

North Yorkshire County Council
Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee
16 December 2021

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 Skipton and Ripon constituency committee area.

2.0 Local educational landscape

- 2.1 There are now 8 primary academies and 4 secondary academies within the Skipton and Ripon constituency area. The academy conversion rate for primary schools is lower within the constituency area when compared to the county as a whole (12.5% compared to 32.4% in North Yorkshire.) The academy conversion rate for secondary schools is also lower (44.4% compared to 65.1% in North Yorkshire).

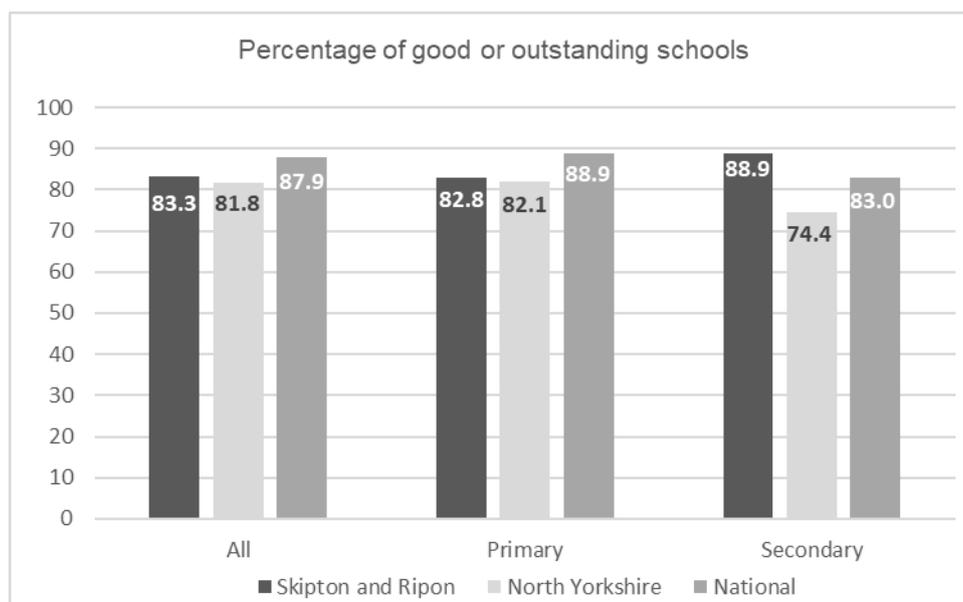
Summary of schools' status – December 2021

	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Skipton and Ripon ACC	
Primary Maintained	204	67.6%	56	87.5%
Primary Academy & Free School	98	32.4%	8	12.5%
Total	302		64	
Secondary Maintained	15	34.9%	5	55.6%
Secondary Academy	28	65.1%	4	44.4%
Total	43		9	
Special Maintained	7	70%	1	50%
Special Academy	3	30%	1	50%
Total	10		2	
PRU Maintained	4	80%	1	100%
PRU Academy	1	20%	0	
Total	5		1	
Total maintained	232	64.4%	63	82.9%
Total Academy	128	35.6%	13	17.1%
Overall Total	360		76	

3.0 School standards

3.1 School Ofsted judgements

In the constituency area 82.8 per cent of primary schools are judged good or outstanding by Ofsted, which is higher than the North Yorkshire average but lower than the national average. In terms of secondary schools, 88.9 per cent are judged good or outstanding, which is higher than the North Yorkshire and national averages. There are 13 schools currently judged requires improvement or inadequate in the constituency area.



3.2 Attainment overall

The Committee has previously (17 December 2020) considered a report which contained all of the key attainment data for 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Over the last 2 years, exams and assessments in schools have not taken place because of the disruption to students' education caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In 2020, GCSEs, AS and A level exams, and those for some equivalent qualifications, faced widespread cancellation and were replaced with a grading process involving centre assessment followed by statistical standardisation. Ultimately, statistical standardisation was dropped in favour of teacher/ centre assessment, unless the adjusted grades were higher.

Summer 2021 assessments were awarded based on teacher or centre assessment and no statistical adjustment processes were used. Final results for many qualifications, including GCSEs and A Levels, were released to schools in August 2021. Review and appeal processes have been made available where students believe they received the wrong grades, but overall, final grades were significantly higher in both 2020 and 2021 than in 2019.

