

Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Croydon

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Data Profile
August 2021

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Key findings

Children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs experience a range of inequalities, with needs that intersect. Needs are hard to quantify, although we have good data on service i.e. SEN Support and EHCP provision.

Key local data findings

- Croydon has a large population of children and young people and this is expected to grow over the next few years, particularly in those aged 15-19
- Over the last three years, the proportion of pupils and residents with special educational needs have increased
- There is an over-representation of males and social deprivation and an under-representation of those with an Asian ethnicity
- Croydon pupils have a different picture of primary need compared to the rest of England: Speech, Language and Communications needs are higher than the national average, as is those with Autism Spectrum Disorder (for pupils with an EHCP). Moderate learning difficulties (for pupils with SEN support) are lower than the national average.
- Croydon has a slightly different pattern of placement of their children with EHC plans within educational settings

Croydon children with special educational needs and disabilities are more likely to experience worse educational outcomes than their peers and there are known links between SEND and safeguarding issues. Early identification of need can lead to better outcomes for children with SEND.

It is recognised that those with SEND will have been impacted as a result of disruption to services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Introduction

Background, aims, data sources and overview of the population

- Children and Young People (CYP) with Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities (SEND) are a vulnerable population, often experiencing poorer outcomes in health, educational attainment and transition to adulthood and at heightened risk of exploitation and abuse compared to peers
- Croydon's [SEND Strategy 2019-2022](#) aims to improve outcomes and life chances for all CYP with SEND, it is complemented by the [Autism Strategy 2021-2024](#) which aims to improve awareness and understanding of autism and support for autistic people across the borough.
- The SEND strategy focuses on children and young people's well-being and attainment, building on their strengths with a focus on local education, health and care and pathways to adulthood. It comprises five strands:
 1. Improve early identification of need
 2. Better graduated response
 3. Joint Working
 4. Improved post 16 opportunities and outcomes
 5. Workforce Development

- This data profile aims to inform the development and delivery of the five strands of the SEND strategy and provide context for the commissioning of SEND services by describing and interpreting intelligence and analysis about the SEND population in Croydon
- The profile is intended to provide a brief overview of some of the key headline information relating to the SEND population
- The majority of the information it contains is from national published data sources so that Croydon can be compared with other areas where necessary
- A more detailed review of the SEND population at a local level would be required to further understand items only available at a local level such as health and mental health outcomes

INTRODUCTION – DATA SOURCES

There are three main sources of nationally published datasets used in this profile:

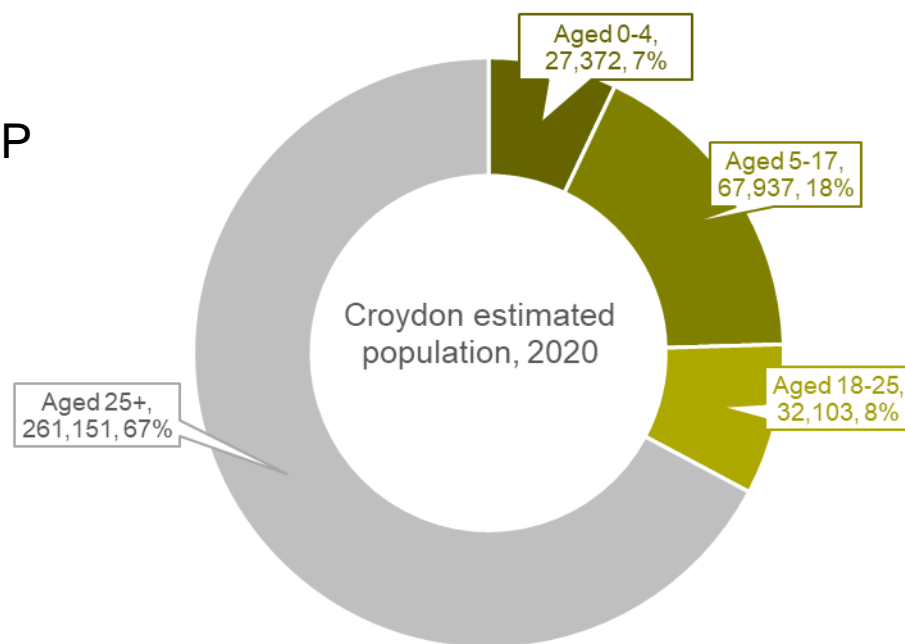
Data Source	Published	Ages	Completed by	Asks about	Population
School census	Annually	5 to 18	Schools	Pupils receiving SEN support or in receipt of a statement / EHCP	At school in Croydon regardless of where they live
SEN2 survey	Annually	0 to 25	LA	Children and young people with an EHCP	Resident in Croydon regardless of where they go to school
FRS	Annually	All ages	Households	Disability	National

Data from local datasets and case management systems are also included, e.g.:

- Children Recording System (CRS) – the live case management system for Children’s Social Care
- Early Help Module (EHM) – the live management system for children and families known to Early Help

INTRODUCTION – THE CHILD & YOUNG PEOPLE POPULATION IN CROYDON

- At approximately 127,000, Croydon has the third highest population of CYP aged 0-25 in London. Around one in every three people living in Croydon are this age.
- An estimated 65% of the 0-25 population is from a Black, Asian and minority ethnic group (BAME)



- There were 791 Children Looked After (CLA) by Croydon Council on 31 March 2020. A third of these CLA (270) were Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), the second largest number of UASC of any English Local Authority
- The number of CYP living in Croydon aged 0-25 is expected to grow by 2.4% by 2025 with the biggest increase expected in 15-19s (by ~13%). This means the numbers of CYP needing support will grow

Sources;

Mid-2020. Office for National Statistics. [Population Estimates](#)

2016-based. Greater London Authority Datastore. [Ethnic group housing-led population projections](#) (estimated BAME population in 2020)

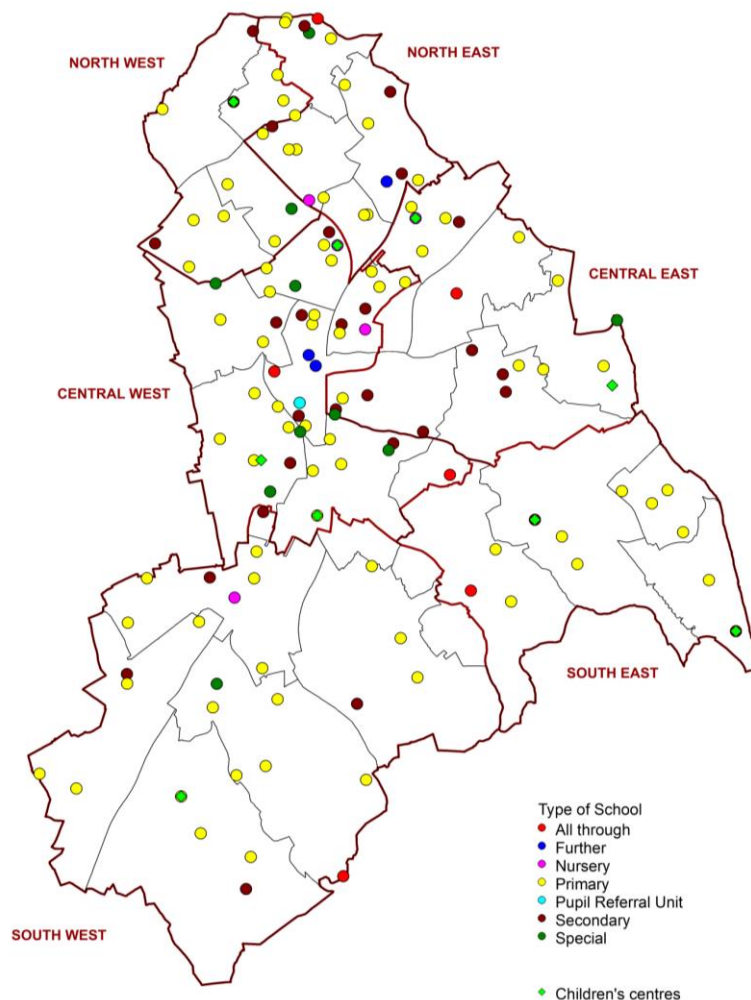
2018-based. Greater London Authority Datastore. [Housing-led population projections](#) (estimated population growth between 2020 and 2025)

2020. Department for Education. [Children Looked After in England](#).

INTRODUCTION – THE CHILD & YOUNG PEOPLE POPULATION IN CROYDON

Croydon Schools and Children's Centres

DfE, downloaded July 2021



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Sources;

Department for Education. [Find and compare schools in England](#)

Croydon Council. [Best start children's centres](#)

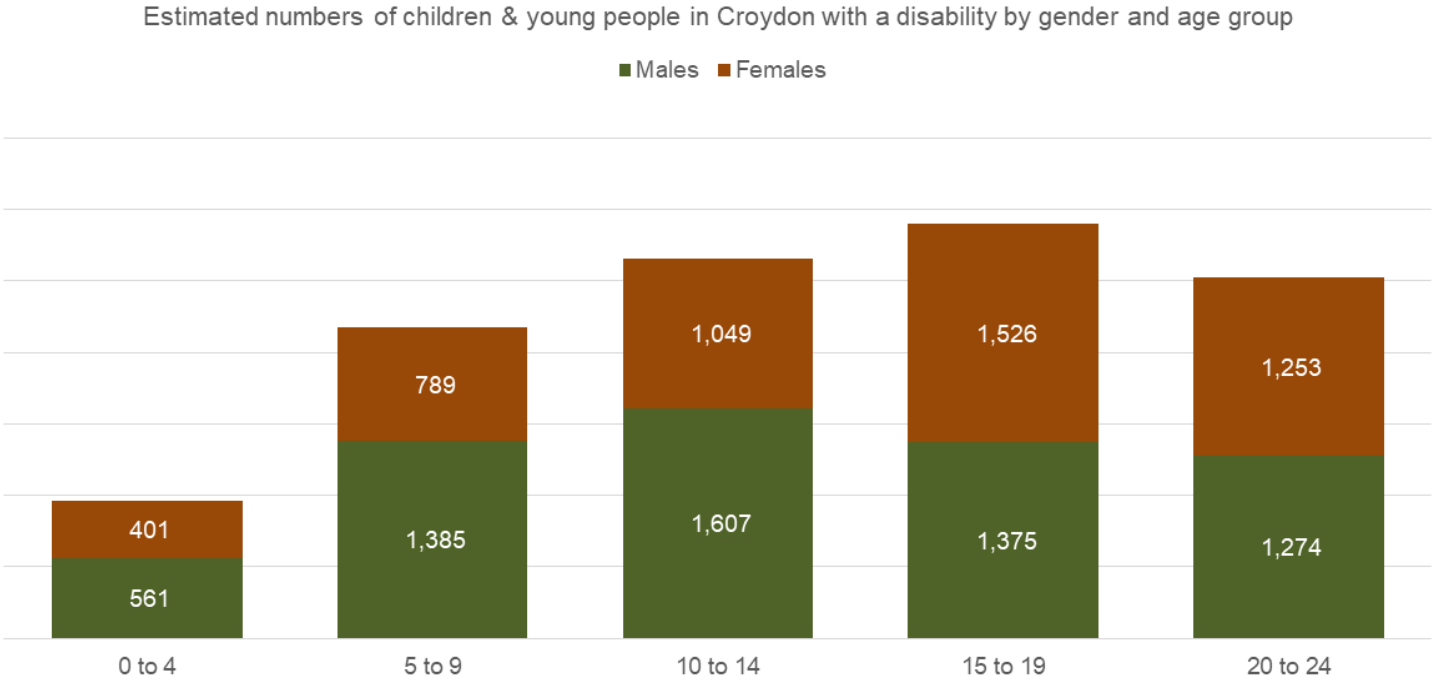
Children with disabilities

Estimated prevalence

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES – ESTIMATED PREVALENCE

The Family Resources Survey found that, nationally, an estimated 8% of children aged under 16 reported a disability*. Applying the latest national survey results to the Croydon population suggests there are potentially **11,219** children and young people (aged 0-25) in the borough with disabilities.

