

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION
CABINET COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, 20th January, 2026

10.00 am

**Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall,
Maidstone**





AGENDA

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION CABINET COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 20 January 2026 at 10.00 am

Ask for:

**Georgia
Humphreys**

Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone

Telephone: **03000 412133**

Membership (13)

Reform UK (8): Mr B Fryer (Chairman), Mr D Burns (Vice-Chair), Mr A Kibble, Mr T Mallon, Mr R Mayall, Mr T Mole, Mr T L Shonk and Dr G Sturley

Liberal Democrat (1): Mrs T Dean, MBE

Green (1): Mr P Stepto

Conservative (1): Ms C Russell

Independent Group (1): Mr P Thomas

Vacancy

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

- 1 Introduction/Webcast announcement
- 2 Apologies and Substitutes
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2025 (Pages 1 - 14)
- 5 Verbal Update by Cabinet Members
- 6 Draft Capital Programme 2026-36, Revenue Budget 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2026-29 (Pages 15 - 22)

- 7 Performance Monitoring (Pages 23 - 84)
- 8 25/00111 Proposal To Remove Specialist Resourced Provision From River Primary School (Pages 85 - 104)
- 9 25/00112 Proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School (Pages 105 - 122)
- 10 25/00109 Best Start Family Hubs Programme Grant Award (Pages 123 - 136)
- 11 25/00108 Special Educational Needs (SEN) Funding - 2026-27 Payment Uplifts (Pages 137 - 146)
- 12 Work Programme (Pages 147 - 148)

Motion to Exclude the Press and Public for Exempt Business

That, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

EXEMPT ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the press and public)

- 13 25/00115 Contractual Changes - The Education People (Pages 149 - 158)

Benjamin Watts
Deputy Chief Executive
03000 416814

Monday, 12 January 2026

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION CABINET COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee held at Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 18th November, 2025.

PRESENT: Mr B Fryer (Chairman), Mr D Burns (Vice-Chair), Mrs T Dean, MBE, Mr A Kibble, Mr T Mallon, Mr T Mole, Ms C Nolan, Ms C Russell, Mr T L Shonk, Mr P Stepto and Mrs P Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs B Fordham (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills), Mrs C Palmer (Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services) and Mr R G Streatfield, MBE

OFFICERS: Katherine Atkinson (Assistant Director, Management Information and Intelligence, Integrated Children's Services), Pascale Blackburn-Clarke (Delivery Manager - Engagement & Consultation), Robin Cahill (Senior Commissioner), David Adams (Interim Deputy Director for Education: Sufficiency, Effectiveness and Skills), Ian Watts (Area Education Officer), Craig Chapman (Interim Deputy Director for Education: Access and Inclusion), Alice Gleave (Interim Assistant Director for SEND Operations), Jennifer Maiden-Brooks (System Improvement Manager), Nicholas Abrahams (Area Education Officer), Christine McInnes (Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education), Samantha Sheppard (Senior Commissioner), Matt Wallace-Wells (Deputy Head of Service), Marissa White (Area Education Officer) and Georgia Humphreys (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

23. Apologies and Substitutes
(Item 2)

Apologies had been received from Mr Mayall and Dr Sturley.

24. Declarations of Interest
(Item 3)

1. Mr Shonk declared that his daughter worked for the NHS.

25. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025
(Item 4)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025 were a correct record.

26. Verbal Update by Cabinet Members
(Item 5)

1. Mrs Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, gave a verbal update on the following:
 - a. When visiting the Turner School Trust in Folkestone, Mrs Fordham observed their inclusive environment for all students.
 - b. Alongside KCC officers, Mrs Fordham attended East Kent College on the Isle of Sheppey to support parents with the admissions process.
 - c. Mrs Fordham explored the new Snowfields Academy satellite SEND school on the Isle of Sheppey, noting it was an excellent facility.
 - d. Mrs Fordham spent time at Leigh Academy Milestone in New Ash Green to review the facilities and meet students.
 - e. Mrs Fordham attended in the New Head Teachers Event, which welcomed new head teachers in Kent and introduced the updated Ofsted framework.
 - f. Mrs Fordham visited the Pyramid Project on the Isle of Sheppey, an organisation which supported young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and alternative provision for Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND) pupils.
 - g. Mrs Fordham visited the Vibe Community Youth Club in Sheerness, which helps keep children in school and offers out-of-school activities.
 - h. Mrs Fordham visited several primary schools, including Wentworth Primary in Dartford, Longfield Primary and Shipbourne Primary in Tonbridge.
 - i. Mrs Fordham visited the provision at the Oaks Specialist College, The Point (16+ provision) and Parkwood Hall Co-operative Academy.
2. Mrs Palmer, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services, gave a verbal update on the following:
 - a. On 20th September, Mrs Palmer visited the Kent Youth Voice event, she was impressed by the young people's motivation and creativity.
 - b. Mrs Palmer attended the under 16's award ceremony at Kingsville activity centre with the Chairman of Kent County Council. Mrs Palmer shared that it was an emotional experience to hear about the positive impact of foster carers and their role in supporting young people.
 - c. Mrs Palmer visited St Peters house in Broadstairs to meet with social workers, she discussed the challenges around the shortage and retention of social workers.
 - d. Mrs Palmer attended the film launch for 'Run' this was a collaborative project with 90 other councils, aimed at recruiting foster families.
 - e. Mrs Palmer attended the Big Mental Health Conversation at Detling Showground which was hosted by Kent Youth Voice, the event showcased support services available to children and young carers.
 - f. Mrs Palmer praised a family hub she had visited in Swanscombe, noting the excellent youth provision.
 - g. KCC had its Ofsted inspection in October, the draft response had not been received at the time of the committee meeting. Mrs Palmer expressed her gratitude to all staff for their hard work and commitment in preparing for and participating in the Ofsted inspection.
 - h. Mrs Palmer attended the Foster Kinship Care and Supported Homes Host Awards in Maidstone. It was an emotional ceremony recognising

exceptional foster families and the support provided to young people. Mrs Palmer thanked all of the teams that worked within foster caring.

3. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. KCC had its Ofsted inspection in October and was awaiting the report.

RESOLVED that the verbal updates were noted.

27. Performance Monitoring *(Item 6)*

1. Ms Atkinson, Assistant Director Management Information and Intelligence, introduced the report, providing the Committee with an overview of the performance data of the individual indicators.
2. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. Ms Atkinson explained that, in managing referrals, Early Help Units had assessed some cases for early help, while others received information, advice or guidance. In certain situations, support within family hubs was considered more appropriate. As the service began planning for the Families First Partnership Programme, they reviewed how referrals were managed and which elements of the family help system families accessed.
 - b. It was explained that requests for SEND statutory assessments followed seasonal patterns, with peaks and troughs throughout the year. December and March typically saw the highest demand.
 - c. When asked about the percentage of pupils at Key Stage 2 achieving age-related expectations, Ms Atkinson clarified that the data was drawn from SATs results, specifically those students meeting the 'expected' standard across reading, writing and maths.
 - d. Ms Atkinson outlined Kent's approach to managing school suspensions and permanent exclusions. She described how Exclusion Intervention Officers ensured all possible interventions were exhausted before any exclusion occurred, in line with DfE guidance. These officers were linked to the wider inclusive education strategy, delivering leadership programmes, core training and support for governing bodies and academic trustees. She also highlighted that, although exclusions had risen nationally since the COVID-19 pandemic, Kent's rates remained comparatively low.
 - e. Mr Chapman, Interim Deputy Director for Education: Access and Inclusion, reported on a successful six-week pilot run in August with the North Kent Assessment Team. The pilot handled 96% of cases and reduced task completion time by 52% through the use of existing technology and collaboration across six departments. He suggested that the next step was to extend the six-week process to the remaining assessment teams and eventually implement the full 20-week process, ensuring a consistent approach across Kent. The overall aim was to strengthen communication, increase data availability and improve system efficiency.

- f. A Member requested that the next area of focus be one where performance was poorest.

RESOLVED that the Committee noted the report.

28. 25/00086 Parkwood Hall Expansion

(Item 7)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision, explaining that she had visited the site, which was a large building situated on extensive grounds with numerous outbuildings including a small church and a former morgue, this provided substantial space for development. The proposal focused on exploring the feasibility and planning options for an expansion.
2. Mr Watts, Area Education Officer, outlined the proposal for KCC to support expanding Parkwood Hall School from 120 to 192 places, alongside extending the age range to admit pupils from reception through post-16. Mr Watts explained that although the school previously fell under the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, that authority no longer placed pupils there. It was highlighted that Kent remained the primary commissioner and the school aligned closely with KCC's strategic aims. Mr Watts confirmed that the legal and financial arrangements would ensure appropriate use of capital funds and secure KCC first refusal on any new places created through this investment.
3. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. Mr Watts reported continued high demand for SEND places in North Kent, particularly in Dartford, Sevenoaks and Gravesend, despite expansions in mainstream and specialist resource provision. Progress on the new special school in Swanley had been very slow, although approved in July 2023, the academy trust was not appointed until May 2024 and lengthy negotiations had taken place to avoid additional liabilities for KCC. While terms were now agreed, the project was paused with other free school schemes pending ministerial decisions expected in spring 2026. KCC continued to lobby the Department of Education (DfE) and had cleared the former Birchwood Primary School site to ensure readiness.
 - b. Mr Watts explained that special schools could be commissioned by other authorities, which was common in North Kent near the London boundary. Annual commissioning meetings set available places, Kent would have the opportunity to act quickly to take those places. It was explained that a legal agreement linked to Kent's capital investment would ensure that funding was used solely to develop additional places and would protect Kent's access to those places. Mr Watts confirmed that the school had been cooperative and commissioning arrangements were already strong.
 - c. Mr Adams, Interim Deputy Director for Education: Sufficiency, Effectiveness and Skills, highlighted that Kent routinely commissioned SEND provision from organisations it did not control. Mr Watts explained that high needs or capital investment in independent providers, including FE colleges, could still result in places being taken

by other authorities. Academies could also offer places to any authority through the EHCP process, creating uncertainty for councils funding provision.

d. Mrs Fordham reported that the Minister for Education had recently met the MP for Dartford to discuss SEND proposals. She had not been invited and could not confirm whether Parkwood Hall was discussed. Mr Watts added that KCC officers had not been given prior notice of the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

29. 25/00087 Broomhill Bank North Expansion

(Item 8)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision, explaining that its purpose was to increase the designated number from 318 to 490 places and the creation of two lodges for social enterprise and skills for employment on the Tunbridge Wells site to increase the 16 plus provision.
2. Mr Watts added that the main expansion work was planned for the north site in Hextable with minor works at the West site in Tunbridge Wells. The proposal aimed to provide value for money in both revenue and capital and to help meet the growing demand for special needs places in North Kent.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

30. Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership Annual Report

(Item 9)

1. Ms Maiden-Brooks, System Improvement Manager, introduced the report and gave an overview of the purpose of the report and its content.
2. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. Concerning the campaign to raise awareness that children should not be viewed as protective factors for a parent/carer's mental health, it was said that there was a risk that potential impacts on children's wellbeing could be overlooked. The 'I'm Lucy' video was highlighted as an important educational resource to raise awareness and support understanding of these issues
 - b. Ms Maiden-Brooks explained that the budget was a consideration within the report, but was not necessarily the focus. Further discussions were to take place to ensure the service was as efficient as possible and was taking every measure to ensure the right financial decisions were being made on the collaborative multi-agency basis.

RESOLVED that the Committee noted the report.

31. 25/00065 Independent and Non-Maintained Special School (INMSS) Procurement

(Item 10)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision explaining that the purpose was to develop and introduce a new framework, to allow for strategic alignment across the sector.
2. Ms Holden, Assistant Director for CYPE Commissioning, explained that the existing framework had been the first step in developing a strategic relationship with the sector. The recommendation presented was to propose a new contract to further develop this relationship. The proposal outlined a 4 year contract with an option for a further four year extensions, designed to remain flexible for local government reorganisation. Additionally, ongoing activity within the SEN transformation was expected to reduce future reliance on the sector.
3. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. Children and young people were placed in independent sector schools for various reasons, often at parental request, sometimes following tribunals. Some moved from mainstream schools at parents' insistence, while others were placed independently due to a lack of suitable local provision. Due to the significant cost, a rigorous decision making process was applied. There had been a notable rise in parental requests for independent placements for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), who previously would have attended mainstream settings. In response, the Local Authority reviewed its Sufficiency Plan and worked to expand Specialist Resource Provision (SRP). Data showed a spike in independent placements at Year 7, linked to low parental confidence in mainstream support. Plans were made to increase SRP places in secondary schools to reduce both the need for and the number of parental requests for independent placements.
 - b. Officers reported that the commissioning and SEND sufficiency plans projected a reduction in independent placements from 1,172 in 2025 to just over 900 by the end of the forecast, based on increased mainstream and SRP capacity. SRP panel data showed 1,370 cases considered and around 450 identified as requiring SRP places, against only 1,500 existing SRP places. Demand continued to be higher than supply, pushing children into independent settings. Expanding SRP capacity was essential to reverse this trend and strengthen confidence in meeting needs within mainstream provision.
 - c. Mr Adams emphasised that independent special schools continued to be appropriate for some young people due to specific needs or proximity and therefore the sector remained important. However, current high usage reflected insufficient local capacity. Increasing local provision would provide effective support closer to home, enabling children to thrive and improving parental confidence.
 - d. It was explained that the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) mirrored the new approach, with two quality-based lots. Kent placed pupils in more than 110 independent schools of varied size and quality and commissioning needed to reflect that diversity. The aim was to establish block contracts with higher-quality schools to secure

standards and value, while also including lower-rated schools to maintain relationships, support improvement and engage where pupils were already placed. This approach aligned with current placement patterns and supported better partnership working.

- e. When asked about the proportion of placements expected in Lot 1, Ms Sheppard advised that the team could provide the breakdown separately, as distribution would depend on school applications. There was positive engagement with schools previously outside the DPS and optimism that more high-quality providers would join.
- f. Members suggested annual committee review of the framework to monitor costs. Ms Holden confirmed that the full contract register was presented to the Committee each year, where officers would be available to answer questions.
- g. Ms Sheppard, Senior Commissioner, confirmed that the contract included strong negotiation terms to manage performance and fees. Schools had to apply annually for fee increases and justify costs above a threshold. The team routinely negotiated reductions and for 2025/26 had reduced requested increases from 42 placements, which amounted to around £1 million.
- h. In response to questions on improving placement timelines, Ms Gleave, Assistant Director SEN Statutory Services, explained that increasing the number of suitable independent providers reduced delays. When state-funded schools could not accept a pupil, officers consulted DPS schools first, it was explained that some cases required approaches to many schools, each with a 15-day response window. Faster responses from trusted schools significantly reduced waiting times and supported smoother transitions.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

32. 25/00056 KCC Community Learning and Skills (CLS) Adult Education Funding Reform - Apprenticeship Programme
(Item 11)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision, explaining that the apprenticeship programme within Community Learning and Skills (CLS) was making a loss, KCC were unable to further use any general fund to maintain the programme, as there was no guarantee that its financial position would change in the future.
2. Mr Wallace-Wells, Deputy Head of Service, explained that the service was making a significant financial loss due to low numbers of engagement. Two restructures had been undertaken within the past five years, seeking to create conditions for this provision to break even financially. These were unsuccessful and the service was making monthly losses, which averaged at £15,000 a month. The proposal was close the programme, whilst supporting the pre-existing learners to finish their apprenticeships.
3. In response to comments and questions it was said:

- a. When asked if officers had looked at models of good practice globally, Mr Wallace-Wells explained that the organisation's apprenticeship provision had previously been much larger, with over 150 learners compared to the current 36. At that time, the provision fell below Ofsted's minimum delivery standards, prompting required changes. An external consultant with national experience was appointed and improvements were incorporated into the 2021 restructure. A further restructure took place in 2023 due to ongoing financial misalignment. Despite these actions, engagement levels remained too low to justify the ongoing costs. Mr Wallace-Wells said that other providers in Kent offered the same opportunities and had access to the same funding as KCC.
- b. Mrs Fordham explained that due to the economic climate and the lack of an apprenticeship strategy, there was no additional funding available. Even if KCC had the trainers to compete with the private providers there were barriers to small employers being able to access or engage due to increasing costs. It was highlighted that the current delivery model was not effective, but officers intended to explore new approaches to building apprenticeship pathways and supporting employers in the future.
- c. A Member highlighted that the decision to close the apprenticeship programme was unfortunate but necessary as the scheme was flawed.
- d. When asked if any lessons had been learnt from this, Ms McInnes explained that there were lessons learnt, KCC was committed to providing the high quality provisions.
- e. When asked if the service had looked to refocus and reduce the scale of the programme, Mr Wallace-Wells explained that qualifications for careers such as teaching assistants had previously been delivered internally but were currently commissioned externally by KCC through approved providers, identified via procurement.

4. In accordance with paragraph 16.31 of the Constitution, Ms Nolan wished for it to be recorded in the minutes that she voted against endorsing the proposed decision 25/00056 KCC Community Learning and Skills (CLS) Adult Education Funding Reform - Apprenticeship Programme.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

33. 25/00099 Kent Commissioning Plan
(Item 12)

- 1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision, explaining that it was a rolling plan that would be reviewed annually.
- 2. Mr Abrahams, Area Education Officer, provided an overview of the report, explaining that the plan aimed to forecast school place demand across the county and outline commissioning for both mainstream and SEND provision. Mr Abrahams said that the birth rate had fallen from over 18,000 in 2012 to 15,000 in 2024, affecting future demand. Overall, Kent was expected to have sufficient primary places, though some rural areas with housing growth may

need additional provision. However, several areas continued to face pressure for secondary places due to larger cohorts and migration, indicating additional secondary capacity would likely be required.

3. In response to comments and questions it was said:

- a. Mr Abrahams explained that Cranbrook and High Weald posed challenges as KCC, was responsible for securing school places but was not the sole decision-maker. The closure of a local academy by the DfE had increased travel distances for families, which illustrated the difficulty of holding responsibilities without full authority. The Cabinet Member was arranging a meeting with local stakeholders to discuss how the council could facilitate support while advocating for the community.
- b. Mr Adams explained that forecasts relied on policy assumptions from the safety valve negotiations. Kent remained an outlier, with 6.2% of pupils holding EHCPs versus 5.6% nationally. Additionally, 36% of these pupils in mainstream schools, compared to 44% nationally and 39% in special schools, compared to 30% nationally. Pressure on special schools drove more pupils into the independent sector, which came at a significant cost. Mr Adams emphasised the need for clear policy direction and planning to secure appropriate placements efficiently, noting that unmitigated forecasts based on historic trends could be misleading.
- c. Ms McInnes highlighted the long-standing ambition to bring Kent in line with the national EHCP average. Kent's rate rose from below average in 2016 to among the highest nationally by 2022, reflecting decision making and other factors rather than a sudden increase in needs. Safety valve financial targets were not fully met because priority was given to children and families, including costly non-statutory services, which increased financial pressure.
- d. Ms McInnes added that regular safety valve reports were submitted to the DfE and published on the council's website. In addition it was explained that, health services did not contribute to the work that was covered within the KCC Commissioning Plan.
- e. Mr Adams explained that full costs only included housing with planning consent, following government criteria. The inclusion of housing allocations had previously reduced forecast accuracy, so the service no longer did this. Officers worked with boroughs to align local plans with long-term needs and the plan was updated annually to reflect realistic short to medium term provision needs, generally covering ten years.
- f. Localised issues were not included in the Commissioning Plan but were addressed through officers' regular work.
- g. Ms Gleave explained that officers worked with all KCC special schools on funding, visited schools regularly and that councillors could also arrange visits.
- h. It was highlighted that the gap between Kent and the national average for EHCPs was narrowing.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

34. 25/00085 Specialist Resourced Provisions
(Item 13)

1. Mr Adams introduced the decision paper, summarising the outcomes of the Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) review. The review assessed delivery models and identified areas where policy needed reinforcement. It highlighted the importance of incorporating SRPs into new schools and explained that the existing model did not fully meet demand, prompting consideration of alternative approaches. The priority was to increase capacity and improve local access, particularly by expanding secondary provision by September 2026. A budget of £20 million was allocated and Area Education Directors (AEDs) worked with schools to identify needs and ensure a cost-effective approach.
2. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. Ms White, Area Education Officer, explained that secondary schools were required to meet criteria on careers guidance, aligned with the Government's Skills Paper which had recommended strengthened Gatsby Benchmarks. Collaboration between SEN staff and careers leads had been a key element of central policy to support young people transitioning from education to work and to engage local businesses for apprenticeships and work experience.
 - b. Mr Adams explained that the proposal would help the high needs budget by reducing reliance on costly independent placements. SRP placements ranged from approximately £14,000–£17,000 per place, compared with an average of £55,000 in the independent sector.
 - c. Mr Adams explained that the £20 million capital grant for SRP expansions was managed through internal mechanisms such as the four AEDs. Each proposal included cost estimates and underwent review by the Education Asset Board, comprising property, finance, and education representatives. Indicative funding allocations were made to ensure high-quality provision was delivered cost-effectively.
 - d. Mr Adams added that the SRP sector served young people with EHCPs. Permanently excluded pupils were supported through an internal education programme before reintegration into mainstream schools. The SEND Sufficiency Plan addressed alternative provision, with particular pressure in health-related needs for young people unable to access mainstream schools due to mental health or school anxiety. Increasing capacity while fostering supportive school environments was emphasised as essential.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

35. 25/00097 External Tuition
(Item 14)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision, explaining that the provision was for young people who were educated at home.

2. Ms Holden explained that while the service had the necessary governance in place to extend the contract, there was no governance covering the significant level of expenditure incurred since the contract began, which exceeded initial projections.
3. The contract began in September 2023, with costs rising due to providers significantly increasing prices at tender. The service implemented transformation initiatives to help officers balance quality and cost. The original £15 million allocation was intended to cover the initial three-year term but will be fully spent by its end, requiring additional funding for the proposed extension. The decision to extend was based on the view that re-procuring now would likely attract the same providers at similar rates, while the service needed them focused on transformation rather than preparing new bids.
4. There was a potential minor technical issue identified, regarding whether the amount originally advertised for the contract could affect the extension. The service was reviewing this, but considers the risk to be low, as no providers were excluded from tendering for the remaining term or the extension.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

36. 25/00092 School and Early Years Funding Arrangements for 2026-27
(Item 15)

1. Mrs Fordham introduced the decision.
2. Ms Stone, Finance Business Partner, explained that the paper set out the background of the KCC's responsibility for the budget for Primary and Secondary schools as well as Early Years and the setting of the Early Years rates for the free entitlement for 2026/27. Ms Stone highlighted that the school budget and the funding for early years payments came from a specific central government grant. The service was waiting for the funding announcements from the DfE. Once received, the final budget was to be presented to the Cabinet Member following any necessary consultations.
3. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. When asked about the decision from Schools Funding Forum on the 25/00071 Funding of Services to Schools 2026-27 decision. It was explained that, regarding the 2025/26 transfer, the Forum's decision was almost unanimous in supporting the proposal. The schools' consultation also indicated strong overall support for the transfer. Both pieces of evidence informed the final decision and the recommendation submitted to the Secretary of State, who reviewed this information before granting approval.
 - b. When asked about the effect of the approval from the Secretary of State to approve both the 1.2% transfer from the primary & secondary schools budgets to the High Needs block. To help to fund SEN Support services in mainstream schools and the reduction of minimum per pupil funding levels. Ms Stone explained that the Government set a statutory

level that all primary and secondary schools must be funded. By KCC reducing that, it reduced the amount of money that would be going directly in to schools. That money was then transferred into the high needs funding block, which would then be used for services which would go directly back into schools for special educational needs. It was explained that the Council had to gain formal agreement for that each year.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

37. 25/00100 In-House Provision of Children's Residential Homes - Match Funding
(Item 16)

1. Mrs Palmer introduced the decision.
2. Mr Kasaven, Director for Children's Countywide Services, explained that this was a good news story, as KCC qualified for match funding from the DfE. It was explained that there were grant conditions which meant the service had to make changes to the properties in line with the agreement, so the size of the portfolio had to increase. There was a budget of £6 million for the project, which incorporated some contingency planning. Kent was one of the few authorities to be selected, the service acquired £2.6 million of match funding from the DfE. Additionally, Mr Kasaven shared that the service had acquired two properties, there was a third property subject to offer.
3. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. When asked if the number of children KCC was anticipating placing had increased. Mr Kasaven explained that whilst the number of children had not increased, the complexity of the project and the cost had increased by almost 30%. This meant that the cost saving was even greater than previously thought.
 - b. When asked about the locations of the properties, Mr Kasaven explained that the two acquired properties with planning permission were located in Ashford and Sittingbourne.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

38. 25/00093 KCC Sufficiency Strategy
(Item 17)

1. Mrs Palmer introduced the decision explaining that it was a statutory requirement, which detailed how the service planned to address challenge of finding safe and suitable placements for children in care, on the edge of care and care leavers. Mrs Palmer recognised the challenge in achieving this in Kent, as other local authorities placed children within the county. The decision was endorsed by the Corporate Parenting Panel on 21st October 2025.
2. Ms Holden gave an overview of the content of the report, explaining that the current strategy in place lasted until 2027. There was a need to revamp the strategy following the high court judgement on Unaccompanied Asylum

Seeking Children (UASC) in 2023. There was a focus on prevention, work done with the Families First Partnership and how the authorities in-house homes were being utilised.

3. Ms McInnes highlighted that the current number of foster carers was insufficient and emphasised the need for recruitment.
4. Mrs Palmer shared that there was a template for Members to put on the bottom of their email signatures, which promotes the fostering service, which would be circulated in due course.

RESOLVED that the Committee considered and endorsed the proposed decision.

39. Complaints and Representations Report
(Item 18)

1. Ms Blackburn-Clarke, Customer Experience and Relationship Manager, introduced the report and provided the Committee with an overview of its purpose.
2. In response to comments and questions it was said:
 - a. A Member asked for further clarity around the 123% increase in complaints received about the direction of travel of the Children's Act. Additionally, the Member explained that they had sent in a Member enquiry and it had taken two months to receive a response, asking what is being done to improve the timescales.
 - i. In response to the first question, Ms Blackburn-Clarke explained that the number of complaints had risen significantly, largely due to increased attention from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) on these types of cases. To ensure people receive the appropriate service, the team has adopted a more cautious approach. Where it was believed a complaint would be treated by the LGSCO as a Children's Act matter, it was processed through that route. There has also been a noticeable increase in individuals being eligible to pursue this option, contributing to the overall rise in complaints. Additionally, the complaints team was handling a greater number of complex cases, which was reflected in the figures.
 - ii. Mr Chapman apologised for the delay in response to the Member enquiry, explaining that the service often received an considerable number of complaints. There were multiple efforts undertaken to improve timescales of communication, such as the pilot scheme which automated answers to straightforward queries. Mr Chapman explained that this was a work in progress and was part of an active work plan to improve communication timescales.

RESOLVED that the Committee noted the report.

40. Work Programme
(Item 19)

RESOLVED that the work programme was noted.

From: Linden Kemkaran, Leader of the Council
Brian Collins, Deputy Leader of the Council
Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Christine Palmer, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

To: Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee 20 January 2026

Subject: **Draft Capital Programme 2026-36, Revenue Budget 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2026-29**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Summary:

This report outlines the key policy considerations within the draft capital and revenue budget proposals for the Cabinet portfolios and council departments relevant to this committee. This is a tailored report for each committee and should be considered within the context of the overall whole council budget proposals published separately to support the budget scrutiny process.

Recommendations:

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to:

- a) NOTE the draft capital and revenue budget proposals
- b) SUGGEST any alternatives that should be considered related to the Cabinet Committee's portfolio before final draft budget is considered by Cabinet on 29th January 2026 and presented to Full County Council on 12th February 2026

1. Background and Context

1.1 The setting of the budget is a decision reserved for Full Council. The Council's Budget and Policy Framework requires that a draft budget is issued for consultation with the Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees to allow for their comments to be considered before the final budget proposals are made to Full Council.

1.2 The Council is under a legal duty to set a balanced and sustainable budget for the forthcoming year (2026-27) within the resources available from local taxation and central government grants, and to maintain adequate reserves. This duty applies to the final draft budget presented for Full Council approval at the annual budget meeting and does not necessarily apply the preceding drafts or plans for subsequent years. The overall strategy for the budget is to ensure that the Council continues to plan for revenue and capital budgets which are affordable, reflect the Council's strategic priorities, allow the Council to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and continue to maintain and improve the Council's financial resilience within the overall resource constraints.

1.3 A medium term financial strategy covering the entirety of the resources available to the Council is the best way that resource prioritisation and allocation decisions can be considered and agreed in a way that provides a stable and considered approach to service delivery and takes into account relevant risks and uncertainty. A report on the purpose of medium term financial planning was presented to Policy and Resources Committee on 8th July 2025 [P&R MTFP Update](#). This report identified that the strategy should pull together in one place all known factors affecting the financial standing and sustainability of the

Council over the medium term. The draft budget publication sets out all this necessary information for the scrutiny process. The final draft will include all the necessary information for the approval process. These are not necessarily the same and the final draft will include supporting strategies e.g. treasury management strategy, necessary for final budget approval.

1.4 The primary focus within the capital programme must be to ensure that the Council has sufficient capacity to meet legal and regulatory requirements where there is risk of death or serious harm to residents and service users. This means first call on capital is to address “safety vital” works. The secondary focus is to reduce impact on revenue budget. This can be achieved through using the flexibility to use capital receipts to fund permitted revenue costs and reducing borrowing requirements. The capital programme will still include individual project schemes and rolling programmes funded from external sources.

1.5 The primary focus of the revenue budget must be to strike an appropriate balance between fulfilling the Council’s statutory obligations on service provision and the administration’s strategic priorities. However, these aims are not always compatible and involves difficult decisions about service levels and provision both for the forthcoming year and over the medium term. In reaching this balance the budget has to include provision for forecast spending growth (base budget changes to reflect full year impact of current variances, contractual price uplifts, staff pay awards, other cost drivers such as market availability, demand increases and service improvements). The revenue budget must also include planned efficiency, policy and transformation savings and plans to generate additional income necessary to balance any differences between spending growth and the available resources from central government and local taxation.

1.6 As part of budget scrutiny process it is worth clarifying that savings relate to reducing current recurring spend whereas bearing down on future growth is cost avoidance. Both amount to the same end outcome of reducing planned spending in the forthcoming year from what would otherwise have been needed without action and intervention. Both savings and cost avoidance are essential to ensure the statutory requirement for a balanced budget is met.

1.7 Fuller details of the budget plans are set out in the draft budget report published on 8th January 2026 to support the scrutiny process. This report is available at [Draft-budget-report-January-2026](#). A separate report on responses to public consultation on the budget strategy has also been published and is available at [Let's Talk Kent](#)

1.8 The report to this Cabinet Committee focuses on the key policy considerations within the draft budget proposals for the directorate/Cabinet portfolio(s) relevant to each committee. To assist this, a summary of the 2026-27 proposals for the relevant directorate/Cabinet portfolio alongside a detailed analysis of the individual spending and savings/income changes within the draft proposals are included as appendices to this report. An interactive dashboard is also provided to Members, enabling the details of all proposals to be examined and scrutinised in depth.

1.9 Following the scrutiny process, a revised draft of the final budget proposals will be published in January for Cabinet consideration and approval at County Council in February 2025.

2. Key Policy Considerations

Capital Spending

2.1 KCC has a wide range of statutory duties related to children and young people and is committed to making Kent the best place for them to grow, learn, and thrive, ensuring they are safe, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. The way that KCC and our key partners deliver on priorities is well documented in strategies, policies and committee reports. In common with all LAs, KCC has to make difficult decisions about how best to invest limited resources, achieve value for money and meet the statutory duty to set a balanced budget. This paper focuses solely on a budget discussion to ensure there is clarity on the financial decisions to be made.