The Government intends for GCSEs, AS, A Level and equivalent assessments and exams to go ahead in England in summer 2022 and has consulted on assessment arrangements. It is proposing some changes to general, and vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs). Additionally, current plans would see school-level performance (league) tables reintroduced for the end of the GCSE phase (key stage 4) in 2022; school-level information is not being published during either 2020 or 2021. Further detail is expected about how the assessments will be graded in 2022 and beyond. Some concerns remain about whether these measures will go far enough to address inequalities, and whether schools, colleges, and students will have enough notice of the final arrangements.

In primary schools, national curriculum assessments due to be held in summer 2020 and summer 2021, including tests, teacher assessments and the phonics screening check, were also cancelled too. These statutory assessments are expected to resume in 2022 and we will also see the wider introduction of the Reception Baseline Assessment.

Due to the changes in exams and assessments, the DfE has not collected and released school data for comparative purposes and so there is nothing to report to this Committee until Autumn 2022 when the results of the summer 2022 cycle will have been published.

3.3 Not in education, employment or training

There were 1087 young people recorded in Year 11 in this constituency in May 2020 and of this cohort only 9 (0.83%) were not in education, employment or training after leaving school as of August 2021.

4.0 Fixed-term and Permanent Exclusions

4.1 Fixed-term exclusion incidents

Fixed term exclusions				
Academic year	Skipton and Ripon	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total	Most common reason
2020/21	407	3257	12.5%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (29.8%)
2019/20	681	4366	15.6%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (52.9%)
2018/19	569	5970	9.5%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (50.4%)
2017/18	764	6,005	12.7%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (60.2%)
2016/17	523	4,583	11.4%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (48.7%)

In the 2020/21 academic year, there have been a total of 3257 fixed term exclusions for a total of 1462 individual children in North Yorkshire. 209 of

these children were on roll of mainstream schools in Skipton and Ripon constituency. The current rate of children fixed-term excluded at least once in the year is 1.5% of the mainstream school population in the constituency.

In the same period last year, there were 4189 fixed-term exclusions for a total of 1491 individual children, 191 of these children were on roll of mainstream schools in Skipton and Ripon constituency.

In the 2020/21 school year, 407 of the 3257 incidences of fixed-term exclusions in mainstream schools across the county were applied to 209 children and young people who went to schools in the constituency.

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

In 2019/20 schools in the constituency area had a 17.4% share of the schools population in North Yorkshire and 15.6% of fixed term exclusions for the county, this decreased to 12.5% in the 2020/21 academic year.

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

Permanent exclusions			
Academic year	Skipton and Ripon	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total
2020/21	5	26	38.5%
2019/20	7	52	13.5%
2018/19	7	87	8.0%
2017/18	12	103	11.6%
2016/17	7	86	8.1%

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. Post implementation review of this practice was due to be carried out this year but has been delayed due to Covid 19 and will take place next year.

5.0 Special Education Needs and Disabilities

5.1 Targeted Mainstream Provision- Reshaping of SEN Provision in Skipton and Ripon over the 2020/21 Academic Year

The development of the new model of provision, Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMP) 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. This model delivers provision for children and young people who are able to access mainstream education but with additional support for their special educational needs.

Over the 2020/21 academic year proposals for Communication and Interaction targeted provision to support children and young people in Secondary education in this area have been developed. A feasibility study for capital works at a secondary school in Skipton is currently underway to ensure that high quality provision can be delivered on this site.

Work is continuing through 2021/22 to increase the amount of TMPs in areas which do not yet have host schools identified, to ensure that the LA has capacity to meet demand for this provision.

The 'outreach' offer for children and young people with SEND continues to be met by the SEND multi-disciplinary hubs made up of 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 2021 there were 548 children living in the constituency with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan, 15.5% 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 37.0 % and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) at 19.0%, and Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD) at 11.1%.

As of January 2021 school census there were 1388 children recorded as SEN Support from schools in this constituency, 14.9% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs for children receiving SEN support in the area are Specific Learning Difficulties (e.g. Dyslexia) at 24.1% and Social, Emotional, Mental Health at 17.0%.

