

SHEFFIELD PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS 2024

Learn
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By Sheffield. For Sheffield. In collaboration



Sheffield Performance Analysis 2024

This analysis of educational performance in Sheffield has been developed in partnership between Learn Sheffield and Sheffield City Council.

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Sheffield Performance Analysis 2024

Overview

- 1 Ofsted inspection judgements, benchmarking and trends
- 2 Pupil characteristics & SEND
- 3 Attendance
- 4 Exclusions
- 5 Attainment & progress

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Last updated: January 2025
Next update: January 2026

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School Data: Ofsted (All Schools)

% of ALL schools good or outstanding

Area	30/09/21	30/09/22	30/09/23	30/09/24
Core cities	84.8	87.2	89.0	89.9
National	86.5	88.1	88.9	90.5
Sheffield	85.7	88.6	89.8	92.1
Stat. neighbours	82.7	84.9	86.0	87.9

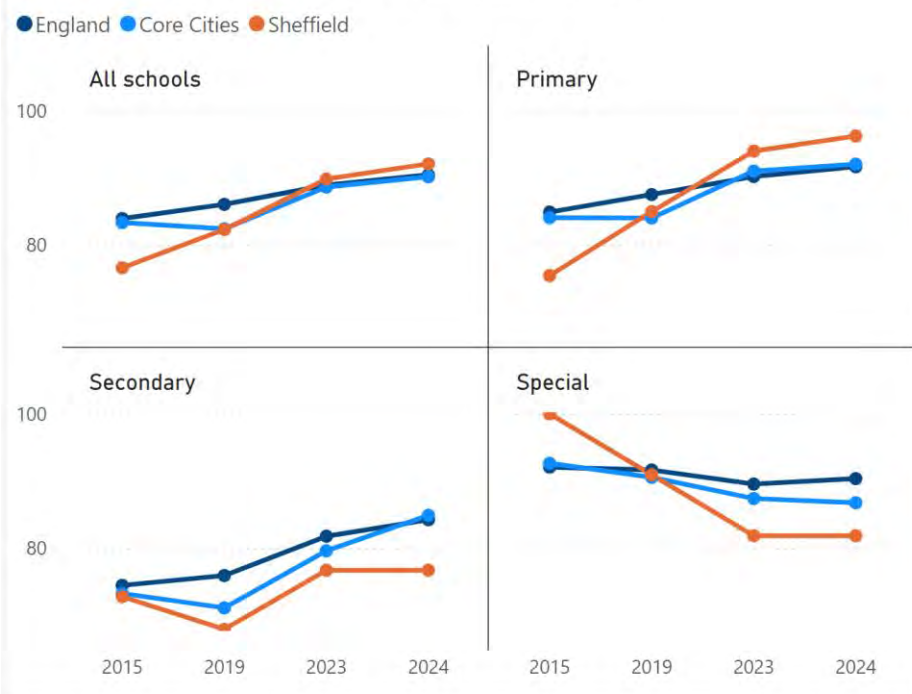
- Sheffield finished the 2023/24 school year above national for the third consecutive year with more than 90% of schools good or outstanding for the first time.
- The 2023/24 year-end position (30 September 2024) is a further improvement on 2022/23 – Sheffield 92.1% (1.6% points above national and 2.2% points above Core Cities).
- For context, Sheffield was 9.8% points below national in September 2015.

Ofsted judgements - % of schools good or outstanding

- In September 2024, Sheffield ranked 3rd out of 8 Core Cities and 69th nationally out of 153 LAs for the proportion of schools judged good or outstanding. Sheffield's national rank is in the 2nd quartile and significantly outperforms Sheffield's ranking for deprivation.
- The primary sector ranks highest amongst Core Cities and is in the top quartile nationally, whilst secondary and special are in the bottom quartile nationally and the bottom half of Core Cities.

% of schools good or outstanding

Latest Ofsted judgements as published at 30th September each year



Note: the methodology for reporting Ofsted inspections changed between 2015 and 2019. Data from 2019 onwards includes latest judgements for all schools that have ever received an inspection including academy converters. Previous data excluded judgements for schools that converted to sponsor led academies following an inspection. The 2015 figures for % of schools judged good or outstanding would be lower than reported if all school judgements had been recorded.

% good or outstanding and difference c/w Sheffield (as at 30th Sept)

area	year	Sheffield % of schools	diff w. national	diff w. Core Cities
2015				
All schools		76.6	-7.3	-6.7
Primary		75.4	-9.5	-8.6
Secondary		72.7	-1.7	-0.5
Special		100.0	8.0	7.4
2019				
All schools		82.3	-3.8	-0.1
Primary		85.0	-2.5	1.0
Secondary		67.9	-8.0	-3.2
Special		90.9	-0.7	0.4
2023				
All schools		89.8	0.9	1.2
Primary		94.0	3.8	3.0
Secondary		76.7	-5.1	-2.9
Special		81.8	-7.7	-5.6
2024				
All schools		92.1	1.6	1.9
Primary		96.2	4.6	4.2
Secondary		76.7	-7.5	-8.2
Special		81.8	-8.5	-4.9

Rank (% of schools good or outstanding)

year	national rank	Core Cities rank
2015		
All schools	136	8
Primary	137	8
Secondary	87	5
Special	1	1
2019		
All schools	114	4
Primary	102	4
Secondary	108	7
Special	102	5
2023		
All schools	73	2
Primary	53	3
Secondary	108	6
Special	112	7
2024		
All schools	69	3
Primary	35	1
Secondary	121	6
Special	118	7

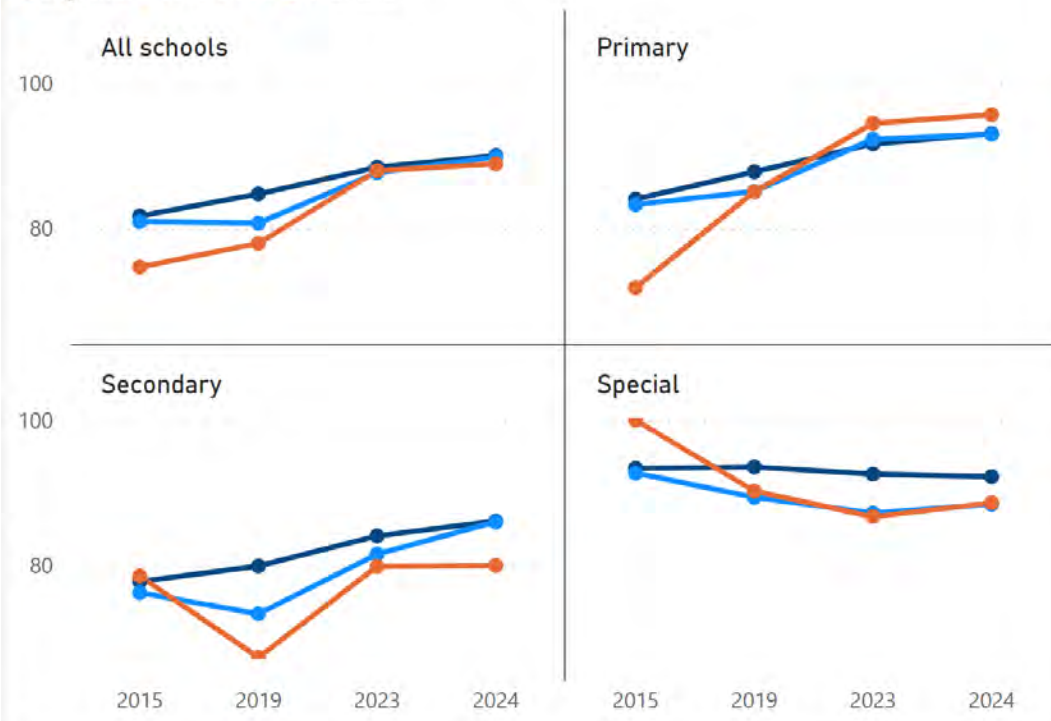
Ofsted judgements - % of pupils in good or outstanding schools

- 88.9% of all pupils and 95.7% of primary age pupils were attending a good or outstanding school as at 30 September 2024.
- The % of all pupils in a good or outstanding schools is slightly below the national and Core Cities average.

% of pupils in good or outstanding schools

Latest Ofsted judgements as published at 30th September each year

● England ● Core Cities ● Sheffield

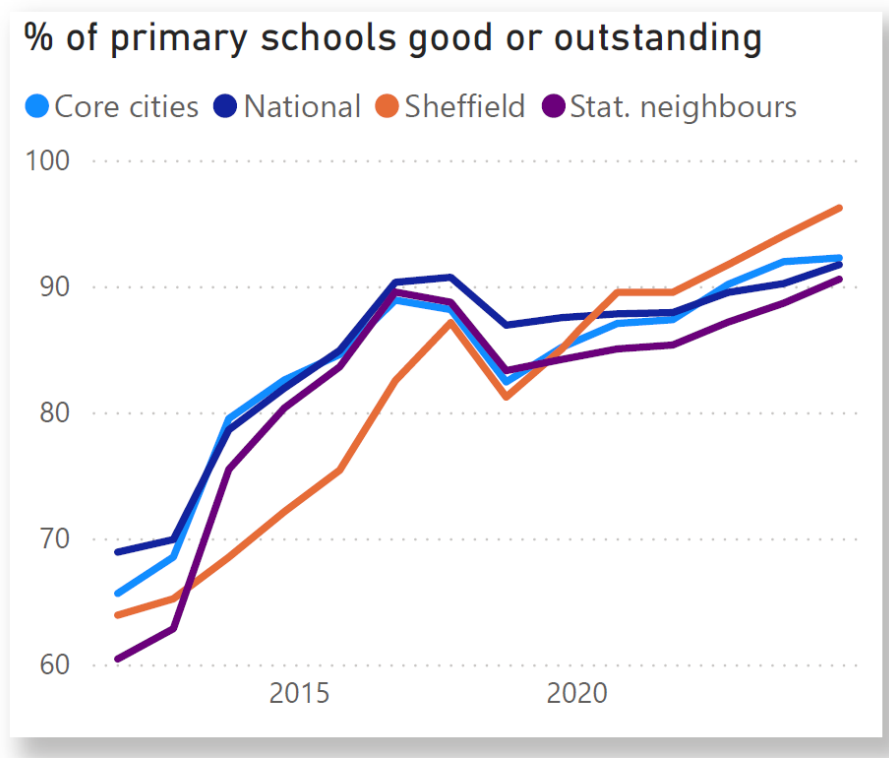


% pupils in good or outstanding schools and difference c/w Sheffield (as at 30th September)

area	year	Sheffield % of pupils	diff w. national	diff w. Core Cities
2015				
All schools		74.7	-7.0	-6.2
Primary		71.9	-12.2	-11.4
Secondary		78.5	0.8	2.3
Special		100.0	6.6	7.3
2019				
All schools		78.0	-6.8	-2.8
Primary		85.1	-2.8	0.0
Secondary		67.3	-12.6	-6.0
Special		90.2	-3.3	0.9
2023				
All schools		88.0	-0.5	0.3
Primary		94.5	2.8	2.2
Secondary		79.9	-4.2	-1.7
Special		86.7	-5.9	-0.5
2024				
All schools		88.9	-1.1	-0.9
Primary		95.7	2.6	2.7
Secondary		80.0	-6.1	-6.0
Special		88.6	-3.6	0.2

Note: the methodology for reporting Ofsted inspections changed between 2015 and 2019. Data from 2019 onwards includes latest judgements for all schools that have ever received an inspection including academy converters. Previous data excluded judgements for schools that converted to sponsor led academies following an inspection. The 2015 figures for % of pupils in schools judged good or outstanding would be lower than reported if all school judgements had been recorded.

1 School Data: Ofsted (Primary)

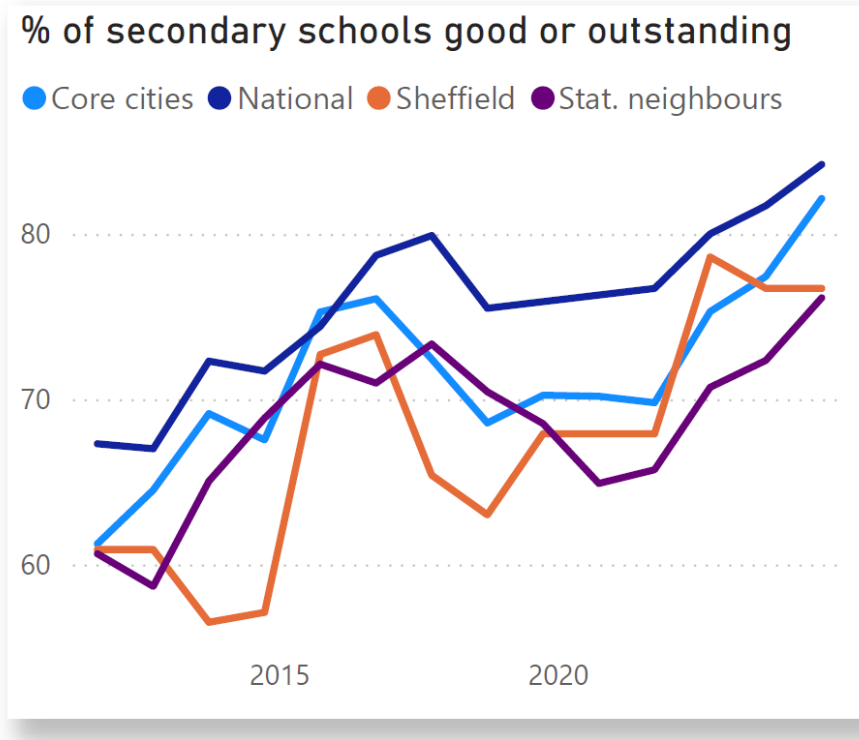


% of primary schools good or outstanding

Area	30/09/21	30/09/22	30/09/23	30/09/24
Core cities	87.3	90.1	91.9	92.2
National	87.9	89.5	90.2	91.7
Sheffield	89.5	91.7	94.0	96.2
Stat. neighbours	85.3	87.1	88.6	90.5

- At year-end (30 September 2024) the Sheffield primary sector reached 96% of schools judged good or outstanding for the first time.
- This was an improvement across 2023/24 of 2.2% points, following an increase of 2.3% points in 2022/23.
- This placed Sheffield primary schools 4.5% points above national and 4.0% points above Core Cities.

School Data: Ofsted (Secondary)

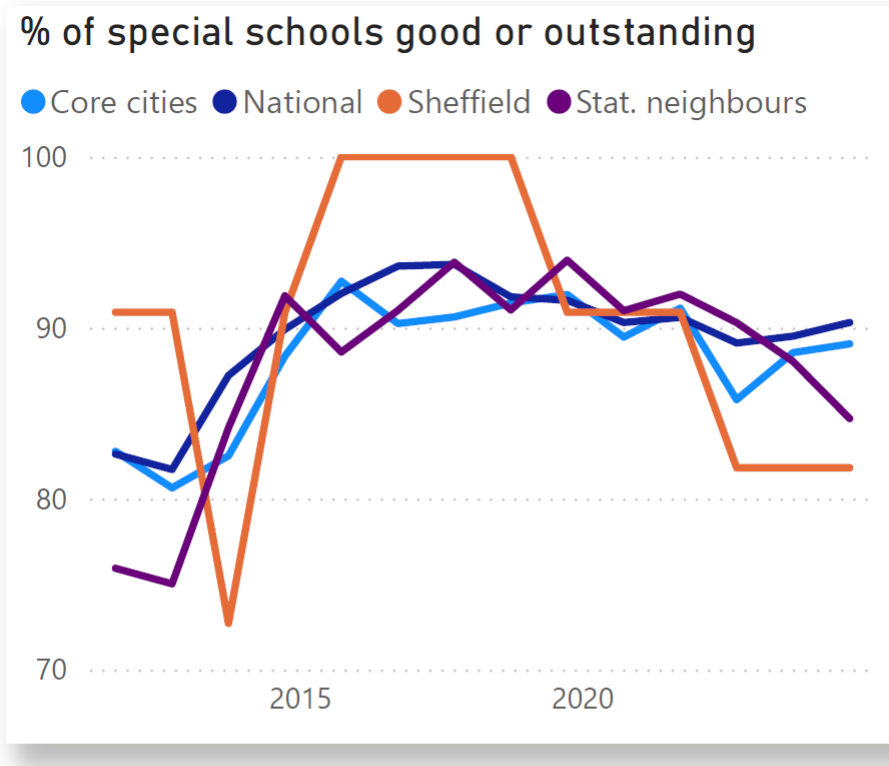


% of secondary schools good or outstanding

Area	30/09/21	30/09/22	30/09/23	30/09/24
Core cities	69.8	75.3	77.4	82.1
National	76.7	80.0	81.7	84.2
Sheffield	67.9	78.6	76.7	76.7
Stat. neighbours	65.7	70.7	72.3	76.1

- The year-end (30 September 2024) position for the Sheffield secondary sector was 76.7% of schools judged good or outstanding.
- This is the same as the end of year position in 2022/23. As the national and Core Cities results have improved for secondary, the gap between national/Core Cities and Sheffield has got wider.
- This placed Sheffield secondary schools 7.5% points below national and 5.4% points below Core Cities.

1 School Data: Ofsted (Special)



% of special schools good or outstanding

Area	30/09/21	30/09/22	30/09/23	30/09/24
Core cities	91.1	85.8	88.5	89.1
National	90.6	89.1	89.5	90.3
Sheffield	90.9	81.8	81.8	81.8
Stat. neighbours	92.0	90.3	88.0	84.7

- As there are only 11 settings in the special school data with inspection judgements (two schools had not yet been inspected as at 30 September 2024) one school has a significant impact on Sheffield's overall position.
- Sheffield was below the national average and Core Cities average at the end of the 2023/24 school year - either of the two schools below good moving to good or outstanding would move Sheffield above the national average.



Outcomes for children and young people

- In 2015, 53k of 71k* pupils attended a school judged good or outstanding. By 2024, 76k of 85k* pupils attended a school judged good or outstanding.
- The percentage of Sheffield pupils attending a school judged good or outstanding increased from 75% in 2015 to 89% in 2024.
- Over the past 8 years, an additional 22.5k pupils attend a good or outstanding setting - a 14% point increase in the percentage of pupils attending a good or outstanding setting.
- In September 2024, 9,414 pupils attended a setting which is not judged currently to be good or outstanding.



Trails for further investigation

- **1.1** How should we track inspection outcomes going forwards now that overall judgements have gone?
- **1.2** What is the relationship between the quality of education judgement in inspection and pupil outcomes? What does this tell us about effective approaches to raising attainment?

* These numbers represent the total number of pupils in schools with an Ofsted judgement

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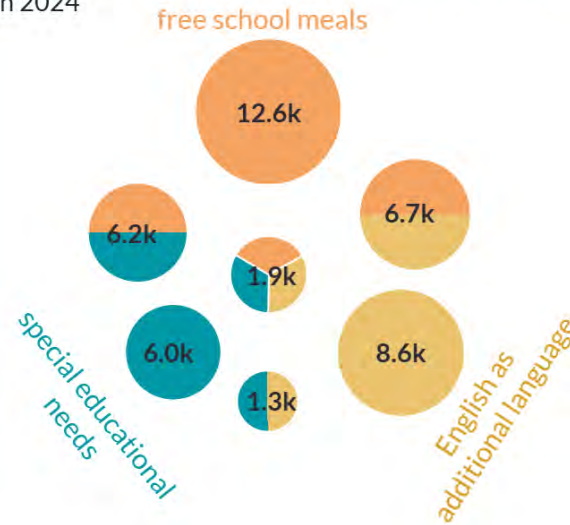
Last updated: January 2025
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Pupil characteristics – overview

There were **76,941** pupils in Sheffield mainstream and special schools from reception to Y11 in January 2024



57% of pupils had one these three characteristics in 2024



Top 10 languages spoken in Sheffield in 2024 (other than English)

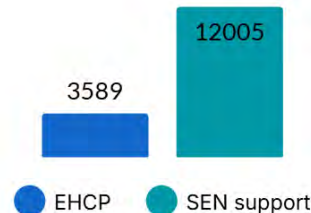


146 different languages are spoken in Sheffield

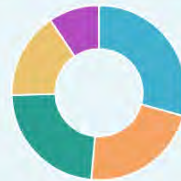


20% of pupils in Sheffield in 2024 had special educational needs

3,589 pupils had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and **12,005** had a support plan but not an EHCP



89% of children with special educational needs had **1 of 5 primary needs** in 2024



- Speech, Language And Communication Needs
- Autism
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health
- Moderate Learning Difficulty
- Specific Learning Difficulty



Top 10 ethnic groups in Sheffield in 2024

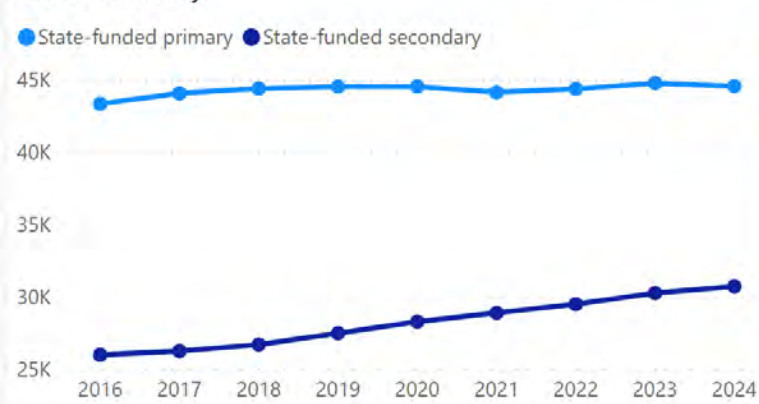


- 57% White British
- 8% Pakistani
- 6% Other Black African
- 3% White & Black Caribbean
- 3% Any Other Asian Background
- 3% Any Other Ethnic Background
- 2% Any Other Mixed Background
- 2% White Gypsy/Roma
- 2% Any Other White Background
- 2% White East European

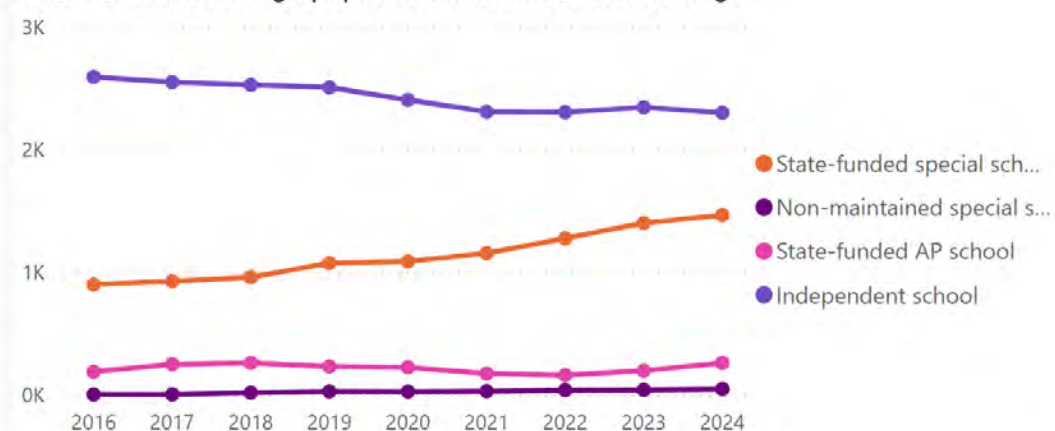
Pupil characteristics – pupil numbers by setting

- In January 2024, there were just over 79,000 young people from reception to Y11 in education settings in Sheffield. Overall, the number of young people has increased by about 9% since 2016.
- The largest increase in numbers has been in the secondary phase and the largest % increase has been in special schools, particularly in the secondary phase where there has been an 80% increase in pupil numbers since 2016.

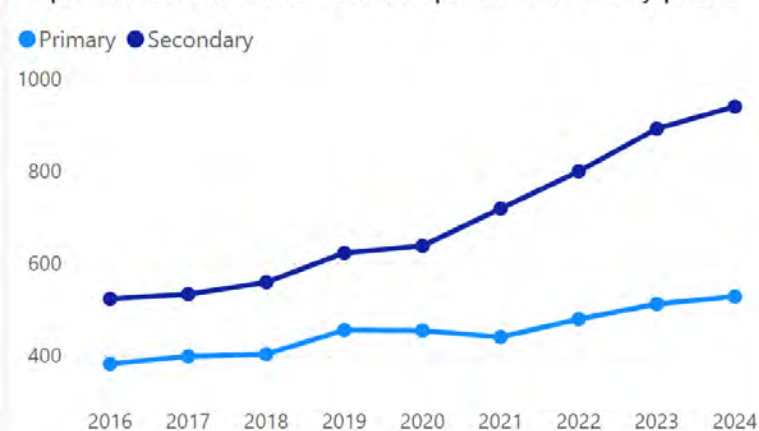
Pupil numbers (reception to Y11) in state-funded primary and secondary



Number of school age pupils not in mainstream settings



Pupil numbers in state-funded special schools by phase



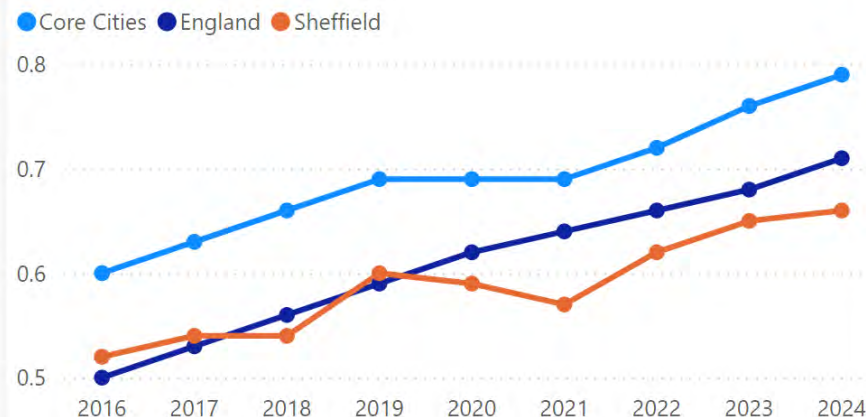
No. of pupils (reception to Y11) in Sheffield settings

Type of setting	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
State-funded primary	43336	44057	44390	44522	44520	44128	44364	44764	44543
State-funded secondary	25965	26233	26672	27462	28264	28871	29469	30237	30705
State-funded special school	903	929	960	1076	1090	1157	1277	1403	1467
Non-maintained special school	5	6	19	29	28	31	40	42	49
State-funded AP school	191	251	262	233	226	175	162	199	262
Independent school	2595	2551	2530	2509	2407	2311	2308	2346	2303
Total	72995	74027	74833	75831	76535	76673	77620	78991	79329

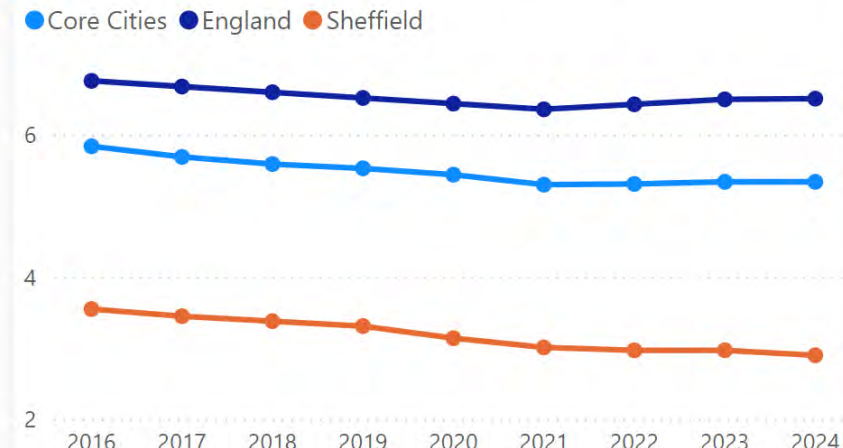
Pupil characteristics – pupil numbers by setting

- Sheffield has a lower % of young people in special schools in the primary phase compared to the national and Core Cities average but a higher % of young people in special schools in the secondary phase.
- The independent sector in Sheffield is significantly smaller than the national and Core Cities average (3% of pupils in Sheffield compared to 6.5% nationally in 2024).
- The % of pupils in state-funded alternative provision is higher than the Core Cities and national average and this increased significantly between 2023 and 2024.

