



Suffolk Children Services Self Evaluation

February 2026

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152,255

Children and young people 0-17
(ONS mid 2024 data)



19%

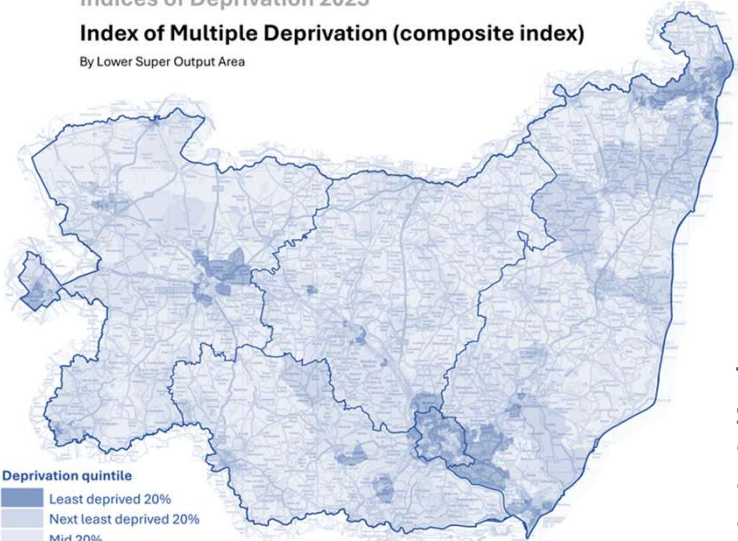
of the total Suffolk population
(786,231)

50,889 young people 18-25 (up to end of age 24) who we have a duty under the SEND Code of Practice to meet local needs and support better outcomes

Indices of Deprivation 2025

Index of Multiple Deprivation (composite index)

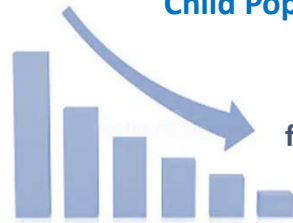
By Lower Super Output Area



Deprivation quintile

- Least deprived 20%
- Next least deprived 20%
- Mid 20%
- Next most deprived 20%
- Most deprived 20%

Child Population 0-17



The CYP population is forecast to decrease by **12%** by 2040
(2022 ONS)

The 2025 Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) ranks Suffolk 103 out of 153 Local Authorities i.e. in the top 30%. Education, skills and training remains a key area for further improvement.

Inequalities in Suffolk are not confined to the urban areas. We see areas in smaller towns featuring in the most deprived parts of England, with pockets of rural deprivation persisting.

Children (under 16) living in low-income families (2024)

19.7%
in Suffolk



22.1%
England

The 2024 State of the Nation report ranked Suffolk 55 out of 203 Local Authorities for "Promising Prospects", and 99 out of 203 for "Conditions of Childhood" – both ranked in the "Middle Group" i.e. very near the average

Child population from minority ethnic groups

In 2024/25, approximately 1 in 5 school children in Suffolk were Non-White British, compared to 2 in 5 for England

Largest Suffolk minority ethnic groups in Suffolk schools:

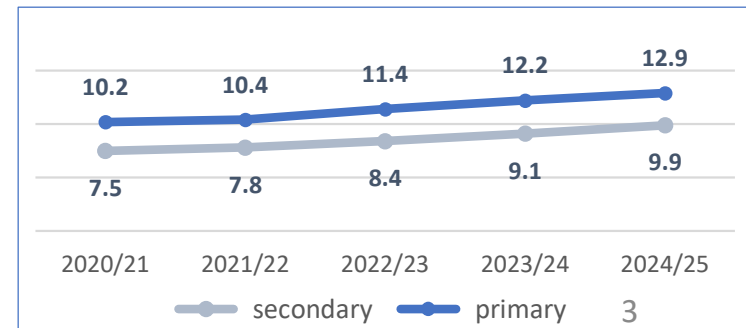
- White – Any other White background **(6.8%)**
- Mixed – Any other Mixed Backgrounds **(3.1%)**
- Black – Black African **(1.7%)**



