

# **Children and young people: Special educational needs and disability (SEND) 2016**

[www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

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## 1. Overview

A child or young person has special educational needs (SEN) if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which requires special education provision.<sup>1</sup>

As part of a range of SEND (special educational needs and disability) reforms, education, health and care (EHC) plans were introduced in September 2014. They aim to improve outcomes for children and young people by providing a more joined up approach across different agencies and encouraging parents/carers and young people to be fully involved in decisions around their own support.

The figures for Lancashire-12 indicate that over 5,000 young people have a statement or EHC plan (January 2016), a small decrease from the previous year. These figures vary, depending on school setting type, with more primary school pupils having SEN support, compared to secondary school pupils.

There were 420 new statements/EHC plans issued in Lancashire-12 (January 2016).

## 2. SEND reforms

The SEND reforms set out in the Children and Families Act 2014 supersede the 2001 code of practice (DfES 2001b). The reforms aim to bring together local health services (clinical commissioning groups) and local authorities to integrate services across the 0-25 age range, and now include [education, health and care \(EHC\) plans](#), intended for those with additional needs that cannot be met solely through [SEN support plans](#) provided by their educational establishment.

The key principles behind the reforms are:

- outcomes – improving progress for children and young people with SEND;
- integration – a joint approach across all agencies; and
- involvement – full involvement of young people, parents and carers.

The EHC plan replaces the old statements of special needs, incorporating assessment and planning, and offering a more joined up and outcome-focused approach. Those children who have statements are to be transferred over to EHC plans, either at an annual review, or at a key transition point such as moving from primary to secondary education.

As part of the reforms Lancashire County Council is now required to have a [local offer](#), which provides parents/carers and young people with SEN and/or disabilities information as to what education, health, care and other services are available in their local area across the 0-25 year age range. This also includes childcare provision which is suitable for disabled children and those with SEN.

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<sup>1</sup> This is defined as when a child or young person has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of their peers of the same age. It also includes disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for their peers of the same age in schools maintained by the county council.

The local offer will also cover universal services such as GPs, targeted services and specialist services for more long-term support.

### 3. SEN statements and EHC plans

While the reforms have led to an increased service caseload and an increase in the number of assessments, the authority is on target to complete all transfers of young people from statements of SEN or learning difficulty assessments by the national deadline of April 2018.

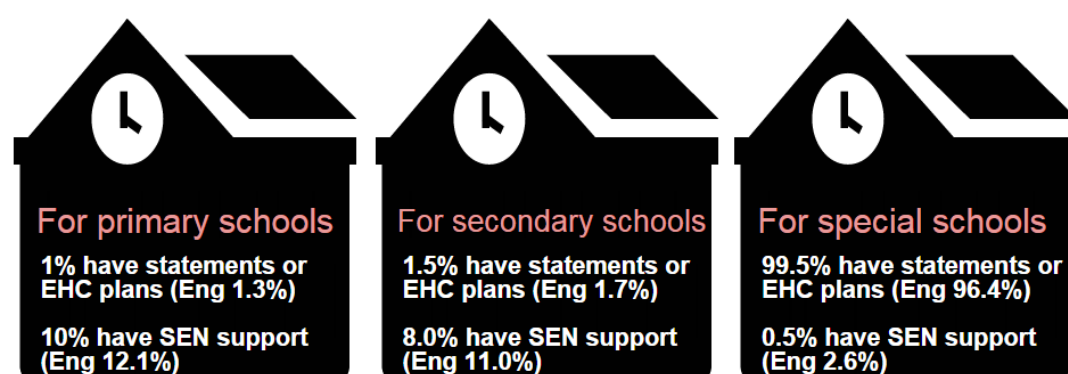
The most recent figures for Lancashire-12 indicate that the authority is rated as 'good' for transfer from SEN statements to EHC plan provision.

#### 3.1 Key figures for Lancashire-12 (year to Jan 16)

- The percentage of children with statements or EHC plans is 2.9% (England 2.8%), equating to just over 5,200 young people aged 0-25 years, a decrease from 3.1% in January 2015 (Eng 2.8%).
- 9.1% have SEN support (Eng 11.6%), a decrease from 10.5% in 2015.
- 410 children and young people had a new EHC plan, while 10 new statements were issued.
- 275 statements/EHC plans were discontinued, due to the end of compulsory education.

#### 3.2 Key figures by school type

Statements/EHC plans and SEN support vary by school type and the figures to January 2016 for Lancashire-12 compared to England (across primary, secondary and special schools) show:



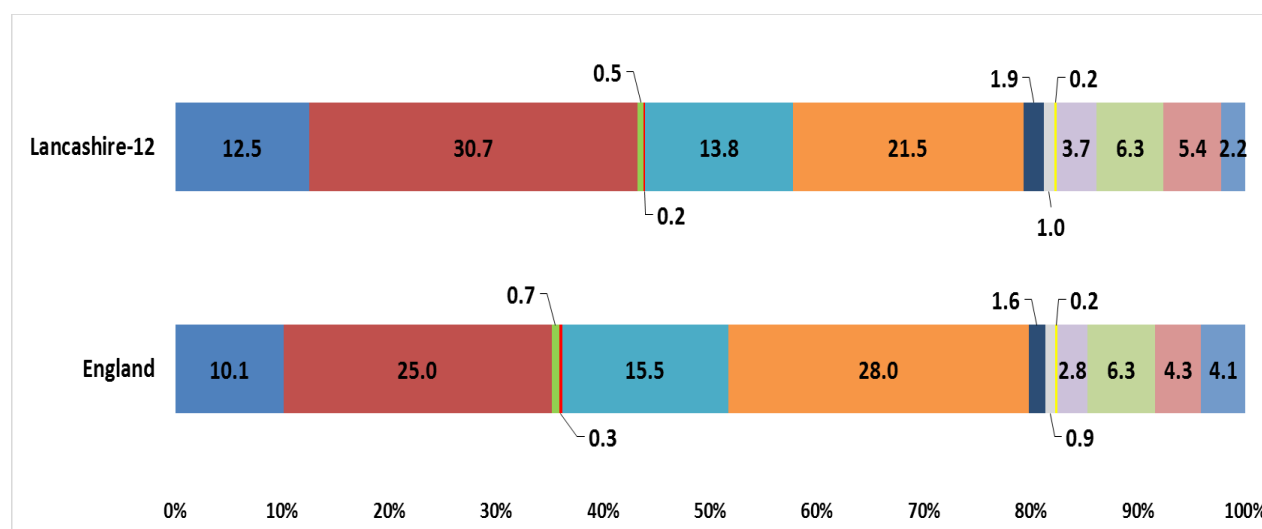
**Across all school types 12.0% of pupils have special educational needs (Eng 14.4%)**

Source: [Special educational needs in England, January 2016](#)

### 3.3 SEN by need and educational establishment

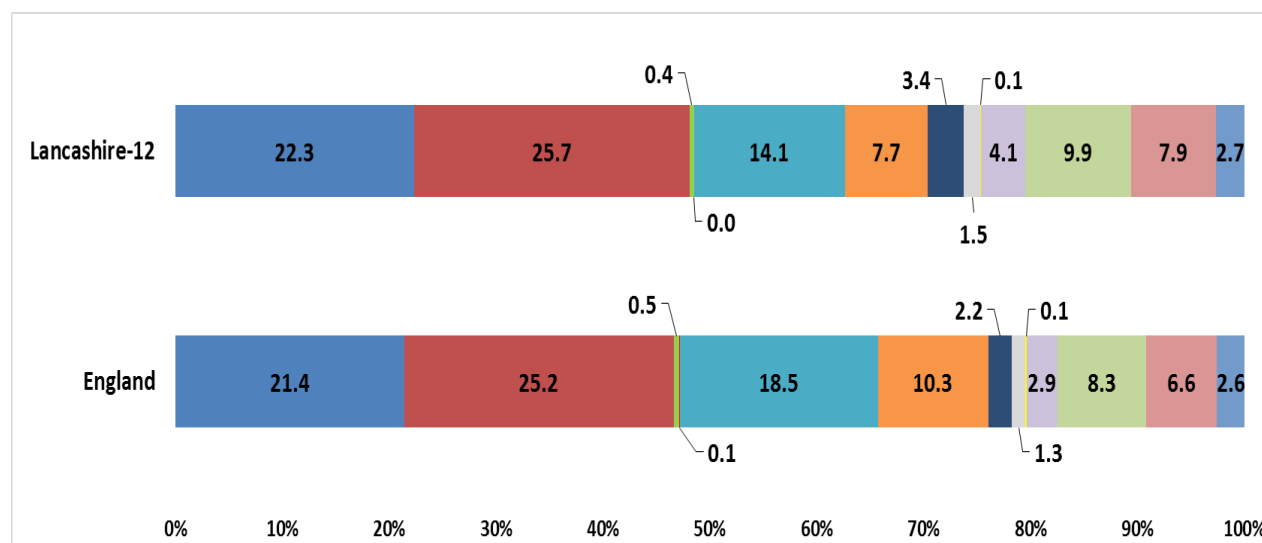
The charts below shows the percentage of pupils with special educational needs by their main type of need, this is across primary and secondary education establishments.

**Chart 1: Primary school pupils with special educational needs by their primary type of need, annual figures January 2016.**



- Specific learning disability
- Profound & multiple learning difficulty
- Moderate learning difficulty
- Social, emotional and mental health
- Speech, language and communications
- Hearing impairment
- Visual impairment
- Physical disability
- Autistic spectrum disorder
- Other difficulty/disability
- SEN support but no specialist assessment of type of need

