

Special Educational Needs & Disability  
(SEND) School Place Commissioning  
Strategy  
2019 / 2020

## Contact us



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## 1. Introduction

This is the Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) School Place Commissioning Strategy for Solihull Council which seeks to set a baseline for specialist provision across Solihull and consider a range of factors that are driving the need for change over the short to medium term. This strategy provides information regarding the current and future SEND pupil population and draws conclusions regarding the potential need to add or make changes to specialist provision.

The aim of this strategy is to help the Council, schools, parents and the wider community understand the need for specialist provision planning and to establish future demand. It will provide a basis against which future specialist provision will be planned.

The data within this strategy is based on a range of sources including SEN2 and the January pupil census. Where possible it is based on January 2019 data. Data sources used are indicated throughout the document.

### 1.1 National and Local Policy Context

The Government's vision for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities is the same as for all children and young people - that they achieve well, and lead happy and fulfilled lives. The Children and Families Act 2014 places important statutory responsibilities on local authorities for supporting children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities. This is a vital role that local authorities retain in an increasingly school-led education system and one that requires long-term strategic planning, informed by detailed local knowledge enhanced through consultation with parents and carers, and good relationships with local schools.

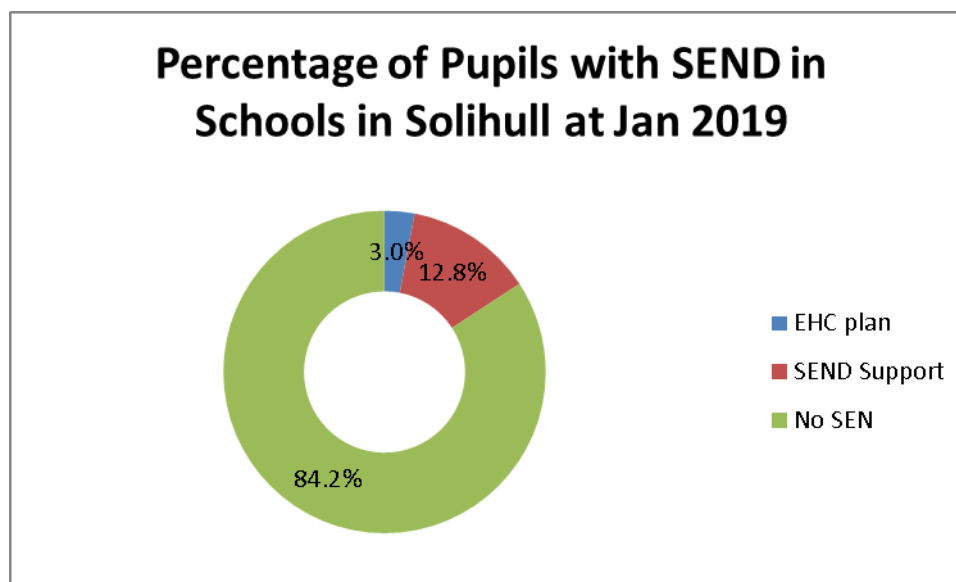
Local authorities must ensure there are sufficient good school places for all pupils, including those with SEN and disabilities. Through long-term strategic planning, Council's are seeking to reconfigure specialist places to ensure that they can meet need whilst containing spending within the constraints of the High Needs budget.

The Special Educational Needs & Disability Provision Commissioning Strategy is part of a wider framework of policy documents that support the Council Plan 2018 to 2020 which sets out the 5 Council priorities.

- Securing inclusive economic growth
- Planning and delivery for Solihull's low carbon future
- Managing demand and expectation for public services
- Developing and delivering our approach to services for adults and children with complex needs
- Making the best use of our people and physical assets.

## 2. Current Demographic Data and Trends

Numbers of Pupils with Special Educational Needs in Schools in Solihull (Source Statistical First Release January 2019 SF37/2019,



At January 2019, 6,611 pupils (15.8%) of pupils being educated in schools in Solihull had a Special Educational Need. Of these 1,243 (3.0%) had an EHCP, slightly lower than both the regional and national average of 3.1%.

5,368 pupils (12.8%) are on SEN support compared with 11.9% nationally and 12.6% regionally. The Solihull figure is up by 2.6% on January 2018.

These numbers encompass all pupils with SEND on roll at schools located in Solihull including independent schools and pupils that live outside of Solihull that attend Solihull schools. However, they do not include Solihull pupils placed in schools and provision outside of Solihull.

### 2.1 Education, Health & Care Plans for Solihull Resident Children (source SEN 2 return 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019)

At January 2019, Solihull maintained a total of 1,461 EHC Plans for Solihull resident pupils. This represents an overall net increase of just 17 (1%) since January 2018. A summary of the SEN 2 data for the period is attached at Appendix A.

Although there has been only a small net increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP in the last year, the data is showing some significant differences between age groups. There has been marked growth in the number of children under the age of 5 that have an EHCP, an increase of 17 (68%). There has also been growth in the pupils of statutory school age with a 5% growth in the number of Solihull pupils aged 5 to 10 years with an EHCP and 4% for those aged between 11 and 15.

This has been offset by a decrease in numbers at post 16 and further education students with an EHCP, where the data is showing a reduction of 50 pupils across these two phases over the last 12 months.

In addition to the Solihull pupils with an EHCP, 238 pupils that live outside of Solihull and have an EHCP, are being educated in Solihull maintained schools and academies.

## 2.2 Current Specialist SEND Provision located in Solihull

Specialist SEND Provision located in Solihull is comprised of 6 special schools, 1 of which is an Academy and 1 is an independent special school.

In addition there are 8 additionally resourced provisions (ARP) located within mainstream schools. The ARPs are designed to provide specialist and targeted teaching and support for children with a particular area of need and is an integral part of the mainstream school.

### Maintained Special School and Academy Information

School	Need	Age Range	NOR Jan 2019	Commissioned Places			Capacity based on workspace analysis
				Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	
Forest Oak	MLD	4 – 19	175	165	179	185	178*
Hazel Oak	MLD	4 – 19	152	163	158	152	132*
Northern House	SEMH	4 – 16	83	87	82	92	124
Merstone	SLD	2 – 19	108.2	102.2	102.2	112.2	74
Reynalds Cross	SLD	2 – 19	118.8	106	117.2	121.2	102*
		Total	647	623.2	638.4	662.4	610

\*excludes the Green Lane Nursery accommodation and accommodation now being used for post-16 provision at Solihull College.

