

Overview & Scrutiny

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 8th September 2022
Title of report: Education, Health and Care Plans
Report author: Joe Wilson
Authorised by: Nick Wilson and Annie Gammon
Brief: This report details the current demographics of children and young people with SEND in Hackney in comparison to local and national data. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The increase in EHC Plans since 2014.• The increase in requests for a statutory assessment since 2014 and the outcome of assessment requests• Demographic data relating to children and young people at SEND Support and with an EHC Plan

Report to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Report title: SEND and EHC Plans

Meeting date: 8th September 2022

Report originator: Joe Wilson, Head of SEND.

1. Purpose of the Report

This paper details the current distribution of children and young people with EHC Plans in Hackney and set out the following:

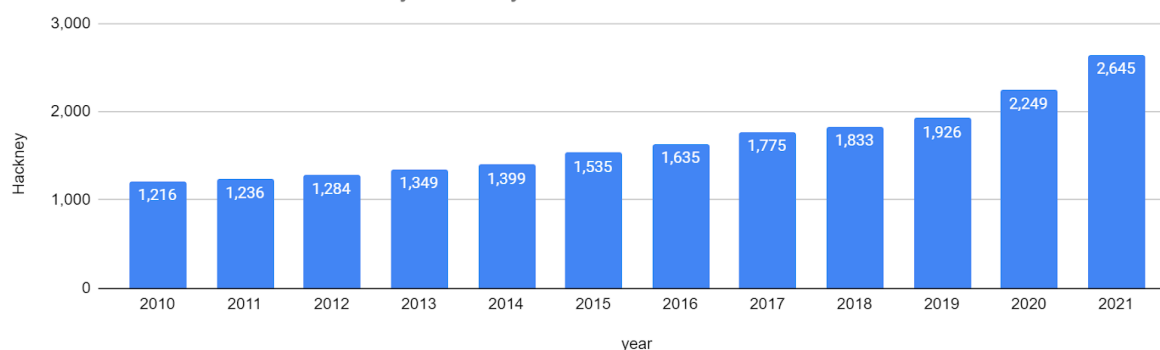
- The increase in EHC Plans since 2014.
- The increase in requests for a statutory assessment since 2014 and the outcome of assessment requests
- Demographic data relating to children and young people at SEND Support and with an EHC Plan

2. Recommendations

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

3. EHC Plans

Statements/EHCPs maintained by Hackney



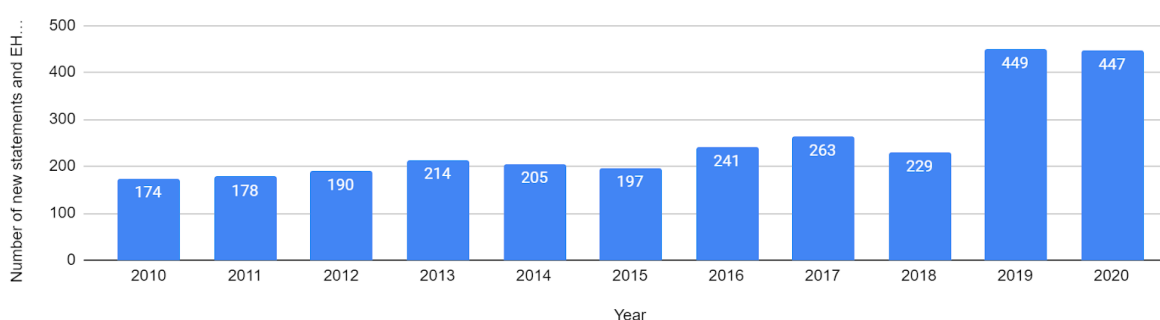
EHC Plans in Hackney have continued to rise significantly since 2014. Hackney has the 12th largest percentage of 0 to 24 year olds with an EHCP in England. 3.59% of Hackney's child population has an EHC Plan, this is in comparison to 2.82% nationally.

The percentage of all Hackney school pupils with an EHCP has continued to increase year on year, reaching 4.9% in 2022. This equates to approximately one in every twenty pupils and places Hackney in the top 15 local authorities in England

The proportion of both primary and secondary school pupils in state-funded mainstream schools with an EHCP is high in Hackney. This is particularly striking for primary pupils and at 4.4%, the proportion of these pupils with an EHCP is the second highest of any England local authority, and just under twice the England figure of 2.3%

The table below shows the number of new EHC Plans by year to 2020.