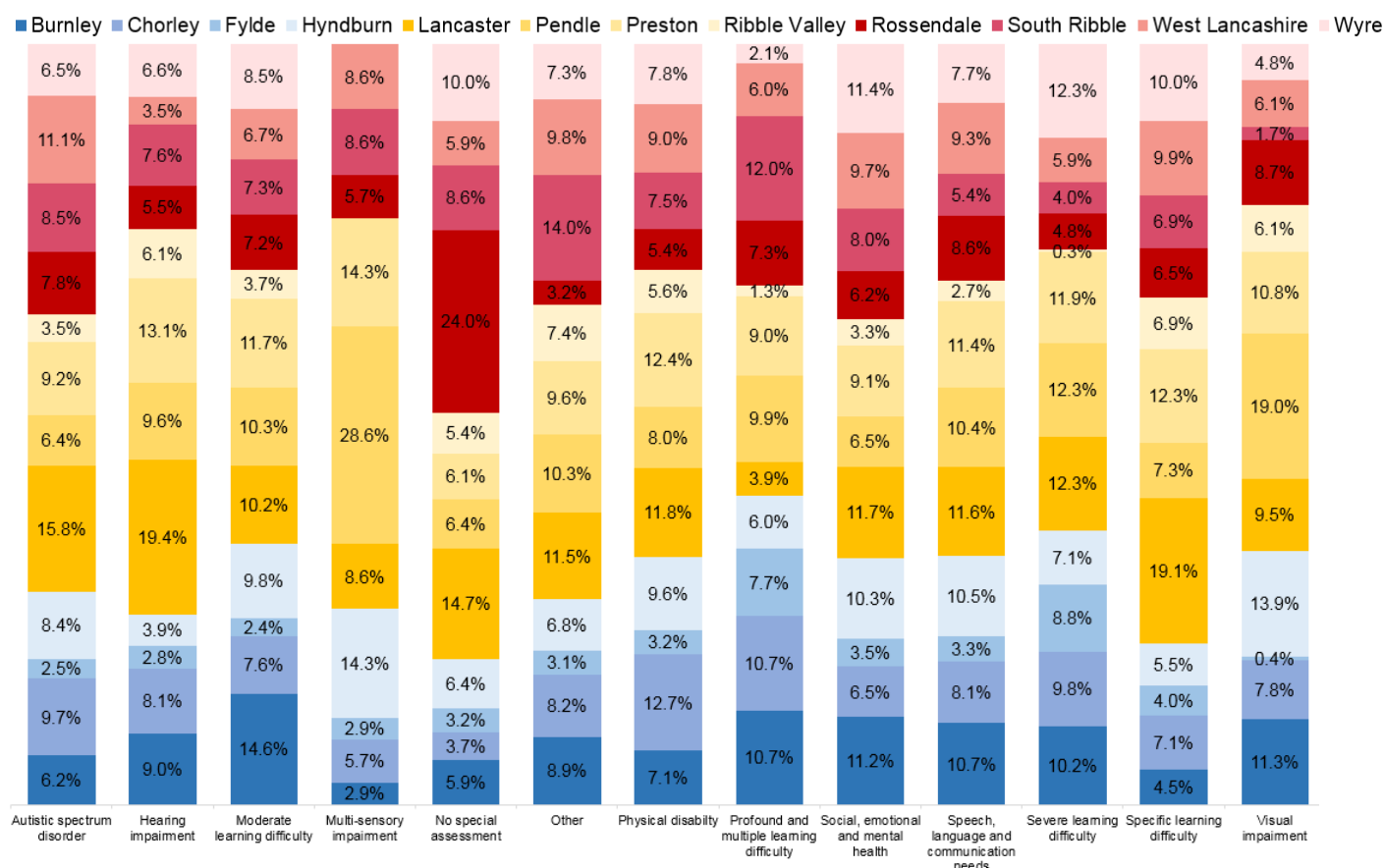
**Chart 2: Secondary school pupils with special educational needs by their primary type of need, annual figures January 2016.**



### 3.4 Special educational need category by district

The chart below shows the district breakdown by SEN category for children who have SEN support, statements and EHC plans (to January 2016).

**Chart 3: breakdown of SEN by category for districts, January 2016**



Source: Department for Education school census 2015/2016.

### 3.5 Attainment levels for SEN/EHC plan pupils

Overall pupils with SEN/EHC plans in Lancashire-12 perform well when compared to the national, regional and statistical neighbour rates. Further analysis shows:

- For 2014/15, 17% of pupils achieved level 4+ at key stage 2 in reading, writing and maths, higher than the national (16%), regional (15%) and statistical neighbour (15.7%) averages, rating Lancashire-12 as 'good' for this indicator.
- At GCSE level, 14.3% (71 out of 498 pupils) achieved five A\* to C grades, including English and maths; this is higher than the national (8.8%), regional (8.7%) and statistical neighbour (8.4%) figures and places the authority as 'outstanding' for this indicator.
- The authority is ranked as 'good' for the percentage of young people with a SEND not in employment, education or training (NEET).

## 4. Data and other downloads

Information from the school census on pupils with special educational needs and SEN provision in schools.

[2016\\_Local\\_authority\\_tables.xlsx](#) (XLSX 320 KB)

Statistics and analysis on statements of special educational needs (SEN) and education, health and care (EHC) plans in England.

[SEN EHC plans SFR17-2016\\_Main\\_Tables.xlsx](#) (XLSX 314 KB)

## 5. Related websites

SEND reforms: <http://www.careersadviceforparents.org/2015/01/special-educational-needs-SEND-reforms.html>

National statistics: special educational needs (SEN)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-special-educational-needs-sen>