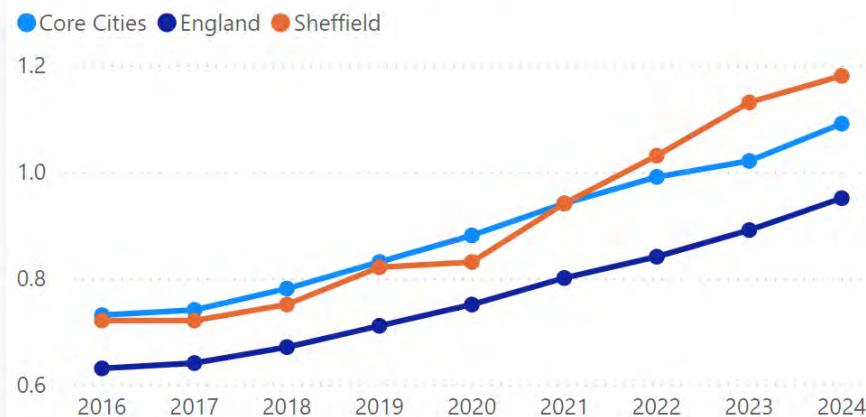
% of young people in state-funded special schools (primary phase)



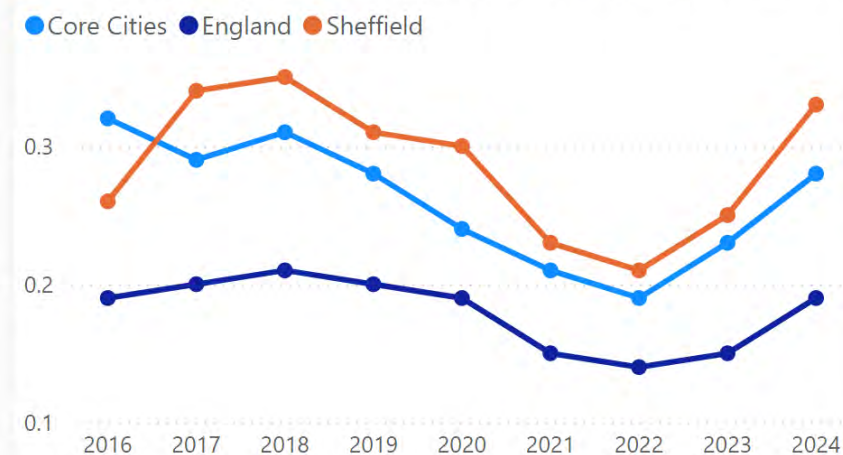
% of young people in independent schools



% of young people in state-funded special schools (secondary phase)

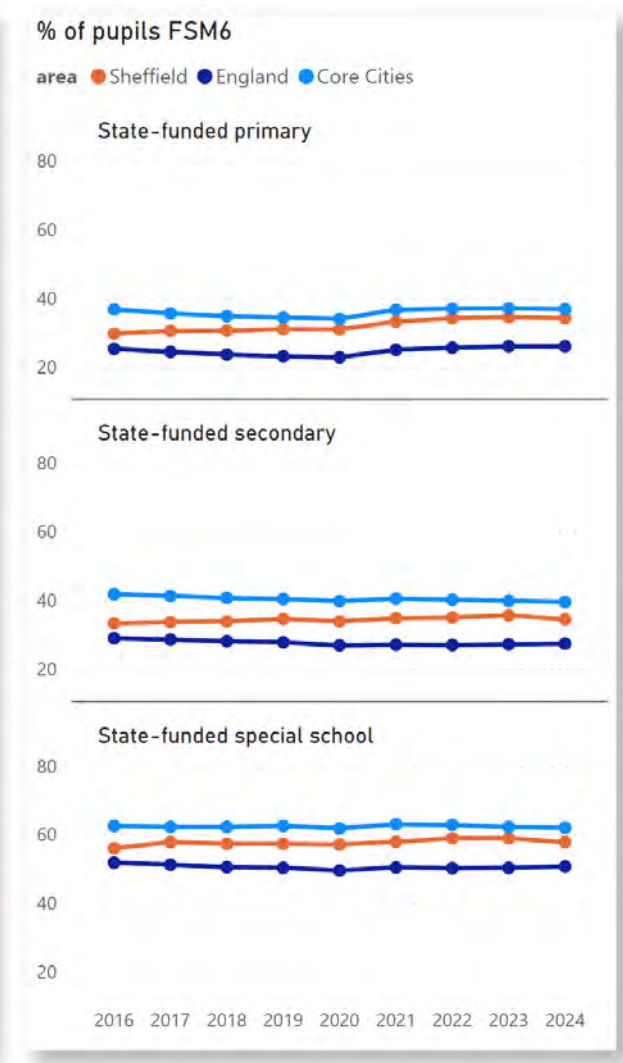
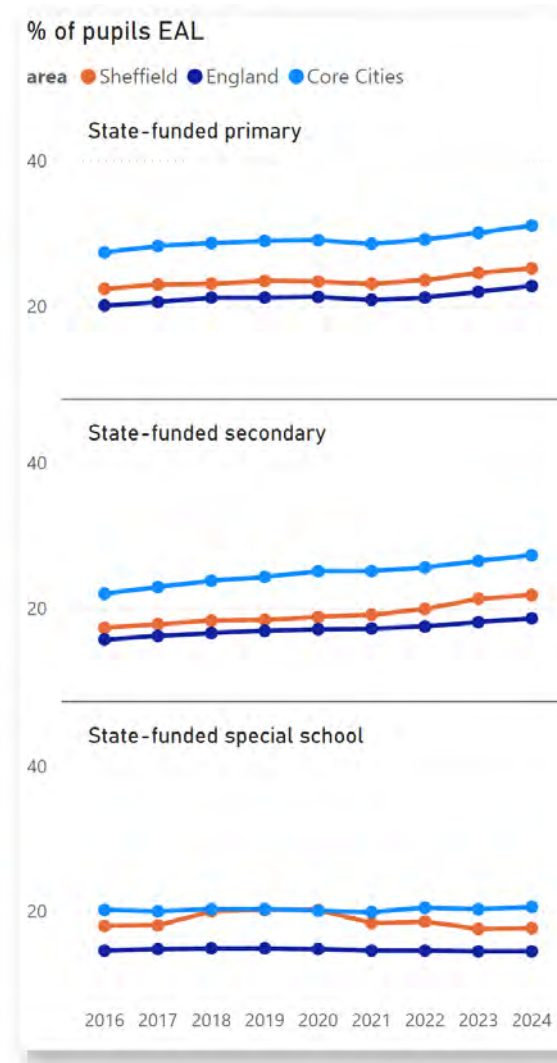
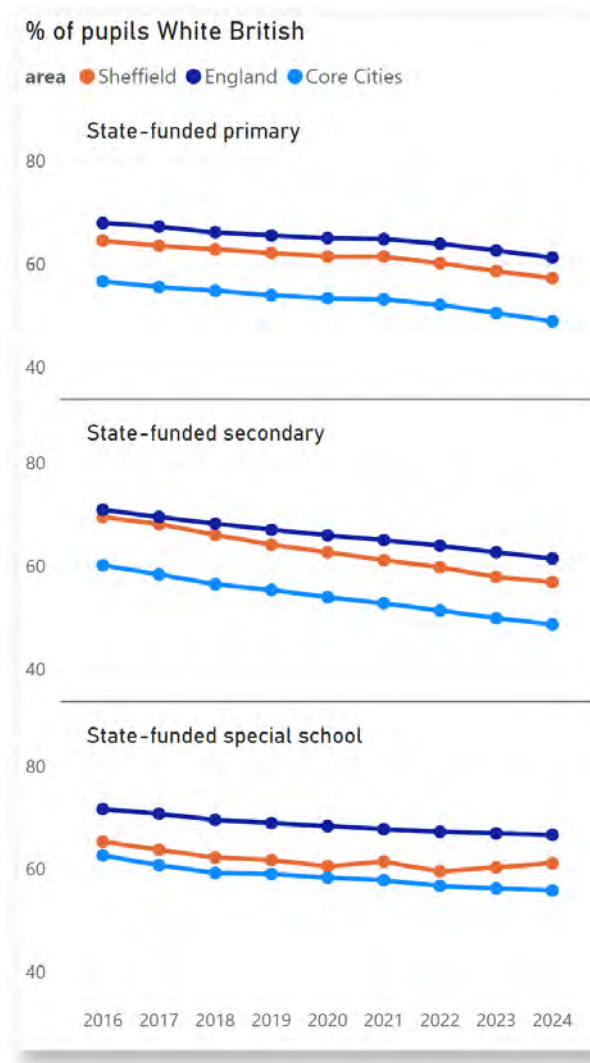


% of young people in state-funded alternative provision



2 Pupil characteristics – trends by phase

- Sheffield has a higher % of pupils from Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups, a higher % of pupils with English as an additional language and a higher % of pupils eligible for the pupil premium compared to the national average. The % of pupils in these categories has been increasing since 2016.
- Although Sheffield is above the national average on the above measures it is below the average for Core Cities.
- The % of pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years (FSM6) has increased since 2020 but has now stabilised at around 34%.



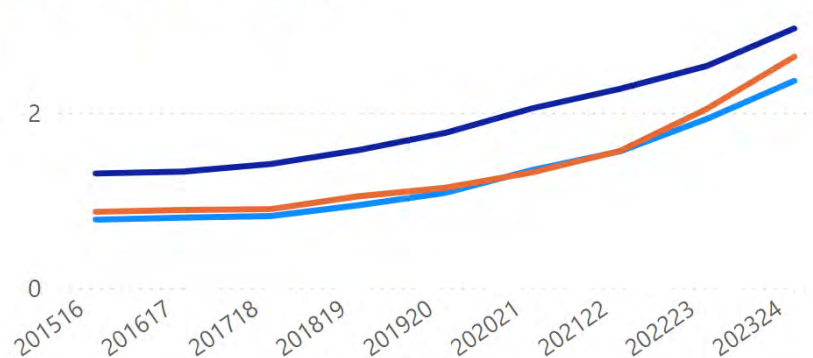
Pupil characteristics – % of pupils with SEND

- In 2024, 2.6% of pupils in primary schools and 2.5% of pupils in secondary schools had an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP).
- The % of pupils with EHCPs in Sheffield in January 2024 is below the national average and slightly above the Core Cities average.
- A further 16.0% of pupils in primary and 13.7% of pupils in secondary had a SEN support plan. These figures are higher than the national average.

% of pupils with EHCPs

School type: State-funded primary

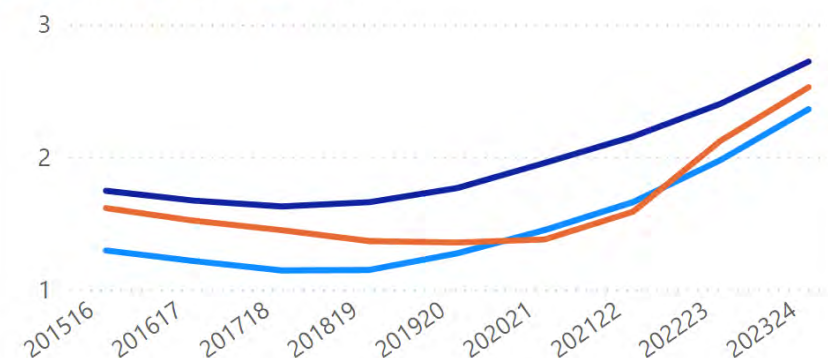
Core Cities England Sheffield



% of pupils with EHCPs

School type: State-funded secondary

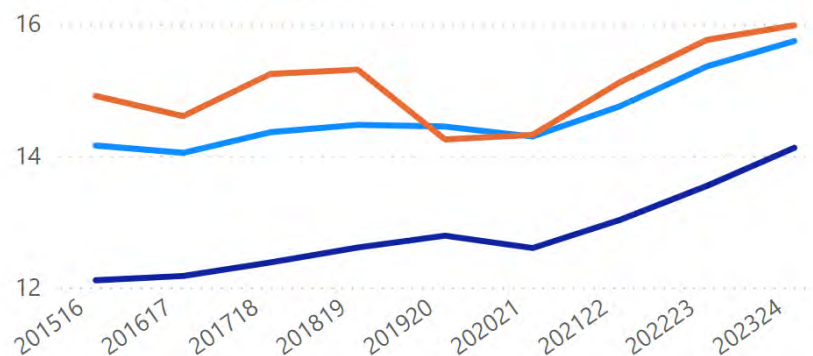
Core Cities England Sheffield



% of pupils with SEN support

School type: State-funded primary

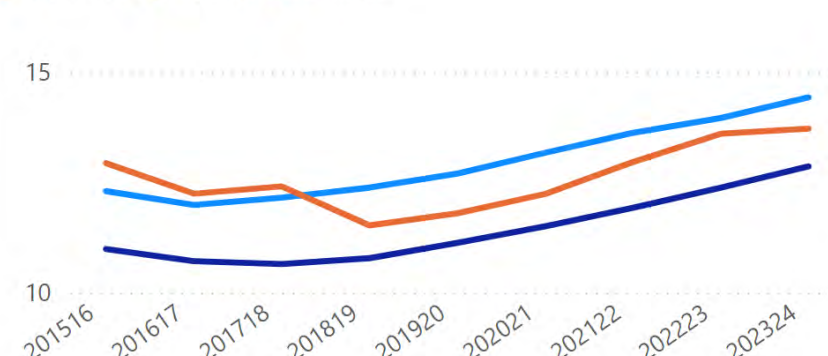
Core Cities England Sheffield



% of pupils with SEN support

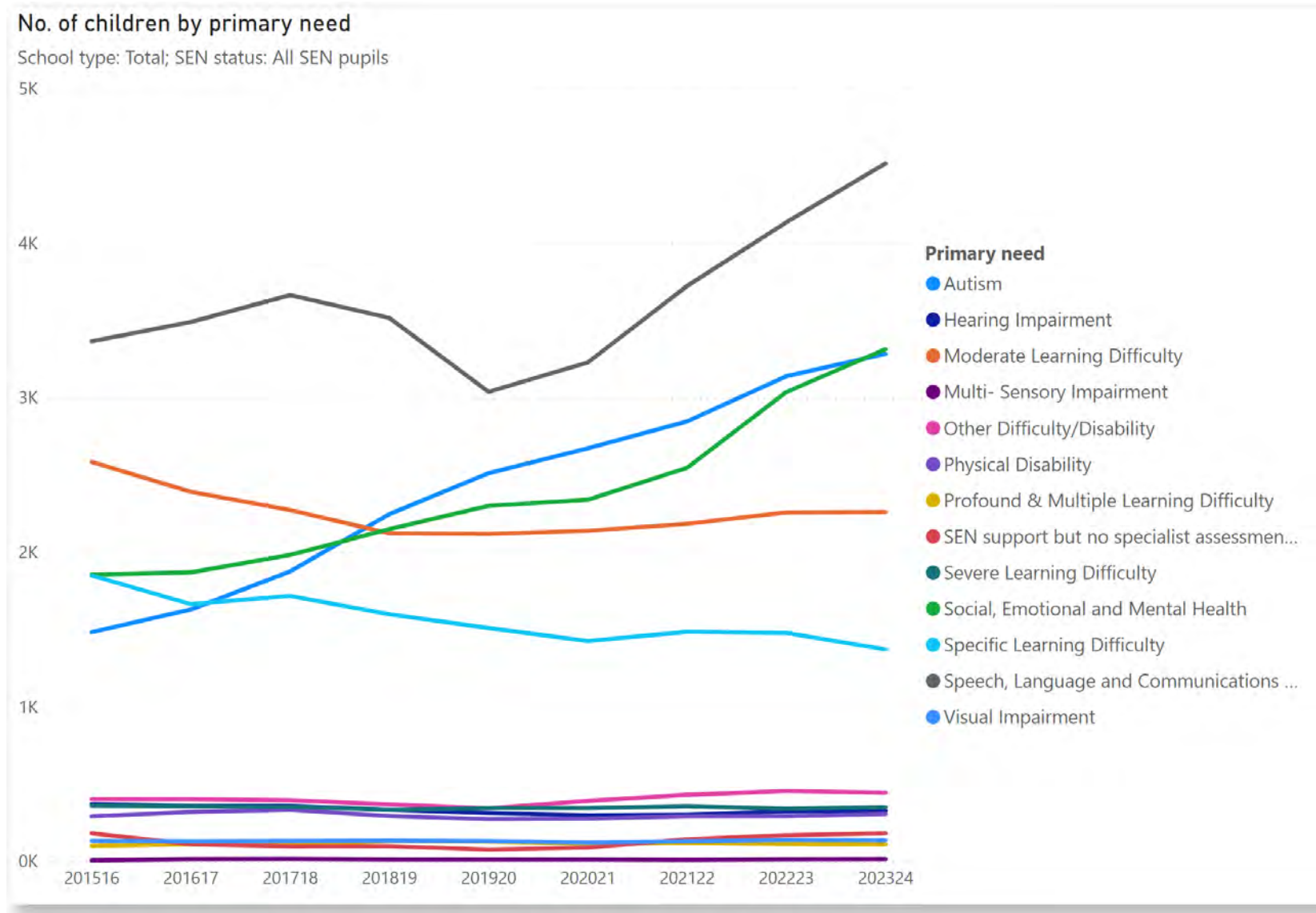
School type: State-funded secondary

Core Cities England Sheffield



Pupil characteristics – SEND primary needs

- The most prevalent need for pupils with SEND in Sheffield in 2023/24 was speech, language and communication followed by social, emotional and mental health and autism.
- 5.3% of pupils in all state-funded settings had a primary need of speech, language and communication in January 2024, this is higher than the national average (4.4%) and the Core Cities average (5.0%).
- The % of pupils with autism is also significantly higher than the national average (3.8% in Sheffield compared to 2.8% nationally in 2023/24).



Pupil characteristics – primary - ethnicity & EAL (2024)

- In 2023/24 Sheffield had a higher % of pupils of Pakistani, Black African, White Gypsy/Roma and any other ethnic group compared to the national average. The % of pupils of White Gypsy/Roma ethnicity was also higher than the national average and the Core Cities average.
- Overall pupil numbers in primary have decreased slightly since 2019. The largest % increase has been for pupils of Indian origin (131%), there has also been a 50% increase in Black African pupils. The White British population has declined by 9% since 2019.
- There has been a 6% increase in the number of primary-age pupils with EAL compared to a 4% decrease in the number of pupils with English as a first language.

% by ethnicity

State-funded primary

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
White - White British	57.2	-4.0	8.4
Asian - Pakistani	7.3	2.8	-1.7
Black - Black African	7.3	2.6	-1.3
Any other ethnic group	4.1	1.7	-0.8
White - Any other White background	3.8	-3.6	-1.8
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	2.8	1.2	0.2
Asian - Any other Asian background	2.7	0.5	-0.1
Mixed - White and Asian	2.4	0.7	0.6
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	2.3	-0.6	-1.0
Asian - Indian	2.0	-2.1	-1.2
White - Gypsy/Roma	2.0	1.6	1.2
Mixed - White and Black African	1.3	0.3	0.1
Unclassified	1.2	-0.2	-0.1
Asian - Bangladeshi	1.1	-0.6	-0.9
Black - Any other Black background	1.1	0.3	-0.6
Asian - Chinese	0.8	0.1	-0.2
Black - Black Caribbean	0.4	-0.4	-0.6
White - Irish	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	0.1	0.0	0.0

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded primary

Ethnic group	total pupils	change since 2019
Asian - Indian	951	130.8%
Black - Black African	3416	50.2%
Unclassified	544	33.7%
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	28	27.3%
Black - Any other Black background	520	21.8%
Mixed - White and Black African	634	16.8%
Any other ethnic group	1936	15.1%
Mixed - White and Asian	1127	7.8%
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	1073	4.5%
Asian - Any other Asian background	1261	3.4%
White - Any other White background	1806	2.4%
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	1321	0.5%
White - Irish	62	0.0%
All pupils	47021	-1.2%
Asian - Chinese	356	-1.9%
Asian - Bangladeshi	521	-3.2%
Asian - Pakistani	3438	-6.1%
White - White British	26885	-9.0%
White - Gypsy/Roma	951	-9.8%
Black - Black Caribbean	191	-19.1%

% by ethnicity

State-funded primary

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Not EAL	74.5	-2.4	6.0
EAL	25.2	2.4	-5.9

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded primary

First language	total pupils	change since 2019
EAL	11843	6.0%
Not EAL	35031	-3.5%

Pupil characteristics – primary – pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years (2024)

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by ethnicity

State-funded primary

Ethnic group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
White - Gypsy/Roma	790	88.8	29.1	23.5
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	18	72.0	2.1	2.7
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	745	60.8	13.3	4.9
Any other ethnic group	1013	58.3	18.6	7.2
Black - Black Caribbean	105	58.0	9.5	5.1
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	461	46.1	16.5	2.6
Asian - Any other Asian background	510	44.6	22.0	8.5
Mixed - White and Black African	244	41.8	5.4	-3.0
Black - Any other Black background	190	40.2	-0.1	-8.4
Unclassified	193	39.3	11.4	0.7
Mixed - White and Asian	407	39.1	16.6	3.4
Black - Black African	1123	36.6	5.6	-3.2
Asian - Pakistani	1066	34.4	6.8	2.3
White - Any other White background	577	34.2	13.7	1.9
All pupils	14846	34.1	8.2	-2.7
Asian - Bangladeshi	158	34.0	1.3	-0.8
White - White British	7187	28.6	3.4	-7.9
White - Irish	13	22.0	-0.8	-4.1
Asian - Chinese	33	9.5	1.1	-5.1
Asian - Indian	13	1.5	-5.4	-5.6

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by NCY

State-funded primary

NCY	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
Reception	1782	30.6	12.8	2.5
Year 1	1901	31.3	9.3	-1.1
Year 2	2102	33.5	8.7	-2.0
Year 3	2239	35.0	7.7	-3.0
Year 4	2251	35.4	6.6	-4.5
Year 5	2248	36.1	6.5	-5.3
Year 6	2323	36.6	6.5	-5.4

- The % of FSM6 pupils in Sheffield primary schools in 2023/24 was higher than the national average for the majority of ethnic groups. Eligibility rates are also higher within BAME groups compared to White British children.
- 29% of White British pupils in Sheffield were FSM6 in 2024 which is 8% points lower than the Core Cities average.
- Pupil premium eligibility in 2023/24 was higher in the younger age groups. This may mean increasing overall eligibility for pupil premium in the future with Sheffield moving more in line with the average for Core Cities.

Pupil characteristics – secondary - ethnicity & EAL (2024)

- Similar to primary, Sheffield had a higher % of pupils of Pakistani, Black African, White Gypsy/Roma and any other ethnic group in 2023/24 compared to the national average. The % of pupils of White Gypsy/Roma ethnicity was higher than the national average and the Core Cities average.
- Overall pupil numbers in secondary have increased 12% since 2019. The largest % increase is for Chinese and Indian pupils. Pupil numbers in these groups have more than doubled since 2019.
- There has been a 33% increase in the number of secondary-age pupils with EAL compared to an 8% increase in the number of pupils with English as a first language.

% by ethnicity

State-funded secondary

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
White - White British	56.8	-4.6	8.2
Asian - Pakistani	8.2	3.6	-1.9
Black - Black African	6.6	1.7	-1.3
Any other ethnic group	4.2	1.8	-0.1
White - Any other White background	3.7	-3.3	-1.5
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	2.4	0.9	0.0
Unclassified	2.4	0.4	-0.2
Asian - Any other Asian background	2.3	0.0	-0.3
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	2.3	-0.4	-1.0
Mixed - White and Asian	2.3	0.7	0.5
White - Gypsy/Roma	1.9	1.7	1.2
Asian - Bangladeshi	1.4	-0.4	-0.7
Asian - Indian	1.3	-2.6	-1.5
Mixed - White and Black African	1.2	0.3	0.0
Asian - Chinese	1.0	0.2	-0.2
Black - Any other Black background	1.0	0.2	-0.6
Black - Black Caribbean	0.6	-0.4	-0.7
White - Irish	0.2	-0.1	0.0
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	0.0	0.0	0.0

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded secondary

Ethnic group	total pupils	change since 2019
Asian - Chinese	371	137.8%
Asian - Indian	469	113.2%
Black - Black African	2396	69.7%
Unclassified	887	61.9%
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	851	61.5%
Black - Any other Black background	348	50.0%
Asian - Any other Asian background	847	46.0%
Mixed - White and Black African	433	44.8%
White - Any other White background	1356	41.3%
Mixed - White and Asian	828	40.3%
Any other ethnic group	1527	38.6%
Asian - Bangladeshi	506	15.8%
All pupils	36371	12.2%
Asian - Pakistani	2988	11.2%
White - Gypsy/Roma	704	4.9%
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	888	1.5%
White - White British	20676	-0.5%
White - Irish	62	-6.1%
Black - Black Caribbean	224	-13.2%
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	10	-56.5%

% by ethnicity

State-funded secondary

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Not EAL	77.5	-3.1	5.7
EAL	21.8	3.2	-5.5

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded secondary

First language	total pupils	change since 2019
EAL	7916	32.9%
Not EAL	28198	7.6%

Pupil characteristics – secondary – pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years (2024)

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by ethnicity

State-funded secondary

Ethnic group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
White - Gypsy/Roma	649	92.4	27.9	27.7
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	6	66.7	3.9	-11.8
Black - Black Caribbean	120	60.6	11.2	5.6
Any other ethnic group	819	60.2	15.2	3.1
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	460	56.2	8.0	1.6
Asian - Any other Asian background	376	50.4	24.7	8.7
Black - Any other Black background	147	47.3	3.4	-6.6
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	331	46.1	13.9	-0.7
Black - Black African	883	42.3	5.1	-4.2
Mixed - White and Black African	165	41.7	3.1	-5.6
Unclassified	275	37.4	2.9	-10.3
Asian - Bangladeshi	153	37.3	-1.5	-3.2
Asian - Pakistani	949	36.7	4.8	-0.5
Mixed - White and Asian	258	36.1	10.1	-3.2
White - Any other White background	415	35.2	13.1	1.5
All pupils	10927	34.4	7.1	-5.0
White - White British	4846	26.9	1.6	-10.0
White - Irish	7	15.2	-7.8	-13.2
Asian - Chinese	41	13.4	4.5	0.1
Asian - Indian	27	7.0	-2.9	-4.0

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by NCY

State-funded secondary

NCY	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
Year 7	2227	35.0	5.6	-6.1
Year 8	2209	36.1	7.8	-4.2
Year 9	2048	33.6	6.2	-6.1
Year 10	2081	34.0	7.7	-4.7
Year 11	1903	31.7	6.6	-6.4

- The % of pupils eligible for the pupil premium in Sheffield secondary schools in 2023/24 was higher than the national average for the majority of ethnic groups. Eligibility rates were also higher within most BAME groups compared to White British children.
- White – Gypsy/Roma pupils had the highest rates of pupil premium eligibility at 92%, significantly higher than both the national and Core Cities average.
- Pupil premium eligibility for White British pupils in Sheffield was 10% points lower than the Core Cities average in 2023/24.