The number of commissioned places in our special schools is increasing year on year to try and meet the growing demand for specialist provision. Appendix B provides a summary of the commissioned places and the cost between 2015 and 2019.

24 part-time (equivalent to 14.4 full-time) early years places have been created at Merstone and Reynolds Cross Schools. However, it is clear from the capacity calculation that the increasing demand for places at our SLD special schools, in particular, is exceeding the accommodation capacity available. The additional accommodation being used at Solihull College for our post-16 students from Forest Oak and Hazel Oak Schools will go some way to mitigating this issue across our MLD designated schools.

It should be noted that 105 (17%) of the pupils on roll at the special schools in January 2019 live outside of Solihull (based on Jan 2019 pupil census). The costs of these placements are recouped from the relevant neighbouring authorities. Every endeavour should be made to maximise the use of provision in Solihull for Solihull families.

### Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP)

School	Need	Age Range	NOR Jan 2019	Commissioned Places Sept 2017	Commissioned Places Sept 2018	Commissioned Places Sept 2019
Alderbrook*	Speech & Language/Moderate Learning Difficulties	11 - 16	15	29	22	16
Alderbrook	Autism	11 - 16	17	11	18	24
Dickens Heath Primary	Autism	4 - 11	6	0	14	14
Langley Secondary	Physical Difficulties	11 - 16	17	22	22	22
Langley Secondary	Specific Learning Difficulties	11 - 16	29	27	27	27
Bishop Wilson	Speech Language & Communication Needs	4 - 11	8	6	6	6
Valley Primary	Speech Language & Communication Needs	4 - 11	16	16	16	16
Windy Arbor Primary	Autism	4 - 11	6	0	14	14
Yew Tree	Social Emotional Mental Health	4 - 11	8	8	8	8
*reducing in size as Autism ARP expands	Total		122	119	147	147

Between September 2017 and September 2018, 28 (23%) additional places were commissioned in ARPs. This is due to the opening of Autism provision at Dickens Heath and Windy Arbor Schools. At January 2019 both of these ARPs had vacancies, but the numbers of pupils being admitted continues to growth each term.

The Council is currently commissioning zero places at Lyndon Hearing Impaired ARP and Widney Junior Specific Learning Difficulties ARP as the pupils that would have been placed in these provisions are now having their needs met in mainstream schools. The Council is considering publishing statutory proposals to formally close these two provisions.

During 2019/20 academic year a review of Alderbrook Speech and Language/Moderate Learning Difficulty resource provision will be undertaken in partnership with the School as there have been no Year 7 admissions to this provision in the last two years.

The Council runs an annual commissioning cycle in the Autumn Term each year which reviews the level of existing places in special schools and additionally resourced provision and agrees the level of places for the following academic year.

### **2.3 SEND Placements** (source SEN2 Jan 2017, 2018 & 2019)

The SEN2 annual return requires the Council to provide statistics on which provisions pupils are placed in (summary at Appendix A).

Of the 1,461 EHC Plans that the Council maintained in January 2019, 40% were placed in maintained special schools or special academies. The data from 2016 to 2018 showed a 21% drop in the number of pupils with EHC Plans being educated in mainstream schools and academies. However for 2019 there has been a small increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP being educated in mainstream.

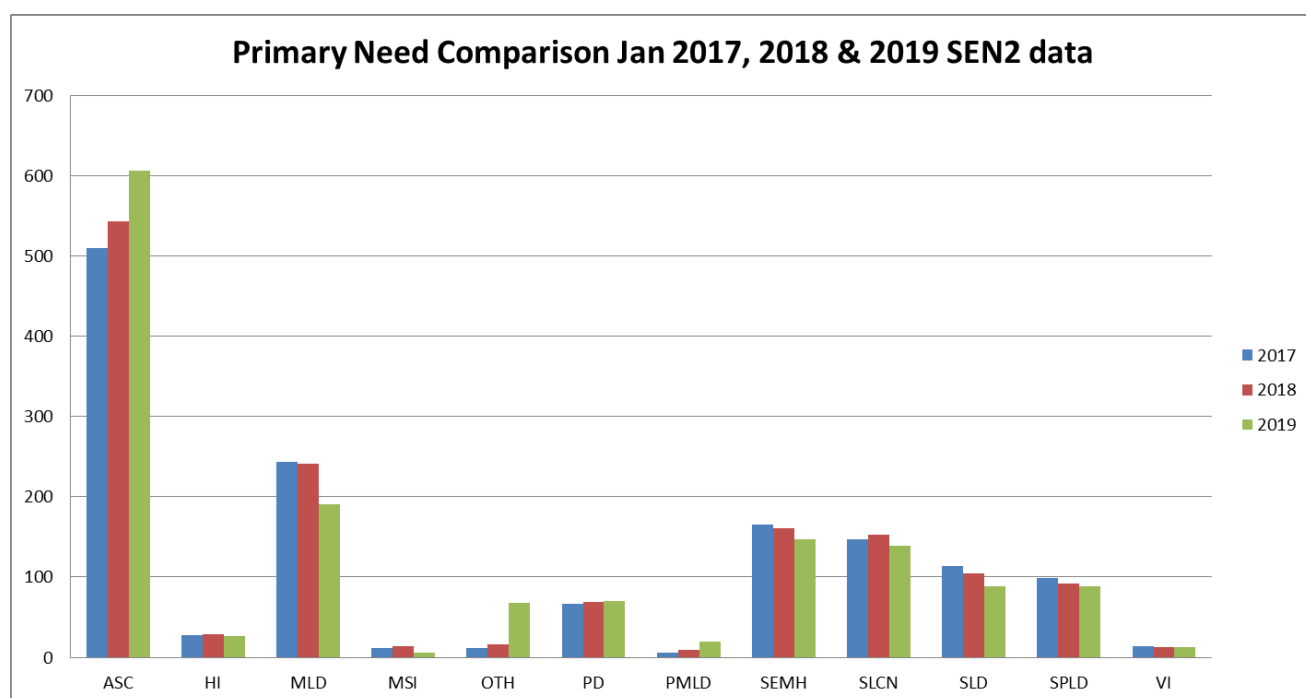
Despite a growing number of commissioned places in maintained special schools and special academies in Solihull, 133 pupils (9%) with an EHCP were placed outside of Solihull in the independent sector at January 2019. This is a growth of 9 placements (7%) since January 2018. Early indications show that this figure has grown significantly since January 2019. Placements in the independent sector do cater for pupils with very complex needs however they are normally high cost and also incur the cost of transporting the pupil outside of Solihull.