6.0 Elective Home Education

As of 31st August 2021 there were 904 children recorded as Electively Home Educated in North Yorkshire, 113 of which were formerly from a mainstream school in Skipton and Ripon ACC. At the same point last year, there were 688 children EHE in North Yorkshire, 93 formerly from a mainstream school in Skipton and Ripon ACC. This represents a 22% increase in North Yorkshire and a 57% increase in Skipton and Ripon ACC.

Between 1st Sept 2020 to 31st August 2021, 483 children became EHE in North Yorkshire, 56 of which were formerly educated in a mainstream school in Skipton and Ripon ACC. This figure was 41 from Skipton and Ripon of 294 becoming EHE in North Yorkshire, in the same period last year.

7.0 School Finance

7.1 Schools in Financial Difficulty – the countywide position

As of March 2021 the overall position for North Yorkshire Schools was:

- 22 schools with accumulated deficits totalling £7.5M
- This was an increase of £0.4M from 2019/20 (after adjusting for school closures, amalgamations and academy conversions in 2020/21)
- Deficits range from £1k (special school) up to £1.6M (special school)
- The average primary school deficit is £57k
- The average secondary school deficit is £596k
- 3 schools out of the 22 have since converted to Academy status or closed since 31st March 2021
- Of the 19 schools remaining, 9 schools are predicting that their position will deteriorate, 8 are projected to improve their financial position and 2 are projected to return to a surplus position as at 31st March 2022

7.2 School Projections - Based on May 2021/22 Start budgets

- 143 LA maintained schools (67%) are projecting an in-year deficit in 2021/22
- 6 schools are projected to move from a surplus balance to a deficit balance by March 2022
- 12% (26 schools) are forecast to be in deficit at 31st March 2022, this is projected to rise to just under one in five by March 23 and just under two out of five by March 24.

	2018/19 (Actual)	2019/20 (Actual)	2020/21 (Actual)	2021/22 (Forecast)	2022/23 (Forecast)	2023/24 (Forecast)
Number of Schools in Deficit	47	37	22	26	40	79
Value of Deficit	£6.0M	£7.2M	£7.5M	£8.5M	£9.4M	12.8M
Proportion of schools in deficit	18%	15%	10%	12%	19%	37%

7.3 Funding

- Concern around overall quantum of funding given cost pressures (e.g. future pay awards, the longer term impact of the Covid pandemic in terms of additional expenditure requirements and potential income losses).
- North Yorkshire secondary schools are placed 138 out of 150 local authorities in terms of funding. On average, a school in North Yorkshire will receive £5,570 per pupil in 2021-22 compared to a national average of £5,935. Comparing the funding for a 1,500 pupil secondary school this equates to a difference in funding of £0.5m.
- North Yorkshire primary schools are placed 35 out of 150 local authorities in terms of funding. For primary schools, a North Yorkshire school will receive on average £4,715 per pupil compared to a national average of £4,611.
- Concern over the 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 for smaller, rural secondary schools, continues to be a significant concern. DfE proposed changes to increase sparsity funding will come into effect for 2022/23 school funding, however the maximum sparsity funding increase for a small secondary school is £10k. NYCC continues to lobby the DfE and local MPs for higher levels of funding for the small, rural secondary schools within the LA.

7.4 Schools in Financial Difficulty – Skipton and Ripon

2021/22	2023/24
5 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2022; 8% of schools in Skipton and Ripon	26 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2024; 40% of schools in Skipton and Ripon.
2 primaries; 1 secondary; 1 special; 1 PRS	1 nursery; 21 primaries; 2 secondaries; 2 specials.
Total projected value of deficits = £2.6M	Total projected value of deficits = £3.3M
Projected average primary deficit = £60k Projected average secondary deficit = £1M Projected average special deficit = £1.4M Projected average PRS deficit = £36k	Projected average nursery deficit = £110k Projected average primary deficit = £49k Projected average secondary deficit = £480k Projected average special deficit = £624k

8.0 Planning school places

8.1 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 these factors have been relevant. There have been six closures in the county over the last three years with two of these occurring in the constituency area.

Following a public consultation period, a decision was made by Executive Members to close Kell Bank CoE School. The school closed on the 31 August 2021. The catchment area of Masham CE VA Primary School has been extended to serve the former area served by Kell Bank CE VC Primary School.

Clapham CE VC Primary School closed in August 2020.