Pupil characteristics – special - ethnicity & EAL (2024)

- Pupils from BAME groups were slightly under-represented in special schools in Sheffield in 2023/24 - 39% of pupils in special schools were BAME compared to 43% in mainstream primary and secondary combined.
- Overall, the special school population has increased by 39% since 2019, which is significantly higher than the overall increase in pupil numbers in mainstream schools.
- In contrast to mainstream, the % increase in the number of pupils with English as a first language (43%) is higher than that for EAL pupils (22% increase).

% by ethnicity

State-funded special school

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
White - White British	61.1	-5.5	5.3
Asian - Pakistani	7.6	3.2	-1.0
Black - Black African	6.5	1.8	-1.2
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	3.8	1.8	0.3
Unclassified	3.2	1.5	1.4
White - Any other White background	3.0	-1.4	-0.6
Any other ethnic group	2.8	0.9	-0.1
Asian - Any other Asian background	2.2	0.2	0.1
Mixed - White and Asian	2.1	0.8	0.8
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	1.6	-1.2	-1.4
Mixed - White and Black African	1.4	0.4	0.2
Black - Black Caribbean	1.0	-0.1	-0.5
Asian - Bangladeshi	0.9	-0.9	-1.4
Asian - Indian	0.8	-1.3	-0.7
Black - Any other Black background	0.8	-0.3	-1.1
White - Gypsy/Roma	0.7	0.4	0.3
Asian - Chinese	0.4	0.0	-0.2
White - Irish	0.2	0.0	0.0
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	0.0	-0.1	-0.1

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded special school

Ethnic group	total pupils	change since 2019
White - Irish	3	200.0%
Unclassified	53	130.4%
Mixed - White and Black African	24	118.2%
Asian - Chinese	6	100.0%
Asian - Any other Asian background	37	76.2%
Mixed - White and Asian	35	75.0%
White - Any other White background	50	66.7%
Black - Black Caribbean	16	60.0%
Black - Black African	108	50.0%
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	63	46.5%
All pupils	1669	38.7%
White - White British	1020	37.5%
Asian - Bangladeshi	15	25.0%
Asian - Pakistani	127	19.8%
Asian - Indian	13	18.2%
Black - Any other Black background	14	16.7%
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	26	13.0%
Any other ethnic group	47	11.9%
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	0	
White - Gypsy/Roma	12	-42.9%

% by ethnicity

State-funded special school

Ethnic group	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Not EAL	81.3	-3.9	2.3
EAL	17.7	3.2	-2.9

Pupil numbers & change since 2019

State-funded special school

First language	total pupils	change since 2019
EAL	296	21.8%
Not EAL	1357	42.5%

Pupil characteristics – special – pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years (2024)

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by ethnicity

State-funded special school

Ethnic group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
White - Gypsy/Roma	10	90.9	19.1	10.3
Black - Black Caribbean	9	81.8	14.6	8.2
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	43	81.1	11.2	4.0
White - Any other White background	33	75.0	37.7	22.4
Mixed - White and Asian	20	69.0	26.0	7.9
Unclassified	33	67.3	16.0	4.3
Black - Black African	59	64.1	9.0	2.8
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	14	63.6	11.8	-3.7
All pupils	848	57.8	7.1	-4.2
White - White British	513	57.5	4.9	-8.8
Black - Any other Black background	8	57.1	0.1	1.1
Any other ethnic group	22	51.2	-1.2	-15.3
Asian - Any other Asian background	18	50.0	16.2	0.7
Asian - Chinese	3	50.0	21.5	19.4
Mixed - White and Black African	10	43.5	-17.0	-23.8
Asian - Bangladeshi	6	42.9	-1.8	-0.4
Asian - Pakistani	47	42.0	3.9	-1.4

% pupils eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years by NCY

State-funded special school

NCY	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. national	diff. w. Core Cities
Reception	17	39.5	11.2	4.0
Year 1	31	54.4	16.8	3.0
Year 2	35	52.2	10.2	-3.4
Year 3	40	52.6	4.3	-6.2
Year 4	50	56.8	6.0	-4.0
Year 5	54	60.0	7.3	-8.5
Year 6	65	61.3	7.2	-4.2
Year 7	102	57.0	3.3	-6.6
Year 8	136	63.3	8.6	-2.8
Year 9	115	59.0	5.4	-5.1
Year 10	108	61.0	7.3	-3.1
Year 11	95	54.6	1.1	-9.2

- The % of pupils eligible for the pupil premium was significantly higher in special schools in 2023/24 (58% compared to ~34% in mainstream). However, the difference between Sheffield and the national average was similar in mainstream and special.
- Pupil premium eligibility rates were not higher in the special sector across all ethnic groups. For example, eligibility rates are double for White British pupils (compared to mainstream) but were only around 5% points higher for Pakistani pupils.



Outcomes for children and young people

- There are ~79k young people from reception to year 11 in Sheffield schools. This is an overall increase of over 6,000 since 2016, most of the increase in pupil numbers is in the secondary phase. Although the overall numbers are smaller, the number of pupils in special schools has increased by 62% since 2016 representing an additional 564 pupils in special schools.
- The number of young people eligible for the pupil premium has increased by around 5,000 since 2016 and this increase has been seen in all phases.
- The number of young people with an EHCP has increased by nearly 2,000 (doubled) since 2016.
- The number of young people with special educational needs with a primary need of autism or social emotional and mental health has increased by 15% since 2018/19.



Trails for further investigation

- **2.1** What are the implications of the rise in the number of pupils accessing alternative provision?
- **2.2** What can the trends in relation to different types of educational provision tell us about what works for pupils and the provision that is likely to be required in the future?
- **2.3** Is the difference in the proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals in Key Stage 1 compared to later Key Stages, relative to Core Cities and national, reflective of rising need or automatic registration in Sheffield?

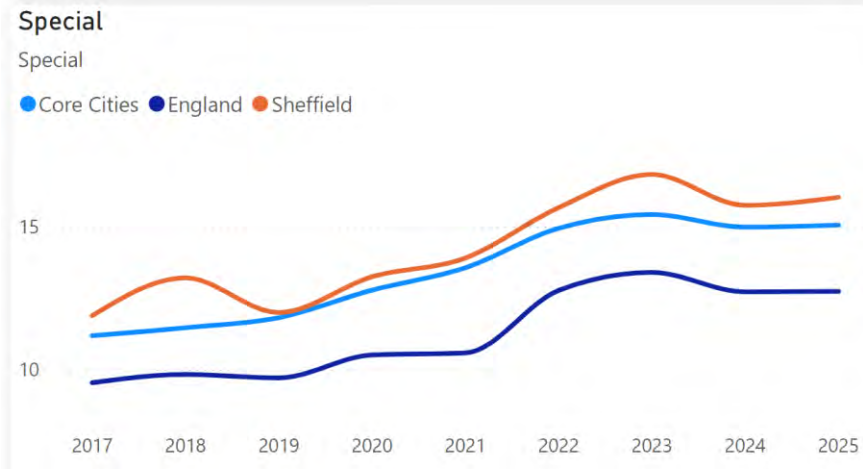
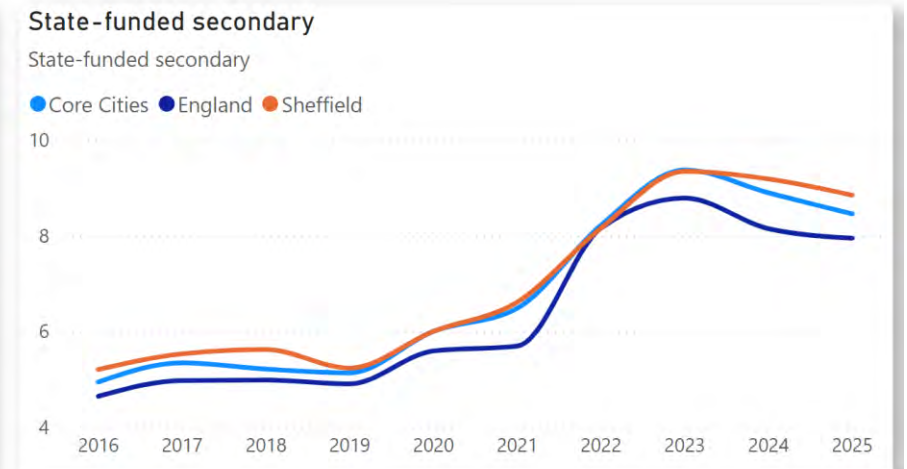
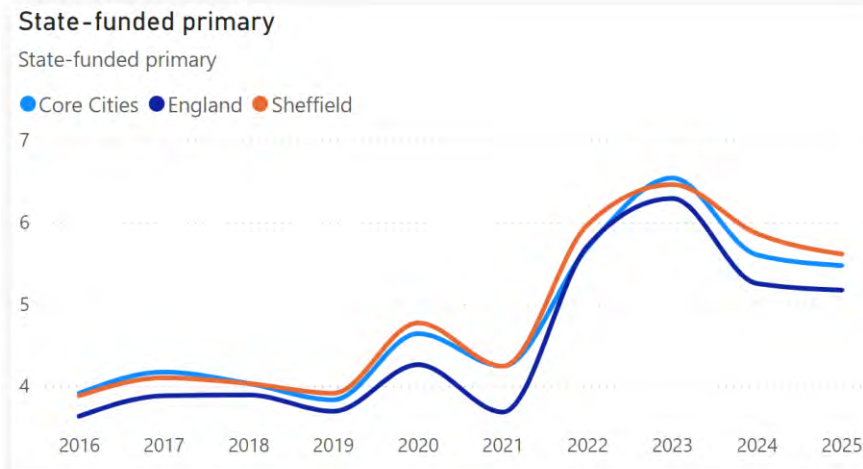
Overview

- 1 Ofsted inspection judgements
- 2 Pupil characteristics & SEND
- 3 Attendance**
- 4 Exclusions
- 5 Attainment & progress

Last updated: January 2025
Next updates: January 2026

Attendance – overall absence by phase – autumn term

- Levels of absence across all phases have increased significantly since 2018/19.
- Following a peak in the autumn term of 2022/23, levels of absence have stabilised in 2023/24 and 2024/25.
- Absence in Sheffield was higher than the national and Core Cities average in all phases in autumn 2024/25.

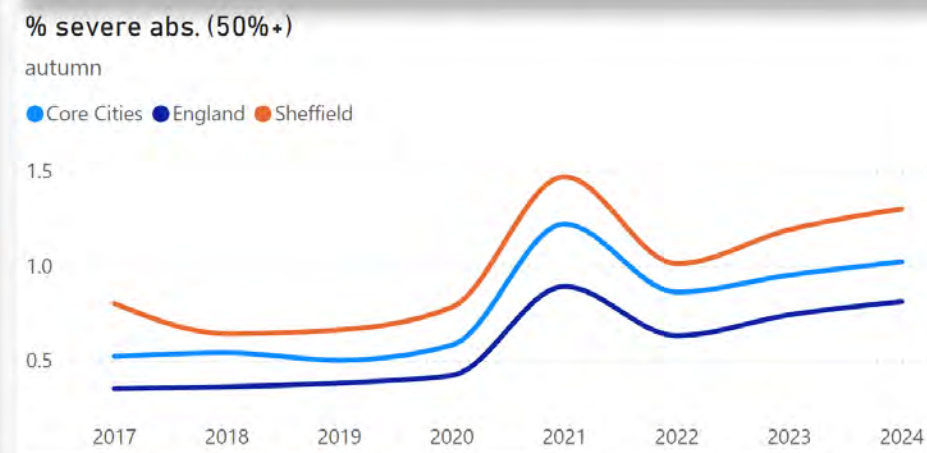
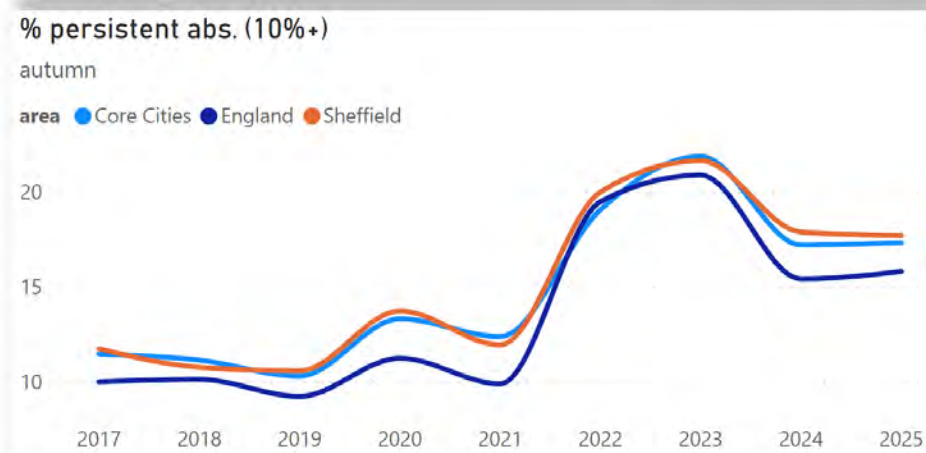
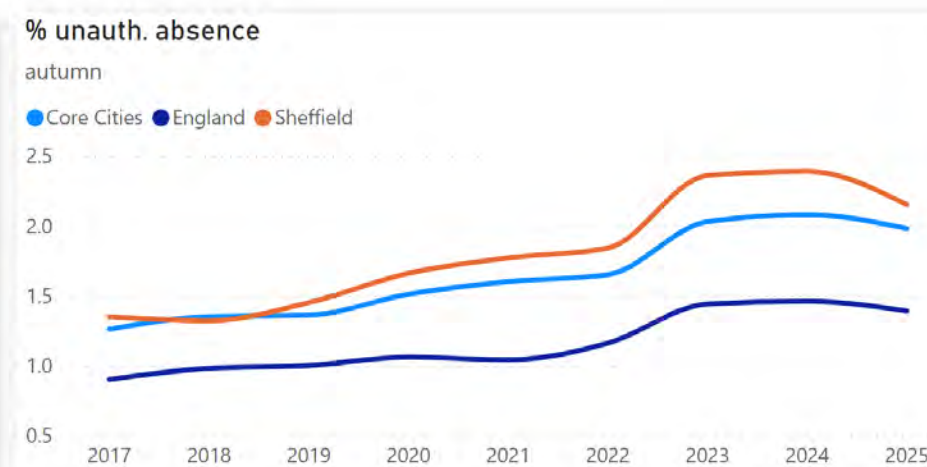
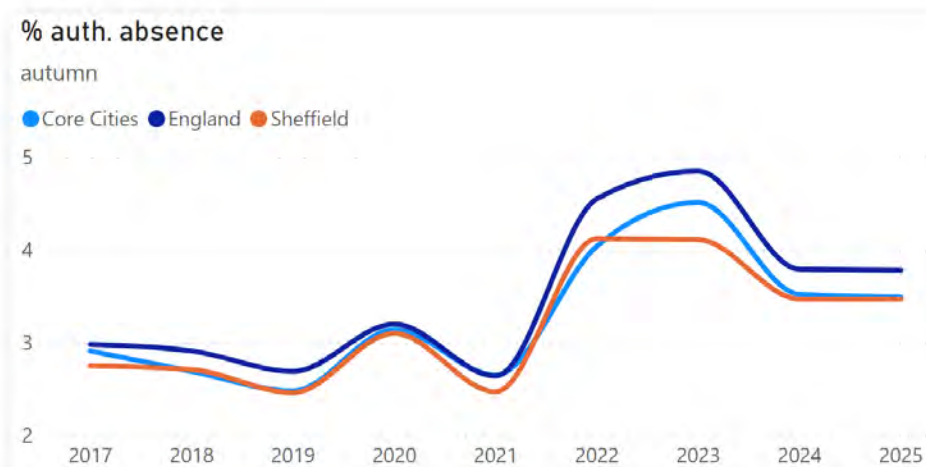


Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Absence and persistent absence (primary) – autumn term

- Although overall absence in Sheffield was above the national average in autumn 2024/25, authorised absence was lower.
- Unauthorised absence in the primary phase has been amongst the highest nationally but improved in the autumn term of 2024/25.
- Persistent absence has remained stable in the context of a national increase, but severe absence has been increasing (2024/25 data is not yet available).

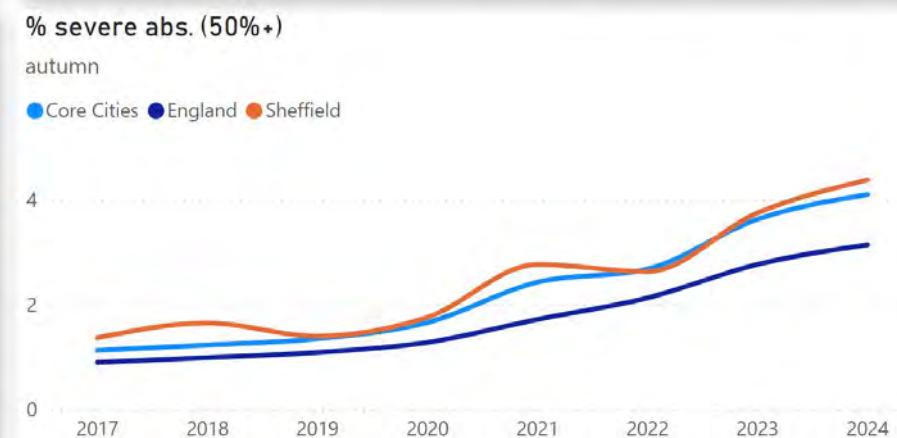
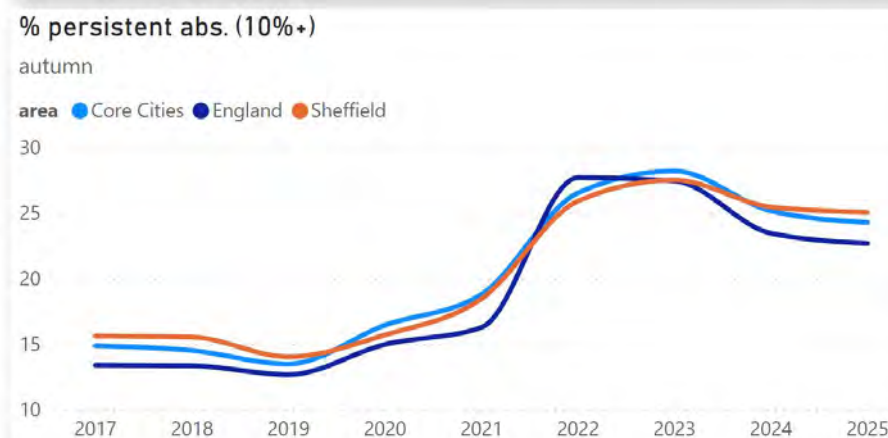
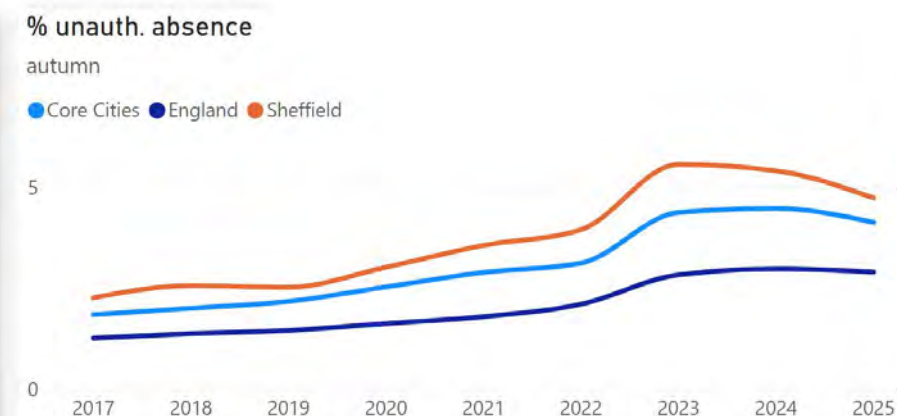


Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Absence and persistent absence (secondary) – autumn term

- Similar to the primary phase, authorised absence in secondary schools is generally much lower than the national average and unauthorised absence is higher. However, in the autumn term of 2024/25 there was an increase in authorised absence and a decrease in unauthorised absence.
- Persistent absence has not changed significantly since autumn 2023/24 but remained above the national average in autumn 2024/25.
- Severe absence has been increasing and is above the Core Cities and national average (2024/25 data is not yet available).

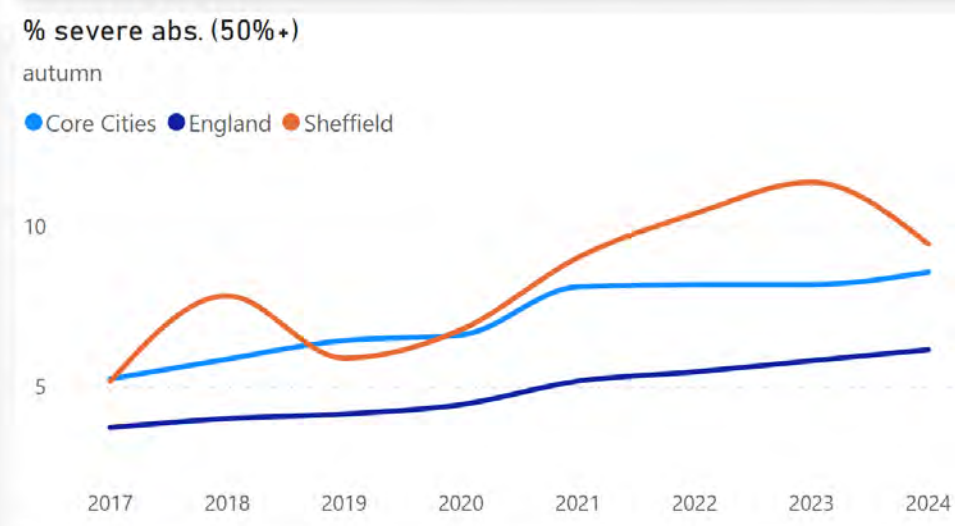
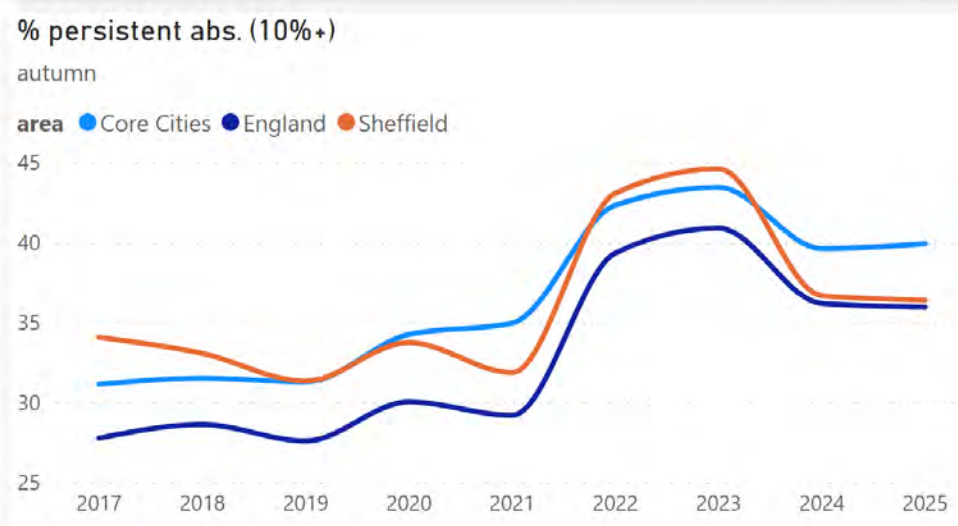
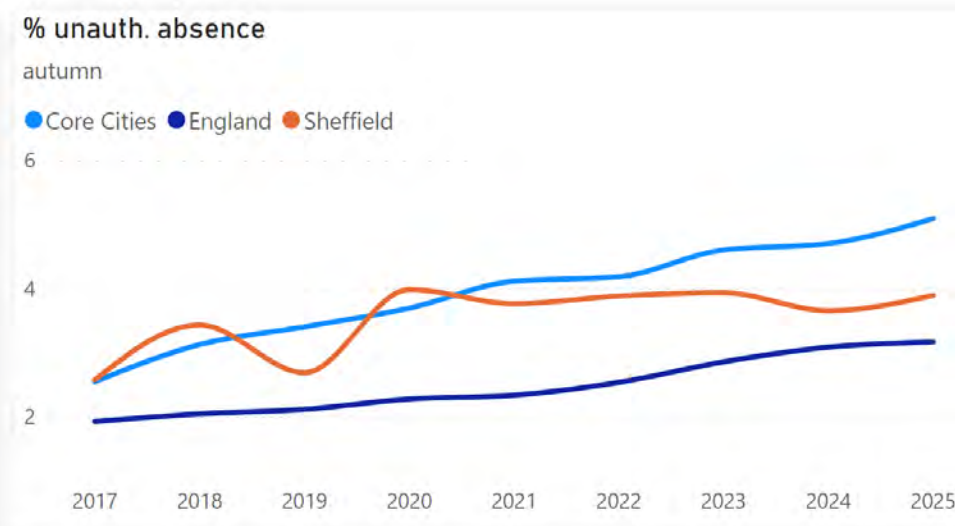
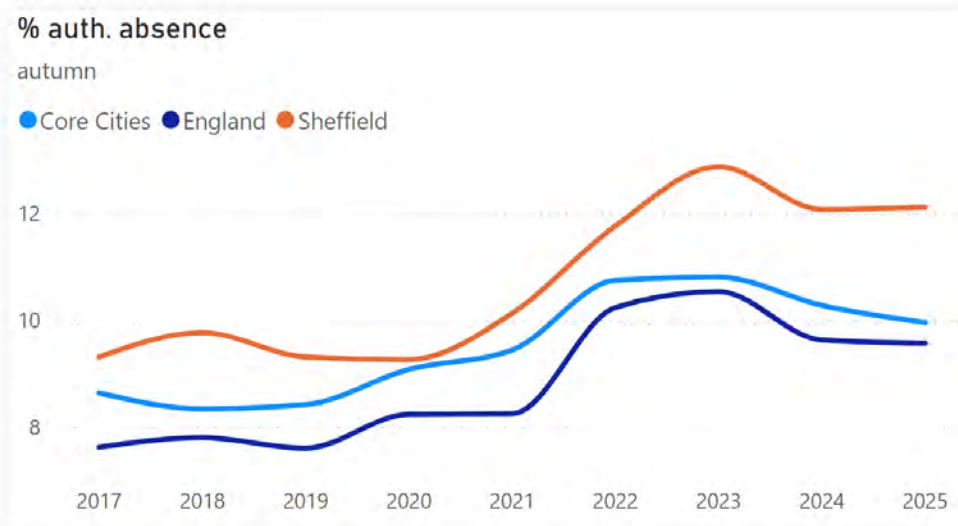


Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Absence and persistent absence (special) – autumn term

- Authorised absence in Sheffield special schools was amongst the 10 highest LAs nationally in the autumn term of 2024/25.
- In contrast to mainstream schools, unauthorised absence is lower in special schools – above the national average but below Core Cities (2nd lowest of all Core Cities) in autumn 2024/25.
- We know that the make-up of the special phase in Sheffield differs from the national average, and this results in lower overall attendance levels.



