Substance Misuse (adult)' and 'Housing', as reasons for referral, all occurred at a higher rate for Black or Black British children than in other ethnic groups.
- 'Domestic Violence' (17%) and 'Physical Abuse/ Harm' (16%) were the most frequent referral reasons for White children.
- 'Neglect' and 'Adult Mental Health' were more frequently given as a reason for referral for White children, than for children from a Black or Black British, and Asian or Asian British, background.
- Children from a Mixed Ethnic background had the highest rate of 'Neglect', 'Domestic Dispute' and 'Adult Mental Health' as reasons for referral, in comparison to other ethnic groups.
- Asian or Asian British children had the lowest rates of 'Physical Abuse/ Harm' as a reason for referral. This group, however, had the highest rates of 'Sexual Abuse' and 'Child Mental Health', in comparison to other ethnic groups.

# Referrals

## Reason for Referrals as percentage of total referrals



Although similar, children identifying as Male had a higher rate of reason for referral for 'Physical Abuse/Harm', 'Domestic Violence', 'Neglect' and 'Housing', than children identifying as Female.

Children identifying as Male also had a significantly higher rate of 'Gang Related Behaviour' and 'Child Behaviour' as reasons for referral.

Children identifying as Female had higher rates of 'Sexual Abuse', and both 'Mental Health' categories.



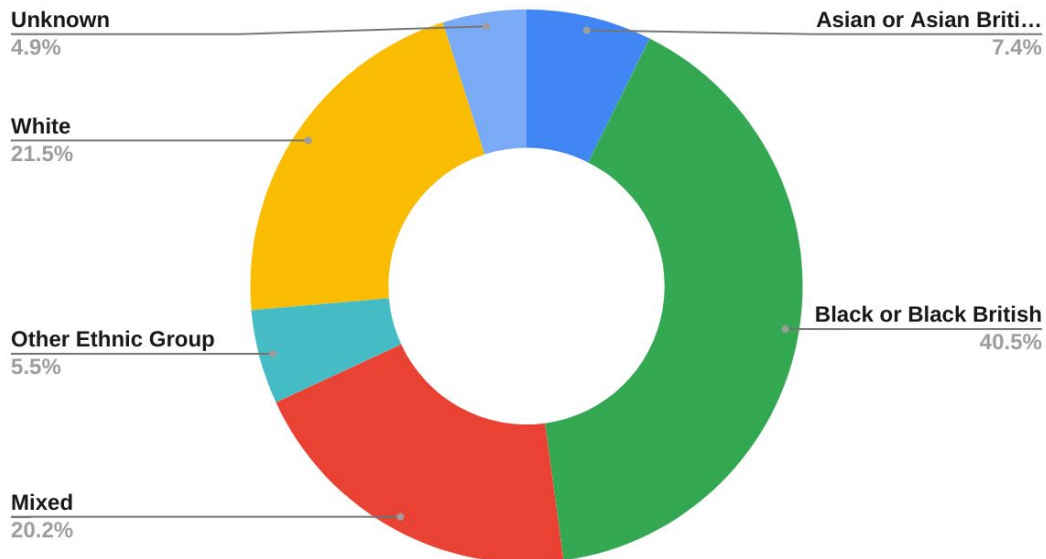
**What do we know about equality in relation to the quality of support we provide?**

# Referral process

Repeat referrals can be used as a proxy measure of the effectiveness of the decision-making process during the referral process and the quality of work carried out following this referral. An increase in this figure could suggest children's needs aren't always effectively being recognised at the initial referral or addressed during the subsequent work with a family.



## Repeat referrals in Quarter 4, 2019/20



Children from a Black or Black British background represent 40.5% of all repeat referrals in quarter 4 2019/20. **This is 8% higher than their proportional representation of all referrals in the same period.**

Children from a Mixed background represent 20.2% of all repeat referrals in the Quarter. **This is 10% higher than their proportional representation of all referrals.**

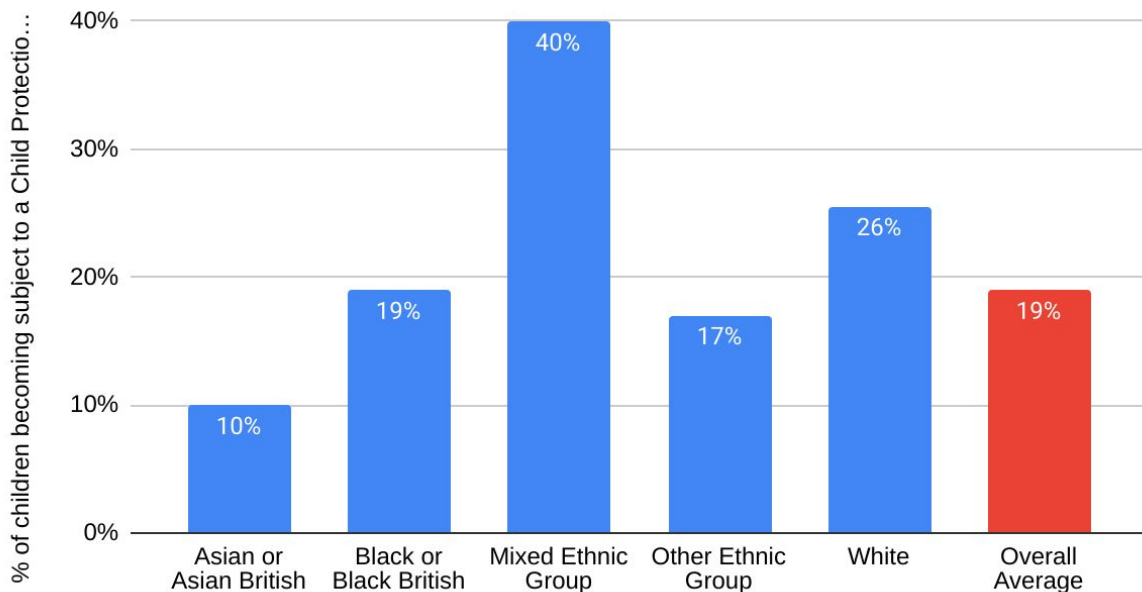
Children from a White background represent 21.5% of all repeat referrals in the Quarter. **This is 4% lower than their proportional representation of all referrals.**