8.2 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 eight primary federations in the Skipton and Ripon Area. In one of these federations there are four maintained schools with a single governing body and Head teacher, the rest are made up of either two or three primary schools.

8.3 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 Skipton and Ripon 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. Currently we have several areas where the numbers on roll are falling and we have surplus capacity in the school system.

Appendix 1 does not include projections of pupil yield from sites proposed in the adopted Harrogate Borough Council Plan or the Craven Local Plan that do not yet have planning approval. Within the constituency are, Skipton town and Ripon will accommodate most of the housing growth over the Local Plan Period.

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

8.4 Primary

Ripon Town

In addition to a number of current developments on-site or those with outstanding permission within Ripon Town, an outline planning application for 1,300 units at Claro

Barracks, Deverell Barracks and Laver Banks has been submitted to Harrogate Borough Council and this includes land for a new two form entry primary school. There is some limited capacity in existing primary schools in Ripon to cater for the first phase of housing development (at Deverell Barracks). CYPS are working collaboratively with Homes England and Defence Infrastructure Organisation on the provision of a school site on part of Claro Barracks and associated s.106 education contributions. It is currently anticipated that a new primary school will be provided in 2026.

It is assumed that the new school would initially open for nursery and reception pupils. The second year of opening would see Nursery, Reception and Year 1 pupils accommodated, adding a further year group for the third year and beyond until a full roll of 210 is achieved. This is in common with the opening profile for many newly established schools and helps to avoid destabilising existing provision. Further expansion of the school up to a two form entry will be in line with growth in pupil numbers from the catchment area.

Masham

Although there are indicated sites within the Local Plan for Harrogate District, none of these sites are currently being developed.

Boroughbridge

Although there a high number of housing permissions in this area, we are not yet seeing an impact on local school places but are monitoring the situation carefully in Boroughbridge Town and Kirby Hill.

Harrogate Primary Outer

There is significant housing development planned/underway in to the west of Harrogate. Beckwithshaw Community Primary School (Harrogate Outer Area) is located close to some of these developments.

Skipton Town

During the consultation on the Craven Local Plan the need for two additional primary schools within Skipton town was identified. It was suggested that one of these could be located on land already within NYCC's ownership to the north west of the town (Raikeswood Drive), and the other could be within sites to the east of the town (Airedale Ave and Elsey Croft). Other options for providing additional places within the town were also considered and a planning application has been submitted for a proposed expansion of Greatwood Primary Academy. If approved this would add an additional 210 places to the primary school without the need to build a new school on one of the sites reserved.

8.5 Secondary

Ripon Secondary Schools

There are three secondary schools in the Ripon area; Ripon Grammar School, Outwood Ripon Academy and Nidderdale High School and Community College, Pateley Bridge. The scale of anticipated development for Ripon and the surrounding area, including the Ripon Barracks site, does not warrant the introduction of a new secondary school in the town area. The LA is expecting to secure developer contributions to enable the expansion of provision on an existing secondary town site(s) and have commenced discussions about how to introduce additional capacity.

Skipton Secondary Schools

It is not expected that the new housing in Skipton will warrant the need for additional secondary school places in the town. There are currently 480 surplus places across the secondary schools in Skipton and the estimated pupil yield from new housing is not expected to exceed that number.

South Craven School

The Bradford Local Plan includes a target for new homes in Silsden of 700 homes, and in Steeton and Eastburn of 175 homes. Using our usual multiplier of 1 secondary aged pupil from every 8 houses, this would generate approximately 109 secondary aged pupils. The Craven Local Plan includes proposals for housing in Glusburn/Crosshills, Cononley, Cowling, Farnhill & Kildwick, and Sutton-in-Craven, which would generate approximately 20 secondary aged pupils. These would be in addition to the pupils from current housing permissions shown in Appendix 1.

South Craven School currently has around 138 pupils from outside its catchment area from the Skipton area, and around 328 pupils from outside its catchment area, mainly from the Bradford Local Authority area. If there were increased demand from within its catchment area, the proportion of out-of-catchment area pupils would decrease over time.