Number of new statements and EHCPs combined



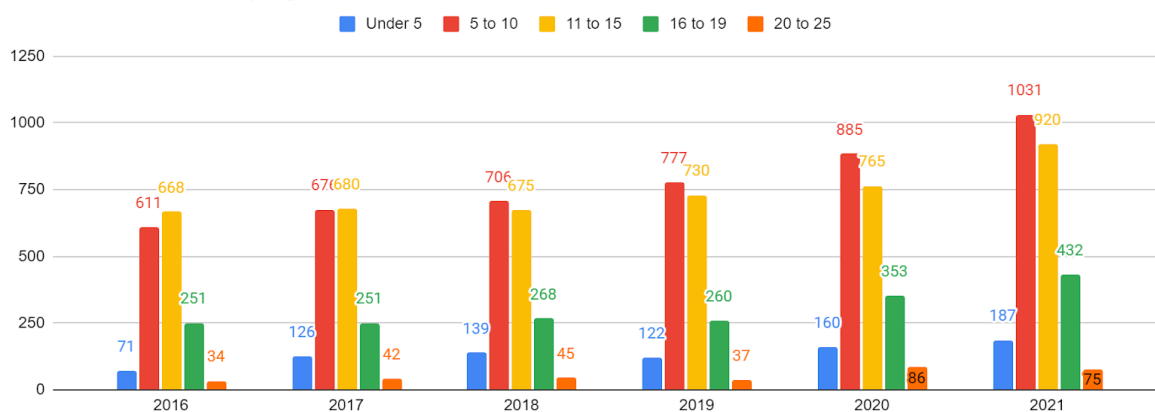
In 2021, 345 new EHCPs were issued to Hackney residents, equivalent to 0.40% of all 0-24 year olds. This was a fall from 2020 and brings Hackney closer to the statistical neighbour average of 0.39% and the England average of 0.37%

The age distribution of residents with EHCPs is broadly in line with statistical neighbour averages, varying by no more than 0.5% points. However, of those children with an EHCP, the proportion who are aged between 11 and 15 – secondary school aged, is 33.2% slightly lower than the England average of 35.4% and places Hackney in the bottom quartile of England local authorities.

EHC Plans by age

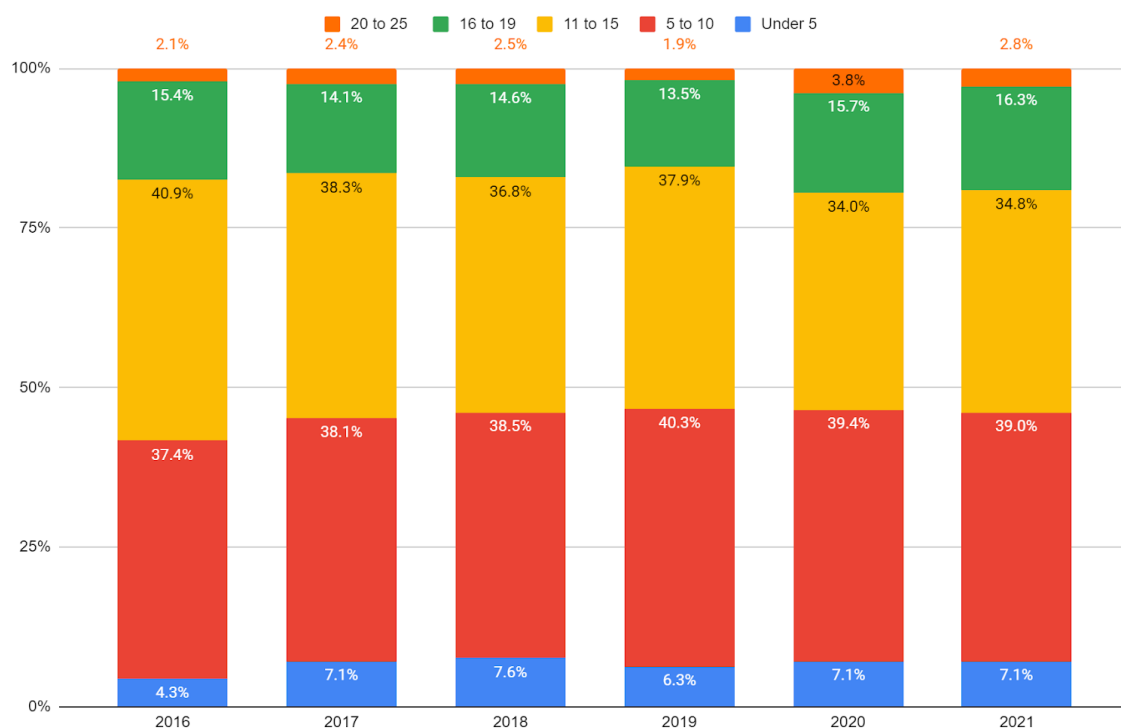
The table below shows the number of EHC Plans by age

