

Schools Forum Document PH Appendix 1
SEND Places Sufficiency Statement November 2022

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.
3. Further information can be found in the Strategic Plan 22 – Sufficiency of Specialist Places for Children and Young People of Bradford. This strategy is updated and published online, on an annual basis.

Background

4. The trajectory for the Bradford District remains unchanged with a continued increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision. Furthermore, 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 5,309 on 22 September 2022. This has increased from 4,915 on 26 November 2021, 4,619 recorded in November 2020 and 3,786 recorded in October 2019. As shown in Appendix 1 (in headline), the total number of EHCPs has further increased to 5,452 at 24 November 2022.
 - The number of requests for Education, Health and Care Plan assessments was recorded at 1,322 between September 2021 and September 2022. This is a significant increase of 38.7% from the 953 requests received between September 2020 and September 2021.
 - Of the 5,309 children and young people with an EHCP on 22 September 2022, 3,626 (68.3%) are of statutory school age. This percentage remains in line with last year's percentage of 68.9%.
 - The number of children and young people on SEND Support aged between 0 – 25 years has decreased by 0.17% between October 2021 and September 2022. This decrease being significantly lower than the decrease of 6.14% seen between October 2020 and October 2021.
 - Of the 13,155 children and young people aged between 0 - 25 years recorded on 22 September on SEND support, 12,101 (92%) are of statutory school age, a slight increase on the 90.6% recorded last year. The total number of SEND support pupils has increased to 13,267 recorded on 24 November (Appendix 1).

National Statistics at January 2022 (taken from the DfE Statistical Release; the SEN2 return and Census Data) compared with the Bradford District

National:

- 4% of all pupils in schools in England were recorded as having an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), increased from 3.7% recorded at January 2021 and 3.3% recorded at January 2020.
- A further 12.6% of pupils were recorded as SEND support, increased from 12.2% recorded at January 2021 and 12.1% recorded at January 2020.
- 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. Both continue a trend since 2016.
- In England, SEND is more prevalent in boys than girls, with boys representing 72.8% of all pupils with an EHCP and 63.5% of pupils with SEND support.

Bradford:

- 3.6% of all pupils in schools in Bradford were recorded as having an Education, Health and Care Plan, increased from 3.4% recorded at January 2021 and 3.0% recorded at January 2020.
 - A further 13.0% of all pupils were recorded as SEND Support, representing a slight increase from the 12.7% recorded at January 2021, but against 13.2% recorded at January 2020.
 - 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 boys than girls in the Bradford District, with boys representing 71.6% of all pupils with an EHCP and 64% of pupils with SEND support.
5. During the academic years 2020 to 2021 and 2021 to 2022, the Local Authority has created a further 189 specialist places across the District. Please see Appendix 2 for full details of the additional places that have been created.

Current Position

6. The table below shows the current number of registered specialist places across the Bradford District and the type of provision in which they are delivered.

Provision Type	Early Years	Primary	All Through	Secondary	Total
Special School & Special School Academies	0	521	114	846	1,481
Resourced Provisions School Led	0	180	0	153	333
Resourced Provisions Local Authority Led	0	126	0	68	194
Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision (headcount not FTE)	121	0	0	0	121
Total Registered Places	121	827	114	1,067	2,129

7. The table below shows the occupancy of these specialist places across the Bradford District in October 2022.

Provision Type	Number of Registered Places	Number of Occupied Places	Occupancy %
Special School & Special School Academies	1,481	1,462	99%
Resourced Provisions School Led	333	262	79%
Resourced Provisions Local Authority Led	194	176	91%
Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision	121	105*	87%*
Total Occupancy	2,129	2,005	94%

**The occupancy data has been affected by the recent commissioning of 10 additional EYESP places at Hirst Wood Nursery School, which at the time of this data being collated had yet to be filled. If these 10 places are excluded from the data, the percentage occupancy of the EYESP's is 95% and the overall occupancy of specialist places is 95%.*

The table below, extracted from the Sufficiency Statement presented to the Schools Forum this time last year, shown the occupancy of 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%
Total Occupancy	2,085	1,956	94%

8. The data clearly evidences 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 9.3% between November 2022 and November 2021. The comparable increase between November 2021 and November 2020 was 6.4%.
- The number of children and young people with an EHCP aged between 5 to 15 years (statutory school age) has increased by 9% between October 2021 and September 2022. This is a notable acceleration on last year's increase of 3.98% between October 2020 and October 2021.
- Requests for assessment have risen from 813 between October 2019 and October 2020, 958 between October 2020 and October 2021 to 1322 between September 2021 and September 2022.

