

Elective Home Education 2020-2021

March 2022

Introduction

Elective Home Education (EHE) is the term used where parents or carers of a child decide to educate their child at home. It is the legal duty of all parents and carers to ensure that their child receives an efficient, full-time education, suitable to the age, ability and aptitude of the child and any special educational needs they may have. Whilst the majority of children and young people attend one of their local schools, for a number of different reasons, some parents choose to educate their children at home.

Local Authorities have a statutory duty, under section 436A of the Education Act 1996, to make arrangements to enable them to establish (so far as it is possible) the identities of children in their area who are not receiving a suitable education. Kent County Council is supportive of parents who opt to educate their child at home. The Elective Home Education Support and Advice Officers work with families to establish and maintain a positive dialogue in the interest of the child to ensure that a high quality education is received, and children and young people are safeguarded.

This report provides an overview of children and young people (CYP) who were educated at home between 3rd September 2020 and 31st August 2021.

Contents

Introduction	1
Summary.....	1
Data	2
Findings.....	3
Age and Gender.....	3
Districts and Wards	5
Deprivation	7
Ethnicity.....	8
Key Indicators	9
Children and Young People’s Services Support.....	9
Free School Meals (FSM).....	10
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	12
Attendance and Exclusions	14
Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	14
2019/20 Year 11 pupils.....	15
Schools.....	16
Reasons for Notification	18
Closed Notifications.....	19

Summary

EHE children and young people are more likely to receive support from KCC children's services teams as compared to the overall KCC pupil population and more likely to come from income deprived families. A large proportion of EHE CYP received SEN support or held an education, health and care plan (EHCP) to support any identified special educational needs or a disability whilst at school. A much higher proportion of those educated at home had an episode of being recorded as not being in education, employment, or training during the year after turning 16 years old when compared to the overall KCC pupil population, which increases a year later.

Compared to last year (2019-20) the number of children and young people recorded as EHE has increased, particularly for children aged 5 to 7 years old, however there have been changes in the profile of the CYP, which may be a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been a continuing shift in gender as the rate of new female notifications continue to increase. The rate of pupils supported by KCC children's Services teams have decreased and the county-wide increase in free school meal eligibility was not as prominent for the EHE CYP. The proportion of 16 years olds that remained educated at home increased, with fewer moving onto college or sixth form. There was an increase in closed notifications being referred to the Child Missing Education team.

Data

From the data provided there were 4,288¹ children and young people recorded as educated at home between 3rd September 2020 and 31st August 2021. Of these 1,938 (45.2%) were a new EHE notification opened during this period.

Kent Analytics have created an integrated dataset of all children and young people educated in Kent (state schools only) in the academic years R to 14. The dataset provides a holistic view of KCC pupil population and the issues affecting them². The EHE CYP have been matched to the integrated children and young person's dataset for both 2019-20 and 2020-21. Of the 4,288 EHE children and young people, 4,100 were matched to one or both datasets, which is 95.6% of the EHE children and young people. Matching to the datasets enables the analysis of additional information collected about the EHE children and young people while they were at school.

Where there is a comparison to the KCC pupil population, only the EHE children and young people in the academic year groups R-11 are analysed.

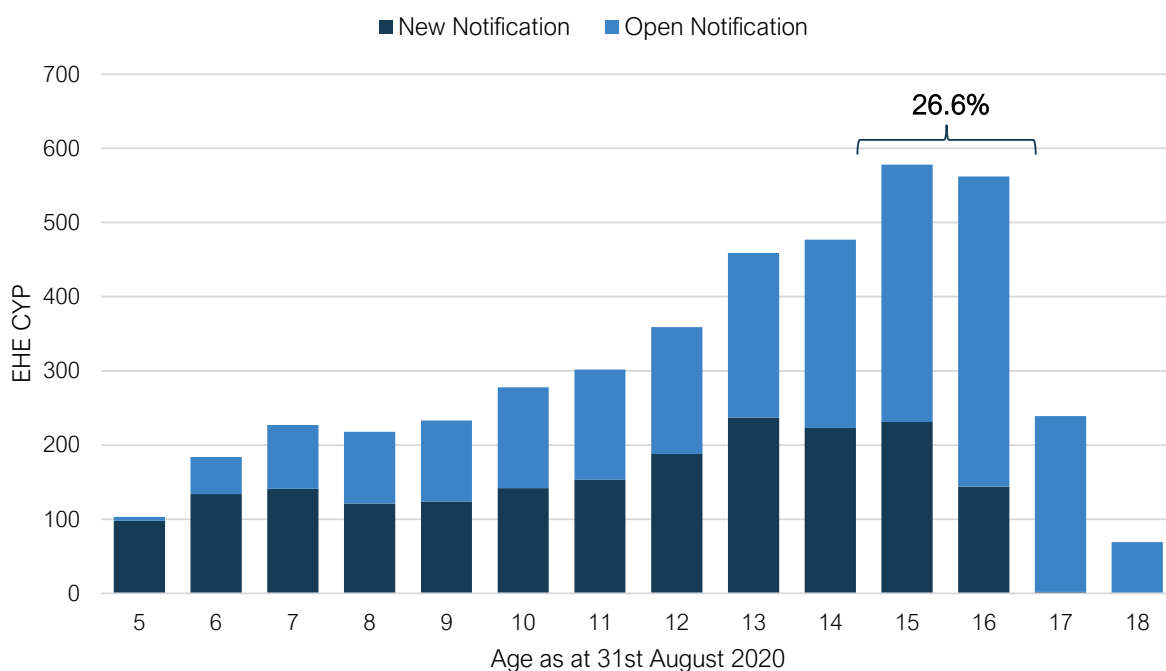
¹ Please note these figures may not reflect other published figures due to the difference in analysis methods.

