

Overview & Scrutiny

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 30 November 2023
Title of report: Pupil Movement (2022/23)
Report author: Katherine Cracknell, Head of Wellbeing and Education, and David Court, Assistant Director School Estates
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• 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 2022 to August 2023.</p>

Report to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Report title: Pupil Movement

Meeting date: 30 November 2023

Report originator: David Court and Katherine Cracknell

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 2022 to August 2023. This will provide the commission with an overview of the picture of pupil movement for that academic year.

2. Recommendations

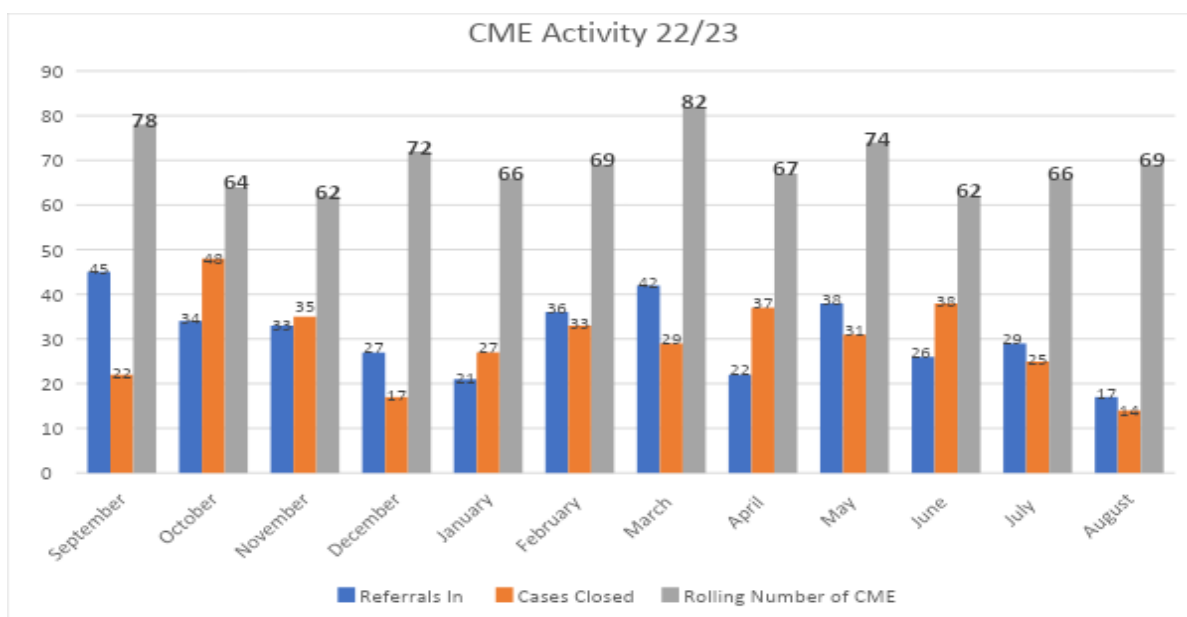
- 2.1. Commission members are asked to note the contents of this report.

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.

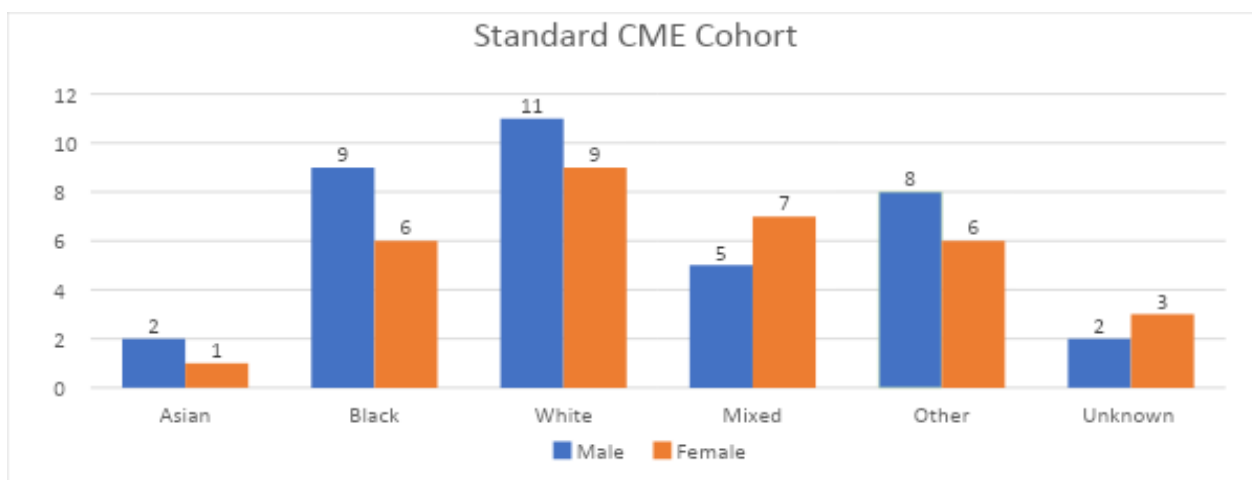
4. Additions/removals from school admission registers and Children Missing Education