# Child Protection

Repeat Child Protection Plans can act as a proxy measure of the effectiveness of Child Protection Plans in reducing the risk of significant harm for a child. Higher numbers of repeat Child Protection Plans can indicate that the decision to end a plan was premature and/or services have been ineffective at addressing need, or step down services have been unable to maintain sustainable change within a family and a case has needed to escalate again, although there may be no correlation whatsoever to the issues resulting in the first Child Protection Plan.



## % of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time



**Children from a Mixed background had a significantly higher % of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time than the overall average for 2019/20.**

It should be noted that plans started in the 2019/20 financial year have been used here, in order to give a larger sample size.

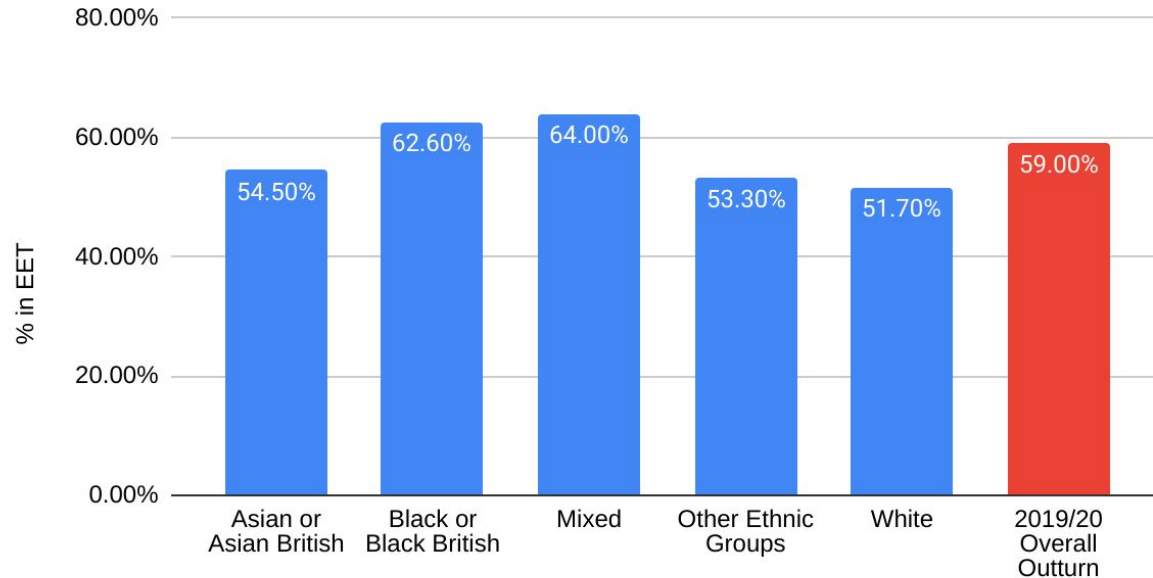
Even with this increased sample size, insight from this data may suffer from small sample bias.

Source: Internal Data. Logic: Number of children becoming subject to a repeat Child Protection Plan in 2019/20 by ethnic group/ Total number of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan by ethnic group.

# Care Leavers



## % of care leavers (19 - 21 years) in education, employment or training



Care leavers from a Mixed and Black or Black British background have a higher % in education, employment and training than our provisional 2019/20 overall outturn.

Care leavers from Asian or Asian British, White background, and from Other Ethnic Groups, have a comparably lower percentage against this indicator.

*Please note our 2019/20 provisional outturn figures are currently subject to data cleaning work. This may affect figures shown here, although it is not expected that the effect will be disproportionate against certain groups.*

**This report seeks to give some top-level insight into the journey of children in our social care system, in relation to equality indicators.**

**It recognises it's limitations in exploring the intersectionality of this data. Such an analysis would be an extensive and limitless exercise, and this report seeks to provide a starting point for, where necessary, further and more specific exploration into disproportionality of representation and outcomes in our services.**

**Further analysis would also recognise the impact of wider contextual factors, which are likely to be significantly impactful on outcomes for children, but which are difficult to quantify in this data analysis.**