



**North Yorkshire County Council
Richmond Area Constituency Committee
25 November 2020**

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 Richmond constituency committee area.

2.0 Local educational landscape

- 2.1 In total there are 72 schools in the constituency area. There are now 18 primary academies & Free Schools and 4 secondary academies within the Richmond constituency area. The academy conversion rate is slightly higher within the constituency area than the county as a whole (29% of primary schools in the area compared to 28.3% in North Yorkshire, and 57.1% of secondary schools in the area, compared to 56% in North Yorkshire).

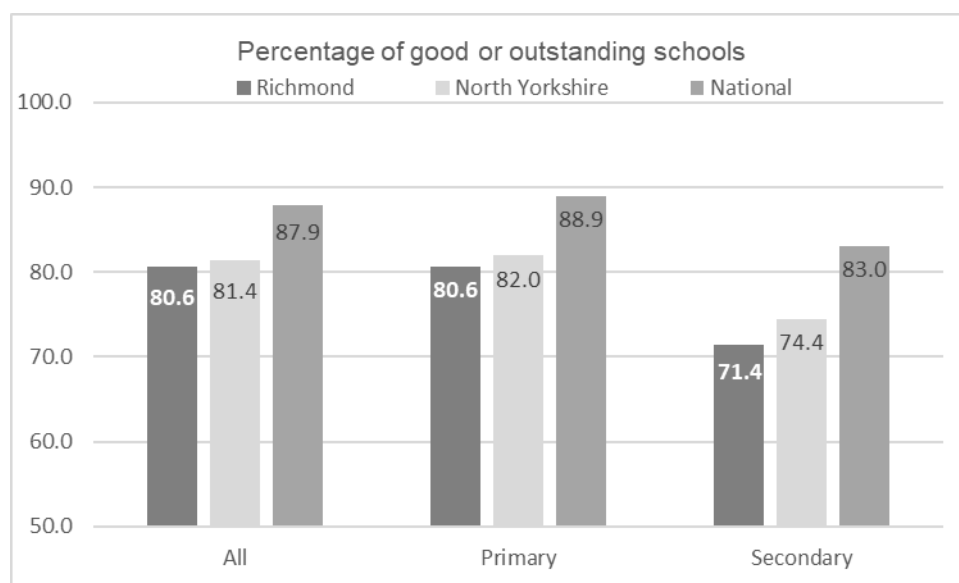
Summary of schools' status – October 2020

	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Richmond ACC	
Primary Maintained	218	71.7%	44	71%
Primary Academy & Free Schools	86	28.3%	18	29%
Total	304		62	
Secondary Maintained	19	44%	3	42.9%
Secondary Academy	24	56%	4	57.1%
Total	43		7	
Special Maintained	8	80%	2	100%
Special Academy	2	20%	0	0%
Total	10		2	
PRU Maintained	4	80%	1	100%
PRU Academy	1	20%	0	0%
Total	5		1	
Total maintained	249	69%	50	69.4%
Total Academy	113	31%	22	30.6%
Overall Total	362		72	

3.0 School standards

3.1 School Ofsted judgements

In the constituency area 80.6 per cent of primary schools are judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, which is slightly below the North Yorkshire and national averages. In terms of secondary schools, 71.4 per cent are judged good or outstanding, which is lower than the North Yorkshire average. There are 13 schools currently judged requires improvement/inadequate.



3.2 Attainment overall

Following the Coronavirus pandemic and lockdown, pupils in all phases of schooling did not sit formal examinations. This means that for GCSE and A Levels, pupils' grades are based on centre assessed grades (CAGs) or the grade calculated by the exam board during the standardisation process, whichever is higher. Schools followed rigorous guidance in order to make sure that their CAGs were as accurate as possible. Since government guidance states that 2020 outcomes must not be used for monitoring and accountability purposes, the Local Authority will not be publishing 2020 examination results or outcomes at any key stage. With regard to Ofsted, inspections have ceased and will not be reinstated until January 2021 although Ofsted 'visits' will be undertaken during the Autumn term in order to gather information about how schools across the country are managing the full return to school. Guidelines to Ofsted inspectors say that the data and information will be based on 2019 exam results.

