



**North Yorkshire County Council
Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee
21 March 2019**

Schools, educational achievement and finance

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the local educational landscape, educational achievement and the financial challenges which affect schools in the Harrogate and Knaresborough Constituency Committee area.

2.0 Local educational landscape

- 2.1 The picture for Harrogate and Knaresborough Primary Schools within the constituency area, show the academy conversion rate is much higher than that for the whole of North Yorkshire (54% compared to 22%).

Similarly Secondary academy conversion rate within the constituency area is 57% compared to the whole of North Yorkshire at 40%.

Looking at schools of all types within the constituency area; 48% remain LA maintained and 52% have academy status.

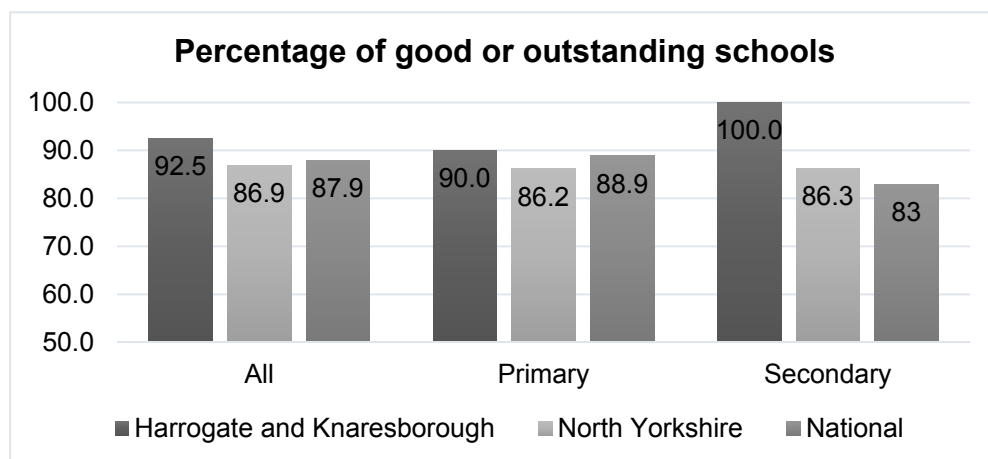
Summary of Schools' status – January 2019

	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC	
Primary Maintained	237	77%	14	46%
Primary Academy	68	22%	16	54%
Total	305		30	
Secondary Maintained	26	60%	3	43%
Secondary Academy	17	40%	4	57%
Total	43		7	
Special Maintained	9	90%	2	100%
Special Academy	1	10%	0	0%
Total	10		2	
PRU Maintained	4	80%	0	0%
PRU Academy	1	20%	1	100%
Total	5		1	
Total maintained	276	76%	19	48%
Total Academy	87	24%	21	52%
Overall Total	363		40	

3.0 School standards

3.1 School Ofsted judgements

In the constituency area 90 per cent of primary schools and 100 per cent of secondary schools are currently judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, which is above the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks. There are 2 primary schools currently judged requires improvement and 1 judged inadequate.



3.2 Attainment overall

Both primary and secondary attainment in the constituency is above the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks. The following sections provide detail on:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – assessment at the end of reception (4-5 year olds)
- Key Stage 2 – assessment at the end of primary school (10-11 year olds)
- Key Stage 4 – assessment at the end of secondary school (15-16 year olds)

3.3 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

In 2018 75.6% of children in the constituency area achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD). The level of performance has improved over the last three years and is significantly above the national and North Yorkshire benchmarks.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – percentage achieving a good level of development			
	Harrogate and Knaresborough	North Yorkshire	National
2016	73.3%	70.0%	69.3%
2017	73.7%	71.6%	70.7%
2018	75.6%	72.5%	71.6%

3.4 Key Stage 2

In 2018 66.8% of children in the constituency area achieved the expected level or above in reading, writing and maths (RWM) combined which is above the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks. The level of performance has increased by 10.8% since 2016, which is a very similar improvement to benchmarks.

Key Stage 2 - percentage achieving the expected standard or above in reading, writing and maths combined.			
	Harrogate and Knaresborough	North Yorkshire	National
2016	56.0%	51.3%	53.4%
2017	66.2%	59.0%	61.1%
2018	66.8%	62.1%	64.4%

3.5 Key Stage 4

In 2018 the Attainment 8 score of children in the constituency area, which measures the achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications, was 52.1 which is significantly above the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks. Whilst performance has decreased slightly since 2016, this is a national trend and the rate of decrease is slower than the national rate.

KS4 – Average Attainment 8 Score			
	Harrogate and Knaresborough	North Yorkshire	National
2016	54.1	51.8	50.0
2017	52.1	49.6	46.3
2018	52.1	48.3	46.4

The Progress 8 score, which measures a pupil's progress from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school, was 0.26 and has increased since 2016. Performance is significantly above the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks (0 is the national average).

KS4 – Average Progress 8 Score			
	Harrogate and Knaresborough	North Yorkshire	National
2016	0.20	0.04	0.00
2017	0.24	0.17	0.00
2018	0.26	0.13	0.00

4.0 Fixed-term and Permanent Exclusions

4.1 Fixed-term exclusion incidents

The table below shows the number of fixed-term exclusion incidents for the 2018/19 autumn term and the previous two full academic years, and the most common reasons for exclusion.

