



**North Yorkshire County Council  
Thirsk & Malton Area Constituency Committee  
23 September 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 Thirsk & Malton constituency committee area.

**2.0 Local educational landscape**

- 2.1 There are now 13 primary academies and 3 secondary academies within the Thirsk & Malton constituency area. The academy conversion rate is slightly lower within the constituency area than the county as a whole (23% of primary schools in the area compared to 28.3% in North Yorkshire, and 43% of secondary schools in the area, compared to 56% in North Yorkshire).

**Summary of schools' status – September 2020**

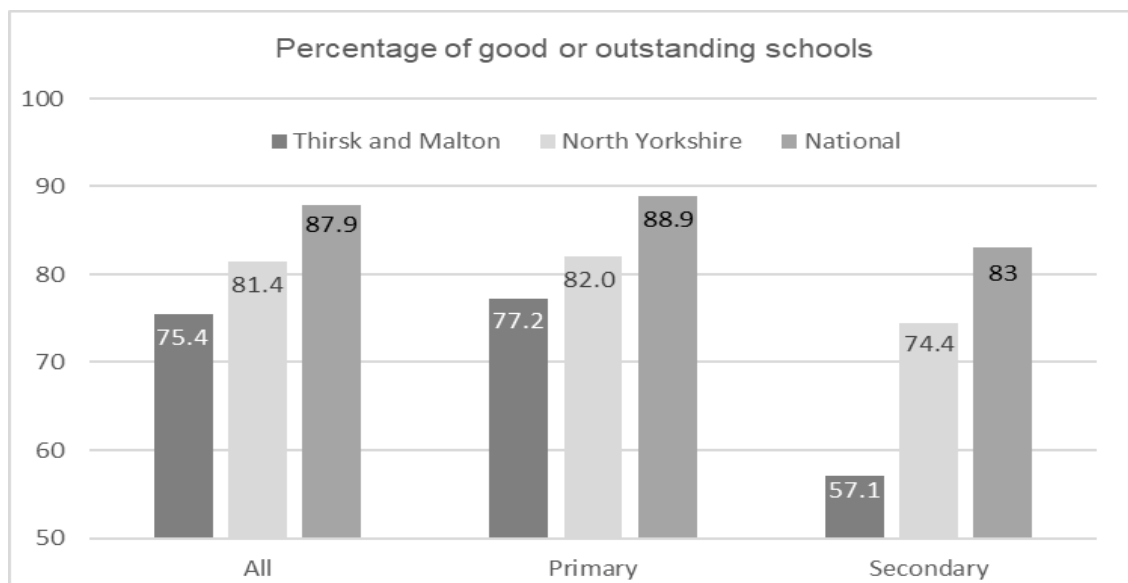
	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Thirsk & Malton ACC	
Primary Maintained	218	71.7%	44	77%
Primary Academy & Free School	86	28.3%	13	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>304</b>		<b>57</b>	
Secondary Maintained	19	44%	4	57%
Secondary Academy	24	56%	3	43%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>7</b>	
Special Maintained	8	80%	1	100%
Special Academy	2	20%	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>1</b>	
PRU Maintained	4	80%	0	0%
PRU Academy	1	20%	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>Total maintained</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>Total Academy</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>362</b>		<b>65</b>	

**3.0 School Standards**

**3.1 School Ofsted Judgements**

In the constituency area 77.2 per cent of primary schools are judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, which is below the North Yorkshire and national averages. In terms of secondary

schools, 57.1 per cent are judged good or outstanding, which is lower than the North Yorkshire average. There are 12 schools currently judged requires improvement or 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, A Level and other qualifications, 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.

3.3 The following sections provide 2019 outcomes for:

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

### 3.4 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

72.4% of children in the constituency area achieved a Good Level of Development. The level of performance has improved since 2017 and is slightly below the North Yorkshire average but higher than the national average.

<b>Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – percentage achieving a good level of development</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	68.9%	71.6%	70.7%
<b>2018</b>	70.5%	72.5%	71.6%
<b>2019</b>	72.4%	72.8%	71.8%

3.5 Key Stage 2

64.7% of children in the constituency area achieved the expected level or above in reading, writing and maths combined, which is above the North Yorkshire and below national benchmarks. The level of performance has increased by 3.3% since 2017, which is a slightly lower improvement than North Yorkshire and nationally.