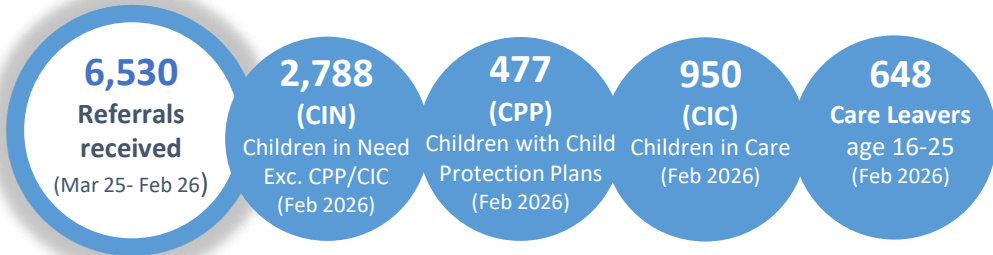
11.5%

Children in Suffolk schools with a first language other than English (2024/25)
21.4 % National figure

% of children with a first language other than English (State Funded Schools only)



Suffolk Children Services Self Evaluation



Children in Care includes 79 Separated Migrant Children (SMC)

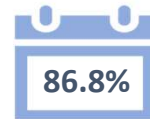


80.6% of children and young people and 81.4% of parents/carers who gave Family Support feedback between January 2025, and December 2025 said things are better following support

79.5% of EHAs closed between January 2025 and December 2025 had achieved Full Progress or Some Progress

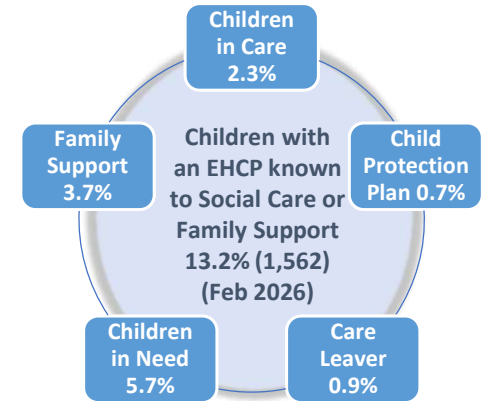
Need in Suffolk

Neglect and abuse	Number of children in care
Child exploitation	Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)
Gangs and inter-related drug issues	Vigilance: (Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour-based abuse (HBA), Forced marriage (FM) & radicalisation
Emotional wellbeing / mental health	