In 2019, 13 pupils with EHCPs were placed in pupil referral units which are intended as short stay placements rather than as a long term destination placement. This figure has reduced over the last 3 years, but it is anticipated that the closure of Auckland Pupil Referral Unit in August 2019 will have a further impact on this in future years. Officers, in partnership with primary Headteachers of schools in North Solihull, are developing further SEMH provision, which will cater for those pupils with SEND needs, which were being placed in Auckland Pupil Referral Unit. Through this planned change in provision the Council will make more appropriate provision to meet the needs of these vulnerable pupils.

166 students with an EHCP (11%) were in General FE/Sixth Form provision in 2019 whilst 45 (3%) were placed in specialist high cost post-16 provision. The number of post-16 and further education students has decreased in 2019 by 50 (14%) on the previous year, with a further decrease in the number of young people in high cost provision.

#### 2.4 Primary Need (based on Jan 2017, 2018 & 2019 SEN2 data)

The SEN2 return does not require Councils to report on data regarding primary need, however for analysis of the needs of Solihull pupils it is the most reliable source of data as it includes all Solihull pupils regardless of where they are placed. The January pupil census does not include Solihull pupils placed in provision outside of Solihull.



The data shows that Autism is the highest primary need in Solihull and that between January 2018 and 2019 the number of pupils with an EHCP and Autism as their primary need has increased by over 11%. The number of pupils identified as having profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) has increased by 111% in the last 12 months. Although the numbers remain small this is a significant change.

There has been a 20% decrease in the number of pupils identified as having Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD) as their primary need and noticeable reductions across those pupils identified as having a primary need of Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH), Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD). However, there has been a growth in numbers of pupils identified as other (OTH), by over 300%. This increase will be having an impact on the data in the other need areas, so work needs to be carried out with schools to better understand why this is happening, and, if necessary for schools to correct their recording.



At January 2019, 78 pupils with Autism as their primary need were placed in independent provision; this has increased from 64 at January 2018. This equates to just over 59% of all of the independent school placements.

## 2.5 School Travel Assistance for pupils with an EHCP

Travel assistance is provided to 542 pupils with an EHCP at an annual cost of over £3 million. It costs, on average £3,500 more for a pupil travelling to a placement outside of Solihull than the average cost of a pupil being educated in Solihull provision. Our reliance on out of borough placements is putting an unaffordable strain on the annual transport budget.

### Education Travel Assistance at January 2019 (EHCP pupils only)

Type of Travel Assistance	No of Pupils	Total Cost this month (Annualised)	Ave cost per Pupil per year	In Borough			Out Borough		
				No of Pupils	Total Cost	Ave cost per Pupil per year	No of Pupils	Total Cost	Ave cost per Pupil per year
Bus Pass	25	47,801	1,912	23	47,165	2,051	2	636	318
Direct Payment - Mileage	67	147,218	2,197	47	73,955	1,574	20	73,263	3,663
Direct Payment - Bus Pass	2	620	310	0	0	0	2	620	310
Minibus	448	2,867,496	6,401	287	1,258,398	4,385	161	1,609,098	9,994
<b>Total Children in Receipt of Travel Assistance</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>3,063,135</b>	<b>5,652</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>1,379,518</b>	<b>3,864</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>1,683,617</b>	<b>9,101</b>

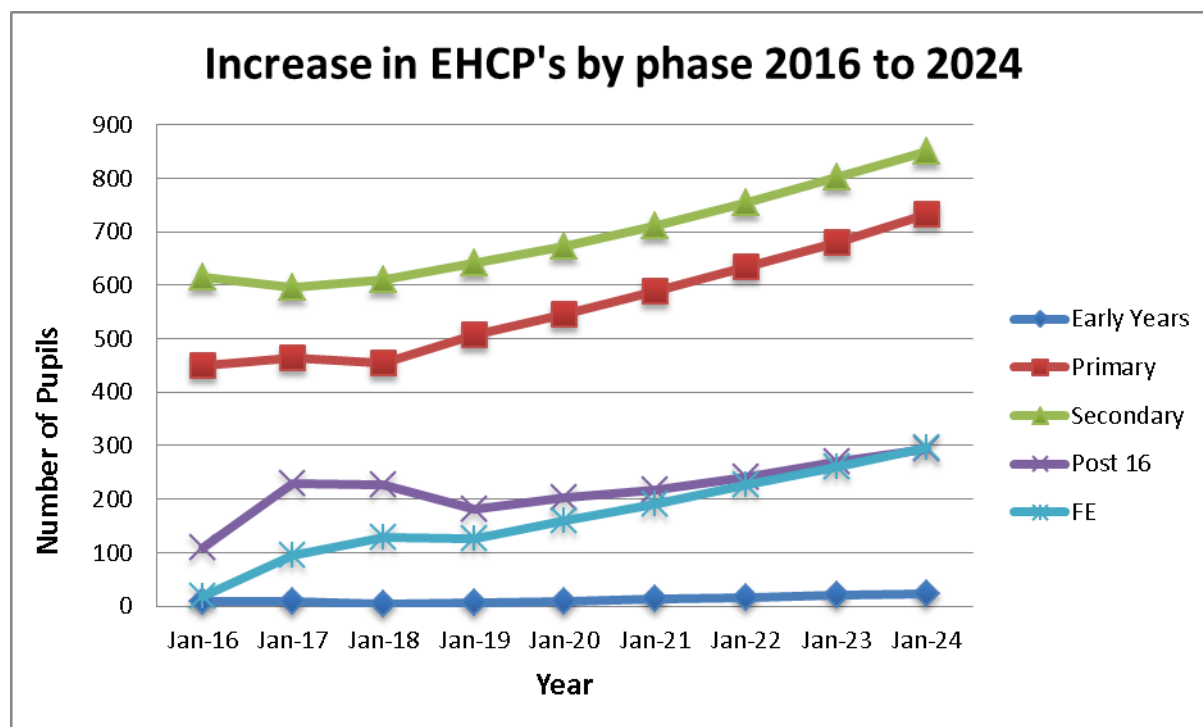
## 3. Future pupil forecasts for Solihull pupils with an EHCP