<b>Key Stage 2 - percentage achieving the expected standard or above in reading, writing and maths combined.</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	61.4%	58.7%	61.1%
<b>2018</b>	60.0%	62.2%	64.4%
<b>2019</b>	64.7%	63.3%	65.0%

3.6 Key Stage 4

The average Attainment 8 score, which measures the achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications, was 47.1. This is lower than the North Yorkshire average but higher than the national average. Performance has decreased in the constituency since 2017.

<b>KS4 – Average Attainment 8 Score</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	48.3	49.6	46.3
<b>2018</b>	48.3	48.3	46.4
<b>2019</b>	47.1	48.7	46.7

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

<b>KS4 – Average Progress 8 Score</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	0.17	0.17	0.00
<b>2018</b>	0.22	0.13	0.00
<b>2019</b>	0.08	0.09	0.00

3.8 The percentage achieving a grade 5 or above (grading is 9-1) in English and Maths was 40.4%. This is below the national average and the North Yorkshire average. The results in this constituency dropped by a significant amount between 2018 and 2019 whereas there was a more modest decrease across North Yorkshire and a small increase in scores Nationally

<b>KS4 – Percentage achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Maths</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	48.8%	50.4%	42.6%
<b>2018</b>	46.3%	47.7%	43%
<b>2019</b>	40.4%	47.4%	43.3%

3.9 Key Stage 5

The A-level average point score per entry in the constituency was 30.7, which is below the North Yorkshire and National averages.

<b>KS5 – A-level average point score per entry</b>			
	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2017</b>	37.8	33.9	32.3
<b>2018</b>	31.8	32.8	31.8
<b>2019</b>	30.7	33.4	32.2

3.10 Not in education, employment or training

There were 857 young people recorded in Year 11 in this constituency in May 2019 and of this cohort only 4 (0.46%) were not in education, employment or training after leaving school as of January 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 the 2019/20 academic year to 23rd March (lockdown).

<b>Fixed term exclusions</b>				
<b>Academic year</b>	<b>Thirsk and Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>Percentage of North Yorkshire total</b>	<b>Most common reason</b>
<b>2019/20 (up to 23rd March Covid-19 lockdown)</b>	760	4111	18.4%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (35%)
<b>2018/19</b>	831	5962	13.9%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (47.8%)
<b>2017/18</b>	846	6,005	14.1%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (48.2%)
<b>2016/17</b>	650	4,583	14.2%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (46.8%)

4.2 In the 2019/20 school year up to Covid-19 lockdown, 760 of the 4111 incidences of fixed-term exclusions in mainstream schools across the county were applied to 338 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 2% of the mainstream school population in the constituency.

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

4.4 In 2018/19 schools in the constituency area had a 15% share of the total schools population in North Yorkshire but only a 13.9% share of fixed term exclusions for the whole county, this has increased to 18.4% in the 2019/20 academic year.

4.5 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.

4.5 Permanent exclusions

The table below shows the number of permanent exclusions and the most common reasons for permanent exclusion.

<b>Permanent exclusions</b>				
<b>Academic year</b>	<b>Thirsk &amp; Malton</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>% of North Yorkshire total</b>	<b>Most common reason</b>
<b>2019/20 (up to 23rd March Covid-19 lockdown)</b>	11	56	19.6%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (3 exclusions)
<b>2018/19</b>	15	87	17.3%	Drug and alcohol related (60%)
<b>2017/18</b>	15	103	14.6%	Physical assault against a pupils (26.7%). Drug and alcohol related (26.7%)
<b>2016/17</b>	10	86	11.6%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (40%)

4.6 From September 2020 the transition of the Pupil Referral Service (PRS) to provide preventative places to reduce the need for secondary exclusions will be 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 Thirsk & Malton 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 in reach places for children with an 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 EHCP 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.

The process required for changing between these models was started in 2019 and over the 2019/20 academic year consultation was held with stakeholders including at schools where the EMS model was being discontinued and where the new TMP model was proposed to be located. 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. In the initial phase the secondary SEMH targeted provision will be delivered via a partnership between Hambleton Pupil Referral Unit and Thirsk School hosted on the Thirsk School site.