² Taking a snapshot at the end of January of all pupils on the Kent School census, including those recorded as EHE and child missing education (CME), as the base data, information relating to additional services provided by KCC and school outcomes are added to the dataset.

Findings

Age and Gender

Chart 1: New notifications and open notifications by age: Over a quarter of the children and young people educated at home were aged between 15 and 16 years old (age at the end of the academic year 2020-21).

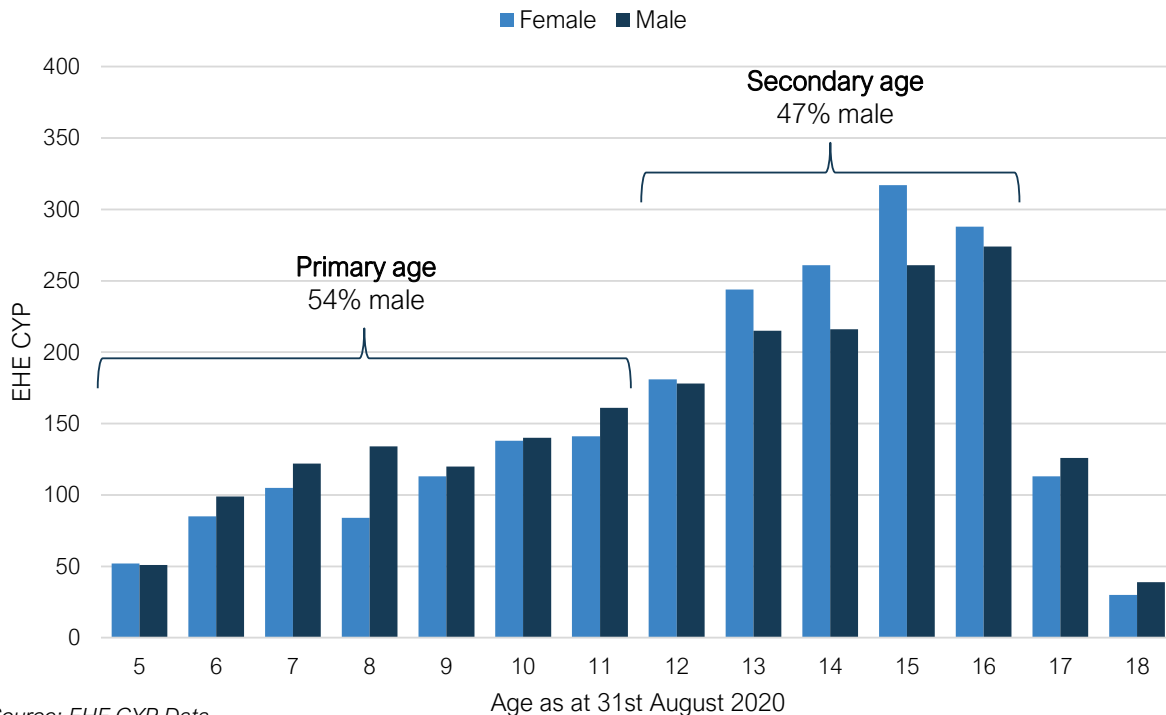


Source: All EHE CYP aged between 5 and 18 as at the 31st August 2021 (the end of the academic year 2020-21) using date of birth (1,938 new notifications and 2,350 open notifications).

Chart 1 shows the age of children and young people who were educated at home between September 2020 and August 2021, broken down by new and open notifications. It shows that there are more CYP educated at home with increasing age, peaking at 15 and 16 year olds (academic year group 10 and 11). Over a quarter (26.6%) of CYP educated at home were aged between 15 and 16 year olds.

Compared to last year's report (2019-20), the total number of CYP recorded as EHE has increased by 13.1%. The largest increase was seen in young people aged 5 to 7 year olds, combined the number educated from home increased by 59.6%, from 322 in 2019/20 to 514 in 2020/21.

Chart 2: EHE CYP by gender and age: There is no difference in gender when looking at all the children and young people educated at home, however there are proportionally more primary age males educated at home.



Source: EHE CYP Data

There was no difference in the number of males vs. females educated at home when looking at all EHE CYP. However, Chart 2 shows that proportionally more primary age pupils educated at home were male (54%) and proportionally fewer secondary age pupils (47%). Looking at each individual age group, there were more males aged 6 to 8 year olds and 11 year olds and more females educated at home than males aged 13 to 15 year olds.

Looking at new notifications only, proportionally there were fewer new EHE notifications from males, 47.4% of new notifications were male compared to 49.8% of all CYP educated at home. The highest number of new notifications were opened for 13 and 14 year olds, and proportionally more were females (61.1%).

As highlighted in last year's report, the gender gap is continuing to change for new children educated at home. Of the new primary CYP educated at home, the percentage of males **fell from 56% in 2019/20 to 52% in 2020/21** and the percentage of secondary age males educated at home **fell from 48% 2019/20 to 43% in 2020/21**.

Districts and Wards

Table 1: There are proportionally more EHE notifications for children and young people living in East Kent, in particular from the more deprived districts Swale and Thanet.

Area	District	IMD 2019 National Rank	All EHE CYP	Year R- 11 EHE CYP	Year R- 11 EHE %	Year R- 11 KCC Pupils % ³
West	Dartford	154	282	265	6.7%	7.9%
	Gravesham	123	200	181	4.5%	7.4%
	Maidstone	185	508	459	11.5%	10.9%
	Sevenoaks	251	265	243	6.1%	6.7%
	Tonbridge & Malling	234	282	264	6.6%	8.3%
	Tunbridge Wells	274	266	251	6.3%	6.7%
West Total			1,803	1,663	41.8%	47.9%
East	Ashford	158	415	369	9.3%	8.6%
	Canterbury	179	367	341	8.6%	8.1%
	Dover	113	285	265	6.7%	6.8%
	Folkestone & Hythe	90	310	295	7.4%	6.3%
	Swale	56	514	480	12.1%	9.8%
	Thanet	30	418	393	9.9%	8.6%
East Total			2,309	2,143	53.8%	48.4%
Unknown/outside Kent			176	175	4.4%	3.8%
Grand Total			4,288	3,981		

Source: English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 (IMD2019). Nationally, the local authority district with a rank of 1 is the most deprived, and the area ranked 317 is the least deprived. EHE CYPE Data, matched using home postcode.

