

Special Educational Needs

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Source: <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england>



Analysis of DfE Special Educational Needs (School Census) January 2020

Data source: This paper is based on published data from the **January 2020 school census and about pupils with special educational needs**. The published data includes breakdowns at school and local authority level by SEN provision, type of SEN, age, year group, gender, ethnicity, English as a first language and free school meal eligibility. School characteristics are not published in this report but available [click here](#)

1. Pupils with Special Educational Needs in a Bristol school

1.1 The number of **pupils with identified special education needs in a Bristol school** has increased from 10,606 in 2019 to 11,063 pupils in 2020, **an increase of 4.3%** (457 more pupils classified as SEN).

Breaking down SEN into two sub groups (EHC Plans and SEN support) this year, the increase in Bristol is driven by a **rise in number of pupils with an EHC Plan (+6.1% or 102 pupils)**. The number of **pupils receiving SEN support has also risen, although by a smaller amount (+4.0% or 355 pupils)**.

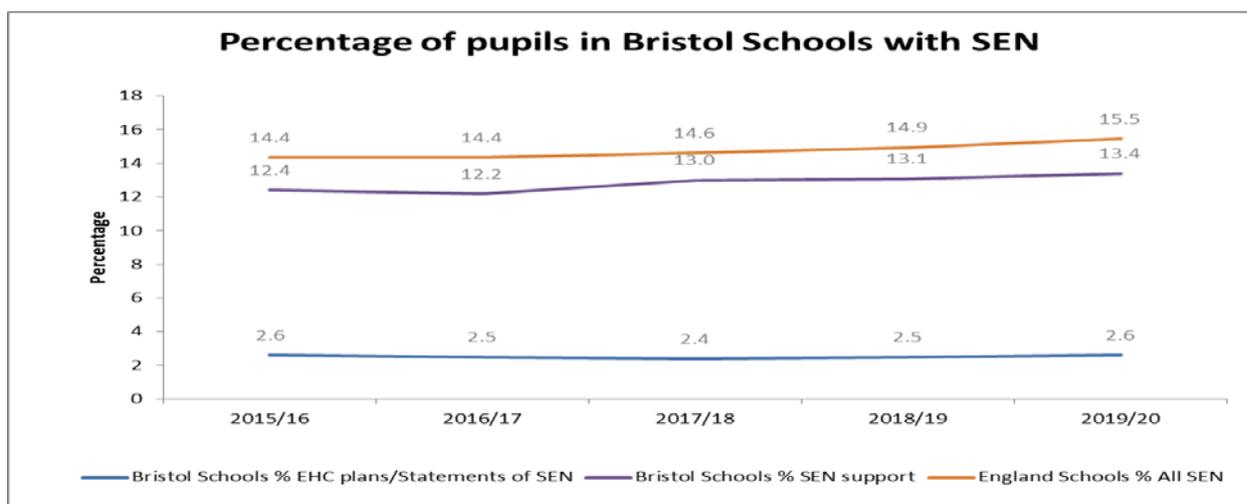


Chart 1

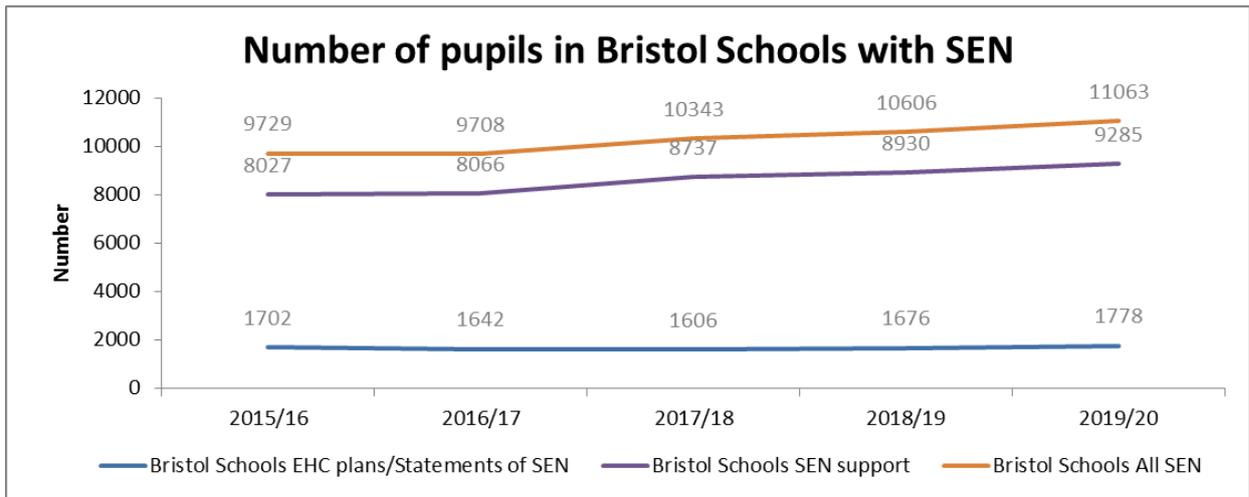


Chart 2

1.2 Nationally in England schools, there has been a year on year increase of 4.2% of all pupils with identified SEN in 2020. This equates to an 8.7% increase in pupils with EHC Plans (23,593 more pupils in 2020) and a 3.0% increase in pupils receiving SEN support (31,837 more pupils in 2020).

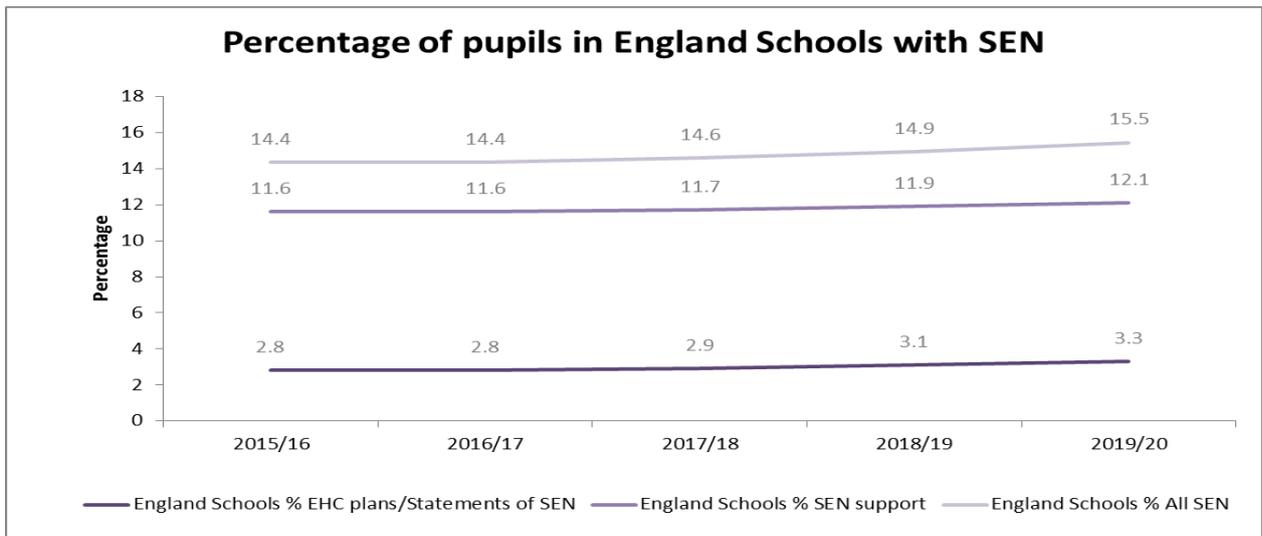


Chart 3

2 Pupils in primary schools with Special Educational Needs as a proportion of ALL pupils in Bristol primary schools

2.1 14.1% of Bristol state-funded mainstream primary school pupils had identified SEN which equates to 5,190 pupils (321 with an EHC Plan and 4,869 receiving SEN support).