The majority of these children are males (55%). Just under half (48%) are aged 15 or above, 9% are under five years of age.



* a person is considered to have a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has 'substantial' and 'long term' negative effects on their ability to do normal daily activities.

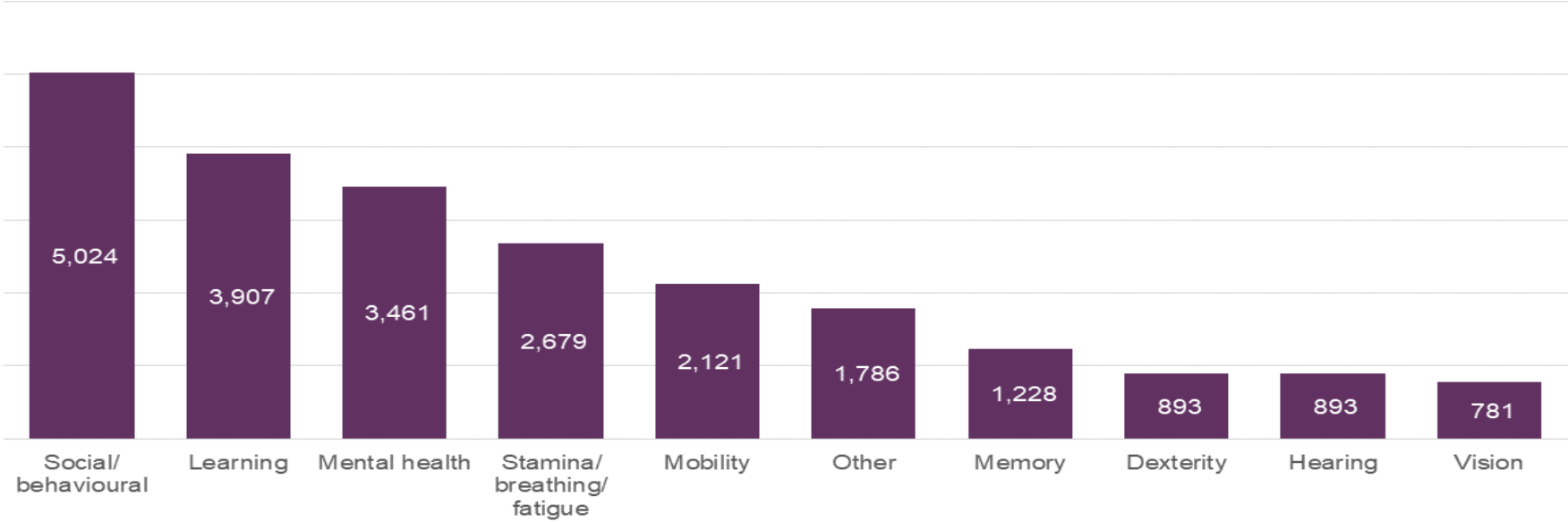
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES – ESTIMATED PREVALENCE

Of the potential 11,219 children and young people (aged 0-25) in the borough with disabilities, the chart below estimates how many would have specific impairment types.

The most frequent impairment type reported by children nationally is social / behavioural, with an estimated 5,024 children in Croydon potentially affected.

Please note, the figures below will sum to more than 11,219 as some children will be affected by more than one impairment type.

Estimated numbers of children & young people in Croydon with a disability by impairment type



Sources;
2019/20. Department for Work and Pensions. [Family Resources Survey](#)
Mid-2020. Office for National Statistics. [Population Estimates](#)

Children and young people with special educational needs

Description of Croydon pupils with SEND

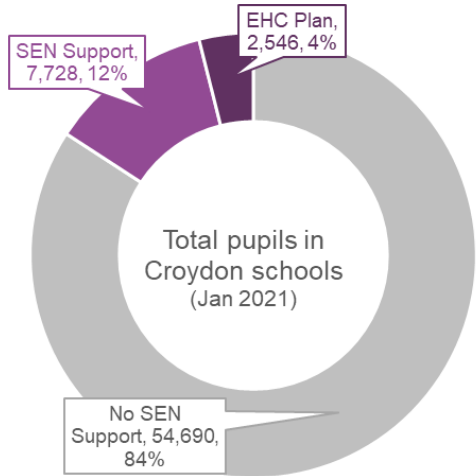
DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON PUPILS WITH SEND

Results from the school census in January 2021 showed that just under **one in every six pupils** aged 5-18 (15.8%) had special educational needs and disabilities (receiving SEN support or had an EHC plan). This was 10,274 pupils with SEND.

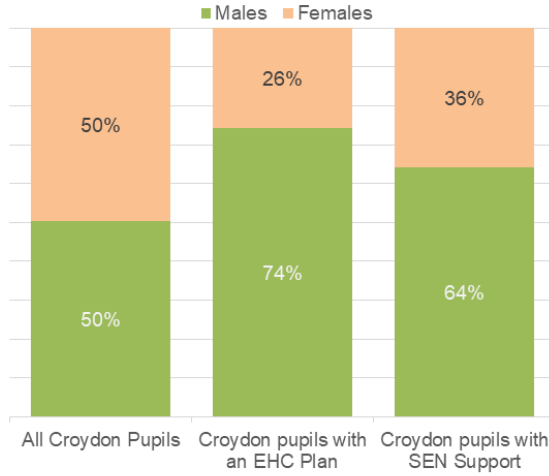
In the school pupil population, the amount of boys and girls are roughly equal. In contrast, the majority of pupils aged 5-18 with an EHC Plan are males. **Boys outnumber girls by as much as three to one.** The same is true of those receiving SEN support where boys outnumber girls by two to one.

Of all male pupils, 16% were receiving SEN support and an additional 6% were in receipt of an EHC Plan compared to 9% and 2% of females respectively.

This gender difference is similar to previous years.



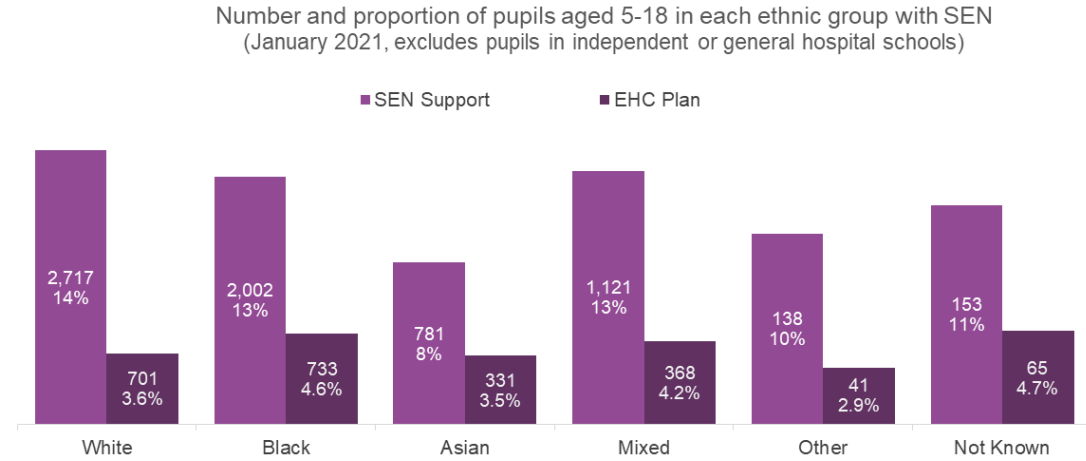
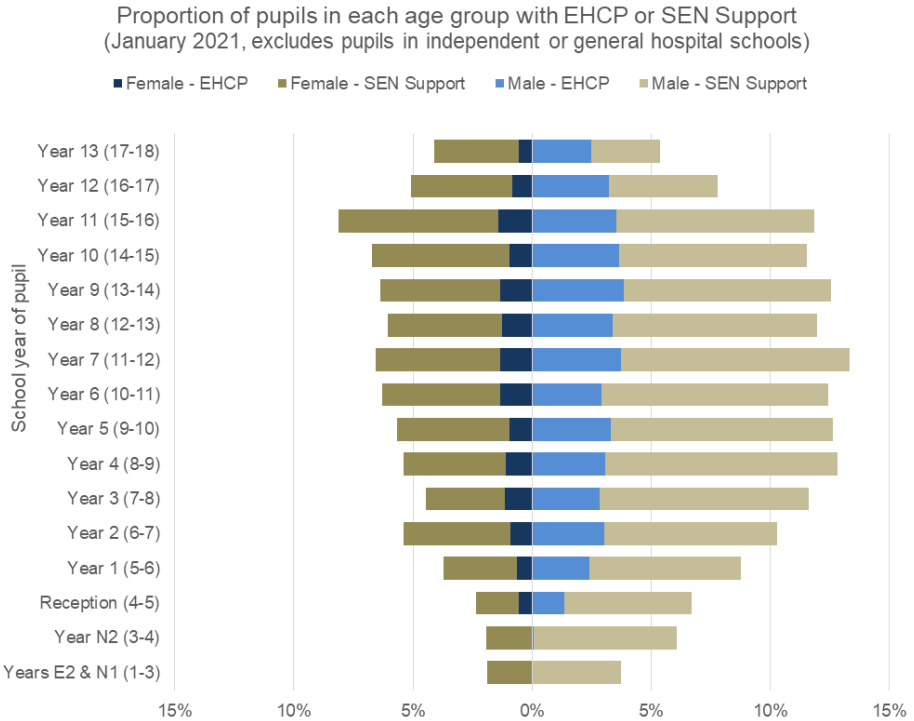
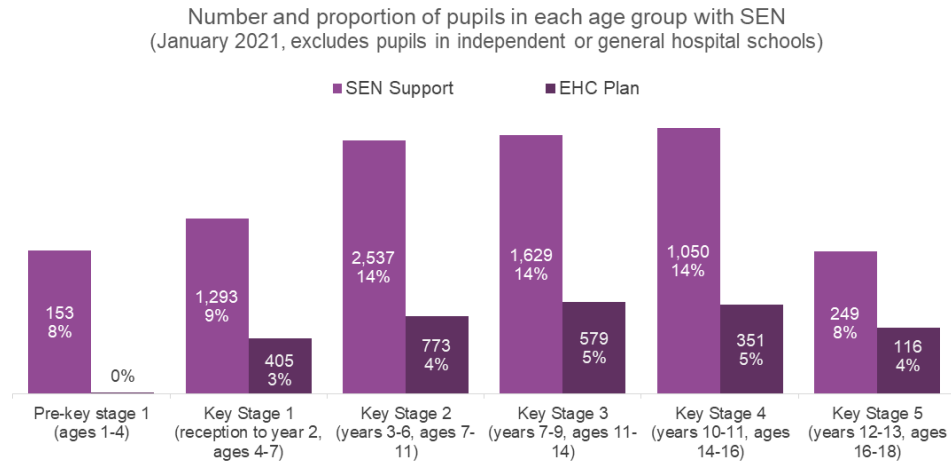
Proportion of pupils in Croydon schools by SEN provision and gender (Jan 2021)



Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Special Education Needs in England](#) (from school census)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON PUPILS WITH SEND

Pupils in key stages 2 to 4 (ages 7-16) are most likely to be receiving SEN support, this is similar to previous years.



The proportion of Asian pupils who receive SEN support is lower than most other ethnic groups.

Black pupils have the highest proportion of all ethnic groups with an EHC plan.

Again, this is similar to previous years.

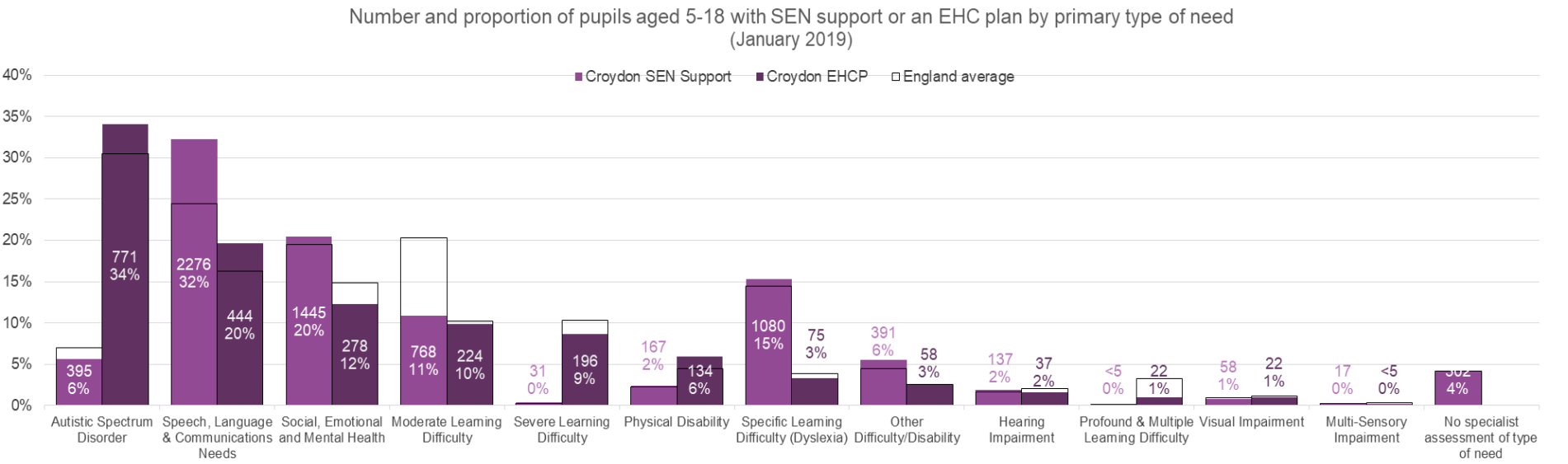
Sources;
January 2021. Local data extract of School Census

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON PUPILS WITH SEND

In Croydon, the most common primary types of need for pupils aged 5-18 receiving SEN support were speech, language and communication needs (32%), followed by social, emotional and mental health needs (20%). This is similar to previous years. The top four primary needs account for 79% of all pupils receiving SEN support.

For pupils with an EHCP, the most common primary types of need continues to be Autism Spectrum Disorder (34%), followed by speech, language and communication needs (20%) and social, emotional and mental health needs (12%).

Compared to the national average, Croydon continues to have a markedly higher % of pupils receiving SEN support with a primary need of speech, communication and language needs and lower % with a primary need of a moderate learning difficulty.



Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Special Education Needs in England](#) (from school census)

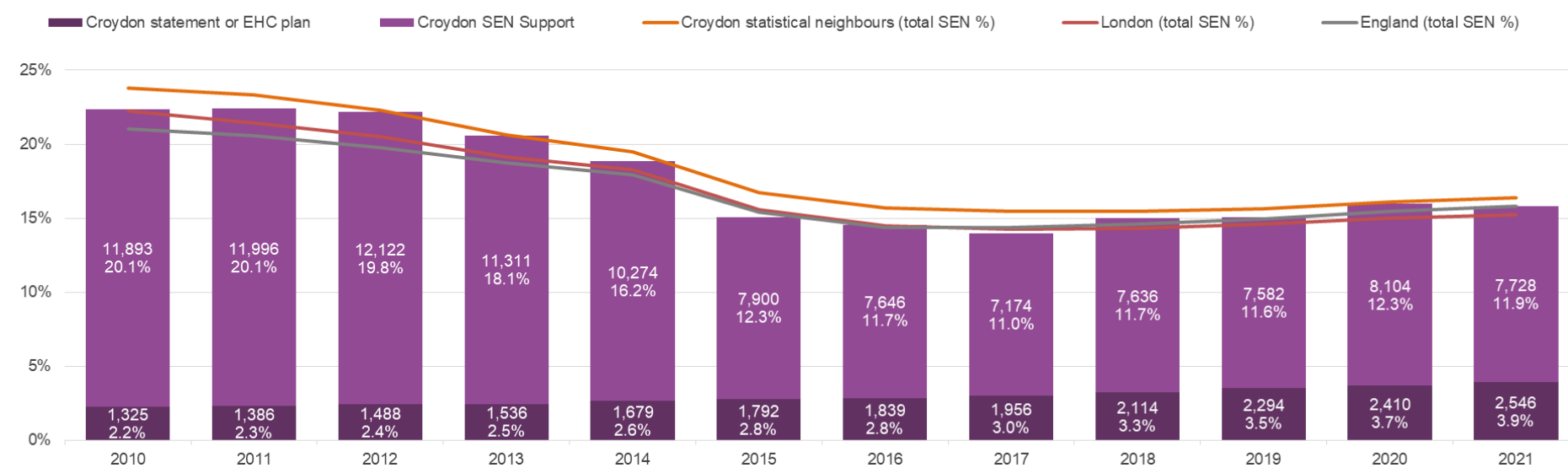
TRENDS OF CROYDON PUPILS WITH SEND

In January 2021, a total of 7,728 pupils in Croydon were receiving SEN support – almost one in every eight pupils – a 35% decrease from 2010 when around one in every five pupils were receiving support. This is a similar reduction to our statistical neighbours (-32%) and London (-32%).

In the same time, the number of more complex cases (i.e. those requiring a statement / EHC plan) increased by 92%, from 1,325 in 2010 to 2,546 in 2021; a larger increase than our statistical neighbours (48%) and London (35%).

In line with national trends, the total number of pupils with SEN has started to slowly increase in the last four years following a steady decrease since 2012.

Number and proportion of Croydon pupils with SEN

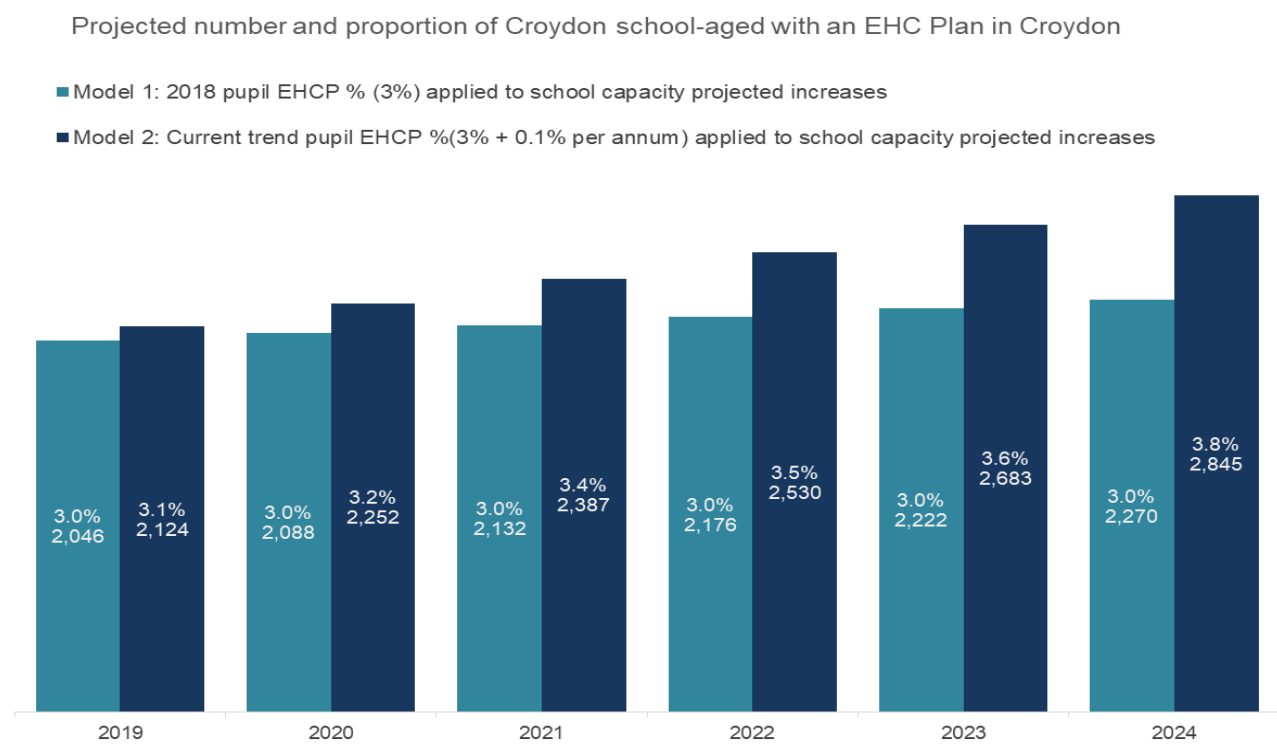


Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Special Education Needs in England](#) (from school census)
Department for Education. [Children Services Statistical Neighbour Benchmarking Tool](#)

PROJECTIONS OF CROYDON PUPILS WITH SEND

Over the past six years, the proportion of Croydon pupils receiving SEN support has remained fairly constant at approximately 11.7% while the proportion with an EHC Plan has increased.