Table 1 shows a breakdown of the EHE children and young people by the district they live in, compared to the overall KCC pupil population. It shows a difference in the proportion of children and young people educated at home in East Kent compared to the percentage of KCC pupils living in East Kent, 53.8% compared to 48.6% respectively. The percentage of EHE CYP living in East Kent has increased from 52.9% reported in 2019/20.

Looking at the three most deprived districts in Kent, Thanet, Folkestone & Hythe and Swale, combined account for 29.3% of all EHE children and young people. In comparison, these three districts combined only account for a quarter of the total KCC pupil population

³ Source: KCC school pupils (including EHE and CME) as at January 2021, Integrated Children and Young People's Dataset 2020-21

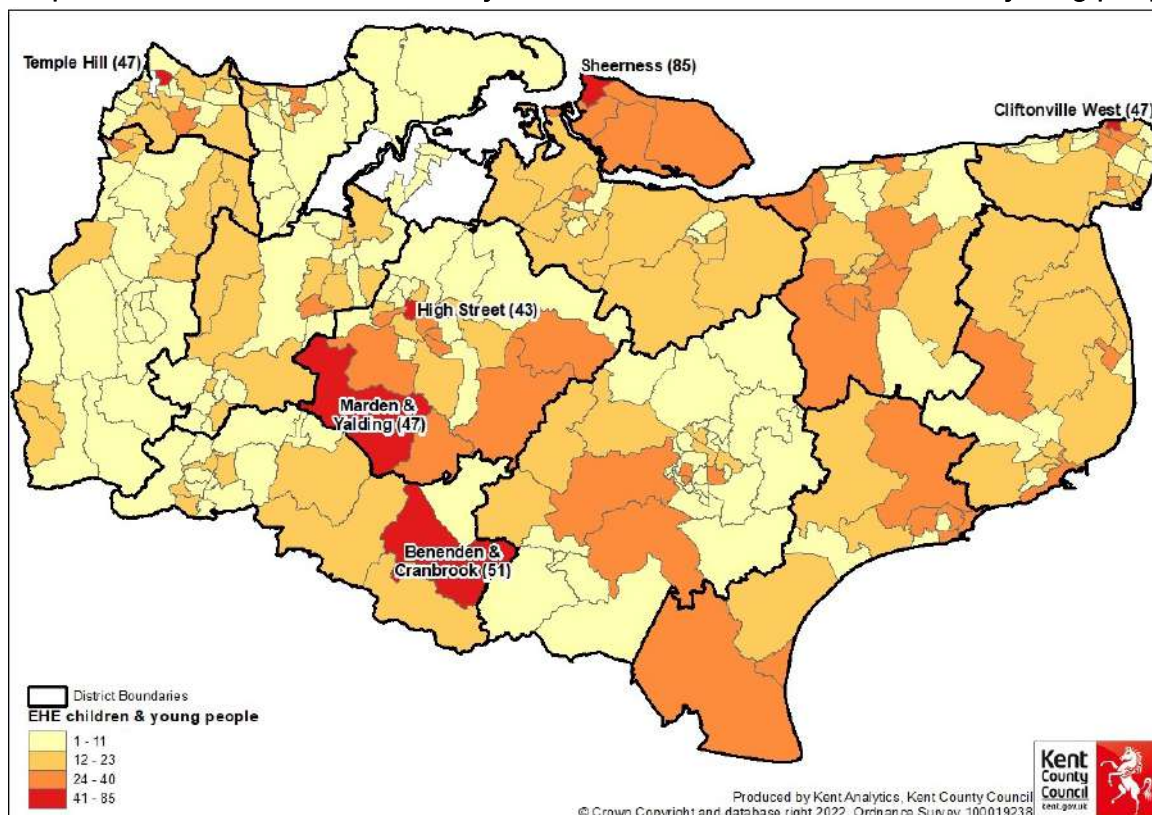
(24.8%). A statistical test was conducted, and there are significantly more than expected children and young people being educated at home in these three districts.

Map 1 below shows the total number of children and young people educated at home living in Kent by ward. It highlights six wards with the highest number of EHE children and young people:

- Sheerness in Swale (85)
- Benenden & Cranbrook in Tunbridge Wells (51)
- Marden & Yalding in Maidstone (47)
- Cliftonville West in Thanet (47)
- Temple Hill in Dartford (47)
- High Street Ward in Maidstone (43)

Compared to last year's report Sheerness, Cliftonville West and High Street remain in the top six wards, yet their number of EHE CYP have decreased slightly. Shepway North in Maidstone is no longer listed as having more than 40 EHE CYP.

Map 1: Six wards across the county had more than 40 EHE children and young people.