The 'outreach' offer for children and young people with SEND will continue to be met by the new SEND multi-disciplinary hubs made up of with specialist staff employed directly by the Local Authority including specialist teachers, practitioners, educational psychologists and therapists.

## 5.2 SEN Statistics for Constituency Area

As of January 2020 there were 427 children living in the constituency with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan, 13.9% 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 26 %, Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) at 20.4% and Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD) at 19.7%.

As of the January 2020 school census there were 1526 children recorded as SEN Support from schools in this constituency, 16.6% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs for children receiving SEN support in the area are Moderate Learning Difficulties at 23.4% and Speech, Language and Communication at 21.2%.

## 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 in deficit is £45k
- Average secondary school in 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
<b>Number of Schools in Deficit</b>	54	47	37	35	55	93
<b>Value of Deficit</b>	£4.4M	£6.0M	£7.2M	£9.4M	£12.5M	£18.3M
<b>Proportion of schools in deficit</b>	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 £4,279.
- 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 – Thirsk and Malton

<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
7 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2021; 16% schools in Thirsk and Malton	13 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2023; 29.5% schools in Thirsk and Malton
5 primaries; 1 secondary and 1 special	10 primaries; 2 secondaries and 1 special
Total value of deficits = £1,546k	Total value of deficits = £2,115k
Average primary deficit = £25k; Average secondary deficit = £434k Average special deficit = £986k	Average primary deficit = £68k; Average secondary deficit = £187k Average special deficit = £1,064k

## 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 10 closures in the county over the last 3 years but none 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 4 federations in the Thirsk and Malton area. In three of these federations there are 2 maintained schools with a single governing body and headteacher. The fourth is the Ryedale Federation which includes one secondary school and three primary schools.

### 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

7.4 The County Council is carefully monitoring pupil numbers across the Thirsk and Malton 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.

7.5 Appendix 1 does not include projections of pupil yield from sites proposed in the Hambleton or Ryedale Local Plans which do not yet have planning approval. However, Thirsk and Easingwold are the constituency area's main urban areas within the Hambleton region and over the Local Plan period will accommodate most of the growth. In the Ryedale district the main urban centre is made up of the adjoining towns of Malton and Norton. In the Ryedale Local Plan a high proportion of the projected housing need has been allocated to sites within this area.

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

*Easingwold Area* - Members will be aware of the high number of housing completions in Easingwold and the significant housing allocations with existing permissions in Easingwold. Additionally, further allocations are proposed in the Local Plan. Officers will be reviewing the expected impact of the Local Plan on the need for additional school capacity at Easingwold Community Primary School, once the Examination in Public of the Local Plan is held in late October and early November 2020. The Local Plan's preferred development site in Easingwold includes additional land for the primary school to replace playing field and site area shortfalls. There is sufficient capacity in Easingwold's secondary school to accommodate the anticipated pupil yield from Local Plan housing.

*Thirsk Area* - Significant housing has been built in the Sowerby area of Thirsk. Although the Sowerby Gateway development fell within the catchment area of Sowerby Primary Academy the school could not be expanded sufficiently to accommodate the additional children. A new primary school has been built to serve the Sowerby Gateway development. Keeble Gateway Academy, which is run by the Elevate Academy Trust, is a new one form entry primary school in Thirsk. We support the phased opening of the new school and its gradual growth each year to avoid destabilising existing schools. There remains some surplus capacity in Thirsk's secondary school, however, given the projected levels of housing growth in the area the school could, in the future, approach its capacity.

*Malton and Norton Area Primary* – As stated above, the Malton and Norton area is the main area of projected housing growth identified in the Ryedale Local Plan. In the recent years a further form of entry (210 places) was added to Norton Community Primary School partly through the development of a new satellite site at Brooklyn House. This was projected to meet the need for new places arising from existing sites with planning permission within Norton. There is a further school site allocated within the Local Plan for the largest housing allocation in the district at Norton Lodge. NYCC Officers are working with RDC colleagues



and the developer to secure the site as part of a S106 agreement at the point that the site is submitted for planning permission.

7.7 Alongside these expansions in Norton there has been a parallel strategy to increase places in Malton. Projects were explored to provide further places through S106 contributions at both Malton Community Primary School and St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School. The latter of these projects has now completed and provides a further half form of entry (105 places) at St Mary's. At present, pupil yields arising from the housing developments in Malton have not been as high as projected and as such no further expansions are planned at this time. The situation is being monitored and if this changes further expansion can be reconsidered.