The 2017 SEND Demand and Capacity Review estimated that the number of pupils with an EHC Plan could increase to more than 2,800 by 2024 based on existing trends of SEN within schools and the School Capacity Survey (SCAP) (model 2).



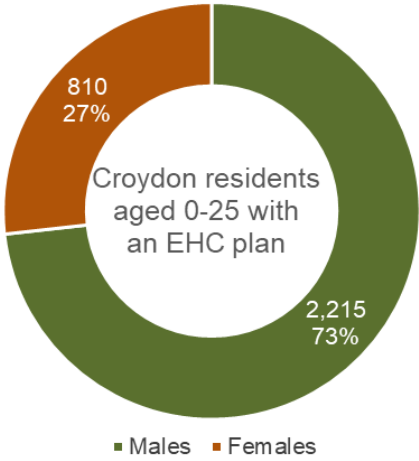
Sources;
January 2019. Department of Education. [Special Education Needs in England](#) (from school census)
Extract from PPL SEND Demand and Capacity Review (2017)

Children and young people with special educational needs

Description of those up to the age of 25 with statements of special educational needs and Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans maintained by local authorities

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHCP

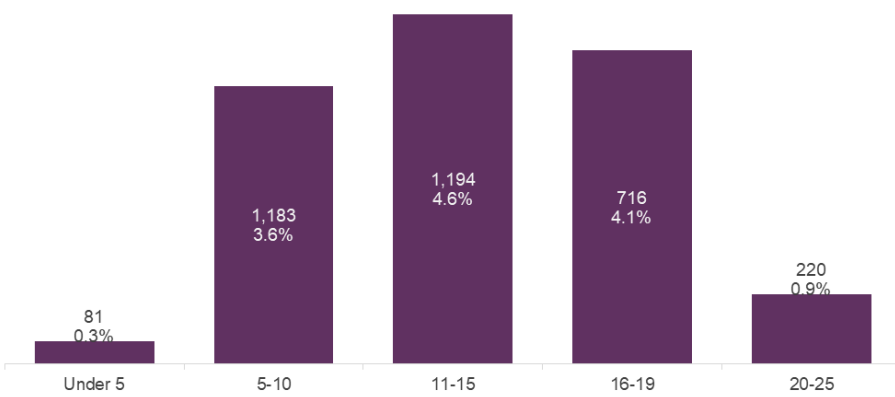
Results from the SEN2 survey in January 2021 showed that **3,394** children and young people aged 0-25 living in Croydon had an EHC plan. This was **2.7%** of the estimated 0-25 year old population. 377 of these (11%) were newly identified since January 2020.



In the resident population, the amount of boys and girls are roughly equal. In contrast, the majority of children and young people aged 0-25 in Croydon with an EHC Plan are males. **Boys outnumber girls by almost three to one.** Of the total male population, 3.8% were in receipt of an EHC Plan compared to 1.4% of the female population. This difference is similar to previous years.

Again, similar to previous years the proportion of residents aged under 5 and 20-25 with an EHC Plan is much smaller than the Croydon average, this is likely to be because school is the main route of identifying an EHC Plan need. Those aged 11-15 are more likely to be in receipt of an EHC Plan than any other age group.

Number and proportion of residents in each age group with an EHC plan (January 2021)

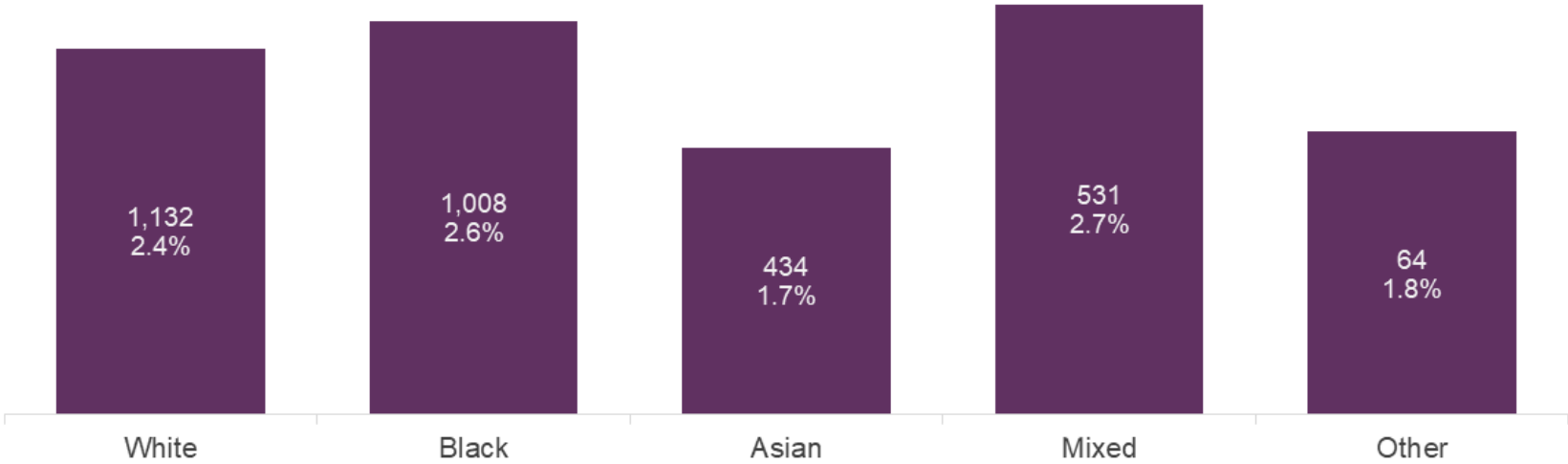


Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Statements of SEN and EHC plans in England](#) (from SEN2)
Mid-2020. Office for National Statistics. [Population Estimates](#)
January 2021. Local data extract of SEN2 return

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHCP

Similar to previous years, the proportion of children and young people aged 0-25 who are Asian in receipt of an EHC Plan is lower than most other ethnic groups.

Number and proportion of residents aged 0-25 in each ethnic group with an EHC plan
(January 2021)



Sources;
January 2021. Local data extract of SEN2 return
2016-based. Greater London Authority Datastore. [Ethnic group housing-led population projections](#) (estimated
population in 2020)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHCP

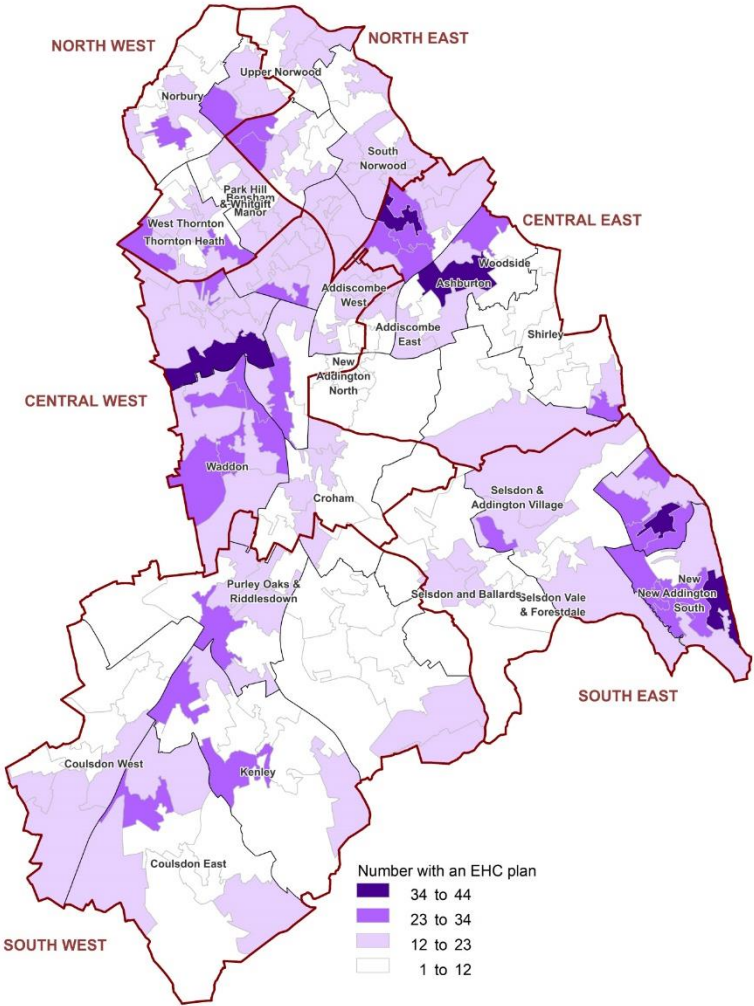
In 2021, those children and young people with an EHC plan were spread across the borough with the highest concentrations of those with an EHC plan shown in dark purple on the map.

Central West has highest number (831) and South East has the highest rate (37.2 per 1,000). An additional 55 CYP were placed outside of Croydon.

Locality	Number with an EHCP	Rate with an EHCP (per 1,000 population aged 0-25)
North East	405	24.1
North West	501	25.1
Central East	504	26.0
Central West	831	23.7
South East	533	37.2
South West	566	26.0

Number of Children and Young People with an Education Health and Care Plan in Croydon

January 2021. Children residing in Croydon for whom the LA is responsible for the EHC Plan, local data extract.