Capital Spending

2.2 There are no significant changes to the Children's Young People and Education capital programme compared to last year. The budgets for school related capital expenditure including basic need (mainstream and special educational needs places), modernisation, and maintenance have been included under the Chief Executive Department presentation in line with revised operational budget manager responsibility. This Committee is still responsible for considering and debating individual project requests in line with the Council's school education policy. There may be a future invest to save capital projects to support the delivery of savings relating to looked after children placement costs.

Revenue overview

2.3 Appendix E outlines the draft spending and savings proposals for the CYPE Directorate with spending proposals pertaining to the Core budget totalling +£38.9m and savings & income proposals of -£20.1m for 2026-27 financial year. The table below (table 1) summarises this by Cabinet Member. Externally funded proposals include summary grants changes in relation to the Dedicated Schools Grant and Family Hubs.

Table 1	Beverley Fordham (Education) £'ms	Christine Palmer (Integrated Children's Services) £'ms	CYPE Directorate Total £'ms
Spending Proposals	-£2.2m	£41.0m	£38.9m
Spending Proposals – technical adjustments ¹	£0.0m	£11.5m	£11.5m
Savings & Income Proposals	-£9.7m	-£10.3m	-£20.1m
NET TOTAL CHANGE	-£11.9m	£42.2m	£30.2m

Revenue Spending Growth

2.4 The Spending proposals of £38.9m (excluding grants) comprise of provisions for the following areas: annual contractual price uplift and price increase negotiations; increased costs arising from increased demand from population growth, and; estimated cost pressures relating above the minimum contractual annual price uplift due to either complexities or market pressures.

2.5 The proposals reflect the current trend in the demand for Home to School transport with numbers estimated to increase by a further 5% (£3.3m), along with possible price increases linked to service sector inflation from commissioning of new or alternated

¹ Grants previously received separately are now included with the Council's core spending power.

transport contracts (£3.5m, corresponding costs savings are outlined below). The budget also reflects the additional ongoing savings achieved in 24-25 and 25-26 totalling -£7.5m.

2.6 Children's Social Care (both disabled and non-disabled children) are expected to require significant additional funding (estimated to be in excess of £15m) for demographic pressures. Whist there is expected to be a small estimated increase in demand arising from future population growth, there is expected to be a much bigger financial cost from the higher placements costs for new and, in some cases, existing placements. Continued reductions in the number of available in-house carers is placing a greater reliance on the more expensive external market, where costs are also increasing at a greater rate than inflationary pressures due low supply and high demand for places. In Kent, this is partially resulting from excessive placing of children from other local authorities in Kent, due to the lack of suitable placements in their own areas. The national shortage of placements for our most complex children is leading to higher costs and to children being placed at greater distances from their community and, increasing outside of Kent. These pressures are also reflected in an additional spending proposal of over £10m to fund the current pressures across placement budgets, where we have seen a spike in the cost of residential care placements and further reduction in-house foster carers. The government have recently reiterated their intention to consider options to further manage the Children's social care external market and to cap excessive profits. With this in mind a small saving of £0.9m (in the first year) has been assumed to reflect anticipated future cost avoidance.

2.7 The prices uplift for children social care (totalling £7.2m) includes contractual price uplifts; anticipated price uplifts for new placements spot purchased in market where price uplifts will be applied automatically; and assumed uplifts for our in-house foster carers, permanency payments and direct payments. The fostering uplifts have been set in-line with the historic practice of tracking CPI or for Direct Payments, in line with national living wage increases.

2.8 In addition, these proposals reflect estimates of the additional ring-fenced funding made available as part of the Provisional Local Government Settlement and wider budget announcements for preventative services to support children. The Best Start Family Hubs grant has been confirmed for the next 3-years and is expected to increase by a further £1.1m to nearly £5m in 2026-27. Additional investment to support the implementation of the new Families First Partnership (FFP) Programme in Children's Social Care of £8.9m, brings total investment up to over £20m including ongoing funding for early help services previously funded by the Supporting Families Grant. The FFP programme is intended to support delivery of the national implementation of Family Help, multi-agency child protection teams and family group decision-making reforms. Both grants are subject to specific terms and conditions.

Revenue Savings and Income

2.9 The savings proposals comprise of a mixture of both cost savings and cost avoidance.

2.10 A number of initiatives across Children's Social Care have been proposed to help counter the impact of the current market conditions, and avoid future cost growth totalling - £3.2m. These are focused on exploring options to improve the recruitment and retention of our in-house foster carers by drawing on best practice from across the region (and nationally); along with investing in our own children's homes either directly or through partnership working with state-funded special schools. This Committee has previously

considered and debated the proposal to invest in 4 new children's homes², and future proposals look to further this learning with a focus on both educating and supporting our most vulnerable children closer to home where possible. In addition, The Council is also committed to pursuing suitable contributions towards the cost of looked after children from health, with proposed savings of -£1.9m.

2.11 Other proposals where key decisions have previously been considered and debated by this Committee³ include changes to the transport policy for Post 16 in 2024-25 and 2026-27 (totalling -£3m in 2026-27), and transferring the costs of council-run services to schools where appropriate (-£2.6m) from 2026-27.

2.12 This budget reflects the impact of ongoing efficiencies delivered by the Council's transport service during 2025-26, with the introduction of the new route planning system delivering a further estimated -£1.5m saving in 2026-27. The Council is also intending to pursue contributions from other local authorities to recover transport costs, which had to be temporarily paused whilst the Government reviewed the process. The Department of Education have now confirmed their intention to formalise the practice whereby local authorities will be able to recoup both education (special educational needs) and school transport costs from another local authority where they remain responsible for the looked after child. This effectively reinstates the process Kent was operating under and additional income of approximately -£1m is hoped to be reinstated during 2026-27.

2.13 The draft proposals continue to reflect the anticipation that the Kent 16+ Travel Saver charge will increase in line with the Kent Travel Saver (-£0.1m) along with proposals to reduce the current subsidy paid by the Council, by seeking alternative sources of funding or moving towards a full cost recovery offer (-£0.3m).

2.14 The remaining savings cover a cross section of services and include:

- Maximising the use of grants for ongoing investment in services and therefore avoiding the possible cutting of existing services (dependent on grant conditions, total saving of -£4.2m in 26-27).
- Review of the remaining areas of discretionary spend across education services to identify additional savings (totalling -£0.5m).
- Cross directorate review of services across CYPE to identify opportunities to either consolidate or/and standardise practices including the use of technology and modernisation of processes (-£1.4m)

Special Educational Needs Deficit

2.15 The draft proposals also reference a forecast in-year overspend on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2026-27, with costs to support children with Special Educational Needs anticipated to exceed estimated grant income by approximately £75m in 2026-27. This is an interim forecast devised ahead of the Department of Education announcements on specific funding arrangements for 2026-27, and wider long-term SEN reform plans. The Government has confirmed the Schools White Paper is expected to be published in the Spring setting out reforms to deliver a system which supports both children & families and is financially sustainable. In the mean, the draft MTFP for 2026-29 continues to reflect the

² [24/00105 - In-House Provision of Children's Residential Homes](#)

³ Key decisions include: [23/00069 - Post 16 Transport Policy Statement including Post 19 for 2024/25](#); [25/00045 - Post 16 Transport Policy Statement including Post 19 for 2026/27](#); [25/00071 - Funding of Services to Schools](#);

Council's involvement with the Department of Education's Safety Valve programme (where additional funding is provided to help pay off historic deficits dependent on an agreed plan), along with the impact of the statutory override, which holds the accumulated DSG deficit (forecast to be over £130m by March 2026) in an unusable reserve, away from the Council's General Fund, until March 2028. At which point the Government have indicated funding for SEND will then be managed within the overall governmental spending envelope, and local authorities should not expect to fund future special education needs costs from general funds, dependent on the Council demonstrating it is managing the system effectively. Lack of information on both how this will work, how historic deficits will be resolved, and future local authority responsibilities means the High Needs Deficit is still considered to be one of the highest risks to the Council. Appendix G of the Budget Report sets out the current understanding in relation to the future treatment of SEN Deficits.

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APPENDIX E - 2026-27 Budget

MTFP Category	CYPE			CYPE			CYPE		
				Beverley Fordham			Christine Palmer		
	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s
Revised Base									
Original base budget	396,668.7	0.0	396,668.7						
internal base adjustments	-5,873.3	0.0	-5,873.3						
Revised Base	390,795.4	0.0	390,795.4						
SPENDING									
Base Budget Changes	2,641.0	0.0	2,641.0	-7,500.0	0.0	-7,500.0	10,141.0	0.0	10,141.0
Reduction in Grant Income	11,474.1	0.0	11,474.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	11,474.1	0.0	11,474.1
Pay	634.2	0.0	634.2	225.1	0.0	225.1	409.1	0.0	409.1
Prices	11,093.9	0.0	11,093.9	3,897.3	0.0	3,897.3	7,196.6	0.0	7,196.6
Demand & Cost Drivers - Cost	11,662.1	0.0	11,662.1	-2,197.1	0.0	-2,197.1	13,859.2	0.0	13,859.2
Demand & Cost Drivers - Demand	3,818.3	50,400.0	54,218.3	3,314.5	50,400.0	53,714.5	503.8	0.0	503.8
Government & Legislative	0.0	-58,967.7	-58,967.7	0.0	-60,100.0	-60,100.0	0.0	1,132.3	1,132.3
Service Strategies & Improvements	8,939.9	0.0	8,939.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	8,939.9	0.0	8,939.9
TOTAL SPENDING	50,263.5	-8,567.7	41,695.8	-2,260.2	-9,700.0	-11,960.2	52,523.7	1,132.3	53,656.0
SAVINGS, INCOME & GRANT									
Transformation - Future Cost Increase Avoidance	-1,947.6	0.0	-1,947.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1,947.6	0.0	-1,947.6
Transformation - Service Transformation	-879.5	0.0	-879.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	-879.5	0.0	-879.5
Efficiency	-7,277.6	0.0	-7,277.6	-2,277.6	0.0	-2,277.6	-5,000.0	0.0	-5,000.0
Income	-3,024.9	0.0	-3,024.9	-1,124.9	0.0	-1,124.9	-1,900.0	0.0	-1,900.0
Financing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Policy	-6,937.2	0.0	-6,937.2	-6,297.2	0.0	-6,297.2	-640.0	0.0	-640.0
TOTAL SAVINGS & INCOME	-20,066.8	0.0	-20,066.8	-9,699.7	0.0	-9,699.7	-10,367.1	0.0	-10,367.1
Increases in Grants and Contributions	0.0	-1,132.3	-1,132.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1,132.3	-1,132.3
TOTAL SAVINGS, INCOME & GRANT	-20,066.8	-1,132.3	-21,199.1	-9,699.7	0.0	-9,699.7	-10,367.1	-1,132.3	-11,499.4

	CYPE			CYPE			CYPE		
	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s	Core £000s	External £000s	Total £000s
MEMORANDUM:									
Removal of undelivered/temporary savings & grant	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New & FYE of existing Savings	-17,041.9	0.0	-17,041.9	-8,574.8	0.0	-8,574.8	-8,467.1	0.0	-8,467.1
New & FYE of existing Income	-3,024.9	0.0	-3,024.9	-1,124.9	0.0	-1,124.9	-1,900.0	0.0	-1,900.0
New & FYE of existing Grants	0.0	-1,132.3	-1,132.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1,132.3	-1,132.3
Prior Year savings rolling forward for delivery in 26-27 *	-20,066.8	-1,132.3	-21,199.1	-9,699.7	0.0	-9,699.7	-10,367.1	-1,132.3	-11,499.4
TOTAL Savings for delivery in 2026-27	-21,429.2	-1,132.3	-22,561.5	-10,099.7	0.0	-10,099.7	-11,329.5	-1,132.3	-12,461.8
* the prior year savings rolled forward for delivery in 2026-27 are based on the Qtr 3 monitoring and will be updated as part of the outturn report, and those updated figures will be used for the 2026-27 savings monitoring process									
RESERVES									
Contributions to Reserves	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Removal of prior year Contributions	0.0	-14,200.0	-14,200.0	0.0	-14,200.0	-14,200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drawdowns from Reserves	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Removal of prior year Drawdowns	0.0	23,900.0	23,900.0	0.0	23,900.0	23,900.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL RESERVES	0.0	9,700.0	9,700.0	0.0	9,700.0	9,700.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NET CHANGE (excl internal base adjustments)	30,196.7	0.0	30,196.7	-11,959.9	0.0	-11,959.9	42,156.6	0.0	42,156.6
NET BUDGET	420,992.1	0.0	420,992.1						

Children, Young People and Education Performance Management

Children, Young People and Education Directorate Scorecard

November 2025

Produced by: Management Information & Intelligence, KCC

Publication Date: 22nd December 2025

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Guidance Notes

Notes:

Figures for indicator CYPE8 (Rate of proven re-offending by CYP) shown in red have not been published by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) but are included for information in this scorecard. The latest available data for this indicator was released on 30/10/25 and covers the 12 month period January 2023 to December 2023.

Please note that not all Children's Social Work indicators can be shown broken down by District for the associated CSWS team, as caseloads relating to these indicators are held by Area and Kent LA level teams. Cases included in a dataset are based on the Service working with the child and not the child's geographical residence.

POLARITY

- H The aim of this indicator is to achieve the highest number/percentage possible
- L The aim of this indicator is to achieve the lowest number/percentage possible
- T The aim of this indicator is to stay close to the target that has been set

DATA PERIOD

- R12M Monthly Rolling 12 months
- MS Monthly Snapshot
- YTD Year To Date
- Q Quarterly
- A Annual

RAG RATINGS

RED Floor Standard* has not been achieved

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCORECARDS

AMBER Floor Standard* achieved but Target has not been met

CYPE Children, Young People and Education Directorate Scorecard

GREEN Target has been achieved

EY Early Years Scorecard

* Floor Standards are set in Directorate Business Plans and if not achieved must result in management action

NEET NEET Monthly Scorecard

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL (DOT)

 Performance has improved

SEND Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Scorecard

 Performance has worsened

ICS Intensive EH and CSWS Monthly Performance Report

 Performance has remained the same

INCOMPLETE DATA

- N/A** Data not available
- ...** Data to be supplied
- ...** New indicator - historical data not available

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

- CIC Children in Care
- CSWT Children's Social Work Teams
- CYP Children and Young People
- DWP Department for Work and Pensions
- EY Early Years
- EYFE Early Years Free Entitlement
- EYFS Early Years Foundation Stage
- FF2 Free For Two
- FSM Free School Meals
- NEET Not in Education, Employment or Training
- SCS Specialist Children's Services
- SEN Special Educational Needs

Data in italics indicates previous reporting year

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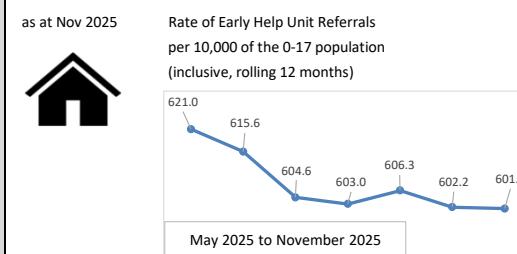
Children, Young People and Education Performance Management
Directorate Scorecard - Kent Activity/Volume

November 2025

Page 26

as at Oct 2025	128,716 pupils in 459 primary schools 27.5 % with free school meals (24.7%)
	
	115,391 pupils in 104 secondary schools 26.2 % with free school meals (25.8%)

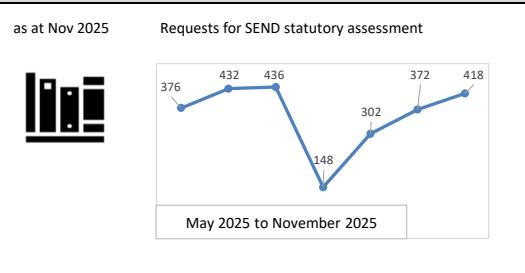
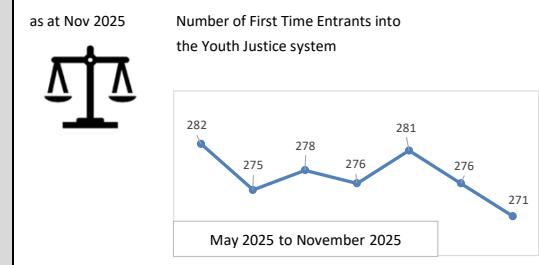
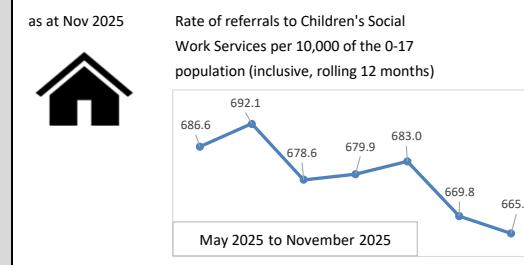
6,642 pupils in 25 special schools
48.9 % with free school meals (49.2%)



as at Nov 2025	Open cases	
		
	Intensive Early Help	2,378 (Families)
	Open Social Work Cases	11,337
	<i>Including:</i>	
	• Child Protection	1,207
	• Children in Care	1,844
	• Care Leavers	2,048

as at Aug 2024	Ofsted judgements	
		
	EY providers	98.7 (98%)
	Primary	92.4 (91%)
	Secondary	88.0 (85%)
	Special	92.3 (90%)

Note: From 1st September 2024, inspections of state-funded schools no longer include a judgement on overall effectiveness, and outcomes of ungraded inspections no longer refer to the previous good or outstanding grade. No aggregations of data are now published by Ofsted and no replacement measure has been devised.

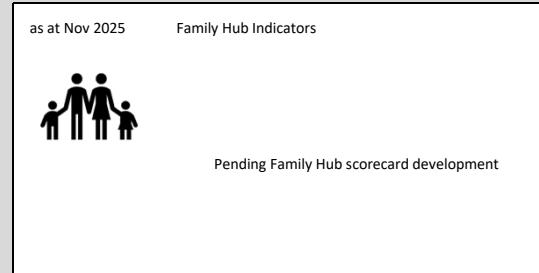


as at Nov 2025

Activity at the Front Door (children)



Total contacts	7,113
Number resolved at FD	2,899
Number to CSWS	1,885
Number to EH Units	1,791



- Figures shown in brackets are National averages.
- Free School Meal averages are as at January 2025 school census and based on state funded schools only.
- Ofsted National averages are as at 31st August 2024.

Directorate Scorecard - SEND Monthly Indicators

Education Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East Average as at 31st December 2024	England Average as at 31st December 2024				
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25													
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			60.2	53.9	51.9	41.8	44.3	50.6	49.0	70	143	⬇️	65	RED	33.3	60	RED	38.2	46.4				
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			68	69	80	51	82	86	70														
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	L	MS			113	128	154	122	185	170	143														
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	L	MS			149	155	156	159	162	175	176				⬇️										
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	H	MS			9.4	17.9	21.4	22.3	10.5	9.0	25.3	78	308	⬆️	65	RED	39.2	60	RED	N/A	N/A				
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			10.0	10.1	10.0	10.1	10.3	10.4	10.5	2,274	21,562	⬇️	9	AMBER	10.1	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A				
	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	L	MS			49.5	55.4	51.4	51.8	65.1	53.9	33.3	114	342	⬆️								N/A	N/A		
	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	L	MS			8.9	10.5	15.3	22.0	17.0	19.0	18.4	226	1,226	⬆️									N/A	N/A	

Note: 2023-24 targets for APP17 and APP-EP are using the June 2024 targets from the APP scorecard

Commentary on Education SEND Indicators:

While 20 week rolling annual average continues to increase, exceeding national averages by over 20%, limited EP capacity has temporarily negatively impacted monthly figures. However, these too continue to outpace the national average. Assessment teams are engaging with EP lead officers to ensure that backlogs are balanced with finalisation of new cases to ensure lower performance is as short lived as possible. In addition, EP service is investigating opportunities to increase their overall capacity. In spite of these difficulties, the service is keeping the number of cases open over 20 weeks to a manageable amount and monitoring this closely.

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25											
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓		21.9	22.0	21.8	21.9	22.0	22.3	22.5	5,326	23,656	⬇️	25.0	GREEN	21.9	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M			88.3	88.2	88.7	89.3	89.5	89.5	88.3	1,549	1,755	⬇️	90.0	AMBER	88.4	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M			25.0	26.0	26.4	27.7	28.2	27.4	26.9	381	1,418	↑↑	20.0	AMBER	24.3	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS			74.2	73.7	73.5	73.7	72.8	73.1	73.1	339	464	↔↔	70.0	GREEN	71.6	70.0	GREEN	69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓		71.5	70.9	70.0	69.9	69.3	69.0	68.3	694	1,016	⬇️	85.0	RED	72.8	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M			388.7	416.7	421.8	429.8	404.7	438.1	428.4	21,422	50	↑↑	426.0	AMBER	367.6	426.0	GREEN	468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓		57.5	58.1	55.7	55.9	56.7	56.3	56.1	662	1,181	⬇️	65.0	AMBER	56.8	65.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M			87.7	87.7	87.3	87.3	86.3	86.3	85.0	430	506	⬇️	85.0	GREEN	87.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓		73.2	73.3	74.0	74.5	77.9	78.6	80.1	505.2	630.5	↑↑	85.0	AMBER	73.9	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS			16.7	16.6	16.9	16.7	16.7	15.9	15.5	1,680	108.5	↑↑	15.0	AMBER	16.5	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS			20.0	21.6	20.7	20.7	20.6	20.7	21.4	5,751	268.4	⬇️	18.0	AMBER	21.7	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M			26.6	26.7	26.4	26.3	26.2	26.3	26.2	3,108	11,855	↑↑	25.0	AMBER	26.1	25.0	AMBER	21	N/A		
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS			90.8	90.9	91.5	92.2	92.2	92.4	92.5	4,793	5,180	↑↑	85.0	GREEN	90.6	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M			90.6	90.6	90.5	90.5	91.0	91.0	91.7	111	121	↑↑	85.0	GREEN	93.7	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓		14.4	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.3	14.6	14.7	584	3,961	⬇️	15.0	GREEN	14.9	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS			13.7	13.3	13.1	11.5	12.6	13.8	15.0	2097	139.4	↑↑	20.0	AMBER	14.2	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

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Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26		Q2 25-26										
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q			33.5	33.1	30.4	29.3	129	440	32.9	GREEN	33.5	32.9	AMBER	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Education Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
										Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
				May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												SN or SE
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	2.9	3.2	4.1	1,645	39,864	⬇️	TBC				2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4	
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M	90.2	91.9	93.2	93.4	95.3	95.9	94.7	4,267	4,505	⬇️	90	GREEN	93.4	65	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M	79.2	85.3	87.9	87.9	88.3	92.4	94.4	3,312	3,507	⬆️	85	GREEN	87.9	60	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M	30	33	30	30	33	35	36	N/A	N/A	⬇️	<= 25	RED	30	<= 25	RED	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M	62	58	67	62	63	67	71	N/A	N/A	⬇️	<= 79	GREEN	62	<= 79	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	N/A	N/A	↔️						0.07	0.13		

Note: *The NEET percentage for September is provisional data as at 22/10/25 and subject to change.

Exclusion rates have been added alongside the numbers of permanent exclusions, as this is the only way that Kent's performance can be benchmarked to national.

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26
							Measure	Numerator	Denominator			
				Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26					
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T	68.0	60.0	55.0	69.5	2,613	3,760	⬆️	79.0	RED

Please note that KS5 provisional attainment data for 2024-25 will be available in the next scorecard (January CYPE cabinet committee)															
Education Annual Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
				Measure	Numerator	Denominator	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24						
				2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A	65.8	68.3	68.0	68.9	11,948	17,344	69	AMBER	⬆️	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A	23.2	21.3	24.7	22.8	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	⬆️	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A	59	59	62	62	18,853	11,694	62	GREEN	⬆️	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A	28	28	26	27	N/A	N/A	23	RED	⬇️	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A	49.3	47.0	47.0	46.6	N/A	N/A	47.0	AMBER	⬇️	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A	18.5	17.8	18.2	18.6	N/A	N/A	17.0	AMBER	⬇️	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	37.68	34.20	34.22	34.72	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	⬆️	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	32.01	29.14	28.03	29.15	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	⬆️	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	34.61	33.47	27.17	27.97	N/A	N/A	38	RED	⬆️	29	29.07	28.81

Data sources for attainment data: FSP = 2025 DfE Published SFR, 27/11/25. KS2 = 2025 DfE Published SFR, 11/12/25. KS4 = 2025 DfE Provisional SFR, 16/10/25. KS5 = 2025 DfE Provisional SFR, 13/11/25

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Education Annual Indicators (Continued) (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
								Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
					2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25								SN or SE
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A		4.8	5.2	5.4	5.8	15,586	270,731	4.8	RED	⬇	5.8	5.8	5.8
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	H	A		90.1	90.1	91.3	90.6	14,973	16,527	N/A			91.3	92.6	
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	H	A		79.6	78.2	78.6	80.6	14,735	18,283	N/A			83.2	83.5	
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		19.1	17.2	15.8	15.1	17,155	113,763	15.8	GREEN	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		29.2	29.2	26.8	22.2	21,638	97,437	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	1,192	113,763			↑	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		2.9	3.7	3.8	3.3	3,264	97,437			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Note: The Working Together to Improve School Attendance statutory guidance has been in place since August 2024, so we have expanded the reporting on school absence to include Severe Absence as well as Persistent Absence, as these are now the two key measures. Persistent Absence is absence of 10% or more, and Severe Absence is absence of 50% or more.

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Commentary on Integrated Children's Services Indicators:**Children's Social Care**

RED: At 68.3% the percentage of children in care placed in KCC foster care, or in placements with relatives/friends, is below the floor standard of 75.0%. The target of 85.0% is an aspirational target set to drive up the use of in-house provision. The highest performance achieved during the last 3 years was 75.5% in December 2022. This is therefore a performance target that needs review for 2026/2027 reporting. The availability of in-house foster placements is a national issue. Actions being taken to increase the number of fostering households include increased information events, recruitment stands at large community events, specific campaigns using social media and use of the "refer a friend" payment, to encourage existing foster carers to support recruitment of family and friends to join Kent Fostering. Part of the recruitment strategy is to look to our existing KCC staff group, to promote becoming a foster carer and completing the initial work on whether KCC can become a "Fostering Friendly" employer. The service is at the initial stages of developing a "Create a Room" project, to support existing approved foster carers to create an additional bedroom for fostering.

AMBER: The Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with Children's Social Work Involvement is 88.3%, which is close to the Target of 90.0%. For those Returner Interviews that did take place, 87.6% took place within timescale (3 working days) which is above the 80.0% target.

AMBER: The percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time is 26.9% which is above the target range of 17.5% - 22.5%. This compares to average rates for England of 24.5%, Statistical Neighbours 24.3% and the South East 26.3% (2024/25). The current performance is impacted by repeat plans for large sibling groups. In July and August 2025 two sibling groups comprising of six children became subject to a Child Protection Plan, and in August and September there were also two sibling groups of five children. This measure includes all children subject to a subsequent Child Protection Plan regardless of the timescale between those plans.

AMBER: The average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family is 428 days, just above the nationally set guide of less than 426 days. This compares to the latest published England average of 475 days for 2024/25.

AMBER: The percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with) is 56.1% which is below the Target of 65.0%. Those not in employment will include those not able to work due to illness, disability, pregnancy or parenting responsibilities and unaccompanied asylum seeking young people who remain without status and are not able to remain in education or gain employment when they reach the age of 18. The Home Office have confirmed unaccompanied children will have their applications prioritised which should then lead to an improvement in performance. The 18+ Care Leavers Service have two specialist staff to support young people access opportunities.

AMBER: The percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers is 80.1%, the highest level since March 2022 (83.3%). The target for this measure is 85.0% which is based on the previous national average for Agency Social Workers of 15%. That increased to 16.2% (September 2024) but the Kent target of 85.0% was retained. Recruiting and retaining qualified social workers remains a priority for CYFE and a range of initiatives are continually being explored and implemented. The annual collection of Children's Social Care Workforce data, provides some comparative data as at 30th September 2024 - Social Work Vacancies: Kent 15.1%, England average 17.3%, SE average 16.0%; Percentage of Agency Social Workers covering vacancies - Kent 67.6%; England average 76.2%, SE average 74.4%; Social Worker turnover - Kent 11.1%, England average 13.8%, SE average 14.4%. The figures for September 2025 have yet to be published.

AMBER: The average caseload in the Children in Care (CIC) Teams is 15.5 children, which is very close to the target of no more than 15 children/young people.

AMBER: The average caseload in the Children's Social Work Teams (CSWT) is 21.4 children, which is above the target caseload of no more than 18 children. The average caseload has remained stable at an average of 21 cases over the last six months.

GREEN: The percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral was 22.5%, achieving the Target of below 25.0%. This performance compares to the latest published England average of 22.6%, and averages of 20.5% for Kent's Statistical Neighbours and 28.4% for the South East (all comparative rates are for 2024/25).

GREEN: The percentage of Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more) is 73.1%, achieving the Target of above 70.0%. Kent's performance remains above the latest published average for England of 69.0%, for the South-East 68.0% and for Kent's Statistical Neighbours 70.8% (comparative data is for 2024/25).

GREEN: The percentage of Children's Social Work Case File Audits graded good or outstanding is 85.0%, which is at the Target level of 80.0%.

Intensive Early Help

AMBER: The percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months is 26.2%, which is above the target of 25.0%.

AMBER: The average caseload within Early Help Units is 15.0 families. The Target for this measure was increased to 20 families for 2024/25.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation, is at 92.5%, achieving the target of above 85.0%.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help Unit cases that were audited and graded as good or outstanding is 91.7%, achieving above the 85.0% target.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to Early Help units or Children's Social Work teams in 3 months is 14.7%, achieving the Target rate of 15.0% or less.

Commentary on Education Indicators:

The majority of education indicators are annual. Commentary has only been provided for indicators where new data has been published since the last scorecard was issued where targets exist.

RED: The numbers of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase, as a 12-month rolling average, at 36 exceeds the target of 25 or under. Kent PRU and Attendance Service (KPAS) continues its work regarding suspensions and permanent exclusions. Common themes are identified, and additional processes developed to support schools to ensure all interventions are exhausted and exclusion remains a last resort.

RED: The percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator] at 69.5% is below the target and but a 1.5 percentage point improvement on last year's performance. The new Working Parent Entitlement is thought to be having an impact. We have raised the issue with the DfE and are awaiting their steer/position.

RED: The average points score per Tech Level entry (Key Stage 5) at 27.97 is both below the target of 38 but only 0.84 below England's performance.

AMBER: The average points score per A Level entry (Key Stage 5) at 34.72 is an improvement on the last two years results but is just below England (34.85) and the target of 35.00 so is amber but a very small margin.

AMBER: The average points score per Applied General entry (Key Stage 5) at 29.15 is both below the target and England's performance by 0.85 and 0.75 respectively.

GREEN: The rate of proven re-offending by children and young people has reduced from 30.4 to 29.3.

GREEN: The percentage of Children Missing Education (CME) cases, closed within 30 school days is 94.7% with 4,267 cases closed out of a total of 4,505.

GREEN: The percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention at 94.4% remains above the target of 85%.