The following sections provide 2019 outcomes on:

- Early Years Foundation Stage – 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)
- Key Stage 5 – assessment at the end of sixth form/college (17-18 year olds)

3.3 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

73.2% of children in the constituency area achieved a Good Level of Development. The level of performance has improved since 2017 and is slightly higher the national and North Yorkshire averages.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – percentage achieving a good level of development			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	72.4%	71.6%	70.7%
2018	72.9%	72.5%	71.6%
2019	73.2%	72.8%	71.8%

3.4 Key Stage 2

61.5% of children in the constituency area achieved the expected level or above in reading, writing and maths combined, which is slightly lower than the North Yorkshire and national benchmarks. The level of performance has decreased slightly since 2018.

Key Stage 2 - percentage achieving the expected standard or above in reading, writing and maths combined.			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	60.9%	58.7%	61.1%
2018	62.8%	62.2%	64.4%
2019	61.5%	63.3%	65.0%

3.5 Key Stage 4

The average Attainment 8 score, which measures the achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications, was 46.0. This is below the North Yorkshire and national average. Performance has decreased since 2017.

KS4 – Average Attainment 8 Score			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	48.1	49.6	46.3
2018	46.4	48.3	46.4
2019	46.0	48.7	46.7

The Progress 8 score, which measures a pupil's progress from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school, was close to the national average, but below the North Yorkshire average (0 is the national average).

KS4 – Average Progress 8 Score			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	0.11	0.17	0.00
2018	0.03	0.13	0.00
2019	-0.07	0.09	0.00

The percentage achieving a grade 5 or above (grading is 9-1) in English and Maths was 39.1%. This is below the national and North Yorkshire average.

KS4 – Percentage achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Maths			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	45.8%	50.4%	42.6%
2018	41.5%	47.7%	43%
2019	39.1%	47.4%	43.2%

3.6 Key Stage 5

The A-level average point score per entry in the constituency was 32.2, which is marginally below the national and North Yorkshire averages

KS5 – A-level average point score per entry			
	Richmond	North Yorkshire	National
2017	32.5	32.3	31.3
2018	31.3	33.0	32.1
2019	32.2	34.2	32.9

3.7 Not in education, employment or training

There were 1029 young people recorded in Year 11 in January 2019 and of this cohort only 7 (0.68%) were not in education, employment or training after leaving school as of April 2020.

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 2019/20 and the previous three full academic years, and the most common reasons for exclusion.

In the 2019/20 school year, up to Covid-19 lockdown (23rd March 2020), 644 of the 4111 incidences of fixed-term exclusions in mainstream schools across the county were applied to 245 children and young people who went to schools in the constituency. The current rate of children fixed-term excluded at least once in the year is 1.9% of the mainstream school population in the constituency.

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

Fixed term exclusions				
Academic year	Richmond	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total	Most common reason
2019/20 (up to 23rd March Covid-19 lockdown)	644	4111	15.7%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (43%)
2018/19	867	5962	14.5%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (53.4%)
2017/18	1020	6,005	17.0%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (45.2%)
2016/17	918	4,583	20.0%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (46.5%)

In 2019/20 there were 13,291 pupils in the constituency against 82,957 pupils countywide. This meant that schools in the constituency area had a 16.02% share of the total schools' population in North Yorkshire.

In 2018/19 schools in the constituency area had a 14.5% share of fixed term exclusions for the whole county. This increased to 15.7% in the 2019/20 academic year prior to lockdown in March.

Fixed-term exclusions 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 2019/20 and the previous three full academic years, and the most common reasons for exclusion. In 2018/19, the constituency had the second highest permanent exclusion rate of all constituencies in the county. While in previous years the most common reason for

permanent exclusion was persistent disruptive behaviour, in the 2019/20 school year prior to lockdown it was drug and alcohol related behaviour.