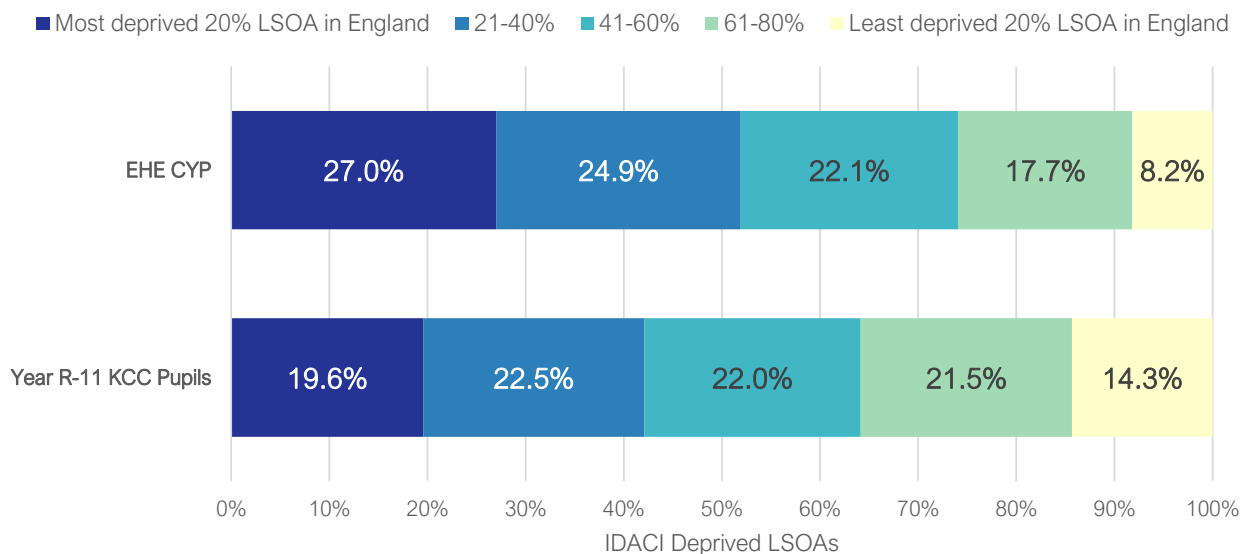
Source: All EHE children and young people between Sep 20 to Aug 21, matched using postcode (4,125).

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of relative deprivation in England and is part of a suite of outputs that form the English Indices of Deprivation (IoD). There are seven domains of deprivation, which combine to create the IMD. These domains are Income, Employment, Education, Health, Crime, Barriers to Housing & Services and Living Environment.

The following analysis looks at the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) domain, which measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. Each Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) in England is ranked from the most to least deprived.

Chart 3: EHE CYP and KCC pupils by IDACI: More EHE CYP are from income deprived families when compared to the KCC pupil population.



Of the 4,100 EHE CYP it was possible to identify the residential LSOA for 4,029 EHE CYP. Chart 3 shows proportionally more children and young people that were educated at home live in the most deprived LSOAs in England, as 27% of EHE CYP live in the 20% most deprived areas in England, compared to only 19.6% of all KCC pupils. Whereas only 8.2% EHE CYP live the least 20% deprived LSOAs compared to 14.3% of all KCC pupils.

There is no difference when looking at the new notifications only.

Ethnicity

Table 2: There are proportionally more Gypsy/Roma and Traveller of Irish Heritage children and young people educated at home when compared to the pupil population.

Ethnicity	All EHE CYP	Year R-11 EHE CYP	Year R-11 EHE %	Year R-11 KCC Pupils %
White – British	2,879	2638	66.3%	76.0%
Gypsy / Roma	359	331	8.3%	1.1%
Other White Background	153	150	3.8%	6.2%
Other Mixed Background	81	80	2.0%	2.5%
Traveller of Irish Heritage	75	72	1.8%	0.1%
White & Black Caribbean	43	42	1.1%	1.0%
White & Black African	28	27	0.7%	0.9%
Black – African	28	27	0.7%	2.8%
Black Caribbean	27	24	0.6%	0.3%
White & Asian	25	23	0.6%	1.5%
Indian	15	15	0.4%	2.0%
Other Ethnic Group	15	14	0.4%	1.5%
White – Irish	11	11	0.3%	0.2%
Chinese	8	8	0.2%	0.3%
Other Black Background	6	6	0.2%	0.2%
Other Asian Background	5	5	0.1%	1.3%
Pakistani	5	5	0.1%	0.4%
Not yet obtained	484	464	11.7%	1.0%
Refused	15	15	0.4%	0.7%
Sub Total	4,262	3,957		
Unknown/Not yet obtained	26	24	0.6%	0.01%
Total	4,288	3,981		

Source: EHE CYP data and Integrated Children and Young People's dataset 2019-20 & 2020-21, matched EHE CYP.

Using information from the EHE CYP source data and the Integrated Children and Young People's datasets, it was possible to obtain the ethnicity for 88% of the EHE CYP. Table 2 shows that the highest proportion of EHE CYP are White British (66.3%), which is lower than the overall KCC pupil population (76%).

There are a higher percentage of Gypsy/Roma EHE children and young people when compared to the percentage of the Kent pupil population; 8.3% compared to 1.1% respectively. There is also a higher percentage of Traveller of Irish Heritage, 1.8% of CYP educated at home compared to 0.1% of the KCC pupil population.

Key Indicators

The analysis in this section of the report is of the 4,100 children and young people educated at home that were matched to either or both Integrated Children and Young People's datasets for 2019-20 and 2020-21. The matched data provides additional information collected about the EHE children and young people.

Matching was based on a combination of the UPN, name, date of birth and postcode. Of these, 237 were matched to the 2019-20 dataset only, 319 to the 2020-21 dataset only and 3,545 were matched to both datasets, which provides two years of education and CYP support services information.

Children and Young People's Services Support

Table 3: When compared to the KCC pupil population a much higher proportion of EHE children and young people were known to other KCC services.

Service (September 2020 to August 2021)	ALL Matched EHE CYP	Year R-11 Matched EHE CYP %	Year R-11 KCC Pupils %
Early Help Support ⁴	12.1%	12.4%	6.5%
CSWS Support ⁵	8.3%	8.3%	4.4%
Children in Need ⁶	2.0%	2.1%	1.5%
Child Protection Plan ⁷	1.0%	1.0%	0.6%
Known to Youth Offending Team ⁸	1.0%	0.9%	0.3%
Total	3,863	3,656	

Using the 2020-21 Integrated Children and Young People's dataset, Table 3 provides a breakdown of the 3,863 children and young people that were educated at home, and matched to the dataset, who were known to other KCC children's services during the period September 2020 to August 2021.