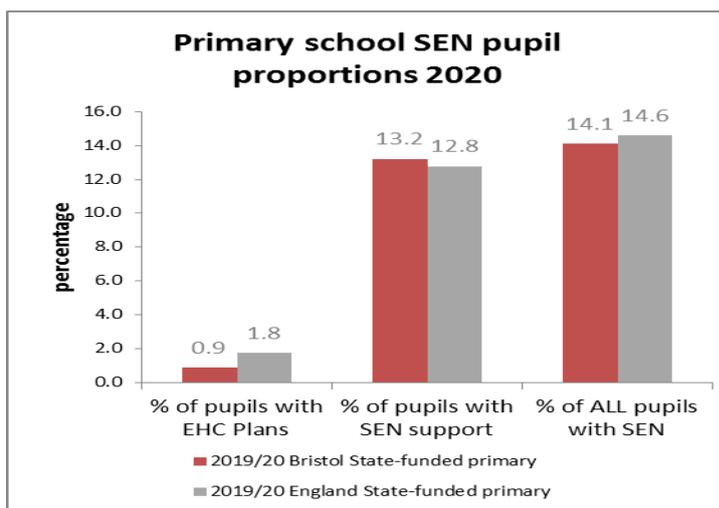


Chart 4

3 Pupils in secondary schools with Special Educational Needs as a proportion of ALL pupils in Bristol secondary schools

3.1 15.2% of Bristol state-funded mainstream secondary school pupils had identified SEN which equates to 3,453 pupils (352 with an EHC Plan and 3,101 receiving SEN support).

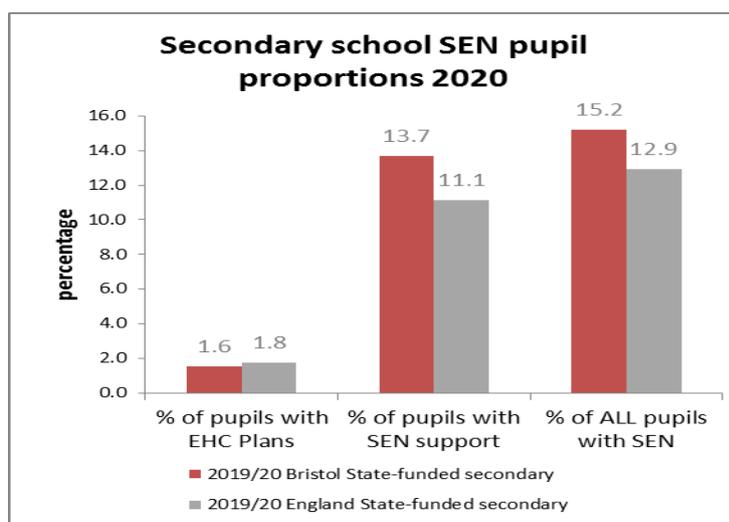


Chart 5

4 SEN primary Need (SEN support and EHC Plan) – Bristol schools

4.1 In 2020, the most common primary need for Bristol pupils with SEN in primary schools is **speech, language and communication needs** (1663 pupils), followed by **social, emotional and mental health** (1099 pupils).

4.2 For those pupils in **Bristol secondary schools**, there are two primary needs with the highest pupils - **social, emotional and mental health** needs (812 pupils) and **specific learning difficulties** (801 pupils).