In the 2018/19 autumn term, 163 of the 962 children subject to a fixed-term exclusion across the county went to school in the constituency. The fixed-term exclusion (FTE) rate for the constituency was 0.92% of the school population, which is the second lowest rate of all constituencies in the county.

The most common reason for a fixed-term exclusion in the constituency has consistently been 'persistent disruptive behaviour'.

Academic year	Harrogate and Knaresborough constituency	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total	Most common reason
2018/19 autumn term	330	2,006	16.5%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (39%)
2017/18	784	6,006	13.1%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (39.8%)
2016/17	591	4,667	12.7%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (32.3%)

In 2017/18 Schools in the constituency area had a 21% share of the total schools population in North Yorkshire but only a 13% share of fixed term exclusions for the whole county.

The figures for 2018/19 only represent the autumn term and so the final figure is likely to be approximately three times this. While exclusions are low in Harrogate compared to national figures, there is an increasing trend, both in incidence and as a % of the NY total. FTEs can be a useful sanction, but frequent use can place pressure on family and foster placements, impacts on achievement, and may lead to risky behaviour while the pupil is not in school during the day.

4.2 Permanent exclusions

The table below shows the number of permanent exclusions for the 2018/19 autumn term and the previous two full academic years, and the most common reasons for exclusion. In the 2018/19 autumn term, the constituency area had the lowest permanent exclusion rate of all constituencies in the county.

Permanent exclusions				
Academic year	Harrogate and Knaresborough constituency	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total	Most common reason
2018/19 autumn term	3	33	9.1%	Verbal or threatening behaviour (66.7%)
2017/18	19	103	18.4%	Physical assault against a pupil (36.8%)

2016/17	19	86	22.1%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (57.9%)
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4.3 Local authority response to exclusions

For permanent exclusions, the local authority must arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil to begin no later than the sixth school day of the exclusion.

Reducing exclusions is an on-going priority for the Council and the interventions underway include: officers visiting the highest excluding schools to review the issues behind these exclusions with head teachers; proactively contacting schools to offer support to children subject to a high level of repeat fixed-term exclusions; and finalising the ladder of intervention which sets out best practice and signposts to resources and support for children with challenging behaviour.

5.0 School finance

5.1 Schools in Financial Difficulty – the countywide position

As of March 2018 the overall position for North Yorkshire Schools was:

- 54 schools with accumulated deficits totalling £4.4M
- This was an increase of £1.9M from 2017/18
- Deficits range from £1k (small primary) up to £968k (special school)
- Average primary school deficit is £23k
- Average secondary school deficit is £338k
- Of the 54 schools, 29 are predicting that their position will deteriorate
- 23 schools are projected to improve their position, but only 13 are projected to get back into surplus

5.2 School Projections – Based on 2018/19 Start Budgets

- 223 LA maintained schools (79%) are projecting an in-year deficit in 2018/19
- 26 schools will move from a surplus balance to a deficit balance by March 2019
- Nearly 20% of LA maintained schools are in deficit – that is projected to rise to nearly half by 2019/20 and two out of every three by March 2021

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Number of Schools in Deficit	30	54	65	138	187
Value of Deficit	£2.8M	£4.4M	£7.6M	£16.0M	£30.6M
Proportion of schools in deficit	11%	19%	23%	49%	67%

Indications from revised forecasts received to date are that there will be some improvement in this position.

5.3 Funding

- Concern around overall quantum of funding given cost pressures (e.g. Apprenticeship Levy, National Living Wage)
- North Yorkshire secondary schools are placed 122 out of 150 local authorities in terms of funding. On average, a school in North Yorkshire will receive £4,897 per pupil in 2018-19 compared to £7,840 per pupil in Hackney. Comparing the funding for a 1,500 pupil secondary school in Hackney with one in North Yorkshire, this equates to a difference in funding of £4.4m

- For primary schools, a North Yorkshire school will receive on average £4,034 compared to £5,887 in Hackney.
- Concern over impact of high needs financial pressures on school budgets
- North Yorkshire has a number of schools that, geographically, are vital in serving their local communities. Reductions in sparsity funding and general financial pressures, particularly on smaller secondary schools, are concerning.

5.4 Schools in Financial Difficulty – Harrogate and Knaresborough

14 primary schools, 3 secondary schools, 2 special schools

As at 2018/19 start budgets

2018/19	2020/21
5 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2019; 28% schools in Harrogate & Knaresborough	12 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2021; 67% schools in Harrogate & Knaresborough
3 primaries; 1 secondary; 1 special	9 primaries; 1 secondary; 2 special
Total projected value of deficits = £782K	Total projected value of deficits = £3.4M
Projected average primary deficit = £37k Projected average secondary deficit = £546k Projected average special deficit = £125k	Projected average primary deficit = £141k Projected average secondary deficit = £1,517k Projected average special deficit = £311k

6.0 School sustainability

- 6.1 The sustainability of schools is largely influenced by three key factors which are usually closely related to each other:
- Falling pupil rolls
 - School standards
 - Financial difficulty

Where school closures have regrettably occurred in North Yorkshire all of these factors have been relevant. There have been 8 closures in North Yorkshire over the last 3 years but none in the constituency area.