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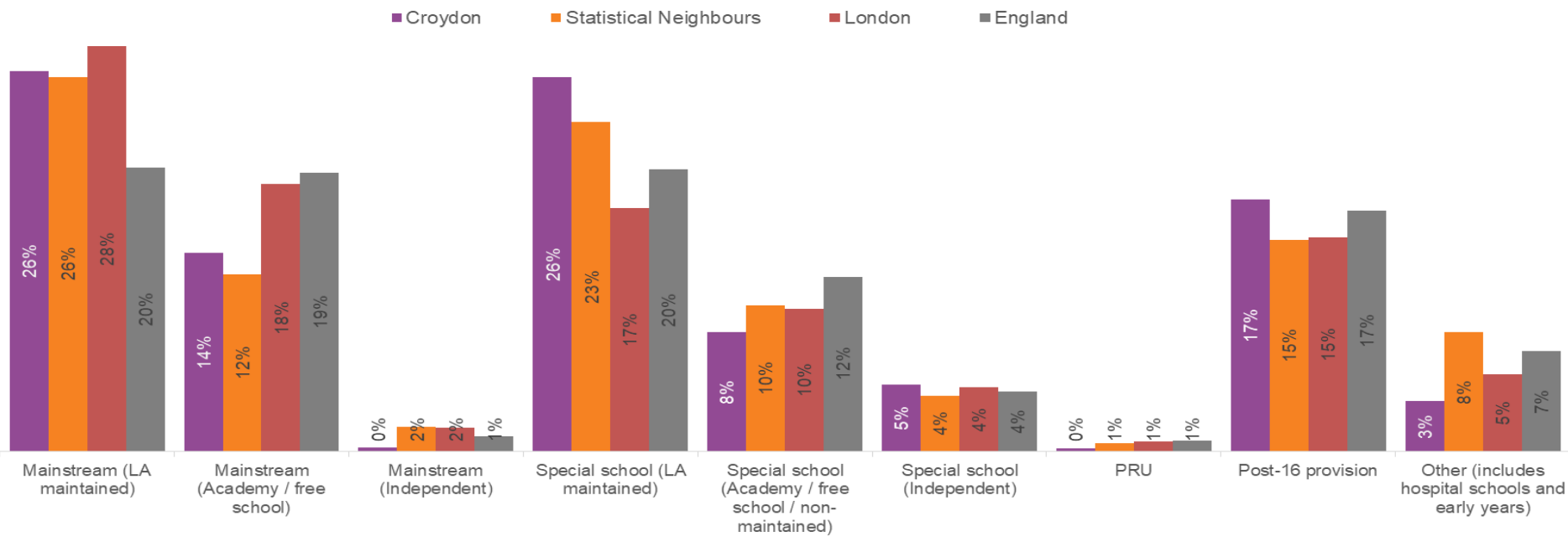
Sources; January 2021. Local data extract of SEN2 return
Mid-2019. Office for National Statistics. [Population Estimates](#)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHCP

Compared to our statistical neighbours and other comparators, Croydon has proportionately slightly more of their children and young people aged 0-25 with an EHC plan placed in special schools and post-16 provision and slightly less in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and other provision.

Compared to 2019, the balance of children in mainstream and special schools is much closer to statistical neighbours (in 2019 Croydon had a much larger percentage of children in LA maintained special schools and academy or free school mainstream schools). The proportion in post-16 provision has grown from 13% in January 2019.

Placement of children and young people aged 0-25 with an EHC plan, (January 2021)



Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Statements of SEN and EHC plans in England](#) (from SEN2)

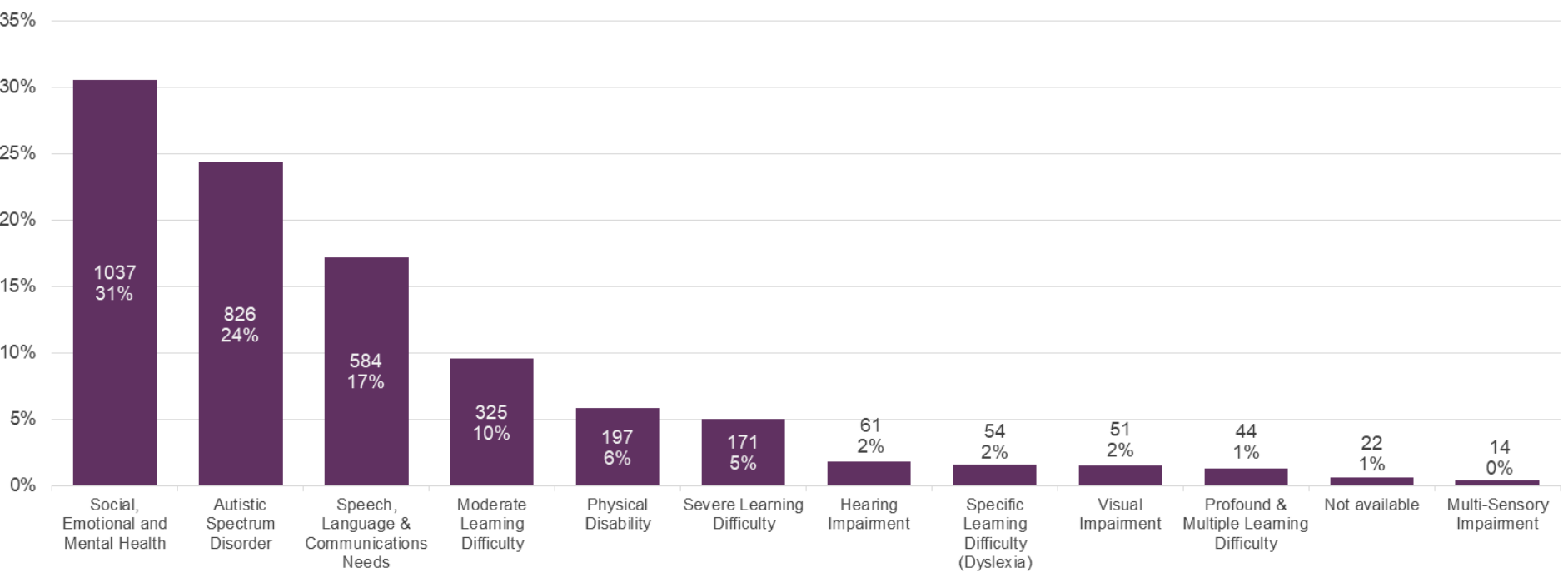
DEMOGRAPHICS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHC

In Croydon, the most common primary types of need for those aged 0-25 with an EHC Plan were social, emotional and mental health needs and Autistic Spectrum Disorder and speech, language and communication needs.

Since January 2019 the proportion with a primary need of social, emotional and mental health has increased from 26% to 31%.

The top three primary needs account for 72% of all Croydon children with an EHC Plan.

Number and proportion of Croydon residents aged 0-25 with EHC Plan by primary type of need (January 2021)

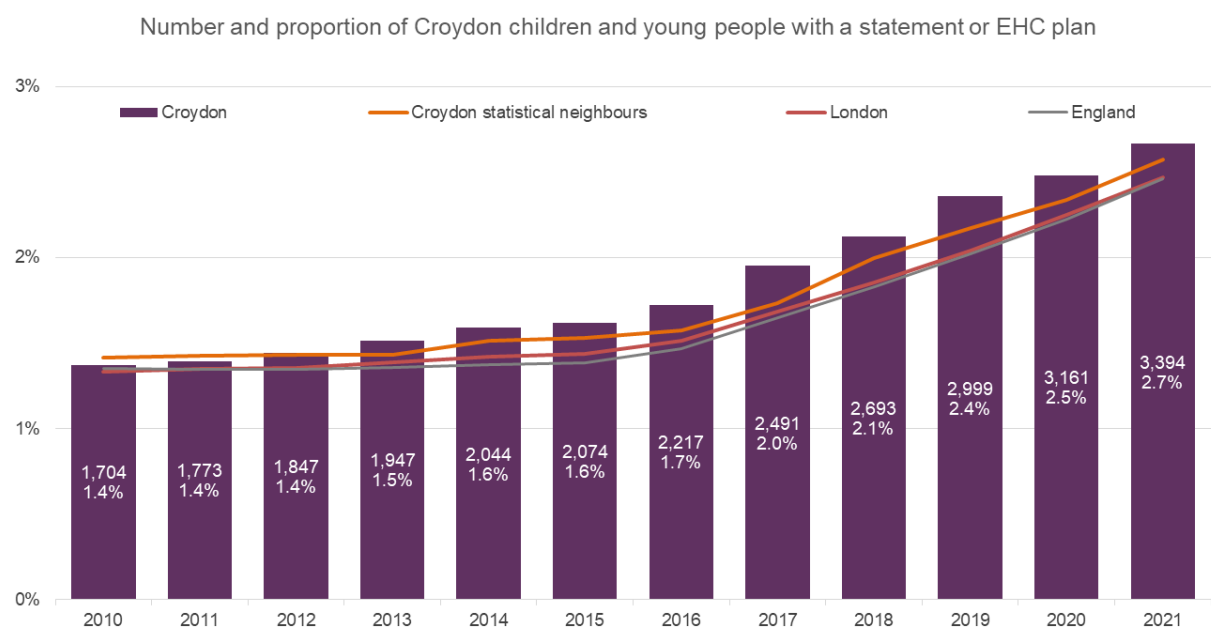


Sources;
January 2021. Local data extract of SEN2 return

TRENDS OF CROYDON CYP WITH EHCP

In January 2021, a total of 3,394 children and young people living in Croydon had an EHC plan, 99% more than in 2010. This increase is larger than that seen in our statistical neighbours (who saw a 88% increase) and similar to London as a whole (who saw a 97% increase) in the same time.

In line with national trends, the increasing growth of the population with an EHC plan has been most pronounced since 2015, coinciding with the SEND reforms of 2014 when EHC plans were introduced. EHC plans have a lower threshold than the previous statements of SEN and an extended age range up to the age of 25.