4.3 The two most common primary need types for pupils in specialist schools are **Autistic spectrum disorder** (396 pupils) and **social, emotional and mental health** needs(242 pupils)

Bristol Pupils - Primary Need					
Primary Need	State-funded nursery	State-funded primary	State-funded secondary	State-funded special school	Total
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	12	516	379	396	1303
Hearing Impairment	5	97	75	38	215
Moderate Learning Difficulty	7	689	482	46	1224
Multi- Sensory Impairment		19	1	5	25
Other Difficulty/Disability	12	170	201	12	395
Physical Disability	18	162	98	18	296
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulty		23	3	79	105
SEN support but no specialist assessment of type of need	15	214	84		313
Severe Learning Difficulty	6	27	6	112	151
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	17	1099	812	242	2170
Specific Learning Difficulty	3	465	801	19	1288
Speech, Language and Communications needs	161	1663	477	62	2363
Visual Impairment	1	46	34	4	85
Total SEN pupils	257	5190	3453	1033	9933

Table1

5 SEN primary need – Bristol and England comparison

5.1 **State-funded primary schools:** Comparing Bristol and England primary need proportions have a similar pattern although Bristol has a **higher proportion of social, emotional and mental health** needs compared to England and a **lower proportion of moderate learning difficulties** primary need in comparison.

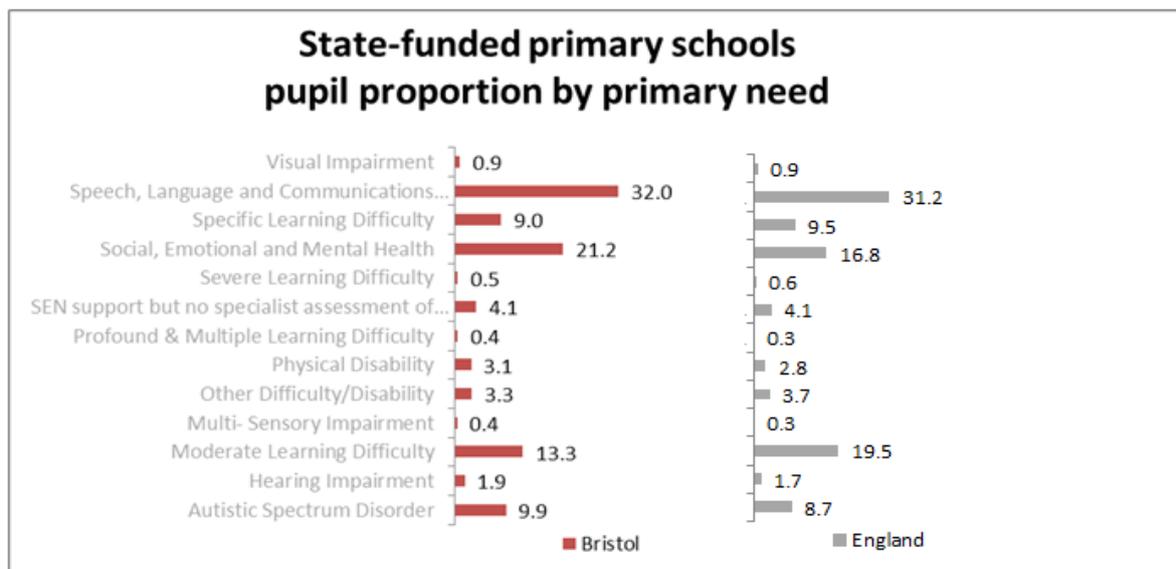


Chart 6

5.2 **State-funded secondary schools:** As with primary schools, Bristol has a **higher proportion of moderate learning difficulties** as the identified primary need compared to England with a similar pattern across other primary needs.