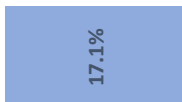


SW Assessments completed in 45 working days of referral

Post 16 NEET (16-17)	%
Other EET	4.06%
Neet + Unknown	5.19%
In Learning	90.75%



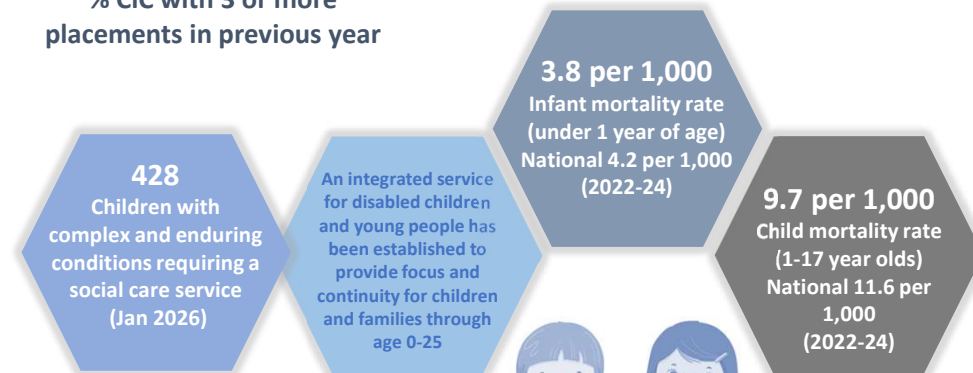
% Re-referrals within 1 year



Children becoming CPP for a second or subsequent time

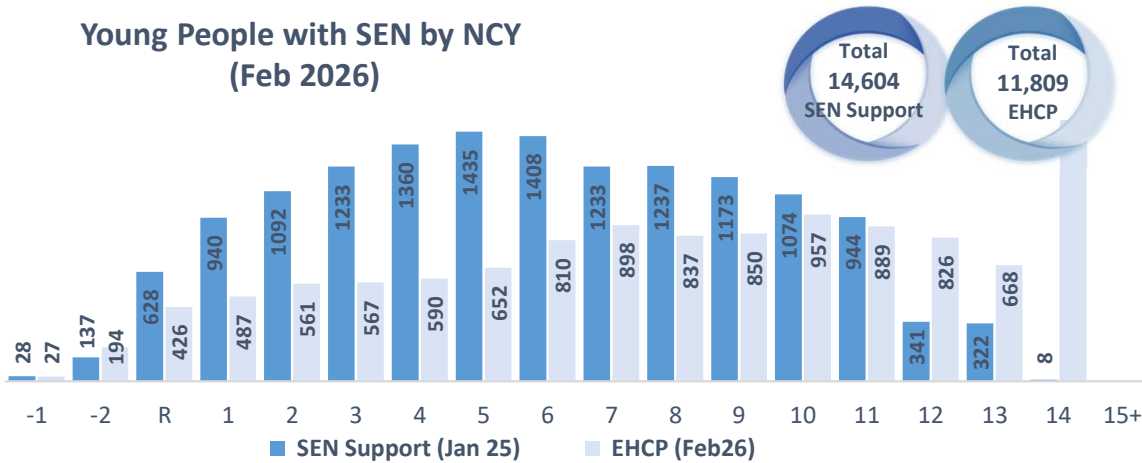


<p>4.7% 16-17 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (Feb 2026)</p>	<p>112 per 100,000 First time entrants into the youth justice system England 155 per 100,000 (Oct 2024 – Sep 2025)</p>	<p>14.6 per 1,000 Under 18 conceptions England 13.9 per 1,000 (2022)</p>	<p>15.6% 5-year-olds with visually obvious dental decay England 22.4% (2023-24)</p>
<p>33.6% Year 6 children overweight including obesity England 36.2% (2024-25)</p>	<p>57.8% Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks England 51.0% (Feb 2026)</p>	<p>1,977 Children in Elective Home Education (Feb 2026)</p>	<p>93.1 per 100,000 Hospital admissions for mental health conditions 0-17 England 80.2 (2023-24)</p>

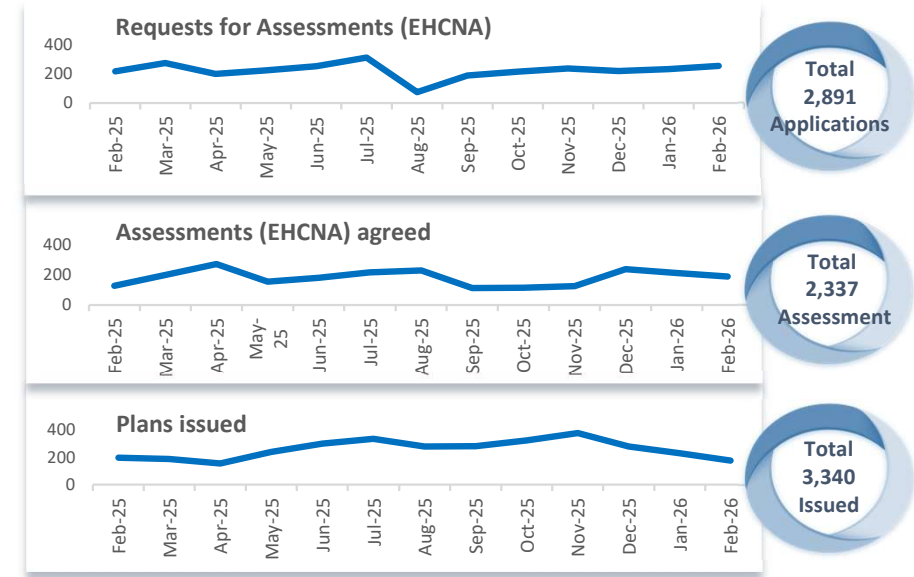


Suffolk Children Services Self Evaluation - Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Young People with SEN by NCY (Feb 2026)