Number of EHCPs by age



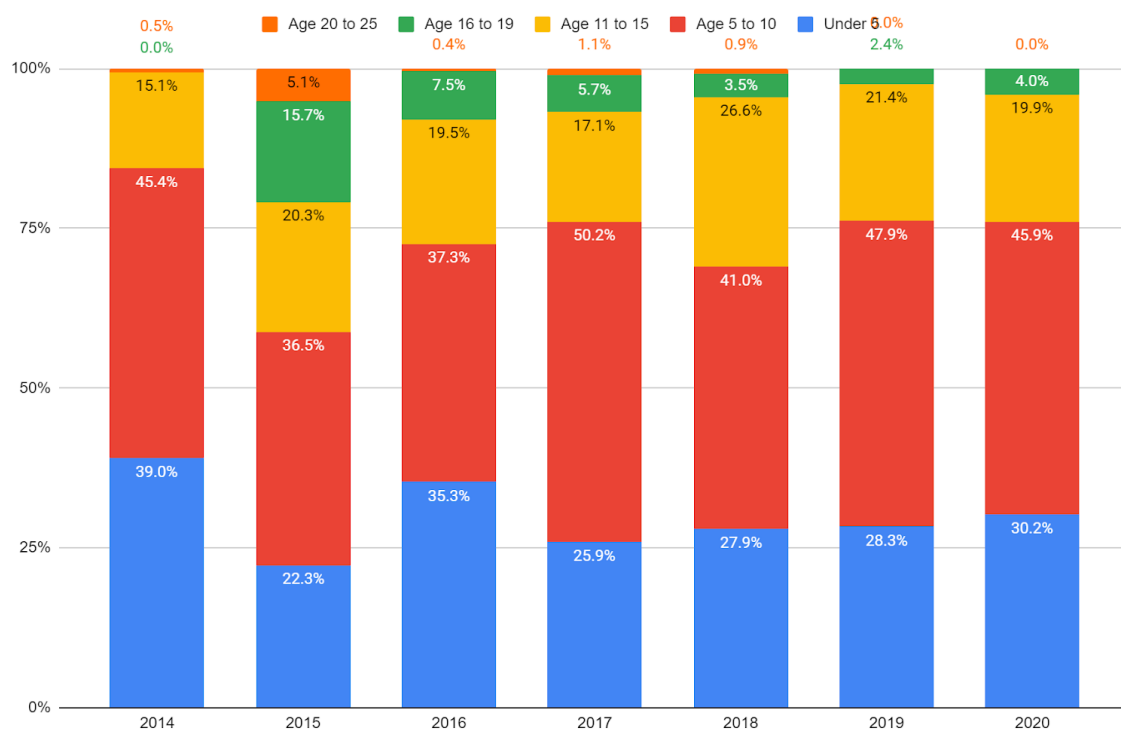
And as a percentage by age:

Percentage of EHCPs by age



New Requests for EHC Assessments by age

New EHCPs by age group



Requests for EHC Plans

	Hackney					Statistical Neighbours			England							
	2018	2019	2020	2021	Trend	Latest Avg.	LA vs Stat. Neigh. Rank	Latest Diff.	2018	2019	2020	2021	Rank	Latest Diff.	Trend	
							-5% 0% +5%		-5% 0% +5%							
Assessments																
Initial requests for assessment made - number	478	559	478	498												
Initial requests for assessment made - % of 0-24 pop'n	0.56%	0.66%	0.56%	0.58%		0.57%	7th	+0.01%	0.43%	0.49%	0.45%	0.56%	67th	+0.02%		
Initial requests for assessment refused - number	159	71	93	153												
Initial requests for assessment refused - % of requests	33.3%	12.7%	19.5%	30.7%		18.9%	3rd	+1.8%	24.7%	22.8%	21.6%	22.3%	33rd	+0.4%		
Assessments with decision not to issue EHCP - number	1	2	2	0												
Assessments with decision not to issue EHCP - % of assmnts	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%		4.2%	10th	-4.2%	5.2%	5.9%	4.9%	5.9%	145th	-5.9%		
Children still being assessed for an EHCP (in January)	5	72	130	143												
EHCP discontinued - transferred to other LA	17	51	42	57												
EHCP discontinued - SEN met without EHCP	4	0	1	0												
EHCP discontinued - other reason	0	0	2	283												

The above data shows that Hackney has consistently received a high level of new requests for EHC Assessments since 2014.

Hackney currently refuses more EHC Assessment requests than the national average, currently refusing 30.7% of requests in 2021 (in comparison to a national average of 22.3%). Hackney has recently launched its graduated response for SEND. The Graduated Response details the type of special educational needs support that should be available to all pupils before seeking a statutory assessment. We expect that, once the graduated response is embedded, the refusal rate in Hackney will become more in line with statistical neighbours and national data.

In 2021, there were 498 requests for an EHCP assessment, equivalent to 0.58% of 0-24 year olds in Hackney. This was in line with both statistical neighbours and England averages.

Placement of Pupils in Hackney

In 2022, 16.0% of Hackney’s EHCP pupils were attending a state-funded special school. This was the lowest proportion of all statistical neighbours (average 25.2%) and was around half the England average of 29.6%, placing Hackney in the bottom quartile of England local authorities.