Absence national ranks – autumn term

- Sheffield's national rank for overall absence has worsened in all phases since 2019 but the ranks for persistent absence have improved.
- The rank for primary absence and persistent absence improved in the autumn term of 2024/25 compared to the autumn term of 2023/24.

Attendance ranks and change from previous year (all LAs)

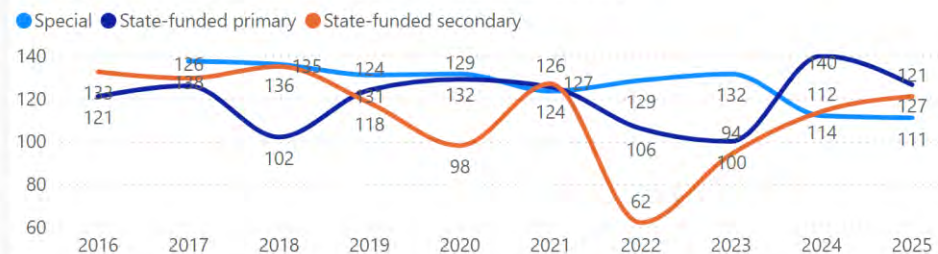
autumn		2019		2022		2023		2024		2025	
year	phase	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
■ State-funded secondary											
	% overall absence	116	↑ 20	69	↑ 63	110	↓ -41	123	↓ -13	124	↓ -1
	% auth. absence	9	↑ 12	5	↑ 3	1	↑ 4	8	↓ -7	30	↓ -22
	% unauth. absence	142	↑ 5	146	→ 0	149	↓ -3	148	↑ 1	143	↑ 5
	% persistent abs. (10%+)	120	↑ 14	55	↑ 67	78	↓ -23	105	↓ -27	118	↓ -13
■ State-funded primary											
	% overall absence	120	↓ -16	119	↑ 8	104	↑ 15	145	↓ -41	133	↑ 12
	% auth. absence	22	↑ 7	31	↑ 4	8	↑ 23	23	↓ -15	30	↓ -7
	% unauth. absence	141	↓ -13	144	↓ -1	147	↓ -3	147	→ 0	145	↑ 2
	% persistent abs. (10%+)	128	↓ -28	93	↑ 31	96	↓ -3	135	↓ -39	120	↑ 15
■ Special											
	% overall absence	134	↑ 9	136	↓ -2	142	↓ -6	137	↑ 5	139	↓ -2
	% auth. absence	139	↑ 3	127	↑ 3	140	↓ -13	138	↑ 2	143	↓ -5
	% unauth. absence	113	↑ 25	127	↓ -1	123	↑ 4	112	↑ 11	115	↓ -3
	% persistent abs. (10%+)	128	↑ 1	121	↓ -8	121	→ 0	87	↑ 34	83	↑ 4

Attendance ranks and rank change (all LAs)

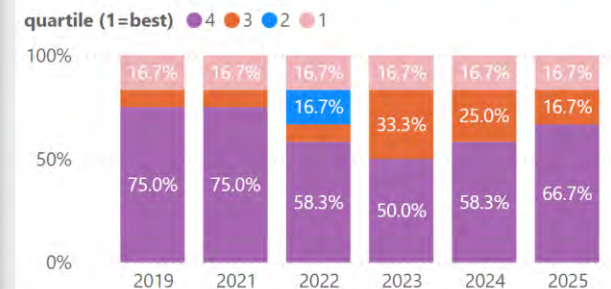
autumn			
year	2025		
phase	rank	rank change	from 2019
☐ State-funded secondary			
% overall absence	124	↓	-8
% auth. absence	30	↓	-21
% unauth. absence	143	↓	-1
% persistent abs. (10%+)	118	↑	2
☐ State-funded primary			
% overall absence	133	↓	-13
% auth. absence	30	↓	-8
% unauth. absence	145	↓	-4
% persistent abs. (10%+)	120	↑	8
☐ Special			
% overall absence	139	↓	-5
% auth. absence	143	↓	-4
% unauth. absence	115	↓	-2
% persistent abs. (10%+)	83	↑	45

Average rank by phase (all LAs) (lower rank = better performance)

Average rank includes overall absence and persistent absence only



Attendance ranks by quartile (all LAs)



Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Absence Core City ranks – autumn term

- Sheffield is 6th out of all Core Cities for overall absence across all phases. This was a slight worsening in position for secondary and special but an improvement for primary.
- Sheffield's rank amongst Core Cities has not changed significantly since 2019.
- Persistent absence in the special phase was ranked 1st out of Core Cities in the autumn term of 2024/25.

Attendance ranks and change from previous year (Core Cities)

autumn

year	2019		2022		2023		2024		2025						
phase	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change					
State-funded secondary															
% overall absence	5	↑	3	5	→	0	4	↑	1	5	↓	-1	6	↓	-1
% auth. absence	2	↑	1	2	→	0	1	↑	1	2	↓	-1	4	↓	-2
% unauth. absence	7	↑	1	8	↓	-1	8	→	0	8	→	0	7	↑	1
% persistent abs. (10%+)	6	→	0	5	↓	-1	4	↑	1	4	→	0	6	↓	-2
State-funded primary															
% overall absence	6	↓	-3	7	↓	-2	5	↑	2	8	↓	-3	6	↑	2
% auth. absence	4	↑	1	5	↓	-3	2	↑	3	4	↓	-2	5	↓	-1
% unauth. absence	6	↓	-2	6	→	0	7	↓	-1	6	↑	1	6	→	0
% persistent abs. (10%+)	6	↓	-3	6	↓	-2	5	↑	1	7	↓	-2	6	↑	1
Special															
% overall absence	6	↑	2	5	↑	1	7	↓	-2	5	↑	2	6	↓	-1
% auth. absence	7	↑	1	7	→	0	7	→	0	7	→	0	8	↓	-1
% unauth. absence	2	↑	6	4	↓	-1	2	↑	2	1	↑	1	2	↓	-1
% persistent abs. (10%+)	6	→	0	5	↓	-3	6	↓	-1	3	↑	3	1	↑	2

Attendance ranks and rank change (Core Cities)

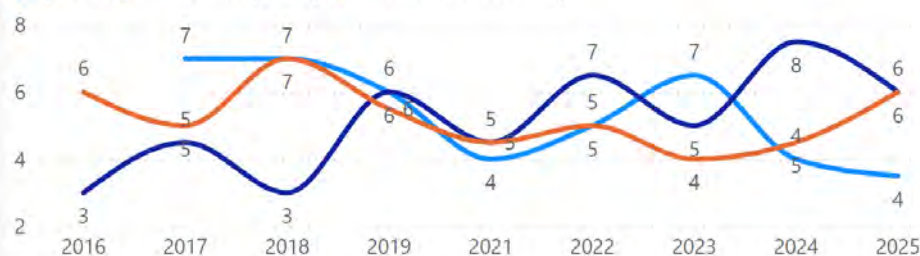
autumn

year phase	2025 rank	2025 rank change from 2019
State-funded secondary		
% overall absence	6	↓ -1
% auth. absence	4	↓ -2
% unauth. absence	7	→ 0
% persistent abs. (10%+)	6	→ 0
State-funded primary		
% overall absence	6	→ 0
% auth. absence	5	↓ -1
% unauth. absence	6	→ 0
% persistent abs. (10%+)	6	→ 0
Special		
% overall absence	6	→ 0
% auth. absence	8	↓ -1
% unauth. absence	2	→ 0
% persistent abs. (10%+)	1	↓ 5

Average rank by phase (Core Cities) (lower rank = better performance)

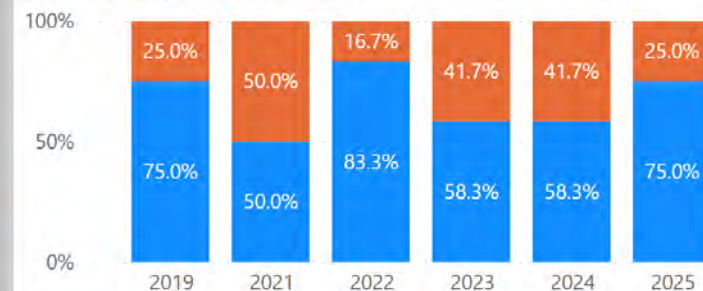
Average rank includes overall absence and persistent absence only

● Special ● State-funded primary ● State-funded secondary



Attendance ranks by quartile (all LAs)

quartile (1=best) ● bottom 4 ● top 4



Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Reasons for absence – autumn term 2024/25

- The table shows the % of sessions by reason for absence (authorised and unauthorised) and the difference between Sheffield and the national average.
- In the primary and secondary phases Sheffield had a lower % of absences coded as illness compared to the national average in autumn 2024/25.
- This may suggest that unexplained absence is being coded as unauthorised rather than illness in Sheffield.

phase Reason for absence	Special			State-funded primary			State-funded secondary		
	Sheffield	diff w. national	diff w. Core Cities	Sheffield	diff w. national	diff w. Core Cities	Sheffield	diff w. national	diff w. Core Cities
% overall absence	16.01	3.28	0.97	5.61	0.44	0.14	8.85	0.90	0.39
% auth. absence	12.12	2.55	2.16	3.47	-0.31	-0.02	4.11	-0.94	-0.21
% unauth. absence	3.89	0.73	-1.20	2.15	0.76	0.17	4.74	1.84	0.61
% persistent abs. (10%+)	36.40	0.44	-3.52	17.70	1.89	0.37	25.04	2.37	0.77
% excluded (auth)	0.22	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.51	0.23	0.11
% holiday (unauth)	0.55	0.18	0.01	0.68	0.16	0.07	0.53	0.20	0.10
% illness (auth)	6.36	0.88	0.83	2.75	-0.30	-0.10	2.72	-0.99	-0.35
% late (unauth)	0.23	-0.04	-0.18	0.23	0.07	0.02	0.38	0.13	-0.03
% medical (auth)	1.04	0.06	0.13	0.26	0.01	0.03	0.32	-0.03	0.02
% no reason yet (unauth)	0.16	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.01	-0.01	0.10	0.01	0.00
% other (auth)	1.68	0.01	0.09	0.25	-0.06	0.00	0.27	-0.17	-0.07
% other (unauth)	2.96	0.56	-1.03	1.17	0.52	0.10	3.72	1.49	0.52
% religious (auth)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
% study (auth)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
% tot. holiday	0.55	0.18	0.01	0.68	0.16	0.07	0.53	0.20	0.10
% traveller (auth)	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Notes:

- The secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools (around 2.5% of all primary age pupils in Sheffield).
- 2025 autumn term data is provisional.

Absence by pupil group – primary – autumn & spring 2023/24

- The absence rate for a number of pupils groups in the primary phase in Sheffield was significantly above the national and Core Cities average in the first two terms of 2023/24. The absence rate for pupils with SEN support was 2% points higher than the national average and the absence rate for pupils with EAL was 1.2% points higher.
- Absence was also higher than the national average for most ethnic minority pupil groups, whilst absence for White British pupils was the same as the national average.

Absence by NCY

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Year 4	5.34	0.14	-0.14
Year 3	5.46	0.34	-0.04
Year 2	5.71	0.41	0.04
Year 5	5.75	0.39	0.08
Year 6	5.95	0.39	0.22
Year 1 and below	6.32	0.56	0.10
4-yr olds	7.03	0.49	-0.40

Absence by FSM

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
FSM eligible	8.56	0.71	0.71
FSM not eligible	4.29	-0.23	-0.22

Absence by gender

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Male	5.97	0.42	0.06
Female	5.57	0.33	0.04

Absence by SEND

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
SEN - SEN support	11.92	1.97	1.01
SEN - EHCP	7.98	0.63	0.27
SEN - No SEN	5.09	0.23	-0.05

Absence by EAL

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
EAL	6.55	1.20	0.95
not EAL	5.52	0.11	-0.30

Absence by ethnic group

characteristic	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Traveller of Irish heritage	24	18.05	-2.38	0.35
Gypsy Roma	831	14.67	0.47	2.58
Any other ethnic group	3280	12.74	2.14	1.88
White and Black Caribbean	1073	8.22	1.21	0.98
Any other White background	1547	7.09	1.44	0.53
Bangladeshi	416	7.00	0.83	0.27
Unclassified	660	6.81	0.56	0.18
Pakistani	2778	6.62	0.49	0.35
Any other Mixed background	888	6.54	0.89	0.46
Black Caribbean	157	6.17	-0.11	0.11
White and Asian	918	5.96	0.79	0.36
Any other Asian background	1097	5.84	0.91	0.70
Indian	824	5.59	0.37	0.05
White British	22234	5.35	0.00	-0.54
White and Black African	530	5.18	-0.07	-0.07
Any other Black background	425	4.93	0.38	0.71
Irish	53	4.75	-1.71	-0.55
Chinese	324	3.81	0.31	0.59
Black African	2916	3.45	0.12	0.15

Note: primary age pupils in through schools are only included in the NCY breakdown but not in the results for other groups

Absence by pupil group – secondary – autumn & spring 2023/24

- In the secondary phase the gaps with national tend to be larger. Absence rates for pupils with SEN support in the first two terms of 2023/24 were 8% points higher than the national average and 5% points higher than the Core Cities average.
- In the primary phase absence was higher for pupils with EAL but this reverses in the secondary phase. A number of minority ethnic groups had lower absence rates compared to White British pupils. This is in contrast to the trends seen in the primary phase where absence rates tend to be lower for White British pupils.

Absence by NCY

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Year 7	6.71	0.44	-0.13
Year 8	9.21	1.17	0.48
Year 9	9.61	0.58	-0.19
Year 11	11.17	1.38	0.28
Year 10	11.25	1.58	0.63

Absence by FSM

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
FSM eligible	15.32	1.62	1.35
FSM not eligible	6.56	-0.15	-0.04

Absence by gender

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Female	9.65	0.84	0.29
Male	9.36	1.18	0.23

Absence by SEND

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
SEN - SEN support	23.47	8.01	4.65
SEN - EHCP	16.12	2.83	1.52
SEN - No SEN	7.79	0.34	-0.16

Absence by EAL

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
not EAL	9.87	0.91	-0.28
EAL	8.21	1.82	1.37

Absence by ethnic group

characteristic	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Traveller of Irish heritage	11	30.46	8.43	4.12
Gypsy Roma	758	22.66	1.23	2.34
White and Black Caribbean	853	15.71	3.82	2.97
Any other ethnic group	2872	15.68	2.48	2.16
Unclassified	959	12.93	3.01	1.70
Any other Mixed background	732	10.52	2.71	1.43
Black Caribbean	204	10.28	1.98	1.12
White British	18398	9.99	0.58	-1.10
Any other White background	1212	9.93	2.40	1.18
Irish	47	9.78	0.47	-0.93
White and Asian	744	9.17	1.60	0.78
White and Black African	410	7.71	-0.79	-0.54
Bangladeshi	410	7.32	0.92	0.59
Pakistani	2614	7.32	0.05	0.01
Any other Asian background	784	6.85	1.64	1.09
Any other Black background	321	6.31	0.34	0.19
Indian	406	4.95	0.13	0.18
Black African	2157	4.09	0.07	0.07
Chinese	314	2.81	-0.17	0.10

Note: primary age pupils in through schools are included in secondary phase group attendance results

Source: DfE pupil absence data <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Absence by pupil group – special – autumn & spring 2023/24

- In the first two terms of 2023/24, absence in special schools was lower in the primary phase than in secondary and was lower than the national average and Core Cities average for some year groups. Absence was particularly high for Y10 & Y11.
- The difference between absence rates for FSM eligible and non-FSM eligible pupils was lower in the special phase. The absence rates for FSM eligible pupils was more than 2 times as high as non-FSM eligible pupils in mainstream but is only 1.25 times higher in the special phase.

Absence by NCY

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Year 1 and below	8.60	-2.79	-3.98
Year 3	9.88	-0.52	-1.08
Year 4	10.02	-0.49	-1.66
Year 5	11.25	0.82	-1.35
Year 6	11.92	1.01	-0.33
Year 2	12.93	1.96	-0.81
Year 8	13.01	-0.16	-2.55
Year 7	13.57	2.02	0.43
4-yr olds	14.95	2.16	-8.02
Year 9	18.94	4.83	2.53
Year 10	20.48	4.43	-0.13
Year 11	26.20	8.31	4.65

Absence by gender

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Female	18.99	5.82	3.72
Male	14.53	1.66	-0.60

Absence by FSM

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
FSM eligible	17.49	2.49	0.50
FSM not eligible	13.80	2.73	1.09

Absence by EAL

characteristic	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
not EAL	15.92	2.88	0.34
EAL	14.37	2.03	0.87

Absence by ethnic group

characteristic	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff w. nat.	diff w. Core Cities
Gypsy Roma	13	39.00	15.19	-0.23
Any other ethnic group	92	24.18	1.02	1.32
White and Asian	35	21.85	9.78	8.19
White and Black Caribbean	63	20.17	4.13	3.13
Any other White background	55	19.82	7.98	6.09
Unclassified	131	17.34	0.52	-1.34
White British	1132	16.72	3.57	0.48
Pakistani	123	13.60	-0.74	-2.41
Bangladeshi	15	13.32	-0.73	-2.84
Black Caribbean	13	12.78	0.72	-4.06
Any other Asian background	39	12.63	1.34	1.26
White and Black African	28	12.56	-0.17	-5.10
Irish	4	12.02	-6.03	-24.97
Any other Black background	14	11.30	0.92	0.27
Any other Mixed background	25	10.44	-1.82	-2.75
Black African	101	8.44	-1.09	-1.06
Indian	13	6.58	-3.85	-3.53
Chinese	6	5.11	-1.53	-1.50



Outcomes for children and young people

- In the autumn term of 2024/25, ~350,000 school days were missed by young people in Sheffield and ~15,350 young people missed an average of one day of school every fortnight.
- For vulnerable pupils, attendance rates are even lower. 10% of young people in special schools are attending less than half the time and over 40% of pupils eligible for free school meals and pupils with SEN in the secondary phase are missing at least one day of school every fortnight.
- The attendance of around 1,500 young people would need to improve to above 90% to bring persistent absence rates in Sheffield in line with the national average.



Trails for further investigation

- **3.1** What does case sampling and further analysis tell us about what works to improve the attendance of young people who are persistently absent?
- **3.2** What does case sampling and further analysis tell us about what works to improve the attendance of young people who are severely absent?

Overview

- 1 Ofsted inspection judgements
- 2 Pupil characteristics & SEND
- 3 Attendance
- 4 **Exclusions**
- 5 Attainment & progress

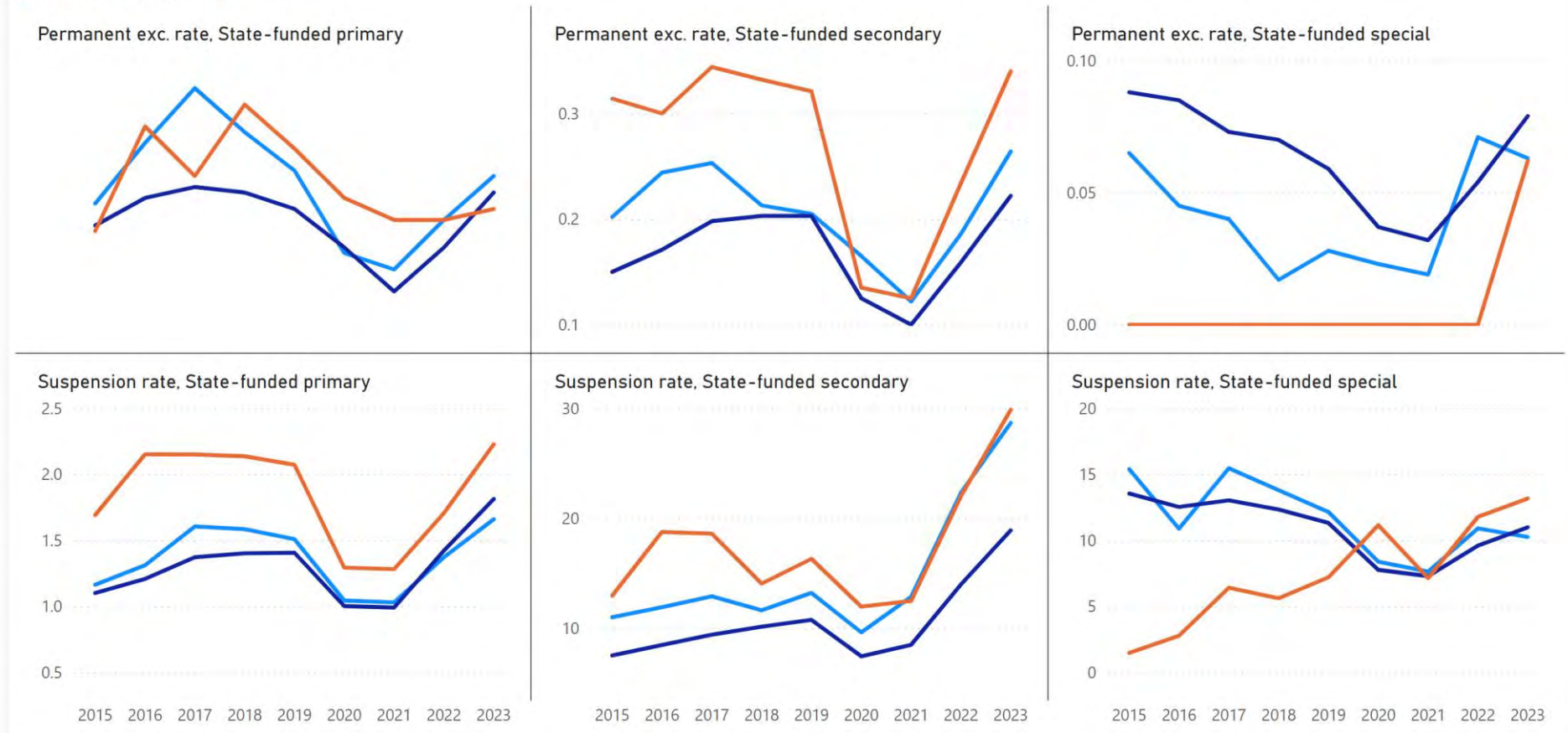
Last updated: January 2025
Next updates: January 2026

Exclusions & suspensions – overview by phase

- Latest year-end published data (22/23) shows that Sheffield was well above the national average for suspensions in all phases and suspension rates are the highest they have ever been since 2015.
- The permanent exclusion rate was higher than the national and Core Cities average in the secondary phase in 2022/23 but the primary permanent exclusion rate has reduced and was below the national average in 2022/23.
- The permanent exclusion rate in the special phase increased in 22/23 due to 1 permanent exclusion.

Exclusion & suspension trends for all pupils

Core Cities England Sheffield



4 Exclusions – national ranks

- Overall Sheffield's national ranks for exclusions and suspensions worsened slightly between 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- Some measures did improve; the rank for permanent exclusions in the primary phase improved by 21 places due to a reduction in permanent exclusions.