In advance of developing this SEND School Place Commissioning Strategy and in response to increasing pressures and costs in securing provision for children and young people with EHCPs, a complete review of data for SEND pupils has been undertaken. The output from this review has supported the development of a SEND forecasting model. The emerging model is based on historical data, from September 2013 to 2019, and uses a weighted change average to project pupil numbers forward to January 2024. Last years forecasts have been reviewed and the model has been updated to reflect more accurate growth patterns. This data will continue to be used as a baseline and will be moderated against actual data year on year to consolidate and improve forecasting accuracy. The development of a forecasting model is still in its early stages, but the general trends that it is highlighting appear to be robust when looking at historical data and can be used as a guide for developing future provision in Solihull. However, the number of forecast future EHCPs still needs careful monitoring and further validation in coming years before it can be confirmed

as robust, as it is showing growth significantly larger than has been previously experienced.

### 3.1 Forecast numbers of EHCPs

The data shows that the number of EHC Plans for Solihull pupils are forecast to grow by 737 (50%) over the next 5 years.



The data is showing growth across all phases. The forecast for early years is showing very little growth but we know that the SEN2 data is showing growth in under 5's data. Further analysis suggests that there is growth in the numbers of reception age pupils in receipt of an EHCP, so are included in the primary growth rather than early years for forecasting purposes. The SEND support forecast data is showing a 78% increase in demand for early years over the same 5 year period.

The data for post 16 and further education needs further analysis to explore the increase in pupil forecasts against the level of EHCPs that are being discontinued at key milestones.

The development of Early Years provisions attached to Merstone and Reynalds Cross Special Schools reflects an increasing demand for Reception and KS1 places at the two Severe Learning Difficulty (SLD) special schools in the Borough, in particular to meet the needs of those pupils with Multi Sensory Impairment (MSI) and Autism.

### 3.2 Forecast demand for provision

Based on current trends and using forecast data for January 2024 we can model the anticipated increase in demand for educational provision for Solihull pupils with EHCPs. The table below shows the forecast growth in demand for each provision type, assuming current trends continue.

Type of Provision	Jan 2019 (based on actual)	Forecast at Jan 2024	Forecast Increase in number of EHCPs by 2024
Solihull maintained and Academy Special schools	509	608	99
Solihull Additionally resourced provision	82	116	34
Pupil Referral Units	15	35	20
Mainstream Schools	357	407	50
LA Further Education provision	140	288	148
Other LA Special Schools	78	166	88
Other LA ARPs	2	3	1
Other LA Mainstream	33	79	46
Other LA FE Mainstream	43	81	38
Other LA FE Special	26	51	25
Independent Special Schools	87	160	73
Independent Mainstream Schools	25	48	23
Independent Other	19	34	15
Elective Home Education	24	58	34
Other	20	63	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>1460</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>737</b>

The forecast show that if current trends continue there will be a further increase in demand for specialist provision, in particular maintained and independent special schools.

Independent special school provision is high cost and incurs additional transport costs in addition to the placement costs. Neither the High Needs revenue budget

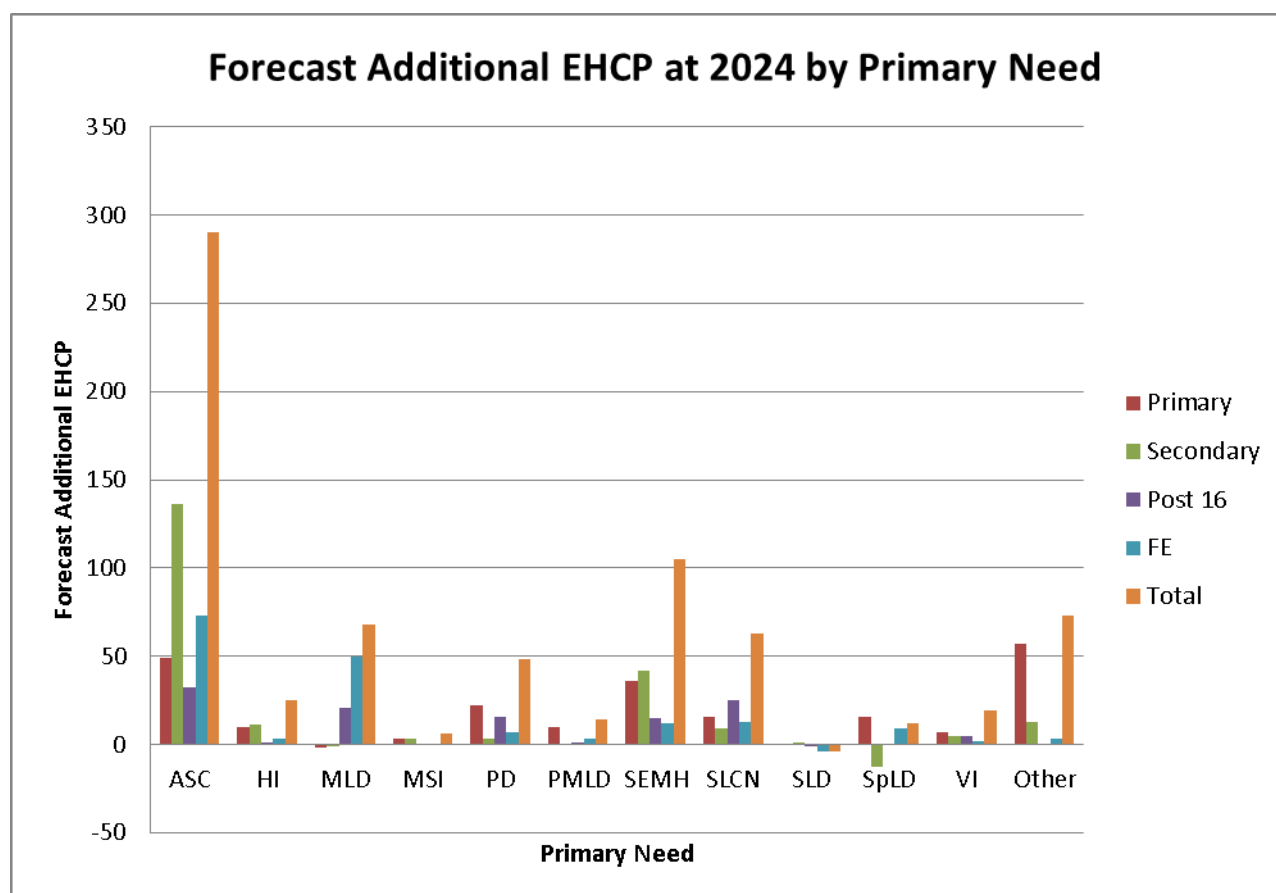
nor the transport budget can support an increase in demand for this provision. It is essential that strategies continue to be developed to increase the number of pupils with EHCPs that are able to have their needs met within Solihull, with a focus on maintaining pupils in a mainstream school setting.