Annual Indicators - Primary (reporting and targets relate to academic years)												Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
															Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
															2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			2024-25		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - all pupils	H	A		65.8	68.3	68.0	68.9	11,948	17,344	69	AMBER	↑	71	70.7	68.3										
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A		22.6	23.2	24.7	22.8	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↑	21	25.0	21.2										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - Kent CIC gap	L	A		17.6	22.5	44.4	32.9	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↑	N/A small cohort	N/A	N/A										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - SEN Support gap	L	A		48.6	50.4	52.9	51.6	N/A	N/A	50	AMBER	↑	50	50.1	50.1										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		66.3	70.5	72.9	74.4	N/A	N/A	70	RED	↓	73	73.2	72.5										
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - all pupils	H	A		59	59	62	62	18,853	11,694	62	GREEN	↔	62	62	63										
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A		28	28	26	27	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↓	25	26	21										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - Kent CIC gap	L	A		32.6	35.4	30.6	33.3	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↓	30	N/A	N/A										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - SEN Support gap	L	A		48	47	46	44	N/A	N/A	45	GREEN	↑	43	46	45										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		61	62	64	65	N/A	N/A	61	RED	↓	63	65	63										

Note - There are no KS1-2 Progress measures for 2023-24 and none planned for 2024-25 as there is no KS1 prior attainment data for the relevant years.

Annual Indicators - Secondary (reporting and targets relate to academic years)												Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
															Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
															2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SE Region		
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - all pupils	H	A		49.3	47.0	47.0	46.6	N/A	N/A	47.0	AMBER	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9										
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A		18.5	17.8	18.2	18.6	N/A	N/A	17.0	AMBER	↑	17.0	18.7	14.8										
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - Kent CIC gap	L	A		27.3	28.2	28.0	28.0	N/A	N/A											N/A	N/A				
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - SEN Support gap	L	A		16.7	16.3	17.5	17.5	N/A	N/A	15.0	AMBER	↔	16.4	17.7	16.4										
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		39.5	37.9	37.7	36.6	N/A	N/A	36.0	AMBER	↓	35.3	36.9	35.3										

Note: There is no Progress 8 data available for 2024-25 due to the lack of KS2 prior attainment data during the Covid-19 pandemic. Progress 8 reporting is due to return in 2026-27.

Data Sources for Current Report

Code	Indicator	Source Description	Latest Data Description	Latest Data release date
Activity-Volume Measures				
CYPE10	Number of Primary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE11	Number of Secondary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE12	Number of Special Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE13	Total pupils on roll in Primary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE14	Total pupils on roll in Secondary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE15	Total pupils on roll in Special Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE16	Percentage of Primary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE17	Percentage of Secondary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE18	Percentage of Special School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
EY8	Percentage of EY settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness (non-domestic premises)	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE35	Percentage of Primary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE36	Percentage of Secondary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE37	Percentage of Special Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
CYPE19	Number of requests for SEND statutory assessment	Synergy reporting	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH71-C	Rate of notifications received into Early Help per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	Early Help module	Rolling 12 months up to end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS02	Rate of referrals to Children's Social Work Services per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD01-CU	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD14-PS	Number of Information, Advice and Guidance contacts processed in the Front Door	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD02-Q	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which met the threshold for CSWS involvement	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD03-CW	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which proceeded to Early Help	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH05-FP	Number of cases open to Early Help Units	Early Help module	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS01	Number of open Social Work cases	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Child Protection cases	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Children in Care	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Care Leavers	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH35	Number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice system	MI monthly reporting (CareDirector Youth)	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SEND Indicators				
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025

Data Sources for Current Report

Code	Indicator	Source Description	Latest Data Description	Latest Data release date
Key Performance Indicators				
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	Liberi	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	Liberi	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	Liberi / Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	Liberi / Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE8-F	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	MOJ report covering 12 month period Jan 23 to Dec 23	Q2 2025-26 reporting period, released on 30/10/25	Oct 2025
SISE7-F	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Monthly submission to DfE via NCCIS for KCC	Provisional Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE5-F	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE6-F	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	Fair Access Team Synergy reporting	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE22-F	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	Fair Access Team Synergy reporting	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place	FF2 Team in Early Years & Childcare	Snapshot as at December 2025	Dec 2025
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	End of year assessments based on EYFSP framework	2024-25 DfE Published (LA), MI Calculations (District)	Nov 2025
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM Eligible achievement gap	End of year assessments based on EYFSP framework	2024-25 DfE Published (LA), MI Calculations (District)	Nov 2025
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	Test/TA results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Dec 2025
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	Test/TA results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Dec 2025
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2024-25 ASP (District)	Oct 2025
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2024-25 ASP (District)	Oct 2025
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with a Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	DfE annual snapshot based on school census	Snapshot as at January 2025	June 2025
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	Admissions school places offered for start of academic year	Offers data for academic year 2025-26	May 2025
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	Admissions school places offered for start of academic year	Offers data for academic year 2025-26	May 2025
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Activity-Volume Measures		
CYPE10	Number of Primary Schools	The number of Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools). Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE11	Number of Secondary Schools	The number of Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools). Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE12	Number of Special Schools	The number of Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies. Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE13	Total pupils on roll in Primary Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools). Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE14	Total pupils on roll in Secondary Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools). Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE15	Total pupils on roll in Special Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies. Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE16	Percentage of Primary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools) as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE17	Percentage of Secondary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools) as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE18	Percentage of Special School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
EY8	Percentage of EY settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness (non-domestic premises)	The percentage of Kent Early Years settings (non-domestic premises only), judged good or outstanding for overall effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent Early Years settings (non domestic premises only).
SISE35	Percentage of Primary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Primary schools and Primary academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Primary schools and Primary academies.
SISE36	Percentage of Secondary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies.
SISE37	Percentage of Special Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies.
CYPE19	Number of requests for SEND statutory assessment	The number of initial requests for assessment for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for 0-25 year olds in Kent LA.
EH71-C	Rate of notifications received into Early Help per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	The total number of referrals to an Early Help Unit completed during the corresponding reporting month per 10,000 (Population figures are updated upon receipt of the latest ONS Mid Year population estimates). This is a child level indicator.
SCS02	Rate of referrals to Children's Social Work Services per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	This indicator shows the rate of referrals received by Children's Social Work Services. Numerator: Number of referrals (rolling 12 month period). Denominator: child population figure divided by 10,000 (Population figures are updated upon receipt of the latest ONS Mid Year Estimates).
FD01-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door	The total number of notifications received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
FD14-C	Number of Information, Advice and Guidance contacts processed in the Front Door	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Information, Advice & Guidance" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Activity-Volume Measures (Continued)		
FD02-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which met the threshold for CSWS involvement	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Threshold met for CSWS" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
FD03-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which proceeded to Early Help	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Proceed to Early Help Unit" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
EH05-F	Number of cases open to Early Help Units	The number of open cases as at the end of the corresponding reporting month. The data includes all cases sent to units at Early Help Record stage prior to the end of the month. This is a family level indicator.
SCS01	Number of open Social Work cases	The total caseload figures for Children's Social Work Services.
	Number of Child Protection cases	The number of Children who have a Child Protection Plan as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
	Number of Children in Care	The number of Children in Care as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
	Number of Care Leavers	The number of Care Leavers as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
EH35-C	Number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice system	First time entrants are defined as young people (aged 10 – 17 years) who receive their first substantive outcome (relating to a Youth Caution with or without an intervention, or a Conditional Caution or a Court disposal for those who go directly to Court without a Youth Caution or Conditional Caution).

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
SEND Indicators		
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	The percentage of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued within 20 weeks as a proportion of all such plans. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	The number of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued within 20 weeks. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	The total number of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	The percentage of Educational Psychology assessments returned within a 6 week timeframe as a proportion of all such requests.
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	The number of pupils with an EHCP that are placed in independent Special schools or out-of-county Special schools as a percentage of the total number of pupils with an EHCP
Page 31	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	The percentage of open referrals to the educational psychology service that have been waiting more than 6 weeks as a proportion of all such cases. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month.
Page 31	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	The percentage of cases where a request for a statutory assessment has been made but no final EHCP has been issued that have been waiting more than 20 weeks as a proportion of all such cases. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month.
Key Performance Indicators		
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	The percentage of referrals to SCS in the last 12 months where the previous referral date (if any) is within 12 months of the new referral date.
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	The percentage of returner interviews completed in the last 12 months where the case was open to SCS at the point the child went missing and the child was aged under 18 at the point of going missing.
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	The percentage of children who become subject to a Child Protection Plan during the last 12 months who have been subject to a previous plan.
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	The percentage of Children in Care aged under 16 at the snapshot date who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their adoptive placement together with their previous placement last for at least 2 years.
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	The percentage of Kent Children in Care at the snapshot date who are in Foster Care and are placed with KCC Foster Carers or with Relatives and Friends. UASC are excluded
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	The average number of days between becoming a Looked After Child and moving in with Adoptive Family (for children who have been Adopted in the last 12 months)
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	The percentage of relevant and former relevant care leavers who were in contact with in a 4 month window around their birthday who were aged 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 and were in education, employment or training.
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	The percentage of all completed case audits in the last 12 months where the overall grading was good or outstanding

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Key Performance Indicators (Continued)		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	The percentage of case holding posts (FTE) at the snapshot date which are held by qualified social workers employed by Kent County Council.
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	The average caseload of social workers within district based CIC Teams at the snapshot date.
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	The average caseload of social workers within the district based Children's Social Work Teams (CSWTs) at the snapshot date.
EH72-F	Percentage of re-referrals to an Early Help Unit within 12 months of a previous Unit case (R12M)	The percentage of referrals into an EH Unit (R12M) that previously had an episode open to an Early Help Unit in the preceding 12 months. The data only looks at referrals allocated to a Unit. It is calculated using a comparison between the episode end date of the previous episode and the episode start date of the subsequent referral.
EH52-F	Percentage of Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	The percentage of assessments completed in the reporting month, where the assessment was completed within 30 working days of allocation.
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	The percentage of all EH Unit completed case audits in the last 12 months where the overall grading was good or outstanding
Page 38	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	The percentage of EH cases that have been closed with an outcome of "outcomes achieved" and then came back into either EH or CSWS in the next 3 months. Please note that there is a 3 month time lag on this data so the result shown for May 2020 is actually looking at all EH Closures in the 12 months up to February 2020.
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	Definition to be confirmed.
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	An offender enters the cohort if they are released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court or received a reprimand or warning (caution) in a three month period. A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court. It is important to note that this is not comparable to previous proven reoffending publications which reported on a 12 month cohort.
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	The percentage of young people who have left compulsory education, up until the end of National Curriculum Year 13, who have not achieved a positive education, employment or training destination.
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	The number of closed cases within 30 school days of their referral to Kent County Council's CME Team, as a percentage of the total number of cases opened within the period.
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	The number of CYP who register with the LA to Home Educate contacted to include information regarding a visit, within 10 days of receipt of the referral to Kent County Council's EHE Team, as a percentage of the total number of cases opened within the period.
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	The total number of pupils in Year R to Year 6 that have been permanently excluded from a Kent maintained Primary school, Special school or Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) or Primary academy or Special academy during the last 12 months.
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	The total number of pupils in Year 7 to Year 14 that have been permanently excluded from a Kent maintained Secondary school, Special school or Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) or Secondary academy or Special academy during the last 12 months.
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	The number of Year R (Reception) to Year 14 pupils permanently excluded from Primary, Secondary, Special schools and PRUs (incl. academies) in the last twelve months expressed as rate over the school population.

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Key Performance Indicators (Continued)		
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place	The number of two year old children accessing a free early education place at an early years provider as a proportion of the total number of families identified as potentially eligible for funding by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	Percentage of pupils assessed as achieving Expected or Exceeding in all Prime Learning Goals and all literacy and mathematics Early Learning Goals at the end of reception year, based on the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM Eligible achievement gap	The difference between the achievement of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils in terms of percentage assessed as achieving Expected or Exceeding in all Prime Learning Goals and all literacy and mathematics Early Learning Goals at the end of reception year, based on the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	The percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 working at the Expected Standard in all of Reading, Writing & maths. Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	The difference between the achievement of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils in terms of percentage working at the Expected Standard in all of Reading, Writing & maths at KS2. Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	The average Attainment 8 score for pupils at end of Key Stage 4. Attainment 8 is a point score based on attainment across eight subjects which must include English; mathematics; three other English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects (sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages); and three further subjects, which can be from the range of EBacc subjects, or can be any other approved, high-value arts, academic, or vocational qualification.
SISE12a	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	The difference between the Attainment 8 score of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils at the end of KS4 (see above definition for SISE12a). Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in A-Level qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all A-Level qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in Applied General qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all Applied General qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in Tech Level qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all Tech Level qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with a Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and care Plan (EHCP) as a proportion of all pupils on roll in all schools as at January school census. Includes maintained schools and academies, Pupil Referral Units, Free schools and Independent schools (DfE published data).
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	The percentage of parents who got their first preference of Primary school (out of their three ordered preferences) for their child.
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	The percentage of parents who got their first preference of Secondary school (out of their three ordered preferences) for their child.
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been persistently absent from a Kent maintained Primary school or a Primary academy for 10% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been persistently absent from a Kent maintained Secondary school or a Secondary academy for 10% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been severely absent from a Kent maintained Primary school or a Primary academy for 50% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been severely absent from a Kent maintained Secondary school or a Secondary academy for 50% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.

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Children, Young People and Education Performance Management

Children, Young People and Education Directorate Scorecard

November 2025

Produced by: Management Information & Intelligence, KCC

Publication Date: 22nd December 2025

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Guidance Notes

Notes:

Figures for indicator CYPE8 (Rate of proven re-offending by CYP) shown in red have not been published by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) but are included for information in this scorecard. The latest available data for this indicator was released on 30/10/25 and covers the 12 month period January 2023 to December 2023.

Please note that not all Children's Social Work indicators can be shown broken down by District for the associated CSWS team, as caseloads relating to these indicators are held by Area and Kent LA level teams. Cases included in a dataset are based on the Service working with the child and not the child's geographical residence.

POLARITY

- H The aim of this indicator is to achieve the highest number/percentage possible
- L The aim of this indicator is to achieve the lowest number/percentage possible
- T The aim of this indicator is to stay close to the target that has been set

DATA PERIOD

- R12M Monthly Rolling 12 months
- MS Monthly Snapshot
- YTD Year To Date
- Q Quarterly
- A Annual

RAG RATINGS

RED Floor Standard* has not been achieved

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION SCORECARDS

AMBER Floor Standard* achieved but Target has not been met

CYPE Children, Young People and Education Directorate Scorecard

GREEN Target has been achieved

EY Early Years Scorecard

* Floor Standards are set in Directorate Business Plans and if not achieved must result in management action

NEET NEET Monthly Scorecard

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL (DOT)

↑ Performance has improved

SEND Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Scorecard

↓ Performance has worsened

ICS Intensive EH and CSWS Monthly Performance Report

↔ Performance has remained the same

INCOMPLETE DATA

- N/A** Data not available
- ...** Data to be supplied
- ...** New indicator - historical data not available

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

Data in italics indicates previous reporting year

- CIC Children in Care
- CSWT Children's Social Work Teams
- CYP Children and Young People
- DWP Department for Work and Pensions
- EY Early Years
- EYFE Early Years Free Entitlement
- EYFS Early Years Foundation Stage
- FF2 Free For Two
- FSM Free School Meals
- NEET Not in Education, Employment or Training
- SCS Specialist Children's Services
- SEN Special Educational Needs

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CONTACT DETAILS

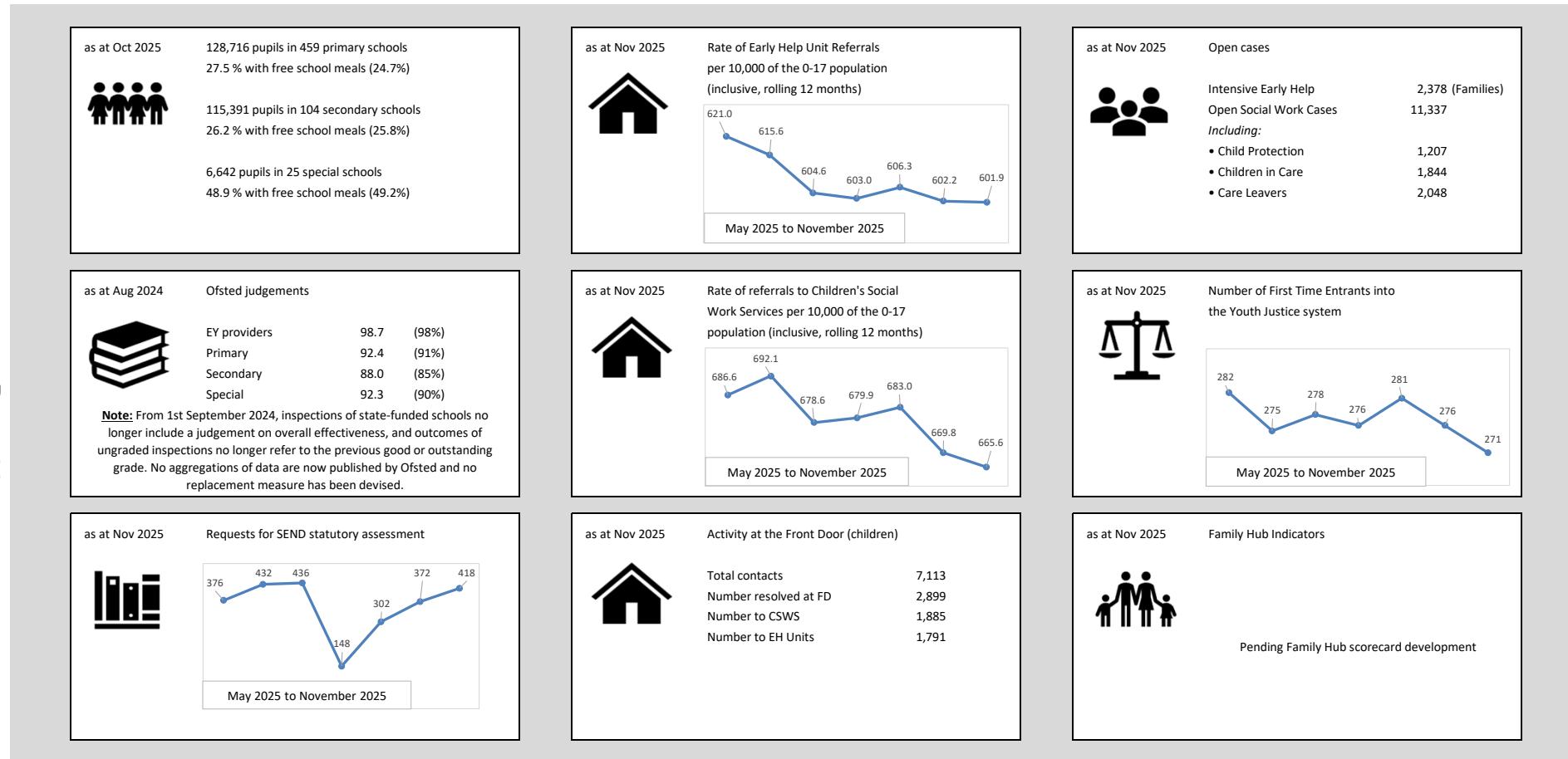
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Children, Young People and Education Performance Management
Directorate Scorecard - Kent Activity/Volume

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- Figures shown in brackets are National averages.
- Free School Meal averages are as at January 2025 school census and based on state funded schools only.
- Ofsted National averages are as at 31st August 2024.

Directorate Scorecard - SEND Monthly Indicators

Education Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East Average as at 31st December 2024	England Average as at 31st December 2024	
						Measure	Numerator	Denominator	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25								
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			60.2	53.9	51.9	41.8	44.3	50.6	49.0	70	143	⬇	65	RED	33.3	60	RED	38.2	46.4	
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			68	69	80	51	82	86	70											
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	L	MS			113	128	154	122	185	170	143											
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	L	MS			149	155	156	159	162	175	176				⬇							
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	H	MS			9.4	17.9	21.4	22.3	10.5	9.0	25.3	78	308	⬆	65	RED	39.2	60	RED	N/A	N/A	
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			10.0	10.1	10.0	10.1	10.3	10.4	10.5	2,274	21,562	⬇	9	AMBER	10.1	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	L	MS			49.5	55.4	51.4	51.8	65.1	53.9	33.3	114	342	⬆							N/A	N/A
	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	L	MS			8.9	10.5	15.3	22.0	17.0	19.0	18.4	226	1,226	⬆							N/A	N/A

Note: 2023-24 targets for APP17 and APP-EP are using the June 2024 targets from the APP scorecard

Commentary on Education SEND Indicators:

While 20 week rolling annual average continues to increase, exceeding national averages by over 20%, limited EP capacity has temporarily negatively impacted monthly figures. However, these too continue to outpace the national average. Assessment teams are engaging with EP lead officers to ensure that backlogs are balanced with finalisation of new cases to ensure lower performance is as short lived as possible. In addition, EP service is investigating opportunities to increase their overall capacity. In spite of these difficulties, the service is keeping the number of cases open over 20 weeks to a manageable amount and monitoring this closely.

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	21.9	22.0	21.8	21.9	22.0	22.3	22.5	5,326	23,656	↓	25.0	GREEN	21.9	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4			
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		88.3	88.2	88.7	89.3	89.5	89.5	88.3	1,549	1,755	↓	90.0	AMBER	88.4	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		25.0	26.0	26.4	27.7	28.2	27.4	26.9	381	1,418	↑	20.0	AMBER	24.3	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7			
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		74.2	73.7	73.5	73.7	72.8	73.1	73.1	339	464	↔	70.0	GREEN	71.6	70.0	GREEN	69.7	68.0			
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	71.5	70.9	70.0	69.9	69.3	69.0	68.3	694	1,016	↓	85.0	RED	72.8	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		388.7	416.7	421.8	429.8	404.7	438.1	428.4	21,422	50	↑	426.0	AMBER	367.6	426.0	GREEN	468	485			
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	57.5	58.1	55.7	55.9	56.7	56.3	56.1	662	1,181	↓	65.0	AMBER	56.8	65.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		87.7	87.7	87.3	87.3	86.3	86.3	85.0	430	506	↓	85.0	GREEN	87.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	73.2	73.3	74.0	74.5	77.9	78.6	80.1	505.2	630.5	↑	85.0	AMBER	73.9	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		16.7	16.6	16.9	16.7	16.7	15.9	15.5	1,680	108.5	↑	15.0	AMBER	16.5	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		20.0	21.6	20.7	20.7	20.6	20.7	21.4	5,751	268.4	↓	18.0	AMBER	21.7	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		26.6	26.7	26.4	26.3	26.2	26.3	26.2	3,108	11,855	↑	25.0	AMBER	26.1	25.0	AMBER	21	N/A			
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		90.8	90.9	91.5	92.2	92.2	92.4	92.5	4,793	5,180	↑	85.0	GREEN	90.6	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		90.6	90.6	90.5	90.5	91.0	91.0	91.7	111	121	↑	85.0	GREEN	93.7	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	14.4	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.3	14.6	14.7	584	3,961	↓	15.0	GREEN	14.9	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		13.7	13.3	13.1	11.5	12.6	13.8	15.0	2097	139.4	↑	20.0	AMBER	14.2	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025		
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q			33.5	33.1	30.4	29.3	129	440	↑	32.9	GREEN	33.5	32.9	AMBER	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Education Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
										Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
				May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												SN or SE
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	2.9	3.2	4.1	1,645	39,864	⬇️	TBC				2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4	
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M	90.2	91.9	93.2	93.4	95.3	95.9	94.7	4,267	4,505	⬇️	90	GREEN	93.4	65	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M	79.2	85.3	87.9	87.9	88.3	92.4	94.4	3,312	3,507	⬆️	85	GREEN	87.9	60	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M	30	33	30	30	33	35	36	N/A	N/A	⬇️	<= 25	RED	30	<= 25	RED	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M	62	58	67	62	63	67	71	N/A	N/A	⬇️	<= 79	GREEN	62	<= 79	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	N/A	N/A	↔️						0.07	0.13		

Note: *The NEET percentage for September is provisional data as at 22/10/25 and subject to change.

Exclusion rates have been added alongside the numbers of permanent exclusions, as this is the only way that Kent's performance can be benchmarked to national.

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26
							Measure	Numerator	Denominator			
				Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26					
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T	68.0	60.0	55.0	69.5	2,613	3,760	⬆️	79.0	RED

Please note that KS5 provisional attainment data for 2024-25 will be available in the next scorecard (January CYPE cabinet committee)															
Education Annual Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)	Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
				Measure	Numerator	Denominator	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24						
				2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A	65.8	68.3	68.0	68.9	11,948	17,344	69	AMBER	⬆️	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A	23.2	21.3	24.7	22.8	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	⬆️	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A	59	59	62	62	18,853	11,694	62	GREEN	⬆️	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A	28	28	26	27	N/A	N/A	23	RED	⬇️	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A	49.3	47.0	47.0	46.6	N/A	N/A	47.0	AMBER	⬇️	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A	18.5	17.8	18.2	18.6	N/A	N/A	17.0	AMBER	⬇️	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	37.68	34.20	34.22	34.72	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	⬆️	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	32.01	29.14	28.03	29.15	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	⬆️	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School and College students]	H	A	34.61	33.47	27.17	27.97	N/A	N/A	38	RED	⬆️	29	29.07	28.81

Data sources for attainment data: FSP = 2025 DfE Published SFR, 27/11/25. KS2 = 2025 DfE Published SFR, 11/12/25. KS4 = 2025 DfE Provisional SFR, 16/10/25. KS5 = 2025 DfE Provisional SFR, 13/11/25

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Education Annual Indicators (Continued) (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			4.8	5.2	5.4	5.8	15,586	270,731	4.8	RED	⬇	5.8	5.8	5.8
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	H	A			90.1	90.1	91.3	90.6	14,973	16,527		N/A		91.3	92.6	
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	H	A			79.6	78.2	78.6	80.6	14,735	18,283		N/A		83.2	83.5	
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			19.1	17.2	15.8	15.1	17,155	113,763	15.8	GREEN	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			29.2	29.2	26.8	22.2	21,638	97,437	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	1,192	113,763			↑	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.9	3.7	3.8	3.3	3,264	97,437			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Note: The Working Together to Improve School Attendance statutory guidance has been in place since August 2024, so we have expanded the reporting on school absence to include Severe Absence as well as Persistent Absence, as these are now the two key measures. Persistent Absence is absence of 10% or more, and Severe Absence is absence of 50% or more.

Directorate Scorecard - Kent KPIs

Commentary on Integrated Children's Services Indicators:**Children's Social Care**

RED: At 68.3% the percentage of children in care placed in KCC foster care, or in placements with relatives/friends, is below the floor standard of 75.0%. The target of 85.0% is an aspirational target set to drive up the use of in-house provision. The highest performance achieved during the last 3 years was 75.5% in December 2022. This is therefore a performance target that needs review for 2026/2027 reporting. The availability of in-house foster placements is a national issue. Actions being taken to increase the number of fostering households include increased information events, recruitment stands at large community events, specific campaigns using social media and use of the "refer a friend" payment, to encourage existing foster carers to support recruitment of family and friends to join Kent Fostering. Part of the recruitment strategy is to look to our existing KCC staff group, to promote becoming a foster carer and completing the initial work on whether KCC can become a "Fostering Friendly" employer. The service is at the initial stages of developing a "Create a Room" project, to support existing approved foster carers to create an additional bedroom for fostering.

AMBER: The Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with Children's Social Work Involvement is 88.3%, which is close to the Target of 90.0%. For those Returner Interviews that did take place, 87.6% took place within timescale (3 working days) which is above the 80.0% target.

AMBER: The percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time is 26.9% which is above the target range of 17.5% - 22.5%. This compares to average rates for England of 24.5%, Statistical Neighbours 24.3% and the South East 26.3% (2024/25). The current performance is impacted by repeat plans for large sibling groups. In July and August 2025 two sibling groups comprising of six children became subject to a Child Protection Plan, and in August and September there were also two sibling groups of five children. This measure includes all children subject to a subsequent Child Protection Plan regardless of the timescale between those plans.

AMBER: The average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family is 428 days, just above the nationally set guide of less than 426 days. This compares to the latest published England average of 475 days for 2024/25.

AMBER: The percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with) is 56.1% which is below the Target of 65.0%. Those not in employment will include those not able to work due to illness, disability, pregnancy or parenting responsibilities and unaccompanied asylum seeking young people who remain without status and are not able to remain in education or gain employment when they reach the age of 18. The Home Office have confirmed unaccompanied children will have their applications prioritised which should then lead to an improvement in performance. The 18+ Care Leavers Service have two specialist staff to support young people access opportunities.

AMBER: The percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers is 80.1%, the highest level since March 2022 (83.3%). The target for this measure is 85.0% which is based on the previous national average for Agency Social Workers of 15%. That increased to 16.2% (September 2024) but the Kent target of 85.0% was retained. Recruiting and retaining qualified social workers remains a priority for CYFE and a range of initiatives are continually being explored and implemented. The annual collection of Children's Social Care Workforce data, provides some comparative data as at 30th September 2024 - Social Work Vacancies: Kent 15.1%, England average 17.3%, SE average 16.0%; Percentage of Agency Social Workers covering vacancies - Kent 67.6%; England average 76.2%, SE average 74.4%; Social Worker turnover - Kent 11.1%, England average 13.8%, SE average 14.4%. The figures for September 2025 have yet to be published.

AMBER: The average caseload in the Children in Care (CIC) Teams is 15.5 children, which is very close to the target of no more than 15 children/young people.

AMBER: The average caseload in the Children's Social Work Teams (CSWT) is 21.4 children, which is above the target caseload of no more than 18 children. The average caseload has remained stable at an average of 21 cases over the last six months.

GREEN: The percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral was 22.5%, achieving the Target of below 25.0%. This performance compares to the latest published England average of 22.6%, and averages of 20.5% for Kent's Statistical Neighbours and 28.4% for the South East (all comparative rates are for 2024/25).

GREEN: The percentage of Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more) is 73.1%, achieving the Target of above 70.0%. Kent's performance remains above the latest published average for England of 69.0%, for the South-East 68.0% and for Kent's Statistical Neighbours 70.8% (comparative data is for 2024/25).

GREEN: The percentage of Children's Social Work Case File Audits graded good or outstanding is 85.0%, which is at the Target level of 80.0%.

Intensive Early Help

AMBER: The percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months is 26.2%, which is above the target of 25.0%.

AMBER: The average caseload within Early Help Units is 15.0 families. The Target for this measure was increased to 20 families for 2024/25.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation, is at 92.5%, achieving the target of above 85.0%.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help Unit cases that were audited and graded as good or outstanding is 91.7%, achieving above the 85.0% target.

GREEN: The percentage of Early Help cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to Early Help units or Children's Social Work teams in 3 months is 14.7%, achieving the Target rate of 15.0% or less.

Commentary on Education Indicators:

The majority of education indicators are annual. Commentary has only been provided for indicators where new data has been published since the last scorecard was issued where targets exist.

RED: The numbers of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase, as a 12-month rolling average, at 36 exceeds the target of 25 or under. Kent PRU and Attendance Service (KPAS) continues its work regarding suspensions and permanent exclusions. Common themes are identified, and additional processes developed to support schools to ensure all interventions are exhausted and exclusion remains a last resort.

RED: The percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator] at 69.5% is below the target and but a 1.5 percentage point improvement on last year's performance. The new Working Parent Entitlement is thought to be having an impact. We have raised the issue with the DfE and are awaiting their steer/position.

RED: The average points score per Tech Level entry (Key Stage 5) at 27.97 is both below the target of 38 but only 0.84 below England's performance.

AMBER: The average points score per A Level entry (Key Stage 5) at 34.72 is an improvement on the last two years results but is just below England (34.85) and the target of 35.00 so is amber but a very small margin.

AMBER: The average points score per Applied General entry (Key Stage 5) at 29.15 is both below the target and England's performance by 0.85 and 0.75 respectively.