In contrast, 13.1% of EHCP pupils were attending an independent or non-maintained school, more than double the England average of 6.2% and the 5th highest proportion of all England local authorities

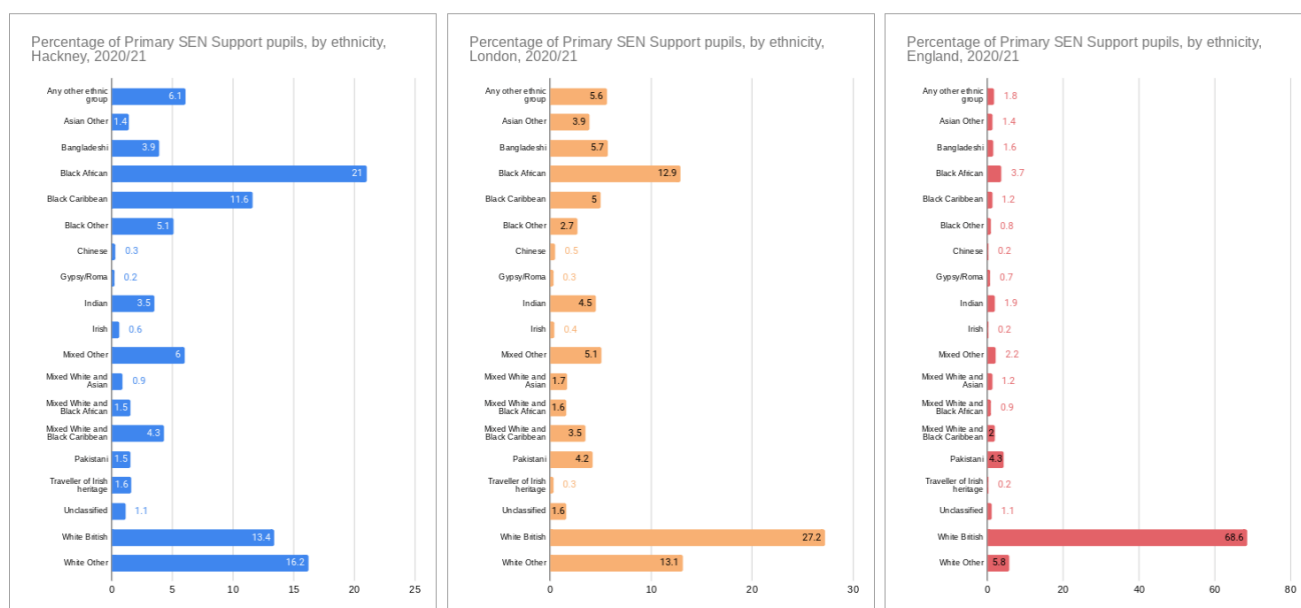
Despite a fall from 2021 to 2022, at 45.7% the proportion of EHCP pupils in state-funded mainstream (not resourced/unit) schools was above both England and statistical neighbour (41.6%) averages and places Hackney in the top quartile of England local authorities.

The school estates strategy has a key aim of providing more state-funded specialist places in Hackney, via additional resourced provisions and potentially more special school places.

3. SEND and Ethnicity

Primary Phase

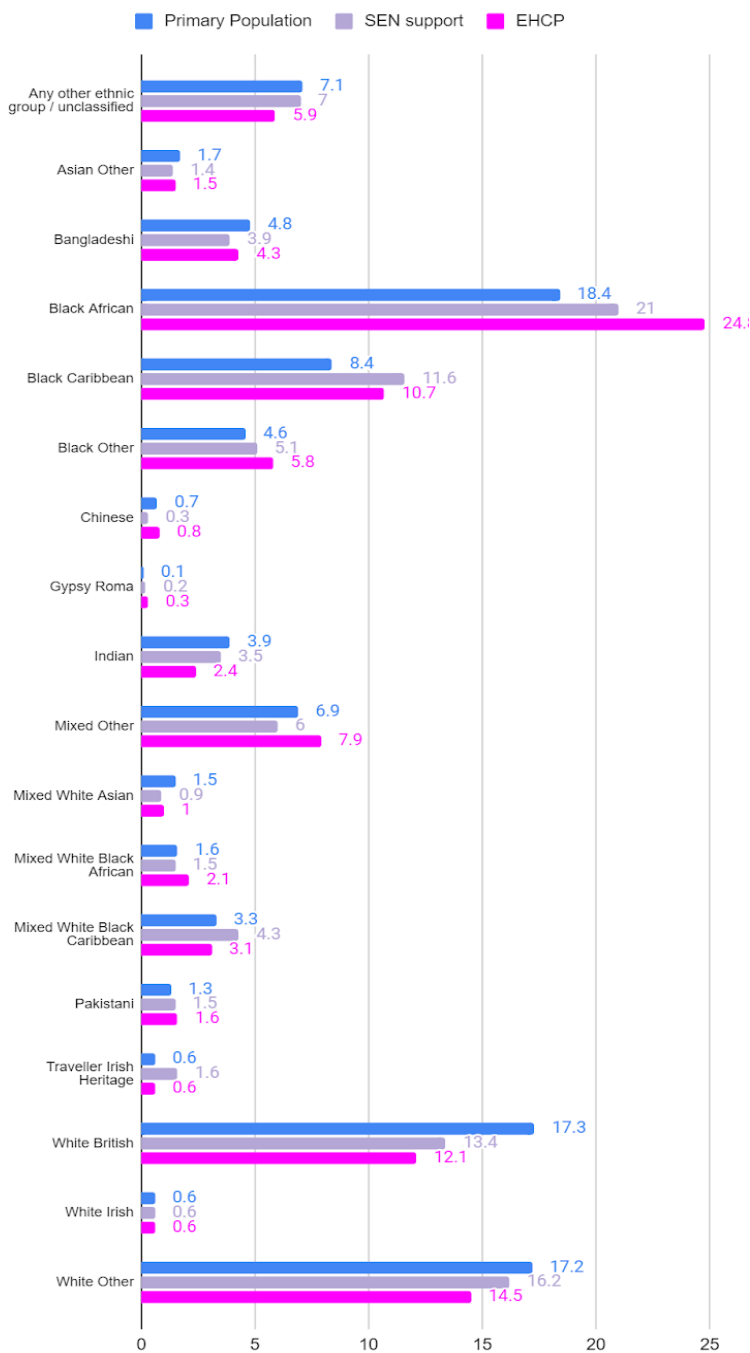
The below table shows the ethnic distribution of SEND Support pupils in comparison to both London and national data. Local data shows that the highest proportion of pupils at SEN Support are Black African. This is higher than both London and national averages.