Permanent exclusions				
Academic year	Richmond	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total	Most common reason
2019/20 (up to 23rd March Covid-19 lockdown)	15	54	27.8%	Drug and Alcohol Related (6 exclusions)
2018/19	16	87	18.4%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (61.5%)
2017/18	17	103	16.5%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (35.3%)
2016/17	13	86	15.1%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (46.2%)

4.3 From September 2020 the transition of the Pupil Referral Service (PRS) to provide preventative places to reduce the need for secondary exclusions has been introduced. Schools are able to request placements at the PRS as part of a joint education programme for children that are disengaging from mainstream school. The partnership approach between the PRS and school will ensure that children receive the necessary support without a permanent exclusion.

5.0 Special Education Needs and Disabilities

5.1 Reshaping of SEN Provision in Richmond over the 2019/20 Academic Year

5.1.1 Targeted Mainstream Provision

As part of the SEND Strategic Plan for Educational provision 2018-23, it was identified that there was a need to change the model for Enhanced Mainstream School (EMS) to provide greater numbers of full time places for children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan who were able to access mainstream schooling but with additional support to meet their special educational needs. A new model of provision, Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMP) has been developed which is intended to help the LA meet demand for full time education provision for children with SEND and who have an Education, Health and Care Plan. As the number of children with an EHC Plan continues to rise and demand increases on special school and high cost independent school places the establishment of full time places in TMP will assist the LA in providing suitable local education provision to meet levels of demand.

Following the required statutory process the decision to implement these changes from September 2020 was approved in August 2020. The number of schools

currently approved to operate TMP represents the first phase and it is intended that over the next year further schools will be brought on board to increase the total number of TMP across the county. Wensleydale School and Alverton Primary School have been approved to provide Targeted Mainstream Provisions for Communication and Interaction needs in the first phase. A partnership between Thirsk School and Hambleton and Richmondshire PRS has also been approved to deliver a TMP for Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs for Secondary age pupils. All provisions are expected to be operational no later than September 2021.

Outreach support and intervention for children and young people with SEND will continue to be met by the new SEND multi-disciplinary hubs made up of specialist staff employed directly by the Local Authority including specialist teachers, practitioners, educational psychologists and therapists. These Hubs have been operational since September 2020 and are working with schools to provide support to children as and when required.

5.2 SEN Statistics for Constituency Area

As of January 2020 there were 566 children living in the constituency with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan, 16.7% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs for children with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan living in the area are Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at 36.9 % and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) at 16.9%, and Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD) at 16%.

As of January 2020 school census there were 1761 children recorded as receiving SEN Support from schools in this constituency, 19.2% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs for children receiving SEN support in the area are Speech, Language and Communication at 21.5% and Specific Learning Difficulties (e.g. dyslexia) at 19.3%.

6.0 School Finance

6.1 Schools in Financial Difficulty – the countywide position

As of March 2020 the overall position for North Yorkshire Schools was:

- 37 schools with accumulated deficits totalling £7.2M
- This was an increase of £2.2M from 2018/19 (after adjusting for school closures, amalgamations and academy conversions in 2019/20)
- Deficits range from £1k (small primary) up to £1.6M (special school)
- Average primary school deficit is £45k
- Average secondary school deficit is £521k
- Of the 37 schools, 19 are predicting that their position will deteriorate
- 18 schools are projected to improve their position, but only 9 are projected to get back into surplus.

