



North Yorkshire  
Children's Trust

# **CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**

**Quarter 2 - 2017/18**

**Vision: A place of opportunity where all children and young people are happy, healthy and achieving**

**Outcomes:**

1. A happy family life in strong families and vibrant communities
2. A healthy start to life with safe and healthy lifestyles
3. Education as our greatest liberator with high aspirations, opportunities and achievements

This report highlights the key Q2 performance issues.

## A happy family life

### Children's Services

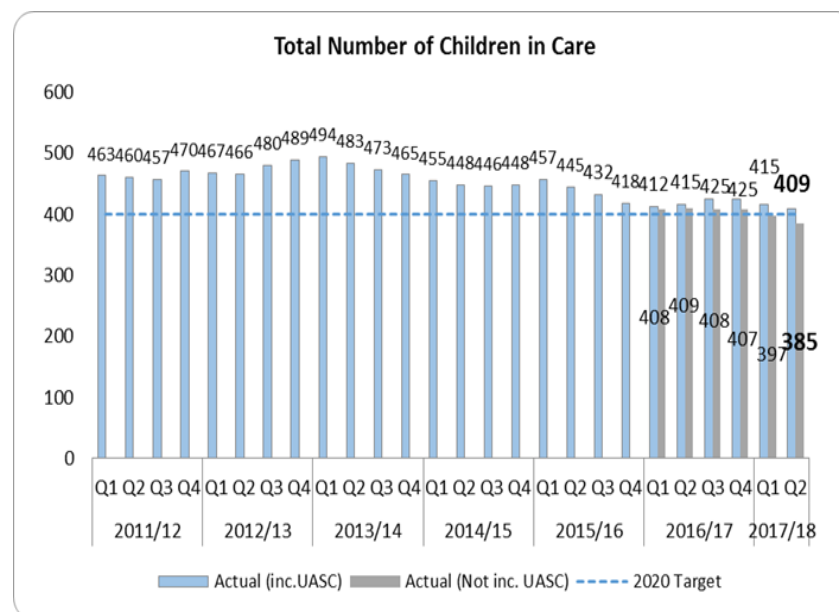
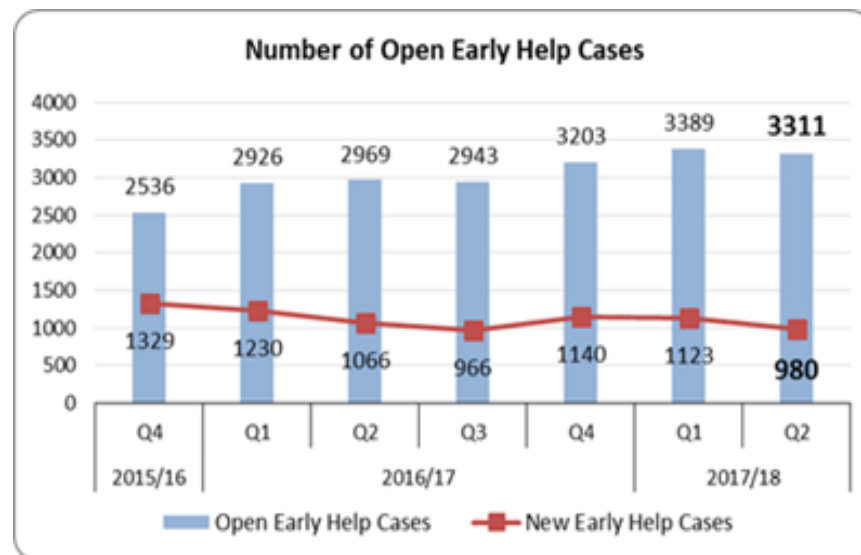
The Multi Agency Screening Team continues to provide effective screening of contacts at the front door, ensuring children and families receive appropriate support and intervention at the right time, in Q2 5,486, contacts were received.