Sources;
January 2021. Department of Education. [Statements of SEN and EHC plans in England](#) (from SEN2)
Mid-2010 to Mid-2020. Office for National Statistics. [Population Estimates](#)
Department for Education. [Children Services Statistical Neighbour Benchmarking Tool](#)

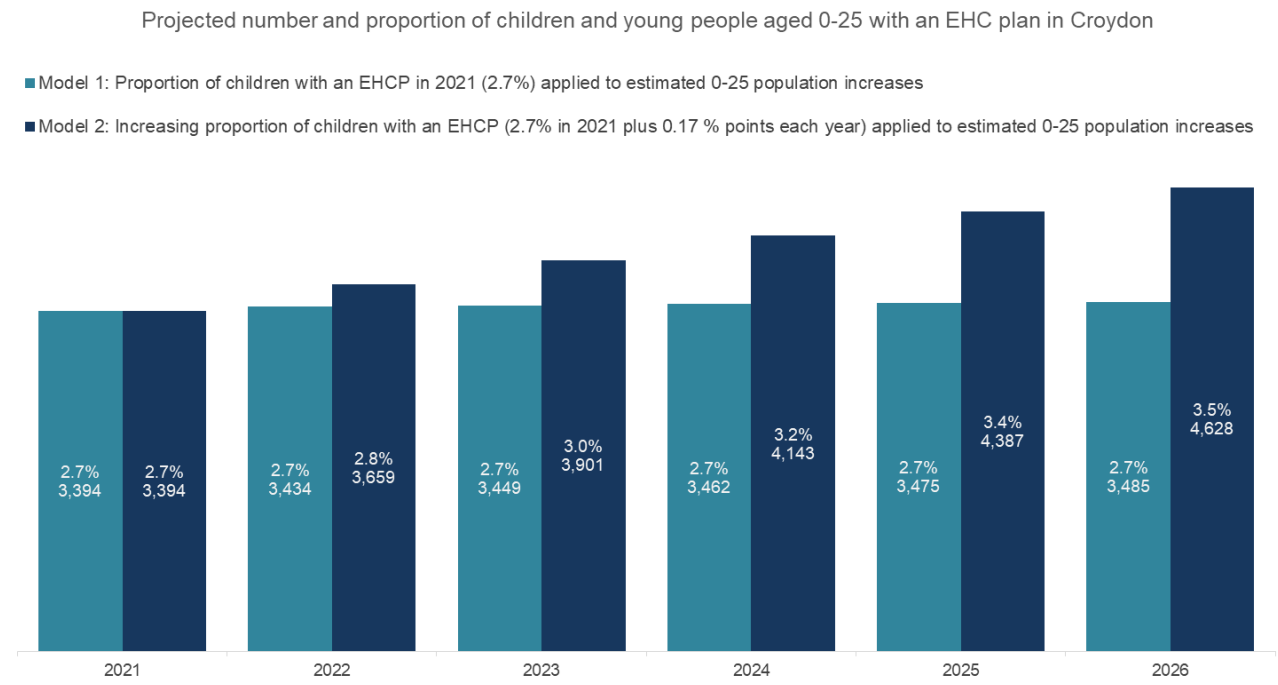
PREVALENCE OF SEND – FUTURE NEED

Over the next five years, the number of children and young people aged 0-25 living in the borough is expected to increase by 2.7%.

If the proportion of children and young people with an EHC Plan remained at 2021 levels (2.7%) then the number with an EHC Plan is projected to be approximately 3,485 by 2026 (model 1).

Since 2015, the proportion of CYP with an EHC Plan has increased by 1 percentage points (an average of 0.17 percentage points per year).

If the proportion were to continue to increase at this rate then the number with an EHC Plan by 2026 is projected to be 4,628 – 3.5% of the total 0-25 population (model 2).



Risk factors and intersecting needs

RISK FACTORS

A number of factors are associated with an increased risk of childhood developmental problems. These include;

- Foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD): FASD (foetal abnormalities which occur in the babies of women who have abused alcohol during their pregnancy) is the most common, non-genetic cause of learning disability in the UK, but is often misdiagnosed as autism, Asperger Syndrome or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
- Multiple births: Compared with singletons, babies from multiple births have much higher rates of stillbirth, neonatal mortality, infant mortality, preterm birth, low birth weight, congenital anomalies, and subsequent developmental problems. In Croydon, approximately **96 pregnancies per year** result in a multiple birth.
- Low birth weight: Low birth weight increases the risk of childhood mortality and developmental problems for the child and is associated with poorer health in later life. In Croydon, approximately **167 babies** born each year at 37 weeks or later weigh less than 2,500 grams.
- Income and Deprivation: Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities are more likely to live in poverty than those without. In 2019/20 an estimated **19,500 dependent children** under the age of 20 were in relative low-income families. In 2020/21, **15,583 Croydon pupils** (26.9%) were known to be eligible for free school meals. This percentage is much higher in pupils receiving SEN support (38.4%) an pupils with an EHC Plan (42.7%).

Sources;
FASD: [BMA 2016 Alcohol and pregnancy - Preventing and managing foetal alcohol spectrum disorders](#)
Births: Office for National Statistics, average of 2010-2018, taken from [Public Health England Fingertips](#)
Low-income families: 2019/20. HMRC (via Stat-Xplore). [Children in low income families](#)
Free School meals: 2020/21. Department of Education. [School pupils and their characteristics](#) and [Special Education Needs in England](#).

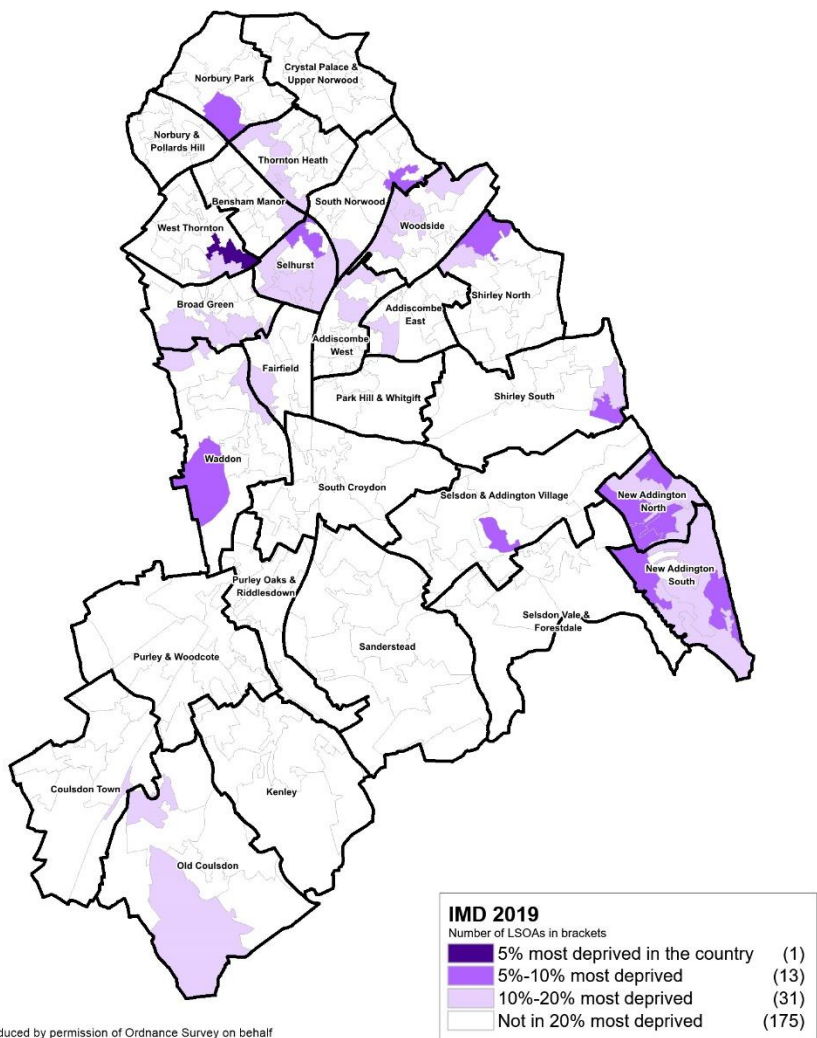
Croydon has a number of areas which are identified as part of the most 10% deprived places in the country when looking at income deprivation among children (shown in dark and very dark purple on the map).

Approximately 10,480 (8.2%) of all Croydon’s children and young people aged 0-25 live in these areas.

3.8% of CYP living in these areas have an EHC Plan compared to 2.5% of CYP who do not live in the most 10% deprived places.

Approximately 400 (12%) of **all** those aged 0-25 with an EHC Plan live in these deprived areas.

Indices of Deprivation 2019
Income deprivation among children index (IDACI)
Croydon Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)



Sources;
2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) at [LSOA level](#)
Mid-2019 ONS [small area population estimates](#) (LSOA)
January 2021. Local data extract of SEN2 return

INTERSECTING NEEDS

	Total caseload	With a matched EHCP	% with a matched EHCP	Comparison with population prevalence of EHCPs*
Early Help Team (aged 4-17)	571	47	8.2%	2 times higher
CSC (aged 4-24)	3,099	595	18.9%	6 times higher
Child Protection Plan (aged 4-24)	229	17	7.4%	2 times higher
Children in Need (aged 4-24)	2,301	493	21.4%	7 times higher
Child Looked After (aged 4-24)	569	85	14.9%	5 times higher

**Approximated at 3.3% for the purposes of these calculations (based on average of 2.7% from SEN2 and 3.9% of School Census)*

- **Vulnerable Adolescents Thematic Review:** 53% of the children (32/60) needed extra support – either SEN support or an EHCP. 10 of the 60 (17%) attended a Special School
- **Youth Offending Service:** In 2020/21, approximately 1 in 7 of all children and young people aged 10-19 known to services who had completed an intervention had an EHCP.
- **SEN Inclusion Fund:** This funding is available to all children in receipt of early education and do not have an issued or agreed EHCP. In Croydon between September 2020 and July 2021 164 children were in receipt of this funding.