The forecasts also show a significant increase in parents choosing to electively home educate their child. Work is required to identify whether this trend is due to parental preference or parent's views on the adequacy of mainstream or specialist provision in the borough. Growth in the 'other' category needs further consideration as this includes pupils without a school place as one of the factors.

These forecasts are for Solihull pupils only and do not make an allowance for pupils living outside of Solihull attending Solihull Schools and provision. At January 2019, 238 pupils with an EHCP that live outside of Solihull, were being educated in Solihull maintained schools and academies.

### 3.3 Forecast SEND places by primary need

The chart below shows the forecast increase in demand for Solihull pupils by phase and by primary need by January 2024. The primary need information is populated from January 2019 pupil census and SEN2 return.

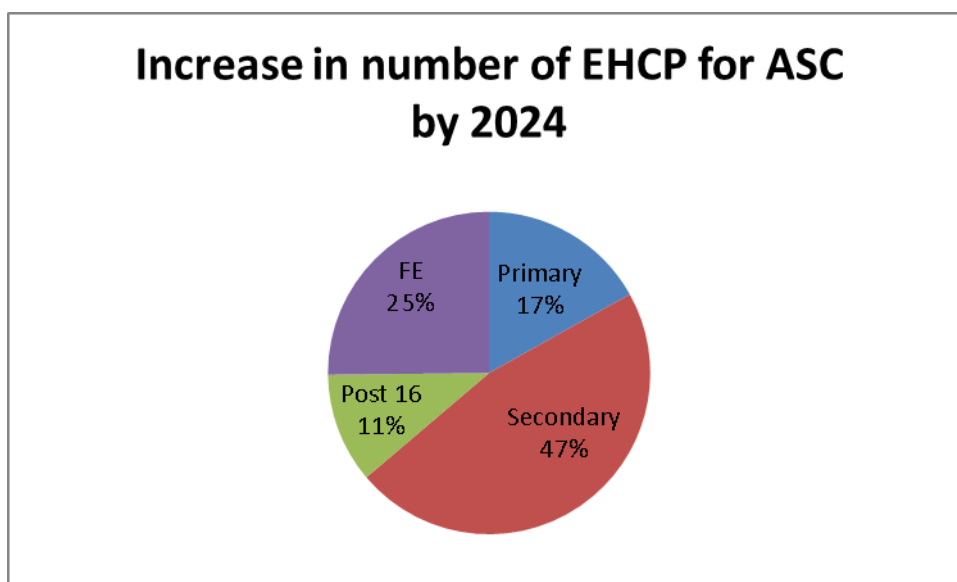


The forecasts show that the largest growth in demand will continue to be in the area of ASC. The ASC data is showing marked growth across all phases, in particular at secondary age. Growth is also forecast in SEMH in particular at primary and secondary and at post 16 and further education for MLD. Although small the growth in the primary phase for those pupils with PMLD will need to be considered. As already indicated, the growth in the use of 'Other' as a primary need is impacting on the forecasting across the other areas of need, in particular SLD.

When considering the development of new specialist provision the areas identified for the most significant growth should be considered as the priority for investment.

### 3.4 ASC Provision

The forecasts indicate that there will be an additional 290 EHCPs where ASC is the primary need by January 2024. The chart below shows how this increase will be split by phase.



The largest area of growth is forecast in the secondary phase with the data showing an overall increase of 136 EHCPs (47%). Large increases are also forecast in primary and further education.

28 primary Autism ARP places and 30 secondary Autism ARP places have been created to meet some of this demand and limit the number of pupils being placed out of Borough. However, as already identified 78 (59%) of all placements in independent provision at January 2019 were for pupils with Autism as a primary need.

In March 2019 the Government announced that Solihull Council had been successful in its bid to open a Special Free School. The school will have a focus on Autism and associated high level SEMH needs. The bid was designed to specifically address the gap in Autism provision that has created the need to send a significant number of pupils to high cost independent provision. It will cater for up to 100 pupils aged 7 to 16.

The free school implementation process is underway and a school site has been identified in North Solihull. The school will be a new build and the anticipated opening date is September 2023. Over the next 12 months modelling of the forecasts will be updated to account for the places being created through the free school.

It is essential that a strategy that further supports inclusion in mainstream schools is developed alongside the creation of further ASC specialist places in the borough.

Further work is required on post 16 and further education placements and data to ensure that robust forecasts are in place. However, any increase in provision for pupils with Autism at secondary age, which includes the development of the free school, will need to address places at Post-16 to ensure that there is a clear transition process in place for students and not an increasing reliance on specialist post 16 provision outside of the Borough. Ideally provision will be developed in partnership with other local providers.

### **3.5 SEMH Provision**

The SEMH data is showing an increase of 105 EHCPs by January 2024, with the largest increase in EHCPs across the primary and secondary phases.

The forecasts indicate that the increase in demand at primary age will be for special school places (both maintained and independent) and additionally resourced provision. The forecasts will not yet take account of the closure of Auckland pupil referral unit and the subsequent development of north based primary SEMH additionally resourced provision. This new provision will target specialist support at an earlier stage of the process, prior to an EHCP. It is anticipated that this early intervention will have a marked impact, reducing the numbers of pupils needing an EHCP.