6.2 School Projections - Based on May 2020/21 Start budgets

- 115 LA maintained schools (49%) are projecting an in-year deficit in 2020/21
- 7 schools will move from a surplus balance to a deficit balance by March 2021
- 15% of LA maintained schools are in deficit – that is projected to rise to just over one in five by 2021/22 and two out of every five by March 2023.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Number of Schools in Deficit	54	47	37	35	55	93
Value of Deficit	£4.4M	£6.0M	£7.2M	£9.4M	£12.5M	£18.3M
Proportion of schools in deficit	19%	18%	15%	15%	23%	40%

6.3 Funding

- Concern around overall quantum of funding given cost pressures (e.g. future pay awards, additional expenditure and income loss associated with Covid-19)
- North Yorkshire secondary schools are placed 133 out of 149 local authorities in terms of funding. On average, a school in North Yorkshire will receive £5,151 per pupil in 2020-21 compared to a national average of £5,496. Comparing the funding for a 1,500 pupil secondary school this equates to a difference in funding of £0.5m
- For primary schools, a North Yorkshire school will receive on average £4,347 per pupil compared to a national average of £4279.
- Concern over impact of continued high needs financial pressures on school budgets
- North Yorkshire has a number of schools that, geographically, are vital in serving their local communities. Inadequate sparsity funding and general financial pressures, particularly for smaller secondary schools, continue to be a significant concern.

6.4 Schools in Financial Difficulty – Richmond

36 primary school budgets, 3 secondary school budgets, 2 special school budgets, and 1 PRU budget.

2020/21	2022/23
6 school budgets projecting to be in deficit by March 2021; 14.3% school budgets in Richmond	16 school budgets projecting to be in deficit by March 2023; 38.1% school budgets in Richmond
3 primaries; 2 secondaries and 1 special	11 primaries; 2 secondaries, 2 special, 1 PRU
Total value of deficits = £2,311k	Total value of deficits = £5,361k
Average primary deficit = £36k; Average secondary deficit = £521k Average special deficit = £1,162k	Average primary deficit = £36k; Average secondary deficit = £928k Average special deficit = £1,500k Average PRU deficit = £110k

7.0 Planning school places

7.1 School sustainability

The sustainability of schools is largely influenced by three key factors which are usually 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 ten closures in the county over the last three years, with three of these occurring in the constituency area.

7.2 Collaborative working

Collaborative working is two or more schools working together to the mutual benefit of their pupils with the overall aim of improving outcomes for all. This has the potential to broaden opportunities and contribute to efficiencies. There are now 19 schools supported by nine federations in the Richmond area. All nine of these federations are maintained schools with a single governing body and headteacher. There are also 3 less formal collaborations between schools in the Richmond constituency.

7.3 Pupil rolls – current and future

The County Council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available for every child under the Education Act 1996. For this purpose, it groups schools together into planning areas in accordance with the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency. 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

The County Council is carefully monitoring pupil numbers across the Richmond constituency area. A large proportion of the constituency is rural and served by small schools located within villages. A falling birth rate combined with changing demographics means that a number of small schools are facing financial challenges associated with low numbers on roll. Across the constituency the schools have worked innovatively to mitigate these challenges including forming local federations. Like all small schools the fluctuation of pupil numbers exacerbates the already challenging nature of school funding.

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.

In terms of projected growth in urban areas, Northallerton is the main urban area within the Hambleton region and Catterick Garrison is the main urban area within Richmondshire. These two areas will accommodate most of the housing growth generated through both the Hambleton Local Plan and the Richmondshire Local Plan proposals. Catterick Garrison is made up of the three adjoining parishes of Hipswell, Colburn and Scotton and a high proportion of the Richmondshire Local Plan's projected housing has been allocated to sites within this area, while a high proportion of the Hambleton Local Plan's projected housing in Northallerton has been allocated to the North Northallerton Development Area.

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

- 7.4** *Catterick Area* - As part of a new operating model for the Army, two strike brigades will be located at Catterick Garrison. STRIKE represents the highest priority for the Army and the biggest change to its operational capability and carries with it the largest financial demands. By 2031, it is expected that the level of military personnel at Catterick will reach 9,500 (currently circa 6,000) and, with the increase in number of accompanying dependents, it is expected that £806m will be invested into Catterick and the Garrison. By the time the strike brigades' moves have been completed (between 2021 – 2031), Catterick will be the third largest town in North Yorkshire.

