

**Schools Forum Document NW Appendix 1**  
**SEND Places Sufficiency Statement November 2021**

**Introduction**

1. Bradford Metropolitan District Council (the 'Local Authority' or the 'Authority') has a statutory duty under The Education Act 1996 Section 14(1) to ensure a sufficient number of school places for all children and young people who are resident within the Bradford District. The Authority has specific duties to ensure that there is sufficient specialist provision available for children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), where their EHCPs determine that their needs should be met in specialist provision.
2. This annual statement to the Schools Forum sets out the analysis and processes, which enable the Local Authority to plan and to ensure the sufficiency of specialist places over the next three years. This statement highlights the projected scale of growth in the number of specialist places required to meet the projected increase in demand. It considers the number of places by type of provision that is projected to be required, if the current distribution of specialist places - between enhanced provisions (Resourced Provisions), local maintained special schools and special school academies, and mainstream maintained schools and academies - is projected into the future in line with the projected growth in demand for specialist places.

**Background**

3. Bradford District has continued to experience a significant increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision. It is projected that demand will continue to grow across all sectors.
- The total number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for 0-25 year olds across the Bradford District was recorded as 4,915 on 26 November 2021. This has increased from 4,619 recorded in November 2020 and 3,786 recorded in October 2019.
  - The number of requests for Education, Health and Care Plan assessments was recorded at 953 between September 2020 and September 2021. This was an increase of 16.5% from the 818 requests for assessment received between September 2019 and September 2020.
  - Of the 4,915 children and young people with an EHCP on 26 November 2021, 3,389 (68.9%) are of statutory school age.
  - Of the 13,711 children and young people currently recorded on SEND support, 12,418 (90.6%) are of statutory school age.

**National Statistics at January 2021 (taken from the DfE Statistical Release; the SEN2 return and Census Data) compared with the Bradford District**

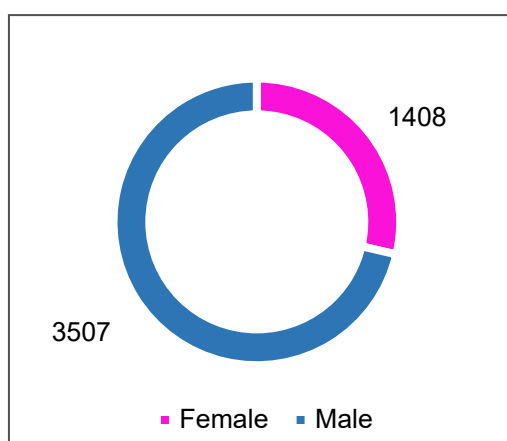
**National:**

- 3.7% of all pupils in schools in England were recorded as having an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), increased from 3.3% recorded at January 2020 and 3.1% recorded at January 2019.
- A further 12.1% of pupils were recorded as SEND support. This is the same % as was recorded in January 2020, which was only marginally higher than the 11.9% recorded at January 2019.

- The most prevalent primary need recorded for pupils with an EHCP is for Communication and Interaction including Autistic Spectrum Disorders. For pupils with SEND support the most prevalent primary need recorded is for Speech, Language and Communication Needs. This position has remained static.
- SEND is more prevalent in boys than girls, with boys representing 73.1% of all pupils with an EHCP and 64.6% of pupils with SEND support.

#### Bradford:

- 3.4% of all pupils in schools in Bradford were recorded as having an Education, Health and Care Plan, increased from 3.0% recorded at January 2020 and 2.8% recorded at January 2019.
- A further 12.7 % of all pupils were recorded as SEND Support, representing a decrease from 13.2% recorded at January 2020 and 13.8% recorded at January 2019.
- The most prevalent primary need for pupils in the Bradford District with an EHCP is for Communication and Interaction Needs including Autistic Spectrum Disorders, which reflects the same trend as the national picture. For pupils with SEND support, the most prevalent primary need recorded is for Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), closely followed by Speech, Language and Communication Needs. Again, this picture has remained static.
- As with the national trend, SEND is more prevalent in the Bradford District in boys than girls as illustrated in the chart below:



Source: SEND Dashboard 26 November 2021

4. During the academic year 2020 to 2021, the Local Authority created a further 145 specialist places across the District. Please see Appendix 3 for full details of the additional places that have been created.