At secondary, a proportion of the increase is expected to be catered for in mainstream schools. However, the forecasts have highlighted a potential increase in demand in placements in secondary pupil referral units and an increase in pupils with SEMH that are out of school. This suggests that there is a gap in provision for SEMH at secondary age. In addition to the growth in demand for EHC Plans the data is also showing a 50% rise in the number of pupils identified as requiring SEND support.

An 8 place primary SEMH assessment ARP opened at Yew Tree Primary School in September 2017, to meet the needs of pupils prior to them requiring an EHC Plan. This provision is full and unable to meet the growing demand across both KS1 and KS2. The development of further SEMH assessment provision in North Solihull will also add capacity. For September 2019 an additional 10 places have been commissioned at Northern House School.

However, the data has clearly identified the need for the development of secondary SEMH provision to meet growing demand and support mainstream schools to meet

the needs of these pupils. The development of this provision should be considered early intervention in order to prevent the breakdown of school places or the need for permanent exclusion.

### **3.6 MLD Provision**

Forecasts indicate that the growth in MLD demand will be in Post-16 and further education phases. Over the last two year the Council, in partnership with the Hazel Oak and Forest Oak Schools and Solihull College, have relocated the schools' post 16 departments to accommodation within the College. This partnership arrangement is providing students with the benefits of a special school ethos with access to the additional facilities available at the College. This development should support pupils' transition at 18 as they enter further education.

Both Forest Oak School and Hazel Oak School are designated as MLD special schools, and the forecast decrease in demand for MLD does not appear to reflect the increasing demand for Special School places. Analysis of the needs of pupils on roll at these two schools shows a shift in the needs of the children they are educating as they meet the needs of a far wider range of pupils than their current designation suggests. In the case of Hazel Oak Autism is now the largest primary need that the school is meeting.

Other areas of need are showing growth such as HI, PMLD, PD and SCLN. These areas will be kept under review to identify if a review of current provision or the need to expand or create new provision is required.

## **4. Revenue and Capital Funding**

Solihull Council's High Needs Block for 2019/20 financial year is £27.6 million and is fully committed. The underlying trends of rising spending due to a combination of more pupils, pupils with greater needs and the placement of significant numbers of pupils in independent provision is a cause of significant concern. The High Needs Block is currently forecast to overspend by £5.6m at 2019-20 year end, this includes £1.4m overspend carried forward from the previous year.

Forecasts show a potential increase of up to 737 (50%) EHC Plans by 2024, with significant demand for special school or high cost independent school places. This situation is unaffordable within existing and forecast resources. The development of a forecasting model is still in its early stages, but the trends that it is highlighting appear to be robust when looking at historical data and can be used as a guide for developing future provision in Solihull. It is the level of future demand that needs careful consideration, which will need further validation in coming years.

Whilst the High Needs Budget is forecast to increase each year due to population demographic changes, it will not increase to the extent that high needs cost places are forecast to grow.



A forecast overspend in the High Needs Budget should not prevent the Council from investing in new provision or specialist places. For every child placed outside of Solihull in independent provision, at least two pupils can be educated in a provision in Solihull. Using a spend to save model; the Council could endeavour to fund the revenue required for the creation of new provision through the reduction of placements outside of the Borough.

The Government has provided a grant to Local Authorities to support the expansion of specialist provision. For Solihull the grant equates to £1m over a 3 year period.

## 5. Development of Specialist Provision

The forecast data has highlighted some key priorities for investment to meet the demographic growth within the Borough as well as reduce our reliance on high cost independent provision. Any future investment in specialist provision should seek to secure a correlating reduction elsewhere in the High Needs budget.

The data suggests that the priorities for development are:-

- To implement the proposal to create a 100 place Special Free School with a focus around Autism
- Develop further Autism additionally resourced provision in the secondary phase.
- Consider the development of Post-16 Autism and SEMH provision
- Consider further expansion of SLD places at Reynolds Cross and Merstone Schools
- Develop SEMH additional resource provision in the primary phase (North Solihull).
- Develop SEMH additionally resourced provision in the secondary phase.
- Review places in both MLD special schools once the long term accommodation is agreed with the College following on from the two year pilot schemes.
- Explore and develop spend to save initiatives through the creation of additionally resourced provision to target out of borough placements.

In addition to the development of specialist provision there is a need to work with mainstream schools to both support and remove barriers to support SEND inclusion.

## 6. Commissioning Strategy Principles

When considering the need to expand provision to accommodate an increasing number of children requiring additional support through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) the following principles should be at the core of the commissioning process.



- The individual needs of each child and young persons will be at the heart of SEND provision planning.
- Children and young people with EHCPs should expect to have their needs met in their local mainstream provision.
- Where specialist provision is required this should be located in Solihull. Children should only be expected to travel outside of Solihull for specialist provision in exceptional circumstances.
- Where possible SEND provision in Solihull should be geographically spread to minimise the need for extended travelling times.
- New specialist SEND provision should be created in partnership with children and young people, parents, schools and other providers and support organisations.
- Where new specialist provision is created within existing schools and academies they will be Ofsted rated good or outstanding.
- Opportunities will be explored to allow creative use of enhanced mainstream provision enabling more pupils to receive their education in a mainstream setting, potentially with the support of Special Schools and the Solihull School Inclusion Service.
- Work with schools to create enhanced provisions within existing school buildings limiting the need for capital expenditure.
- Children with Education & Health Care Plans should not be placed in short term provision.
- The level of commissioned places at existing maintained special schools in Solihull will remain at current levels unless investment in additional accommodation is achieved.
- Commissioning strategy supports the necessity to bring high needs spending in line with high needs grant provided by the government.
- Reduce Solihull's reliance on expensive independent provision by investment in the creation of new provision within Solihull.
- Seek to reduce the current level of places within other Local Authority special schools and additionally resourced provision and place future pupils in Borough.
- All new schools to be developed to include an Additionally Resourced Provision.

In order to create the new additional places required there will need to be a focus on reducing the cost of out of borough placements, through the review of existing pupil placements and, where appropriate, the placement of those pupils in newly created provision in borough.