Additionally, Catterick Garrison is the main area of projected housing growth in the Richmondshire Local Plan. The Catterick STRIKE project will require significant investment in Service Families Accommodation and the Richmondshire Local Plan proposes significant open market housing, making the provision of school places a key issue for the County Council. There is still some uncertainty about the timescale of the proposed Service Families Accommodation and, therefore, about the timing of the future demand for school places. However, additional classrooms have been added to Le Cateau Primary School and a new academy, known as Cambrai Community Primary School, opened in September 2019 under phased and gradual growth each year to avoid destabilising existing local primary schools. Cambrai currently is a 1 Form Entry (1FE) school, with a net capacity of 210, but has the potential to increase to 2FE and 420 places.

- 7.5** *Northallerton Area* - The primary schools in Northallerton serve the existing housing, which is concentrated to the south of the town. However, the northern edge of the town is identified in the Local Plan as the preferred site for growth. The strategic site for development is the North Northallerton Development Area (NNDA) and the 1,380 dwellings proposed for the Northallerton area will place demands on its educational infrastructure by creating a shortfall of school places. Consequently, land has been safeguarded within the NNDA for a new 1FE, 210 place primary school. Planning permission was granted in September 2020. Having this approval provides confidence that the remaining processes to establish the school in September 2022 can now commence. The design of the building is single storey and allows for future expansion to 2FE should that be required.

Northallerton School and Sixth Form's site is constrained and the Arete Academy Trust is proposing to transfer the town's secondary school to the site of the former Allertonshire School, which is a larger site in Northallerton. Central government capital funding for the project has been approved and Arete propose to relocate the secondary school to the Allertonshire site in Northallerton as soon as possible, and hopefully by September 2021. Officers are currently considering the potential options for future use of the (to be) vacated Grammar School Lane site in Northallerton.

7.6 *Swaledale Area* - Schools within Swaledale's inner and outer areas face opposing pressures. The demographic trend in its outer, rural areas led to the relatively recent closure of Arkengarthdale Primary School in Swaledale. A falling birth rate, the availability and affordability of housing and employment factors has caused a fall in numbers in many schools. However, in contrast, schools in Swaledale's inner areas are projecting growth. Schools such as Brompton-on-Swale and Middleton Tyas have relatively high numbers on roll, and proposed housing in Richmondshire's Local Plan, such as the Gatherley Road development, is leading to a one class expansion at Brompton-on-Swale.

7.7 *Stokesley Area* – Stokesley follows a similar pattern, with sparser populations in its outer areas. The closure of two schools along the Stokelsey corridor has reduced some of the surplus spaces in the outer, more rural, areas. However, despite the consequent enlargement of catchment areas, there are still generally high surplus places in those remaining primary schools sitting along the corridor running from the centre out towards Northallerton.

The appended figures illustrate how both the primary and the secondary schools in Stokesley have surplus spaces. The developments proposed in Stokesley by the Hambleton Local Plan are not forecast to generate a shortfall of spaces in either school.

7.8 *Wensleydale Area* - Wensleydale does not echo the general picture across the constituency area of projected growth in the urban areas. Even in Leyburn, schools such as the Wensleydale School and Sixth Form have high surplus places. There are surplus places across the whole school system in Wensleydale and there is projected to be an increasing and significant surplus of secondary and primary spaces going forward. The rural areas of the constituency are characterised by small primary schools serving sparsely populated villages and even super-sparsely populated very extensive areas. Wensleydale's geography, combined with its low pupil numbers, has led to financial and organisational challenges for these schools affected.

7.9 *Bedale Area* – Bedale High School currently has significant surplus spaces and therefore can absorb the anticipated pupil yield from the Local Plan. However, forecasts predict the housing growth could create a shortfall of places at Bedale Primary School. Consequently, three additional primary classrooms have been constructed through a combination of basic need funding and Section 106 developer contributions.