#### Current Position

5. Of the total number of children and young people with an EHCP currently recorded in Bradford (4,915):
  - 1,835 (37%) are accessing specialist provisions within Bradford. Of this number, 1,437 (29%) are accessing a specialist place within a maintained special school / special school academy and 398 (8%) are accessing a specialist place within a Resourced Provision.
  - 379 (7%) are accessing specialist provision 'out of authority'. Of this number 102 (2%) are accessing specialist provision in independent settings and in non-maintained special schools.

- The balance of 2,701 (55%) are having their needs met within mainstream schools and academies, Early Years Settings and post-16 Educational Facilities.
6. The table below shows, at November 2021, the FTE number of registered specialist places across the Bradford District and the type of provision in which they are delivered.

Provision Type	Primary	All Through	Secondary	Total
Special School & Special School Academies	521	114	822	<b>1,457</b>
Resourced Provisions School Led	176	0	147	<b>323</b>
Resourced Provisions Local Authority Led	126	0	68	<b>194</b>
Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision (headcount not FTE)	111	0	0	<b>111</b>
<b>Total Funded Places</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1037</b>	<b>2,085</b>

7. The table below shows the occupancy of these specialist places across the Bradford District in November 2021.

Provision Type	Number of Registered Places	Number of Occupied Places	Occupancy %
Special School & Special School Academies	1,457	1,437	99%
Resourced Provisions School Led	323	260	80%
Resourced Provisions Local Authority Led	194	141	73%
Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision	111	118	106%
<b>Total Occupancy</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>94%</b>

Source: SEND Dashboard 26 November 2021

8. The data evidences clearly that the number of children and young people with an EHCP in the Bradford District continues to rise.
- The number of children and young people with an EHCP aged between 0 to 25 years has increased by 6.49% between November 2020 and November 2021.
  - The number of children and young people with an EHCP aged between 5 to 15 years (statutory school age) has increased by 3.98% between November 2020 and November 2021.
  - Requests for assessment has risen from 813, between October 2019 and October 2020, to 958, between October 2020 and October 2021. This is an increase in requests for assessment of 18.9%.
  - 7% of children and young people within the Bradford District with an EHCP are currently accessing 'out of authority' provision. This figure has remained static against the 7% recorded this time last year. In order to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND residing within the Bradford District, it is sometimes necessary to place them in specialist provisions outside our Local Authority area, as well as in independent provisions. Whilst this is sometimes required, it is not our preferred option, as the impact on placing children and young people away from their local communities is immeasurable. Furthermore, securing specialist places outside of the Local Authority area can lead to additional costs.

## **Forecast (and Methodology)**

9. Our modelling clearly indicates that additional SEND specialist places are required to be developed over the next three years, in response to continued growth in the numbers of EHCPs and to wider demographic changes in the school population.

There are a number of variables that will affect the current and future projections of required specialist places, including:

- There are a significant number of children and young people across the Bradford District on SEND Support. Projections show that a proportion of this cohort will transfer onto a EHCP in the future, therefore increasing the overall EHCP cohort and the amount of specialist provision places required.
- Increase in the number of EHCPs.
- Increase in the number of EHCP assessments.
- The level of occupancy of established specialist places.
- We forecast that once a child or young person has moved into the EHCP cohort they will remain in that cohort unless they move out of the District.

The Local Authority analyses the flow of children and young people across each stream of SEND provision. Using a growth model for EHCPs, based on Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), census and other intelligence data including the SEND Data Dashboard, the Local Authority then projects that the numbers of EHCPs in Bradford will continue to increase. By calculating the number of children with an EHCP currently taking up a specialist place by type of provision, we then can project the number of additional places required in the medium term.

Our forecast is regularly updated and tested against the latest available data, including data that tracks the SEND cohort throughout all phases of education.

