



School Exclusions, 2021/22

Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

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1 Overview and background information

Research has suggested that there is a direct link between being excluded from school and getting involved in crime. A Youth Justice Board survey showed that when compared with other school children, excluded pupils were more than twice as likely to get involved in crime. Consequently, reducing the number of exclusions can have a knock-on effect on reducing crime. During 2021/22, there were 244 permanent exclusions and 12,502 fixed period exclusions in Lancashire schools. The Lancashire-12 rate increased compared to the previous year for permanent exclusions (0.14%, against 0.09%) and was still higher than the national (0.08%), the regional (0.11%), Blackburn with Darwen (0.07%) and Blackpool (0.13%) rates. Below is a further insight into the data.

2 Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

2.1 Primary school exclusions

Data for 2021/22 (Table 1) indicates that the proportion of permanent exclusions from Lancashire-12 primary schools (0.03%) increased compared to the previous year (0.02%). The Primary Exclusion rate for Lancashire-12 is placed in the last quartile nationally and ranked 121 out of 152 authorities. This is slightly higher than the national (0.02%) and regional (0.02%) rates, and higher than Blackburn with Darwen (0.00%). The number of permanent primary exclusions was 26.

Table 1: Proportion of pupils permanently excluded from state funded primary schools, 2011/12 to 2021/22

Area	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	0.03%	0.04%	0.06%	0.05%	0.08%	0.06%	0.04%	0.03%	0.02%	0.03%
Blackburn with Darwen	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.02%	0.04%	0.01%	0.00%
Blackpool	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
North West	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%
England	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%

Source: Department for Education (DfE) – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proportion of fixed-term exclusions within Lancashire-12 primary schools increased during 2021/22 (Table 2). The Primary fixed-term exclusions rate for Lancashire-12 is placed in the third quartile nationally and ranked 83 out of 152 authorities. The Lancashire-12 rate (1.32%) was higher than the Blackburn with Darwen (0.95%) rate, regionally (1.1%) and nationally (1.42%), however was lower than the Blackpool rate (1.81%). Historical data indicates that Lancashire-12 performance is generally better than the averages regionally, nationally and for the neighbouring unitary authorities of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool. However, between 2011/12 and 2013/14, and since 2017/18, Blackburn with Darwen has had lower rates (on average: 0.86%) than Lancashire-12.

Table 2: Proportion of pupils subject to fixed-term exclusions from state funded primary schools, 2011/12 to 2021/22

Area	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	0.60%	0.73%	0.89%	0.83%	1.02%	1.16%	1.25%	1.06%	0.71%	1.32%
Blackburn with Darwen	0.49%	0.65%	0.68%	0.88%	1.09%	1.19%	1.07%	1.02%	0.62%	0.95%
Blackpool	1.68%	1.43%	1.63%	1.19%	1.45%	1.70%	2.08%	2.48%	1.67%	1.81%
North West	0.76%	0.76%	0.86%	0.91%	1.01%	1.18%	1.16%	1.12%	0.76%	1.10%
England	0.90%	0.88%	1.02%	1.10%	1.21%	1.37%	1.40%	1.41%	1.00%	1.42%

Source: DfE – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2.2 Secondary school exclusions

Compared to primary schools, the proportion of permanently excluded pupils is higher in Lancashire secondary schools. Data for 2021/22 (Table 3) indicates that the percentage of permanent exclusions was 0.30%, a 0.1 percentage point increase from the previous year. There were 216 permanent secondary school exclusions in 2021/22. Since 2012/13, the proportion of permanent exclusions from Lancashire secondary schools have been significantly higher than the national and regional figures. Lancashire-12 is placed in the last quartile nationally and ranked 132 out of 152 authorities against this indicator.

Table 3: Proportion of pupils permanently excluded from state funded secondary schools, 2011/12 to 2021/22

Area	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	0.18%	0.18%	0.22%	0.29%	0.34%	0.45%	0.42%	0.44%	0.20%	0.30%
Blackburn with Darwen	0.17%	0.12%	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%	0.03%	0.06%	0.09%	0.18%	0.15%
Blackpool	0.03%	0.03%	0.14%	0.74%	0.33%	0.59%	0.64%	0.82%	0.2%	0.34%
North West	0.15%	0.14%	0.15%	0.19%	0.24%	0.31%	0.29%	0.30%	0.19%	0.25%
England	0.14%	0.12%	0.13%	0.15%	0.17%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.13%	0.16%

Source: DfE – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proportion of fixed term exclusions in secondary schools is much higher than in primary schools. The rate in Lancashire-12 increased in 2021/22 to 15.07% (Table 4). This was lower than the regional (15.5%) and Blackpool (23.81%) rates but was still higher than in Blackburn with Darwen (10.71%) and nationally (13.96%). Lancashire-12 is placed in the third quartile nationally and ranked 102 out of 152 authorities against this indicator.