⁴ Request for support proceeding to Early Help between September 2020 and August 2021.

⁵ Request for support proceeding to Children's Social Work Services (CSWS) between September 2020 and August 2021.

⁶ Children and young people who were a child in need between September 2020 and August 2021 (and they did not have a children protection plan or was a child in care).

⁷ Children and young people who had a child protection plan between September 2020 and August 2021 (and they were not a child in care).

⁸ Children and young people who were known to the youth offending team (YOT) between September 2020 and August 2021. Those with a substantive outcome and those that worked with other organisations of interest i.e. police, probation, community safety.

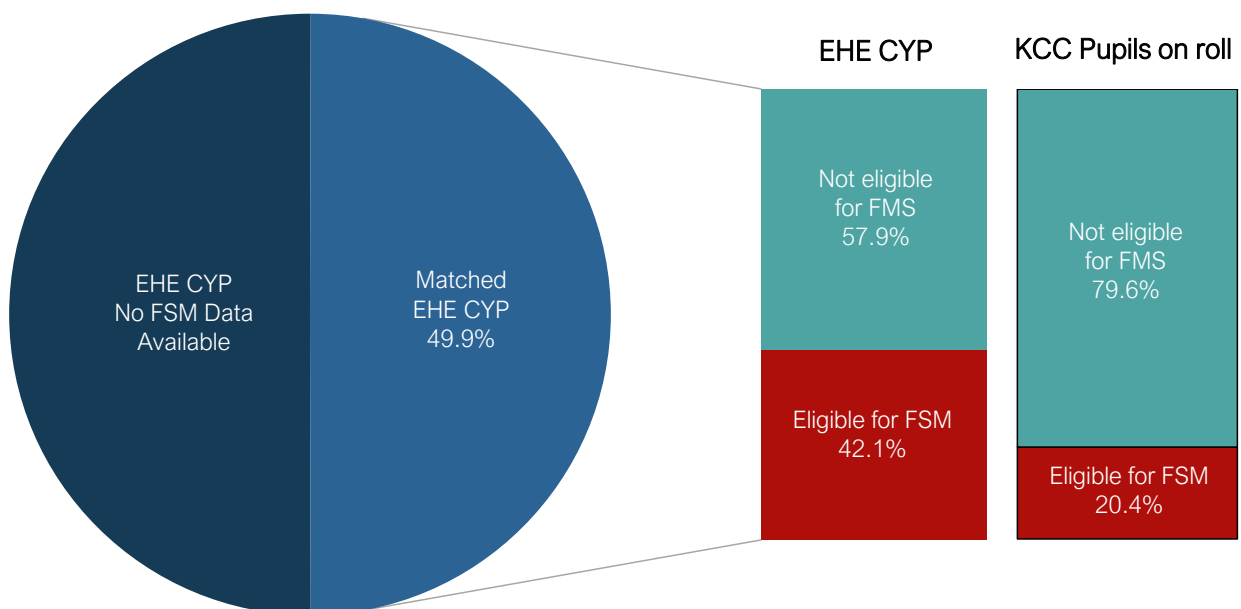
Table 3 shows, compared to KCC pupils for the same period, a higher proportion of EHE children and young people were supported by other children’s services teams. Over 12% requested support which proceeded to Early Help between September 2020 to August 2021, compared to only 6.5% of KCC pupils, whereas 8.3% had support from Children’s Social Work Services (CSWS) during this period, compared to only 4.4% of KCC pupils.

Compared to last year’s report, the proportion of EHE CYP supported by other children’s services team has decreased. In particular, the percentage that requested support which proceeded to Early Help fell from 15.2% in 2019/20 to 12.4% in 2020/21.

Looking at new notifications only, there was also a decrease in the proportion of EHE CYP supported by other children’s services. The proportion of EHE children and young people that requested support which proceeded to Early Help **fell from 22.5% in 2019/20 to 14.4% in 2020/21**. Whereas the proportion that had support from CSWS **fell from 13.2% in 2019/20 to 9.9% in 2020/21**.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Chart 4: A high proportion of children and young people who were educated at home were eligible for free school meals whilst at school.



Source: Integrated Children and Young People’s dataset 2019/20 & 2020/21, matched EHE CYP (recorded as on roll only). KCC pupils on roll as at January 2021 only. This indicator does not include universal free school meals for all children in year 2 or below.

Using information from the Integrated Children and Young People’s datasets it was possible to obtain the free school meal eligibility for 2,047 (49.9%) EHE CYP that matched to the