- 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 2022/23 Hackney school admissions were notified of 4520 children (NC Year R to Year 11) who were deleted from their school admission register via the statutory on/off roll reporting process. 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 a school place confirmed, 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 Charedi community.
- 4.10. The month by month children registered as standard CME cohort is as follows:

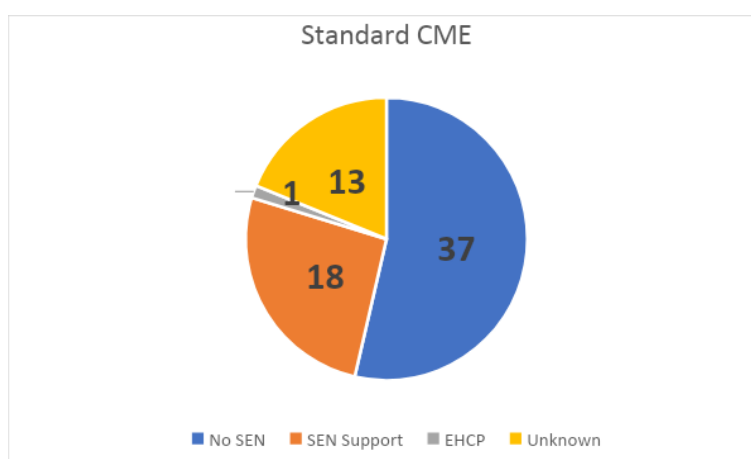


4.11. In August 2023 we had 69 children registered as CME in our standard cohort.

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:

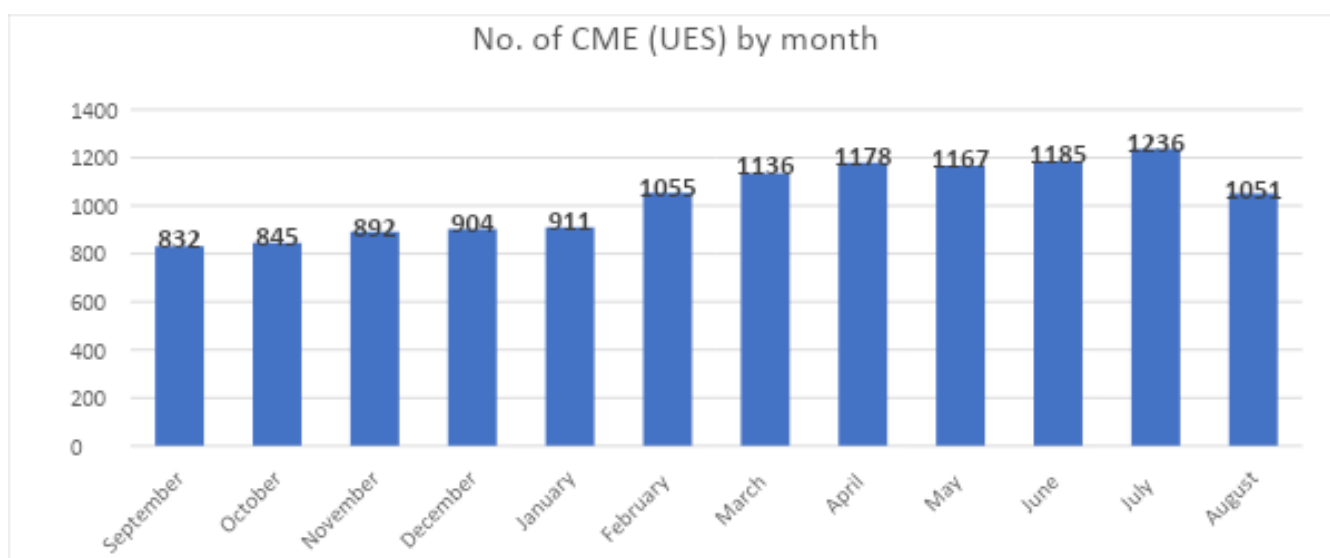


4.14. In addition to regular CME referrals, which relate to children and young people moving into or out of Hackney without a known new school, there is also a sizable cohort of teenage boys from the Charedi community in Hackney who are educated at Yeshivas/Unregistered Settings. These boys leave their registered independent schools at around twelve years old and then attend a setting that has a curriculum that is deemed too narrow to allow classification as 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. In August 2023 there were 1051 children registered as CME within the Charedi community. These are teenage boys who attend Yeshivas. We do not have information on their SEND status.

4.17. The month by month number of children registered in our UES CME cohort is as follows:



4.18. In addition to the children in this cohort that are known to the Hackney Council there are believed to be further 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 2023.

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 2022/23 6 schools had roll movement of over 5%.

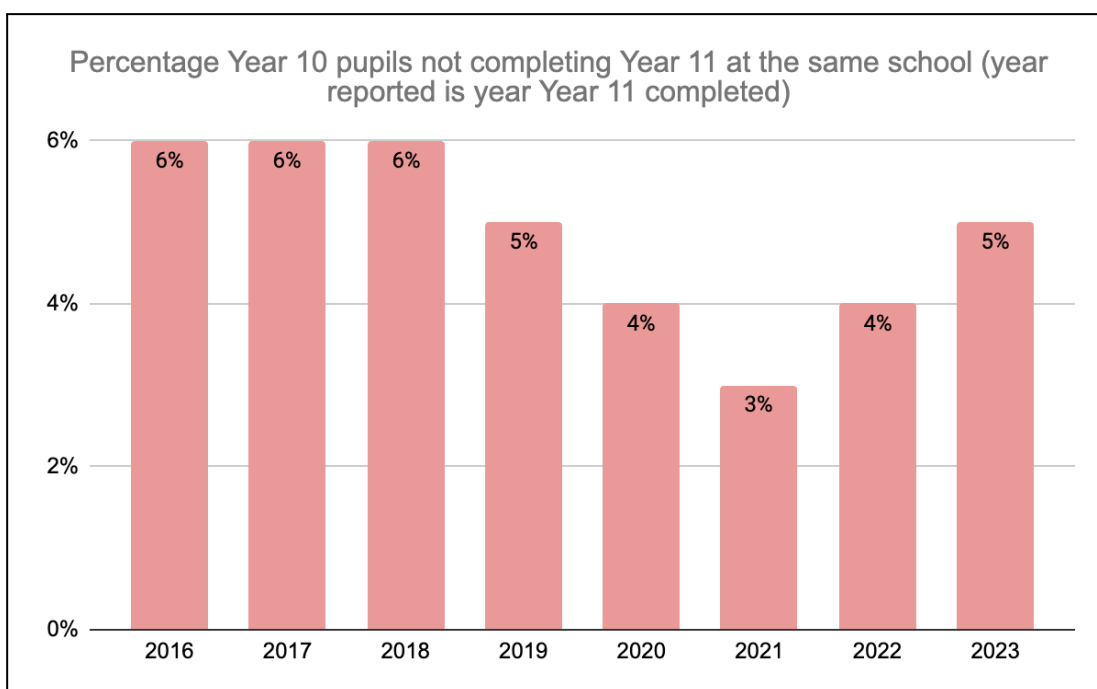
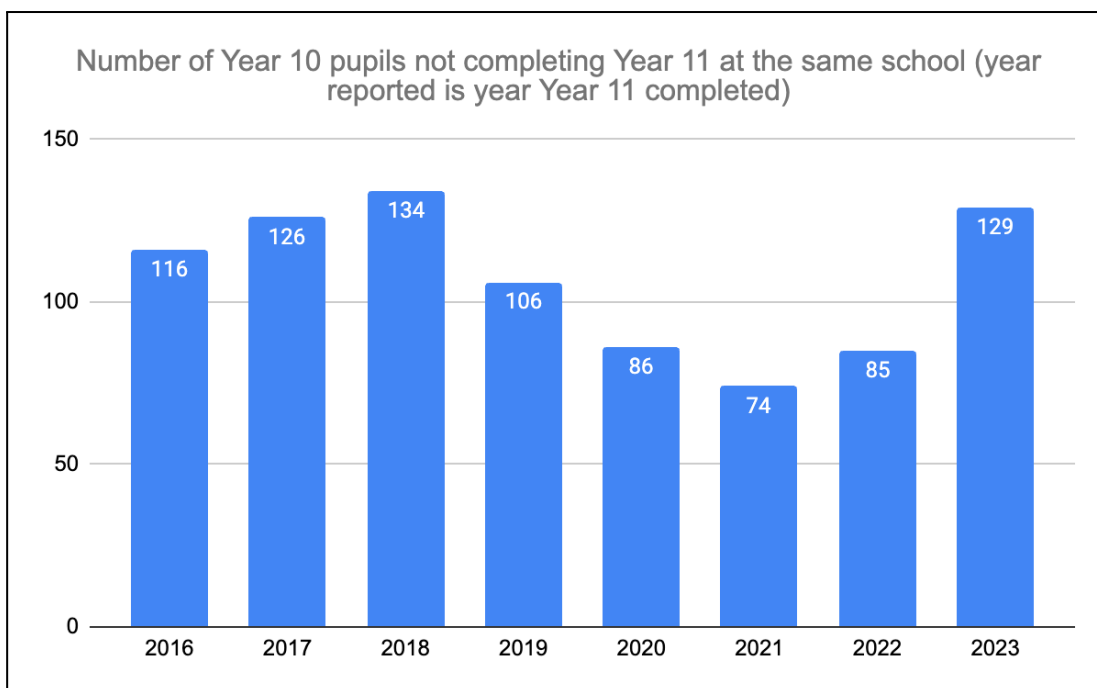
5.3. Similar meetings have been held in previous years with headteachers of schools where roll movement is 5% or more.