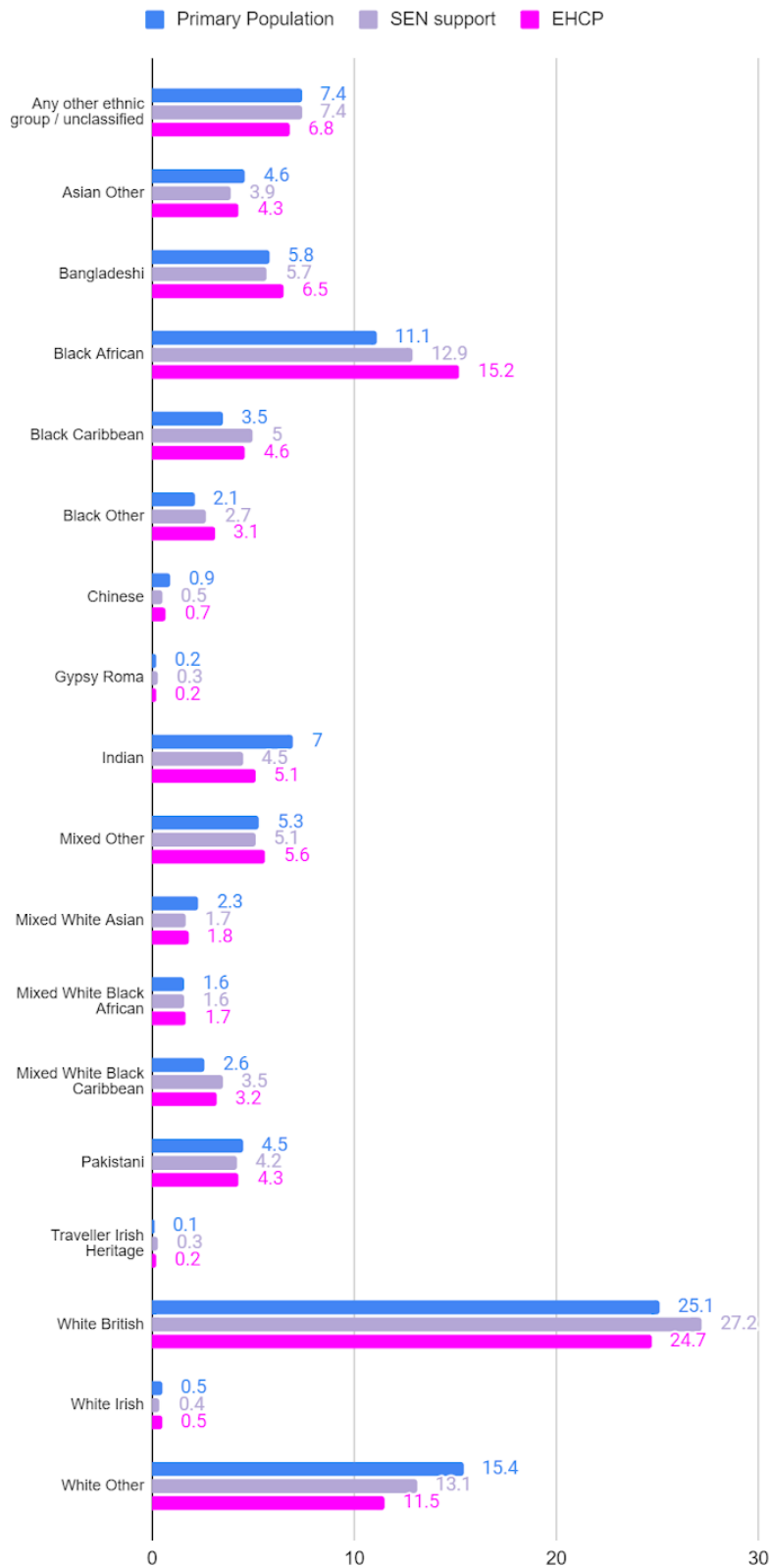
When considered in the context of whole school population data, the below chart demonstrates that ethnicity broadly follows primary population by ethnicity both at SEN Support and EHC Plan level. Black African and Black Caribbean pupils are slightly more likely to be diagnosed as having SEND support or being assessed with an EHCP than other ethnic groups. Black African children make up 18.4% of the

primary population, 21% of the SEND support primary population and 24.1% of the EHCP primary age population; Black Caribbean pupils make up 8.4% of the primary population, 11.6% of the primary population on SEND support and 10.7% of the primary population with EHCPs. This pattern is echoed in the London picture.