9.0 Recommendation

<p>9.1 That Members note the report on educational factors in the Skipton and Ripon constituency area.</p>

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Appendix 1 - School Place Planning data

APPENDIX 1

Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

School planning area	Places available as at 2020/2021	Number on Roll 2016/2017	Number on roll 2020/2021	Surplus Capacity 2020/2021	Forecast pupils as at 2025/2026	Pupils from current housing permissions until 2025/2026	Surplus capacity 2025/26
PRIMARY							
Boroughbridge Primary Boroughbridge Primary* Kirkby Hill CE Roecliffe CE	474	357	334	140	299	266	-91
Boroughbridge Primary Outer Dishforth Airfield CP Great Ouseburn CP* Green Hammerton CE* Kirk Hammerton CE* Marton-cum-Grafton CE* Nun Monkton Primary* St Peter's Brafferton CE* Staveley CP*	784	548	569	215	523	79	182
Total	1258	905	903	355	822	345	91
Harrogate Primary Outer All Saint's CE School* Askwith CP Beckwithshaw CP Birstwith CE Admiral Long CE Darley CP Follifoot CE* Hampsthwaite CE* Kettlesing Felliscliffe CP Killinghall CE* North Rigton CE Ripley Endowed* Sicklinghall CE* Spofforth CE*	1324	1130	1183	141	1091	217	16
Masham Primary Masham CE VA Primary	116	111	127	-11	126	18	-28
Nidderdale Primary Outer Dacre Braithwaite CE Fountains Earth, Lofthouse CE Glasshouses CP Summerbridge CP	263	220	210	53	169	22	72
North Craven Primary Outer Austwick CE Bentham CP Giggleswick Primary Hellifield CP Ingleton Primary Long Preston Endowed VA	729	525	501	228	468	81	180
Pateley Bridge Primary St Cuthbert's CE Primary	119	91	79	40	85	11	23
Ripon Primary Holy Trinity CofE Infant School Holy Trinity CofE Junior School Moorside Primary School Outwood Academy Greystone Ripon Cathedral CE Sharow CE St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary	1279	1262	1145	134	1020	215	44
Ripon Primary Outer	647	584	535	112	439	46	162

Bishop Monkton CE Burton Leonard CE Fountains CE Grewelthorpe CE Kirkby Malzeard CE Markington CE North Stainley CE Skelton Newby Hall CE							
Total	1926	1846	1680	246	1459	261	206
Settle Primary Settle CE	210	177	177	33	177	7	26
Skipton Primary Christ Church CE Skipton Parish Church CE Skipton, Greatwood CP Skipton, Water Street CP St Stephen's Catholic	1149	991	942	207	930	198	21
Skipton Primary Outer Bradleys Both CP Burnsall VA Primary Carleton Endowed CE Cracoe and Rylstone CE Embsay CE Gargrave CE Grassington CE Kettlewell Primary Kirkby in Malhamdale United VA The Boyle and Petyt Primary Thornton in Craven CP Threshfield School	1274	1032	1052	222	1015	75	184
Total	2423	2023	1994	429	1945	273	205
South Craven Primary Glusburn CP Sutton in Craven CE Sutton-in-Craven CP	731	648	704	27	677	26	28
South Craven Primary Outer Cononley CP Cowling CP Kildwick CE Lothersdale Primary	508	512	541	-33	485	18	5
Total	1239	1160	1245	-6	1162	44	33
Thirsk Outer Alanbrooke School* Baldersby St James CE Carlton Miniott Primary * Dishforth CE Knayton CE* Pickhill CE* Sessay CE* South Kilvington CE* Topcliffe CE Academy*	968	804	851	117	739	61	168
SECONDARY							
Harrogate & Rural Secondary Harrogate Grammar* Rossett School* Harrogate High* St John Fisher Catholic High* St Aidan's CE High* Nidderdale High	7685	7736	7841	-156	7928	380	-623
Mid Craven Secondary Ermysted's Grammar School Skipton Girls' High School The Skipton Academy Upper Wharfedale School	2826	2297	2346	480	2381	123	322
North Craven Secondary Settle College	675	571	664	11	657	46	-28

Ripon & Rural Secondary Outwood Academy Ripon Ripon Grammar School	1709	1516	1656	53	1658	136	-85
South Craven Secondary South Craven School	1806	1742	1806	0	1901	23	-118

Note

- * School outside the constituency area
- Figures above take into account outstanding housing permissions, but not undetermined planning applications or draft Local Plan proposals.