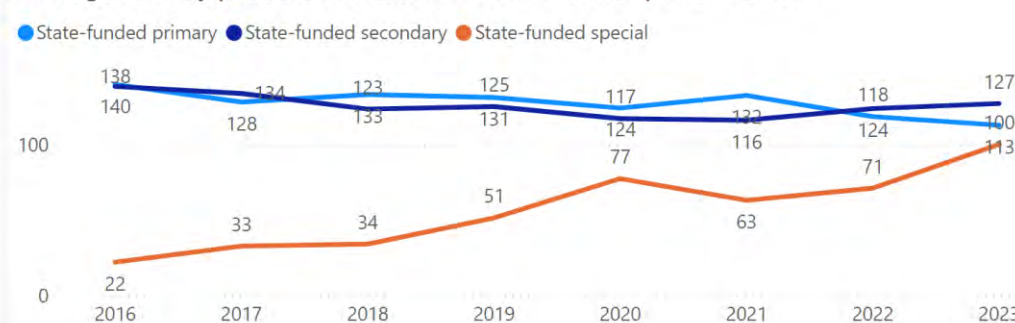
Exclusions & suspensions ranks and change from previous year (all LAs)

year	2016			2019			2021			2022			2023		
	rank	rank change		rank	rank change		rank	rank change		rank	rank change		rank	rank change	
☐ State-funded primary															
% with 1+ susp.	147	↓ -4		141	↓ -1		136	↓ -8		127	↑ 9		127	→ 0	
Permanent exc. rate	125	↓ -33		117	↑ 7		137	↓ -15		112	↑ 25		91	↑ 21	
Suspension rate	147	↓ -9		135	→ 0		124	↓ -2		116	↑ 8		120	↓ -4	
☐ State-funded secondary															
% with 1+ susp.	142	↓ -4		131	↓ -7		125	↑ 10		130	↓ -5		133	↓ -3	
Permanent exc. rate	129	↑ 9		116	↑ 6		94	↓ -11		109	↓ -15		117	↓ -8	
Suspension rate	144	↓ -4		128	↓ -4		129	↑ 4		132	↓ -3		131	↑ 1	
☐ State-funded special															
% with 1+ susp.	31	↓ -3		78	↓ -26		97	↑ 20		104	↓ -7		96	↑ 8	
Permanent exc. rate	1	→ 0		1	→ 0		1	→ 0		1	→ 0		99	↓ -98	
Suspension rate	34	↓ -5		75	↓ -26		91	↑ 23		108	↓ -17		105	↑ 3	

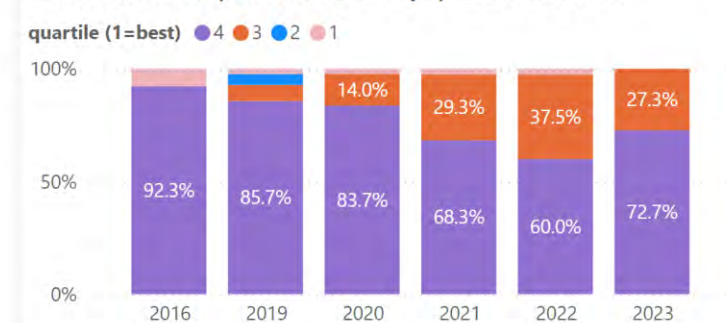
Exclusions & suspensions ranks and rank change (all LAs)

year	2023	rank change from 2016	rank change from 2019
State-funded primary			
% with 1+ susp.	127	↑ 20	↑ 14
Permanent exc. rate	91	↑ 34	↑ 26
Suspension rate	120	↑ 27	↑ 15
State-funded secondary			
% with 1+ susp.	133	↑ 9	↓ -2
Permanent exc. rate	117	↑ 12	↓ -1
Suspension rate	131	↑ 13	↓ -3
State-funded special			
% with 1+ susp.	96	↓ -65	↓ -18
Permanent exc. rate	99	↓ -98	↓ -98
Suspension rate	105	↓ -71	↓ -30

Average rank by phase (all LAs) (lower rank = better performance)



Exclusion & suspension ranks by quartile (all LAs)



Exclusions – suspensions by pupil group - primary (2022/23)

- Suspension rates in the primary phase in 2022/23 were within 2% of the national average for most pupil groups.
- Suspension rates were much higher than the national average and Core Cities average for Irish, Irish Traveller and Gypsy Roma pupils and also for pupils with an EHC plan.

Suspension rate by ethnicity

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Traveller of Irish heritage	25	40.00	31.27	27.67
Irish	68	8.82	6.94	7.12
Gypsy Roma	997	7.72	2.71	6.00
White and Black Caribbean	1360	5.52	1.50	1.50
Black African	3004	2.36	1.07	1.09
White British	27754	2.28	0.09	0.02
Any other white background	1862	1.99	1.05	1.19
Any other black background	472	1.48	-0.54	-0.08
White and Asian	1116	1.43	0.40	0.49
Any other Asian background	1230	1.38	0.92	0.68
Bangladeshi	527	1.33	1.01	0.72
Any other Mixed background	1062	1.22	-0.51	-0.51
Pakistani	3486	1.00	0.50	0.41
Black Caribbean	203	0.99	-2.49	-1.70
White and Black African	611	0.66	-1.68	-1.43
Indian	771	0.13	-0.07	-0.13
Chinese	387	0.00	-0.20	-0.18

Suspension rate by SEN status

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHC plan	968	20.46	4.06	5.77
SEN support	7457	8.61	0.87	1.63
No SEN	38909	0.55	0.13	0.15

Suspension rate by NCY

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
NC Year 5	6295	3.72	1.38	1.28
NC Year 4	6140	3.18	1.17	1.05
NC Year 6	6517	3.05	0.35	-0.15
NC Year 3	6294	2.10	0.20	0.47
NC Year 2	6279	2.05	0.26	0.82
NC Year 1 and below	15809	1.03	-0.05	0.30
NC Year Unclassified	0			

Note: Secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools.

Suspension rate by FSM status

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
FSM - Eligible	15628	4.45	0.03	0.94
FSM - Not eligible	31706	1.13	0.14	0.40

Exclusions – suspensions by pupil group - secondary (2022/23)

- Suspension rates in the secondary phase in 2022/23 were significantly above the national average for most pupil groups.
- Suspension rates were much higher than the national average and Core Cities average for Gypsy Roma, Irish Traveller and White & Black Caribbean pupils. They were also significantly higher for pupils with SEN and pupils eligible for free school meals.

Suspension rate by ethnicity

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Gypsy Roma	719	122.53	27.07	29.68
Traveller of Irish heritage	20	95.00	24.87	7.10
White and Black Caribbean	881	69.13	33.91	20.06
Any other Mixed background	811	32.06	16.33	4.33
Black Caribbean	214	31.31	7.87	2.13
White British	20722	31.03	8.70	-6.70
White and Asian	801	27.72	13.08	2.45
White and Black African	438	22.83	2.62	-0.85
Any other white background	1347	21.98	10.24	0.57
Black African	2108	18.64	8.02	3.21
Any other black background	311	18.33	2.06	-5.13
Irish	62	17.74	0.16	-13.04
Pakistani	2978	16.22	4.58	3.39
Any other Asian background	831	13.84	7.60	3.20
Bangladeshi	477	7.97	2.69	-2.56
Chinese	311	3.86	2.24	2.52
Indian	385	1.82	-0.77	-1.25

Suspension rate by SEN status

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
SEN support	4870	83.04	35.22	17.30
EHC plan	761	80.03	32.86	16.17
No SEN	30202	20.04	6.14	-1.62

Suspension rate by NCY

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
NC Year 9	6123	45.13	17.82	3.68
NC Year 8	6052	39.24	14.85	-0.53
NC Year 10	6047	38.40	12.96	2.53
NC Year 7	6145	31.02	14.99	4.34
NC Year 11	5870	21.07	6.01	-1.76
NC Year 6	120	11.67	7.07	5.91
NC Year 2	164	4.27	2.00	3.23
NC Year 5	120	2.50	-0.72	-1.18
NC Year 1 and below	444	1.13	-0.28	0.62
NC Year 12 and above	4426	0.86	-0.11	-0.22
NC Year 3	160	0.00	-2.35	-3.60
NC Year 4	162	0.00	-3.13	-5.08
NC Year Unclassified	0			

Note: Secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools.

Suspension rate by FSM status

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	suspension rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
FSM - Eligible	10687	67.09	21.52	9.78
FSM - Not eligible	25146	14.05	2.99	-0.35

Exclusions – permanent exclusions by pupil group - primary (2022/23)

- In the primary phase in 2022/23 the permanent exclusion rate for most pupil groups was close to or below the national average.
- Pupils of White and Asian ethnicity had a significantly higher permanent exclusion rate although in pupil numbers this represents 2 out of a total of 11 permanent exclusions.
- 9 out of 11 pupils who were permanently excluded in the primary phase in 2022/23 had SEN, although the overall rate of exclusions for SEN pupils was below the national average.

Permanent exclusion rate by ethnicity

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
White and Asian	1116	0.18	0.16	0.14
Any other white background	1862	0.05	0.04	0.04
White British	27754	0.02	-0.01	-0.02
Any other Asian background	1230	0.00	-0.01	-0.04
Any other black background	472	0.00	-0.02	-0.03
Any other Mixed background	1062	0.00	-0.03	-0.03
Bangladeshi	527	0.00	0.00	0.00
Black African	3004	0.00	-0.01	-0.01
Black Caribbean	203	0.00	-0.04	-0.03
Chinese	387	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gypsy Roma	997	0.00	-0.08	-0.02
Indian	771	0.00	0.00	0.00
Irish	68	0.00	-0.03	0.00
Pakistani	3486	0.00	-0.01	-0.01
Traveller of Irish heritage	25	0.00	-0.13	0.00
White and Black African	611	0.00	-0.04	-0.11
White and Black Caribbean	1360	0.00	-0.06	-0.06

Permanent exclusion rate by SEN status

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHC plan	968	0.21	0.00	-0.09
SEN support	7457	0.09	-0.04	-0.04
No SEN	38909	0.01	0.00	0.00

Permanent exclusion rate by NCY

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
NC Year 6	6517	0.06	0.02	0.00
NC Year 2	6279	0.03	0.01	0.01
NC Year 3	6294	0.03	0.01	0.00
NC Year 4	6140	0.02	-0.01	-0.03
NC Year 1 and below	15809	0.01	0.00	0.00
NC Year 5	6295	0.00	-0.04	-0.03

Note: Secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools.

Permanent exclusion rate by FSM status

State-funded primary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
FSM - Eligible	15628	0.04	-0.03	-0.02
FSM - Not eligible	31706	0.02	0.01	0.00

Exclusions – permanent exclusions by pupil group - secondary (2022/23)

- In the secondary phase in 2022/23 the permanent exclusion rate for the majority of pupil groups was above the national and Core Cities average.
- The gap between Sheffield and national was highest for pupils from Gypsy Roma, White & Black Caribbean and White & Black African pupils.
- The gaps between Sheffield and national for exclusions rates for pupils with SEN and pupils eligible for free school meals are also higher.

Permanent exclusion rate by ethnicity

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Gypsy Roma	719	2.50	1.31	1.45
White and Black Caribbean	881	1.02	0.52	0.47
White and Black African	438	0.69	0.41	0.54
White and Asian	801	0.62	0.43	0.21
Pakistani	2978	0.34	0.21	0.19
Any other white background	1347	0.30	0.17	0.14
White British	20722	0.29	0.03	-0.05
Any other Mixed background	811	0.25	0.06	0.06
Black African	2108	0.19	0.07	0.07
Any other Asian background	831	0.00	-0.08	-0.06
Any other black background	311	0.00	-0.22	-0.26
Bangladeshi	477	0.00	-0.06	-0.08
Black Caribbean	214	0.00	-0.33	-0.45
Chinese	311	0.00	-0.03	0.00
Indian	385	0.00	-0.03	0.00
Irish	62	0.00	-0.23	-0.50
Traveller of Irish heritage	20	0.00	-1.19	0.00

Permanent exclusion rate by SEN status

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHC plan	761	1.05	0.64	0.29
SEN support	4870	1.03	0.32	0.28
No SEN	30202	0.21	0.07	0.04

Permanent exclusion rate by NCY

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
NC Year 10	6047	0.76	0.40	0.33
NC Year 8	6052	0.48	0.20	0.08
NC Year 9	6123	0.47	0.12	0.07
NC Year 7	6145	0.16	0.01	-0.02
NC Year 11	5870	0.10	-0.01	-0.01
NC Year 1 and below	444	0.00	-0.01	0.00
NC Year 12 and above	4426	0.00	-0.01	0.00
NC Year 2	164	0.00	-0.01	0.00
NC Year 3	160	0.00	-0.02	0.00
NC Year 4	162	0.00	-0.04	-0.12
NC Year 5	120	0.00	-0.05	-0.02
NC Year 6	120	0.00	-0.05	-0.14

Note: Secondary phase includes primary age pupils in through schools.

Permanent exclusion rate by FSM status

State-funded secondary

	no. of pupils	permanent exc. rate	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
FSM - Eligible	10687	0.76	0.16	0.22
FSM - Not eligible	25146	0.16	0.05	0.05



Outcomes for children and young people

- In 2022/23 around 4,069 young people in Sheffield were suspended from school on one or more occasion.
- Young people who were eligible for free school meals and young people with special education needs were over 3 times more likely to be suspended compared to young people without these characteristics.
- 134 young people were permanently excluded from school in 2022/23. This represents 40 more young people than the national average for permanent exclusion and an increase compared to 2021/22 when Sheffield was 27 exclusions above the national average. These excess exclusions were in the secondary phase as the primary rate of permanent exclusion was below the national average in 2022/23.



Trails for further investigation

- **4.1** How can further analysis of the patterns of suspension and permanent exclusion (including reasons for exclusion) for young people by pupil characteristics (including ethnicity) support the development of policy and practice?
- **4.2** What does further analysis of the relationship between suspension, exclusion, alternative provision and other types of provision tell us about what works to reduce suspensions and exclusions?

Overview

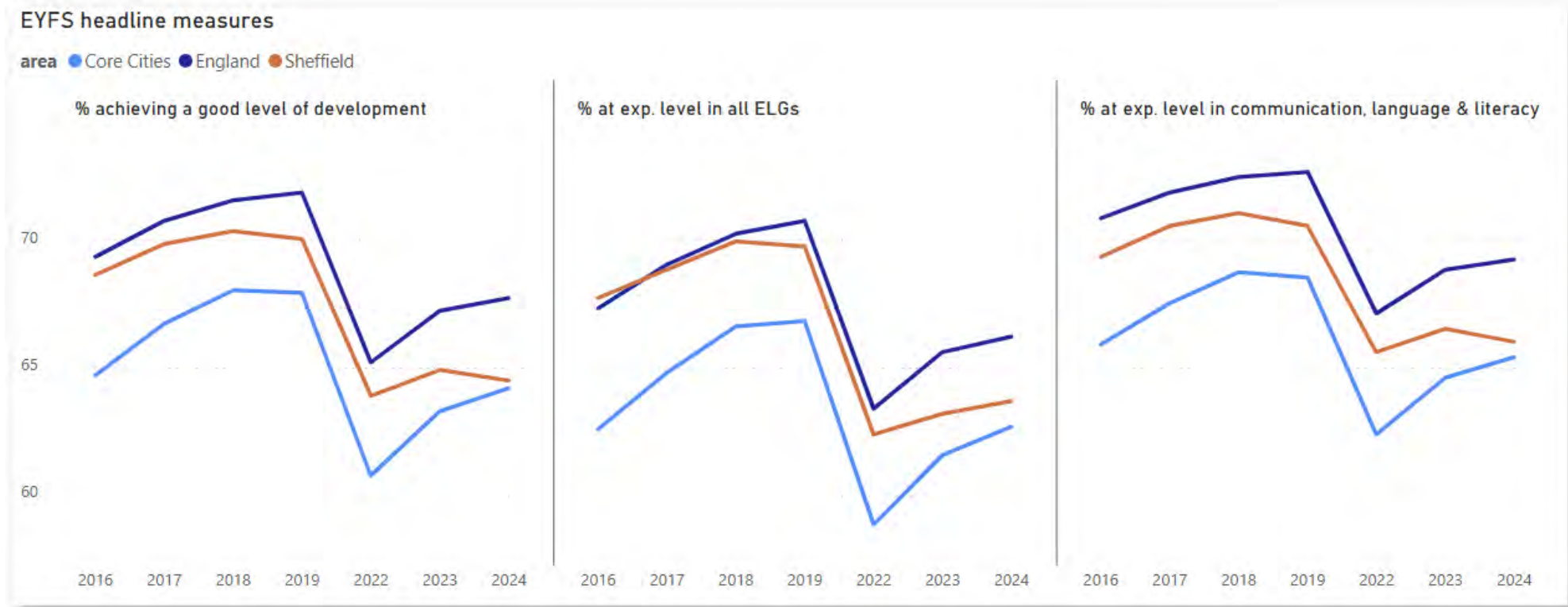
- 1 Ofsted inspection judgements
- 2 Pupil characteristics & SEND
- 3 Attendance
- 4 Exclusions
- 5 **Attainment & progress**

Last updated: January 2025

Next updates: January 2026

Early Years Foundation Stage – attainment trends

- 64.5% of children in Sheffield in 2024 achieved a good level of development in Sheffield (a drop of 0.5% points since 2023) compared to 67.7% nationally.
- As performance in Sheffield declined slightly and national performance improved, the gap between Sheffield and national has widened to 3.2% points.
- Sheffield is still slightly above the Core Cities average but the gap between Sheffield and Core Cities has narrowed.



Note: the EYFS framework was revised in 2022 so results prior to 2022 are not directly comparable to results from 2022 onwards.

Early Years Foundation Stage – national and Core Cities ranks

- Sheffield's national rank across the EYFS headline measures has worsened over time. In 2024 the rank for the % of children achieving a good level of development remains in the bottom quartile and has dropped 10 places since 2023
- The relative performance of girls in Sheffield was worse than boys in 2024 (girls had an overall rank of 131 compared to 113 for boys).
- Sheffield was in the top 3 Core Cities for performance at Foundation Stage from 2016 to 2023 but is now 5th.

Ranks across all EYFS measures (all LAs)

year label	2016 rank	rank change	2019 rank	rank change	2022 rank	rank change	2023 rank	rank change	2024 rank	rank change
% achieving a good level of development	94	↓ -4	111	↓ -13	102	↑ 9	117	↓ -15	127	↓ -10
% at exp. level in communication, language & literacy	104	↑ 5	113	↓ -13	103	↑ 10	111	↓ -8	125	↓ -14
% at exp. level in all ELGs	77	↑ 8	93	↓ -14	99	↓ -6	114	↓ -15	113	↑ 1

Ranks across all EYFS measures (all LAs)



Ranks across all EYFS measures (Core Cities)

year label	2016 rank	rank change	2019 rank	rank change	2022 rank	rank change	2023 rank	rank change	2024 rank	rank change
% achieving a good level of development	2	↓ -1	3	↓ -1	2	↑ 1	3	↓ -1	5	↓ -2
% at exp. level in communication, language & literacy	2	↓ -1	3	↓ -1	2	↑ 1	2	→ 0	4	↓ -2
% at exp. level in all ELGs	2	↓ -1	2	↓ -1	2	→ 0	3	↓ -1	3	→ 0

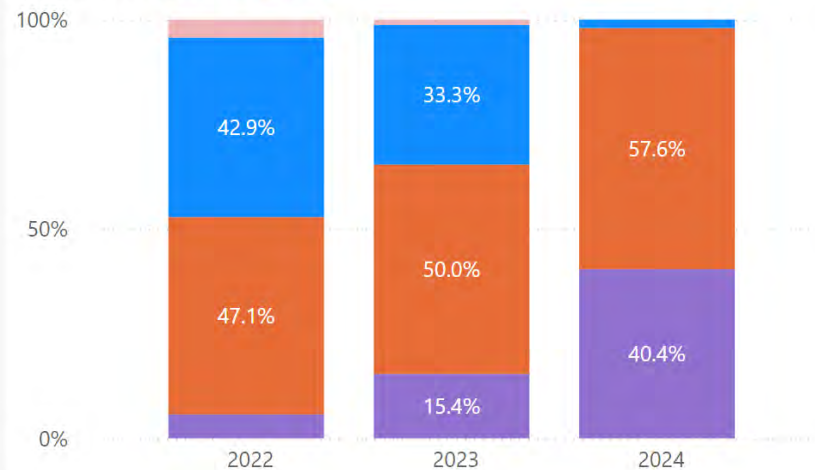
Note: the EYFS framework was revised in 2022 so results prior to 2022 are not directly comparable to results from 2022 onwards.

Early Years Foundation Stage – ranks by area of learning

- Sheffield's rank worsened across all individual Early Learning Goals.
- 40% of EYFS measures are now ranked in the bottom quartile with the mathematics and literacy Early Learning Goals having the lowest ranks out of all Early Learning Areas.

EYFS ranks by quartile (all LAs)

quartile (1=best) ● 4 ● 3 ● 2 ● 1



Ranks across all EYFS measures (all LAs)

year	2023			2024		
Measure	rank	rank change		rank	rank change	
% achieving a good level of development	117	↓	-15	127	↓	-10
% at exp. level in communication, language & literacy	111	↓	-8	125	↓	-14
% at exp. level in all ELGs	114	↓	-15	113	↑	1
Av. No. of ELGs at exp. level	77	↓	-6	104	↓	-27
All prime area ELGs	89	↓	-37	118	↓	-29
All communication and language ELGs	73	↓	-19	103	↓	-30
Listening, attention and understanding	63	↓	-20	98	↓	-35
Speaking	73	↓	-14	111	↓	-38
All personal, social and emotional development ELGs	70	↓	-22	110	↓	-40
Self-regulation	56	↓	-12	106	↓	-50
Managing self	55	↓	-12	104	↓	-49
Building relationships	63	↓	-27	92	↓	-29
All physical development ELGs	46	↓	-13	96	↓	-50
Gross motor skills	14	↓	-3	60	↓	-46
Fine motor skills	48	↓	-10	89	↓	-41
All specific area ELGs	112	↓	-10	117	↓	-5
All literacy ELGs	117	↓	-10	124	↓	-7
Comprehension	88	↓	-14	113	↓	-25
Word reading	112	↑	4	117	↓	-5
Writing	112	↓	-4	123	↓	-11
All mathematics ELGs	113	↓	-6	126	↓	-13
Number	112	↓	-3	130	↓	-18
Numerical patterns	110	→	0	126	↓	-16
All understanding the world ELGs	85	↓	-11	110	↓	-25
Past and present	84	↓	-2	113	↓	-29
People, culture and communities	83	↓	-7	107	↓	-24
The natural world	72	↓	-7	106	↓	-34
All expressive arts and design ELGs	59	↓	-12	102	↓	-43
Creating with materials	57	↓	-7	104	↓	-47
Being imaginative and expressive	62	↓	-12	99	↓	-37

Early Years Foundation Stage – pupil groups, % achieving a good level of development (2024)

- The tables show the % of pupils achieving a good level of development (GLD) by pupil group and the difference between Sheffield and the national average.
- White British children and children who are not eligible for FSM achieved above the national and Core Cities average but many vulnerable groups were below national and Core Cities.
- Although performance in Sheffield is better than Core Cities for some pupil groups, for children with EAL performance was 2.7% points lower in Sheffield compared to the Core Cities average and performance was 2.4% points lower for children eligible for FSM.

group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Traveller of Irish heritage	2	100.0	64.7	50.0
Irish	9	88.9	16.1	3.8
Chinese	38	81.6	3.5	6.6
Bangladeshi	63	73.0	7.6	11.9
White and Asian	144	71.5	-3.3	0.5
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	3302	70.3	0.5	2.6
White and Black African	86	66.3	-1.7	1.7
Any other White background	221	61.5	-5.2	0.2
White and Black Caribbean	182	59.9	-5.3	-6.1
Any other Mixed / Multiple ethnic background	150	59.3	-9.7	-5.4
Any other Asian background	128	57.8	-7.7	-2.2
African	422	56.9	-5.8	-4.0
Any other ethnic group	227	56.8	-3.4	-1.1
Indian	127	55.9	-15.2	-10.4
Pakistani	432	55.3	-7.3	-3.3
Unknown	219	50.7	0.3	6.3
Any other Black / African / Caribbean background	69	46.4	-13.5	-12.2
Caribbean	31	41.9	-20.4	-11.3
Gypsy / Roma	103	30.1	-5.3	2.7

gender	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Boys	3034	58.0	-2.7	1.0
Girls	2921	71.2	-3.8	-0.4
Total	5955	64.5	-3.2	0.3

group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Not EAL	4398	68.0	-1.7	0.8
EAL	1394	55.9	-7.6	-2.7

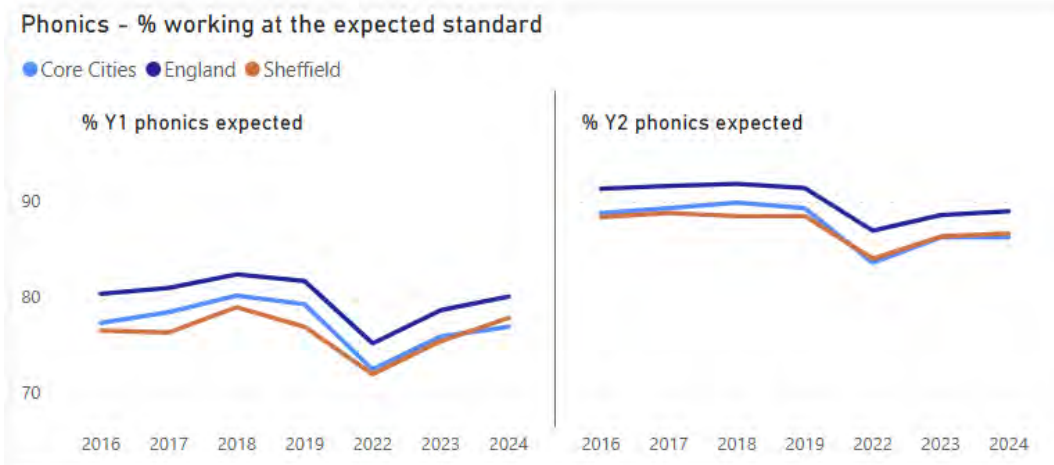
group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
not FSM	4048	72.2	0.2	2.2
FSM	1774	49.0	-2.5	-2.4

group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Autumn-born	2099	74.3	-1.3	1.2
Spring-born	1434	64.6	-4.9	-1.0
Summer-born	2422	56.0	-4.0	0.2

group	No. of pupils	Sheffield	diff. with nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHC plan	179	1.7	-2.1	-0.9
SEN support	695	21.3	-3.6	-0.9
No SEN	4957	73.6	-2.0	0.7

5 Phonics – national ranks & trends

- The national rank for Y1 phonics improved from 135 to 123 between 2023 and 2024, Sheffield is now 3rd out of Core Cities for Y1 phonics and the gap with national has narrowed from 3 to 2 % points.
- The % of pupils working at the expected standard in Y2 remained similar between 2023 and 2024. Sheffield's rank has dropped to 143 nationally, 5th Core City.



year	2019		2023		2024	
measure	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.
% Y1 phonics expected	↓ 77.1	-4.7	↑ 75.6	-3.2	↑ 78.0	-2.2
% Y2 phonics expected	→ 88.5	-2.9	↑ 86.4	-2.2	↑ 86.7	-2.3

Phonics ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)										
year	2016		2019		2022		2023		2024	
measure	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
% Y1 phonics expected	141	↓ -4	148	↓ -7	134	↑ 14	135	↓ -1	123	↑ 12
% Y2 phonics expected	139		148	→ 0	141	↑ 7	136	↑ 5	143	↓ -7

Phonics ranks and rank change (all pupils - Core Cities)										
year	2016		2019		2022		2023		2024	
measure	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
% Y1 phonics expected	6	↓ -1	8	↓ -2	5	↑ 3	5	→ 0	3	↑ 2
% Y2 phonics expected	4		7	↑ 1	4	↑ 3	4	→ 0	5	↓ -1

Phonics ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)					
year	2024				
measure	rank	rank change from 2016		rank change from 2019	
% Y1 phonics expected	123	↑	18	↑	25
% Y2 phonics expected	143	↓	-4	↑	5

Phonics ranks and rank change (all pupils – Core Cities)					
year	2024				
measure	rank	rank change from 2016	rank change from 2019		
% Y1 phonics expected	3	↑ 3	↑	↑	5
% Y2 phonics expected	5	↓ -1	↑	↑	2

5 Y1 phonics – pupil groups (2024)

- The majority of pupil groups have seen an improvement in the % working at the expected level since 2023.
- Gaps have closed since 2019 for EAL, FSM and SEN pupils.
- Although gaps are closing for some vulnerable groups, there are still large attainment gaps between different pupil groups.
- Many ethnic minority groups have attainment below the level for White British children.