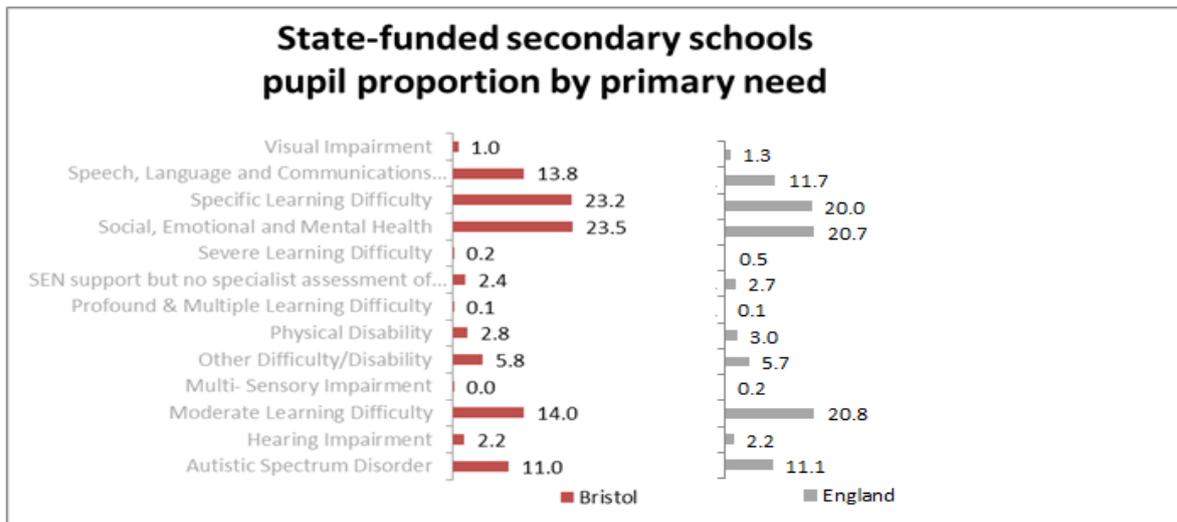


Chart 7

5.3 **State-funded special schools:** Highest proportion of **primary need in special schools is Autistic Spectrum Disorder** and a **similar proportion is seen nationally**. In Bristol a **lower proportion of Severe Learning Difficulty are identified as the primary need** (10.8) compared to the England 21.4. Special schools in Bristol have a **higher proportion of pupils identified as having a Social, Emotional and Mental Health** primary need compared to England.

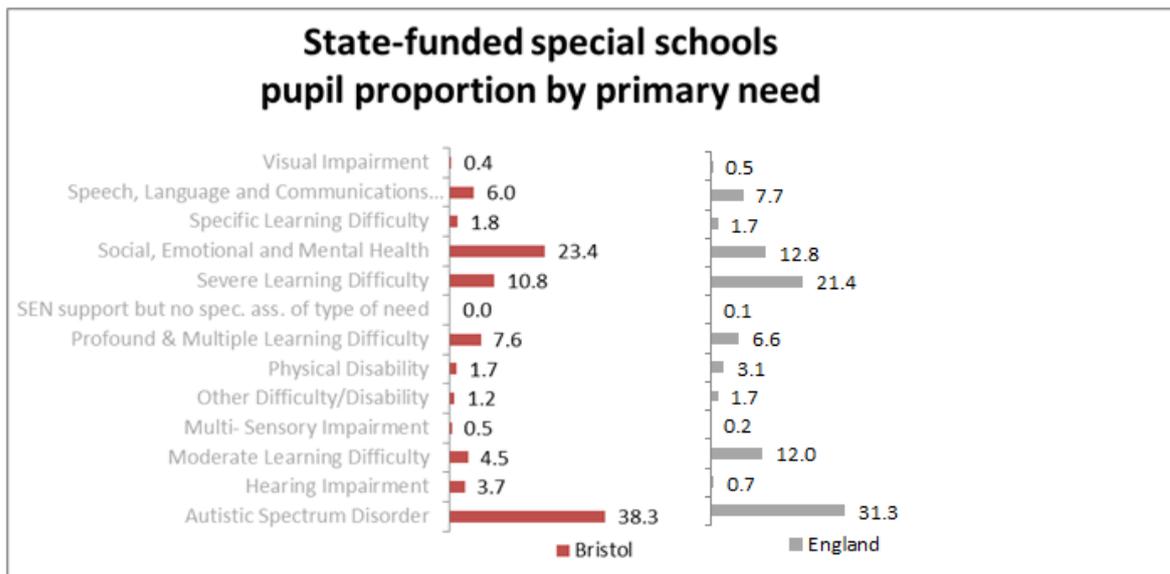


Chart 8