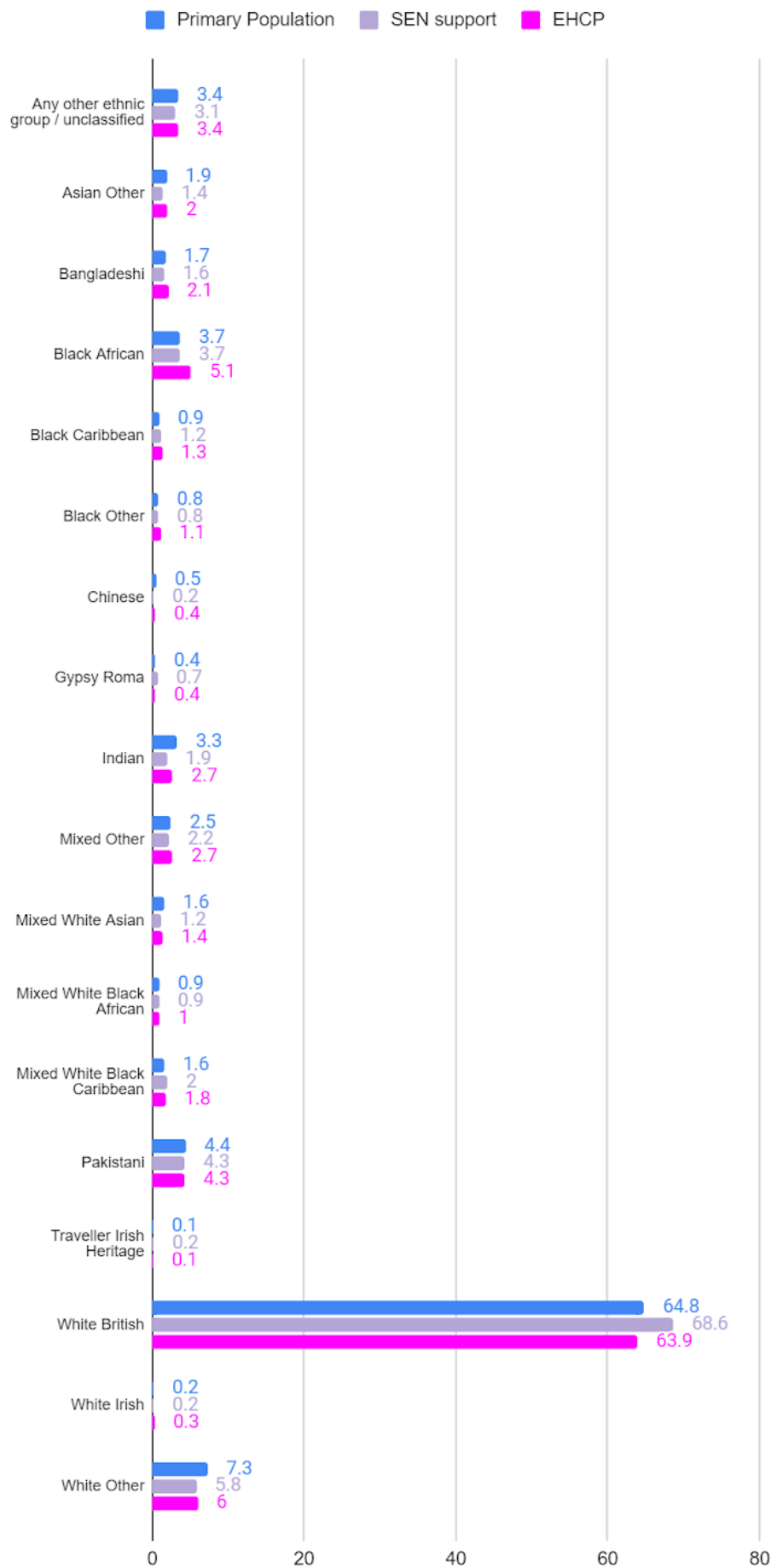
Percentage of primary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, Hackney, 2020/21



Percentage of primary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, London, 2020/21