GREEN: The rate of proven re-offending by children and young people has reduced from 30.4 to 29.3.

GREEN: The percentage of Children Missing Education (CME) cases, closed within 30 school days is 94.7% with 4,267 cases closed out of a total of 4,505.

GREEN: The percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention at 94.4% remains above the target of 85%.

Annual Indicators - Primary (reporting and targets relate to academic years)												Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
															Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
															2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25					SN or SE			
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - all pupils	H	A		65.8	68.3	68.0	68.9	11,948	17,344	69	AMBER	↑	71	70.7	68.3										
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A		22.6	23.2	24.7	22.8	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↑	21	25.0	21.2										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - Kent CIC gap	L	A		17.6	22.5	44.4	32.9	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↑	N/A small cohort	N/A	N/A										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - SEN Support gap	L	A		48.6	50.4	52.9	51.6	N/A	N/A	50	AMBER	↑	50	50.1	50.1										
	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		66.3	70.5	72.9	74.4	N/A	N/A	70	RED	↓	73	73.2	72.5										
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - all pupils	H	A		59	59	62	62	18,853	11,694	62	GREEN	↔	62	62	63										
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A		28	28	26	27	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↓	25	26	21										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - Kent CIC gap	L	A		32.6	35.4	30.6	33.3	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↓	30	N/A	N/A										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - SEN Support gap	L	A		48	47	46	44	N/A	N/A	45	GREEN	↑	43	46	45										
	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		61	62	64	65	N/A	N/A	61	RED	↓	63	65	63										

Note - There are no KS1-2 Progress measures for 2023-24 and none planned for 2024-25 as there is no KS1 prior attainment data for the relevant years.

Annual Indicators - Secondary (reporting and targets relate to academic years)												Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
															Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
															2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25					SE Region			
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - all pupils	H	A		49.3	47.0	47.0	46.6	N/A	N/A	47.0	AMBER	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9										
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A		18.5	17.8	18.2	18.6	N/A	N/A	17.0	AMBER	↑	17.0	18.7	14.8										
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - Kent CIC gap	L	A		27.3	28.2	28.0	28.0	N/A	N/A											N/A	N/A				
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - SEN Support gap	L	A		16.7	16.3	17.5	17.5	N/A	N/A	15.0	AMBER	↔	16.4	17.7	16.4										
	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - SEN EHCP gap	L	A		39.5	37.9	37.7	36.6	N/A	N/A	36.0	AMBER	↓	35.3	36.9	35.3										

Note: There is no Progress 8 data available for 2024-25 due to the lack of KS2 prior attainment data during the Covid-19 pandemic. Progress 8 reporting is due to return in 2026-27.

Directorate Scorecard - Ashford District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
													Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
Ashford CSWT							May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE		
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	21.8	22.1	22.0	21.9	22.3	22.9	23.9	403	1,683	⬇	25.0	GREEN	21.1	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4				
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		92.3	91.5	93.2	93.5	91.1	91.9	90.9	60	66	⬇	90.0	GREEN	92.1	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A				
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		33.0	31.5	29.1	28.1	27.9	25.6	24.8	33	133	↑	20.0	AMBER	31.3	20.0	RED	24.5	24.7				
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		77.3	77.3	73.9	73.9	75.0	75.0	75.0	15	20	↔	85.0	AMBER	77.3	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A				
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	73.1	75.7	75.7	75.7	94.0	94.0	94.0	21.6	23.0	↔	85.0	GREEN	72.3	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A				
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		24.3	25.2	24.0	23.0	20.3	21.0	21.4	487	22.8	⬇	18.0	AMBER	27.0	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A				
Ashford EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25														
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		25.7	26.1	25.9	25.6	24.4	23.3	22.6	212	938	↑	25.0	GREEN	25.2	25.0	AMBER	21	N/A				
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		99.3	99.3	99.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	373	373	↔	85.0	GREEN	99.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A				
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		91.7	91.7	91.7	91.7	91.7	91.7	90.0	9	10	⬇	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A				
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	17.8	18.1	18.5	19.0	17.8	18.2	16.0	38	238	↑	15.0	AMBER	16.5	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A				
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		13.4	12.8	12.5	10.8	10.6	13.4	14.1	183	13.0	↑	20.0	AMBER	12.2	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A				

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Ashford (reporting and targets relate to financial years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		31.6	39.1	36.4	32.0	8	25	↑	32.9	GREEN	31.6	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5			

Directorate Scorecard - Ashford District

Education Monthly Indicators - Ashford (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25	
													Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
							May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25										SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS		60.0	43.8	26.3	54.5	23.5	44.4	27.8	5	18	⬇️	65	RED	42.9	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS		3.9	3.7	3.6	3.8	2.6	2.6	3.2	119	3,714	⬇️	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS		9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.4	9.4	9.6	174	1,821	⬇️	9	AMBER	9.1	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	↔️	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M		4	4	6	4	5	6	3	N/A	N/A	↑↑	N/A	N/A	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M		97.0	98.0	99.2	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.4	331	333	⬇️	90	GREEN	99.5	65	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M		77.9	83.3	85.8	86.0	88.1	92.9	95.0	323	340	↑↑	85	GREEN	86.0	60	GREEN	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
							Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
CT	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T		71.3	56.3	55.8	78.3	253	323	↑↑	79.0	AMBER			

Education Annual Indicators - Ashford (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
							2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A		67.6	68.6	68.6	68.9	1,038	1,506	69	AMBER	↑↑	71	70.7	68.3		
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A		22.3	16.0	22.1	16.6	N/A	N/A	20	GREEN	↑↑	21	25.0	21.2		
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A		55.7	56.9	58.9	59.5	955	1,606	62	AMBER	↑↑	62	62	63		
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A		28.7	26.8	26.8	27.4	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↓↓	25	26	21		
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A		48.2	45.8	44.9	44.8	N/A	N/A	47	AMBER	↓↓	47.0	47.0	45.9		
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A		19.3	16.9	19.6	20.5	N/A	N/A	17	RED	↓↓	17.0	18.7	14.8		
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		36.50	32.8	32.50	32.50	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔️	35	35.52	34.85		
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		29.66	28.9	29.08	29.08	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	↔️	29.5	29.07	29.87		
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		28.68	29.7	30.11	30.11	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔️	29	29.07	28.81		
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A		4.5	4.9	5.0	5.2	1,128	21,644	4.8	AMBER	↓↓	5.8	5.8	5.8		
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		18.9	15.5	16.1	14.4	1,394	9,658	15.8	GREEN	↑↑	14.3	13.0	13.3		
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		31.8	30.8	27.7	23.1	2,021	8,731	23.0	AMBER	↑↑	21.1	21.6	21.9		
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2	117	9,658			↓↓	0.9	1.0	0.9		
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		3.2	4.3	4.5	3.5	306	8,731			↑↑	3.2	3.7	3.6		

Directorate Scorecard - Canterbury District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24				
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator												
Canterbury CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE				
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)					L	R12M	✓	24.6	25.4	24.5	23.9	25.0	23.8	25.3	419	1,654	⬇	25.0	AMBER	26.8	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4	
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement					H	R12M		96.7	96.6	96.4	96.3	96.4	92.7	92.3	48	52	⬇	90.0	GREEN	97.0	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time					T	R12M		14.8	16.3	18.0	20.9	21.9	19.2	18.8	24	128	⬇	20.0	GREEN	15.8	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7	
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)					H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)					H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family					L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)					H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding					H	R12M		89.7	89.7	86.2	86.2	84.6	84.6	81.0	17	21	⬇	85.0	AMBER	93.1	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers					H	MS	✓	76.9	73.1	73.1	69.2	73.1	76.9	76.9	20.0	26.0	↔	85.0	AMBER	76.9	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams					L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams					L	MS		20.6	25.4	24.6	26.2	30.1	26.0	27.8	612	22.0	⬇	18.0	RED	21.3	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
Canterbury EHU									May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months					L	R12M		23.0	22.7	21.2	21.2	20.6	20.5	20.2	176	870	↑	25.0	GREEN	22.8	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A	
EH42-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation					H	MS		88.7	89.3	90.0	90.5	90.7	90.4	91.0	474	521	↑	85.0	GREEN	88.2	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding					H	R12M		94.1	94.1	93.8	93.8	93.3	93.3	91.7	11	12	⬇	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths					L	R12M	✓	9.4	9.1	9.5	8.5	8.2	7.2	6.1	22	361	↑	15.0	GREEN	12.1	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)					L	MS		16.4	13.7	14.3	12.8	13.2	12.4	14.7	215	14.6	↑	20.0	AMBER	16.6	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Canterbury (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025			
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP					L	Q		55.1	52.8	46.8	38.9	21	54	↑	32.9	RED	55.1	32.9	RED	32.6	32.5

Directorate Scorecard - Canterbury District

Education Monthly Indicators - Canterbury (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25				Nov-25									SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			50.0	57.1	44.4	45.5	43.8	40.0	63.6	7	11	↑	65	AMBER	31.7	60	RED	38.2	46.4		
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			4.9	4.0	3.9	4.2	3.5	4.5	4.9	178	3,631	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4		
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			11.1	11.4	11.4	11.6	11.9	12.0	12.4	245	1,982	↓	9	RED	11.6	9	RED	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			2	1	1	1	1	1	2	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			3	1	1	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			92.5	94.9	96.1	96.1	97.2	98.6	98.9	343	347	↑	90	GREEN	96.1	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			81.5	85.4	86.8	86.3	87.5	93.8	96.1	269	280	↑	85	GREEN	86.3	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
ETD	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			65.5	53.7	54.2	63.9	211	330	↓	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Canterbury (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			61.9	65.0	67.0	67.8	936	1,380	69	AMBER	↑	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			31.3	20.6	29.3	22.5	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↑	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			59.7	56.6	56.6	56.9	882	1,551	62	RED	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			35.3	35.5	32.5	31.0	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↑	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			48.1	46.2	45.4	45.3	N/A	N/A	47	AMBER	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			16.4	16.7	16.9	18.7	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	↓	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			37.10	33.2	34.61	34.61	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			32.98	30.2	30.15	30.15	N/A	N/A	30	GREEN	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			30.26	31.2	27.33	27.33	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			5.1	5.4	5.7	6.0	1,322	22,195	4.8	RED	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			19.8	18.2	17.3	17.4	1,638	9,430	15.8	RED	↓	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			30.6	28.1	28.7	22.2	1,975	8,897	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.6	1.1	1.5	1.4	133	9,430			↑	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			3.6	4.6	4.6	3.6	319	8,897			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Dartford District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
Dartford CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	20.4	21.2	20.1	19.7	19.9	20.5	20.5	298	1,454	↔	25.0	GREEN	19.8	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4			
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		81.3	81.6	82.5	82.1	81.1	81.6	84.8	28	33	↑	90.0	AMBER	77.8	90.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		33.3	35.1	39.7	41.0	39.3	33.0	28.0	28	100	↑	20.0	RED	27.3	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7			
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		79.2	79.2	83.3	83.3	83.3	83.3	85.0	17	20	↑	85.0	GREEN	83.3	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	75.8	75.8	83.7	82.8	83.7	88.0	88.0	20.2	23.0	↔	85.0	GREEN	80.1	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		21.9	22.2	20.5	21.2	21.0	20.9	21.3	474	22.2	↓	18.0	AMBER	23.1	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
Dartford EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25												
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		25.2	24.9	24.8	24.0	22.6	23.6	24.0	143	597	↓	25.0	GREEN	24.8	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A			
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		85.6	85.1	85.7	87.7	87.2	87.3	86.1	229	266	↓	85.0	GREEN	84.7	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		90.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	87.5	7	8	↓	85.0	GREEN	88.9	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	12.2	11.5	11.5	9.7	9.0	9.4	9.8	19	194	↓	15.0	GREEN	12.1	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		15.8	15.4	8.1	8.2	9.3	10.6	12.4	118	9.5	↑	20.0	AMBER	17.3	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Dartford (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East & Wales as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		37.5	43.5	48.3	40.7	11	27	↑	32.9	RED	37.5	32.9	RED	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Dartford District

Education Monthly Indicators - Dartford (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25			
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator											
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25														
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			71.4	50.0	76.9	50.0	72.7	44.4	50.0	6	12	↑	65	RED	29.6	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	1.9	2.0	2.7	89	3,305	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			11.4	11.4	11.5	12.6	12.5	12.4	12.4	208	1,684	↔	9	RED	12.6	9	RED	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			3	5	4	4	4	4	5	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			13	15	19	19	21	23	25	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			92.9	96.2	97.5	98.3	99.6	99.8	96.0	433	451	↓		GREEN	98.3	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			77.6	86.7	88.2	88.3	90.0	94.8	96.2	229	238	↑		GREEN	88.3	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
						Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
EY12	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			56.9	53.4	44.4	59.3	176	297	↑	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Dartford (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			64.3	70.7	68.4	70.7	1,128	1,596	69	GREEN	↑	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			26.5	25.0	24.7	20.9	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↑	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			59.2	64.6	67.1	65.9	1,155	1,752	62	GREEN	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			25.1	25.2	21.0	22.6	N/A	N/A	23	GREEN	↓	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			55.5	53.1	53.5	53.5	N/A	N/A	47	GREEN	↔	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			18.2	18.6	15.3	18.2	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	↓	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			37.71	34.0	34.04	34.04	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			32.48	30.7	31.02	31.02	N/A	N/A	30	GREEN	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			33.77	33.5	35.48	35.48	N/A	N/A	38	AMBER	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	850	24,663	4.8	GREEN	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			17.4	15.2	14.4	13.7	1,469	10,725	15.8	GREEN	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			21.1	22.7	23.5	18.0	1,850	10,271	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.8	0.9	1.1	1.1	113	10,725			↔	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.2	2.4	2.6	2.2	223	10,271			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Dover District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Dover CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	25.4	25.3	23.8	23.8	22.9	23.2	24.8	346	1,396	↓	25.0	GREEN	26.4	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		95.2	93.6	93.2	92.9	91.7	92.3	93.0	40	43	↑	90.0	GREEN	95.3	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		26.3	25.7	24.3	26.4	23.8	22.1	23.5	27	115	↓	20.0	AMBER	26.2	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		86.4	86.4	85.0	85.0	84.2	84.2	80.0	12	15	↓	85.0	AMBER	86.4	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	81.8	81.8	77.4	77.4	90.5	86.1	86.1	19.8	23.0	↔	85.0	GREEN	86.1	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		19.5	20.6	23.7	25.3	22.3	24.3	23.2	460	19.8	↑	18.0	RED	22.5	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
Dover EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		27.4	26.8	26.5	26.7	26.0	25.4	25.0	217	867	↑	25.0	GREEN	27.6	25.0	AMBER	21	N/A		
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		95.8	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.7	97.5	97.3	287	295	↓	85.0	GREEN	94.5	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		81.8	81.8	81.8	81.8	90.9	90.9	88.9	8	9	↓	85.0	GREEN	81.8	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	15.6	17.2	15.9	16.7	15.6	17.5	17.0	38	223	↑	15.0	AMBER	13.4	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		11.7	11.7	11.3	10.5	12.4	14.0	12.2	175	14.3	↓	20.0	AMBER	10.9	20.0	RED	N/A	N/A		

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Dover (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26											
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		24.1	24.0	29.4	38.2	13	34	↓	32.9	RED	24.1	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Dover District

Education Monthly Indicators - Dover (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25			
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator											
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25														
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			60.0	66.7	36.4	37.5	38.9	40.0	57.9	11	19	↑	65	AMBER	40.1	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			4.8	4.7	4.8	5.0	2.7	3.4	4.2	118	2,788	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			12.2	12.1	11.8	12.1	12.1	12.4	12.2	203	1,665	↑	9	RED	12.1	9	RED	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			2	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			94.0	96.7	99.0	99.0	99.6	99.6	87.9	203	231	↓		GREEN	99.0	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			80.0	85.4	87.5	87.6	90.2	92.8	95.2	240	252	↑		GREEN	87.6	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
						Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
EY12	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			71.8	67.1	55.8	82.3	237	288	↑	79.0	GREEN	

Education Annual Indicators - Dover (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			64.9	68.2	67.7	65.2	702	1,076	69	RED	↓	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			14.1	17.9	16.6	21.5	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↓	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			51.9	56.1	54.7	57.4	686	1,195	62	RED	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			21.7	28.5	26.8	25.7	N/A	N/A	23	AMBER	↑	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			44.5	42.0	42.8	42.4	N/A	N/A	47	RED	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			16.9	17.1	15.8	20.0	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	↓	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			34.89	32.5	32.24	32.24	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			29.04	24.3	24.47	24.47	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			30.32	24.9	36.92	36.92	N/A	N/A	38	AMBER	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			4.1	4.5	4.7	5.2	825	16,003	4.8	AMBER	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			20.7	19.9	18.0	16.9	1,265	7,464	15.8	RED	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			34.7	35.1	34.5	29.3	1,850	6,307	23.0	RED	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.4	0.8	0.8	1.0	76	7,464			↓	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.8	4.3	5.5	4.0	255	6,307			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Folkestone and Hythe District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24				
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator												
Folkestone and Hythe CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE				
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)					L	R12M	✓	16.6	15.4	15.2	15.8	17.2	18.0	18.7	224	1,201	⬇	25.0	GREEN	18.0	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4	
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement					H	R12M		73.7	71.8	66.7	65.7	62.5	70.4	67.7	21	31	⬇	90.0	RED	80.0	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time					T	R12M		23.0	27.3	27.7	32.0	33.3	35.9	37.3	38	102	⬇	20.0	RED	24.3	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7	
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)					H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)					H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family					L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)					H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding					H	R12M		87.5	87.5	79.2	79.2	75.0	75.0	70.0	14	20	⬇	85.0	RED	95.7	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers					H	MS	✓	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.0	80.0	80.0	16.0	20.0	↔	85.0	AMBER	80.0	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams					L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams					L	MS		25.7	26.3	23.6	25.3	24.1	21.7	24.5	466	19.0	⬇	18.0	RED	30.7	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A	
Folkestone and Hythe EHU									May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months					L	R12M		23.7	22.7	21.7	22.6	22.1	20.8	21.1	141	668	⬇	25.0	GREEN	23.7	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A	
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation					H	MS		91.2	92.2	92.1	91.9	91.3	90.5	90.8	275	303	↑	85.0	GREEN	90.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding					H	R12M		87.5	87.5	88.9	88.9	90.0	90.0	100.0	8	8	↑	85.0	GREEN	87.5	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths					L	R12M	✓	16.2	15.5	15.5	15.2	14.5	14.1	13.9	25	180	↑	15.0	GREEN	17.5	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)					L	MS		9.4	10.8	11.0	9.7	10.2	11.6	14.9	142	9.5	↑	20.0	AMBER	11.3	20.0	RED	N/A	N/A	

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Folkestone and Hythe (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025			
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26		Q2 25-26												
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP					L	Q		45.5	35.0	26.1	31.8	7	22	↑	32.9	GREEN	45.5	32.9	RED	32.6	32.5

Directorate Scorecard - Folkestone and Hythe District

Education Monthly Indicators - Folkestone and Hythe (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25	
													Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
							May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25										SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS		33.3	50.0	38.5	22.2	37.5	45.5	20.0	2	10	⬇️	65	RED	28.0	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS		3.8	3.7	3.9	4.3	2.6	3.2	4.1	105	2,573	⬇️	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS		7.7	7.7	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.7	103	1,340	⬇️	9	GREEN	7.4	9	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M		1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M		0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M		98.0	98.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	143	143	143	143	GREEN	100.0	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M		72.6	78.2	85.5	85.7	87.5	91.2	93.6	176	188	188	188	GREEN	85.7	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26
							Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26					
EI4	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T		74.8	63.6	59.7	79.4	197	248	197	79.0	GREEN		

Education Annual Indicators - Folkestone and Hythe (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
							2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A		65.9	67.1	66.8	67.7	701	1,035	69	AMBER	197	71	70.7	68.3		
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A		23.5	24.2	26.3	24.5	N/A	N/A	20	RED	197	21	25.0	21.2		
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A		60.2	59.4	59.2	60.2	727	1,207	62	AMBER	197	62	62	63		
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A		21.0	28.1	24.5	24.6	N/A	N/A	23	AMBER	197	25	26	21		
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A		50.1	43.1	41.3	42.1	N/A	N/A	47	RED	197	47.0	47.0	45.9		
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A		18.5	17.4	14.4	14.5	N/A	N/A	17	GREEN	197	17.0	18.7	14.8		
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		33.27	31.0	31.51	31.51	N/A	N/A	35	RED	197	35	35.52	34.85		
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		33.70	30.9	30.62	30.62	N/A	N/A	30	GREEN	197	29.5	29.07	29.87		
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		35.80	37.2	32.14	32.14	N/A	N/A	38	RED	197	29	29.07	28.81		
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A		4.8	5.0	5.2	5.5	826	15,078	4.8	RED	197	5.8	5.8	5.8		
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		18.5	16.5	16.5	15.5	1,116	7,201	15.8	GREEN	197	14.3	13.0	13.3		
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		35.1	33.1	31.6	22.9	1,300	5,679	23.0	GREEN	197	21.1	21.6	21.9		
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	73	7,201			197	0.9	1.0	0.9		
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		3.5	3.7	4.7	2.9	165	5,679			197	3.2	3.7	3.6		

Directorate Scorecard - Gravesham District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24				
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator												
Gravesham CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE				
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)					L	R12M	✓	20.9	20.5	22.1	22.5	23.2	24.3	24.1	427	1,772	↑	25.0	GREEN	21.8	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4	
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement					H	R12M		90.0	90.5	89.2	91.2	96.7	96.6	92.0	23	25	↓	90.0	GREEN	86.0	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time					T	R12M		14.5	14.6	13.1	13.5	12.9	15.9	16.1	22	137	↑	20.0	AMBER	12.1	20.0	RED	24.5	24.7	
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)					H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)					H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family					L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)					H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding					H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	16	16	↔	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers					H	MS	✓	61.7	57.5	57.5	57.5	65.9	70.0	74.2	17.8	24.0	↑	85.0	RED	61.7	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A	
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams					L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams					L	MS		18.0	22.7	23.1	23.1	21.6	22.7	22.0	501	22.8	↑	18.0	AMBER	22.3	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A	
Gravesham EHU									May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months					L	R12M		22.4	22.2	22.8	22.4	22.4	22.3	22.8	197	864	↓	25.0	GREEN	23.0	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A	
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation					H	MS		89.2	87.2	86.5	86.7	86.2	86.9	86.4	367	425	↓	85.0	GREEN	90.7	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding					H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	87.5	87.5	85.7	6	7	↓	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths					L	R12M	✓	13.5	14.2	15.3	15.9	15.9	16.9	18.3	62	338	↓	15.0	AMBER	14.2	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)					L	MS		12.2	11.0	12.4	11.5	12.0	11.3	13.9	175	12.6	↑	20.0	AMBER	12.0	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Gravesham (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025			
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26		Q2 25-26												
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP					L	Q		45.0	44.4	42.1	33.3	8	24	↑	32.9	AMBER	45.0	32.9	RED	32.6	32.5

Directorate Scorecard - Gravesham District

Education Monthly Indicators - Gravesham (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25				Nov-25									SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			50.0	60.0	44.4	11.1	66.7	41.7	44.4	4	9	↑	65	RED	38.7	60	RED	38.2	46.4		
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			4.8	4.9	5.0	5.5	3.4	3.4	4.6	137	2,993	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4		
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			10.2	10.2	10.1	10.0	10.6	10.6	10.9	152	1,394	↓	9	RED	10.0	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			2	2	2	2	3	3	3	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			3	2	2	2	2	2	3	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			82.8	85.3	87.8	90.5	93.3	95.3	97.2	409	421	↑	65	GREEN	90.5	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			82.8	90.7	91.3	91.5	89.3	93.9	94.5	188	199	↑	60	GREEN	91.5	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
						Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
EY12	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			54.4	47.4	47.2	60.5	199	329	↑	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Gravesham (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator							
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			66.8	67.4	65.0	67.7	933	1,379	69	AMBER	↑	71	70.7	68.3	
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			21.2	15.6	20.6	25.3	N/A	N/A	20	RED	↓	21	25.0	21.2	
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			61.8	56.6	58.9	56.5	843	1,491	62	RED	↑	62	62	63	
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			20.8	26.1	25.8	25.4	N/A	N/A	23	AMBER	↑	25	26	21	
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			48.4	46.3	45.6	46.1	N/A	N/A	47	AMBER	↑	47.0	47.0	45.9	
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			15.6	11.8	16.5	14.0	N/A	N/A	17	GREEN	↑	17.0	18.7	14.8	
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			35.37	29.6	30.64	30.64	N/A	N/A	35	RED	↔	35	35.52	34.85	
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			31.26	27.2	26.52	26.52	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87	
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			30.78	35.2	31.56	31.56	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔	29	29.07	28.81	
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			3.1	3.2	3.2	3.5	737	20,785	4.8	GREEN	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8	
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			20.5	18.6	16.8	16.0	1,422	8,877	15.8	AMBER	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3	
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			26.0	38.1	24.2	19.2	1,589	8,275	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9	
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	83	8,877			↔	0.9	1.0	0.9	
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.3	3.7	3.2	2.7	221	8,275			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6	

Directorate Scorecard - Maidstone District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25									SN or SE		
Maidstone CSWT																								
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	27.0	27.0	26.1	26.0	25.6	26.1	25.8	559	2,164	↑	25.0	AMBER	26.0	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4			
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		100.0	97.0	96.7	96.7	96.4	96.2	96.4	27	28	↑	90.0	GREEN	100.0	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		23.5	24.1	29.0	26.8	28.8	28.3	27.8	32	115	↑	20.0	RED	23.0	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7			
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		88.9	88.9	92.3	92.3	88.5	88.5	90.5	19	21	↑	85.0	GREEN	89.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	57.9	61.4	66.9	66.9	74.7	68.0	62.7	18.8	30.0	↓	85.0	RED	68.3	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		20.7	19.5	20.7	17.0	16.4	17.9	23.0	557	24.2	↓	18.0	RED	22.1	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
Maidstone EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25												
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		22.8	22.6	22.8	22.7	23.9	24.5	24.5	304	1,242	↔	25.0	GREEN	23.2	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A			
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		97.6	97.3	97.2	97.0	97.0	96.8	97.1	612	630	↑	85.0	GREEN	96.9	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	14	14	↔	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	14.7	13.7	14.2	14.1	13.8	13.9	14.2	80	563	↓	15.0	GREEN	15.6	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		17.9	19.3	15.3	14.7	17.8	18.8	19.8	238	12.0	↑	20.0	GREEN	21.7	20.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Maidstone (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26		Q2 25-26										
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		28.3	30.0	26.1	22.6	14	62	↑	32.9	GREEN	28.3	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Maidstone District

Education Monthly Indicators - Maidstone (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25			
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator											
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25														
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			77.8	50.0	70.6	60.0	53.3	56.3	50.0	5	10	⬇️	65	RED	37.1	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			4.3	4.4	4.1	3.9	2.8	2.7	4.0	181	4,483	⬇️	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			6.5	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.7	145	2,150	⬇️	9	GREEN	6.5	9	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			5	4	4	4	4	3	2	N/A	N/A	⬆️	N/A	N/A	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			8	5	5	5	6	7	7	N/A	N/A	↔️	N/A	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			91.8	93.0	93.3	94.9	97.2	97.4	96.5	657	681	⬇️	65	GREEN	94.9	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			81.6	87.6	90.4	90.1	91.3	95.1	95.3	422	443	⬆️	60	GREEN	90.1	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
						Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
EY12	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			64.2	61.0	50.9	64.0	283	442	⬇️	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Maidstone (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			64.2	70.6	69.7	70.4	1,479	2,100	69	GREEN	⬆️	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			23.9	14.8	20.5	17.0	N/A	N/A	20	GREEN	⬆️	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			58.5	59.0	60.1	59.8	1,301	2,175	62	AMBER	⬆️	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			26.3	22.7	24.8	30.9	N/A	N/A	23	RED	⬇️	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			50.8	46.7	48.3	47.8	N/A	N/A	47	GREEN	⬇️	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			19.0	19.0	19.3	18.2	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	⬆️	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			38.22	34.5	32.74	32.74	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔️	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			29.94	25.9	24.02	24.02	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↔️	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			37.98	30.0	24.72	24.72	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔️	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	2,008	30,766	4.8	RED	⬇️	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			18.0	16.8	14.6	13.8	1,813	13,096	15.8	GREEN	⬆️	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			25.1	24.5	23.5	19.6	2,353	11,975	23.0	GREEN	⬆️	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.7	0.7	1.0	1.1	145	13,096			⬇️	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.1	2.8	2.8	2.5	304	11,975			⬆️	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Sevenoaks District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Sevenoaks North & Tonbridge and Malling CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	22.7	23.0	23.1	23.0	22.9	23.6	23.3	404	1,735	↑	25.0	GREEN	22.5	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		79.1	81.0	80.0	79.5	86.1	85.0	86.1	31	36	↑	90.0	AMBER	80.8	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		20.0	22.6	23.6	24.3	24.3	23.7	23.9	38	159	↓	20.0	AMBER	17.0	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		88.9	88.9	89.7	89.7	89.7	89.7	95.8	23	24	↑	85.0	GREEN	88.5	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	61.4	57.9	65.0	68.6	75.7	72.2	75.7	21.2	28.0	↑	85.0	AMBER	62.9	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		22.9	26.5	23.0	22.2	24.3	25.4	24.1	544	22.6	↑	18.0	RED	26.8	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
Sevenoaks South & Tunbridge Wells CSWT					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	30.7	30.5	30.8	31.1	30.9	31.9	31.1	481	1,546	↑	25.0	RED	29.2	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		97.3	97.4	97.4	97.5	97.4	97.6	100.0	42	42	↑	90.0	GREEN	97.4	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		23.3	24.6	22.2	18.5	24.2	26.8	26.3	20	76	↑	20.0	AMBER	24.6	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			69.7	68.0		
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			468	485		
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0	57.1	57.1	50.0	9	18	↓	85.0	RED	73.7	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	75.0	80.0	90.0	85.0	84.0	84.1	89.1	17.8	20.0	↑	85.0	GREEN	80.0	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A		
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		24.0	23.7	17.5	18.7	19.9	19.6	20.5	402	19.6	↓	18.0	AMBER	22.8	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		

Directorate Scorecard - Sevenoaks District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24			
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator											
Sevenoaks North & Tonbridge and Malling EHU						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											SN or SE		
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M			24.4	25.2	24.5	24.2	24.1	24.1	24.2	267	1,102	⬇️	25.0	GREEN	22.9	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A			
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS			98.4	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.7	99.1	544	549	⬆️	85.0	GREEN	98.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M			100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	10	10	↔️	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓		12.0	12.9	13.2	13.6	13.7	14.0	14.4	71	494	⬇️	15.0	GREEN	12.5	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS			14.6	14.3	20.2	14.1	15.2	14.4	14.8	192	13.0	↑️	20.0	AMBER	15.5	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
Sevenoaks South & Tunbridge Wells EHU						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25													
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M			24.4	24.7	24.5	23.9	24.8	25.6	25.8	214	830	⬇️	25.0	AMBER	23.4	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A			
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS			95.3	95.4	95.5	95.1	94.9	94.8	95.0	401	422	↑️	85.0	GREEN	94.9	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M			90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.0	9	10	⬇️	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓		13.2	13.2	12.2	11.8	12.4	11.8	11.7	30	256	↑️	15.0	GREEN	13.1	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS			20.4	21.5	19.9	15.6	15.7	17.7	17.3	173	10.0	⬇️	20.0	AMBER	17.5	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Sevenoaks (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025		
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26												
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q			30.4	21.1	16.7	27.3	6	22	⬇️	32.9	GREEN	30.4	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Sevenoaks District