8.0 Recommendation

8.1 That Members note the report on educational factors in the Richmond constituency area.

Authors: Amanda Newbold (Assistant Director – Education and Skills), Howard Emmett (Assistant Director – Strategic Resources), Jane Le-Sage (Assistant Director – Inclusion), Andrew Dixon (Strategic Planning Manager)

APPENDIX 1

Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

School planning area	Places available as at 2019/2020	Number on Roll 2014/2015	Number on roll 2019/2020	Surplus Capacity 2019/2020	Forecast pupils as at 2024/2025	Pupils from current housing permissions until 2024/2025	Surplus capacity 2024/25
PRIMARY							
Bedale Bedale CE	420	317	349	71	314	43	63
Bedale Outer Area Aiskew, Leeming Bar CE Burneston CE (VA) Crakehall CE Primary Hackforth and Hornby CE Hunton and Arrathorne CP Leeming and Londonderry CP Leeming RAF CP Snape CP St. Nicholas CE Primary, West Tanfield Thornton Watlass CE	963	603	598	365	602	40	321
Total	1383	920	947	436	916	83	384
Catterick Garrison Carnagill CP Le Cateau CP Wavell Community Infant Wavell Community Junior Cambrai Primary Academy	1401	857	1047	354	1162	60	179
Catterick Outer Area Bolton-on-Swale St Mary's CE Colburn CP Hipswell CE Primary Michael Syddall CE (Aided)	818	582	724	94	754	63	1
Total	2219	1439	1771	448	1916	123	180
Northallerton Alverton CP Applegarth Primary Broomfield School Mill Hill CP Romanby Primary Sacred Heart RC	1347	1181	1185	162	1216	181	- 50
Northallerton Outer Area Ainderby Steeple CE Appleton Wiske CP Brompton CP East Cowton CE Great Smeaton Academy Kirkby Fleetham CE Osmotherley Primary (Inc South Otterington CE –other constituency)	819	562	572	247	567	71	181
Total	2166	1743	1767	399	1783	252	131

Stokesley Primary Area Stokesley Primary	399	296	223	176	157	60	182
Stokesley Primary Outer Area Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate CE Carlton & Faceby CE VA Hutton Rudby Ingleby Greenhow CE VA Kirkby & Great Broughton CE VA Marwood CE VC Infant Roseberry Academy	835	719	698	137	650	38	147
Total	1234	1015	921	313	807	98	329

Swaledale Primary Brompton-on-Swale CE Primary Middleton Tyas CE Richmond Methodist St Mary's RC Primary Trinity Academy Richmond	1196	1062	993	203	925	27	244
Swaledale Primary Outer Area Barton CE Primary Croft CE Primary Eppleby Forcett CE Gunnorside Methodist Melsonby Methodist North & South Cowton CP Ravensworth CE Primary Reeth CP	525	410	339	186	317	22	186
Total	1721	1472	1332	389	1242	49	430

Thirsk Outer Area Pickhill CE Primary and 8 schools outside the constituency area	968	737	864	104	837	80	51
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Wensleydale Primary Leyburn Primary	210	178	195	15	188	5	17
Wensleydale Primary Outer Area Askrigg VC Primary Bainbridge CE Primary & Nursery Hawes Primary Middleham CE Primary Spennithorne CE Primary West Burton CE	423	273	261	162	267	6	150
Total	633	451	456	177	455	11	167

SECONDARY							
Bedale Bedale High School	935	649	482	453	450	45	440

Catterick Risedale Sports and Community College	925	417	533	392	758	47	120
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Northallerton Northallerton School & Sixth Form	1282	1298	1011	271	1021	65	196
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Stokesley Stokesley School	1269	1148	1155	114	1155	25	89
Swaledale Richmond School St Francis Xavier School	2180	1975	1853	327	1815	32	333
Wensleydale The Wensleydale School & 6 th Form	492	473	358	134	339	5	148

Note

- Figures above take into account outstanding housing permissions, but not undetermined planning applications or draft Local Plan proposals.