With current demographic growth it is essential that the trend of reducing numbers of pupils with EHCPs in mainstream schools is reversed. The January 2019 data has suggested that that numbers have stabilised and are showing a small increase for the first time. It is important this trend is encouraged. Initiatives that recognise and reward inclusive mainstream schools must be developed to run alongside a

system of challenge that holds to account any school or academy not meeting an agreed level of SEND provision. Parent's confidence in the ability of mainstream schools to meet their child's needs must be developed.

## 7. Conclusion

The data shows that the numbers of pupils requiring EHCPs will increase by 737 by 2024. This reflects trend for an increase in specialist placements 99 additional Solihull special school places will be required by January 2024.

The demand for independent school placements will also continue to increase. The Council's High Needs Budget cannot meet the increased cost in out of borough placements, or the cost of the transport.

This strategy has identified a priority list of developments to meet the growing demand, and to maximise value for money. For every child placed outside of Solihull in independent provision, at least two pupils can be educated in a provision in Solihull. The strategy is predicated on a spend to save model to fund the revenue required for the creation of new provision through the reduction of placements outside of the Borough.

The Council's total capital grant for providing additional accommodation for specialist provision is £1m spread over a 3 year period. This figure will not be sufficient to meet the forecast increase in demand for places, so the Council, in partnership with schools, will need to seek ways to create new specialist placements within existing school and Council buildings.

The largest growth areas are for pupils with Autism and Social Emotional Mental Health and these areas should continue to priority for development.

The emerging forecasting model used to identify demand for 2024 is based on historical data for the period 2013 to 2019. Last years forecasts have been reviewed and the model has been updated to reflect more accurate growth patterns, however further work is required This data will continue to be used as a baseline and will be moderated against actual data year on year to consolidate and improve forecasting accuracy.

The creation of new specialist provision in Solihull will need to be part of a wider programme of activity that looks to support and increase mainstream inclusion.

Action Plan 2018/19	Timescale	Action
Carry out further work on trend and forecast data to validate future forecasts, in particular around Post 16 and Early Years and assess the need for specialist provision.	Autumn 2018/Spring 2019.	Data and model reviewed for 2019/20. Further analysis required for Jan 2020 data
Engage further with the Solihull parent/carer forum to be clear on their view of gaps in specialist provision in Solihull.	Autumn Term 2018	Regular updates on provision planning provided. Meet Termly. Focus will shift to specific proposals within this plan
Work with Secondary Schools, using time tabling and data and analysis to identify accommodation that could be used to create enhanced specialist provision, in particular around Autism and Social Emotional Mental Health Needs.	Aim to open two enhance provisions by September 2019	No initial expression of interest from Secondary Schools. Discussions underway with specific Academy Trusts. Add to 2019/20 Action list.
Evaluate the new primary Autism Additionally Resourced Provision and look to create a wider geographical spread of provision.	2018/19 academic year	Quality assurance and evaluation implemented by SISS service.
Develop a specification and bid for an Autism Free School	Bid due 15 October 2018	Completed and bid successful. Move to implementation 2019/20
Develop options to meet the growing demand for SEND support for SEMH in the primary phase	Academic Year 18/19	Development work commenced, in partnership with northern primary headteachers. Aim to open April/Easter 2020 add to 2019/20 action list.
Develop capacity to identify pupils in out of borough provision that could benefit from a place in a newly created provision in Solihull and to work with families with a view to relocating appropriate pupils.	On going	Capacity established as part of development of Educational Psychology Service.
Develop a strategy around Post 16 and FE placements and provision	On going	No action taken, add to 2019/20 action list
Carry out analysis on the attendance levels of children and young people with EHCPs in mainstream schools	On going	Further work required ass to 2019/20 action list.

Action Plan 2019/20	Timescale
Implement the proposal to create an Autism Free School	Bid approved March 2019, project group established
Work with Secondary Schools to create specialist provision, in particular around Autism and Social Emotional Mental Health Needs.	Aim to open two additionally resourced provisions by September 2020
Develop a strategy around Post 16 and FE placements and provision in particular around Autism and SEMH	On going
Review the level of SLD places at Reynalds Cross and Merstone Schools	Work with the headteachers of the schools to consider options to add additional SLD places
Develop options to meet the growing demand for SEND support for SEMH in the primary phase	Work underway in partnership with North primary headteachers will continue during 2019/20. Aim to open provision 2020.
Review places at both MLD special schools in light of the pilot schemes at Solihull College	Agree long term accommodation with Solihull College Autumn Term 2019.
Further ARP development with a focus on demand for out of borough provision 2019/20.	Work with schools Autumn Term 2019 with a view to opening September 2020
Carry out further work on trend and forecast data to validate future forecasts, in particular around Post 16 and Early Years and assess the need for specialist provision.	Review forecasting model based on Jan 2020 data. Published annually
Carry out analysis on the attendance levels of children and young people with EHCPs in mainstream schools	Work underway completion Summer 2020.

## Glossary of Terms

ARP	Additionally Resourced Provision
ASD/ASC	Autistic Spectrum Disorder/Condition
EHCP	Education and Health Care Plan
FE	Further Education
HI	Hearing Impaired
LA	Local Authority
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties
MSI	Multi Sensory Impairment
NOR	Number on roll
PD	Physical Difficulties
PMLD	Profound Multiple Learning Difficulties
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit
SEMH	Social Emotional Mental Health
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability
SLCN	Speech Language Communication Needs
SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties
SpLD	Specific Learning Difficulties
VI	Visual Impairment