5.4. A total 129 children left secondary school admission registers between Year 10 and Year 11, giving a borough wide rate of 5%. Movement varied between schools with the range between 2% and 7%, with one school an outlier with 15%.

5.5. The pupil profile of these 129 children is as follows:

Characteristic	No. of Y10/11 leavers	% of cohort
Female	67	52%
Male	62	48%
Bangladeshi	1	1%
Black Caribbean	10	8%
Black African	18	14%
White British	14	11%
Indian	2	2%
Mixed	14	11%
Turkish/Kurdish	11	9%
Other	27	21%
Unknown/refused	32	25%
EHCP	14	11%
SEN Support	18	14%
No SEND	97	75%

5.6. There has been an overall increase in the rates of roll movement since 2021, rising from 3% of pupils finishing year 11 in 2021, to 4% at the end of 2022 and 5% at the end of 2023. The rate of 5% is a return to the pre-pandemic level of 2019 but below the 6% level in 2018, 2017 and 2016. It is worth noting that the reporting represents pupils not remaining in the same school through Y10 and Y11; these pupils may move to another school in Hackney.



5.7. An analysis of the data relating to roll movement between Years 10 and 11 has shown the following:

5.7.1. There was a fall in the level of Year 10 to 11 roll movement from 6% in 2016, 2017 and 2018, to 5% in 2019, 4% in 2020 and 3% in 2021. This proportion rose in 2022, back to 4%, and again in 2023 to 5%. This gives a borough wide five year (2019 to 2023) average of 5%.