Data on how SEND and safeguarding interact in Croydon would strengthen our ability to tackle these inequalities; however, historically these have not been collected systematically. National studies do show links between SEND and safeguarding issues;

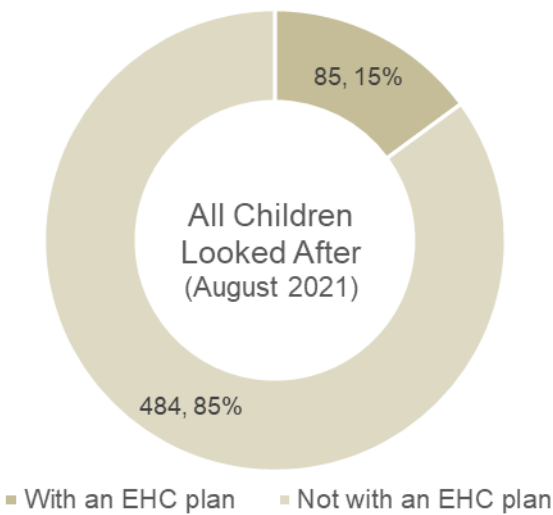
- Children and young people who have disabilities are over 3 times more likely to be abused compared with their non-disabled peers ([Jones et al, 2012](#)). The most common forms of abuse experienced by children with disabilities are neglect and emotional abuse, and they are not always recognised ([Ofsted, 2012](#), [Stalker et al, 2012](#), [NSPCC, 2016](#)).
- Children and young people who have disabilities are also less likely to receive the protection and support they need when they have been abused ([Taylor et al, 2014](#)). Potential signs of abuse/neglect are sometimes attributed to disability ([Sidebotham et al, 2016](#))
- Children with communication impairment, behaviour disorders, learning disabilities and sensory impairments are particularly vulnerable ([Stalker et al, 2010](#) ,[National Working Group On Safeguarding Disabled Children, 2016](#))
- Barriers to effective safeguarding include lack of confidence and fear about getting it wrong, failure to recognise abuse or apply appropriate thresholds: lack of holistic assessment: lack of communication with the child and maintaining a focus on their needs: improved but continuing lack of effective multiagency working ([National Working Group On Safeguarding Disabled Children, 2016](#))

For more information see;

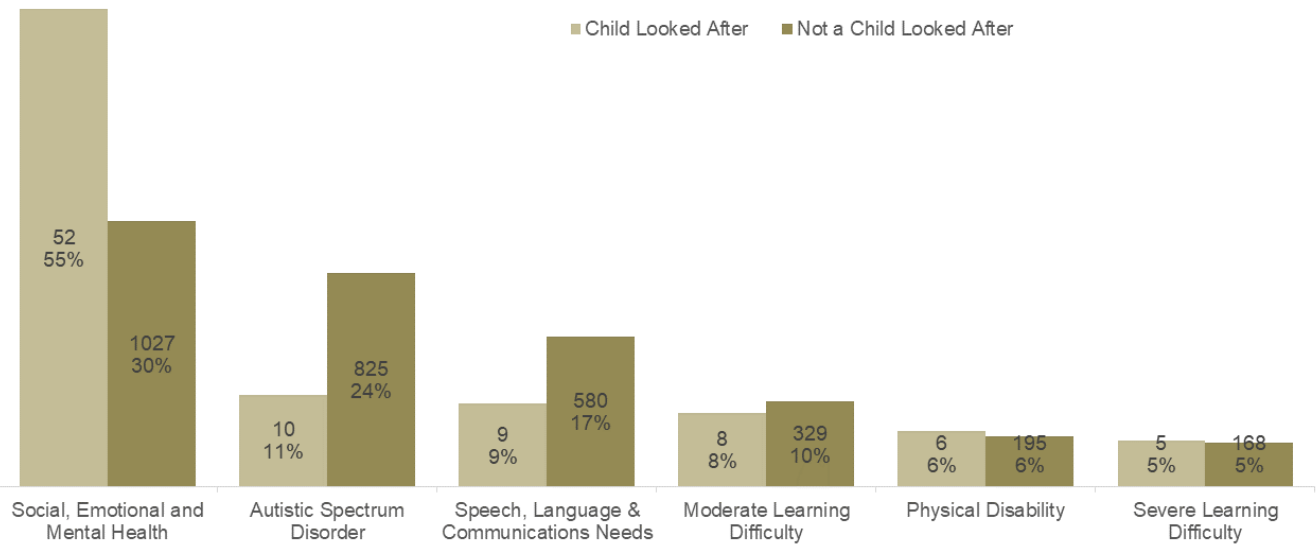
- <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/media/6902/safeguarding-disabled-children-england.pdf>
- <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection>
- <https://croydonlcsb.org.uk/>

INTERSECTING NEEDS – SOCIAL CARE

15% of all Children Looked After had an EHC plan, this means that CLA are approximately **five times more likely** to have an EHCP compared to the general child population. This is a similar to 2019 when 14% of all Children Looked After had an EHC plan.



Proportion of residents aged 0-25 with an EHC plan by CLA status and primary type of need (January 2021)



As previous years, Children Looked After with an EHCP were more likely to have a primary need of Social, Emotional and Mental Health than those who were not Looked After.

Sources;
Local extracts from Croydon CRS (open cases as at close 1 August 2021; for primary need as at close 14 January 2021) and Capita One (SEN snapshot as at 2 August 2021; for primary need as at 14 January)

Early identification of need

Early identification of need can lead to better outcomes for children with SEND. It is a core focus of the national SEND Code of Practice and is one of Croydon's five SEND strategy priorities. In order to do this well, it is important both to:

- a) Identify young children with SEND before they start school
- b) Collect and analyse the data at population level in order to inform service provision

There are two statutory checks of two year old children which provide a key opportunity for early identification of SEND:

1. Health visitors (see next page for more details)

- As part of universal provision of the **Healthy Child Programme**
- Delivery of the 2 to 2.5 year Health Visitor check remains low (44%). The progress being made to improve this pre-COVID has been on hold but there is now a COVID recovery programme in place.

2. Early Years practitioners (see next page for more details)

- As part of the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Progress Check**
- The EYFS progress check is only delivered for children in nursery / child minder settings

The integrated 2 year review: From September 2021 following a gap due to government restrictions during COVID on the delivery of the 2 year HV checks, the outcomes of targeted two year reviews will be integrated.

EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF NEED

Early Years Foundation Stage Progress Check	Health Visitor 2 year check
Statutory check for all 2 year olds in settings where they deliver the EYFS curriculum	All children are eligible but during COVID only vulnerable children were able to have a face to face appointment. All children were triaged.
Practitioners develop a targeted plan to support any areas where there are significant concerns or identified SEND	Families are sent an Ages and Stages Questionnaire to complete before the review
Parents/carers receive a plan and are encouraged to share the information with other relevant professionals, including health visitors	<p>The review covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• general development, including movement, speech, social skills and behaviour, and hearing and vision• growth, healthy eating and keeping active• managing behaviour and encouraging good sleeping habits• tooth brushing and going to the dentist• keeping your child safe• vaccinations
These data are not currently shared with the local authority model	

Outcomes

Educational exclusion, absenteeism, attainment and further education / employment

Exclusions and Absences

- Children with special educational needs and disabilities are **more likely to be excluded** than their peers. Nationally pupils with SEN support were around 5 times more likely to have a permanent exclusion than pupils with no SEN and pupils with an EHC plan were almost 5 times more likely to have a suspension.
- Croydon pupils with receiving SEN support were around 4 times more likely to have a suspension compared to pupils with no SEN.
- Croydon's Vulnerable Adolescent Review found that 100% of the children in their study who were excluded at primary school went on to receive a criminal record
- Children with special educational needs and disabilities are more likely to be **absent from school** than their peers. Nationally the proportion of pupils with an EHC plan who are persistent absentees were more than two times higher than the percentage for pupils with no identified SEN.
- The same is true in Croydon where pupils with SEN are more likely to be absent than pupils with no SEN.

Sources;

Croydon Vulnerable Adolescent Review report. 2019. [Croydon Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

2019/20. Department for Education. [Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions](#)

2018/19. Department for Education. [Pupil Absence in Schools](#) (2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)

Attainment and post-school destinations

- Croydon pupils with SEND have lower levels of **educational attainment** across all key stages.
- At both key stage 4 (aged 16) and key stage 5 (aged 18), pupils with identified SEN are slightly less likely than their non-SEN peers to end up in **sustained education, employment or apprenticeships**. Croydon has slightly lower rates in their SEN pupils compared to London and England, though similar to our statistical neighbours.

Sources;

2018/19. Department for Education. [Early years foundation stage profile results](#) (2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)

2018/19. Department for Education. [National curriculum assessments at key stage 2](#) (2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)

2019/20. Department for Education. [Key stage 4 performance](#)

2019. Department for Education. [Level 2 and level 3 attainment by young people aged 19](#)

2019. Department for Education. [Destinations of KS4 and KS5 pupils](#)

Impact of COVID

IMPACT OF COVID ON CYP WITH SEND

In assessing the level of need the possibility of the following impacts from the COVID19 pandemic are recognised:

- All children due to join reception classes in 2021 will have experienced disrupted access to direct pre-school education for over 18 months.
- Some children may have had no access to any pre-school education
- All children will have had restricted opportunity until recently to participate in wider activities to support early development and social interaction such as family gatherings, outings and parties.
- Reduced attendance at pre-schools may have limited the opportunity to make accurate assessments of pupils developmental strengths and any delays and address any emerging needs.
- The NHS England limited the health visitors 1 and 2 year mandated checks
- Social distancing measures have delayed and disrupted process of referral and assessment by health and other services, including portage.
- Reduced requests for special school placements with possibility that some children requiring a specialist pathway will be identified later

It is currently too early to demonstrate this impact locally, although it will be monitored going forward as a part of the usual SEND data reporting.

SUPPORT FOR SEND SCHOOLS DURING COVID

As a response to the COVID19 pandemic, all schools were offered support throughout the pandemic from Croydon Council.

This support included;

- Guidance summaries with separate sections for SEND
- Flowcharts and posters for schools and parents
- Regular meetings with Head Teachers, the Director of Education and Director of Public Health
- Open communication so that all schools were able to seek advice and support on the telephone from Public Health Consultants

Specific support provided for SEND schools included;

- Support for children requiring Aerosol Generating Procedures
- Early access to the COVID-19 vaccine for special school staff working with clinically vulnerable children
- Ongoing support and guidance around risk assessments for the special school transport service

Appendix 1

Definitions and details of key data sources

- The [Children and Families Act](#) (2014) define a child as having special educational needs if "they have a learning difficulty or disability which requires special educational provision to be made for him or her"
- The [Equality Act](#) (2010) defines a disability as a "physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities."
- The World Health Organisation definition states "Disabilities is an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions. An impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; while a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Disability is thus not just a health problem. It is a complex phenomenon, reflecting the interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives."
- The [SEND Code of Practice](#) (2015) state that there are four broad categories of SEND need. A child may have needs that cut across these categories, and their needs may change over time:
 - Communication and interaction
 - Cognition and learning
 - Social, mental and emotional health
 - Sensory and/or physical need

APPENDIX – DATA SOURCES

There are two main sources of information relating to SEND in children and young people.

1. The [SEN2 survey](#) is a requirement for all local authorities to complete. The annual information published by the Department for Education includes all children and young people with statements of special educational needs and Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans maintained by individual local authorities as at January of each year. It includes all children and young people up to the age of 25, including those placed outside of the borough for whom the LA is responsible. It does not include information on
 - Children who do not reach the threshold for a statement / plan
 - Children attending Croydon schools or placed in Croydon for whom the LA is not responsible

Please be aware that there is a small difference between local and DfE published figures as local data is a snapshot of the live system which doesn't take into account pupil movement at the time of the survey used by DfE.