Year	2024				
gender	No. of pupils	result	change since 2019	change since 2023	
All pupils	6293	78.0	0.9	2.4	
Boys	3129	73.6	0.3	2.0	
Girls	3164	82.4	1.2	2.6	

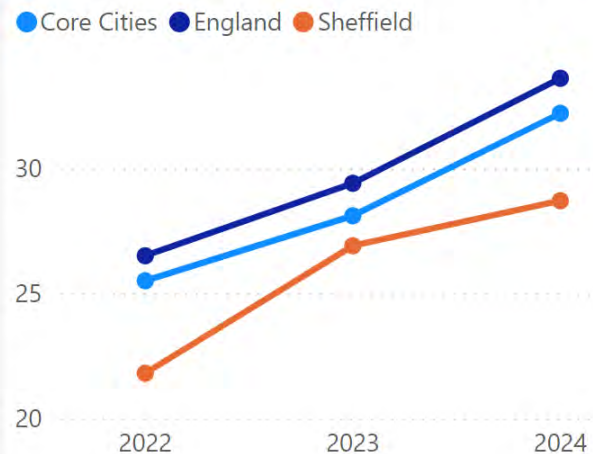
Year	2024				
group	No. of pupils	result	change since 2019	change since 2023	
▢ All pupils					
All pupils	6293	78.0	0.9	2.4	
▢ Disadvantage status					
Disadvantaged	1982	66.6	1.7	2.7	
Not disadvantaged	4210	84.5	1.8	2.0	
▢ First language					
EAL	1639	70.4	3.2	2.2	
Not EAL	4630	80.8	0.7	2.6	
▢ Free school meals status					
FSM	1946	66.6	3.1	2.7	
Not FSM	4347	83.1	1.6	1.9	
▢ SEN status					
EHCP	205	13.7	4.2	-2.4	
No SEN	5134	86.2	1.9	3.0	
SEN Support	868	49.3	5.7	3.5	

Year	2024				
Ethnic group	No. of pupils	result	change since 2019	change since 2023	
Any Other Asian Background	165	77.6	10.1	2.4	
Any Other Black Background	59	64.4	-16.0	-13.4	
Any Other Ethnic Background	158	71.5	7.2	-0.1	
Any Other Mixed Background	149	76.5	-1.4	-1.7	
Any Other White Background	125	80.8	-11.2	10.9	
Bangladeshi	83	73.5	-5.1	-7.1	
Caribbean	20	50.0	-10.0	-16.7	
Chinese	39	84.6	-10.6	-2.6	
Indian	165	75.2	-13.6	5.2	
Other Black African	420	76.0	-5.0	3.4	
Pakistani	497	77.1	3.6	3.8	
Somali	68	72.1	-6.1	0.8	
Unknown	90	73.3	1.5	5.0	
White and Any Other Asian	114	91.2	12.4	5.5	
White and Asian Pakistani	45	75.6	9.7	2.8	
White and Black African	69	78.3	4.1	0.6	
White and Black Caribbean	184	76.6	2.3	5.8	
White British	3517	81.3	0.9	2.3	
White East European	106	64.2	-6.4	-4.2	
White Gypsy/Roma	124	33.1	22.0	11.7	
White Irish	9	55.6	-11.1	-11.1	
White Traveller of Irish Heritage	3	33.3	-46.7	33.3	
Yemeni	84	76.2	8.1	6.5	

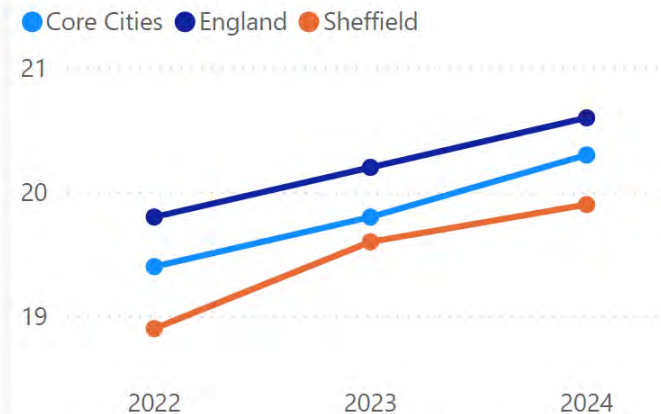
Y4 multiplication check – trends and ranks

- In 2024, 28.7% of pupils scored 25 (full marks) in the Y4 multiplication tables check compared to 33.6% nationally and 32.2% in Core Cities.
- The gap between Sheffield and national increased from 2.5% points in 2023 to 4.9% points in 2024.
- Sheffield's ranks have dropped back to 2022 performance after an improvement in 2023. Sheffield is in the bottom quartile and the lower half of Core Cities for both headline measures in the Y4 multiplication check.

% scoring 25 in Y4 multiplication check



Average attainment score Y4 multiplication check



Y4 multiplication check Core Cities ranks

year label	2022		2023		2024	
	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
% scoring 25 in Y4 multiplication check	7		6	↑ 1	6	→ 0
Average attainment score Y4 multiplication check	7		6	↑ 1	6	→ 0

Y4 multiplication check ranks (all LAs)

year label	2022		2023		2024	
	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
% scoring 25 in Y4 multiplication check	128		112	↑ 16	127	↓ -15
Average attainment score Y4 multiplication check	137		126	↑ 11	137	↓ -11

Y4 multiplication check – pupil groups (2024)

- Sheffield's average mark was lower than Core Cities across most pupil groups in 2024. The gap was particularly large for pupils of Pakistani ethnicity.
- Gaps with national and Core Cities were larger for pupils with EAL, FSM and SEND. The gap with national and Core Cities was also larger for girls.

Average score in Y4 multiplication check by ethnic group

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Asian - Chinese	52	22.8	-0.9	-0.5
Asian - Indian	107	22.0	-0.9	-0.5
White - Irish	7	21.4	1.0	1.1
Asian - Bangladeshi	95	21.3	-1.0	-0.6
Black - Black African	390	21.3	-0.7	-0.4
Asian - Any other Asian background	172	20.8	-1.6	-0.6
Mixed - Any other Mixed background	163	20.7	-0.6	-0.1
Mixed - White and Black African	87	20.5	-0.4	0.0
Mixed - White and Asian	136	20.4	-1.3	-0.6
Any other ethnic group	256	20.2	-1.1	-0.7
White - Any other White background	248	20.1	-1.2	-0.2
Asian - Pakistani	523	19.9	-1.9	-1.2
Black - Any other Black background	67	19.9	-1.3	-1.1
White - White British	3573	19.8	-0.3	0.1
Black - Black Caribbean	42	19.4	-0.7	0.1
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	161	19.2	-0.3	0.2
Unclassified	106	17.4	-1.7	-1.1
White - Traveller of Irish heritage	5	15.6	0.6	0.1
White - Gypsy / Roma	75	11.9	-3.5	-2.1

Average score in Y4 multiplication check by SEN status

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHC plan	96	13.2	-2.0	-1.0
No SEN	5014	21.0	-0.6	-0.2
SEN support	1104	16.0	-0.8	-0.6

Average score in Y4 multiplication check by gender

gender	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils	6265	19.9	-0.7	-0.4
Boys	3244	20.3	-0.6	-0.3
Girls	3021	19.5	-0.9	-0.5

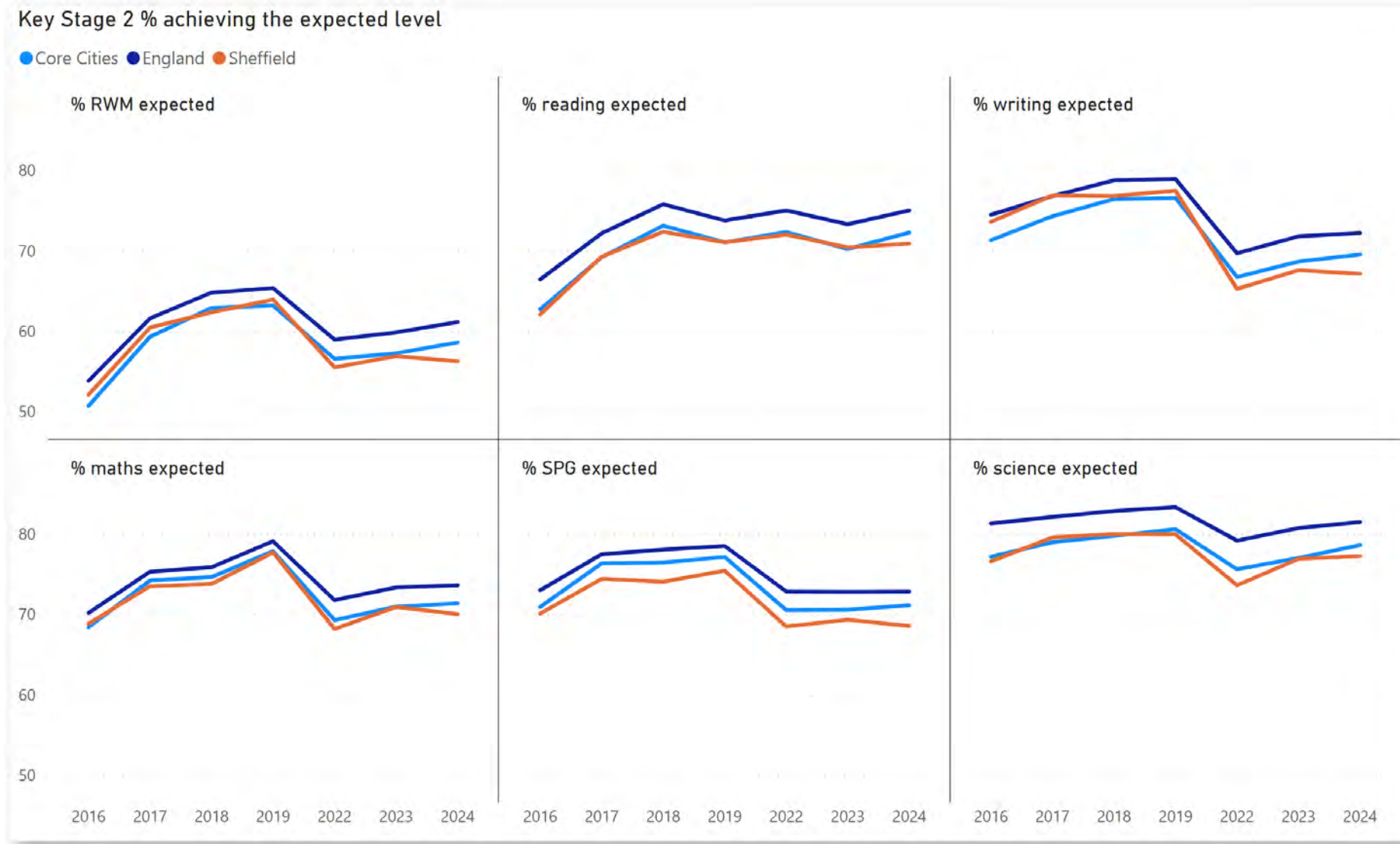
Average score in Y4 multiplication check by first language

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
English	4661	19.9	-0.5	-0.1
other than English	1552	20.1	-1.7	-0.9

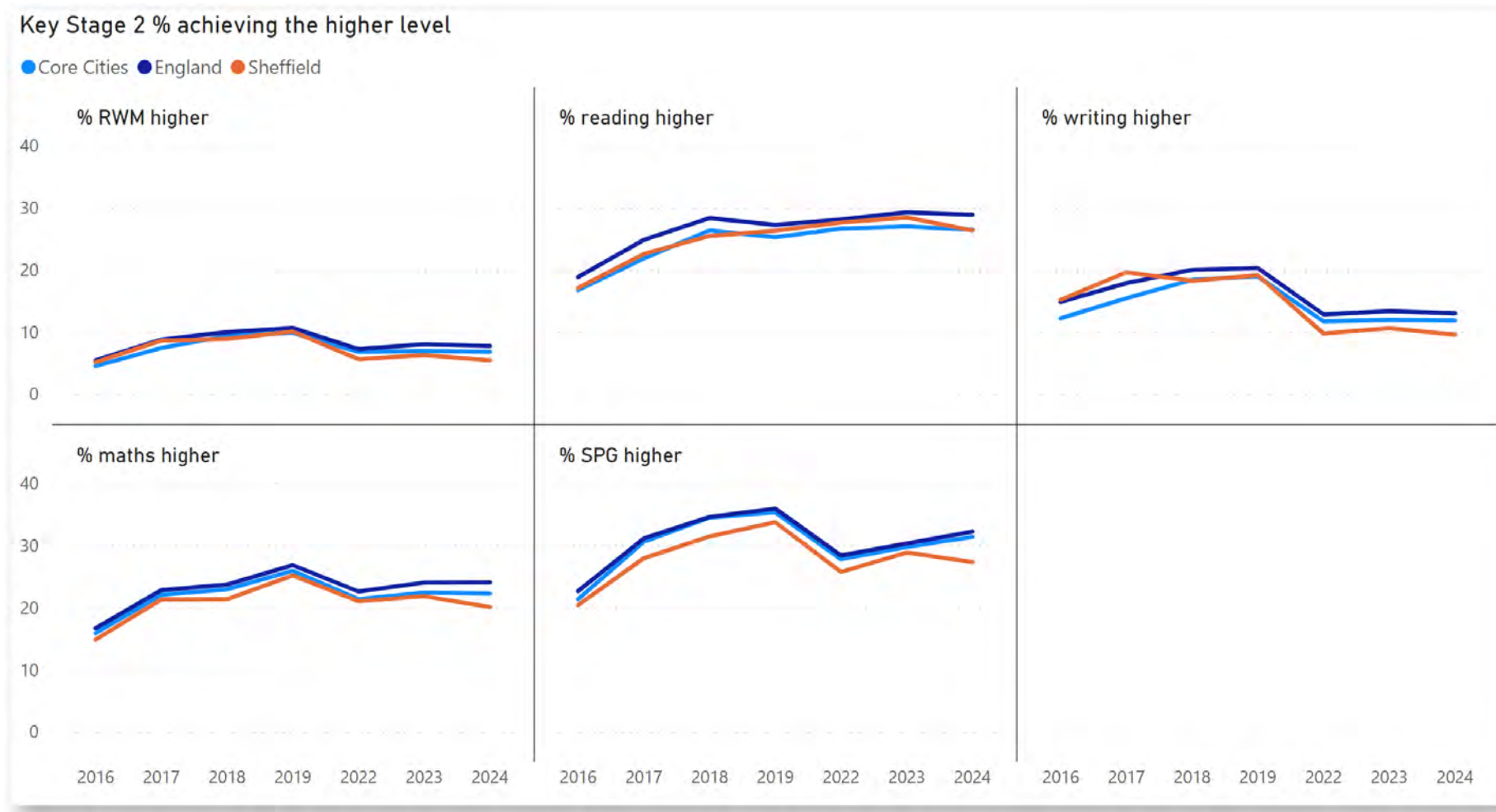
Average score in Y4 multiplication check by FSM eligibility

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
FSM eligible	2141	18.1	-0.8	-0.8
Not FSM eligible	4124	20.9	-0.4	-0.2

- In 2024, 56.3% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to 61.1% nationally.
- The gap with national increased for all measures and is now around 4% points.
- In 2023, KS2 performance was similar to the Core Cities average across most measures but in 2024 Sheffield was around 2% points below the Core Cities average.



- In 2024, 5.4% of pupils achieved the higher standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to 7.7% nationally.
- The gap with national increased for all measures and is now nearly 5% points for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- In 2023, KS2 performance was similar to the Core Cities average across most measures but Sheffield was around 2% points below the Core Cities average in 2024.



5 Key Stage 2 – national ranks

- The national rank worsened for all KS2 measures between 2023 and 2024 and all measures (apart from reading at the higher standard) are now in the bottom quartile.
- The average rank across all measures is worse for boys (134) compared to girls (125).
- Results for % achieving the expected standard in writing and science were amongst the bottom 10 LAs nationally in 2024.

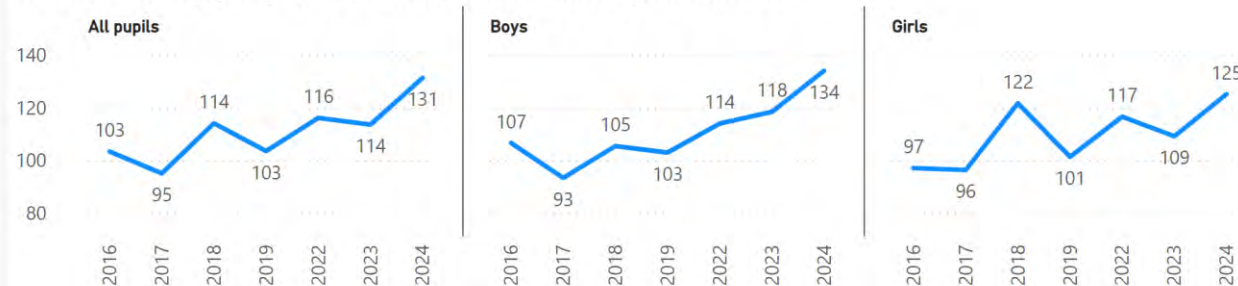
Key Stage 2 ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)

year	2016		2019		2022		2023		2024					
measure	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change				
% RWM expected	97		101	↑	8	124	↓	-23	115	↑	9	137	↓	-22
% RWM higher	85		79	↑	18	108	↓	-29	110	↓	-2	131	↓	-21
% reading expected	123		120	↑	6	127	↓	-7	123	↑	4	139	↓	-16
% reading higher	100		86	↑	25	76	↑	10	84	↓	-8	107	↓	-23
% writing expected	98		105	↑	11	138	↓	-33	139	↓	-1	143	↓	-4
% writing higher	70		89	↑	10	119	↓	-30	112	↑	7	125	↓	-13
% maths expected	98		109	↑	4	125	↓	-16	117	↑	8	130	↓	-13
% maths higher	102		94	↑	14	86	↑	8	92	↓	-6	127	↓	-35
% SPG expected	118		124	↑	12	132	↓	-8	127	↑	5	134	↓	-7
% SPG higher	107		97	↑	17	98	↓	-1	85	↑	13	124	↓	-39
% science expected	138		134	↓	-9	144	↓	-10	145	↓	-1	147	↓	-2

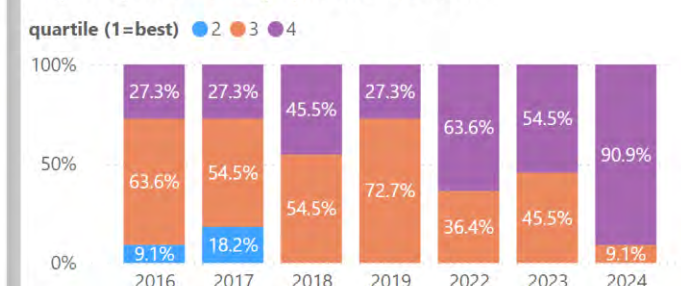
Key Stage 2 ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)

year	2024				
measure	rank		rank change from 2016		rank change from 2019
% RWM expected	137	↓	-40	↓	-36
% RWM higher	131	↓	-46	↓	-52
% reading expected	139	↓	-16	↓	-19
% reading higher	107	↓	-7	↓	-21
% writing expected	143	↓	-45	↓	-38
% writing higher	125	↓	-55	↓	-36
% maths expected	130	↓	-32	↓	-21
% maths higher	127	↓	-25	↓	-33
% SPG expected	134	↓	-16	↓	-10
% SPG higher	124	↓	-17	↓	-27
% science expected	147	↓	-9	↓	-13

Average rank by group (all LAs) (lower rank = better performance)



Key Stage 2 ranks by quartile (all LAs)

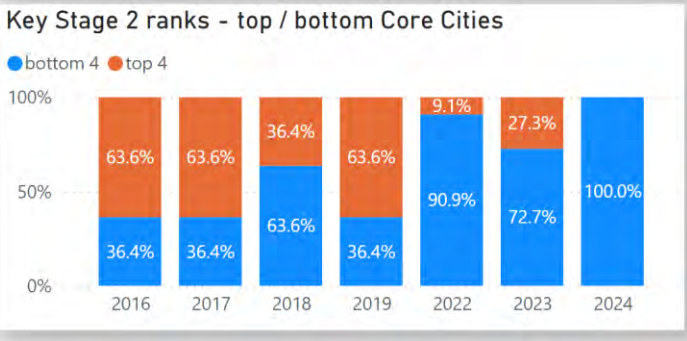
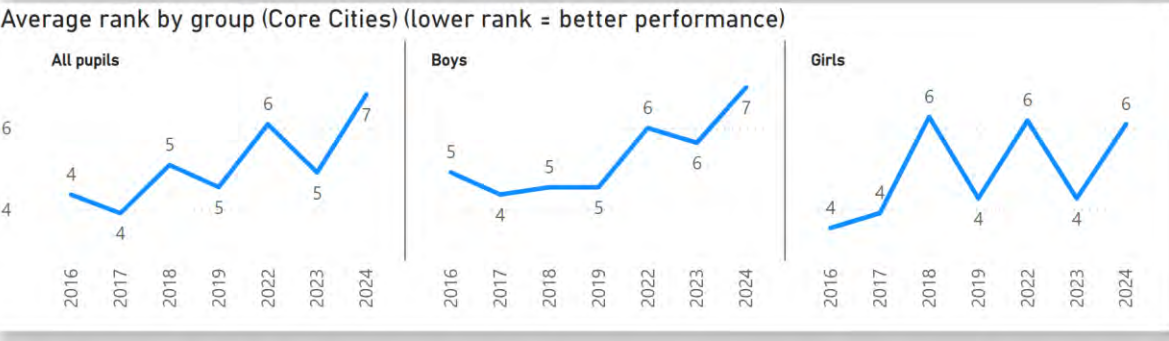


5 Key Stage 2 – Core Cities ranks

- Sheffield was ranked 7th overall out of Core Cities in 2024.
- In 2016, 64% of KS2 indicators were in the top half of Core Cities compared to only 0% in 2024.

year label	2016		2019		2022		2023		2024	
	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
% RWM expected	3		3	→	6	↓	5	↑	7	↓
% RWM higher	3		3	↑	7	↓	6	↑	7	↓
% reading expected	4		5	→	5	→	3	↑	7	↓
% reading higher	3		3	↑	3	→	3	→	5	↓
% writing expected	3		3	→	7	↓	6	↑	7	↓
% writing higher	3		4	↓	7	↓	5	↑	7	↓
% maths expected	4		4	↑	6	↓	5	↑	5	→
% maths higher	7		7	↑	5	↑	4	↑	8	↓
% SPG expected	6		8	→	7	↑	6	↑	7	↓
% SPG higher	7		6	↑	7	↓	6	↑	8	↓
% science expected	5		4	↓	7	↓	5	↑	7	↓

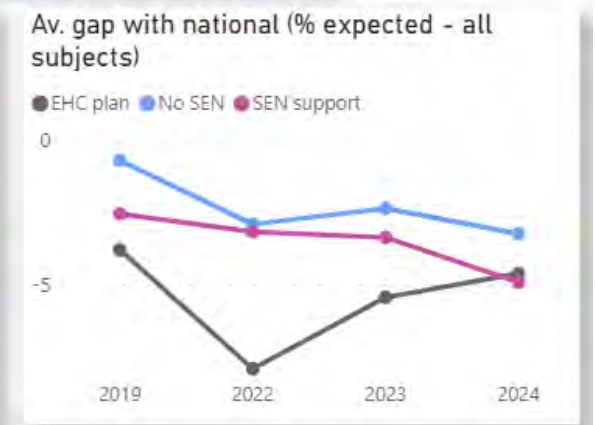
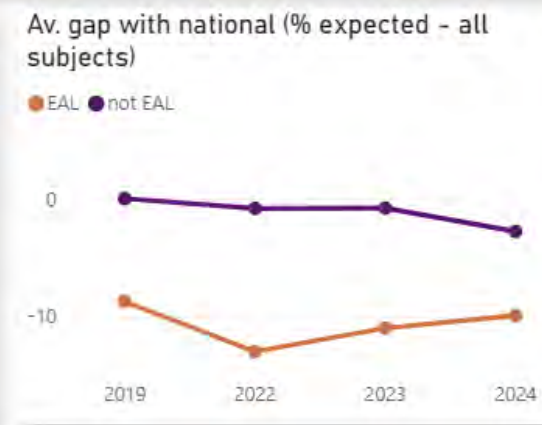
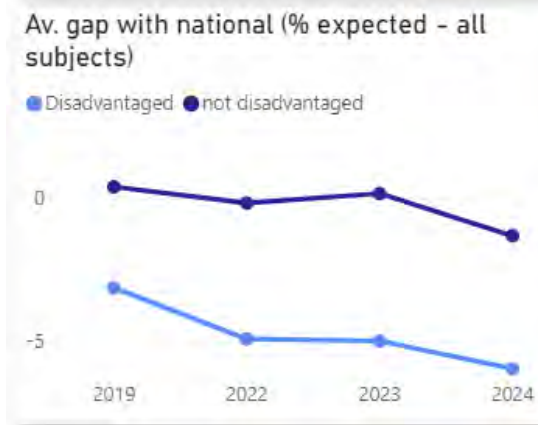
year label	2024	rank change from 2016		rank change from 2019	
	rank	rank change from 2016		rank change from 2019	
% RWM expected	7	↓	-4	↓	-4
% RWM higher	7	↓	-4	↓	-4
% reading expected	7	↓	-3	↓	-2
% reading higher	5	↓	-2	↓	-2
% writing expected	7	↓	-4	↓	-4
% writing higher	7	↓	-4	↓	-3
% maths expected	5	↓	-1	↓	-1
% maths higher	8	↓	-1	↓	-1
% SPG expected	7	↓	-1	↑	1
% SPG higher	8	↓	-1	↓	-2
% science expected	7	↓	-2	↓	-3



Key Stage 2 – attainment gaps 2024 (EAL, FSM, SEN)