5.7.2. This data appears to show an impact of Covid 19 and the disruption to schooling in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 school years, in particular. During these two school years,

the number of pupils moving schools declined, and therefore the proportion of Year 10 pupils moving fell to 3% and 4%.

- 5.7.3. The borough wide two year average currently stands at 4%, with all bar two schools 5% or lower.
- 5.7.4. 32% (41 pupils) moved to another maintained school in Hackney while the remaining 68% (88 pupils) no longer appeared on the role of a Hackney school at the end of Year 11.
- 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 1763 children were offered places at Hackney schools through the in-year admissions process between September 2022 to August 2023. Of this number:
 - 6.2.1. 1318 were offers for primary school places; and
 - 6.2.2. 445 were offers for secondary school places.
- 6.3. The reasons given by parents on their application for in year admission for primary schools was as follows:

Application Reason	Total
Home educated currently and wish to return to school	41
Moving from another part of the UK to Hackney	99
New arrival to the UK from abroad	206
Other reason	124
Out-borough resident applying for a school in Hackney	39
Returning to the UK from abroad	72
Transfer from nursery setting	27
Transfer from one Hackney school to another	339
Transfer from out-borough school to a Hackney school	115
Grand Total	1062

- 6.4. The reasons given by parents on their application for in year admission for secondary schools was as follows:

Application Reason	Total
Home educated currently and wish to return to school	47
Moving from another part of the UK to Hackney	80
New arrival to the UK from abroad	141
Other reason	127
Out-borough resident applying for a school in Hackney	31
Returning to the UK from abroad	58
Transfer from one Hackney school to another	257
Transfer from out-borough school to a Hackney school	90
Grand Total	831

- 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 Alternative Provision setting or could not be offered a place because schools applied to were full.
- 6.9. Between September 2022 and August 2023, a total of 48 children have been offered places under the protocol. Of these, 2 were for a primary school place and 46 were for secondary school places. 6 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 2022/23 there were 132 in-year transfers of pupils with an EHCP.
- 7.3. The largest single cohort, with 55.3% of transfers were from one mainstream school to another mainstream school. The breakdown of the various types of move can be found here:

Mainstream to Mainstream - 55.3%

Mainstream to Special - 15.9%

Mainstream to Alternative Provision - 9.84%

Mainstream to ARP - 0.75%

Mainstream to Independent - 3.03%

Mainstream to Home - 3.03%

Special to Special - 2.27%

Special to Mainstream - 0.75%

Special to Independent - 0.75%

Special to Home - 3.03%

Special to Alternative Provision - 1.51%

Home to Mainstream - 0.75%

Home to Special - 1.51%

Alternative Provision to Mainstream - 0.75%

Alternative Provision to Special - 0.75%

- 7.4. Of these, 45 were children in Key Stage 1; 22 were children in Key Stage 2; and 41 were children in Key Stage 3.

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

- 27 - White/English/Irish/European/Other/Other White British
- 3 - Traveller of Irish Heritage
- 75 - Black African/White & Black African/Black Caribbean/Other
- 1 - Afghan
- 1 - Albanian
- 5 - Turkish

- 1 - Vietnamese
- 4 - Bangladeshi
- 2 - Indian
- 1 - Kurdish
- 12 - Other Background