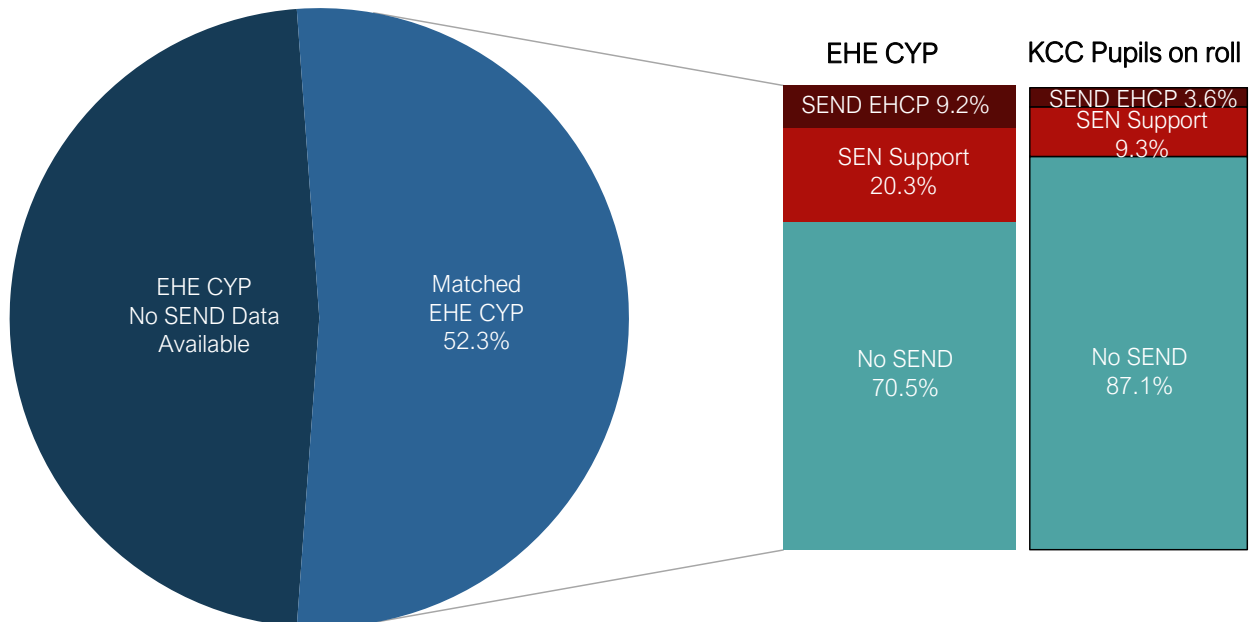
datasets. Chart 4 shows that of these children and young people over 42% were eligible for free school meals whilst at school, which is much higher than the 20.4% of KCC pupils on roll that were eligible for free school meals.

Compared to last year, the overall rate of all KCC pupils eligible for free school meals increased from 160 per 1,000 pupils to 204 per 1,000 pupils, which is an increase of around 28%. When comparing the EHE CYP eligible for FMS, the rate per 1,000 pupils increased by only 15%. Whilst there are proportionally more EHE CYP eligible for free school meals, when compared to all KCC pupils, the county-wide increase in eligibility was not reflected as greatly in the EHE cohort.

Looking at new notifications only, whilst there was an increase in the proportion of children and young people that were eligible for free school meals compared to last year, the increase in the rate was only 13%. This is lower than the increase in rate of all EHE CYP eligible for free school meals, which went up by 15% and much lower than the 28% increase in all KCC pupils eligible for free school meals.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Chart 5: Just under a third of matched EHE children and young people received SEN support or had an EHC whilst at school.



Source: Integrated Children and Young People's dataset 2019/20 & 2020/21, matched EHE CYP (recorded as on roll only). KCC pupils on roll as at January 2021 only.

Using information from the Integrated Children and Young People's datasets it was possible to obtain the SEN provision for 2,145 (52.3%) EHE CYP that matched to the datasets. Chart 5 shows that 20.3% of the EHE children and young people received SEN support when they were at school between September 2019 to August 2021, which is much higher than the 9.3% of KCC pupils that were receiving SEN support in January 2021. Similarly, 9.2% of EHE CYP had an EHCP, nearly three times higher than the 3.6% of the KCC pupils in January 2021.

Compared to last year, there is statistically no significant difference in the rate of EHE CYP with special educational needs and disabilities, this is also the case when looking at the new notifications.

Table 4: The main reason for SEN support for EHE children and young people is social, emotional and mental health needs.

SEN Support – Primary Need	EHE CYP	EHE CYP %	Year R-11 KCC Pupils %
Social, emotional & mental health	122	28.0%	22.5%
Speech, language & communication needs	79	18.2%	26.3%
Moderate learning difficulty	66	15.2%	14.3%
Specific learning difficulty	56	12.9%	14.4%
Autistic spectrum disorder	46	10.6%	10.0%
Other difficulty/disability	29	6.7%	5.0%
SEN support – no specialist assessment	18	4.1%	2.8%
Physical disability	10	2.3%	2.4%
Visual impairment	5	1.1%	0.7%
Other	4	0.9%	6.6%
Total	435		

Source: Integrated Children and Young People's dataset 2019/20 & 2020/21, matched EHE.

Table 4 provides a breakdown of the 435 EHE children and young people that had SEN support whilst in school between September 2019 to August 2021, by their primary need. Social, emotional & mental health needs (SEMH) was the most common reason for SEN support, accounting for 28% of the EHE children and young people that received support. In comparison, this is higher than the proportion of all KCC pupils that received SEN support for SEMH (22.5%).

Speech, language & communication needs (SLCN) was the most common reason for all KCC pupils with SEN support, accounting for 26.3%, whereas only 18.2% of the EHE children and young people had SEN support for SLCN.

Of the 197 children and young people with an EHCP who were educated at home, **49.2% had the primary need of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)**, which higher than the 41.6% of all KCC pupils with an EHCP for ASD.

Attendance and Exclusions

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the closure of schools from the 23rd March to 1st September 2020 and from 1st January to 8th March 2021 there was an impact on the attendance data available. The data that was collected is anomalous due to the isolation rules and higher sickness levels. However, whilst there was no exclusion data for the academic year 2019/20, it was collected for 2020/21.

Out of the 3,656 EHE children and young people matched to the 2020-21 integrated dataset, school exclusion data was available for 1,570 of these children and young people. Of these, 4.9% were excluded from school between September 2020 to July 2021, which is more than double the 2.0% exclusion rate reported for all year R-11 KCC pupils (on roll).

Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Young people have a statutory duty to participate in learning or training until their 18th birthday. To better understand if young people educated at home are continuing to learn at the age of 16 years old, 549 EHE young people were identified to be in Year 11 in 2020/21, of which all were matched against NEET information up to January 2022.