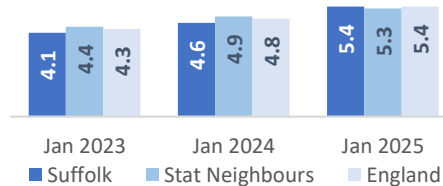


Education, Health and Care needs assessment (EHCNA) and Plans (Feb 2025 to Feb 2026)

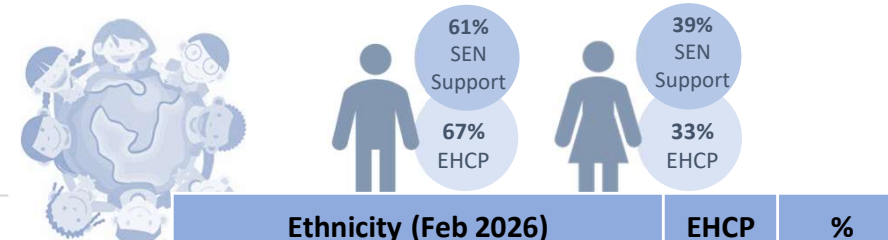
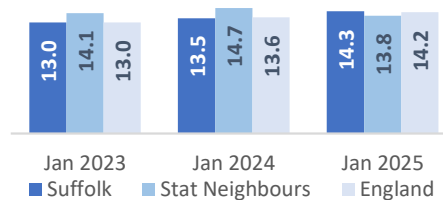


EHCNs by Primary Need (Feb 2026)	EHCP	%
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	3,278	27.8%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	3,247	27.5%
Speech, Language and Communication Needs	2,280	19.3%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	1,422	12.0%
Specific Learning Difficulty	358	3.0%
Physical Disability	355	3.0%
Severe Learning Difficulty	316	2.7%
Other Difficulty/Disability	183	1.5%
Hearing Impairment	161	1.4%
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulty	88	0.7%
Visual Impairment	65	0.6%
Multi-Sensory Impairment	38	0.3%
Down Syndrome	10	0.1%
Other	8	0.1%
Grand Total	11,809	100%

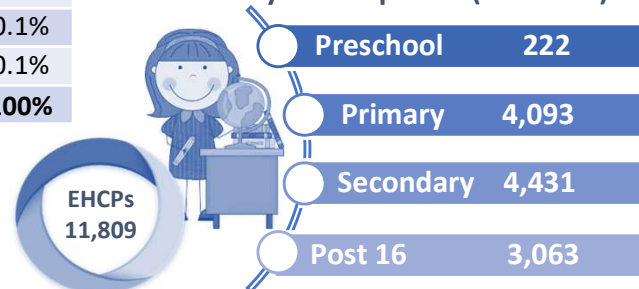
% of EHCP Pupils in Schools 2023 - 2025



% of SEN Support in Schools 2023- 2025



EHCNs by school phase (Feb 2026)



Ethnicity (Feb 2026)	EHCP	%
White	10,000	84.7%
White Other	535	4.5%
Black/African/Caribbean /Black British	446	3.8%
Mixed /Multiple ethnic groups	296	2.5%
Asian /Asian British	184	1.6%
Any other ethnic group	159	1.3%
Refused	147	1.2%
Information not yet obtained	31	0.3%
Chinese	11	0.1%
Grand Total	11,809	100%

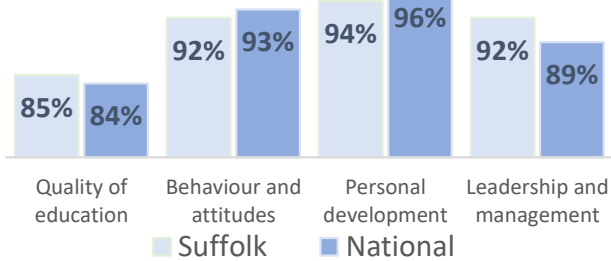
*Other includes where a primary need is not recorded