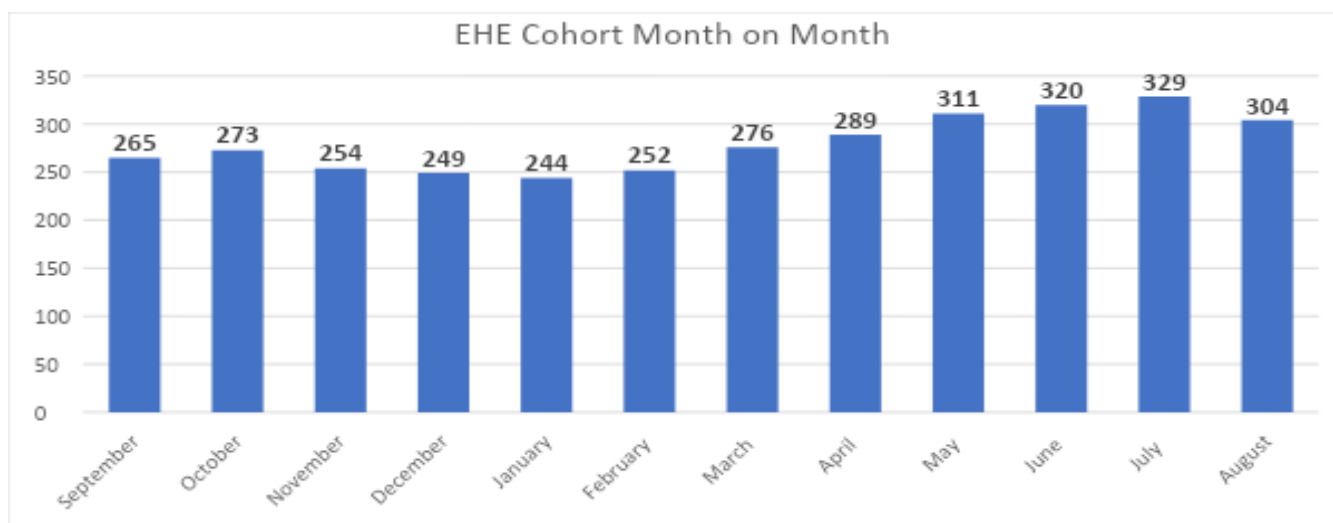
8. Permanent exclusions

- 8.1. In 2021/22 there were 30 recorded exclusions in Hackney
- 8.2. Hackney primary schools (this data is local and remains subject to change and numbers may reduce; they will not increase).
- 8.3. 14 of the 37 children excluded were female, and 23 were male.
- 8.4. 10 of the 37 excluded children were from a Black Caribbean background, and 5 more were from a mixed white and Black Caribbean background. Within those fifteen children, 11 were male and 4 were female. Together they represent 40% of the total exclusions.
- 8.5. 4 of the 37 exclusions were from children from another Black background (such as Black Ghanaian or In 22/23 there were 37 exclusions from Hackney secondary schools and no exclusions from Black Congolese), 4 were children from a white background

9. Elective Home Education

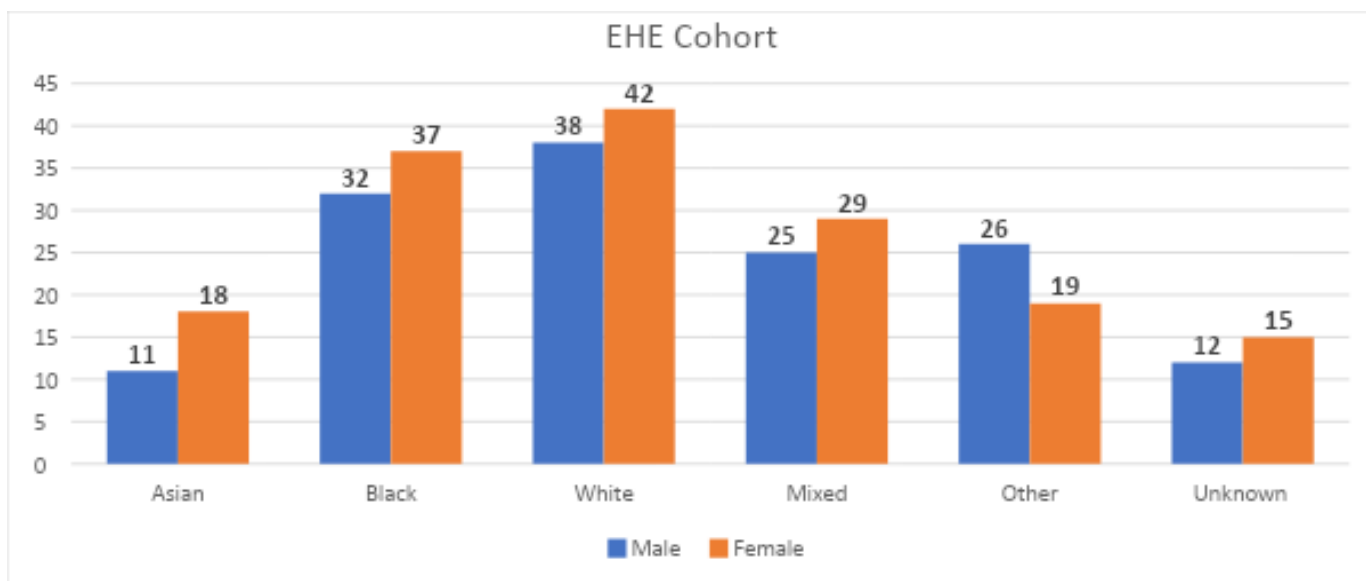
- 9.1. Parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that their school age children receive an education that is suitable for their age, ability and aptitude as well as any special educational needs they may have. This can be done through regular attendance at school or by educating them otherwise than at school. Education otherwise includes elective home education (EHE).
- 9.2. In August 2023 we had 304 children registered as CME in our standard cohort. This is a 35% increase from the previous year and a 64% increase from the pre-Covid academic year 18/19.