2. The [school census](#) collects data on pupils of school age (5-18 year olds). The annual information published by the Department for Education includes pupils receiving SEN support or with a statement/EHC plan as at January of each year. It includes pupils attending schools in Croydon, including those resident outside of Croydon. It does not include information on;
 - Children and young people outside of school age (under 5 or over 18)
 - Children who are home-schooled
 - Children who live in Croydon and attend school outside of the borough

Please be aware that there is a difference between local and DfE published figures as local data does not include information from registered independent schools and general hospital schools who provide data nationally via the school level annual school census (SLASC) collection and are included for publication by DfE.

The definitions of pupils with SEN are categorised by the Department for Education as follows:

SEN support	Extra or different help is given from that provided as part of the school’s usual curriculum. The class teacher and SEN Coordinator (SENCO) may receive advice or support from outside specialists. This category has replaced the former ‘School Action’ and ‘School Action Plus’ categories.
Statement / EHC plan	A pupil has a statement of SEN or an EHC plan when a local authority issued one following a formal assessment. This document sets out the child’s needs and the extra help they should receive.

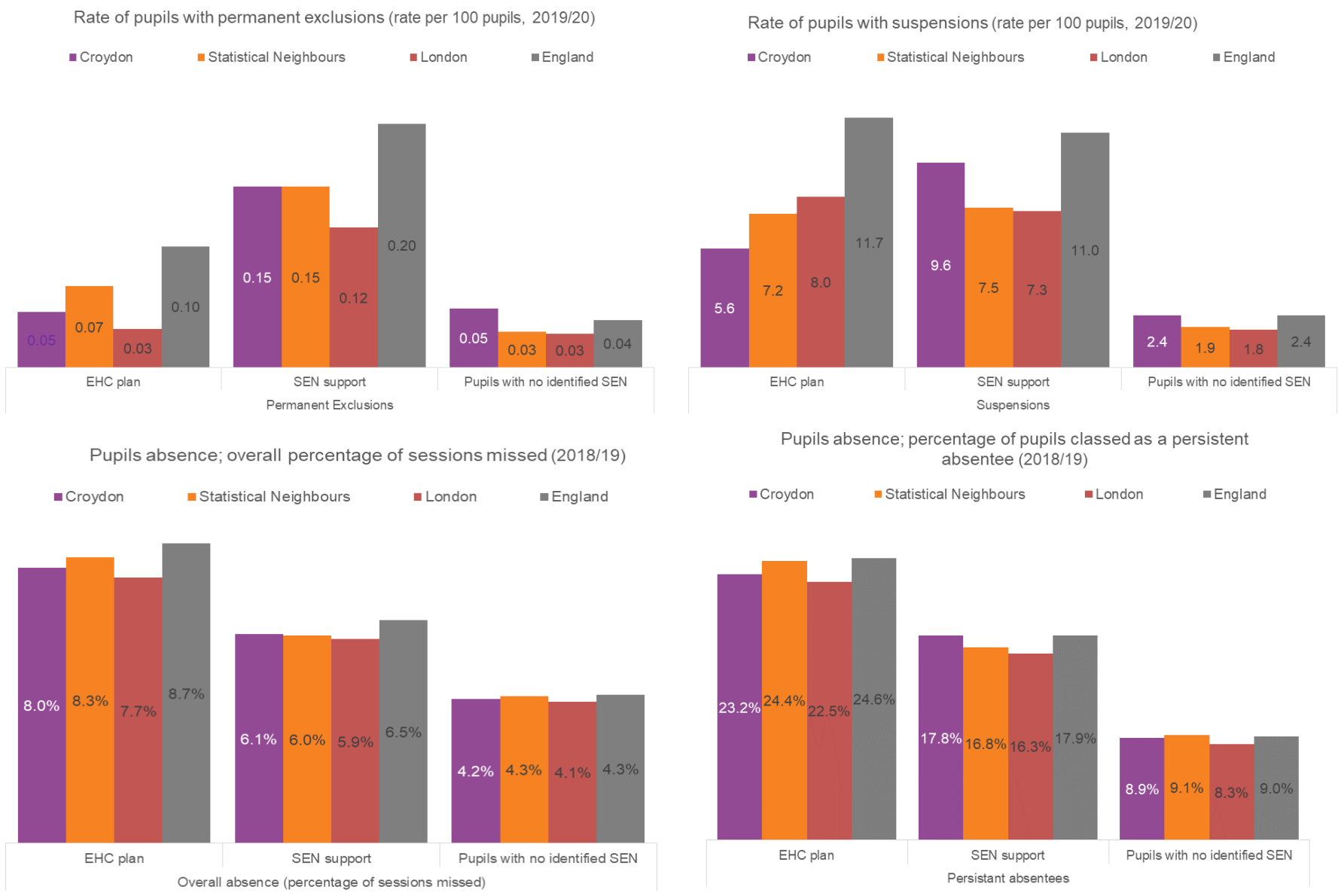
Additionally, the key source of information relating to disability in children and young people is the [Family Resources Survey](#), a continuous household survey that collects extensive information on disability and now stands as one of the key sources of information on the populations of disabled adults and children in the UK.

In the survey, a person is considered to have a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has ‘substantial’ and ‘long term’ negative effects on their ability to do normal daily activities. This is the core definition of disability in the Equality Act 2010.

Appendix 2

Educational outcomes of CYP with SEND - charts

OUTCOMES - SCHOOL EXCLUSION AND ABSENCE



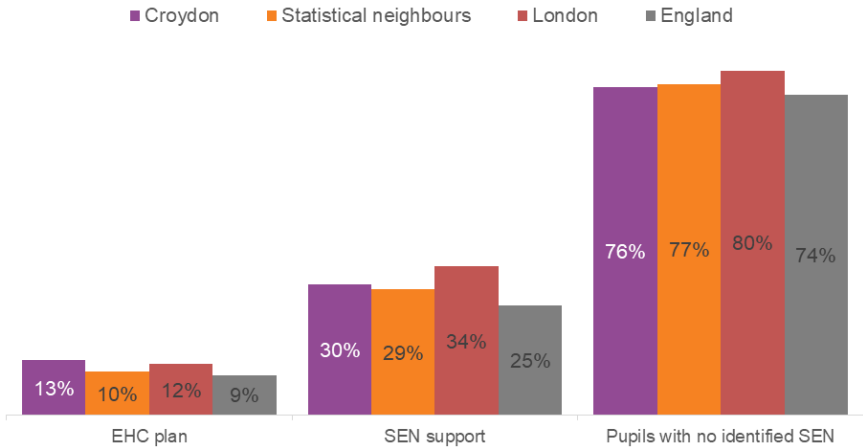
Sources;
2019/20. Department for Education. [Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions](#) (released July 2021)
2018/19. Department for Education. [Pupil Absence in Schools](#) (released March 2020, 2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)

OUTCOMES - ATTAINMENT

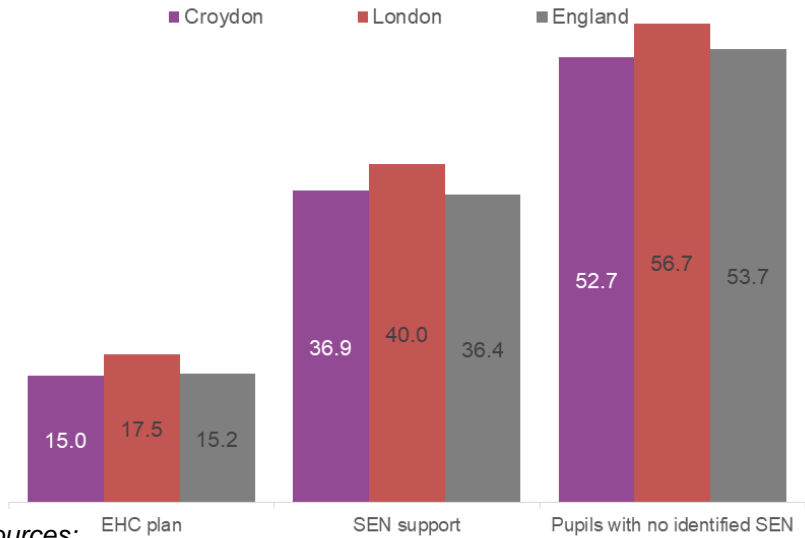
Children achieving a good level of development at age in early years foundation stage profile (2018/19)



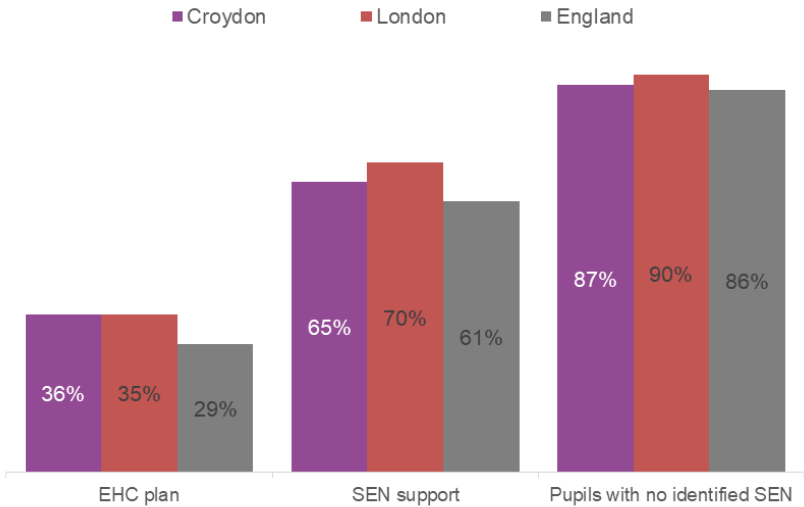
Children achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths by the end of key stage 2 (2018/19)



Average Attainment 8 score (2019/20)



Children turning 19 in the year who are qualified to level 2 or higher (2019/20)



Sources:
2018/19. Department for Education. [Early years foundation stage profile results](#) (released April 2020, 2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)
2018/19. Department for Education. [National curriculum assessments at key stage 2](#) (released December 2019, 2019/20 publication cancelled due to coronavirus)
2019/20. Department for Education. [Key stage 4 performance](#) (released Dec 2020)
2019/20. Department for Education. [Level 2 and level 3 attainment by young people aged 19](#) (released April 2021)