At the end of Q2, the Prevention Service was working with over 3,311 children and young people (see chart) across almost 2,400 households. The number of referrals to Children's Social Care in Q2 was 1,046, which is in line with the expected range of 900-1,050 per quarter. Reassuringly the proportion of repeat referrals (18.6%) remains better than the most recently published national average (22% at the end of 2015/16) and in line with the quarterly average over the last 2 years

The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) was 448 at the end of the quarter, which was up by 20 (4.7%) compared to Q1, and slightly above the expected range (330 to 440). The rate of repeat referrals and low numbers of children subject to second or subsequent Child Protection Plans (26 children in Q2) demonstrates that families continue to be supported until they have made sustained progress and cases can be safely de-escalated.

The number of children in care remains low at 409 (385 plus 24 unaccompanied asylum seekers), which is six fewer than in Q1 (see chart). Department for Education analysis highlights that whilst the number of children in care (excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers) nationally increased between March 2016 and March 2017, in North Yorkshire the number of children in care decreased by 1.2%. The rate of children in care per 10,000 population in North Yorkshire (36 per 10,000) was the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest nationally and was significantly lower than either the national rate or the average rate across similar authorities. This points to the success of innovative programmes such as No Wrong Door and other edge of care services in helping families work together to stay together and reduce the need for children to be taken into care.

The percentage of children in care receiving an annual health check has fallen by 4.1% to 80.5%, and remains below the most recent national data (90% at the end of 2015/16). In terms of dental checks, a decline in performance can be evidenced from Q2 2016/17 (91.4%) to Q1 2017/18 (80.7%). This has been reversed to some extent in Q2 2017/18, with 85.4% of eligible children in care receiving an annual dental check.



## SEND

There has been an increase both nationally and locally in the numbers of children and young people with a statement of Special Educational Need (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan. Figures from the January 2017 census show that the increase between January 2016 and January 2017 in North Yorkshire (16%) has been higher than both the England average and our statistical neighbours (see chart).

However, the January 2017 census also highlighted that the number of children receiving SEN support has remained relatively stable and North Yorkshire is below the national, regional and statistical neighbour figures. There is felt to be the potential that children requiring SEN support are under-represented particularly at secondary school level and analysis is underway to explore this further.