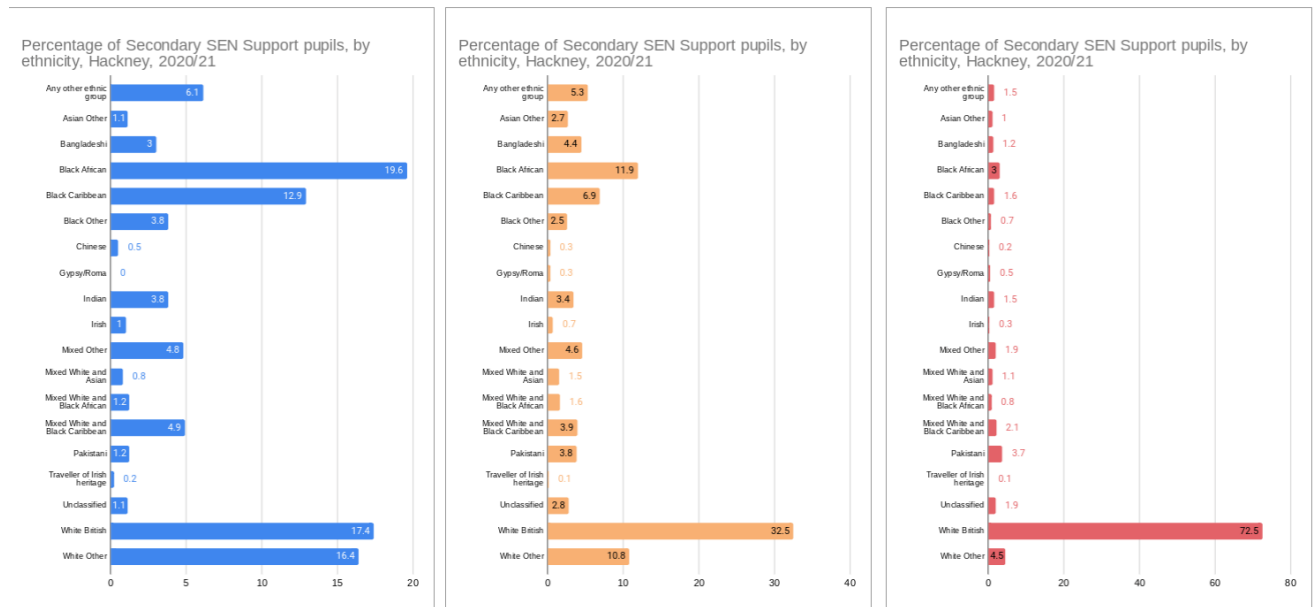


Percentage of primary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, England, 2020/21