- The table shows the gap with national for the same pupil group in 2024.
- The line charts show the average gap across all measures over time.
- Sheffield was below the national average for all pupil groups in 2024. The gaps with national were larger for the more vulnerable groups.
- The largest gaps are for pupils with EAL, although this gap has been reducing. The gap with national for disadvantaged pupils has almost doubled since 2019 to 6% points.

subject	% RWM expected		% reading expected		% writing expected		% maths expected		% SPG expected		% science expected	
group	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.
All pupils												
All pupils	56.3	-4.9	70.9	-4.1	67.2	-5.1	70.0	-3.6	68.6	-4.3	77.3	-4.2
Disadvantage status												
Disadvantaged	39.8	-6.0	56.7	-6.2	52.4	-6.4	53.9	-5.5	53.6	-5.8	62.1	-7.3
not disadvantaged	66.1	-1.9	79.4	-1.1	76.0	-2.2	79.7	-0.3	77.5	-1.3	86.3	-0.5
First language												
EAL	54.3	-10.1	65.6	-8.8	65.0	-9.2	68.1	-10.9	67.0	-10.6	72.0	-10.2
not EAL	57.1	-3.4	72.7	-2.7	68.0	-3.8	70.8	-1.4	69.2	-2.4	79.1	-2.4
Free school meal status												
FSM	40.1	-5.7	56.7	-6.2	52.8	-6.0	54.2	-5.2	53.8	-5.5	62.0	-7.3
not FSM	65.3	-2.1	78.8	-1.2	75.2	-2.6	78.9	-0.6	76.8	-1.6	85.8	-0.7
SEN status												
EHC plan	5.9	-2.9	12.6	-6.7	9.2	-3.0	12.0	-5.4	11.7	-5.2	15.1	-5.5
No SEN	68.1	-4.1	81.7	-2.8	79.9	-4.0	81.5	-2.2	80.4	-3.2	88.6	-2.7
SEN support	21.5	-4.2	42.5	-5.6	30.7	-5.5	39.1	-5.1	35.5	-4.2	48.0	-6.6



Key Stage 2 – attainment gaps 2024 (ethnicity)

- The table shows the gap with national for the same pupil group in 2024 by ethnicity.
- Some pupil groups outperformed the national average in 2024, but they tended to be relatively small in terms of the overall cohort.
- There were a number of ethnic groups with 100+ pupils where the gap with national was more than 10% points for the combined measure in 2024.

subject	% RWM expected		% reading expected		% writing expected		% maths expected		% SPG expected		% science expected	
	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.	Sheffield	gap w. nat.
ethnic group (no. of pupils)												
White - Gypsy / Roma (123)	7.3	-11.6	16.3	-18.3	15.5	-15.0	8.9	-21.8	8.1	-19.5	18.7	-23.0
Black - Black Caribbean (19)	36.8	-16.1	42.1	-29.4	52.6	-13.8	63.2	-1.2	57.9	-11.0	63.2	-13.7
Unclassified (96)	44.2	-4.1	62.5	-1.2	54.7	-4.5	55.2	-6.9	58.3	-4.2	66.3	-2.9
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean (189)	42.3	-10.1	63.5	-8.2	60.3	-5.8	52.9	-10.6	59.3	-7.1	68.3	-8.0
White - Irish (12)	50.0	-15.5	66.7	-12.4	58.3	-15.4	66.7	-8.0	58.3	-15.7	75.0	-7.7
Any other ethnic group (268)	50.0	-9.7	60.1	-10.2	65.3	-3.9	67.5	-8.0	62.3	-10.6	75.4	-3.1
Black - Any other Black background (53)	50.9	-9.4	66.0	-7.8	62.3	-9.9	69.8	-1.6	71.7	-4.2	69.8	-9.9
Asian - Pakistani (505)	56.4	-5.5	70.5	-2.1	68.5	-4.6	68.5	-8.1	69.7	-7.6	73.5	-6.7
Mixed - White and Black African (72)	55.6	-7.0	73.6	-3.6	65.3	-8.5	69.4	-3.9	72.2	-4.1	72.2	-10.1
Asian - Any other Asian background (164)	56.7	-12.6	70.7	-6.9	66.5	-11.4	73.8	-9.5	74.4	-7.6	72.0	-12.6
Black - Black African (413)	57.5	-6.5	71.2	-5.0	67.8	-6.4	70.8	-5.4	72.7	-6.7	76.3	-5.6
White - White British (3829)	57.2	-2.1	72.7	-2.0	68.4	-2.7	71.3	-0.2	68.8	-1.4	80.1	-1.1
Mixed - White and Asian (143)	62.2	-9.5	76.9	-5.2	66.4	-13.9	74.1	-7.2	76.9	-4.5	79.7	-7.1
Mixed - Any other Mixed background (140)	62.9	-3.5	75.7	-3.2	69.3	-7.1	76.4	-0.5	74.3	-3.8	80.0	-4.3
White - Any other White background (238)	63.5	-0.6	75.2	-0.4	72.3	-2.1	78.6	0.3	74.0	-1.8	80.7	-2.9
White - Traveller of Irish heritage (4)	75.0	55.5	75.0	39.5	75.0	43.9	75.0	46.5	75.0	45.9	75.0	35.5
Asian - Bangladeshi (76)	69.7	-1.8	81.6	1.8	79.0	-1.5	75.0	-8.0	80.3	-4.2	84.2	-0.9
Asian - Chinese (53)	79.3	2.3	81.1	-2.1	81.1	-0.7	96.2	1.1	83.0	-3.5	86.8	-3.8
Asian - Indian (94)	78.7	3.1	89.4	6.8	81.9	-1.1	97.9	9.4	95.7	8.1	91.5	2.8

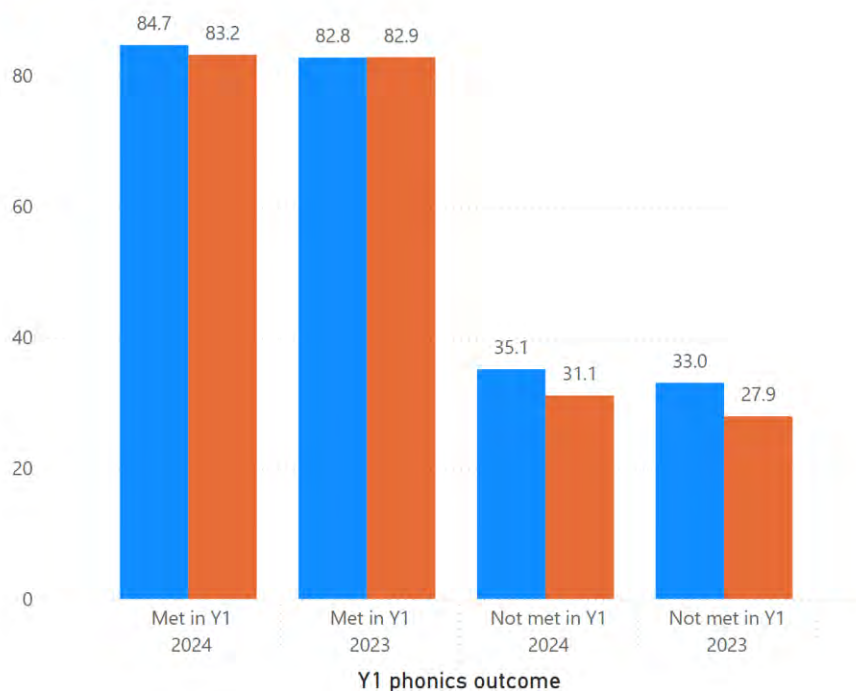
Key Stage 2 – Progress from Y1 phonics to KS2 reading

- There will be no progress measures this year as pupils have no KS1 results. The DfE have not announced an alternative measure.
- National progress from Y1 phonics to KS2 was first published in 2023 and 2024 figures have also been released.
- Progress from Y1 phonics to KS2 reading for those that met the phonics standard in Y1 was the same as the national average for non-disadvantaged pupils in 2024 but below the national average for disadvantaged pupils.
- For those who didn't meet the phonics standard in Y1, pupils in Sheffield were less likely to achieve the expected standard in reading compared to the national average.

% achieving the expected level in reading by Y1 phonics outcome

All pupils

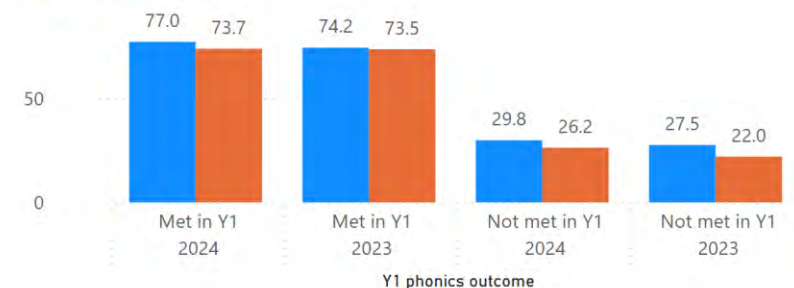
● National ● Sheffield



% achieving the expected level in reading by Y1 phonics outcome

Disadvantaged pupils

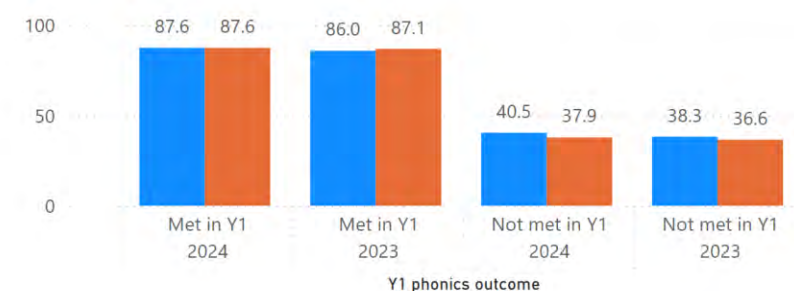
● National ● Sheffield



% achieving the expected level in reading by Y1 phonics outcome

Not disadvantaged

● National ● Sheffield



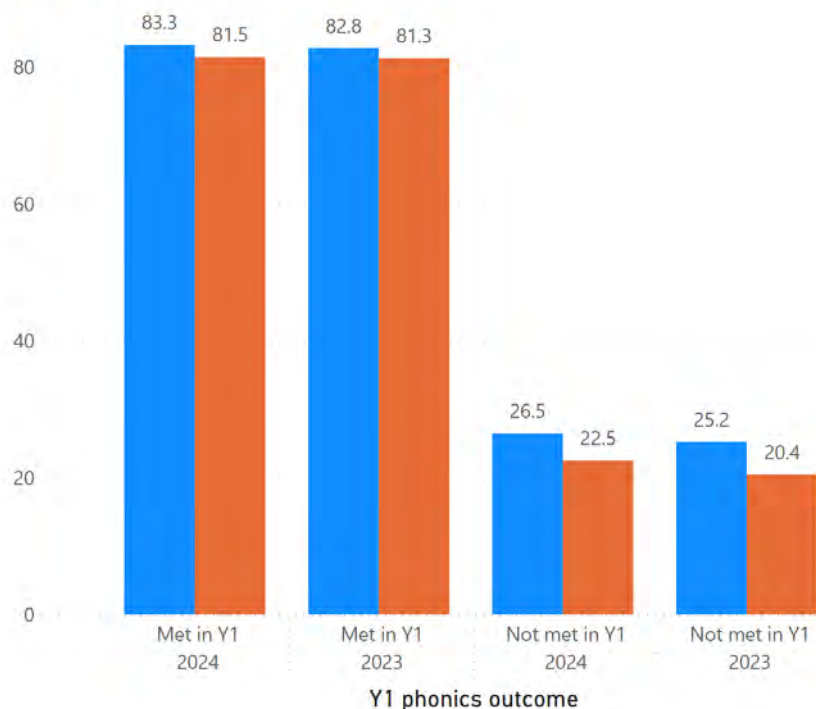
Key Stage 2 – Progress from Y1 phonics to KS2 writing

- Progress from Y1 phonics to KS2 writing in Sheffield was below the national average in 2023 and 2024 regardless of achievement in Y1 phonics or disadvantage status.
- The gap between Sheffield and national was smallest for pupils who are not disadvantaged and who met the phonics standard in Y1.

% achieving the expected level in writing by Y1 phonics outcome

All pupils

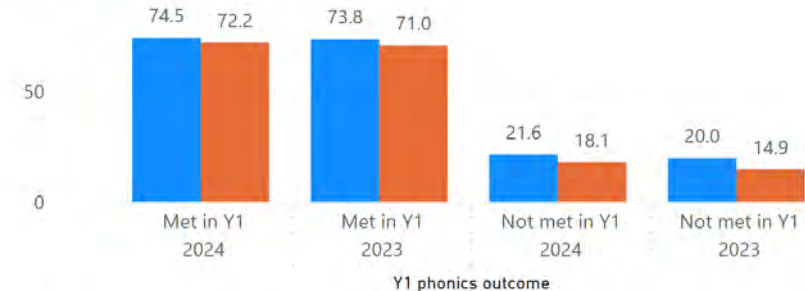
● National ● Sheffield



% achieving the expected level in writing by Y1 phonics outcome

Disadvantaged pupils

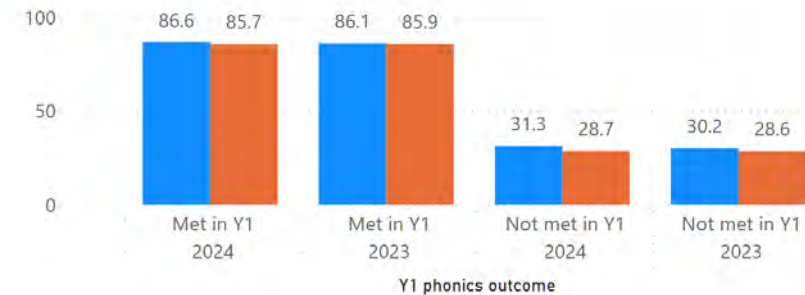
● National ● Sheffield



% achieving the expected level in writing by Y1 phonics outcome

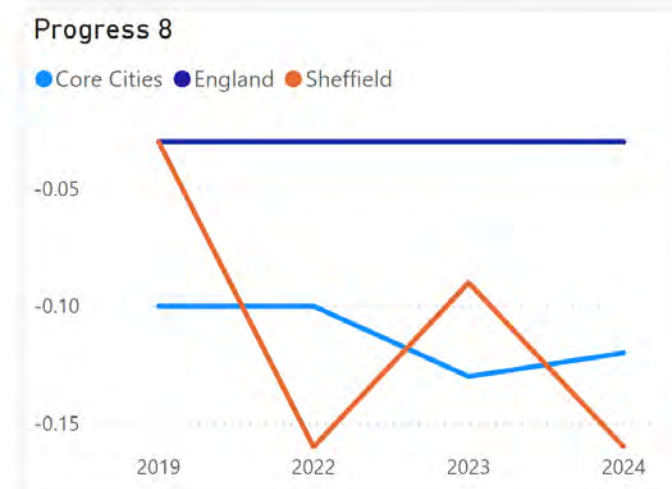
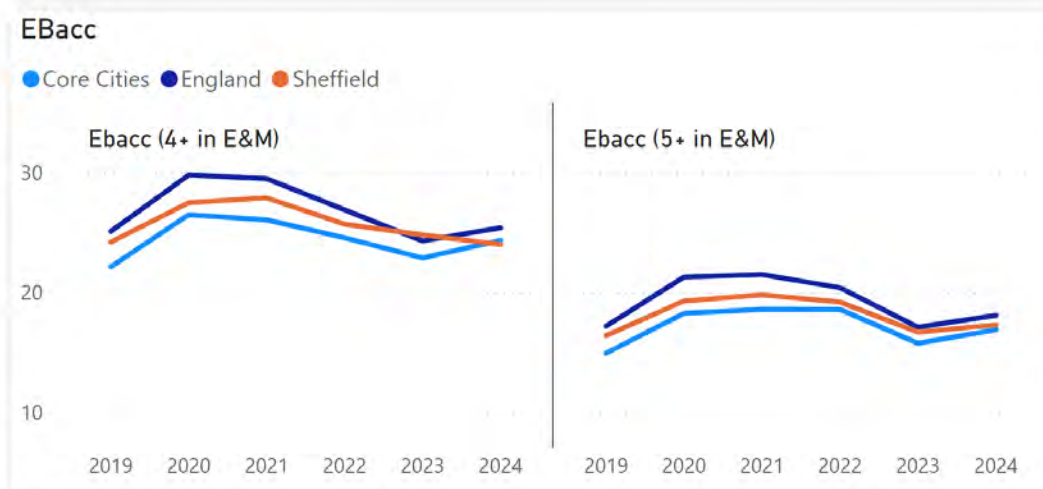
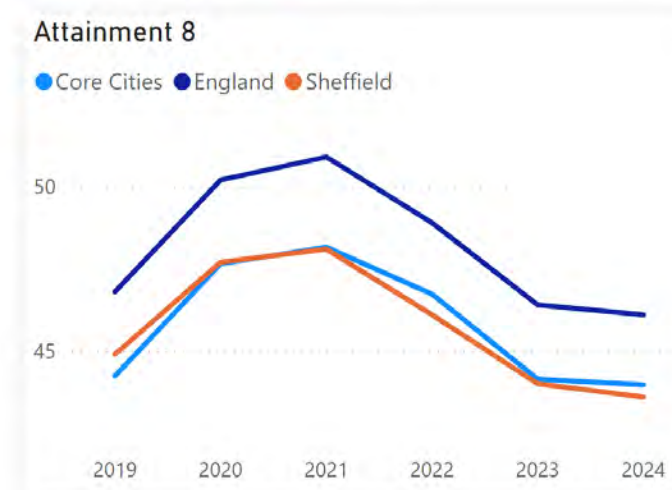
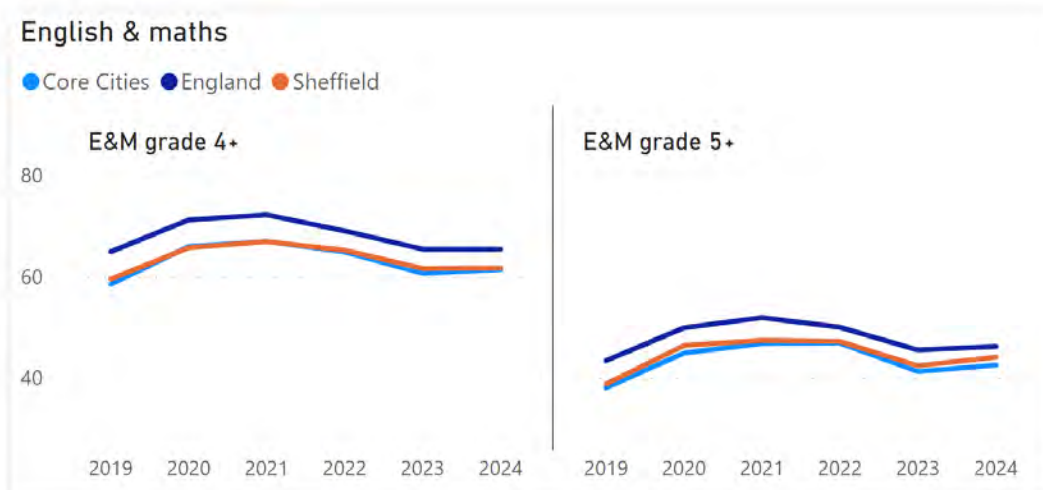
Not disadvantaged

● National ● Sheffield



Key Stage 4 – attainment & progress trends

- Average attainment 8 decreased in 2024 compared to 2023, nationally and in Sheffield.
- The % of pupils achieving a grade 4+ in English & maths remained similar at 61.7% in Sheffield compared to 65.4% nationally and the % of pupils achieving a grade 5+ in English & maths increased in Sheffield to 44.1%. Sheffield closed the gap with national on this measure.
- Progress 8 improved in 2023 but has dipped back to 2022 performance in 2024. Sheffield was below the Core Cities average for progress 8 in 2024.



Key Stage 4 – additional indicators (2024)

- Additional measures are published in the Performance Tables data release from the DfE.
- The gap between Sheffield and national progress 8 was largest for pupils with low prior attainment in 2024.
- The gap with national for progress 8 elements was largest for the open element and smallest for maths.
- The attainment gap was largest for the Ebacc humanities subject area and English.
- Sheffield was above national average for the language subject area (out of pupils entered).

Indicator	National	Sheffield	difference
Adjusted Progress 8 measure - non-mobile pupils	0.00	-0.13	-0.13
Adjusted Progress 8 measure - pupils with high prior attainment	0.02	-0.12	-0.14
Adjusted Progress 8 measure - pupils with low prior attainment	-0.14	-0.32	-0.18
Adjusted Progress 8 measure - pupils with middle prior attainment	-0.01	-0.11	-0.10
Progress 8 measure after adjustment for extreme scores	-0.03	-0.16	-0.13
Progress 8 measure for EBacc element	-0.03	-0.18	-0.15
Progress 8 measure for English element	-0.04	-0.17	-0.13
Progress 8 measure for mathematics element	-0.03	-0.09	-0.06
Progress 8 measure for open element	-0.04	-0.21	-0.17

Indicator	National	Sheffield	difference
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Humanities subject area with a 9-4 pass	63	59	-4
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Humanities subject area with a 9-5 pass	51	47	-4
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Language subject area with a 9-4 pass	72	74	2
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Language subject area with a 9-5 pass	58	61	3
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Science subject area with a 9-4 pass	66	62	-3
% of entered pupils achieving the EBacc Science subject area with a 9-5 pass	47	45	-3
% of pupils achieving the EBacc Maths subject area with a standard 9-4 pass	70	67	-3
% of pupils achieving the EBacc Maths subject area with a strong 9-5 pass	52	50	-2
% of pupils achieving the EBacc English subject area with a standard 9-4 pass	75	70	-4
% of pupils achieving the EBacc English subject area with a strong 9-5 pass	60	57	-4

5 Key Stage 4 – national ranks

- Overall national ranks have not changed significantly since 2023.
- The rank for attainment 8 has moved into the 3rd quartile which means Sheffield had no measures ranked in the bottom quartile at Key Stage 4 in 2024.

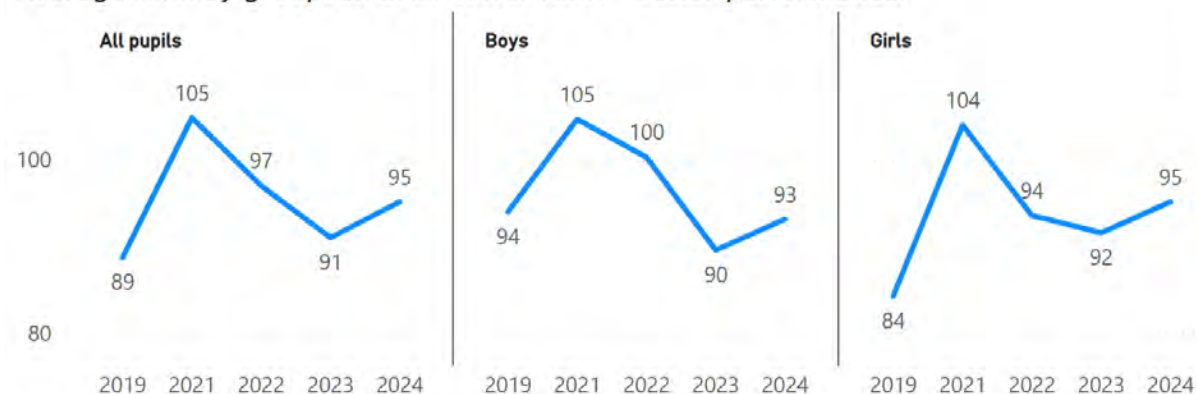
Key Stage 4 ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)

year label	2019 rank	2019 rank change	2021 rank	2021 rank change	2022 rank	2022 rank change	2023 rank	2023 rank change	2024 rank	2024 rank change
Attainment 8	101		118	↓ -3	121	↓ -3	114	↑ 7	110	↑ 4
Progress 8	71				106	↓ -35	86	↑ 20	104	↓ -18
E&M grade 4+	117		125	↑ 1	112	↑ 13	111	↑ 1	110	↑ 1
E&M grade 5+	107		114	↓ -8	88	↑ 26	99	↓ -11	84	↑ 15
Ebacc (4+ in E&M)	65		79	↑ 1	75	↑ 4	59	↑ 16	81	↓ -22
Ebacc (5+ in E&M)	62		80	↑ 1	69	↑ 11	66	↑ 3	73	↓ -7
Av. Ebacc points score	98		113	↓ -4	108	↑ 5	102	↑ 6	104	↓ -2

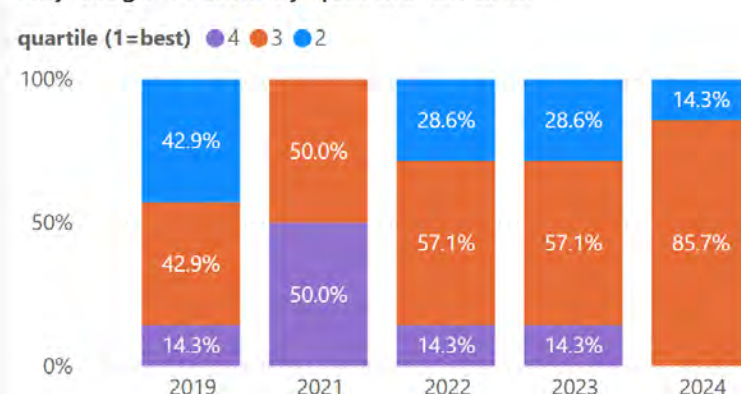
Key Stage 4 ranks and rank change (all pupils - all LAs)

year label	2024 rank	2024 rank change from 2019
Attainment 8	110	↓ -9
Progress 8	104	↓ -33
E&M grade 4+	110	↑ 7
E&M grade 5+	84	↑ 23
Ebacc (4+ in E&M)	81	↓ -16
Ebacc (5+ in E&M)	73	↓ -11
Av. Ebacc points score	104	↓ -6

Average rank by group (all LAs) (lower rank = better performance)



Key Stage 4 ranks by quartile (all LAs)



5 Key Stage 4 – Core Cities ranks

- Sheffield’s rank amongst Core Cities has been gradually worsening since 2019.
- In 2019 Sheffield was 3rd Core City for KS4 performance but was 5th in 2024.