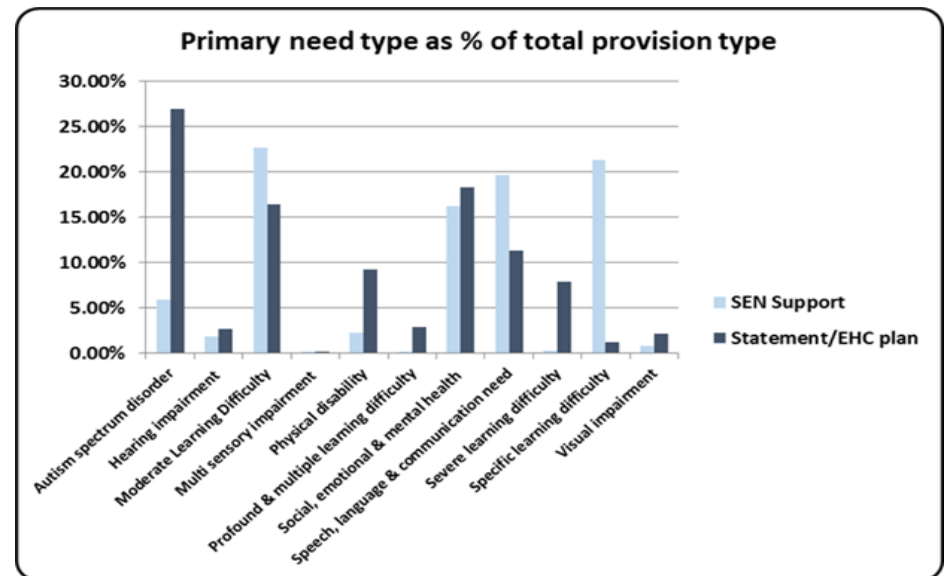
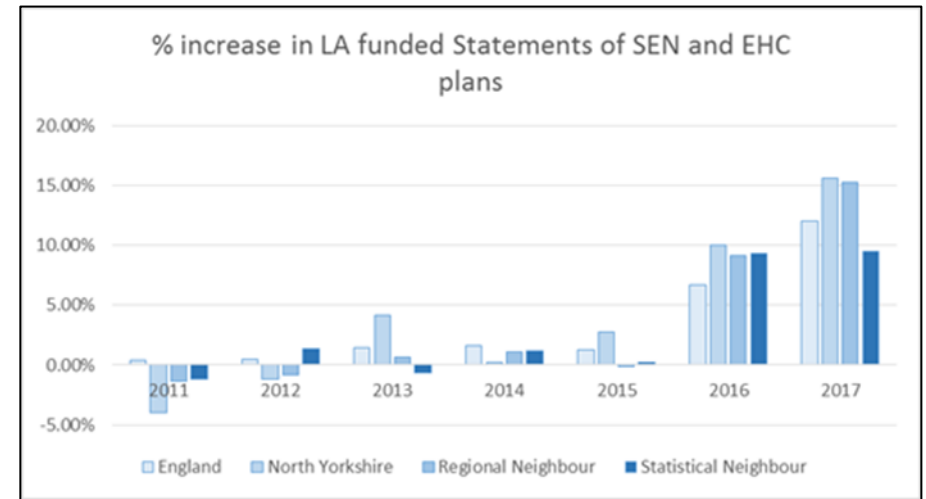
At end of quarter 2 there were 7,355 children receiving SEN support and 2,439 on a statement of SEN or EHC Plan. The most common primary need types are Moderate Learning Difficulty, Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH) needs, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Speech, Language & Communication Needs (see chart).

In 2017 to date 85% of new EHC plans were issued on time, which is a significant improvement on the 2016 performance at 73.9%. Performance on this indicator is well above the national rate and our statistical neighbours. The service is also on track to ensure that all statements of SEN are converted to an EHC Plan by 31 March 2018.

## Offences against children

The number of violent offences against children aged 0-17 reduced slightly in Q2 to 308 (336 in Q1), although the long term trend remains upward. Scarborough district remains a hotspot, accounting for almost 1 in 3 violent offences. The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board's Learning & Improvement Group has commissioned some further analysis to understand how much violent crime is child on child, and to analyse the relationships between victims and perpetrators.

The number of sexual offences against children aged 0-17 has remained stable in comparison with the previous quarter at 154, although the long term trend is upwards. The increasing trend is believed to be as a consequence of improved confidence of victims in reporting these crimes to the police. Around a third of recorded offences in Q2 were historic offences, similar to the proportion in Q1.



## Education as our greatest liberator

### Funded early education

The percentage of 2 year olds benefitting from funded early education is showing continuing improvement from 74% in 2016/17 to 89% in 2017/18. This increase is considered to be the result of comprehensive marketing to parents, proactive work with individual families and making the application process simpler through an on-line portal.