6.2 Pupil rolls – current and future

The general picture across the whole of the County shows projected growth in the urban areas contrasting with declining numbers in rural locations. There are several social and economic reasons for this including the availability and price of housing and employment factors.

The picture in the constituency area (Appendix 1) however shows a generally high take up of places and therefore low surplus capacity across the board. The LA groups schools together into planning areas in accordance with the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Only two planning areas differ from the low surplus capacity picture. They are the primary aged groupings known as Harrogate Primary Urban Central and Boroughbridge Outer. Appendix 1 shows the planning areas together with:

- Capacity in the planning area
- Current numbers on roll
- Projected future numbers
- Projected impact of approved housing developments

- Analysis of surplus / shortfall of places
- Commentary regarding local developments

Appendix 1 does not include projections of pupil yield from sites proposed in the Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan and therefore do not yet have planning approval. Harrogate, Knaresborough and Ripon are the district's main urban areas and over the Local Plan Period will accommodate most of the district's growth. Members will be aware of significant housing allocations proposed for the Harrogate district. Officers will be reviewing the expected impact of the Local Plan on the need for additional school capacity once feedback is received from the recently completed Examination in Public.

The key points to note within LA planning areas across the constituency area are:

Primary

Harrogate Primary West - Significant housing development is planned for the west of Harrogate. The LA has secured additional sites for education use at Bluecoat Park and Penny Pot Lane. We are currently monitoring the pace of housing and the impact on the need for additional school places.

Harrogate Primary Outer Area – In response to the significant housing developments in Killinghall we added two classrooms at Killinghall CoE School in 2017 and have scope to add a third. Other schools local to Killinghall have surplus places which is a factor in determining our future approach.

Knaresborough Primary Town – A site for education provision has been secured within the expected development at Manse Farm. Early stage design work is underway and the provisional opening date for a wholly new Primary School is September 2021.

Secondary

Harrogate Secondary - We are in discussions with the local secondary schools to identify future expansion proposals to meet the expected rise in demand.

6.3 Pupils living within Harrogate and Knaresborough Constituency Area as at October 2018 who attend North Yorkshire Schools

	Mainstream	Special and PRU	Total
Primary (4-11)	7311	44	7355
Secondary (11-16)	5140	94	5234
Sixth Form (16-18)	1274	21	1295
	13725	159	13884

Pupils attending North Yorkshire schools within Harrogate and Knaresborough Constituency Area as at October 2018

	Mainstream	Special and PRU	Total	Net Gain of pupils into schools within constituency area
Primary (4-11)	7179	554	7234	-121
Secondary (11-16)	7355	112	7467	2233
Sixth Form (16-18)	2146	33	2179	884
	16680	200	16880	2996

The NET gain of c.3000 pupils is largely due to:

- Secondary catchment areas extending beyond the constituency area
- Harrogate Town Secondary schools being popular to families from beyond both the constituency area and county boundary
- The presence of two voluntary aided secondary schools who have a wider reach area

7.0 Recommendation

- 7.1 That Members note the report on educational factors in the Harrogate and Knaresborough Constituency area.

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Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

School Organisation Plan Planning Areas	Places available as at 2018/19	Number on roll 2014/15	Number on roll 2018/19	Surplus capacity 2018/19	Forecast pupils as at 2023/24	Pupil yield from current housing permissions expected by 2023/24	Surplus capacity 2023/24
PRIMARY							
*Boroughbridge Primary Area (Boroughbridge Primary, Kirby Hill CoE, Rocliffe CoE)	470	385	337	133	295	148	27
*Boroughbridge Primary Outer Area	784	482	567	217	599	51	134
	1254	867	904	350	894	199	161
Harrogate Primary Urban Central	2384	2067	2055	329	1908	215	262
Harrogate Primary Urban East	1138	1093	1158	-20	1124	65	-51
Harrogate Primary Urban West	2115	2019	2069	46	1937	333	-155
Harrogate Primary Outer Area	1257	1169	1199	58	1197	336	-276
	6894	6384	6481	413	6166	928	-220
Knaresborough Primary (Town)	1190	1168	1165	25	1114	272	-196
*Knaresborough Primary Outer Area	433	391	407	26	385	65	-17
	1623	1559	1572	51	1499	337	-213
SECONDARY							
Boroughbridge Secondary	763	673	492	271	447	103	213
*Harrogate & Rural Secondary (includes Nidderdale High School)	7121	7610	7505	-384	8517	475	-1871
Knaresborough Secondary	1757	1564	1504	253	1554	175	28
	9641	9847	9501	140	10518	753	-1630

Notes:

- The LA School Organisation Plan (SOP) details forecast pupil shortfalls and surpluses being viewed across a collective of schools known as Planning Areas.
- Figures above take into account outstanding housing permissions, but not draft Local Plan proposals
- *SOP area includes schools outside the ACC