Further information on our modelling can be found in the 'Strategic Plan 2021 - Sufficiency of Specialist Places for Children and Young people in Bradford'.

## **Summary & Conclusions**

10. Using a growth model for EHCPs based on JSNA, census and other intelligence data including the SEND Data Dashboard, we project that the number of EHCPs in Bradford will continue to increase. We can project the number of additional specialist places required in the medium term, by taking an average of the forecast data over the coming two years, which projects increases as follows:

- The number of primary aged children with an EHCP will rise by 5.47% each year.
- The number of secondary aged children and young people with an EHCP will rise by 10.49% each year.

From this, our current projection is that we will require an additional 100 to 120 specialist places within the 2022/23 academic year, with these places being delivered across both the special school sector and in resourced provisions.

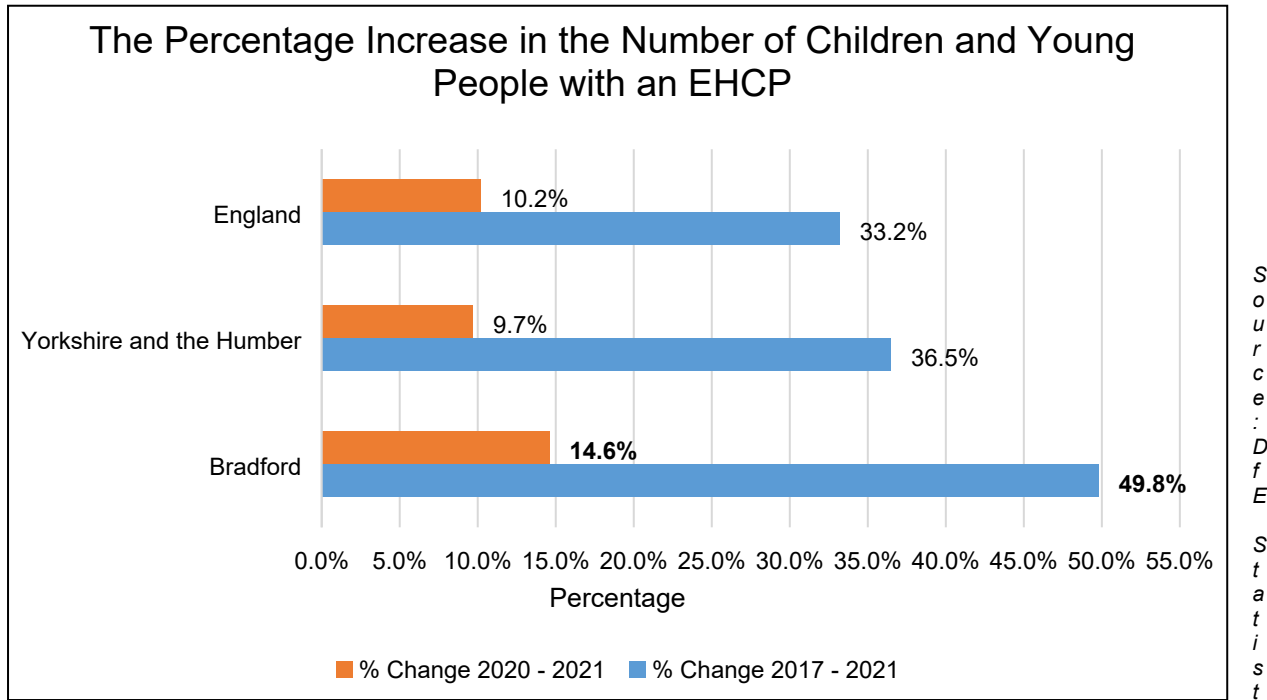
Our projections further show that we will need to increase specialist places again by 100-120 for the 2023/24 academic year. This is the minimum number of specialist places that we project will be required to be developed in order to meet demand and to control (not increase reliance) on more expensive 'out of authority' placements.