7.8 *Malton and Norton Area Secondary* - At the outset of the Local Plan process in Ryedale there was surplus capacity at both the secondary schools within the Malton and Norton school place planning area. However, given the projected levels of housing growth it was acknowledge that at some point further secondary places may need to be provided within the area. The LA is currently supporting a project at Malton School to support an increase in their Admission Number. This will provide some additional places that are projected to be required in coming years. However, there is still further capacity available at Norton Academy and the LA will work with both schools to consider further expansion if this becomes necessary.

**8.0 Recommendation**

8.1 That Members note the report on educational factors in the Thirsk and Malton constituency area.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

School planning area	Places available as at 2019/2020	Number on Roll 2015/2016	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
<b>PRIMARY</b>							
<b>Thirsk</b> All Saint's Catholic Primary School, a Catholic Voluntary Academy, Sowerby Primary Academy, Thirsk CP	914	580	612	302	697	199	18
<b>Thirsk Outer Area</b> Alanbrooke School, Carlton Miniott Primary Academy, Knayton CE Academy, Sessay CE VC Primary, South Kilvington CE VC Primary, Topcliffe CE Academy <i>and 3 schools outside the constituency area</i>	968	754	864	104	837	80	51
	<b>1882</b>	<b>1334</b>	<b>1476</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>1534</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Malton &amp; Norton</b> Amotherby CP, Malton CP, Norton CP, St Mary's RC, Malton	1344	1078	1204	140	1211	145	-12
<b>Malton &amp; Norton Outer Area</b> Foston CE VC Primary, Hovingham CE VC Primary, Langton Primary, Leavening CP, Luttons CP, Rillington CP, Sand Hutton CE VC Primary, Settrington All Saint's CE VC, Slingsby CP, Terrington CE VA, Warthill CE, Weaverthorpe CE, Welburn CP, West Heslerton CE	1010	813	838	172	881	32	97
	<b>2354</b>	<b>1891</b>	<b>2042</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>2092</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Easingwold</b> Easingwold CP	297	275	224	73	229	76	-8
<b>Easingwold Outer Area</b> Alne Primary, Crayke CE VC Primary, Forest of Galtres Anglican/Methodist Primary, Huby CE VC, Hustwaite CE, Linton on Ouse Primary, Sheriff Hutton Primary, Stillington Primary, Sutton on the Forest CE	1014	896	808	206	707	40	267
	<b>1311</b>	<b>1171</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>259</b>
<b>North Ryedale Primary Area</b> Helmsley CP, Kirkbymoorside CP, Pickering Community Infant, Pickering Community Junior, St Joseph's RC Primary	990	907	779	211	759	156	75
<b>North Ryedale Primary Outer Area</b> Gillamoor CE, Nawton CP, Rosedale Abbey CP, Sinnington CP, St Benedict's RC Academy, St Hilda's Ampleforth CE, Thornton Dale CE	633	460	465	168	455	8	170
	<b>1623</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>1244</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>1214</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>245</b>

## Item 6

School planning area	Places available as at 2019/2020	Number on Roll 2015/2016	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
<b>Filey Primary</b> Filey Junior, Filey CE Nursery & Infants Academy, Hertford Vale CE VC Primary, Hunmanby Primary, Sherburn CE VC Primary	940	817	839	101	798	62	80
<b>Boroughbridge Primary Outer Area</b> St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary and 7 schools outside the constituency area	784	496	551	233	553	94	137
<b>Northallerton Primary Outer Area</b> South Otterington CE Primary and 7 schools outside the constituency area	819	544	572	247	567	71	181
<b>SECONDARY</b>							
<b>Thirsk</b> Thirsk School & Sixth Form	1255	911	918	337	1109	152	-6
<b>Central Ryedale</b> Malton School Norton College	1858	1486	1641	217	2072	90	-304
<b>Easingwold</b> Outwood Academy Easingwold	1336	986	650	686	510	58	768
<b>North Ryedale</b> Lady Lumley's School, Ryedale School	1842	1488	1656	186	1593	61	188
<b>Filey</b> Ebor Academy Filey	840	432	390	450	427	30	383

## Note

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

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