- 7.4% of children and young people within the Bradford District with an EHCP are currently accessing 'out of authority' provision. In proportionate terms, this figure has remained relatively unchanged; being recorded at 7% for the last two years. 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 leads to significant additional costs. We currently estimate that our spending on all out of authority placements, including placements in independent and non-maintained provisions, will increase by 31% in 2022/23. This is one of the major causes of financial pressure within the High Needs Block, which we must seek to control. This is a pressure that all local authorities are currently facing.

Forecast (and Methodology)

9. Our modelling clearly indicates that additional specialist places are required to be developed over the coming years in response to continued growth in the number of EHCPs and wider demographic changes in the school population. There are many variables that affect the current and future projections of the number of specialist places required in order to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND across the Bradford District, some of which are listed below:

- There are a significant number of children and young people across the Bradford District on SEND Support. The data shows that there has been a marginal reduction in the number of children and young people between 0 – 25 over the last year compared with the previous year's data. Projections show that a proportion of this cohort will transfer onto a EHCP in the future, therefore increasing the overall EHCP cohort.
- Increase in the number of EHCPs.
- Increase in the number of EHCP assessments.
- High levels of occupancy in established specialist provisions.

10. We forecast that once a child or young person has moved into the EHCP cohort they will remain in that cohort. By analysing the flow of children and young people across each stream of SEND provision, we forecast that there will be an increase in the number of children and young people that will require access to a specialist place. Using a growth model for EHCPs, based on an average seen in the past three year's data, the Local Authority projects the following:

- The number of children and young people between 0 - 25 with an EHCP in Bradford will increase by at least 8.05%, or 427.
- Based on the average over the past two years, 68.4% of the above cohort will be of statutory school age. This would mean that by October 2023, this cohort would amount to 3,923.

11. Our modelling clearly indicates that additional SEND specialist places are required to be developed, in response to the continued growth in the numbers of children and young people requiring EHCPs and access to a specialist placement, and also taking into account the current/projected high levels of occupancy of existing established provisions. Our forecast is regularly updated and tested against the latest available data including the tracking of the SEND cohort throughout all phases of education.

Summary & Conclusions

12. Our current projection remains unchanged on that previously presented, in that we will require an additional 100 to 120 specialist places within the current 2022/23 academic year, with these places being delivered across both the special school sector and within resourced provisions.

13. Our projections further show, as we have previously presented, that we will need to increase specialist places again by 100 to 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.

14. 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 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 secondary aged children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).

15. The Local Authority’s immediate actions for the current 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.
- In order to address some of the above key pressure points, the Local Authority is already seeking or has approval to undertake the following schemes of work to provide additional specialist places:

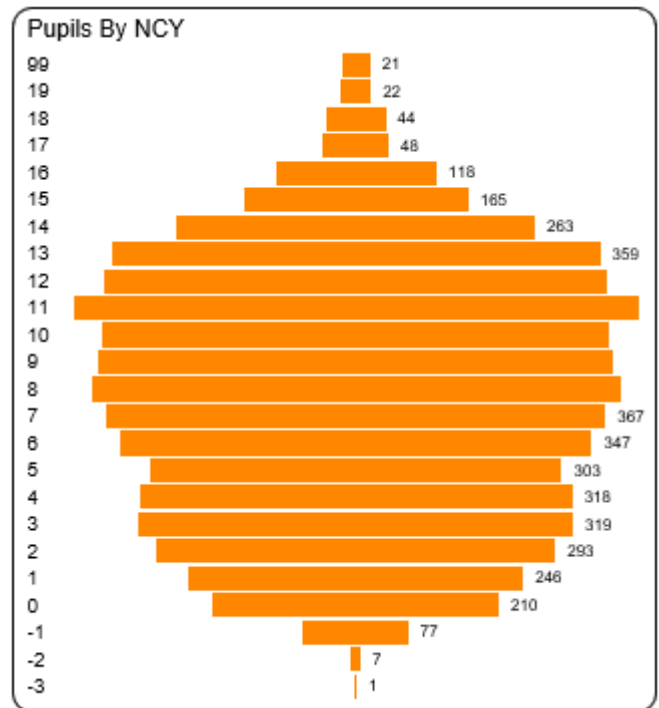
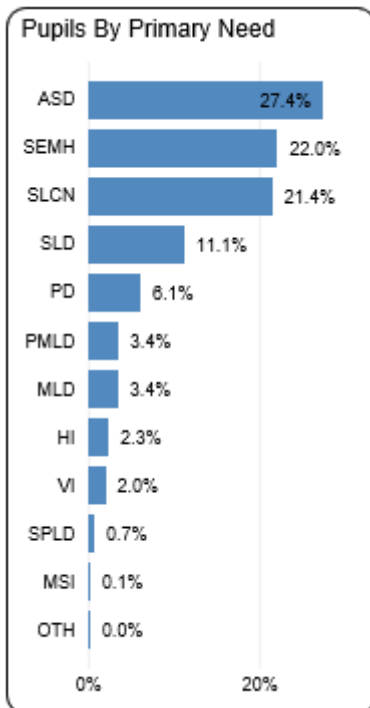
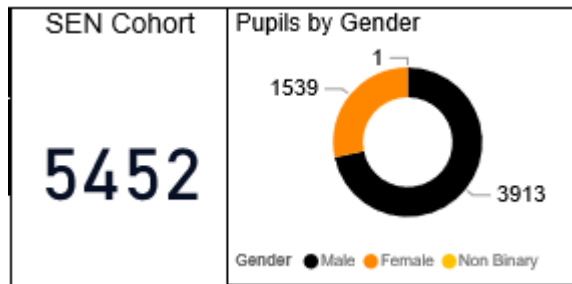
Phase of Education	Number of Additional Specialist Places	Primary Need
Primary - RP	12	Communication and Interaction including Autistic Spectrum Disorders
Secondary - RP	24	Social, Emotional and Mental Health
Secondary – Special School	50	ASD, SLD and PMLD

- Discussions are ongoing with numerous schools and academies in the relevant areas regarding the development of further specialist places in the District.
- The Local Authority will include within the High Needs Block planned budget for the 2023/24 financial year funding to meet the revenue cost of additional places.