The Local Authority's data continues to evidence that a number of key pressure points exist across the District. In order to address these pressure points, we have identified that the following additional provision is required:

- Additional resourced provision places for primary and secondary aged children and young people with a primary need of Communication and Interaction including Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).
  - Additional special school places for primary and secondary aged children and young people with a primary need of Communication and Interaction including Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).
- 11.** The Local Authority's immediate actions for the academic year 2022/2023, in response to these projections and the identified key pressure points are:
- The Local Authority is currently undertaking numerous schemes of work to provide in excess of 100 additional specialist places, for both primary and secondary aged children and young people within special schools and resourced provisions, with the most prevalent primary need as detailed above.
  - Discussions are ongoing with numerous schools and academies in the relevant areas regarding the development of further specialist places in the District.
  - Working with the Specialist Teaching Support Service to ensure that the needs of children and young people that require SEND Support are appropriately met
  - Establish the High Needs Block planned budget for 2022/23 and 2023/24 to incorporate funding for an additional 100 places each year.

## Appendix 1

The below data clearly demonstrates that, despite the decrease that we have seen in the birth rate both within the Bradford District and nationally, the number of children and young people with an EHCP continues to rise. Furthermore, the percentage increase for the Bradford District between 2017 and 2021 is significantly higher than the increases within Yorkshire and the Humber and across England as a whole.

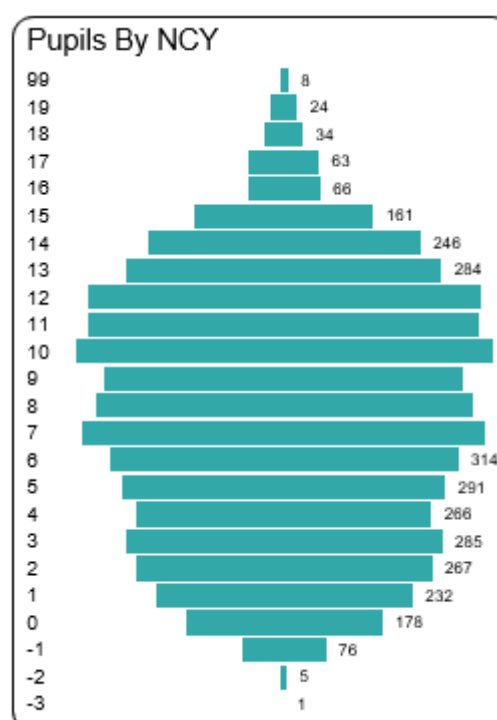
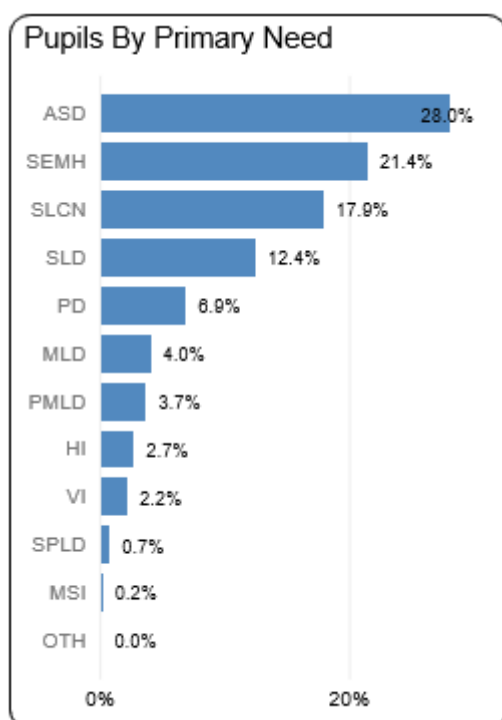
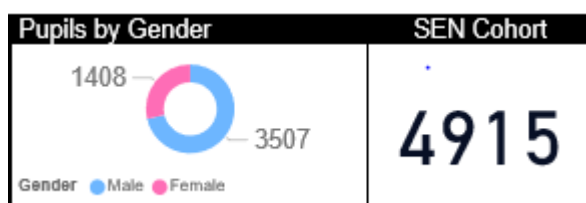