Table 5: Just over 20% of the Year 11 EHE young people had a NEET episode after September 2021.

Current Destination (January 2022)	EHE CYP	%
Currently NEET	53	9.7%
NEET episode but no longer NEET	65	11.8%
Apprenticeship / Training	30	46.2%
Employment	14	21.5%
Remained EHE	13	20.0%
College / Sixth Form	8	12.3%
Not Recorded as NEET	431	78.5%
Remained EHE	163	37.8%
College / Sixth Form	145	33.6%
Employment	31	7.2%
Apprenticeship / Training	29	6.7%
Other	63	14.6%
Total	549	

Source: IYSS September 2021 to January 2022.

The January 2022 KCC NEET report recorded **2.1% of the year 12 KCC pupil population** as NEET and 2.8% of the combined year 12 and 13 KCC pupil population.

Proportionally more EHE young people become NEET when compared to the KCC pupil population. Table 5 shows 11.8% of educated at home young people had a NEET episode but were no longer NEET and 9.7% were recorded currently as NEET. Overall, 21.5% of Year 11 EHE young people had a NEET episode after September 2021, a slight increase from 19.8% recorded the previous year.

Table 5 also shows a breakdown of the 431 young people (in year 11) who were educated at home during September 2020 to August 2021 and were not recorded as NEET after September 2021. Just over a third (37.8%) remained educated at home and a third (33.6%) went onto college or sixth form.

Of the 65 who had a NEET episode but are no longer a NEET, just under a half (46.2%) went onto an apprenticeship or training.

Compared to last year, there has been a shift between remaining educated at home and going onto college or sixth form. Only 23.5% remained educated at home last year and over a half (56.6%) went onto college or sixth form, compared to 37.8% and 33.6% recorded this year, respectively.

2019/20 Year 11 pupils

In last year's report there were 525 EHE young people in year 11 with NEET information as at March 2021. The following table provides a comparison of their destination one year later.

Table 6: A third of the 2020 year 11 EHE young people had an episode of NEET in the last 14 months.

Destination	2019/20	2019/20 %	2020/21	2020/21 %
NEET	62	11.8%	78	14.9%
Previously NEET	42	8.0%	95	18.1%
Not recorded as NEET	421	80.2%	352	67.0%
Total	525		525	

Table 6 shows that in the 2019/20 report, 19.9% of the year 11 EHE young people had a NEET episode, however one year later this increased to a third of all the year 11 EHE young people.

Of the 62 that were NEET in 2021, 32 (51.6%) were still recorded as NEET 12 months later. Whereas out the 463 EHE that were not NEET at the time of reporting in 2021, 46 were NEET 12 months later (9.9%).

In comparison the January 2022 NEET report recorded 3.6% of the year 13 KCC pupil population as NEET.

Schools

Of the 4,288 EHE children and young people, it was possible to identify the most recently attended KCC school for 2,047 children and young people using the January 2020 and 2021 school census. The following tables list the ten secondary schools with the highest number of pupils and the highest proportion of pupils (based on the school 2021 population including year 12 and 13) and the primary schools with the highest number of pupils that had an EHE notification opened. The schools highlighted appear in both tables.

Table 7: Top 10 Secondary schools with EHE children and young people: highest number.

Secondary School	District	EHE CYP	Total Pupils (2021)	Rate
Sandwich Technology School	Dover	39	1,420	2.7%
Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey	Swale	37	1,429	2.6%
Folkestone Academy	Folkestone & Hythe	34	1,207	2.8%
Cornwallis Academy	Maidstone	30	1,287	2.3%
The Sittingbourne School	Swale	29	1,510	1.9%
The Abbey School	Swale	26	1,157	2.2%
New Line Learning Academy	Maidstone	26	614	4.2%
Westlands School	Swale	25	1,728	1.4%
The Marsh Academy	Folkestone & Hythe	24	1,051	2.3%
The Skinners Kent Academy	Tunbridge Wells	24	1,099	2.2%

Table 8: Top 10 Secondary schools with EHE children and young people: highest percentage of 2021 pupil population.

Secondary School	District	EHE CYP	Total Pupils (2021)	Rate
The High Weald Academy	Tunbridge Wells	22	257	8.6%
New Line Learning Academy	Maidstone	26	614	4.2%
The Lenham School	Maidstone	23	657	3.5%
Hadlow Rural Community School	Tonbridge & Malling	13	381	3.4%
Folkestone Academy	Folkestone & Hythe	34	1,207	2.8%
Sandwich Technology School	Dover	39	1,420	2.7%
Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey	Swale	37	1,429	2.6%
Aylesford School	Tonbridge & Malling	19	749	2.5%
Spires Academy	Canterbury	17	682	2.5%
Goodwin Academy	Dover	19	806	2.4%

Table 9: Top 8 Primary schools with EHE children and young people: highest number.

Primary School	District	EHE CYP	Total Pupils (2021)	Rate
Greenlands Primary School	Dartford	19	165	11.5%
Drapers Mills Primary Academy	Thanet	11	370	3.0%
Paddock Wood Primary Academy	Tunbridge Wells	10	606	1.7%
Cliftonville Primary School	Thanet	10	784	1.3%
Halstead Community Primary School	Sevenoaks	9	71	12.7%
Cranbrook CEP School	Tunbridge Wells	9	186	4.8%
Edenbridge Primary School	Sevenoaks	9	345	2.6%
New Ash Green Primary School	Sevenoaks	9	410	2.2%

Please note primary schools have not been ordered by proportions due to low pupil numbers.

Reasons for Notification

Table 10: Over a third of the new notifications (between September 2020 to August 2021) were for health and emotional health reasons.