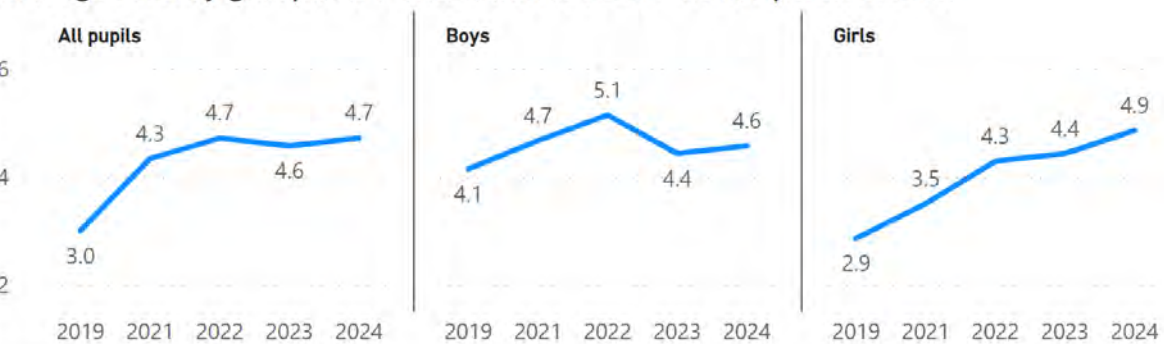
Key Stage 4 ranks and rank change (all pupils - Core Cities)

year label	2019 rank	2019 rank change	2021 rank	2021 rank change	2022 rank	2022 rank change	2023 rank	2023 rank change	2024 rank	2024 rank change
Attainment 8	3		4	→ 0	6	↓ -2	5	↑ 1	5	→ 0
Progress 8	3				5	↓ -2	5	→ 0	5	→ 0
E&M grade 4+	4		5	↑ 1	4	↑ 1	4	→ 0	4	→ 0
E&M grade 5+	3		5	↓ -2	4	↑ 1	4	→ 0	3	↑ 1
Ebacc (4+ in E&M)	2		4	→ 0	4	→ 0	4	→ 0	5	↓ -1
Ebacc (5+ in E&M)	2		4	→ 0	4	→ 0	5	↓ -1	5	→ 0
Av. Ebacc points score	4		4	↑ 1	6	↓ -2	5	↑ 1	6	↓ -1

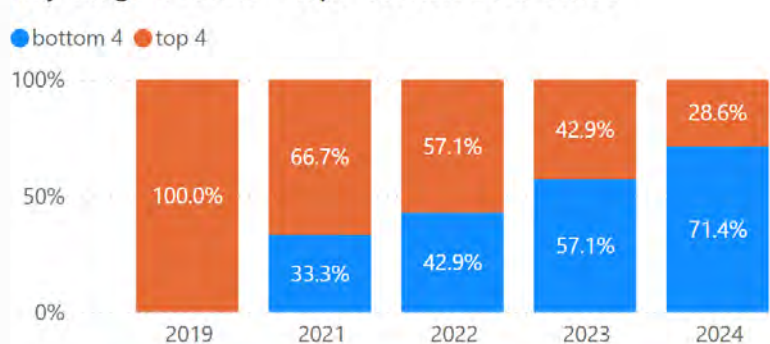
Key Stage 4 ranks and rank change (all pupils - Core Cities)

year label	2024 rank	2024 rank change from 2019
Attainment 8	5	↓ -2
Progress 8	5	↓ -2
E&M grade 4+	4	→ 0
E&M grade 5+	3	→ 0
Ebacc (4+ in E&M)	5	↓ -3
Ebacc (5+ in E&M)	5	↓ -3
Av. Ebacc points score	6	↓ -2

Average rank by group (Core Cities) (lower rank = better performance)



Key Stage 4 ranks - top / bottom Core Cities



5 Key Stage 4 – gaps with national

- On average, the gap between Sheffield and national worsened slightly compared to 2023 but is still better than in 2019.
- Gaps closed for the two English & maths performance measures but increased for all other measures.
- The gaps with national in Sheffield were slightly larger for girls compared to boys in 2024.

year label	2019		2021		2022		2023		2024	
	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.	Sheffield	Gap w. nat.
Attainment 8	44.90	-1.90	↑ 48.10	-2.80	↓ 46.10	-2.80	↓ 44.00	-2.40	↓ 43.60	-2.50
Progress 8	-0.03	0.00			↓ -0.16	-0.13	↑ -0.09	-0.06	↓ -0.16	-0.13
E&M grade 4+	59.50	-5.40	↑ 66.90	-5.30	↓ 65.20	-3.80	↓ 61.60	-3.80	↑ 61.70	-3.70
E&M grade 5+	38.80	-4.60	↑ 47.40	-4.50	↓ 47.20	-2.80	↓ 42.40	-3.10	↑ 44.10	-2.10
Ebacc (4+ in E&M)	24.20	-0.90	↑ 27.90	-1.60	↓ 25.70	-1.20	↓ 24.80	0.50	↓ 24.00	-1.40
Ebacc (5+ in E&M)	16.40	-0.80	↑ 19.80	-1.70	↓ 19.20	-1.20	↓ 16.70	-0.40	↑ 17.40	-0.70
Av. Ebacc points score	3.87	-0.21	↑ 4.16	-0.29	↓ 4.02	-0.26	↓ 3.85	-0.22	↑ 3.87	-0.22

Average gaps across E&M, EBacc & Att8

● Gap with national ● Gap with Core Cities



Key Stage 4 – pupil group results and gaps (2024)

- The tables below show results for each pupil group and the gap with the national and Core Cities average for the same group.
- Sheffield was below national for most groups, the gaps were largest for EAL, SEN support and FSM6 pupils.
- Sheffield was significantly below the Core Cities average for pupils with EAL, eligible for FSM/FSM6 and with SEN support.

Attainment 8

group	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils			
All pupils	43.60	-2.50	-0.38
Disadvantage			
FSM6	30.90	-3.80	-3.02
not FSM6	49.90	-0.30	-0.38
First language			
EAL	42.00	-7.70	-4.40
not EAL	44.10	-1.30	1.00
Free school meals			
FSM	30.90	-3.80	-2.99
not FSM	49.50	-0.20	-0.13
SEN status			
EHCP	10.90	-3.30	0.61
No SEN	48.30	-1.70	0.06
SEN Support	28.10	-5.00	-3.66

Progress 8

group	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils			
All pupils	-0.16	-0.13	-0.04
Disadvantage			
FSM6	-0.76	-0.19	-0.17
not FSM6	0.12	-0.04	-0.06
First language			
EAL	0.10	-0.41	-0.35
not EAL	-0.22	-0.09	0.07
Free school meals			
FSM	-0.77	-0.20	-0.18
not FSM	0.11	-0.03	-0.04
SEN status			
EHCP	-1.52	-0.39	-0.12
No SEN	0.01	-0.09	-0.03
SEN Support	-0.69	-0.24	-0.18

E&M grade 4+

group	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils			
All pupils	61.70	-3.70	0.30
Disadvantage			
FSM6	38.20	-5.50	-4.46
not FSM6	73.20	0.10	0.06
First language			
EAL	56.90	-12.80	-7.21
not EAL	63.00	-1.50	2.78
Free school meals			
FSM	38.30	-5.30	-4.10
not FSM	72.40	0.10	0.41
SEN status			
EHCP	12.30	-0.70	2.82
No SEN	70.20	-2.60	1.15
SEN Support	29.40	-8.40	-6.79

Key Stage 4 – pupil group results and gaps by ethnicity (2024)

- The tables below show results for each ethnic group and the gap with the national and Core Cities average for the same group.
- Although a number of ethnic groups had a positive progress 8 result, this was generally below the result for the same group nationally and in other Core Cities.
- White British pupils did better than the Core Cities average for both progress 8 and the % achieving a grade 4+ in English & maths. However, we know that rates of disadvantaged are lower in Sheffield for White British pupils compared to other Core Cities.

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils				
All pupils	6104	61.7	-3.7	0.3
Ethnicity minor				
Any other Asian background	130	67.7	-11.4	-3.9
Any other black background	43	62.8	-0.5	3.4
Any other ethnic group	217	57.1	-11.4	-6.2
Any other mixed background	138	62.3	-6.3	-0.4
Any other white background	227	60.4	-9.3	-2.8
Bangladeshi	84	69.0	-5.9	-4.5
Black African	361	68.1	-2.8	0.4
Caribbean	36	55.6	3.0	16.2
Chinese	53	90.6	0.0	-0.4
Gypsy/Roma	118	3.4	-13.6	-7.1
Indian	60	90.0	5.1	3.1
Pakistani	445	63.6	-3.3	-4.3
Traveller of Irish heritage	4	50.0	14.7	15.6
Unclassified	204	59.8	1.1	6.3
White and Asian	127	63.8	-11.0	-4.2
White and Black African	62	58.1	-7.6	-3.6
White and Black Caribbean	146	42.5	-9.9	-8.5
White British	3635	62.7	-0.2	4.8
White Irish	14	78.6	5.9	7.6

group	pupils	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All pupils				
All pupils	5735	-0.16	-0.13	-0.04
Ethnicity minor				
Any other Asian background	112	0.44	-0.20	-0.12
Any other black background	32	0.14	-0.05	-0.10
Any other ethnic group	183	-0.03	-0.56	-0.56
Any other mixed background	127	-0.12	-0.24	-0.08
Any other white background	194	0.19	-0.26	-0.16
Bangladeshi	80	-0.08	-0.52	-0.48
Black African	281	0.35	-0.05	-0.11
Caribbean	30	-0.13	0.09	0.02
Chinese	41	1.07	0.03	-0.08
Gypsy/Roma	104	-1.58	-0.74	-1.03
Indian	40	1.11	0.28	0.17
Pakistani	417	0.15	-0.08	-0.16
Traveller of Irish heritage	4	-1.56	-0.61	-0.50
Unclassified	186	-0.26	-0.03	0.18
White and Asian	123	0.17	-0.07	0.05
White and Black African	58	0.00	-0.04	-0.03
White and Black Caribbean	141	-0.74	-0.27	-0.10
White British	3568	-0.26	-0.06	0.15
White Irish	14	-0.76	-0.82	-0.72

5

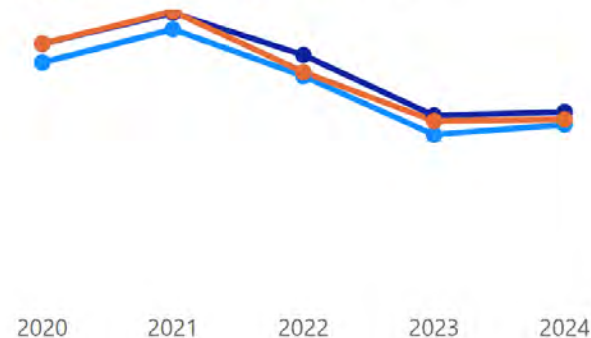
Key Stage 5 – trends

- 2024 is the second year of a return to pre-pandemic grading. Results in Sheffield improved slightly compared to 2023 for A-levels and applied qualifications.
- The average point score (APS) for A-levels in Sheffield in 2024 was 33.9 (C+) compared to 34.4 nationally and 33.6 in Core Cities.
- Sheffield's average point score for applied qualifications was above the national and Core Cities average (30.4 compared to 29.3 in Core Cities and 29.1 nationally).
- Sheffield's APS for technical levels was higher than the national average and Core Cities average but slightly down on 2023. Technical levels are only taken by a small number of students (357 in Sheffield in 2024).

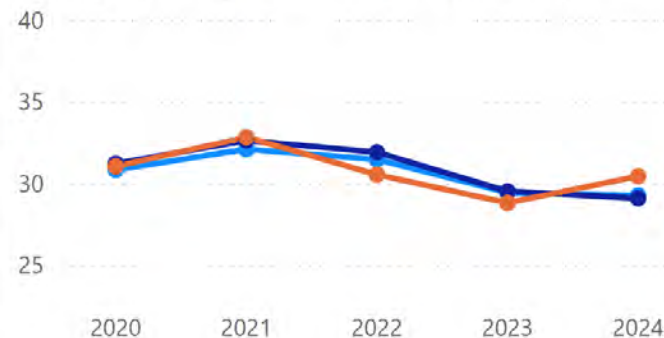
Key Stage 5 trends

Core Cities England Sheffield

Average points per entry (A-levels)



Average points per entry (applied general quals)



Average points per entry (T-levels)



Key Stage 5 – ranks

- Sheffield was in the 2nd quartile nationally in 2024 (top half of LAs) for all three headline performance measures for the first time since 2019.
- Sheffield was also in the top half of Core Cities for all headline performance measures. There has been an improvement in the average points for applied qualifications in 2024 with the national rank improving 56 places and Sheffield moving from 6th to 3rd Core City.

Ranks across headline Key Stage 5 measures (all LAs)

year	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
label	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
Average points per entry (A-levels)	66		59	↑ 7	84	↓ -25	69	↑ 15	69	→ 0
Average points per entry (applied general quals)	80		73	↑ 7	114	↓ -41	99	↑ 15	43	↑ 56
Average points per entry (T-levels)	108		86	↑ 22	81	↑ 5	44	↑ 37	56	↓ -12

Ranks across headline Key Stage 5 measures (Core Cities)

year	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
label	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change	rank	rank change
Average points per entry (A-levels)	2		2	→ 0	3	↓ -1	3	→ 0	4	↓ -1
Average points per entry (applied general quals)	4		2	↑ 2	6	↓ -4	6	→ 0	3	↑ 3
Average points per entry (T-levels)	7		6	↑ 1	3	↑ 3	3	→ 0	4	↓ -1

Key Stage 5 – student groups – A-levels

- Whilst Sheffield's APS for A-levels is above Core Cities for all students, there is significant variation within groups. Black, Asian and minority ethnic students, as well as disadvantaged students, did less well compared to these groups in other Core Cities.
- Students with higher prior attainment (7+ at KS4) did better in Sheffield compared to similar students nationally and in other Core Cities.

Average points per entry (A-levels)

Ethnicity

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Any other ethnic group	82	30.0	-3.5	-2.3
Asian or Asian British	336	31.1	-3.3	-1.5
Black or Black British	169	25.2	-5.7	-4.0
Mixed Dual background	145	32.1	-2.5	-1.3
Unknown ethnicity	121	34.8	-5.9	1.8
White	1367	35.9	1.1	0.9

Average points per entry (A-levels)

First Language

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
English	1710	34.4	-0.3	0.1
Other than English	409	31.0	-2.2	-0.6

Average points per entry (A-levels)

SEN Provision

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHCP	18	34.6	2.5	-0.8
No SEN	2015	33.9	-0.6	0.3
SEN support	97	29.9	-2.8	-2.4

Average points per entry (A-levels)

Sex

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All state-funded students	2220	33.9	-0.5	0.3
Female	1224	34.5	-1.7	0.3
Male	996	33.3	-1.6	0.4

Average points per entry (A-levels)

Disadvantage

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Disadvantaged	363	27.5	-2.7	-1.7
Non-Disadvantaged	1824	35.1	0.0	0.3

Average points per entry (A-levels)

Prior Attainment

group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Priors 0 to < 4	46	17.0	-0.7	-1.6
Priors 4 to < 7	1424	27.6	-1.3	-0.3
Priors 7+	714	44.9	0.2	1.7

Key Stage 5 – student groups – applied general qualifications

- The improvement in average points for applied qualifications is reflected across nearly all pupil groups. Sheffield was above the national average in 2024 for all pupil groups except those with high prior attainment (which is a small group within this cohort).
- Students with lower (grades below 4 at KS4) and disadvantaged students did relatively better in Sheffield compared to the same groups nationally.

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

Ethnicity				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Any other ethnic group	61	28.9	0.7	-0.6
Asian or Asian British	271	31.9	2.3	2.4
Black or Black British	139	28.1	0.5	0.2
Mixed Dual background	74	28.0	0.0	-0.6
Unknown ethnicity	53	32.8	2.4	2.6
White	496	30.6	1.3	1.0

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

First Language				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
English	707	30.4	1.2	1.1
Other than English	348	30.2	1.5	1.1

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

SEN Provision				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
EHCP	17	31.6	4.9	4.8
No SEN	971	30.5	1.2	1.2
SEN support	74	27.0	0.3	-0.4

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

Sex				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
All state-funded students	1094	30.4	1.4	1.2
Female	666	31.7	1.3	1.3
Male	428	28.7	0.9	0.9

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

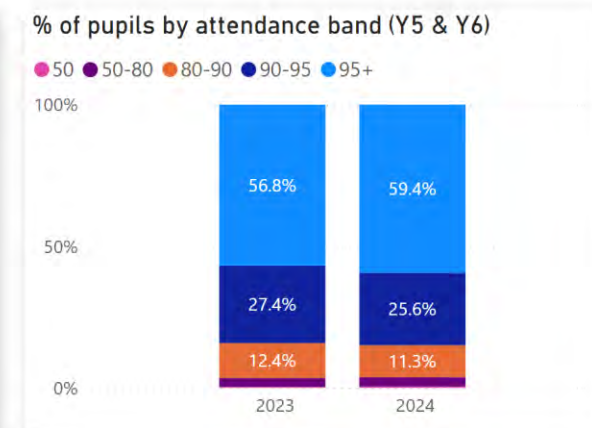
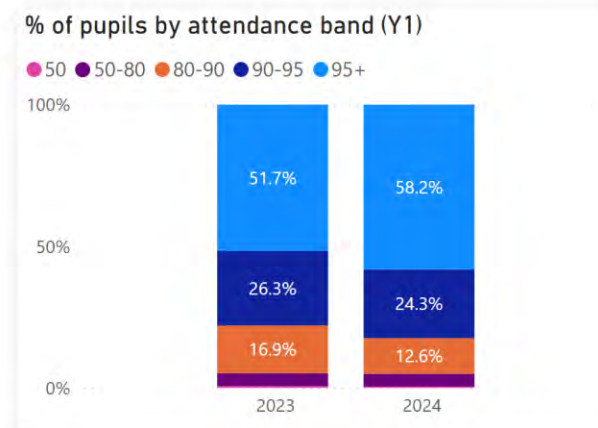
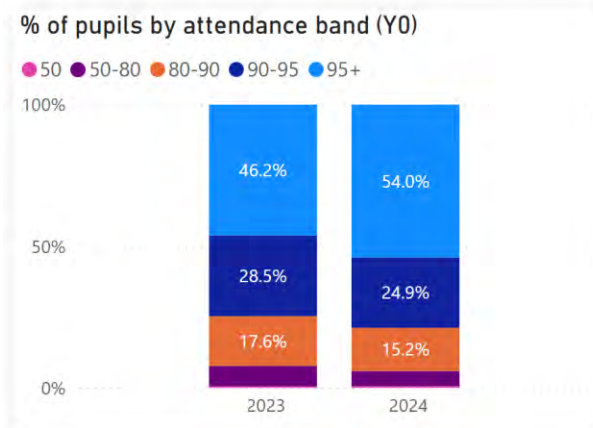
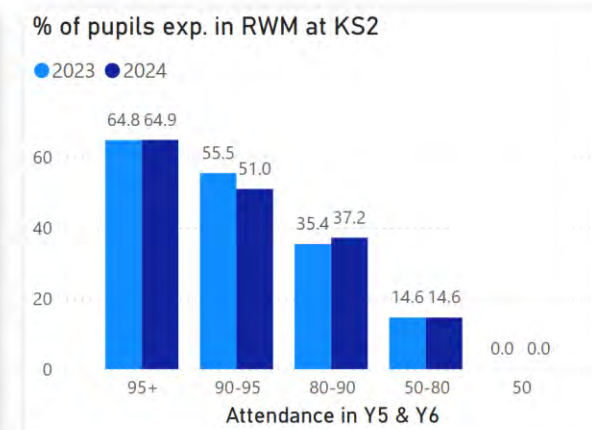
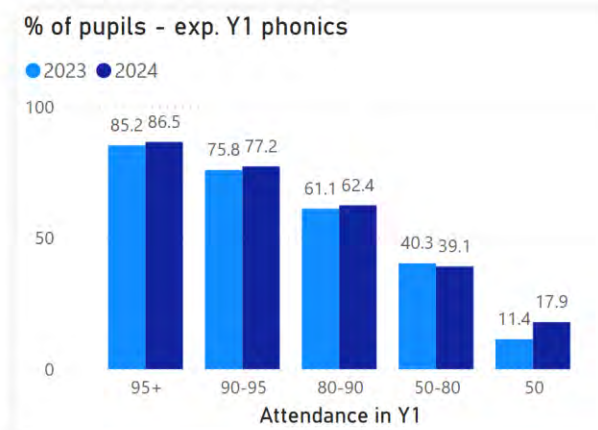
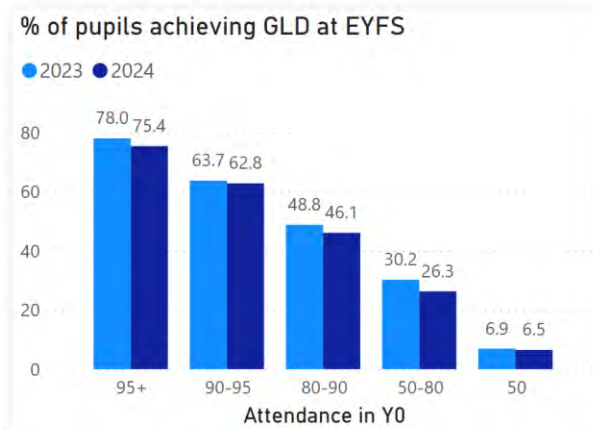
Disadvantage				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Disadvantaged	351	29.1	1.8	1.5
Non-Disadvantaged	727	31.0	1.4	1.0

Average points per entry (applied general quals)

Prior Attainment				
group	students	Sheffield	diff. w. nat.	diff. w. Core Cities
Priors 0 to < 4	190	24.7	2.1	1.5
Priors 4 to < 7	834	31.4	1.1	1.2
Priors 7+	53	41.1	-0.9	0.2

Analysis of outcomes by attendance band - primary

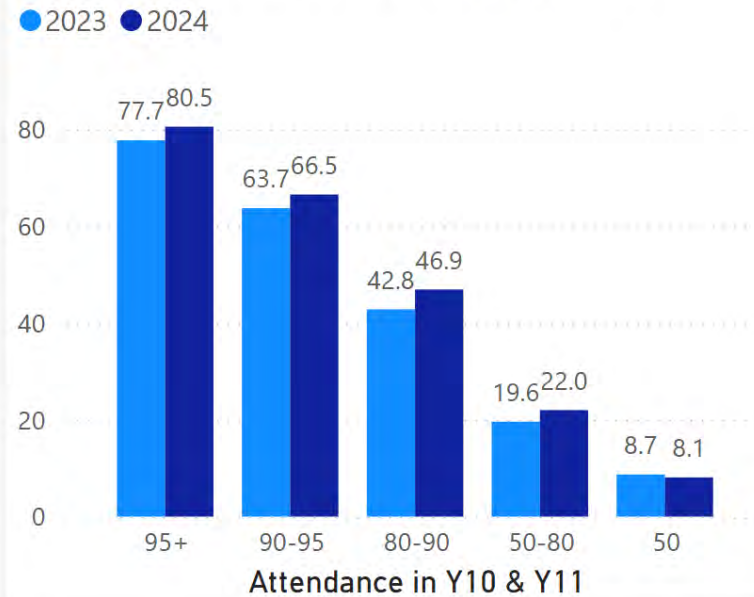
- To explore further the relationship between school attendance and attainment outcomes, 2024 attainment outcomes are presented by attendance band.
- The relationship between attendance and attainment is clear. Improving attendance is likely to result in better performance.
- Overall, attendance at each key stage in the primary phase improved between 2023 and 2024, particularly in Y0 and Y1. However, there was a dip in the average performance across all attendance bands at EYFS and at KS2 performance declined for those with 90-95% attendance.



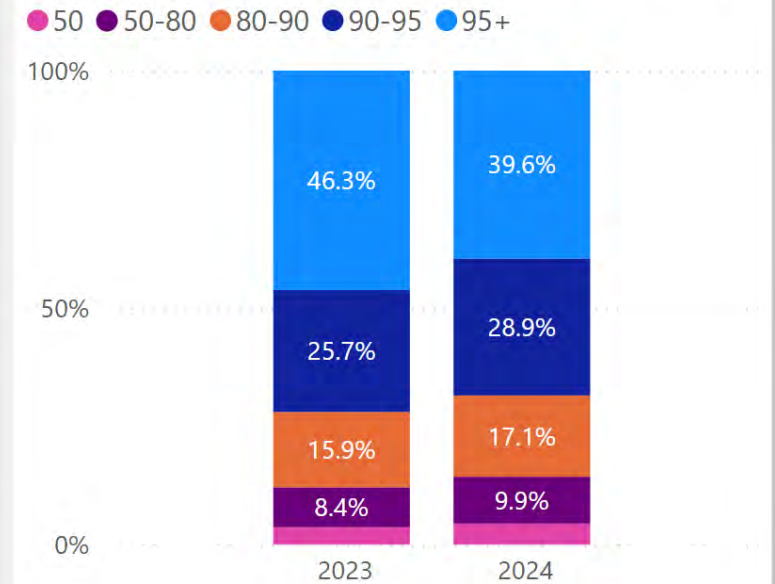
5 Analysis of outcomes by attendance band - secondary

- At KS4 once attendance drops below 90% the chance of achieving a grade 4+ in English and maths drops significantly.
- Although performance across nearly all attendance bands improved between 2023 and 2024, attendance overall worsened.
- Nearly 28% of the KS4 cohort in 2023 had average attendance below 90% in Y10 and Y11 and this increased to 32% in 2024.

% of pupils grade 4+ in English & maths



% of pupils by attendance band (Y10 & Y11)





Outcomes for children and young people

- At each key stage, the gap between attainment in Sheffield and the national average is around 2-5% points. For an average year group of around 6250 pupils this would require an additional 125-250 pupils at each key stage achieving the threshold measure for Sheffield to be at the national average.
- At individual pupil level, factors such as attendance, deprivation and ethnicity impact on outcomes meaning that some pupils are significantly less likely to achieve than others.
- At each key stage (except for phonics) less than half of pupils with attendance below 90% (persistently absent pupils) achieve the required standard at the end of the key stage. This represents around 1250 pupils in each year in primary and 1500 pupils in each year in secondary who have less than a 50% chance of achieving the expected level of attainment if current attendance levels don't improve.



Trails for further investigation

- **5.1** What does further analysis of Key Stage 2 outcomes tell us about the possible reasons for declining outcomes and widening gaps to national and Core Cities? How can this support raising attainment?
- **5.2** What would further analysis of the cohort who have English as an additional language tell us about how to improve attainment for this group?
- **5.3** How do aggregated and intersectional pupil characteristics impact on attainment? How can this support raising attainment?



Sheffield Performance Analysis

Further Activity: 2024/2025

1

1.2 Raising Attainment Project:
5.1 sector partnership groups

5

3

3.1 Attendance Project:
3.2 working group

4

4.1 Insight Report:
4.2 exclusions & suspensions

2

2.3 Insight Report:
5.2 intersectionality
5.3

5

2

2.1 AP Review
2.2

1

1.1 Partnership groups