### GCSE results

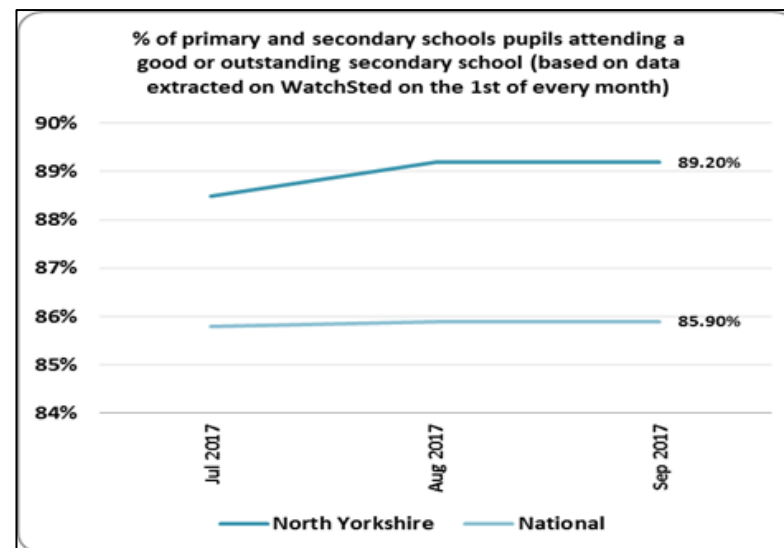
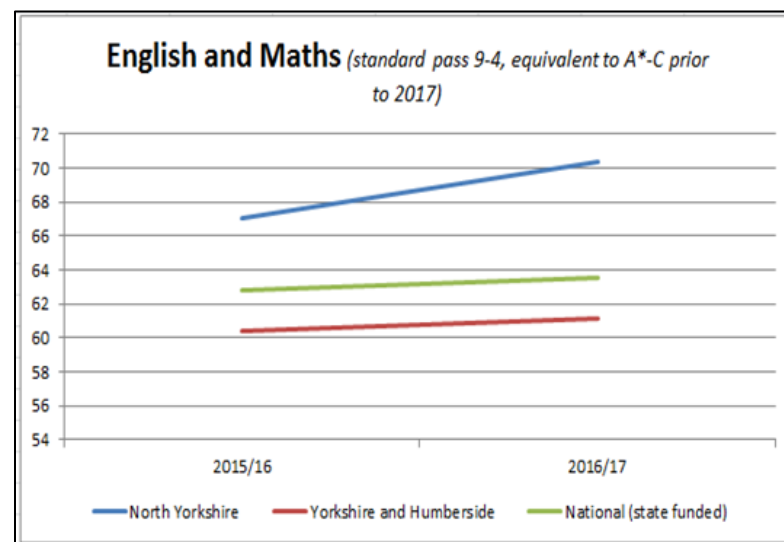
The 2017 GCSE results were the best ever placing North Yorkshire top in the Yorkshire and Humber region and in the top 15% in the country (see chart). The percentage of children achieving a 9-4 standard pass (equivalent to A\*-C prior to 2017) in English and Maths has increased from 67% in 2016 to 70.4% in 2017. This is 6.9% higher than the national average and 9.3% higher than the Yorkshire & Humber average.

### School Ofsted ratings

The percentage of primary and secondary pupils attending a good or outstanding school remains 3.3% above the national average (see chart). Over the first half of 2017/18, eleven schools did not achieve a good or outstanding rating and they are being supported appropriately. However, this mirrored a national trend resulting from a number of factors including a change to the Ofsted framework, guidance issued to inspectors and the identification of schools for inspection. These recent inspection ratings are therefore not considered to be representative of the overall position.

### Exclusions

The trend in fixed term and permanent exclusions from education is increasing both nationally and in North Yorkshire, but North Yorkshire is now above the national average. In the 2016/17 academic year, there were 4,587 fixed term exclusions, a rise of 36.5% on the previous year. A total of 1,904 individual children were fixed term excluded in 2016/17, which represents 2.2% of the school population. 91 North Yorkshire children were permanently excluded from education in 2016/17, an increase of 31.9% from the previous year. This represents 0.1% of the school population. Exclusions are far more prevalent in secondary schools and begin to increase at Year 7 which is a key transition point between primary and secondary education. Males are more than twice as likely to be excluded as females and children identified as Special Educational Need accounted for 37% of all exclusions in 2016/17, with the most common need Social Emotional and Mental Health. The most common reasons for exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour, verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult and physical assault against a pupil.



**A healthy start to life**

No new performance data has been released since the Healthy Start to life report was presented at the last Board meeting in September 2017. An update on the Public Health programme in relation to breastfeeding, which is one of the key performance challenges identified in the report, is included as a separate agenda item (a report on smoking during pregnancy will follow at a future Board meeting).