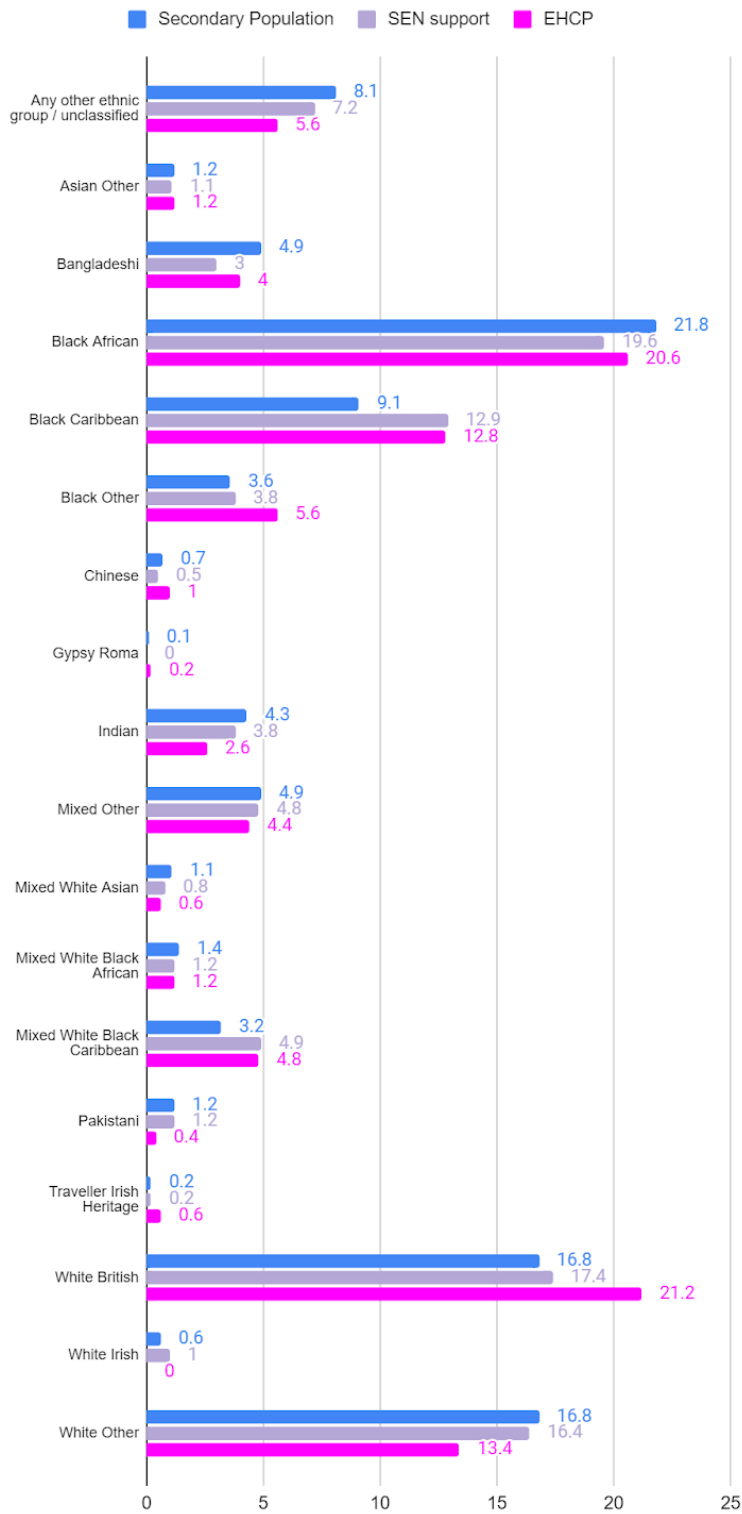
Secondary phase

SEN Support, secondary

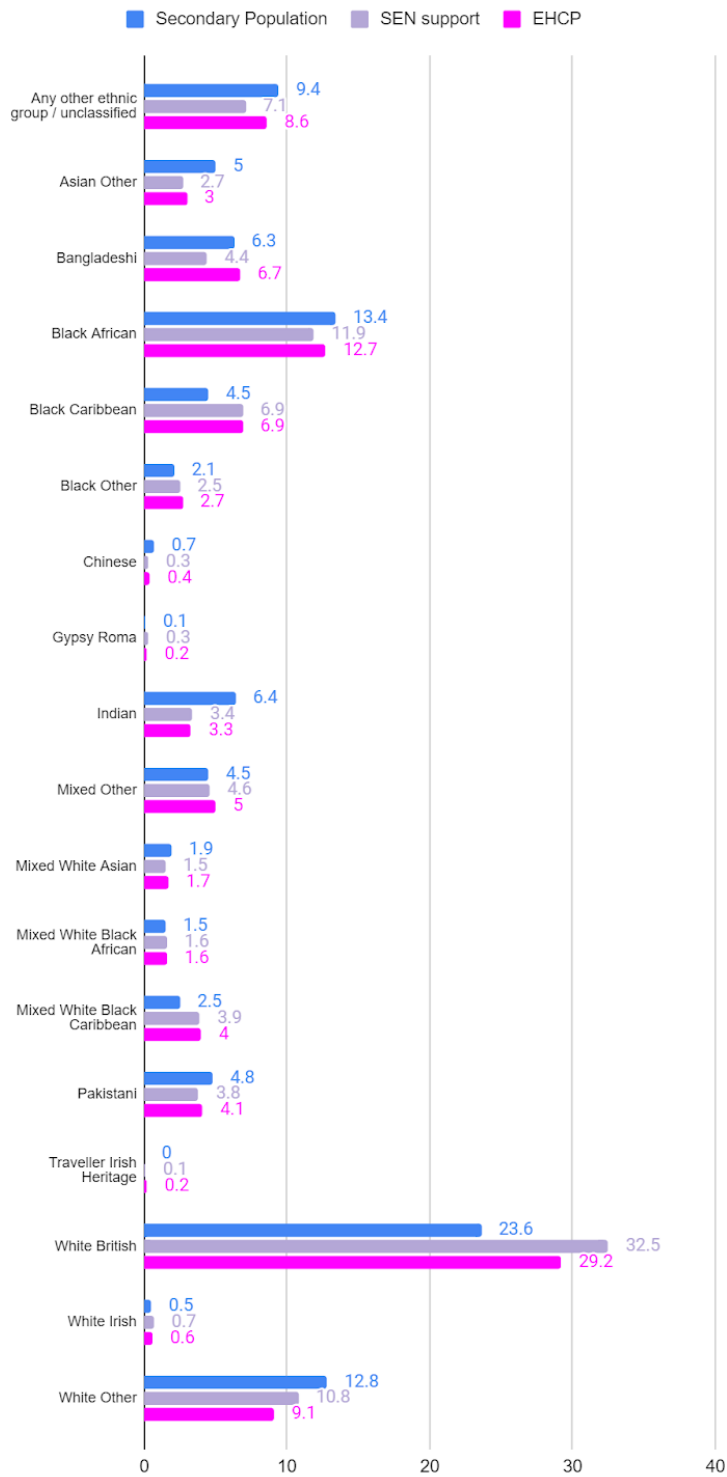


The ethnicity of pupils at secondary level follows a similar pattern as at primary, and generally in proportion to population, including when compared to the whole school population for both at SEND Support at EHC Plan level. Black Caribbean pupils have a slightly higher proportion of SEND support diagnoses (12.7%) and EHCPs (12.8%) than their proportion of the school population (9.1%). White British pupils have a slightly higher proportion of EHCPs (21.2%) than their population (16.8%), this is in line with London ratios. White other pupils have a slightly lower proportion of EHCPs (13.4%) than their population (16.8%).

Percentage of secondary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, Hackney, 2020/21



Percentage of secondary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, London, 2020/21



Percentage of secondary population, percentage of SEN support pupils and percentage of EHCP pupils, by ethnicity, England, 2020/21



Each decision about a child being placed on SEND support or being put forward for assessment for an EHCP is careful, nuanced and based on detailed evidence. The overviews in this report show the patterns across Hackney - some of which have been outlined in previous papers. The overviews will also be shared with headteachers, governors and SENCOs in schools.