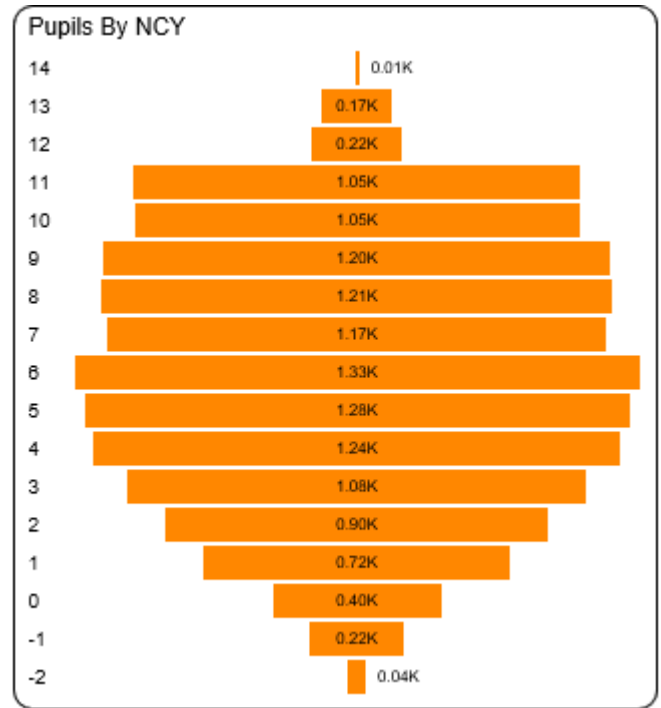
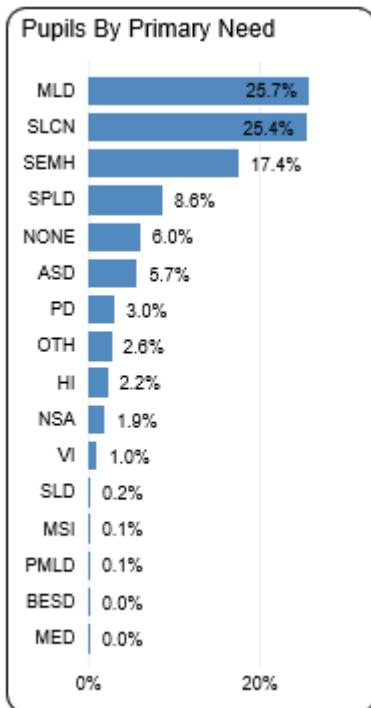
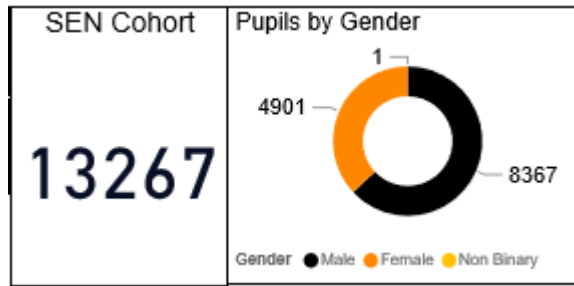
Appendix 1

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 24 November 2022.

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.



Appendix 2

List of new provisions/expansions opened between 2020 – 2021 and 2021 - 2022

Bradford East Constituency

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of Additional Places	Ward	Year Places Created
Holybrook Primary School	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-SL New Provision	Primary	16	Eccleshill	2020 - 2021
Fagley Primary School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-LA New Provision	Primary	12	Eccleshill	2020 - 2021
Beechcliffe Thackley	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Special School	Secondary	24	Idle and Thackley	2021 - 2022

Bradford South Constituency

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of additional Places	Ward	Year Places Created
Co-op Academy Southfield Phase 1	ASD, SLD and PMLD Expansion of existing provision	Special School	Secondary	45	Great Horton	2020 - 2021

Bradford West Constituency

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of additional Places	Ward	Year Places Created
Thornton Primary	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-LA New Provision	Primary	12	Thornton and Allerton	2020 - 2021
Oasis Academy Lister Park	Speech Language and Communication Needs	RP-SL Expansion	Secondary	6	Manningham	2021 - 2022

Shipley Constituency

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of additional Places	Ward	Year Places Created
Hirst Wood Nursery School	Generic 0-5 years	EYESP New Provision	Nursery	10	Shipley	2021 - 2022
Cottingley Primary School	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-SL Expansion	Primary	4	Bingley Rural	2021 - 2022

Keighley Constituency

Name	Primary Need	Provision	Primary/ Secondary/ All Through	No. of Additional Places	Ward	Year Places Created
Long Lee Primary School	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	RP-SL Expansion	Primary	6	Keighley East	2020 - 2021
Parkwood Primary School	Communication and Interaction	RP-SL	Primary	12	Keighley East	2020 - 2021

	Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	New Provision				
The Holy Family Catholic School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-SL Expansion	Secondary	4	Keighley Central	2020 - 2021
Worth Valley Primary School	Communication and Interaction Inc. Autistic Spectrum Disorder	RP-SL New Provision	Primary	8	Keighley West	2020 - 2021
Oastlers	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Special School New Split Site	Secondary	30	Keighley West	2020 - 2021

The total number of additional specialist places created across the Bradford District between 2020 and 2022 is 189.