Primary Needs in Suffolk follow a similar pattern to England

Suffolk Children Services Self Evaluation - SEND Outcomes



Suffolk Schools inspected good/outstanding - Dec 25



Please note - Ofsted Inspections have resumed within a new judgement's framework. New data will be available shortly once latest reports for Suffolk schools have been published

2025 Pupil Attainment

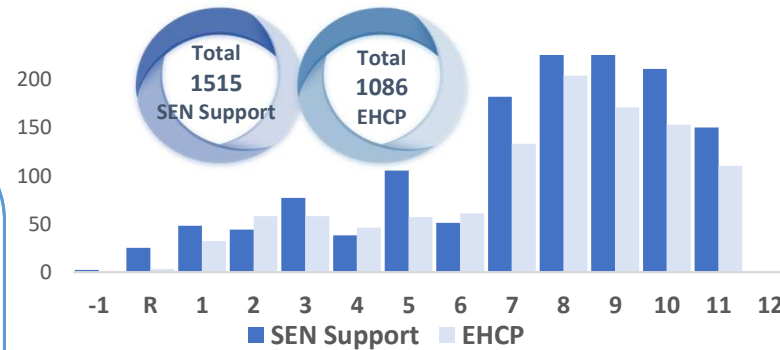
KS2 % achieving expected standard in RWM (Final)

Sen status	Suffolk	SNN	EOE	England
All	59	59	61	63
No Sen	71	70	72	74
SEN	20	21	22	24
EHCP	9	8	9	9
Sen Support	24	25	26	29

KS4 % achieving 4-9 in English and Maths (Final)

Sen status	Suffolk	SNN	EOE	England
All	61	64	66	65
No Sen	69	72	73	73
SEN	26	30	31	32
EHCP	13	15	14	14
Sen Support	33	36	39	39

Suspensions by NCY 2025/26



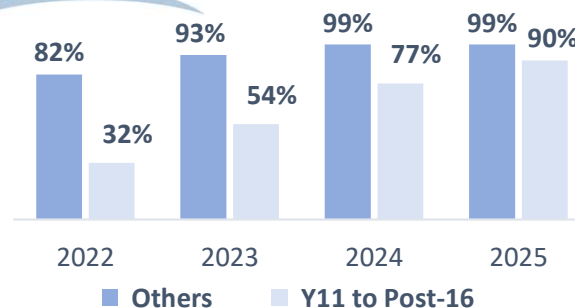
Permanent Exclusions (upheld)

	EHCP	SEN Support
2023/24	20	83
2024/25	54	119
2025/26	44	46

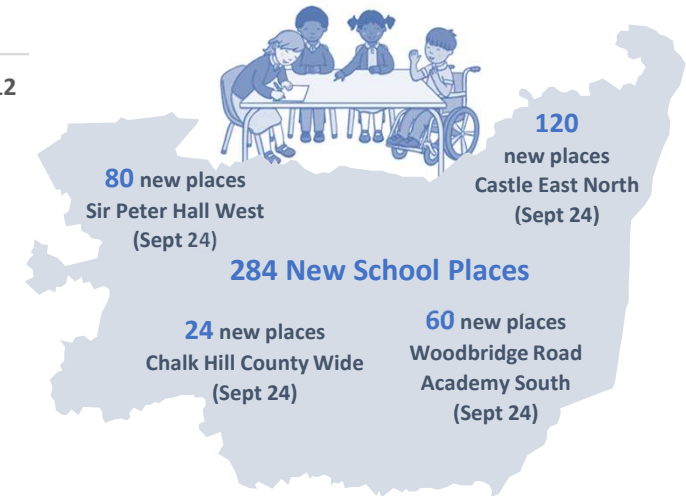


Phase Transfer Reviews

Percentage of phased transfer pupils with final amended plans completed



263
Children with an EHCP are Electively Home Educated (of 1,977 EHE)
(Feb 26)



Total number of places created within Phase 1 of the SEND Capital Programme

Type of Provision	Places Planned
New Units 2020/21	180
New Units 2021/22	198
Additional capacity in previous units	10
New School Places	284
Additional capacity in new units	81
MLD	24
SLD	48
Total	825