Table 4: Proportion of pupils subject to fixed-term exclusions from state funded secondary schools, 2011/12 to 2021/22

Area	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	6.53%	6.07%	6.42%	6.67%	8.15%	8.93%	8.59%	10.47%	6.41%	15.07
Blackburn with Darwen	3.92%	3.41%	1.80%	2.12%	2.67%	3.66%	4.57%	4.74%	4.12%	10.71%
Blackpool	10.74%	11.34%	11.79%	21.61%	15.24%	19.17%	19.41%	29.63%	15.65%	23.81%
North West	7.88%	7.07%	7.05%	8.10%	8.67%	9.42%	9.81%	11.33%	7.57%	15.50%
England	7.80%	6.72%	6.62%	7.51%	8.46%	9.40%	10.13%	10.75%	7.43%	13.96%

Source: DfE – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2.3 Total exclusions

Recent data published by the Department for Education confirms there were 244 permanent exclusions during the 2021/22 period in Lancashire schools. Table 5 shows that this equates to a rate of 0.14% and is an increase on 2019/20 rate (by 0.05 percentage points) and was above the national (0.08%) and regional rates (0.11%). It was also above Blackburn with Darwen (0.07%) and neighbouring authority of Blackpool (0.13%). Lancashire-12 is placed in the last quartile nationally and ranked 131 of 152 authorities against this indicator.

Table 5: Proportion of pupils subject to total permanent exclusions from all state funded primary and secondary schools, 2011/12 to 2021/22

Area	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	0.09%	0.10%	0.12%	0.15%	0.18%	0.21%	0.18%	0.19%	0.09%	0.14%
Blackburn with Darwen	0.00%	0.05%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.03%	0.06%	0.08%	0.07%
Blackpool	0.01%	0.01%	0.06%	0.27%	0.12%	0.22%	0.22%	0.29%	0.07%	0.13%
North West	0.07%	0.07%	0.07%	0.09%	0.11%	0.14%	0.13%	0.12%	0.08%	0.11%
England	0.07%	0.06%	0.06%	0.07%	0.08%	0.10%	0.10%	0.09%	0.06%	0.08%

Source: DfE – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proportion of fixed term exclusions in all state funded schools is higher in 2021/22 compared to previous years. The rate in Lancashire-12 increased in 2021/22 to 7.12% (Table 6). This was the same as the regional (7.12%) and lower than the Blackpool (10.34%) rates but was still higher than in Blackburn with Darwen (5.49%) and national (6.91%). Lancashire-12 is placed in the third quartile nationally and ranked 96 of 152 authorities against this indicator.

Table 6: Proportion of pupils subject to fixed term exclusions from all state funded primary and secondary schools, 2013/14 to 2021/22

Area	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-22
Lancashire-12	3.42%	3.36%	4.05%	4.42%	4.36%	5.06%	3.13%	7.12%
Blackburn with Darwen	1.12%	1.38%	1.76%	2.34%	2.90%	2.83%	2.25%	5.49%
Blackpool	5.43%	8.61%	6.42%	7.99%	8.15%	12.06%	6.72%	10.34%
North West	3.51%	3.90%	4.15%	4.81%	4.69%	5.30%	3.58%	7.12%
England	3.50%	3.88%	4.29%	4.76%	5.08%	5.36%	3.76%	6.91%

Source: DfE – The figures for 2020/21 have been omitted, as this academic year was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2019/20 data should be treated with caution as it was interrupted by with the first national lockdown on 23 March 2020, during the spring term. Schools remained open for vulnerable children and children of key workers. While permanent exclusions and suspensions were still possible throughout the academic year, school closures have had a substantial effect on the number of permanent exclusions and suspension and therefore caution should be taken when comparing figures across years.

Addressing exclusions and their causes is an ongoing focus for the Authority. The work of education strategy focusing on inclusivity in schools, trauma informed training, recruitment of behaviour consultants, behaviour quality mark, relational toolkit work and Alternative Provision strategy should all drive these numbers down over time.