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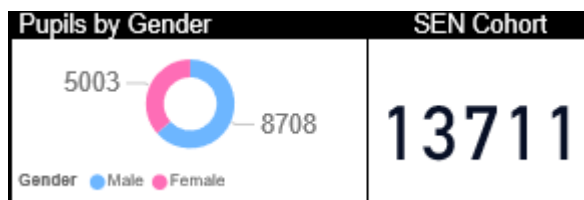
## Appendix 2

The data below has been taken from the SEND Dashboard. This is a live database used by Children Services. The data is constantly updated to reflect the changing situations of the children and young people within the Bradford District. The data below was extracted on 26 November 2021.

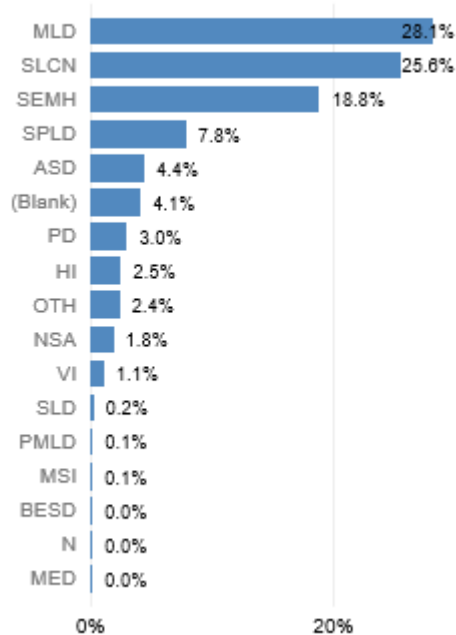
The below illustrations show the total number of children and young people with an EHCP across the Bradford District. The total number is then further divided into male/female, primary need and the National Curriculum year group.



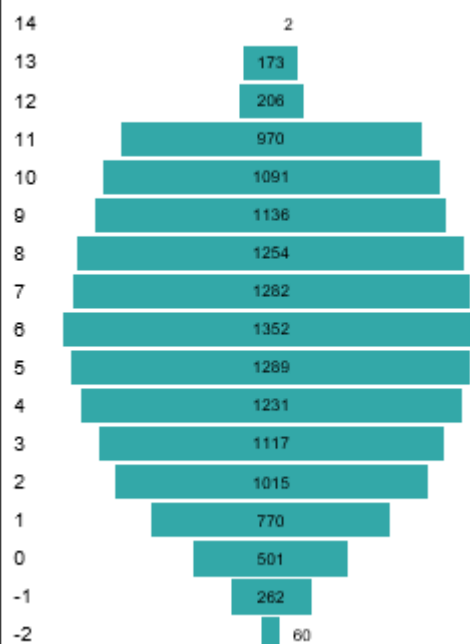
The below illustrations show the total number of children and young people on SEND support across the Bradford District. The total number is then further divided into male/female, primary need and the National Curriculum year group.



**Pupils By Primary Need**



**Pupils By NCY**





### Appendix 3

#### List of New Provisions Opened / Expanded between 2020 - 2021

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Type	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of Additional Registered Places	Ward
Holybrook Primary School	RP-SL New Provision	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Academy	Primary	16	Eccleshill
Fagley Primary School	RP-LA New Provision	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	Maintained	Primary	12	Eccleshill
Co-op Academy Southfield	ASD, SLD and PMLD Expansion of existing provision	Special School	Academy	Secondary	45	Great Horton
Thornton Primary	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-LA New Provision	Academy	Primary	12	Thornton and Allerton
Long Lee Primary School	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-SL Expansion	Maintained	Primary	6	Keighley East
Parkwood Primary School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-SL New Provision	Academy	Primary	12	Keighley East
The Holy Family Catholic School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-SL Expansion	Maintained	Secondary	4	Keighley Central
Worth Valley Primary School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-SL New Provision	Academy	Primary	8	Keighley West
Oastlers	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Special School New Split Site	Maintained	Secondary	30	Keighley West

The total number of additional specialist places created across the Bradford District between 2020 and 2021 is 145.