Education Monthly Indicators - Sevenoaks (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25										SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			100.0	42.9	90.9	42.9	42.1	50.0	60.0	6	10	↑	65	AMBER	33.3	60	RED	38.2	46.4	
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			3.8	3.6	3.7	3.7	2.5	2.2	2.6	69	2,629	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4	
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			14.8	15.0	14.7	13.6	14.2	14.5	14.4	207	1,439	↑	9	RED	13.6	9	RED	N/A	N/A	
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			3	4	3	3	4	5	5	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			5	7	8	8	8	10	10	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			86.7	86.3	88.6	90.3	89.7	91.2	89.2	189	212	↓	65	GREEN	90.3	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			78.8	84.3	85.9	85.6	85.8	89.7	93.8	241	257	↑	60	GREEN	85.6	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A	

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator			
						Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26					
92	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			76.4	62.9	60.7	58.3	95	163	↓	79.0	RED

Education Annual Indicators - Sevenoaks (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25							SN or SE	
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			68.8	72.4	69.0	70.8	855	1,207	69	GREEN	↑	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			24.8	14.2	36.2	24.4	N/A	N/A	20	RED	↑	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			63.9	63.5	65.7	67.4	876	1,300	62	GREEN	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			34.2	39.8	25.9	38.9	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↓	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			43.8	41.0	41.2	41.8	N/A	N/A	47	RED	↑	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			13.6	12.3	16.1	14.4	N/A	N/A	17	GREEN	↑	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			34.91	33.8	31.65	31.65	N/A	N/A	35	RED	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			33.76	31.2	26.35	26.35	N/A	N/A	30	RED	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	38	GREEN	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			5.8	6.0	6.3	6.7	872	12,949	4.8	RED	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			17.7	15.3	13.3	13.6	1,115	8,191	15.8	GREEN	↓	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			37.6	31.6	29.5	28.2	781	2,769	23.0	RED	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	66	8,191			↔	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			4.8	4.6	4.2	4.3	120	2,769			↓	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Swale District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24		
Swale Central CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	27.5	27.4	26.9	26.8	27.3	27.8	27.0	344	1,276	↑	25.0	AMBER	27.6	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4			
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.0	96.7	96.7	29	30	↔	90.0	GREEN	100.0	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		34.1	33.8	29.6	32.4	32.5	31.2	22.2	14	63	↑	20.0	GREEN	35.4	20.0	RED	24.5	24.7			
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			69.7	68.0			
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			468	485			
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		93.8	93.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	13	13	↔	85.0	GREEN	88.2	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	57.9	63.4	57.9	63.4	64.6	82.3	82.3	14.8	18.0	↔	85.0	AMBER	54.5	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A			
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		20.3	21.7	19.2	17.2	22.3	21.7	22.2	320	14.4	↓	18.0	RED	21.7	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
Swale Island & Rural CSWT					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25													
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	26.1	28.3	29.0	28.3	29.5	29.5	30.3	328	1,083	↓	25.0	RED	26.1	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4			
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	24	24	↔	90.0	GREEN	100.0	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		22.4	23.1	27.8	31.0	30.0	28.6	29.6	16	54	↓	20.0	RED	25.0	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7			
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			69.7	68.0			
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			468	485			
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		83.3	83.3	83.3	83.3	88.9	88.9	86.7	13	15	↓	85.0	GREEN	83.3	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	62.5	62.5	62.5	62.5	68.8	56.3	75.0	12.0	16.0	↑	85.0	AMBER	75.0	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A			N/A	N/A			
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		16.1	23.0	21.3	20.0	22.3	22.2	18.6	298	16.0	↑	18.0	AMBER	20.8	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Directorate Scorecard - Swale District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Swale EHU						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											SN or SE
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M			24.6	24.7	24.9	24.9	25.3	25.6	25.0	308	1,234	↑	25.0	GREEN	24.7	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A	
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS			75.4	77.9	82.8	86.6	85.8	86.0	85.0	409	481	↓	85.0	GREEN	74.1	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M			88.9	88.9	77.8	77.8	82.4	82.4	78.6	11	14	↓	85.0	AMBER	94.1	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓		13.1	13.8	14.3	14.6	13.7	15.9	15.9	60	377	↔	15.0	AMBER	14.0	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS			11.2	9.6	10.1	8.8	10.7	13.3	16.4	246	15.0	↑	20.0	AMBER	12.0	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Swale (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26											
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q			28.9	31.7	24.4	29.7	11	37	↑	32.9	GREEN	28.9	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5

Directorate Scorecard - Swale District

Education Monthly Indicators - Swale (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25													SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			66.7	47.6	35.3	35.3	39.3	61.9	50.0	9	18	⬇️	65	RED	30.1	60	RED	38.2	46.4		
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			5.8	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.0	5.1	6.3	248	3,911	⬇️	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4		
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			9.2	9.1	9.0	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.7	299	3,070	⬇️	9	AMBER	9.3	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			3	6	5	5	5	5	5	N/A	N/A	↔️	N/A	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			2	2	3	2	2	2	3	N/A	N/A	⬇️	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			71.8	72.8	73.0	70.9	78.7	78.4	78.0	347	445	⬇️	65	GREEN	70.9	90	RED	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			79.5	85.0	89.0	89.0	86.0	89.3	91.9	421	458	↑️	60	GREEN	89.0	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
EY12	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			67.9	57.0	53.9	68.4	337	493	↑️	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Swale (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			64.2	66.8	67.3	68.7	1,197	1,742	69	AMBER	↑️	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			17.2	23.6	20.1	22.9	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	⬇️	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			55.1	55.6	60.7	58.8	1,146	1,949	62	RED	↑️	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			25.6	20.2	24.9	24.2	N/A	N/A	23	AMBER	↑️	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			43.9	42.4	41.6	41.5	N/A	N/A	47	RED	⬇️	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			16.6	16.8	17.7	17.6	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	↑️	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			34.50	31.9	32.19	32.19	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔️	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			31.42	28.7	29.45	29.45	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	↔️	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			35.12	35.5	31.98	31.98	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔️	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			5.4	5.8	6.1	6.3	1,526	24,262	4.8	RED	⬇️	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			22.1	19.3	17.7	16.2	1,904	11,751	15.8	AMBER	↑️	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			36.8	33.1	32.0	27.2	2,437	8,970	23.0	RED	↑️	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.8	1.0	1.1	1.0	115	11,751			↑️	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			4.9	5.9	6.1	5.7	511	8,970			↑️	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Thanet District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Thanet Margate CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	27.7	27.5	28.3	28.8	29.4	29.0	29.1	625	2,146	⬇	25.0	AMBER	27.3	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	40	40	↔	90.0	GREEN	100.0	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		24.2	27.2	32.7	34.7	34.2	32.8	35.2	45	128	⬇	20.0	RED	24.2	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0	
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485	
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		88.9	88.9	83.3	83.3	77.8	77.8	73.3	11	15	⬇	85.0	RED	88.2	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	85.0	85.0	85.0	95.6	94.4	99.0	99.0	16.8	17.0	↔	85.0	GREEN	86.2	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		24.3	25.7	22.4	22.2	23.0	23.2	23.0	365	15.8	↑	18.0	RED	21.9	18.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
Thanet Ramsgate CSWT					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	22.9	25.6	25.0	25.0	22.5	31.0	31.6	12	38	⬇	25.0	RED	12.2	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		92.0	91.3	94.4	93.8	94.1	95.0	95.2	20	21	↑	90.0	GREEN	93.1	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		50.9	55.4	43.8	44.7	52.0	54.2	53.7	29	54	↑	20.0	RED	54.2	20.0	RED	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0	
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485	
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		76.5	76.5	76.5	76.5	64.7	64.7	57.1	8	14	⬇	85.0	RED	76.5	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	60.1	60.1	60.1	53.8	72.6	82.6	82.6	13.2	16.0	↔	85.0	AMBER	66.3	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		27.2	27.0	32.8	40.2	23.5	20.4	25.0	265	10.6	⬇	18.0	RED	26.2	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		

Directorate Scorecard - Thanet District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Thanet EHU						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25											SN or SE
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M			32.0	32.6	32.3	31.9	31.7	31.2	30.8	372	1,208	↑	25.0	RED	30.9	25.0	RED	21	N/A	
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS			89.2	88.9	90.5	92.5	93.0	93.4	94.3	494	524	↑	85.0	GREEN	89.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A	
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M			75.0	75.0	81.3	81.3	81.3	81.3	92.3	12	13	↑	85.0	GREEN	76.5	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓		16.9	16.8	16.4	16.3	16.9	16.6	17.1	63	369	↓	15.0	AMBER	18.4	15.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS			12.0	11.2	12.4	11.3	12.0	13.6	15.2	240	15.8	↑	20.0	AMBER	12.3	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A	

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Thanet (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26											
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q			19.1	15.3	16.5	16.5	15	91	↓	32.9	GREEN	19.1	32.9	GREEN	32.6	32.5

Directorate Scorecard - Thanet District

Education Monthly Indicators - Thanet (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25			
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator											
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25														
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			50.0	54.5	64.7	50.0	42.1	35.7	40.0	4	10	↑	65	RED	27.1	60	RED	38.2	46.4			
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	3.2	3.7	5.4	193	3,583	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4			
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			12.1	12.1	12.2	11.2	11.7	11.8	12.1	278	2,298	↓	9	RED	11.2	9	RED	N/A	N/A			
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			7	7	7	7	9	10	10	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			1	1	2	2	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			92.6	95.3	96.7	97.0	97.2	97.8	98.3	469	477	↑	65	GREEN	97.0	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A			
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			78.4	85.8	87.0	86.8	86.6	91.6	94.0	328	349	↑	60	GREEN	86.8	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A			

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
EDU	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			71.1	67.4	61.9	69.6	302	434	↓	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Thanet (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			60.1	61.2	60.1	63.3	908	1,434	69	RED	↑	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			23.7	21.0	24.6	22.6	N/A	N/A	20	AMBER	↑	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			52.2	53.9	55.1	56.6	928	1,639	62	RED	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			22.6	22.8	19.5	22.5	N/A	N/A	23	GREEN	↓	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			43.9	44.1	43.1	42.1	N/A	N/A	47	RED	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			15.3	15.8	14.8	16.7	N/A	N/A	17	GREEN	↓	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			32.93	32.4	34.78	34.78	N/A	N/A	35	AMBER	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			34.24	30.5	28.41	28.41	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			47.00	40.4	47.77	47.77	N/A	N/A	38	GREEN	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			5.9	6.3	6.6	7.1	1,419	20,089	4.8	RED	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			24.7	22.0	20.7	19.8	1,824	9,219	15.8	RED	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			31.3	32.2	30.8	28.6	2,229	7,800	23.0	RED	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			1.1	1.3	1.5	1.3	119	9,219			↑	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			3.1	3.8	4.3	5.0	390	7,800			↓	3.2	3.7	3.6

Directorate Scorecard - Tonbridge and Malling District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Sevenoaks North & Tonbridge and Malling CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	22.7	23.0	23.1	23.0	22.9	23.6	23.3	404	1,735	↑	25.0	GREEN	22.5	25.0	GREEN	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		79.1	81.0	80.0	79.5	86.1	85.0	86.1	31	36	↑	90.0	AMBER	80.8	90.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		20.0	22.6	23.6	24.3	24.3	23.7	23.9	38	159	↓	20.0	AMBER	17.0	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0	
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485	
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		88.9	88.9	89.7	89.7	89.7	89.7	95.8	23	24	↑	85.0	GREEN	88.5	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	61.4	57.9	65.0	68.6	75.7	72.2	75.7	21.2	28.0	↑	85.0	AMBER	62.9	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		22.9	26.5	23.0	22.2	24.3	25.4	24.1	544	22.6	↑	18.0	RED	26.8	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
Sevenoaks North & Tonbridge and Malling EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		24.4	25.2	24.5	24.2	24.1	24.1	24.2	267	1,102	↓	25.0	GREEN	22.9	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A		
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		98.4	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.7	99.1	544	549	↑	85.0	GREEN	98.3	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	10	10	↔	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	12.0	12.9	13.2	13.6	13.7	14.0	14.4	71	494	↓	15.0	GREEN	12.5	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		14.6	14.3	20.2	14.1	15.2	14.4	14.8	192	13.0	↑	20.0	AMBER	15.5	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Tonbridge and Malling (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26											
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		33.3	30.6	31.8	30.4	7	23	↑	32.9	GREEN	33.3	32.9	AMBER	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Tonbridge and Malling District

Education Monthly Indicators - Tonbridge and Malling (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
													Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
							May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25		Nov-25											SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS		54.5	69.2	14.3	38.5	53.3	60.0	77.8	7	9	↑	65	GREEN	32.0	60	RED	38.2	46.4				
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS		3.9	3.6	3.8	3.6	2.5	2.5	3.6	118	3,285	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4				
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS		7.6	7.5	7.7	7.8	8.1	8.5	8.6	142	1,660	↓	9	GREEN	7.8	9	GREEN	N/A	N/A				
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M		2	2	2	2	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M		15	13	14	12	11	9	10	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M		96.9	98.0	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	197	198	↑	65	GREEN	99.5	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A				
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M		78.8	83.8	89.0	88.9	89.4	92.1	93.4	241	258	↑	60	GREEN	88.9	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A				

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
							Autumn 24-25	Spring 24-25	Summer 24-25	Autumn 25-26						
ED1	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T		68.2	62.9	54.8	73.4	182	248	↑	79.0	RED			

Education Annual Indicators - Tonbridge and Malling (reporting and targets relate to academic years)				Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
							2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A		70.6	69.8	72.0	71.5	1,091	1,525	69	GREEN	↓	71	70.7	68.3		
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A		23.1	33.3	29.8	27.0	N/A	N/A	20	RED	↑	21	25.0	21.2		
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A		59.1	60.5	63.7	63.0	1,092	1,732	62	GREEN	↑	62	62	63		
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A		33.5	32.7	31.7	28.0	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↑	25	26	21		
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A		55.9	53.3	53.8	53.2	N/A	N/A	47	GREEN	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9		
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A		23.0	22.1	21.8	19.4	N/A	N/A	17	AMBER	↑	17.0	18.7	14.8		
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		41.92	39.4	39.42	39.42	N/A	N/A	35	GREEN	↔	35	35.52	34.85		
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		32.48	30.7	28.97	28.97	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87		
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A		31.84	32.5	33.15	33.15	N/A	N/A	38	RED	↔	29	29.07	28.81		
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A		4.3	4.5	4.7	5.0	1,177	23,554	4.8	AMBER	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8		
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		15.5	14.3	13.2	13.0	1,339	10,264	15.8	GREEN	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3		
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A		28.7	26.8	25.7	21.6	2,083	9,636	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9		
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		0.5	0.9	1.0	0.8	83	10,264			↑	0.9	1.0	0.9		
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A		2.4	2.7	3.4	3.1	301	9,636			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6		

Directorate Scorecard - Tunbridge Wells District

Integrated Children's Services Monthly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	Kent Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2023-24	England 2023-24	
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator									
Sevenoaks South & Tunbridge Wells CSWT						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25										SN or SE	
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	L	R12M	✓	30.7	30.5	30.8	31.1	30.9	31.9	31.1	481	1,546	↑	25.0	RED	29.2	25.0	AMBER	19.2	22.4		
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	H	R12M		97.3	97.4	97.4	97.5	97.4	97.6	100.0	42	42	↑	90.0	GREEN	97.4	90.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	T	R12M		23.3	24.6	22.2	18.5	24.2	26.8	26.3	20	76	↑	20.0	AMBER	24.6	20.0	AMBER	24.5	24.7		
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	H	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			69.7	68.0	
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	H	MS	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	L	R12M		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			468	485	
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	H	R12M	✓	N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	H	R12M		65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0	57.1	57.1	50.0	9	18	↓	85.0	RED	73.7	85.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	H	MS	✓	75.0	80.0	90.0	85.0	84.0	84.1	89.1	17.8	20.0	↑	85.0	GREEN	80.0	85.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	L	MS		N/A						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A	
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	L	MS		24.0	23.7	17.5	18.7	19.9	19.6	20.5	402	19.6	↓	18.0	AMBER	22.8	18.0	RED	N/A	N/A		
Sevenoaks South & Tunbridge Wells EHU					May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25												
EH12-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	L	R12M		24.4	24.7	24.5	23.9	24.8	25.6	25.8	214	830	↓	25.0	AMBER	23.4	25.0	GREEN	21	N/A		
EH12-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	H	MS		95.3	95.4	95.5	95.1	94.9	94.8	95.0	401	422	↑	85.0	GREEN	94.9	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	H	R12M		90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.0	9	10	↓	85.0	GREEN	100.0	85.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	L	R12M	✓	13.2	13.2	12.2	11.8	12.4	11.8	11.7	30	256	↑	15.0	GREEN	13.1	15.0	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	L	MS		20.4	21.5	19.9	15.6	15.7	17.7	17.3	173	10.0	↓	20.0	AMBER	17.5	20.0	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Integrated Children's Services Quarterly Indicators - Tunbridge Wells (reporting and targets relate to financial years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Quarterly Trends			Latest Quarter			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	South East as at Jan 2025	England & Wales as at Jan 2025	
						Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26											
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	L	Q		42.9	50.0	40.0	42.1	8	19	↑	32.9	RED	42.9	32.9	RED	32.6	32.5		

Directorate Scorecard - Tunbridge Wells District

Education Monthly Indicators - Tunbridge Wells (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Monthly Trends						Latest Month			DOT	Target 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	District Outturn 2024-25	Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25		
												Measure	Numerator	Denominator										
						May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25				Nov-25									SN or SE
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	H	MS			50.0	50.0	100.0	50.0	42.9	83.3	60.0	3	5	↓	65	AMBER	33.9	60	RED	38.2	46.4		
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) [seasonally impacted indicator]	L	MS			2.5	2.3	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.1	3.0	90	2,969	↓	TBC			2.8	GREEN	3.4	3.4		
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	L	MS			9.6	10.1	10.0	10.5	10.7	10.9	11.1	113	1,020	↓	9	RED	10.5	9	AMBER	N/A	N/A		
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	L	R12M			0	0	0	0	0	1	1	N/A	N/A	↔	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
EH44	Number of permanent exclusions from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	L	R12M			8	8	7	7	7	7	8	N/A	N/A	↓	N/A	N/A	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	H	R12M			96.2	98.1	98.2	98.8	98.9	98.3	98.9	184	186	↑	65	GREEN	98.8	90	GREEN	N/A	N/A		
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	H	R12M			80.6	88.1	89.4	89.4	88.5	92.0	94.7	179	189	↑	60	GREEN	89.4	95	AMBER	N/A	N/A		

Education Termly Indicators (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Termly Trends			Latest Term			DOT	Target Autumn 2025-26	RAG 2025-26	
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator				
EDU1	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place [seasonally impacted indicator]	H	T			71.0	60.2	55.8	65.5	108	165	↓	79.0	RED	

Education Annual Indicators - Tunbridge Wells (reporting and targets relate to academic years)			Polarity	Data Period	QPR	Annual Trends			Latest Year			Target 2024-25	RAG 2024-25	DOT	Target 2025-26	Benchmark Group 2024-25	England 2024-25
									Measure	Numerator	Denominator						
						2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25						SN or SE		
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	H	A			66.6	69.2	71.9	73.0	873	1,196	69	GREEN	↑	71	70.7	68.3
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM gap	L	A			29.3	28.0	33.3	28.2	N/A	N/A	20	RED	↑	21	25.0	21.2
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	H	A			63.4	63.4	68.6	68.6	897	1,308	62	GREEN	↑	62	62	63
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	L	A			31.1	38.2	25.6	31.4	N/A	N/A	23	RED	↓	25	26	21
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	H	A			56.6	53.5	54.6	52.9	N/A	N/A	47	GREEN	↓	47.0	47.0	45.9
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	L	A			18.2	22.3	21.7	21.8	N/A	N/A	17	RED	↓	17.0	18.7	14.8
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			42.35	37.8	38.86	38.86	N/A	N/A	35	GREEN	↔	35	35.52	34.85
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			33.16	29.2	28.24	28.24	N/A	N/A	30	AMBER	↔	29.5	29.07	29.87
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [State-Funded School students] [National and Benchmark Group averages are State-Funded School and College students]	H	A			37.25	37.2	36.13	36.13	N/A	N/A	38	AMBER	↔	29	29.07	28.81
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	L	A			3.9	4.2	4.3	4.6	898	19,690	4.8	GREEN	↓	5.8	5.8	5.8
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			15.9	14.6	11.8	10.8	846	7,830	15.8	GREEN	↑	14.3	13.0	13.3
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	L	A			23.4	21.0	17.8	14.4	1,170	8,130	23.0	GREEN	↑	21.1	21.6	21.9
EH48	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			0.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	67	7,830			↓	0.9	1.0	0.9
EH49	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	L	A			2.0	2.5	2.1	1.8	150	8,130			↑	3.2	3.7	3.6

Data Sources for Current Report

Code	Indicator	Source Description	Latest Data Description	Latest Data release date
Activity-Volume Measures				
CYPE10	Number of Primary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE11	Number of Secondary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE12	Number of Special Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE13	Total pupils on roll in Primary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE14	Total pupils on roll in Secondary Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE15	Total pupils on roll in Special Schools	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE16	Percentage of Primary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE17	Percentage of Secondary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
CYPE18	Percentage of Special School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	MI School Census Database	October 2025 School Census	Dec 2025
EY8	Percentage of EY settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness (non-domestic premises)	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE35	Percentage of Primary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE36	Percentage of Secondary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
SISE37	Percentage of Special Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	MI Ofsted Database	Inspections as at end of Aug 2024	Sept 2024
CYPE19	Number of requests for SEND statutory assessment	Synergy reporting	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH71-C	Rate of notifications received into Early Help per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	Early Help module	Rolling 12 months up to end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS02	Rate of referrals to Children's Social Work Services per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD01-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD14-C	Number of Information, Advice and Guidance contacts processed in the Front Door	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD02-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which met the threshold for CSWS involvement	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
FD03-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which proceeded to Early Help	Early Help module	Children referred during the month of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH05-C	Number of cases open to Early Help Units	Early Help module	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS01	Number of open Social Work cases	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Child Protection cases	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Children in Care	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Number of Care Leavers	Liberi	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH35	Number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice system	MI monthly reporting (CareDirector Youth)	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SEND Indicators				
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot data as at end of Nov 2025	Dec 2025

Data Sources for Current Report

Code	Indicator	Source Description	Latest Data Description	Latest Data release date
Key Performance Indicators				
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	Liberi	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	Liberi	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	Liberi	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	Liberi / Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	Liberi / Area Staffing Spreadsheets	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH72-F	Percentage of referrals to an Early Help Unit where a previous episode ended within 12 months	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH52-F	Percentage of EH Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH16-F	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	Early Help module	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	MOJ report covering 12 month period Jan 23 to Dec 23	Q2 2025-26 reporting period, released on 30/10/25	Oct 2025
SISE7	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Monthly submission to DfE via NCCIS for KCC	Provisional Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE10	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	Synergy - monthly reported data	Snapshot as at Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE27	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	Fair Access Team Synergy reporting	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	Fair Access Team Synergy reporting	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	Synergy - monthly reported data	Rolling 12 months up to Nov 2025	Dec 2025
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place	FF2 Team in Early Years & Childcare	Snapshot as at December 2025	Dec 2025
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	End of year assessments based on EYFSP framework	2024-25 DfE Published (LA), MI Calculations (District)	Nov 2025
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM Eligible achievement gap	End of year assessments based on EYFSP framework	2024-25 DfE Published (LA), MI Calculations (District)	Nov 2025
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	Test/TA results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Dec 2025
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	Test/TA results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Dec 2025
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2024-25 ASP (District)	Oct 2025
SISE19	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2024-25 ASP (District)	Oct 2025
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	Test results for end of academic year	2024-25 DfE Provisional (LA)/2023-24 NPD (District)	Nov 2025
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with a Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	DfE annual snapshot based on school census	Snapshot as at January 2025	June 2025
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	Admissions school places offered for start of academic year	Offers data for academic year 2025-26	May 2025
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	Admissions school places offered for start of academic year	Offers data for academic year 2025-26	May 2025
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	Aut/Spr data for academic year 2024-25	2024-25 DfE Published (LA)/MI Calcs (District)	Nov 2025

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Activity-Volume Measures		
CYPE10	Number of Primary Schools	The number of Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools). Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE11	Number of Secondary Schools	The number of Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools). Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE12	Number of Special Schools	The number of Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies. Total is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE13	Total pupils on roll in Primary Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools). Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE14	Total pupils on roll in Secondary Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools). Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE15	Total pupils on roll in Special Schools	The number of pupils on roll in Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies. Total excludes guest and subsidiary pupils and is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE16	Percentage of Primary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Primary schools (excluding Nurseries) and Primary academies (including Free Schools) as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE17	Percentage of Secondary School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies (including Free Schools) as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
CYPE18	Percentage of Special School pupils eligible for Free School Meals	The number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies as a proportion of all pupils on roll. Totals for both numerator and denominator are for statutory aged pupils only and excludes guest and subsidiary pupils. Data is as at the latest available termly school census.
EY8	Percentage of EY settings with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness (non-domestic premises)	The percentage of Kent Early Years settings (non-domestic premises only), judged good or outstanding for overall effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent Early Years settings (non domestic premises only).
SISE35	Percentage of Primary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Primary schools and Primary academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Primary schools and Primary academies.
SISE36	Percentage of Secondary Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Secondary schools and Secondary academies.
SISE37	Percentage of Special Schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted Judgements - Overall Effectiveness	The percentage of Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies judged good or outstanding for Overall Effectiveness in their latest inspection, as a proportion of all inspected Kent maintained Special schools and Special academies.
CYPE19	Number of requests for SEND statutory assessment	The number of initial requests for assessment for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for 0-25 year olds in Kent LA.
EH71-C	Rate of notifications received into Early Help per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	The total number of referrals to an Early Help Unit completed during the corresponding reporting month per 10,000 (Population figures are updated upon receipt of the latest ONS Mid Year population estimates). This is a child level indicator.
SCS02	Rate of referrals to Children's Social Work Services per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (inclusive, rolling 12 months)	This indicator shows the rate of referrals received by Children's Social Work Services. Numerator: Number of referrals (rolling 12 month period). Denominator: child population figure divided by 10,000 (Population figures are updated upon receipt of the latest ONS Mid Year Estimates).
FD01-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door	The total number of notifications received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
FD14-C	Number of Information, Advice and Guidance contacts processed in the Front Door	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Information, Advice & Guidance" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Activity-Volume Measures (Continued)		
FD02-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which met the threshold for CSWS involvement	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Threshold met for CSWS" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
FD03-C	Number of contacts processed in the Front Door which proceeded to Early Help	The total number of notifications with a contact outcome of "Proceed to Early Help Unit" received during the corresponding reporting month that were processed by the Front Door. District and Area splits are not available for this indicator. The data includes all contact reasons processed by the Front Door. This is a child level indicator.
EH05-F	Number of cases open to Early Help Units	The number of open cases as at the end of the corresponding reporting month. The data includes all cases sent to units at Early Help Record stage prior to the end of the month. This is a family level indicator.
SCS01	Number of open Social Work cases	The total caseload figures for Children's Social Work Services.
	Number of Child Protection cases	The number of Children who have a Child Protection Plan as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
	Number of Children in Care	The number of Children in Care as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
	Number of Care Leavers	The number of Care Leavers as at the end of the corresponding reporting month.
EH35	Number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice system	First time entrants are defined as young people (aged 10 – 17 years) who receive their first substantive outcome (relating to a Youth Caution with or without an intervention, or a Conditional Caution or a Court disposal for those who go directly to Court without a Youth Caution or Conditional Caution).

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
SEND Indicators		
APP17	Percentage of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) issued within 20 weeks	The percentage of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued within 20 weeks as a proportion of all such plans. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-N	Total number of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks	The number of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued within 20 weeks. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-D	Total number of EHCPs issued	The total number of Education and Health Care Plans that are issued. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month. An education, health and care plan (EHCP) replaced statements and are for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
APP17-A	Average duration in days from assessment request to EHCP completion	
APP-EP	Percentage of assessment requests sent to Educational Psychology returned within 6 weeks	The percentage of Educational Psychology assessments returned within a 6 week timeframe as a proportion of all such requests.
CYPE1	Percentage of pupils being placed in independent or out-of-county special schools - Kent responsible EHCPs	The number of pupils with an EHCP that are placed in independent Special schools or out-of-county Special schools as a percentage of the total number of pupils with an EHCP
Page 22	Percentage of open Educational Psychology referrals waiting more than 6 weeks	The percentage of open referrals to the educational psychology service that have been waiting more than 6 weeks as a proportion of all such cases. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month.
	Percentage of SEND statutory assessment requests waiting more than 20 weeks	The percentage of cases where a request for a statutory assessment has been made but no final EHCP has been issued that have been waiting more than 20 weeks as a proportion of all such cases. The data is a snapshot at the end of the month.
Key Performance Indicators		
SCS01	Percentage re-referrals to Children's Social Work Services within 12 months of a previous referral (R12M)	The percentage of referrals to SCS in the last 12 months where the previous referral date (if any) is within 12 months of the new referral date.
SCS08	Percentage of Returner Interviews completed for those with SCS Involvement	The percentage of returner interviews completed in the last 12 months where the case was open to SCS at the point the child went missing and the child was aged under 18 at the point of going missing.
SCS13	Percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time	The percentage of children who become subject to a Child Protection Plan during the last 12 months who have been subject to a previous plan.
SCS18	Children in Care in same placement for the last two years (for those in care for two and a half years or more)	The percentage of Children in Care aged under 16 at the snapshot date who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption and their adoptive placement together with their previous placement last for at least 2 years.
SCS19	Percentage of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	The percentage of Kent Children in Care at the snapshot date who are in Foster Care and are placed with KCC Foster Carers or with Relatives and Friends. UASC are excluded
SCS29	Average number of days between becoming a child in care and moving in with an adoptive family	The average number of days between becoming a Looked After Child and moving in with Adoptive Family (for children who have been Adopted in the last 12 months)
SCS34	Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training (of those KCC is in touch with)	The percentage of relevant and former relevant care leavers who were in contact with in a 4 month window around their birthday who were aged 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 and were in education, employment or training.
SCS37	Percentage of Case File Audits graded good or outstanding	The percentage of all completed case audits in the last 12 months where the overall grading was good or outstanding

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Key Performance Indicators (Continued)		
SCS40	Percentage of case holding posts filled by permanent qualified social workers	The percentage of case holding posts (FTE) at the snapshot date which are held by qualified social workers employed by Kent County Council.
SCS42	Average caseloads in the CIC Teams	The average caseload of social workers within district based CIC Teams at the snapshot date.
SCS43	Average caseloads in the CSWT Teams	The average caseload of social workers within the district based Children's Social Work Teams (CSWTs) at the snapshot date.
EH72-F	Percentage of re-referrals to an Early Help Unit within 12 months of a previous Unit case (R12M)	The percentage of referrals into an EH Unit (R12M) that previously had an episode open to an Early Help Unit in the preceding 12 months. The data only looks at referrals allocated to a Unit. It is calculated using a comparison between the episode end date of the previous episode and the episode start date of the subsequent referral.
EH52-F	Percentage of Assessments completed in the given month, within 6 weeks of allocation	The percentage of assessments completed in the reporting month, where the assessment was completed within 30 working days of allocation.
	Percentage of EH Unit Case Audits rated good or outstanding	The percentage of all EH Unit completed case audits in the last 12 months where the overall grading was good or outstanding
EH105	Percentage of EH cases closed with outcomes achieved that come back to EH or CSWS in 3 mths	The percentage of EH cases that have been closed with an outcome of "outcomes achieved" and then came back into either EH or CSWS in the next 3 months. Please note that there is a 3 month time lag on this data so the result shown for May 2020 is actually looking at all EH Closures in the 12 months up to February 2020.
EH106	Average Caseload within EH Units (Families)	Definition to be confirmed.
CYPE8	Rate of proven re-offending by CYP	An offender enters the cohort if they are released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court or received a reprimand or warning (caution) in a three month period. A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction, caution, reprimand or warning in the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court. It is important to note that this is not comparable to previous proven reoffending publications which reported on a 12 month cohort.
SISE71	Percentage of Year 12-13 age-group (16-17 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	The percentage of young people who have left compulsory education, up until the end of National Curriculum Year 13, who have not achieved a positive education, employment or training destination.
CYPE6	Percentage of Children Missing Education cases, closed within 30 school days	The number of closed cases within 30 school days of their referral to Kent County Council's CME Team, as a percentage of the total number of cases opened within the period.
CYPE22	Percentage of CYP registered to EHE who receive contact and additional information within 10 school days of them being brought to our attention	The number of CYP who register with the LA to Home Educate contacted to include information regarding a visit, within 10 days of receipt of the referral to Kent County Council's EHE Team, as a percentage of the total number of cases opened within the period.
EH43	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the primary phase - all Year R to Year 6 pupils	The total number of pupils in Year R to Year 6 that have been permanently excluded from a Kent maintained Primary school, Special school or Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) or Primary academy or Special academy during the last 12 months.
EH44	Number of pupils permanently excluded from the secondary phase - all Year 7 to Year 14 pupils	The total number of pupils in Year 7 to Year 14 that have been permanently excluded from a Kent maintained Secondary school, Special school or Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) or Secondary academy or Special academy during the last 12 months.
	Percentage (rate) of pupils permanently excluded from primary and secondary phase schools - all Year R to Year 14 pupils	The number of Year R (Reception) to Year 14 pupils permanently excluded from Primary, Secondary, Special schools and PRUs (incl. academies) in the last twelve months expressed as rate over the school population.