9.3. The month by month children registered as elective home education is as follows:

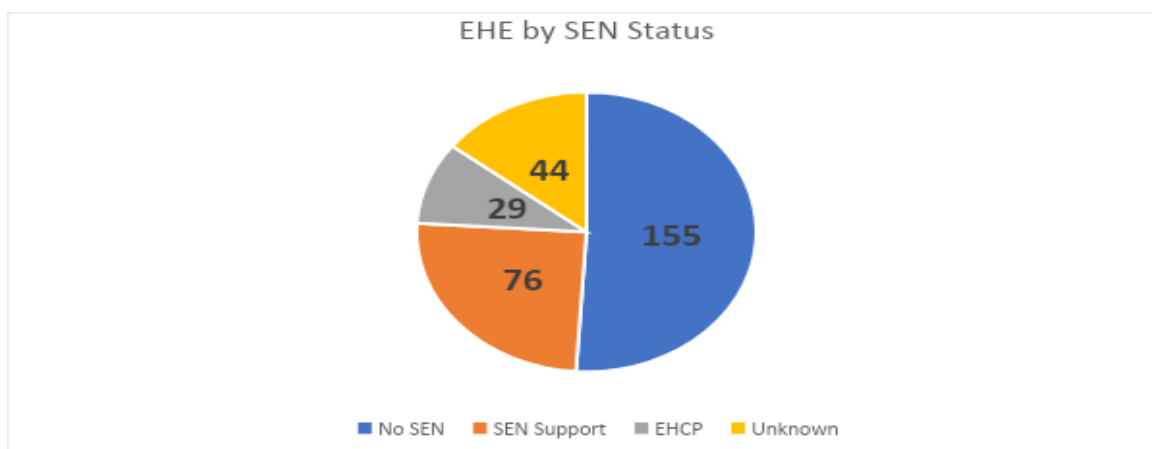


9.4. All new EHE referrals receive an education suitability assessment within 12 weeks and, if deemed suitable, will then receive an annual assessment.

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.

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. 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 2022 and August 2023 there were 5 successful managed moves reported to the Fair Access Panel for credit.
- 10.7. 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 60% of our known managed moves. Work on equalities has been reported to scrutiny in the last year.

2x Black and white caribbean

1x Black caribbean

1x Turkish

1x unknown

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. Around 50% of the 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. At the beginning of July 2023 there were 134 pupils on roll at New Regent's College
- 11.5.1. 6 of these children are primary aged children, and they are educated full time onsite
 - 11.5.2. 39 of these children are KS3 aged children, and they are educated full time onsite
 - 11.5.3. 89 of these children are KS4 aged children, and 42 of these are educated full time onsite, 7 in full time mainstream placements and 40 in full time, off site, Ofsted registered alternative provision placements
- 11.6. 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. Conclusion

- 12.1. Hackney Education has oversight of pupil movement in the borough through various teams who are responsible for their cohorts of pupils
- 12.2. The number of parents opting to educate their children at home has returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- 12.3. 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.
- 12.4. 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.
- 12.5. Reducing exclusions is a priority for Hackney Council and is taking a number of steps to support inclusion in schools.

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Date: 17 November 2023

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