Notification Reason	New Notification EHE CYP	New Notifications %	Other Cases EHE CYP	Other Cases %
Health / emotional health	695	35.9%	473	20.1%
Parents did not provide reason	680	35.1%	752	32.0%
Dissatisfaction:	245	12.6%	468	19.9%
<i>Bullying</i>	70	28.6%	137	29.3%
<i>School</i>	143	58.4%	214	46.4%
<i>SEN</i>	32	13.1%	114	24.4%
Religious, philosophical & cultural beliefs	162	8.4%	568	24.2%
Difficult access to school place	94	4.9%	39	1.7%
Means of avoiding legal action	25	1.3%	15	0.6%
Child missing education	15	0.8%	4	0.2%
Means of avoiding school exclusion	13	0.7%	14	0.6%
Did not get school preference	9	0.5%	5	0.2%
Other			12	0.5%
Total	1,938		2,350	

Table 10 shows the notification reason for 4,288 EHE children and young people, broken down by those that had a new notification between September 2020 to August 2021 and those that had an open case during the same period, but was opened before September 2020 (other cases).

Looking at the new notifications only, over a third (35.9%) were for health and emotional health reasons and 12.6% were for dissatisfaction, of which over a half of these were because of general dissatisfaction with the school.

In comparison, the main reason for cases opened before September 2021 was for religious, philosophical & cultural beliefs, accounting for a quarter (24.2%), followed by 20.1% for health and emotional health reasons.

Compared to last year a much higher proportion of new notifications had a reason recorded, as the rate has decreased from 53.5% to 35.1%.

Closed Notifications

Of the 4,288 notifications that were open between September 2020 and August 2021, 1,171 were closed during that period, which is 27.3%.

Table 11: Over 40% of the children and young people that were closed to EHE went back to mainstream school.

Notification Outcome	EHE CYP	%
Attending mainstream school	481	41.1%
Referred to CME	275	23.5%
Moved out of the area	155	13.2%
Year 12/13 leaver	59	5.0%
Attending further education	51	4.4%
NEET	28	2.4%
Attending special school	27	2.3%
In employment	21	1.8%
Attending alternative curriculum	15	1.3%
Apprenticeship	11	0.9%
Inappropriate notification	10	0.9%
In employment with training	8	0.7%
Other	12	1.3%
Unknown	18	1.5%
Total	1,171	

Table 11 shows the outcome of the closed cases. 52.4% were closed as they went onto attend a place of education, training, or employment with the majority attending mainstream school, whereas 23.5% were referred to the children missing education (CME) team.

Compared to last year there has been shift in the outcomes of closed cases. For closed cases between September 2020 to August 2021, 52.5% went onto a placed of education, training, or employment, which is lower than 63.2% report in September 2020 to August 2021. Whereas the percentage referred to CME has increased from 17.9% in September 2019 to August 2020 to 23.5% for the same period 2020/21.

Chart 6: Length of time EHE cases were open for: Just under a third of EHE notifications that were closed were open for less than 14 school weeks.

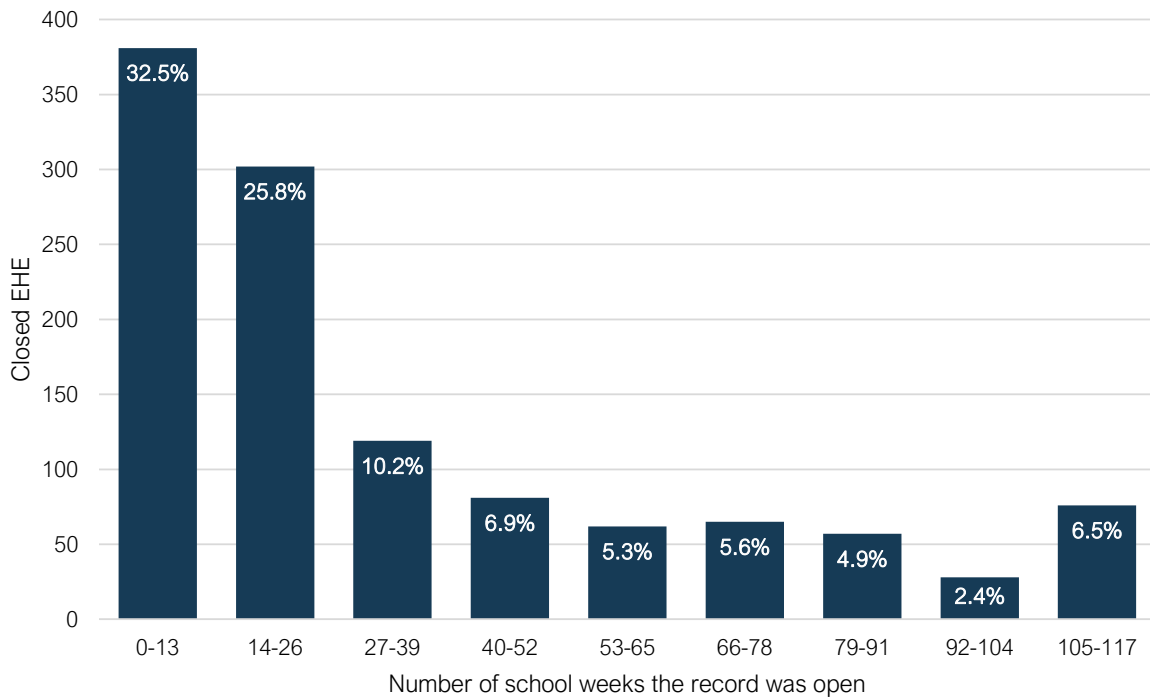


Chart 6 shows a third of the records were closed within 13 weeks, equivalent to one term, and a quarter were closed between 14 and 26 school weeks. This is not dis-similar to the rates recorded in last year's report.

Further Information

Kent Analytics
Kent County Council
Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Email:

SCAnalytics@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 417444

Report writer

Charlotte Prior, Analyst Manager - Projects