## Appendix A

SEN 2 Comparison Date 2016 - 2018				
<b>The age breakdown</b>	2016	2017	2018	2019
a. Under age 5	33	42	25	42
b. Aged 5 to 10	426	438	446	470
c. Aged 11 to 15	612	607	618	644
d. Aged 16 to 19	160	297	313	267
e. Aged 20 to 25	4	31	42	38
<b>f. TOTAL (a + b + c + d + e)</b>	<b>1235</b>	<b>1415</b>	<b>1444</b>	<b>1461</b>
i On the roll of the following establishments. This should be the type of establishment named on the statement or EHC plan. Include children and young people whose statement/EHC plan is under appeal.				
	2016	2017	2018	2019
a. Non-maintained early years settings in the private and voluntary sector	4	4	0	1
b. Mainstream school: LA maintained (including foundation schools)	207	207	178	183
c. Mainstream school: LA maintained (SEN Unit)	0	0	0	0
d. Mainstream school: LA maintained (resourced provision)	9	10	10	21
e. Mainstream school: academy	269	189	196	198
f. Mainstream school: academy (SEN Unit)	0	0	0	0
g. Mainstream school: academy (resourced provision)	0	76	68	65
h. Mainstream school: free school	0	0	0	0
i. Mainstream school: free school (SEN Unit)	0	0	0	0
j. Mainstream school: free school (resourced provision)	0	0	0	0
k. Mainstream school: independent school	77	29	22	25
l. Special school: LA maintained (including foundation schools)	465	480	513	527
m. Special school: academy/free	60	72	68	63
n. Special school: Non-maintained	0	2	0	0
o. Special school: Independent special schools	43	90	102	108
p. AP/PRU: LA maintained	16	23	15	13
q. AP/PRU: Academy	0	0	0	0
r. AP/PRU: Free school	0	0	0	1
s. Hospital schools (including foundation schools)	0	0	0	0
t. Post 16: General FE and tertiary colleges/HE	39	121	173	161
u. Post 16: Other FE	0	5	6	2
v. Post 16: Sixth form college	4	8	4	3
w. Post 16: Specialist post-16 Institutions	16	55	47	45
<b>ii Total of 1.2.i</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>1371</b>	<b>1402</b>	<b>1416</b>
iii Educated elsewhere				
a. pupils permanently excluded at 19 January 2017 and not yet placed elsewhere	0	0	0	0
b. other - arrangements made by the LA in accordance with Section 319 of the Education Act 1996 or Section 61 of the Children and Families Act 2014	10	8	8	9
c. other - arrangements made by parents in accordance with Section 7 of the Education Act 1996	12	16	20	11
d. awaiting provision - final EHC plan issued but awaiting placement	4	15	14	25
Total	26	39	42	45
Apprenticeships		5		2

## Recommendations and Action Plan for 2019 / 2020

### Appendix B

#### Solihull In-borough Place Commissioning 2015-16 to 2019-20

Special Schools	Aggregated Places					
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
7005 Forest Oak School	152.17	150.00	150.00	158.75	173.17	182.50
7001 Hazel Oak School	134.67	152.59	163.00	163.00	160.08	154.50
7007 Merstone School	84.00	85.00	85.00	99.13	102.20	108.03
7009 Northern House	31.17	80.00	80.00	80.00	84.08	87.83
7002 Reynolds Cross School	105.33	106.00	106.00	106.00	112.53	119.53
1105 Aukland	30	30	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
1108 Solihull AP Free School	0	0	0.00	0.00	61.25	97.50
1104 Summerfield	64	64	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00
1102 Triple Crown	32	32	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00
	<b>633</b>	<b>699.59</b>	<b>710.00</b>	<b>732.88</b>	<b>819.32</b>	<b>875.90</b>

Cumulative  
Average cost per new place

ARPs in mainstream schools						
3512 Bishop Wilson Church Of England Primary School	12.00	12.00	12.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
2024 Valley Primary	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
2098 Dickens Heath ASD ARP				8.75	11.08	14.00
2028 Widney Junior School ARP - 5/12s only	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	7.00
2066 Windy Arbor ASD ARP				0.00	8.17	14.00
2033 Yew Tree SMEH ARP				8.00	8.00	8.00
4015 Alderbrook School MLD & SLCD ARP	40.00	40.00	40.00	30.67	24.92	18.50
4015a Alderbrook ASD ARP			0.00	9.33	15.08	21.50
4012a Langley School PD ARP	16.00	12.00	18.00	23.33	22.00	22.00
4012 Langley School SpLD ARP	33.00	30.00	31.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
	<b>129.00</b>	<b>122.00</b>	<b>129.00</b>	<b>141.08</b>	<b>150.25</b>	<b>154.00</b>

Cumulative  
Average cost per new place

Total Investment  
Average cost per new place

Change in Places						Total
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		
-2.17	0.00	8.75	14.42	9.33	30.33	
17.92	10.41	0.00	-2.92	-5.58	19.83	
1.00	0.00	14.13	3.07	5.83	24.03	
48.83	0.00	0.00	4.08	3.75	56.66	
0.67	0.00	0.00	6.53	7.00	14.20	
0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
0	0.00	0.00	61.25	36.25	97.50	
0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>66.25</b>	<b>10.41</b>	<b>22.88</b>	<b>86.44</b>	<b>56.58</b>	<b>242.56</b>	
	77	100	186	243		

Change in Funding						Total
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		
-24,222	0	108,778	230,832	124,256	439,644	
229,912	136,631	0	-65,300	-74,042	227,201	
19,403	0	288,899	29,106	117,657	455,065	
922,441	0	0	103,326	90,735	1,116,503	
-7,428	0	0	152,563	166,824	311,960	
	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	429,975	254,475	684,450	
	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>1,140,106</b>	<b>136,631</b>	<b>397,677</b>	<b>880,503</b>	<b>679,906</b>	<b>3,234,823</b>	
	1,276,737	1,674,414	2,554,917	3,234,823		
17,209	13,125	17,381	10,187	12,016	13,336	

Change in Funding						Total
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		
5,450	23	-16,022	514	0	-10,035	
-13,233	31	0	1,372	0	-11,830	
0	0	104,317	46,641	36,866	187,824	
3,224	23	-148	1,177	-56,436	-52,160	
0	0	0	105,364	82,460	187,824	
0	0	106,810	791	6,383	113,984	
2,044	33	-101,435	-56,612	-70,808	-226,778	
0	0	122,574	164,915	89,778	377,267	
-76,568	116,068	105,032	-20,432	0	124,100	
-28,321	10,001	-40,229	6,049	0	-52,500	
<b>-107,404</b>	<b>126,179</b>	<b>280,899</b>	<b>249,779</b>	<b>88,243</b>	<b>637,696</b>	
	18,775	299,674	549,453	637,696		
15,343	18,026	23,247	27,249	23,531	25,508	

<b>59</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>267.56</b>
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<b>1,032,702</b>	<b>262,810</b>	<b>678,576</b>	<b>1,130,282</b>	<b>768,149</b>	<b>3,872,519</b>
17,430	15,095	19,408	11,823	12,732	14,473