Indicator Definitions

Code	Indicator	Definition
Key Performance Indicators (Continued)		
EY2	Percentage of DWP and other identified eligible 2 year olds taking up a free early education place	The number of two year old children accessing a free early education place at an early years provider as a proportion of the total number of families identified as potentially eligible for funding by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).
EY14	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development	Percentage of pupils assessed as achieving Expected or Exceeding in all Prime Learning Goals and all literacy and mathematics Early Learning Goals at the end of reception year, based on the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.
EY15	Percentage of pupils at EYFS achieving a Good Level of Development - FSM Eligible achievement gap	The difference between the achievement of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils in terms of percentage assessed as achieving Expected or Exceeding in all Prime Learning Goals and all literacy and mathematics Early Learning Goals at the end of reception year, based on the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.
SISE4	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics	The percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 working at the Expected Standard in all of Reading, Writing & maths. Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
SISE16	Percentage of pupils at KS2 achieving age-related expectations in Reading, writing & mathematics - FSM gap	The difference between the achievement of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils in terms of percentage working at the Expected Standard in all of Reading, Writing & maths at KS2. Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
SISE12	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8	The average Attainment 8 score for pupils at end of Key Stage 4. Attainment 8 is a point score based on attainment across eight subjects which must include English; mathematics; three other English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects (sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages); and three further subjects, which can be from the range of EBacc subjects, or can be any other approved, high-value arts, academic, or vocational qualification.
SISE12a	Average score at KS4 in Attainment 8 - FSM gap	The difference between the Attainment 8 score of non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils at the end of KS4 (see above definition for SISE12a). Includes Kent maintained schools and academies.
CYPE23	Average point score per A Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in A-Level qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all A-Level qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
CYPE24	Average point score per Applied General entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in Applied General qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all Applied General qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
CYPE25	Average point score per Tech Level entry at KS5 [School students only]	The total number of points achieved in Tech Level qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 5 divided by the total number of entries made in all Tech Level qualifications. Outcomes are for Kent maintained schools and academies only.
SEND10	Percentage of pupils with a Statement or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	Percentage of pupils with an Education, Health and care Plan (EHCP) as a proportion of all pupils on roll in all schools as at January school census. Includes maintained schools and academies, Pupil Referral Units, Free schools and Independent schools (DfE published data).
CYPE2	Percentage of parents getting first preference of primary school	The percentage of parents who got their first preference of Primary school (out of their three ordered preferences) for their child.
CYPE3	Percentage of parents getting first preference of secondary school	The percentage of parents who got their first preference of Secondary school (out of their three ordered preferences) for their child.
EH46	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been persistently absent from a Kent maintained Primary school or a Primary academy for 10% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
EH47	Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 10% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been persistently absent from a Kent maintained Secondary school or a Secondary academy for 10% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from primary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been severely absent from a Kent maintained Primary school or a Primary academy for 50% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.
	Percentage of pupils who are severely absent from secondary schools - all pupils based on 50% threshold	The percentage of pupils that have been severely absent from a Kent maintained Secondary school or a Secondary academy for 50% or more of their expected sessions over the reported time period.

From: Beverly Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Christine McInnes, Interim Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education

To: Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 20th January 2026

Subject: Proposal to remove the specialist resource provision at River Primary School, Dover

Decision no: 25/00111

Key Decision : Yes

Past Pathway of report: N/A

Future Pathway of report: Cabinet Member Decision

Electoral Division: Dover Town - James Defriend and Albert Thorp

Is the decision eligible for call-in? Yes

Summary:

This report sets out the proposal to remove the specialist resource provision (SRP) at River Primary School, Dover.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS** to the Cabinet Member regarding the decisions as set out in the Proposed Record of Decision (Appendix A)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The specialist resource provision (SRP) at River Primary School was commissioned for the start of the September 2015 academic year. At that time, there was a need for additional specialist provision for pupils specifically with speech and language needs (S&LN). River Primary School was identified by colleagues in the National Health Service as doing particularly well at supporting pupils with S&LN. When full, it was expected that 12 places would be commissioned. Currently there are only four pupils accessing the SRP and all will move on to secondary school within the next two years.
- 1.2 In light of the low number of pupils in the SRP, the Governing Body has requested KCC remove the provision form September 2026. Consideration has been given to broadening the need type that the SRP can support, but the accommodation and site constraints at River Primary School mean the premises do not easily lend themselves to such a proposal. Therefore, the proposal is to remove the SRP.

1.3 Should the SRP be removed, the school and the LA are committed to work with the families and pupils who would have been on roll in the SRP to ensure their needs are met. An annual review will be held for each of these pupils to identify their current needs, and the support required moving forwards.

2. Key Considerations

2.1 In Kent, in school organisation terms, the continuum of provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is mainstream schools, through specialist resourced provision (SRPs) in mainstream schools, then to special schools. One strand of the work to improve the quality of provision for children with SEND, and their outcomes, has been to review the current pattern and quantum of SRPs, to consider how well these match existing and future demand.

3. Background

3.1 The paucity of pupils placed in the SRP at River Primary School is due to a number of factors:

- The introduction of The Balanced System® across the County, which is upskilling mainstream staff, providing a strategic approach to supporting pupils with speech and language needs. This means that the needs of a greater number of pupils can be met within their local school rather than through an SRP.
- There are increasing numbers of pupils with additional communication needs rather than solely speech and language, in particular, autistic spectrum disorder (ASD). Therefore, we need to commission SRP places which have the resources and facilities to support pupils who have multiple communication needs, including speech language and communication needs (SLCN) and ASD.
- Whilst the number of pupils supported by River's SRP has fallen, the number supported by the SRP at Whitfield Aspen School has grown significantly (by over 100 places since 2015). This is the largest primary SRP in the Local Authority (LA) and has the existing resources and expertise to support pupils with multiple need types including SLCN and ASD.

3.2 Pupils are placed in SRPs by the LA SRP panel. The SRP Panel is part of the decision making process for pupils with EHCPs, and they determine whether a child's needs could be met via a mainstream school with SRP support. In the academic year 2024-25 the SRP panel considered 1,370 cases. Of which 448 cases were agreed as SRP appropriate.

3.3 Data for 2024-25 (Figure 1) shows that across Kent, 79% of cases considered by the SRP panel were for children and young people with ASD as their primary need type. 12% of cases related to SLCN as the primary need.

Figure 1: SEN type by area presented to SRP Panel (2024-25)

Total	ASD	SLCN	Other
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East Kent	478	362	53	63
North Kent	360	271	65	24
South Kent	317	266	23	28
West Kent	215	178	19	18
Total	1370	1077	160	133

3.4 Across South Kent, of the 317 cases considered, 271 (84%) involved children and young people with ASD as their primary need type (higher than the Kent average), whilst only 65 (7%) for SLCN (lower than the Kent average). It is clear from the data that there is a need for SRP provision which will better meet the needs of ASD pupils.

3.5 The growing numbers in the SRP at Whitfield Aspen School is evidence of the need for SRPs to provide for a wider need type.

3.6 The Commissioning Plan for Education in Kent 2026-30 sets out our commissioning intentions regarding education provision. This needs to be read alongside the SEND Sufficiency Plan which details SEND commissioning intentions. Both documents were approved in November 2025 (Decision Number 25/00099). In addition, the review of specialist resourced provision and future commissioning intentions was approved at the same meeting (Decision Number 25/00085). These documents outline that, across Dover District, we are intending to commission a new 14 place primary SRP at The Downs CE Primary School in Walmer (ASD/SLCN), a new secondary 20 place SRP at St. Edmund's Catholic School (ASD/SLCN) and to expand the secondary SRP at Dover Christ Church academy (PSCN) by 35 places. The link the three documents can be found here:

[**25 00099 Kent Commissioning Plan.pdf**](#)

[**25 00099 SEND Sufficiency Plan.pdf**](#)

[**25 00085 Review of Specialist Resourced Provision**](#)

4. Outcome of informal consultation

4.1 An informal consultation was held between the 10th of November and 8th December 2025 on the proposal to remove the SRP at River Primary school at the end of the 2025/26 academic year. The consultation was shared with the following stakeholder groups:

- All parents/carers at River Primary School
- All schools in the Dover District
- Kent PACT
- Relevant charities
- Local KCC Members
- Dover District Council
- Dover Town Council
- River Parish Council
- Mike Tapp MP
- The Clinical Commissioning Group
- The Dioceses of Canterbury and Southwark.

- Unions supporting teaching and non-teaching staff

4.2 A public drop in was held on Monday 24th November. Only one stakeholder attended.

4.3 The consultation was published on Let's Talk Kent for 4 weeks between 10th November and 9th December 2025. The consultation was viewed 175 times and there were 17 downloads of the consultation information.

4.4 There were 48 responses to the consultation, 45 via Let's Talk Kent web page and 3 via email. 41 of the responses were submitted on the last day of the consultation period. Of the 48 responses, 2 were in favour and 46 were against. 45 of the responses were from parents/carers, 1 from a governor and 2 from other parties. Comments were received from 26 respondents which have been included in full at Appendix B except where personal details have been omitted.

4.5 Below is a summary of the themes against the proposal, with comments in response. Where more than one response to a theme was received, the number of similar responses are noted in brackets

- **The SRP has had a positive impact on pupils. (8). The removal of the SRP would have a detrimental/negative impact on pupils (12):** Should the SRP be removed, the school and the LA are committed to work with the families and pupils who would have been on roll in the SRP to ensure their needs are met.

The school leaders believe that the removal of the SRP will enable the school to enhance SEND support through their 'Mainstream Plus' offer. They will reallocate resources, including the space used by the SRP, to provide a more inclusive educational environment for all pupils. The school will continue to have access to SEND support and funding in line with all mainstream schools.

- **The SRP provides support for more than those on roll in the SRP (6):** This has been the case as the numbers on roll in the SRP have been lower than the commissioned numbers funded and therefore, there has been the financial and physical capacity for additional in-reach for those pupils who are not on the SRP's roll. There are currently three pupils who have access to the SRP through in-reach. The school is already looking at possible adapted provision for those pupils and a wider group of children across the school who have cognition and learning needs and/or speech language and communication needs utilising the SRP space. School leaders believe this will be an efficient use of resources, benefiting a wider group of children. Additionally, this will be a longer term inclusive solution to maximise the mainstream offer, thus reducing the demand for EHCPs, in line with the KCC Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education.
- **Removing the SRP would mean that pupils will have to move (2). Without the SRP funding children currently accessing the SRP will not get the support they need. (4):** It is not expected that any pupil on roll at the River, either in the SRP or who may have been supported by the SRP via in-reach or out-reach will have to move. Should the SRP be removed, the school and the

LA are committed to work with the families and pupils who would have been on roll in the SRP to ensure their needs are met.

- **The Balanced system has helped up skill teaching staff but the needs of pupils (in an SRP) is beyond the capacity of a mainstream school.**
Pupils with delayed language disorder would not advance as well in a mainstream school: The Balanced System®, adopted by KCC and NHS in Kent, is a strategic, outcomes-based framework designed to improve the commissioning and delivery of services for children and young people with speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN). Only two pupils have joined the SRP in recent years from other mainstream schools and there has been a lack of consultations for places in the SRP. This would suggest that the Balance System® is supporting pupils to remain in mainstream schools. For some pupils who have an EHCP due to a speech, language and communication need (such as a delayed language disorder), it may be the case that a place in an SRP or special school will be required. If this is the case, this will be identified through the EHCP assessment processes or through an annual review where an EHCP is already in place.

The SLCN provision in the wider school is recognised as good by the link therapists and is supported by the Balanced System. The school is one of 6 across the County working with professionals from speech and language link this year in a pilot project to support them in developing resources that will benefit mainstream pupils with SLCN moving forward. SLCN needs continue to be met in the school's mainstream provision. Speech and language is no longer the biggest area of SEND need in the school or the district. Social emotional and mental health needs followed by autistic spectrum disorder are the highest identified needs within the school.

- **The closure will put pressure on Whitfield Aspen, River would be an alternative to Whitfield Aspen (3), Whitfield Aspen only takes the most severe needs and would not be able to support all.:** It is true that the SRP at Whitfield Aspen has been under pressure for places in recent years. This is due to SRPs needing to support pupils with multiple communication needs. It has a variety of pathways to support 'SRP appropriate' pupils with varying need types and who require varying levels of support. It is not expected that the closure of the SRP at River will increase the pressure at Whitfield Aspen given the low numbers currently on roll. For River to be an alternative to Whitfield Aspen it would need to broaden its designation, supporting pupils with ASD who are deemed as SRP appropriate for instance.'
- **The proposal discriminates against the pupils on roll as there is no alternative available:** We do not believe that pupils are being discriminated against should the SRP be removed. Pupils who have been on roll in the SRP will continue to receive the support they require in their last year at River.

For those who have been supported through in-reach or out-reach previously, the school will adapt their provision to ensure they continue to receive the support that they require.

- **An SRP in Deal/Walmer would be of benefit but an SRP in Dover is still required:** There is already an SRP in Dover Town at Whitfield Aspen which

provides for SRP appropriate pupils with multiple needs including SLCN. It is the largest primary SRP across the County. As of January 2025, 35 pupils resident across Walmer/Deal/ Sandwich and the surrounding villages attended the SRP at Whitfield Aspen. A new provision in Walmer will enable pupils to receive the support from an SRP nearer to where they live.

- **KCC do not support EHC Plans, which is why more children access the SRP than the 4 noted.** In Kent, 6.2% of children have an EHCP against a national figure of 5.6%. We do aim to get this figure closer to the National level by enabling schools to intervene early and offer appropriate and well-planned support, so parents do not have to rely on an ECHP to guarantee the support that their child needs.

4.6 **Views of the Local Members**

Both Cllr Defriend and Cllr Thorp (Dover Town) have been informed of the proposal. Any views received from either Member will be shared at the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee meeting.

4.7 **Views of the Governing Body**

The school leadership team assures us that there are robust plans in place to support the SRP pupils who will complete Year 6 at River Primary School.

The school is already exploring possible adapted provision for a wider group of children across the school, including the small number who have received in-reach, to support cognition and learning and speech language and communication needs using the SRP space. We feel this is an efficient use of resources and will benefit a wider group of children at River Primary School. It will be a longer term solution, maximising our mainstream offer, thus reducing the demand for EHCPs, in line with the KCC Countywide Approach to Inclusive Education (CATIE). We recognise the importance of continuing to provide tailored support that meets the diverse needs of our cohort.

Governors understand that within the school and district, speech and language is no longer our biggest area of SEND. Hence fewer children needing EHCPs for purely speech and language, the school only having 4 SRP pupils currently and a lack of consultations for places within the SRP.

Currently, social emotional and mental health needs, followed by autistic spectrum disorder, are the highest identified needs within River Primary School. Moreover, provision for speech and language has improved across the county, more effectively meeting the need in a mainstream setting. At River, the leadership and SEN teams continue to lead initiatives across the wider school to support a diverse range of needs.

We will hold a drop-in session to address any parental concerns in the new year.

5. **Options considered and dismissed, and associated risk**

- 5.1 The option to keep the SRP open for purely speech and language needs was not viable as there are an insufficient number of SRP appropriate pupils identified to keep the provision viable. The changing needs of pupils mean that

SRPs now need to provide for pupils who may have wider communication needs in addition to purely speech and language. The addition of a 14 place primary SRP in Walmer for pupils with SLCN and ASD will increase SRP places for primary aged pupils who have wider communication needs. In addition, this will spread provision across Dover district offering the opportunity for pupils with additional needs to access a provision closer to where they live.

- 5.2 The option of broadening the need type that the SRP can support, was considered and discarded as the accommodation and site constraints at River Primary School mean the premises do not lend themselves easily to supporting other need types, such as ASD, within an SRP setting.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 No capital funding is required to implement the proposal.
- 6.2 Places in the SRP are paid by KCC on an annual basis and funded from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant, a specific ring-fenced grant from the Department of Education. There are no General Fund implication to this request. Appropriate ongoing revenue funding will continue to be provided to support the current pupils in school.
- 6.3 The SRP is currently commissioned for 12 places where only 4 are being occupied. The local authority must pay for places regardless of whether they are filled or not. If vacant these places are paid at £10,000 per vacant place or £80,000 in total. This would increase to £100,000 when the 2 children leave at the end of year 6. Whilst it is recognised the School would require funding for a minimum number of places to ensure ongoing sustainability, for this provision to remain open would not be considered value for money. This saving will ultimately be reinvested to cover future revenue costs of a wider increase in SRP places (in line with a SEN financial recovery plan) outlined as part of the SRP Review and future Commission intentions ([key decision - 25/00085 - Specialist Resource Provision Review and Commissioning Intentions](#)).

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 The proposal to remove the current provision is required to go through the statutory process under the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.
- 7.2 Should the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills agree to proceed to the next stage, a public notice of the Council's intention to close the SRP will be issued and a further 4 week representation period will commence. Following this a final decision will be made.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 8.1 An EqIA has been completed. This finds that the proposals will have little impact on protected groups.

- 8.2 The two pupils who are currently on the roll of SRP and would still be on roll at River, will continue to receive high-quality teaching and learning support to achieve the outcomes identified in their education and health care plan (EHCP).
- 8.3 For those pupils who may have a recognised disability (such as ASD) and who are not deemed as 'SRP appropriate' but have been supported by the SRP through in-reach or out-reach, the school will continue to support them through their current inclusive practices and through their 'Mainstream Plus' offer.
- 8.4 The resources freed up by this proposal can be utilised to create provision for pupils who have multiple communication issues (speech language and communication needs and autistic spectrum disorder for instance), which will have a positive impact.
- 8.5 Should there be a requirement for any staffing restructure, the equalities impact assessment will be reviewed to assess the impact on protected groups.

9. Data Protection Implications

- 9.1 A DPIA is not required.

10. Other corporate implications

- 10.1 The proposal will require KCC to issue a public notice and run a statutory consultation. We will require support from the Authority's Engagement and Consultation Team.
- 10.2 The SEND Improvement Advisor and the Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) will ensure that the support for the two pupils on roll in the SRP aligns with the outcomes identified in their EHCP.

11. Governance

- 11.1 The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will be asked to make a decision in line with the Proposed Record of Decision.
- 11.2 If approved, a statutory Public Notice will be issued to permanently remove the specialist resource provision for pupils with speech and language needs at River Primary School. This will start a four-week representation period during which stakeholders can submit comments or objections.
- 11.3 Authority is delegated to the Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education to take all necessary steps to issue the Public Notice. Following the representation period, and subject to there being no substantive objections, the Corporate Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, will take all relevant actions to implement the decision. This includes, but is not limited to, entering into contracts or other legal agreements as required.

12. Conclusions

- 12.1 The Balanced System® is supporting pupils with speech and language needs in mainstream schools. The Council's SRPs need to be directed to meeting the

changing needs of children and young people. Evidence shows this is increasingly those with wider communication needs such as SLCN and ASD. The existing accommodation and site constraints at River do not lend themselves easily to the School's SRP adapting in this. Should the SRP remain open designated as it is, it is likely that two places would be commissioned for 2026-27 and none thereafter. In essence, the school at that point may still have a speech and language specialist designation, but no SRP places funded.

12.2 It is acknowledged that the consultation were overwhelmingly against the proposal to remove the SRP. However, the school's leaders believe removing the SRP will enable them to better support pupils on roll who have SEND. They are already developing adapted provision to support cognition and learning and speech language and communication needs using the SRP space. This is an efficient use of resources and will benefit those who have previously received in-reach and a much wider group of children across the school with additional SEND needs.

12.3 The proposal will free up KCC's resources to be utilised to create provision elsewhere which would better support pupils and families across Dover District, such as the new primary SRP for ASD/SLCN proposed at The Downs CE Primary School in Walmer.

12.4 Given the above, the removal of the SRP is recommended.

13. Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS** to the Cabinet Member regarding the decisions as set out in the Proposed Record of Decision.(Appendix A)

14. Background Documents

14.1 The background documents are as follows:

- Equality Impact Assessment
- Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2026-20
[**25 00099 Kent Commissioning Plan.pdf**](#)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency Plan
[**25 00099 SEND Sufficiency Plan.pdf**](#)
- **Specialist Resourced Provision Review and future commissioning intentions**
[**25 00085 Review of Specialist Resourced Provision**](#)
- **Appendix A : PROD**

Contact details

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

DECISION NUMBER:

To be allocated by Democratic Services

Executive Decision – key

Proposal to remove the specialist resource provision (SRP) at River Primary School, Dover from September 2026.

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I agree to:

- I. **Issue** a Public Notice to permanently remove the specialist resource provision for pupils with speech and language needs at River Primary school, and following a representation period of four weeks with no substantive objections received, then implement the decision;
- II. **Delegate authority to** the Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education to take all steps necessary to issue a Public Notice; and
- III. **Delegate authority to** the Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, to take relevant actions, including but not limited to entering into relevant contracts or other legal agreements as required, to implement the decision, subject to there being no new substantive objections received during the notice period.

Reasons for decision:

The specialist resource provision (SRP) at River Primary School was commissioned for pupils with speech and language needs. When full, it was expected that 12 pupils will be on roll. Currently there are only four pupils accessing the SRP and all will move on to secondary school within the next two years.

In light of the low number of pupils in the SRP, the Governing Body of the school has requested KCC remove the provision from September 2026. Consideration has been given to broadening the need type that the SRP can support, but the accommodation and site constraints at River Primary School mean the premises do not easily lend themselves to such a proposal. Therefore, the proposal is to remove the SRP.

The paucity of pupils placed in the SRP at River Primary School is due to a number of factors:

- a) The introduction of The Balanced System® across the County, which is upskilling mainstream staff, provides a strategic approach to supporting pupils with speech and language needs. This means that the needs of a greater number of pupils can be met within their local school rather than through an SRP.
- b) There are increasing numbers of pupils with additional communication needs rather than solely speech and language, in particular, autistic spectrum disorder (ASD). Therefore, we need to commission SRP places which have the resources and facilities to support pupils who have multiple communication needs, including speech language and communication needs (SLCN) and ASD.
- c) The SRP at Whitfield Aspen School has grown significantly as it has the existing resources and expertise to support pupils with multiple need types.

In addition, the SRP panel data for 2024/25 demonstrates that there is a need for SRP provision which will meet the needs of ASD pupils. This will be addressed in the primary sector through the commissioning of a new 14 place primary SRP at The Downs CE Primary School in Walmer (ASD/SLCN).

Financial implications:

No capital funding is required to implement the proposal.

Places in the SRP are paid by KCC on an annual basis and funded from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant, a specific ring-fenced grant from the Department of Education. There are no General Fund implication to this request. Appropriate ongoing revenue funding will continue to be provided to support the current pupils in school.

The SRP is currently commissioned for 12 places where only 4 are being occupied. The local authority must pay for places regardless of whether they are filled or not. If vacant these places are paid at £10,000 per vacant place or £80,000 in total. This would increase to £100,000 when the 2 children leave at the end of year 6. Whilst it is recognised the School would require funding for a minimum number of places to ensure ongoing sustainability, for this provision to remain open would not be considered value for money. This saving will ultimately be reinvested to cover future revenue costs of a wider increase in SRP places (in line with a SEN financial recovery plan) outlined as part of the SRP Review and future Commission intentions ([key decision - 25/00085 - Specialist Resource Provision Review and Commissioning Intentions](#)).

Legal implications:

The proposal to remove the current provision will be required to go through the statutory process under the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Equalities implications:

An EQIA has been completed. This finds that the proposals will have little impact given the falling numbers on roll. Should the SRP be removed, both KCC and the school staff are committed to ensuring that pupils supported by the SRP will continue

to receive high-quality teaching and learning support to achieve the outcomes identified in their education and health care plan (EHCP).

The resources freed up by this proposal can be utilised to create provision for disabled who have multiple issues (speech language and communication needs and autistic spectrum disorder for instance), which will have a positive impact.

Data Protection implications:

A DPIA is not required.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be considered by the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on 20 January 2026.

A consultation was held between 10th November and 8th December 2025. There were 48 responses to the consultation, 45 via Let's Talk Kent web page and 3 via email. Of the 48 responses, 2 were in favour and 46 were against. 45 of the responses were from parents/carers, 1 from a governor and 2 from other parties. Comments were received from 26 respondents.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

The option to keep the SRP open for purely speech and language needs was not viable as insufficient pupils with this need are being identified to keep the provision viable. The changing needs of pupils mean that SRPs now need to provide for pupils who may have wider communication needs in addition to purely speech and language.

The option of broadening the need type that the SRP can support was considered and discarded as the accommodation and site constraints at River Primary School mean the premises do not lend themselves to supporting other need types.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

.....

Signed

Date

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EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Proposal to decommission the Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for pupils with speech and language needs (S&LN) at River Primary School Dover

Responsible Officer

Lee Round - CY EDSEN

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

David Adams - CY EDSEN

Type of Activity

Service Change

Yes

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

No

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Children Young People and Education

Responsible Service

Education

Responsible Head of Service

David Adams - CY EDSEN

Responsible Director

Christine McInnes - CY EDSEN

Aims and Objectives

The proposal is to decommission the Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) for children with S&LN at River Primary School from September 2026.

In recent years, the number of pupils for whom the SRP at River Primary School has been deemed appropriate has fallen significantly. Currently there are only four pupils accessing the SRP and all will move on to secondary school within the next two years.

The reduction of the number of pupils placed in the SRP at River Primary School is due to a number of factors:

1. The introduction of The Balance System across the County, which is upskilling mainstream staff, providing a strategic approach to supporting pupils with speech and language needs. This means that the needs of a greater number of pupils can be met within their local school rather than through an SRP.
2. There are increasing numbers of pupils with additional communication needs in addition to speech and language, in particular, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Therefore, we need to commission SRP places which have the resources and facilities to support pupils who have multiple communication needs, including Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and ASD.

3. Whilst the number of pupils supported by River's SRP has fallen, the number supported by the SRP at Whitfield Aspen School has grown significantly (by over 100 places since 2015). This is because it has the existing resources and expertise to support pupils with multiple need types including SLCN and ASD.

In September 2026, pupils previously supported by the SRP still at the school would continue to receive the high-quality teaching and learning support they currently receive until they transfer to secondary school

The EQIA would suggest that there could be a low negative impact for age and disability:

Age: The proposal affects primary aged children only. Pupils remaining on roll would continue to receive the high quality teaching and learning support they currently receive until they transfer to secondary school.

Disability: Speech and language disorders can be classified as a disability. However, the closure of the SRP at River Primary School would be expected to have a minimal impact as speech and language needs are being met in mainstream schools through The Balance System. Additionally, pupils on roll in the SRP would continue to receive the high quality teaching and learning support they currently receive until they transfer to secondary school.

The EQIA would suggest that could be a positive impact for age and disability:

Age: The implementation of The Balance System means that the needs of a greater number of pupils are being met within their local schools. The resources freed up by decommissioning this provision could be used to better support pupils who have more complex or different needs.

Disability: The resources freed up by this proposal could be utilised to create provision for disabled pupils who have multiple issues (speech language and communication needs and autistic spectrum disorder for instance).

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

Yes

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

No

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

- Parents/carers at River Primary School
- All schools in the Dover district
- Local KCC Members
- Dover District Council
- Local MPs
- The Clinical Commissioning Group

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

No

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?**Service Users/clients**

Service users/clients

Staff

Staff/volunteers

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

The implementation of The Balance System means that the needs of a greater number of pupils are being met within their local schools. The resources freed up by decommissioning this provision could be used to better support pupils who have more complex or different needs.

The resources freed up by this proposal could be utilised to create provision for disabled who have multiple issues (speech language and communication needs and autistic spectrum disorder for instance).

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions**19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age****Are there negative impacts for Age?**

Yes

Details of negative impacts for Age

The proposal affects primary aged children only. In September 2026, there will only be two children on roll in the SRP.

Mitigating Actions for Age

They would continue to receive the high quality teaching and learning support they currently receive until they transfer to secondary school.

Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

Lee Round

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability**Are there negative impacts for Disability?**

Yes

Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Speech and language disorders can be classified as a disability. However, the closure of the SRP at River Primary School would be expected to have a minimal impact as speech and language needs are being met in mainstream schools through The Balance System.

Mitigating actions for Disability

The resources freed up by this proposal could be utilised to create provision for disabled pupils who have multiple issues (SLCN and ASD for instance). In September 2026, pupils previously supported by the SRP still at the school would continue to receive the high-quality teaching and learning support they currently receive until they transfer to secondary school

Responsible Officer for Disability

Lee Round

21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex**Are there negative impacts for Sex**

No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Details of negative impacts for Sex

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Sex

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Sex

Not Applicable

22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender**Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender**

No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race**Are there negative impacts for Race**

No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Race

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Race

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race

Not Applicable

24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief**Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief**

No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Religion and belief

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Religion and belief

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief

Not Applicable

25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation**Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation**

No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation

Not Applicable

26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity**Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity**

No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Applicable

27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships**Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships**

No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable

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REPORT TO CABINET COMMITTEE

From: **Christine McInnes, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education**

Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

To: **Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 20 January 2026**

Subject: **Proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School, Ackers Drive, Weldon Road, Ebbsfleet Valley, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 1AL**

Decision no: **25/00112**

Key Decision: **Expenditure of over £1m**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Past Pathway of report: **N/A**

Future Pathway of report: **Cabinet Member Decision**

Electoral Division: **Swanscombe and Greenhithe, served by Thomas Mallon**

Is the decision eligible for call-in? Yes

Summary:

This report sets out the proposal to provide capital investment to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School to safely accommodate two bulge classes that were admitted in September 2024 and September 2025.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER and ENDORSE or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills on the proposed decision as set out in the attached PRoD** (Appendix A).

1. Introduction

1.1 Kent County Council (KCC) as the Local Authority, has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient high quality school places are available, in the right places for all learners, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards and promote parental preference. The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent is a five-year rolling plan

which is updated annually. It sets out KCC's future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

- 1.2 This proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School has been developed because the Kent Commissioning Plans for 2024/28 and 2025/29 both indicated there would be a shortfall in Year R places for September 2024 and September 2025 in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group (which includes the Ebbsfleet Garden City). Partly due to delays in the planned opening of the new primary school at Alkerden Church of England Academy.
- 1.3 To support KCC in mitigating against this shortfall, Maritime Academy Trust and the school agreed to admit bulge classes of 30 pupils for two years - increasing their Reception intake from 60 to offer 90 places for September 2024 and September 2025.
- 1.4 The school was able to initially accommodate these additional classes, as the school is still growing following its opening in 2020, and two classes were still unused. However, by September 2026, the school will be full and therefore, additional classrooms are required to ensure the two bulge classes can be safely accommodated.

2. Key Considerations

- 2.1 This proposal to increase capacity at the school will take the form of a new modular building at the rear of the school's site and is designed to deliver three new classrooms alongside minor internal reconfiguration within the main school.

The new modular building will include;

- Three standard-size classrooms
- Pupil toilets
- An accessible toilet
- A lobby area
- Dedicated storage space
- The externals of the building will be designed to suit the needs of the environment as well as any planning constraints
- The building will be fully accessible via pathways and ramps, where required

- 2.2 By permanently installing three additional classrooms along with appropriate ancillary space, it will provide the school with sufficient space to safely accommodate the two additional bulge classes and create a second nursery class, providing much needed additional early years places in the locality.

- 2.3 The school also hosts a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) and it is clear the complexity of needs in the school has increased considerably since the school first opened. Longer term (5-6 years), when the bulge classes have progressed through the school, the then free classrooms can be used as additional SEND intervention spaces. This could include a physical expansion of the SRP.

- 2.4 A planning application for the scheme is currently being prepared by an external planning consultant. Early pre-application discussions have indicated there are no significant concerns.
- 2.5 KCC Highways has been consulted to ensure the proposal aligns with all relevant requirements.
- 2.6 The building project for this expansion will be managed by the school, while KCC Infrastructure will oversee the scheme from a quality assurance perspective with all costs validated at every stage by the appointed experienced KCC Project Manager.
- 2.7 If no further action is taken, Ebbsfleet Green Primary school will find it extremely difficult to provide sufficient places for their PAN of 60 pupils for September 2026, and for the years that follow.
- 2.8 KCC has a responsibility to provide appropriate permanent accommodation for these additional pupils as they progress through the school.

3. Background

- 3.1 Dartford Borough's population is increasing with more families moving into the area.
- 3.2 Ebbsfleet Green Primary School was opened in direct response to the rapid expansion of the Ebbsfleet Garden City development - part of a large-scale project delivering thousands of new homes and community infrastructure.
- 3.3 As a result of this rapid expansion and delays to the opening of the new primary school at Alkerden Church of England Academy, KCC needed additional Year R primary school places to manage the increase in demand for the September 2024 and September 2025 intakes. One strategy for providing additional Year R school places for these two years has been to expand existing successful and popular schools.
- 3.4 Ebbsfleet Green Primary School is a mixed-gender free school for children aged 3 to 11 years (Reception through Year 6, including a 26-place nursery). It opened in September 2020 and is part of Maritime Academy Trust, which acts as its academy sponsor and admissions authority. The school offers a non-selective, inclusive education, and includes a 15-place SRP for pupils with autism spectrum disorder - The Woodlands.
- 3.5 Following an inspection that took place in March 2023, Ofsted deemed Ebbsfleet Green Primary School to be a 'GOOD' school.

4. Options considered and dismissed, and associated risk

- 4.1 KCC considered whether other primary schools in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group had additional Year R capacity for September 2024 and September 2025. However, no additional capacity was available. Therefore, no other primary school in the local area could produce sufficient places to meet the demand in the timescales required.

4.2 Once Ebbsfleet Green Primary School had been selected as the school to accommodate the additional pupils, there were three possible options identified. The two options that were considered but discarded were:

- Permanently expand the school by one FE. This option was logically and financially challenging due to the configuration and size of the school site. Additionally, as the primary provision at Alkerden Church of England Academy is due to open in September 2026, this option was dismissed.
- The Proposal to temporarily expand the school using leased modular accommodation for six years was not considered a feasible solution. It would impose significant additional strain on the Education Revenue Budget while delivering no long-term benefit. Even for a minimal setup - just two classrooms with toilets and no third classroom to provide essential flexible space for interventions - the cost would be £914,899. Given the high expense, lack of flexibility, and absence of lasting value, this option was dismissed.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Capital

5.1.1 The approved KCC procurement route for Ebbsfleet Green Primary School is a competitive tender process with preferred mobile contractors, delivered under a JCT Design and Build Contract 2016 (with KCC amendments). The appointed contractor will assume full design responsibility to provide a compliant solution.

5.1.2 This scheme will be managed by KCC and will be confirmed via a legally binding agreement between KCC and Maritime Academy Trust.

5.1.3 From feasibility studies, the cost for the whole scheme will be £1,294,245. However, it should be noted that figures from these studies represent high-level estimates, and the final tendered cost is expected to be less than £1,200,000. This reduction will include savings from value engineering the project.

5.1.4 The current cost-per-pupil benchmark for Primary Extension and Refurbishment is:

- KCC baseline: £20,698.57 per pupil
- DfE benchmark: £23,339.66 per pupil

5.1.5 Based on the high-level cost provided, this scheme equates to approximately £20,000 per pupil. However, as noted at 5.1.3 above, the final tendered cost is expected to be lower, and could even reduce to as little as £16,666.66 per pupil.

5.1.6 KCC Project Managers will be undertaking continuous checks to keep project costs as low as possible.

- 5.1.7 Should the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills agree to progress the scheme; an agreement will be finalised and sealed with Maritime Academy Trust. The agreement will set out the requirements on the school to maintain the accommodation.
- 5.1.8 An allowance of up to £2,500 per teaching space may be payable to Ebbsfleet Green Primary School; to outfit each new teaching room with appropriate ICT equipment, such as touch screens or projection equipment. This will be met from the overall Capital allocation for this scheme.
- 5.1.9 Capital Costs for mainstream provision are funded through the Basic Need Capital Programme, which is made up from a range of sources including the Basic Need Grant, Developer Contributions, Prudential Borrowing (originally agreed to fund shortfalls in historic schemes) and other specific grants (such as schools rebuild programme). The Basic Need Grant is the largest contributor to the programme and is provided by the DfE to support local authorities fulfil their statutory duty to ensure there are enough school places for children aged 5 to 16 in their area. The grant is allocated annually, based on Local Authorities' own pupil forecasts and school capacity data, which they submit through the School Capacity Survey. The funding is primarily intended to support the creation of new school places - either by expanding existing schools or building new ones to meet projected demand.
- 5.1.10 The Education capital programme is continuously reviewed, with projects entering and leaving the programme regularly in response to demand and project completions. As at September 2025, the Basic Need programme for current and future schemes had a budget of circa £154m and the value of projects that are currently included in the programme is circa £110m (this included the potential cost of £1.2m for this project). The current balance of circa £44m will be used to meet the cost of any new schemes, alongside future DfE Basic Need Grant allocations, new developer contributions and other external grants. To ensure all schemes are prioritised appropriately and expenditure is controlled within available funding, any new scheme included in the programme, first needs to be considered and agreed by Education Asset Board, before being progressed through the formal governance processes.

5.2 Revenue

- 5.2.1 Should the scheme not proceed through to completion, any costs incurred at the time of cessation would become abortive costs and are likely to be recharged to Revenue. This would be reported through the regular financial monitoring reports to Cabinet. If this was to happen, this would be a cost to the General Fund.
- 5.2.2 As the scheme progresses, £6,000 per newly provided learning space, would be provided towards the cost of furniture and equipment, such as tables, desks, chairs, cabinets and learning resources. This will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant, a ring-fenced grant from the Department of Education, allocated in line with the Growth Fund policy for schools. This is not a General Fund cost.

5.2.3 Ebbsfleet Green Primary School will appoint additional staff as required; utilising revenue funding allocated through the Schools Funding Formula for these additional students. This is also funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

5.2.4 Therefore there are no expected General Fund costs linked to this proposal apart from the standard risk of abortive costs which are considered low risk.

6. Legal implications

6.1 Kent County Council, as the Local Authority, has a statutory duty, pursuant to s. 14 of the Education Act 2006, to plan for and ensure sufficient school places are available. This duty applies to mainstream settings, as well as SEND provision.

6.2 The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2025-29 is a five-year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out KCC's future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

6.3 Under the Children and Families Act 2014 Kent County Council has a duty 'to support the child and his or her parent, or the young person, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help him or her achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes'. By ensuring we have appropriate provision as locally as possible, we are delivering on our obligation in accordance with this legislation.

6.4 Local Authorities need to deliver their statutory duties and be aware of non-statutory guidance and advice, which relate to children and young people. These include are:

- Department for Education - Making significant changes to an academy 2025: non-statutory guidance on collaborative school place planning and making organisational changes to academies.
- Sufficiency Duties: Kent County Council is under a statutory duty to contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area: section 13 of the Education Act 1996 ("the 1996 Act").
- Kent County Council must ensure that its education functions are exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards, ensuring fair access to opportunity for education and training, and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person under the age of 20 and those over the age of 20 and for whom an EHC Plan is maintained: section 13A. By section 14, Kent County Council must secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available for their area, defined as being sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.
- Kent County Council, when carrying out its functions must have "due regard" to the provisions of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, known as the 'public sector equality duty'.

- 6.5 Planning permission will be required for the new accommodation to enable the expansion of the school's accommodation. As part of the agreement, Kent County Council will be responsible for gaining the appropriate planning consent.
- 6.6 The Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Director of Education will be overseeing the scheme to ensure public funds are utilised appropriately.

7. Equalities implications

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced by KCC. No issues were identified.
- 7.2 The proposal will not change the delivery of education with the school. Additional school places benefit residents, including those with protected characteristics, to access local school places. Therefore, there should be no equalities implications.

8. Data Protection Implications

- 8.1 Any information that would have Data Protection implication was gathered by Ebbsfleet Green Primary School, as its own Data Controller. Any protected data will be managed by the school.

9. Other corporate implications

- 9.1 Ebbsfleet Green Primary School will consult with Planners and KCC's Highways and Planning colleagues as appropriate, throughout the planning process.

10. Governance

- 10.1 The KCC Member for Swanscombe and Greenhithe, Thomas Mallon, has been informed of the proposal and has welcomed the increase in capacity.
- 10.2 A Public Consultation is not required for this proposal.
- 10.3 Both the school and the Academy Trust are fully supportive of the proposal.

11. Conclusions

- 11.1 The Assistant Director Education-North Kent, has said the analysis of demand in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group showed that additional Year R capacity was required in the area for September 2024 and September 2025.
- 11.2 Other school sites were considered, and all other alternatives were considered, and the conclusion is to increase capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER and ENDORSE or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills on the proposed decision as set out in the attached PRoD** (Appendix A).

12. Background Documents

- Kent Commissioning Plan 2024-2028
- Kent Commissioning Plan 2025-2029
- EqIA

13. Appendices

- Appendix A - PRoD

14. Contact details

Report Author: Ian Watts Job title: Assistant Director Education-North Kent Telephone number: 03000 414302 Email address: Ian.Watts@kent.gov.uk	Director: David Adams Job title: Interim Deputy Director for Education: Sufficiency, Effectiveness and Skills Telephone number: 03000 414989 Email address: David.Adams@kent.gov.uk
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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

DECISION NUMBER:

25/00112

Executive Decision – Key Decision

Proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School, Ackers Drive, Weldon Road, Ebbsfleet Valley, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 1AL

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I agree to:

- I. APPROVE the allocation of £1,200,000 from the Children's, Young People and Education Basic Need Capital Budget to fund the work to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School.
- II. DELEGATE authority to the Director of Infrastructure, in consultation with the Head of Law and Director of Education and SEND to take relevant actions including but not limited to entering into relevant contracts or other legal agreements as required to implement the decision; and
- III. AGREE for the Director of Infrastructure, to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements, with authority to enter variations as envisaged under the contracts. Variations to contract value to be no more than 10% above the capital funding agreed by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills without requiring a new Key Decision.

Reasons for decision:

Kent County Council (KCC) as the Local Authority, has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient high quality school places are available, in the right places for all learners, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards and promote parental preference. The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent is a five-year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out KCC's future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

This proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School has been developed because the Kent Commissioning Plans for 2024/28 and 2025/29 both indicated there would be a shortfall in Year R places for September 2024 and

September 2025 in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group (which includes the Ebbsfleet Garden City). Partly due to delays in the planned opening of the new primary school at Alkerden Church of England Academy.

To support KCC in mitigating against this shortfall, Maritime Academy Trust and the school agreed to admit bulge classes of 30 pupils for two years - increasing their Reception intake from 60 to offer 90 places for September 2024 and September 2025. The school was able to initially accommodate these additional classes, as the school is still growing following its opening in 2020, and two classes were still unused. However, by September 2026, the school will be full and therefore, additional classrooms are required to ensure the two bulge classes can be safely accommodated.

The scheme will include the installation of three additional classrooms along with appropriate ancillary space, to provide the school with sufficient space to safely accommodate the two additional bulge classes and create a second nursery class, providing much needed additional early years places in the locality.

The school also hosts a Specialist Resource Provision and it is clear the complexity of needs in the school has increased considerably since the school first opened. Longer term (5-6 years), when the bulge classes have progressed through the school, the then free classrooms can be used as additional SEND intervention spaces. This could include a physical expansion of the SRP.

Financial implications:

Capital

The approved KCC procurement route for Ebbsfleet Green Primary School is a competitive tender process with preferred mobile contractors, delivered under a JCT Design and Build Contract 2016 (with KCC amendments). The appointed contractor will assume full design responsibility to provide a compliant solution.

This scheme will be managed by KCC and will be confirmed via a legally binding agreement between KCC and Maritime Academy Trust. From feasibility studies, the cost for the whole scheme will be £1,294,245. However, it should be noted that figures from these studies represent high-level estimates, and the final tendered cost is expected to be less than £1,200,000. This reduction will include savings from value engineering the project.

The current cost-per-pupil benchmark for Primary Extension and Refurbishment is:

- KCC baseline: £20,698.57 per pupil
- DfE benchmark: £23,339.66 per pupil

Based on the high-level cost provided, this scheme equates to approximately £20,000 per pupil. However, as noted above, the final tendered cost is expected to be lower, and could even reduce to as little as £16,666.66 per pupil. KCC Project Managers will be undertaking continuous checks to keep project costs as low as possible.

Should the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills agree to progress the scheme; an agreement will be finalised and sealed with Maritime Academy Trust. The agreement will set out the requirements on the school to maintain the accommodation.

An allowance of up to £2,500 per teaching space may be payable to Ebbsfleet Green Primary School; to outfit each new teaching room with appropriate ICT equipment, such as touch screens or projection equipment. This will be met from the overall Capital allocation for this scheme.

Capital Costs for mainstream provision are funded through the Basic Need Capital Programme, which is made up from a range of sources including the Basic Need Grant, Developer Contributions, Prudential Borrowing (originally agreed to fund shortfalls in historic schemes) and other specific grants (such as schools rebuild programme). The Basic Need Grant is the largest contributor to the programme and is provided by the DfE to support local authorities fulfil their statutory duty to ensure there are enough school places for children aged 5 to 16 in their area. The grant is allocated annually, based on Local Authorities' own pupil forecasts and school capacity data, which they submit through the School Capacity Survey. The funding is primarily intended to support the creation of new school places - either by expanding existing schools or building new ones to meet projected demand.

The Education capital programme is continuously reviewed, with projects entering and leaving the programme regularly in response to demand and project completions. As at September 2025, the Basic Need programme for current and future schemes had a budget of circa £154m and the value of projects that are currently included in the programme is circa £110m (this included the potential cost of £1.2m for this project). The current balance of circa £44m will be used to meet the cost of any new schemes, alongside future DfE Basic Need Grant allocations, new developer contributions and other external grants. To ensure all schemes are prioritised appropriately and expenditure is controlled within available funding, any new scheme included in the programme, first needs to be considered and agreed by Education Asset Board, before being progressed through the formal governance processes.

Revenue

Should the scheme not proceed through to completion, any costs incurred at the time of cessation would become abortive costs and are likely to be recharged to Revenue. This would be reported through the regular financial monitoring reports to Cabinet. This will be a cost to the General Fund.

As the scheme progresses, £6,000 per newly provided learning space, would be provided towards the cost of furniture and equipment, such as tables, desks, chairs, cabinets and learning resources. This will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant, a ring-fenced grant from the Department of Education, allocated in line with the Growth Fund policy for schools. This is not a General Fund cost.

Ebbsfleet Green Primary School will appoint additional staff as required; utilising revenue funding allocated through the Schools Funding Formula for these additional students. This is also funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Legal implications:

Kent County Council, as the Local Authority, has a statutory duty, pursuant to s. 14 of the Education Act 2006, to plan for and ensure sufficient school places are available. This duty applies to mainstream settings, as well as SEND provision. The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2025-29 is a five-year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out KCC's future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

Under the Children and Families Act 2014 Kent County Council has a duty 'to support the child and his or her parent, or the young person, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help him or her achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes'. By ensuring we have appropriate provision as locally as possible, we are delivering on our obligation in accordance with this legislation.

Local Authorities need to deliver their statutory duties and be aware of non-statutory guidance and advice, which relate to children and young people. These include are:

- Department for Education - Making significant changes to an academy 2025: non-statutory guidance on collaborative school place planning and making organisational changes to academies.
- Sufficiency Duties: Kent County Council is under a statutory duty to contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area: section 13 of the Education Act 1996 ("the 1996 Act").
- Kent County Council must ensure that its education functions are exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards, ensuring fair access to opportunity for education and training, and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person under the age of 20 and those over the age of 20 and for whom an EHC Plan is maintained: section 13A. By section 14, Kent County Council must secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available for their area, defined as being sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.
- Kent County Council, when carrying out its functions must have "due regard" to the provisions of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, known as the 'public sector equality duty'.

Planning permission will be required for the new accommodation to enable the expansion of the school's accommodation. As part of the agreement, Kent County Council will be responsible for gaining the appropriate planning consent.

The Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Director of Education will be overseeing the scheme to ensure public funds are utilised appropriately.

Equalities implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced by KCC. No issues were identified. The proposal will not change the delivery of education with the school. Additional school places benefit residents, including those with protected characteristics, to access local school places. Therefore, there should be no equalities implications.

Data Protection implications:

Any information that would have Data Protection implication was gathered by Ebbsfleet Green Primary School, as its own Data Controller. Any protected data will be managed by the school.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be considered by the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on 20 January 2026.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

KCC considered whether other primary schools in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group had additional Year R capacity for September 2024 and September 2025. However, no additional capacity was available. Therefore, no other primary school in the local area could produce sufficient places to meet the demand in the timescales required.

Once Ebbsfleet Green Primary School had been selected as the school to accommodate the additional pupils, there were three possible options available:

- Permanently expand the school by one FE. This option was logistically and financially challenging due to the configuration and size of the school site. Additionally, as the primary provision at Alkerden Church of England Academy is due to open in September 2026, this option was dismissed.
- The Proposal to temporarily expand the school using leased modular accommodation for six years was not considered a feasible solution. It would impose significant additional strain on the Education Revenue Budget while delivering no long-term benefit. Even for a minimal setup - just two classrooms with toilets and no third classroom to provide essential flexible space for interventions - the cost would be £914,899. Given the high expense, lack of flexibility, and absence of lasting value, this option was dismissed.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None.

.....

Signed

.....

Date

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Increasing Capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School

Responsible Officer

Mary Rigden - CY EDSEN

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Ian Watts - CY EDSEN

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

Project/Programme

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

No

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Children Young People and Education

Responsible Service

Education, Planning and Access

Responsible Head of Service

Ian Watts - CY EDSEN

Responsible Director

David Adams - CY EDSEN

Aims and Objectives

This proposal to increase the capacity at Ebbsfleet Green Primary School has been developed because the Kent Commissioning Plans for 2024/28 and 2025/29 both indicated there would be a shortfall in Year R places for September 2024 and September 2025 in the Swanscombe and Ebbsfleet Planning Group (which includes the Ebbsfleet Garden City). Partly due to delays in the planned opening of the new primary school at Alkerden Church of England Academy.

To support KCC in mitigating against this shortfall, Maritime Academy Trust and the school agreed to admit bulge classes of 30 pupils for two years - increasing their Reception intake from 60 to offer 90 places for September 2024 and September 2025. The school was able to initially accommodate these additional classes, as the school is still growing following its opening in 2020, and two classes were still unused. However, by September 2026, the school will be full and therefore, additional classrooms are required to ensure the two bulge classes can be safely accommodated.

If no further action is taken, Ebbsfleet Green Primary school will find it extremely difficult to provide sufficient places for their PAN of 60 pupils for September 2026, and for the years that follow. KCC has a responsibility to provide appropriate permanent accommodation for these additional pupils as they progress through the school.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

No

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Not Applicable

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

It is not a requirement of this project for stakeholders to be consulted.

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

No

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

Service Users/clients

Service users/clients

Staff

Staff/Volunteers

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

Additional school places benefit residents including those with protected characteristics.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

No

Details of negative impacts for Age

Not Applicable

Mitigating Actions for Age

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

Not Applicable

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

Are there negative impacts for Disability?

No

Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Disability

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Disability

Not Applicable

21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex

Are there negative impacts for Sex

No

Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Applicable
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No
Negative impacts for Race
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Applicable
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Applicable
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable

DECISION REPORT TO CABINET COMMITTEE

From: Christine Palmer, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

Diane Morton, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Chrstine McInnes, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education

Dr Anjan Ghosh, Director of Public Health

**To: Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee
20 January 2026**

Subject: Best Start Family Hub Programme Grant Award

Decision no: 25/00109

Key Decision :

- It affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions
- It involves expenditure or savings of maximum £1m – including if over several phases

Classification: Unrestricted

Future Pathway of report: Cabinet Member Decision

Electoral Division: All

Is the decision eligible for call-in? Yes

Summary: In July 2025, the government launched the Best Start in Life Strategy alongside their commitment to invest £500m for the national roll out of Best Start Family Hubs; subsequently, a 3-year Programme is starting on 1 April 2026. A series of Key Decisions by the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services accepted the original 4-year transformation grant funding for Family Hubs and adopted our new Family Hub service model.

The existing Key Decisions do not extend beyond the initial 4-year transformation period which ends on 31 March 2026. Therefore, a new Key Decision is required to accept the additional 3-year grant funding and to utilise that funding in line with the service model adopted under the Best Start Family Hub Model

This decision is for the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services but is reported to the Adult Social Care and Public Health Cabinet committee for information as public health are responsible for aspects of this grant.

Recommendation(s):

The Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS** to the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services in relation to the proposed decision to accept grant funding to progress the Best Start Family Hub Programme, as detailed in the attached Proposed Record of Decision document (Appendix A).

1. Introduction

1.1 Within the Spending Review in June 2025, the Chancellor announced continued investment in the Family Hub Programme. In July 2025, the government launched the Best Start in Life Strategy alongside their commitment to invest £500m for the national roll out of Best Start Family Hubs; consequently a 3-year Programme is starting on 1 April 2026.

1.2 On 7 November 2025, the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) announced that the provisional allocation for the Best Start in Life Programme for Kent County Council is £15,354,500, for financial years 2026-29. The DfE and DHSC will share guidance on the service and delivery expectations ahead of April 2026.

1.3 A series of Key Decisions by the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services accepted the original transformation grant funding for Family Hubs and adopted Kent's Family Hub service model. A new Key Decision is now required to accept the additional three-year grant funding for the Best Start Family Hub programme and to confirm delivery under the existing adopted Family Hub Model, updated to reflect the programme requirements set by the DfE and DHSC.

2. Background

2.1 In October 2022 the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services took decision 22/00094 and Kent County Council (KCC) signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department for Education (DfE) which accepted the initial 3-year transformation grant funding. This decision set out the requirement for the development of detailed proposals, public consultation and appropriate governance ahead of a further Key Decision on the Family Hub model.

2.2 In November 2023, after the development of detailed proposals, public consultation and appropriate governance, KCC Cabinet took decision 23/00092 to implement the Family Hub model across the county.

2.3 Alongside the Decisions in October 2022 and November 2024, two additional decisions were taken relating to the Start for Life expenditure for Perinatal Mental

Health and Parent Infant relationships (decision 23/00075) and for Infant Feeding (decision 23/00076).

2.4 In March 2025, the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services took [Decision 24/00124](#) and Kent County Council (KCC) signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department for Education (DfE) which accepted the Year 4 Family Hub grant. This grant funding will end on 31 March 2026.

3. Programme Overview

3.1 The Government's commitment to the Family Hub model has been reconfirmed by the announcement of a further 3 Year funded Programme for Family Hub authorities.

3.2 DfE and DHSC have confirmed that programme strands are a continuation of the current Strands, with the exception of the 'Healthy Babies Offer', which has changed from 'Start for Life Offer':

- Programme
- Capital
- Perinatal Mental Health & Parent Infant Relationships
- Parenting Support
- Infant Feeding
- Home Learning Environment
- Parent Carer Panels and Healthy Babies Offer

3.3 The funding covers the 3-year financial period 2026-2029 for local authorities to continue delivery of Family Hubs in line with the Best Start Programme requirements, building on the existing adopted model. This includes :

- Developing and implementing Best Start Local Plans
- Providing core services, including evidence-based parenting and home learning environment support.

3.4 The Government's strategy 'Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life', sets out the importance of supporting every child and family through their early years, laying the foundations for future success. The strategy includes a commitment to ensure that nationally 75% of 5-year-olds achieve a Good Level of Development (GLD) in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Assessment by 2028.

3.5 The £15,354,500, for financial years 2026-29 will help Kent achieve the statutory target set out as:

- a) The proportion of children in Kent County Council achieving a Good Level of Development at the end of the 2027/28 academic year is at least 77.0%; and
- b) Disadvantaged children have benefitted at least equally from this improvement; that is, that the proportion of children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and achieving a Good Level of Development at the end of the 2027/28 academic year is at least 57.7%

4. Key Considerations

4.1 The option to not accept the grant money has been considered. Given the financial challenges the Council currently faces, and the statutory target for children in Kent to achieve a Good Level of Development by the end of the academic year 2027/28 it is not considered appropriate to decline the further funding from the DfE and DHSC. Final assessment will be dependent on a consideration of the deliverability of the requirements of any agreement required with the DfE and DHSC to access the funding, along with a review of how far any such requirements align with the established Family Hub programme operating in Kent.

4.2 While understanding the risks associated with a late announcement of the delivery requirements, on a practical level, the Council must plan and prepare for the likelihood of it being necessary to accept the additional funding to ensure the greatest possible access to funding to support children, families and communities in the best way possible.

4.3 Announcement of the specific delivery requirements accompanying the funding is expected ahead of April 2026. However, a delay in the acceptance of the grant money poses a risk that the time available to spend the money and achieve the delivery requirements is reduced. This report seeks to explain the timing and staging of potential decision-making in the event that the final assessment of the requirements are appropriate for Kent. Therefore, endorsement of the principle of accepting the grant money and utilising it in line with the delivery requirements set out by the DfE and DHSC is sought now, to maximise our ability to mobilise resources to implement additional service requirements or procure services at the relevant time. Failure to do so will pose a risk to the delivery of services and cause a reputational risk for Kent County Council and poor outcomes for the children and families of Kent.

4.4 This report recommends that the review of the delivery requirements and how the funding can be utilised in line with the DfE constraints is delegated to the Director of Integrated Children's Services and the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

4.5 The proposed decision supports 'Reforming Kent', specifically aim 3 'Supporting Residents that need Help', by embedding prevention and early intervention within service delivery. Family Hubs provide accessible, integrated support for parents/carers and children, helping families address challenges before they escalate and empowering them to make informed choices that improve health and wellbeing. By investing in services that promote parenting skills, perinatal mental health, parent-infant relationships, infant feeding and home learning environment, Family Hubs also provide information to help reduce dependency on crisis interventions and ensure every child has the opportunity to grow up safe, secure, and supported, and help families stay together.

5. Options considered and dismissed, and associated risk

5.1 The option to not adopt the Best Start Family Hub Model and not accept the grant money has been considered. If the announcement related to the conditions on how the grant is to be used is made in quarter 4 of financial year 2025/26 (i.e. in February 2026) it will likely impact on the Local Authority's ability to mobilise resources to implement additional service requirements or procure services. This in turn, will pose a risk to the delivery of services and cause a reputational risk for Kent County Council.

5.2 While understanding the risks associated with a late announcement, we have discounted the option of not accepting the additional funding in recognition that children, families and communities in Kent will benefit from additional support and because Kent still needs to deliver on the statutory target for children to achieve a Good Level of Development whether it accepts the money or not.

5.3 Final determination of whether the Best Start Family Hub model can and should be accepted, and whether the funding can and should be accepted would be dependent on the terms and conditions associated with the model and funding – these will be reviewed at the point of decision.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 The DfE and DHSC have announced that the provisional funding allocation for the Best Start in Life Programme for Kent County Council is £15,354,500, for financial years 2026-29. The distribution of Kent's funding allocation by Programme Strand is set out in the table below.

6.2 While the delivery expectations of the grant are not yet known, the Programme Strands are a continuation of the current Strands, with the exception of 'Healthy Babies Offer', which has changed from 'Start for Life Offer'.

6.3 It is expected that the funding will support the ongoing delivery of Family Hubs in a way that complements and enhances existing services. This is a ring-fenced grant and based on current understanding, the grant is not expected to place additional pressure on the Council's revenue or capital budgets. There is no expected cost to the General Fund from accepting this grant. Additionally, DfE has confirmed that Best Start funding may be used for delivery of existing Family Hub services which could replace a portion of the budget currently funded from the General Fund. Therefore, Kent Integrated Children's Services is proposing as part of the 2026-29 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to use a portion of this funding for existing staff that are already delivering these services (subject to grant terms & conditions). Therefore, if this grant is not accepted, an alternative saving would have to be identified as part of the MTFP process.

Strand	% ¹	2026-27 Allocation ²	2027-28 Allocation	2028-29 Allocation
Best Start Family Hubs delivery grant - programme	21%	£1,186,800	£970,500	£996,600
Best Start Family Hubs delivery grant - capital	5%	£237,400	£242,100	£246,800
Parenting support	23%	£1,165,500	£1,180,000	£1,231,800
Home learning environment support	17%	£839,600	£850,000	£887,400
Perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships	24%	£1,237,900	£1,237,900	£1,237,900
Infant feeding support	10%	£504,400	£504,400	£504,400
Healthy babies offers and parent and carer panels	1%	£31,000	£31,000	£31,000
Total		£5,202,600	£5,015,900	£5,135,900

¹ The distribution of funding has been rounded to one decimal place. The sum of percentages across strands may not total 100% due to this rounding.

² The allocation for 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29 has been rounded to the nearest 100 pounds. The sum of the allocations across strands may not total the maximum funding allocation due to this rounding.

7. Legal implications

7.1 There is statutory Guidance, namely 'Working Together to Safeguard children 2023' that outlines how organisations and individuals should collaborate to protect children from harm. Local authorities are one of a number of key partners. The focus within the Guidance is on the "whole family approach" to provide support and help for families to stay together safely and to provide such help as soon as problems emerge to prevent them from escalating. The Guidance is statutory, meaning it must be followed unless there is good reason not to.

7.2 The statutory Guidance in the context of the Family Hub programme, aligns with duties under both the Children Acts of 1989 and 2004. The 1989 Act creates a family focus to support families with children in need. The Children Act 2004 established a duty for agencies, including local authorities, to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

8 Equalities implications

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed in March 2025 alongside [Decision 24/00124](#). The EqIA has been reviewed and the assessment has indicated that there are no anticipated adverse impacts that are associated with the acceptance of the grant. An updated EqIA will be completed in advance of the final decision .

9 Data Protection Implications

9.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is not expected to be required for the acceptance of the Best Start Family Hub grant money; however the relevant screening assessment will be undertaken prior to decision.

10 Other corporate implications

10.1 There are no corporate implications linked with accepting the grant funding.

11 Governance

11.1 Acceptance of the Best Start Family Hub grant money is an executive decision of the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, building on previous Family Hub decisions and recognising the clear connections between Children's Services and the Public Health activities delivered to communities across Kent via Family Hubs. The core principles and planned approach are presented for Cabinet Committee consideration to support a final decision when full details are known.

11.2 The final decision to accept the grant money will be taken by the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, subject to review of the terms and conditions when they are made available. The full implications and considerations will be detailed in the relevant published reports at the point of decision, in accordance with normal KCC decision-making processes.

11.3 The detailed deployment plan for the £15.354m grant will be developed once the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) confirm the programme requirements and grant conditions. At this stage, the funding is expected to support the continuation and enhancement of Family Hub services across Kent, aligned to the existing adopted model and the programme strands identified by DfE/DHSC (including Programme, Capital, Perinatal Mental Health and Parent Infant Relationships, Parenting Support, Infant Feeding, Home Learning Environment, Parent Carer Panels, and the Healthy Babies Offer). Authority to agree the terms and conditions, finalise the deployment plan, and deliver the requirements of the grant will be delegated to the Director of Operational Integrated Children's Services and the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health.

11.4 The Decision includes, via the overarching Policy choice to progress with the required Best Start in Life activity and deployment of grant funding, the delegation of authority to the relevant officers to manage future years' funding as necessary, including reviewing and accepting relevant terms and conditions and the deployment of funding to deliver the services. Any substantial changes to the Strategic position or funding requirements will be reviewed to determine the requirements for additional Executive Decision-making.

12 Conclusions

12.1 Following the initial 4- year funded transformation period, the DfE has confirmed a further 3 years of Family Hub grant funding, under the Best Start Family Hubs Programme. A Key Decision is required to accept the 3-year Best Start Family Hub

grant funding and to enable the spend of the grant money when the grant period begins in April 2026. Any delay to accepting the grant money, or the governance around the acceptance poses a risk to the Council's ability to spend the money and implement Best Start Family Hub Services.

12.2 As set out above, in normal circumstances, the detailed proposals for accepting and deploying the Best Start Family Hub funding would be set out for Cabinet Committee consideration. However, while the detail is not yet available from DfE and DHSC, this item provides an opportunity to consider the implications of additional funding and for the Cabinet Committee to provide their views to the Cabinet Member on key considerations to inform their final decision.

12.3 Any acceptance of the funding will involve commitments to deliver Best Start Family Hubs in a certain way and until the details are available from the DfE and DHSC, it is not possible to make the required final assessment on whether it is appropriate for KCC to enter into the relevant agreements. Given the likely benefits to the community that may be realised via any additional funding, it is sensible to prepare and scope plans for the acceptance and deployment of the additional funding in advance of the final decision-making.

Recommendation(s):

The Children, Young People and education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS** to the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services in relation to the proposed decision to accept grant funding to progress the Best Start Family Hub Programme, as detailed in appendix A.

13 Background Documents

13.1 The Government's [Giving every child the best start in life](#) strategy provides information on their ambition to improve child development and meeting their goal of 75% of 5-year-olds in England having a Good Level of Development (GLD) by 2028.

13.2 [Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK](#) gives every practitioner working in a multi-agency system clarity about what is required of them individually and how they need to work in multi-agency partnerships to deliver effective services, support and help to children and their families.

14 Appendices

Proposed Record of Decision
[EqlA - 24-00124 EqlA.pdf](#)

15 Contact details

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Christine Palmer

Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

DECISION NUMBER:

25/00109

Executive Decision – Key

25/00109 – Best Start Family Hubs Programme Grant Award

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health (subject to receiving confirmation from Department for Education (DfE) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) I agree to:

- a. APPROVE, the acceptance of the Best Start Family Hub Grant Award and the deployment of the grant funding in accordance with the grant conditions and the adopted service model;
- b. DELEGATE authority to the Director of Operational Integrated Children's Services and Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services to agree, finalise and enter into the required grant and other required agreements and to do so in future years providing funding is provided on similar terms;
- c. DELEGATE authority to the Director of Operational Integrated Children's Services and Director of Public Health to manage the grant funding expenditure in order to take the relevant actions and the required operational decisions to deploy the funding, manage services and deliver the Best Start in Life requirements in line with the adopted service model and any required enhancements.
- d. DELEGATE authority to the Director of Operational Integrated Children's Services and Director of Public Health, to take other necessary actions, including but not limited to entering into contracts or other legal agreements, as required to implement the decision

Reasons for decision:

Within the Spending Review in June 2025, the Chancellor announced continued investment in the Family Hub Programme. In July 2025, the government launched the Best Start in Life Strategy alongside their commitment to invest £500m for the national roll out of Best Start Family Hubs with a 3-year Programme starting on 1 April 2026.

On 7 November 2025, the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) announced that the provisional allocation for the Best Start in Life Programme for Kent County Council is £15,354,500, for financial years 2026-29. The DfE and DHSC will share guidance on the service and delivery expectations ahead of April 2026.

A series of Key Decisions by the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services accepted the original transformation grant funding for Family Hubs and adopted our new Family Hub service model. A new Key Decision is required to accept the additional three-year grant funding for the Best Start Family Hub programme and to confirm delivery under the existing adopted Family Hub Model, updated to reflect the programme requirements set by the DfE and DHSC.

Financial implications:

The DfE and DHSC have announced that the provisional funding allocation for the Best Start in Life Programme for Kent County Council is £15,354,500, for financial years 2026/27-2028/29. This is a ring-fenced grant. The distribution of Kent's funding allocation by Programme Strand is set out in the table below.

Strand	% ¹	2026-27 Allocation ²	2027-28 Allocation	2028-29 Allocation
Best Start Family Hubs delivery grant - programme	21%	£1,186,800	£970,500	£996,600
Best Start Family Hubs delivery grant - capital	5%	£237,400	£242,100	£246,800
Parenting support	23%	£1,165,500	£1,180,000	£1,231,800
Home learning environment support	17%	£839,600	£850,000	£887,400
Perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships	24%	£1,237,900	£1,237,900	£1,237,900
Infant feeding support	10%	£504,400	£504,400	£504,400
Healthy babies offers and parent and carer panels	1%	£31,000	£31,000	£31,000
Total		£5,202,600	£5,015,900	£5,135,900

¹ The distribution of funding has been rounded to one decimal place. The sum of percentages across strands may not total 100% due to this rounding.

² The allocation for 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29 has been rounded to the nearest 100 pounds. The sum of the allocations across strands may not total the maximum funding allocation due to this rounding.

While the delivery expectations of the grant are not yet known, the Programme Strands are a continuation of the current Strands, with the exception of 'Healthy Babies Offer', which has changed from 'Start for Life Offer'.

It is expected that the funding will support the ongoing delivery of Family Hubs in a way that complements and enhances existing services. Based on current understanding, the grant is not expected to place additional pressure on the Council's revenue or capital budgets. Additionally, DfE has confirmed that Best Start funding may be used for delivery of existing services which could support a reduction in the base budget for Family Hubs. Therefore, Kent Children Services intends to use a portion of this funding for existing staff that are already delivering these services (subject to the grants terms & conditions). Therefore, if this grant is not accepted, an alternative saving would have to be identified as part of the MTFP process.

Legal implications:

There is statutory Guidance, namely 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' that outlines how organisations and individuals should collaborate to protect children from harm; Local Authorities are one of several key partners. The focus within the Guidance is on the "whole family approach" to provide support and help for families to stay together safely and to provide such help as soon as problems emerge to prevent them from escalating. The Guidance is statutory, meaning it must be followed unless there is good reason not to.

The statutory Guidance in the context of the Family Hub programme, aligns with duties under both the Children Acts of 1989 and 2004. The 1989 Act creates a family focus to support families with children in need. The Children Act 2004 established a duty for agencies, including local authorities, to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Equalities implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed in March 2025 alongside [Decision 24/00124](#). The EqIA has been reviewed and the assessment has indicated that there are no anticipated adverse impacts that are associated with the acceptance of the grant. An updated EqIA will be completed in advance of the final decision

Data Protection implications:

A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is not expected to be required for the acceptance of the Best Start Family Hub grant money; however the relevant screening assessment will be undertaken prior to decision.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be considered by the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on 20 January 2026.

This version of the PROD is included in the agenda pack for committee members to review ahead of the meeting.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

.....

Signed

Date

From: Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education & Skills
Christine McInnes, Interim Corporate Director Children's, Young People & Education

To: **Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 20 January 2026**

Subject: Special Educational Needs (SEN) Funding – 2026-27 Payment Uplifts

Decision no: 25/00108

Key Decision : Yes:

- *It affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions*
- *It involves expenditure or savings of maximum £1m – including if over several phases*

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of report: N/A

Future Pathway of report: Cabinet Member Key Decision

Electoral Division: All

Is the decision eligible for call-in? Yes

Summary: The Government has recently confirmed the funding allocations for the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2026-27 will be frozen at the same level as 2025-26 with no increase for demography changes or general inflation. Local Authorities remain responsible for agreeing the distribution of this funding in accordance with Government guidance. The Council has been overspending this grant each year since 2018-19, with costs forecast to exceed the grant received by c£70m this year (2025-26), which when added to previous years SEN deficits (and other contributions) will reach an accumulated deficit of c£136m by March 2026. The Government requires Local Authorities to hold DSG debts separately and so is currently not part of the Council's General Fund. This arrangement is due to come to an end after March 2028 after which the Government have indicated that future special educational needs (SEN) costs will be met nationally, although details on how this will work, (including what will happen to legacy deficits) and the future responsibilities and risks to the Council are still to be confirmed. The lack of sufficient

reassurance from Government on these future arrangements means the SEN deficit continues to be one the Council's biggest financial risks.

The Cabinet Member will be required to make a decision ahead of the next Cabinet Committee on the SEN payment rates for SEN services funded from the High Needs Block including payments made to mainstream schools (top up funding and SRPs), early years providers (SEN Inclusion Fund), Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), alternative provision, special schools and Post 16 providers (FE colleges and specialist post 16 institutions). This paper sets out the current circumstances and key considerations that will need to be reviewed in preparing for the decision, and provides the CYPE Cabinet Committee an opportunity to comment ahead of the final recommendations.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** the update and that the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills will make a decision on the future payment rates for SEN services; and **AGREE that** this update report concludes the Cabinet Committee consideration process for the decision.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Department of Education (DfE) provides Local Authorities with a specific ring-fenced revenue grant each year to fund the school budgets (mainstream primary & secondary schools), early years free-entitlements for children under 5, high needs (Special Educational Needs Education Placements including special schools) and central services for schools. This is known as the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). It is the Local Authority responsibility to distribute this funding to schools, eligible early years and to provide SEN services and other services for schools in Kent. A separate decision report was presented to this Cabinet Committee in November outlining the principles of setting the Schools Block (mainstream primary and secondary school budgets) and Early Years Block (for free entitlement rates) in 2026-27. This paper specifically relates to the funding of SEN services from the High Needs Block of the DSG.
- 1.2 Following a significant delay, the Government has recently confirmed the High Needs Block of the DSG, used to fund SEN services, will be frozen at 2025-26 levels for 2026-27, whilst at the same time confirming they are intending to publish details of future SEN reforms (which we are assuming will include reformed funding arrangements) in the Spring. In recent years this Grant has increased each year. The approach taken by Government for 2026-27 was unexpected and combined with the late notification has meant we have had to review our planned approach.
- 1.3 The original intention was to bring forward proposals for changes to the current SEN model and proposed rates for 2026-27. In light of the ambiguity in funding of SEN services, planned proposals to introduce the second phase¹ of changes

¹ In January 2025, the Cabinet Member approved the first phase of the new SEN Funding Model focused on mainstream schools with the introduction of the Communities of Schools and associated budget allocations, which have been in place since September 2025 (Key Decision: 24/00120 - Special Educational Needs Funding System). The second phase is focused on the development of a

to the Special Educational Needs funding models in Kent for state-funded schools covering mainstream, specialist resource provisions (SRPs) and special schools will be postponed for consideration at a future Committee meeting, with current funding arrangements continuing during 2026-27. However, rates under the existing SEN payment model for schools, early years & post 16 providers still need to be confirmed by the Council for 2026-27.

- 1.4 Local Authorities are required to publish schools budgets by 28th February for 2026-27 therefore the Council must still decide whether it intends to commit, at this time, to a general inflationary uplift to existing payment rates for SEN services provided by mainstream schools (top up funding and SRPs), early years providers (SEN Inclusion Fund), Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), alternative provision, special schools and Post 16 providers (FE colleges and specialist post 16 institutions).
- 1.5 Due to the late notification of funding and the need to review further the implications of agreeing a general inflationary increase for 2026-27 across SEN services, it was not possible to present detailed final proposals as part of regular Cabinet Committee consultation on planned Key Decision. Therefore, this report is intended to bring the current circumstances to the attention of the CYPE Cabinet Committee ahead of a formal decision being taken by the Cabinet Member before the next Cabinet Committee on 17 March. This item provides an opportunity for Members to make comments or raise questions in relation to the planned approach to progressing the required decision and as such supports the principles of Cabinet Committee consideration of proposed Executive activity. Any matters raised by the Committee will be taken into account by the Cabinet Member when the decision is taken.

2. Key Considerations

- 2.1 An annual key decision is taken (normally between December and January) to confirm the SEN payment arrangements in the forthcoming financial year for state-funded schools and early years providers, and eligible Post 16 providers (FE college and specialist post 16 institutions). This decision also informs the approach to be taken with independent schools and other commissioned SEN services (such as tuition).
- 2.2 The Council must decide whether to make any significant change to the payment model and/or confirm the payment rates (including any general uplifts). These recommendations must also be in line with Department of Education requirements.

Update on High Needs Block Grant

The Government normally publishes information on the DSG for the forthcoming financial year in July but this was significantly delayed and publication of the High Needs Block for 2026-27, used to fund SEN services, was not announced until 17th December. This confirmed grant funding for 2026-27 would effectively be frozen at 2025-26 levels². There was no increase

²banding system to allocate funding for our most complex children, based on the level of support required rather than diagnosis (i.e. primary need type).

for demography or general inflationary pressures. This is unprecedented. In the past 5 years the grant has increased between 3.7% to 12%, with the grant increasing by 6.7% in 2025-26. The grant increase is normally used to help offset the cost of any general inflationary increase applied to SEN payments made by the Council, alongside wider demand pressures. With no confirmed increase in grant funding for 2026-27, any increase in payment rates for educational providers will be an added pressure to the High Needs Block and increase the overall SEN deficit, unless wider efficiencies can be identified. These would have to be in addition to actions already being taken to reduce the deficit.

- 2.3 At the same time as the Grant announcement, in the Autumn the Government also confirmed the intention for national SEN funding changes, alongside wider system reforms. Limited information has been published at this stage, but the provisional local government settlement indicates there will still be a role for local authorities in managing the SEN funding system and that Councils would be expected to continue to put in place plans to manage the system effectively (presumably within reformed grant funding) and to work to keep the deficits as low as possible. In return, local authorities should not expect to have to fund future SEN costs from the General Fund, once the government instrument for keeping SEN deficits off the Council's balance sheet (known as the statutory override) comes to an end after March 2028. Although what this means in reality and how historic deficits will be resolved is still unclear. Further information is expected in the coming months alongside the delayed publication of the White Paper in early 2026 on future SEND reforms. The continual ambiguity on the expected future responsibilities and risk to the Council in relation to the SEN deficits means these deficits are still considered to be one of the Council's biggest financial risks. Therefore, any decision to increase the deficit further must be considered carefully, with full consideration of the risks arising from a lack of clarity of how this overspend and increase in the SEN deficit will be addressed in future years and any resulting savings requirements.
- 2.4 In the meantime, the Council continues to overspend its High Needs Grant. In 2025-26 it is forecast to overspend by approximately £70 million (20% of the grant) and ending the year with an accumulated deficit on the DSG of c£136m (including historic deficits and contributions). Continual demand for specialist placements has led to a further rise in demand for independent places during 2025-26, which will put further pressures on the High Needs Block in 2026-27 and increase the overall deficit.
- 2.5 KCC is one of 38 Local Authorities with a [DfE Safety Valve Agreement](#) in place with the Department of Education (DfE). This is to support Councils with the highest overspends on SEN services and to achieve a financially sustainable longer-term position. The agreement means the DfE are making additional contributions of £140 million, alongside an £82 million contribution from KCC itself, to pay off the estimated accumulated deficit and help to balance the high needs budget. In return for this, KCC must implement actions intended to resolve the in-year overspend and achieve future financial sustainability. The Safety Valve agreement has avoided the need for KCC to otherwise impose up

² apart from the rolling in of grants previously received separately and already fully committed in previous years.

to £222 million of spending reductions on SEN services over the equivalent period (2022 to 2028). Whilst Central Government have indicated they will assume responsibility for funding SEND from April 2028, it is still unclear how this will work and how the legacy debt will be resolved, before any residual debts are brought onto Council balance sheets from 2029. Therefore, the Council continues to still be bound by the agreement at the time of writing.

Considerations when setting the payment rates for SEN providers

- 2.6 Any standard payment rate increases for educational providers have to be balanced between adding further pressure to the Council's High Needs block (and increasing the SEN accumulated deficit) and recognising inflationary pressures that SEN education providers are facing including the rise in teachers' and support staff salaries along with wider inflationary changes.
- 2.7 In the past, payment rate increases had been linked to an increase in the grant. Between 2013 and 2020, general inflationary uplifts on payment rates were not applied. However, since 2020-21, payments rates have been increased as grant funding has started to increase. Kent's payment rate increases for SEN services normally mirror the primary & secondary school increases set by Government (in 2026-27, primary and secondary school budgets are expected to increase between 0% and just over 2%). In Kent 14% of schools will receive 0% increase. This means, mainstream schools will be expected to make efficiencies to fund their inflationary pressures.
- 2.8 The DfE have provided very little guidance to local authorities on the approach to SEN payment uplifts in light of a lack of funding certainty. The DfE have confirmed local authorities must ensure special schools get at least the same payment rate (per place) as previous year (with the minimum funding guarantee set at 0%). However, there are no such protections for the rest of sector (i.e. mainstream schools, PRUs/Aps, Early years providers and Post 16 providers). The DfE guidance also states "We expect local authorities to respond appropriately to schools' cost pressures in 2026 to 2027 to secure the provision required for the pupils they place there, taking account of any inescapable cost increases". It is not clear what they mean by "inescapable cost increases" but suggests local authorities are not expected to fully fund inflationary cost increases incurred by education providers, with providers expected to identify efficiencies where possible to offset cost increases.
- 2.9 The main cost pressures for education providers will be staffing. For schools this amounts to around 80% of all costs. SEN services also tend to rely more heavily on teaching support staff. Increases in staffing costs are not yet confirmed. The DfE have requested the School Teacher's Review Body (STRB) announce their recommendations on the Teachers Pay award earlier and no later than 28th February to support schools with planning. Salaries of support staff are set either locally by the schools or in line with the Kent Pay Scheme. Therefore, the Council's decision on pay award will significantly impact school budgets which in turn will also be informed by changes in National Living Wage and Foundation Living Wage as most teaching support staff are grade KSD or below.
- 2.10 Where increases in payment rates are not sufficient to meet inflationary costs, schools will be expected to make efficiencies to compensate either in the short

term, through the possible use of reserves or other short measures such as holding of vacancies, or implementation of longer term savings across both/either staffing and non-staffing budgets. Where general efficiencies cannot be achieved this may result in changes to the wider school offer. For some mainstream and early years providers, this will come on top of providers having to reduce costs to offset reduced funding from declining pupil numbers.

2.11 Where schools do not make the necessary efficiencies to fund cost increases and have insufficient reserves, education providers will fall into deficit and will need to take remedial action. For schools who are part of an academy trust or free school (and early years & post 16 providers) this will need to be managed by themselves. For maintained schools, who form part of this Council, this poses an additional risk to the local authority, who will need to provide additional support to schools (through the Education People) to set a future balanced budget. Failure to do so could result in the Local Authority removing delegation from the school. Whilst the potential impact is different for academy vs-local authority-maintained schools, the Council is required to treat schools the same, regardless of their designation.

2.12 Increasing the SEN payment rates for state-funded schools, early years and post 16 providers, also influences the approach to be taken with other commissioned SEN services such as independent schools. No standard inflationary increase is applied to independent schools, a standard price increase process is undertaken by commissioning & procurement, with individual negotiations where necessary. Increases in state-funded special school payments rates does influence these discussions. However, the potential impact of withholding prices increases could have a more immediate effect for children in these placements, than the state funded sector, where independent schools could more easily refuse or, argue that their business will become financially unsustainably, and so forcing the local authority to seek alternative placements.

2.13 Options being considered include:

- Do Nothing: SEN payment rates from 2025-26 remain unchanged for 2026-27
- Applying an uplift to SEN payment rates, up to 2%, in line with mainstream school budgets, adding to the pressure on the High Needs Block and increasing the deficit. A 1% increase equates approximately to £3 million cost to the High Needs Block.
- Apply a variable approach to different payment types to reflect their financial circumstances and ability to deliver efficiencies (including use of reserves). This is expected to reduce the impact on the High Needs Block and utilise other funding sources.
- Delay the decision to apply an uplift to the SEN payment rates until further information is published by the DfE on future funding arrangements.

2.14 The Schools Funding Forum (a statutory body to support school funding decisions made up by school leaders across Kent) were made aware of the position on the 9th January, who conveyed their disappointment that the Government had not been clearer on their intentions or recognised general

inflationary pressures in the grant allocations for 2026-27. They recognised the reality that you cannot spend money you do not have, and the challenges of being even handed with the maintained vs independent schools. Although they felt strongly, independent schools should not receive beneficial treatment at the expense of maintained schools' provision and the sector should also be expected to seek efficiencies. They had agreed to communicate their dissatisfaction directly with Central Government.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Total revenue spending on impacted SEN services is set out in table 1 along with the estimated cost of 2% uplift.
- 3.2 This spending is expected to be funded from the High Needs Block of the DSG which is a specific ring-fenced education grant from the DfE. Any general rate increases for SEN payments would be expected to be fully met from the DSG and would not be a direct cost to the General Fund. However, whilst the intention is for recommended increases to be met from grant funding, it should be noted, in relation to High Needs, the Council has agreed to fund £82m from General Fund towards the accumulated High Needs deficit (estimated to be £222m by 2027-28) arising from the total spend on SEN services exceeding the annual Grant received from the DfE for High Needs services since before 2018-19.
- 3.3 The High Needs Block is significantly overspent (in-year overspend equates to 20% of the annual grant allocation) and therefore, it should be expected any additional costs to be funded from the grant will need to be matched by either the equivalent savings or confirmation of additional resources to offset these costs. The Council is already undertaking actions which is expected to bring down the in-year deficit in future years, through wider SEN transformation activities, any extra costs will add to the length of time it will take to achieve a breakeven budget. The Government have yet to provide clarity on the future funding arrangements for SEN and the risks this poses to the Local Authority.
- 3.4 Ultimately if this Council has to make further contributions to fund the SEN deficit, this will impact the Council's future financial sustainability, which could trigger the need for further interactions to address that financial resilience.

4. Legal implications

- 4.1 The Council is required to set the schools budget in accordance with Education Act 2002 and the Conditions of DSG Grant 2026-27. School Budgets must be published by 28th February of each year for the forthcoming financial year.
- 4.2 High needs funding ["HNF"] is provided to local authorities through the high needs Block of the dedicated schools grant enabling them to meet their statutory duties under the Children and families Act 2014 and the Education Act 1996. Local Authorities must spend that funding in line with the associated dedicated schools grant, conditions of grant and The School and Early Year Finance (England) Regulations.
- 4.3 The Government published operational guidance for high needs funding 2026 to 2027 on 17th December 2025. This Government Guidance must be followed by Local Authorities for distribution of their HNF Block and work under the SEND

Code of Practice 2015. These guidance documents were used in the development of the current funding models. Links are provided below in the 'Supporting Documents' section. The Code of Practice states that: "Schools are not expected to meet the full costs of more expensive special educational provision from their core funding [...] the responsible local authority, usually the authority where the child or young person lives, should provide additional top-up funding where the cost of the special educational provision required to meet the needs of an individual pupil exceeds the nationally prescribed threshold"

- 4.4 In addition to the Code of Practice, the DfE has also published operational guidance for the administration of LAs HNF budgets (the "Guidance"). The Guidance states that LAs should plan for HNF budget, gives advice on what can be provided, and information on which costs LAs are not expected to contribute to as part of any HNF allocation.
- 4.5 Under the Children and Families Act 2014 KCC has a duty to 'to support the child and his or her parent, or the young person, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help him or her achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes'.
- 4.6 The Schools Funding Forum generally have a consultative role whose composition, constitution and procedures of schools forums are set out in the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/2261) (as amended).

5. Equalities implications

- 5.1 This will be completed as part of determining the recommendations.

6. Data Protection Implications

- 6.1 There are no data protection implications

7. Other corporate implications

- 7.1 Further corporate implications will be considered as part of determining the final recommendations.

8. Governance

- 8.1 This report is intended to set out the current circumstances and areas of review that will be considered ahead of a decision by the Cabinet Member as part of the decision, which will have to be taken before the next Cabinet Committee on 17 March 2026.
- 8.2 As per normal arrangements, the Key Decision will confirm the strategic approvals and finance allocations, with authority delegated to the relevant Senior Officer to take the necessary actions to implement the decision.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 The Government is expected to announce measures in the Spring to reform the Special Education Needs (SEN) System that are intended to provide better outcomes for children with Special Educational Needs and financial

sustainability. In the meantime, local authorities are still expected to put in place plans to keep the SEN deficits as low as possible.

- 9.2 The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will be asked to make a decision, ahead of the next CYPE Cabinet Committee as to whether to apply a standard inflationary increase to SEN payment rates across state-funded schools, and payments to early years and post 16 providers, recognising the possible impact on price negotiations with other commissioned services i.e. independent schools.
- 9.3 This decision will need to balance the impact of inflationary increases on education providers and adding pressure to the High Needs Block which will increase the Council's SEN deficit. This is in the context of a lack of information on how a future funding system will work, and the recent funding announcement to suspend the current funding formula for the High Needs Grant and effectively freeze the 2026-27 grant allocation at 2025-26 levels.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** the update and that the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills will make a decision on the future payment rates for SEN services; and **AGREE that** this update report concludes the Cabinet Committee consideration process for the decision.

10. Background Documents

10.1 Background Key Decisions linked to this report:

- 24/00120 - Special Educational Needs Funding System. Available at: <https://democracy.kent.gov.uk:9071/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2945>

10.2 Safety Valve Agreement. Available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1143013/Kent_Safety_Valve_Agreement_2022_2023.pdf

10.3 Dedicated Schools Grant Terms & Conditions: Available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dedicated-schools-grant-dsg-2026-to-2027/dsg-conditions-of-grant-2026-to-2027>

10.4 Department of Education (DfE) High Needs Funding Guidance (latest published 17 December 2025 for 2026-27 financial year). Available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-needs-funding-arrangements-2026-to-2027/high-needs-funding-2026-to-2027-operational-guide>

10.5 *Children and Families Act 2014, c. 6. Enacted 13 March 2014. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents>*

10.6 *Education Act 1996, c. 56. Enacted 24 July 1996. Consolidated version in force as of 5 April 2025. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents>*

11. Appendices

11.1 None

12. Contact details

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Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee

2026/27 Work Programme

17 MARCH 2026		
• Verbal Updates by Cabinet Members	Standing Item	Beverley Fordham and Chris Palmer
• Performance Monitoring	Standing Item	Katherine Atkinson
School Expansions/Alterations:		
• Dartford Grammar School Expansion	Key Decision	Ian Watts and Mary Rigden
• Replacement of modular classrooms at Dover Grammar School for Girls	Key Decision	David Adams/Lee Round
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• Short Breaks Consultation Outcome	Key Decision	Christy Holden/Steve Lusk
• Young Carers	Key Decision	Christy Holden
• Specialist Resource Provision Agreements	Key Decision	Christy Holden/Sam Sheppard
• Admission Scheme and Amendments	Annual Key Decision	Craig Chapman
• Work Programme	Standing Item	Georgia Humphreys

12 MAY 2026		
• Verbal Updates by Cabinet Members	Standing Item	Beverley Fordham and Chris Palmer
• Performance Monitoring	Standing Item	Katherine Atkinson

School Expansions/Alterations:		
• Simon Langton Girls Grammar expansion	Key Decision	Rob Veale and Lorraine Medwin
• Swale Secondary expansions	Key Decision	Rob Veale and Lorraine Medwin
• Meadowfield 6th form expansion	Key Decision	Rob Veale and Lorraine Medwin
• Canterbury Rosewood expansion	Key Decision	Rob Veale and Lorraine Medwin
• Swale alternative provision	Key Decision	Rob Veale and Lorraine Medwin
• Families First	Key Decision	
• Work Programme	Standing Item	Georgia Humphreys

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:	DECISION NUMBER:
Beverley Fordham	25-00115
Cabinet Member for Education	

Executive Decision – key

25-00115 – Contractual Changes – The Education People

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I agree to:

- a) reduce the value of the core contract with The Education People by £1.633m during 2026/27 through the changes to the service areas set out in the decision report; and
- b) delegate authority to Interim Deputy Director Effectiveness, Sufficiency and Skills to take the necessary actions, including but not limited to, entering into and finalising the terms of relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary, to implement the above decision.

Reasons for decision:

KCC's contract with the Education People has been in place since 2018/19. It provides for delivery of a range of KCC's statutory functions, and to a much lesser extent, the provision of discretionary service.

The County Council needs to respond to a range of challenges – financial, legislative, policy based and quality related. It needs to ensure its resources are focused on delivering its statutory duties to suitable standard, and on meeting the changing policy objectives of both Government and the County Council.

The contract with TEP currently totals £9m. Changes are required to reduce the contract cost to match the funding envelope available.

Financial implications:

The contract value will reduce by £1.633m during 2026/27. The revised annual contract value will be £7.3m. There will be one-off implementation costs associated with KCC's contractual obligations.

Legal implications:

TEP is a wholly owned KCC trading company. The proposed contract changes are being developed and agreed jointly by the company and Education Service, the contract commissioner, in line with contract requirements. Any contract variation will be managed in line with the contractual requirements.

The proposals will not impact negatively on the Council's ability to deliver its statutory duties.

Equalities implications:

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed. As the proposals relate to commissioned services funded by the Children's, Young People and Education budget, these discharge the County Council's statutory responsibilities towards children, and thus affect this age group. However, the purpose of the changes are to ensure the available resources are used in a manner which best supports the outcomes for children and young people.

Data Protection implications:

A DPIA is not required. Any personal data required to implement the proposals can be anonymised.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

“The proposed decision will be considered by the Children’s Young People and Education Cabinet Committee 20 January 2026”.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

The option of not looking closely at the TEP contract for efficiencies and service deliver changes to secure a contribution to the savings needed by KCC was discarded. The services commissioned from it by KCC need to continue to evolve to meet the current demands and requirements of KCC.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

Signed

Date