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EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD

Day: Tuesday
Date: 12 March 2024
Time: 3.30 pm
Place: Teams

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive any Apologies for Absence from members of the Board.	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any Declarations of Interest from members of the Board.	
3.	MINUTES To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Education Attainment Improvement Board held on 16 January 2024.	1 - 6
4.	SEND WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION (WSOA) UPDATE To consider a report of the Assistant Director of Education.	7 - 12
5.	CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023 To consider a report of the Assistant Director of Education.	13 - 50
6.	EDUCATION UPDATE To consider a report of the Assistant Director of Education.	51 - 58
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING To be confirmed.	

From: Democratic Services Unit – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from Charlotte Forrest, Senior Democratic Services Officer, charlotte.forrest@tameside.gov.uk or 0161 342 2346, to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

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EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD

16 January 2024

Commenced: 3.30 pm

Terminated: 4.30 pm

Present: Councillors Boyle, Fairfoull, Roderick, Colbourne and Elizabeth Turner

In Attendance:

Allison Parkinson	Director of Children Services
Catherine Moseley	Head of Access Services
Jo Pearson	Head of Education Improvement and Partnerships
Rachael Weeden	Head Teacher - Tameside Virtual School and College

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Feeley, Newton and Melanie Wicks

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of Education Attainment Improvement Board held on 17 October 2023 be approved as a correct record.

18. SEND WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION (WSOA) UPDATE

The Assistant Director for Education submitted a report, which provided a Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) update on progress in addressing Tameside's areas of weakness, as identified in the Ofsted inspection in 2021, and explained a recent reset to ensure that progress was delivered at pace through a single prioritised Local Areas SEND Improvement Plan.

It was reported that a diagnostic review of the SEND service had been completed and the work directly informed the SEND Self Evaluation Framework (SEF). Recommendations had been reported to the DCS and actions to address these recommendations and the impact they would make were included in the SEND Improvement Plan.

Consideration was given to two documents appended to the report as follows:-

1. The SEND Self Evaluation Framework (SEF).
2. The presentation that was given to Ofsted Advisors at the SEND Ofsted Engagement Meeting in November 2023.

Board members were advised that since the last update at the meeting in October 2023 the following actions had been completed:-

Communication

- The new Local Offer website would be launched in January 2024 after extensive consultation with parents, carers, children, young people, partner agencies and stakeholders. The Local Offer website would provide clear, detailed, accessible, and up-to-date information about the provision available and how it could be accessed.
- The SEND system newsletter, 'SENDing You News', was published in December 2023 and would be sent out every term.

Quality Assurance

- To reduce the backlog of annual reviews, an interim backlog team had been recruited and was implementing the Annual review recovery plan. This would address the annual review backlog and establish rigor, accountability, transparency and moderation of decision-making in-house including a more consistent approach to casework.
- A new multi-agency placement, provision and transport panel had been established to ensure a transparent, multi-agency approach to placement, provision and transport decisions and panel meetings commenced in November 2023.
- A review of Statutory Assessment Panel commenced in October 2023. This panel would give greater scrutiny and autonomy of statutory assessments.
- EHC Quality Assurance Protocol had been completed in. The purpose of the Quality Assurance Protocol was to improve the experiences of children, young people and families, and to ensure high quality plans, which had impact on outcomes of children and young people. This protocol was presented at the SEND Local Area Partnership Board meeting in December 2023 for comment and approval.
- A Post-16 Multi-Agency Panel had been established and held the first meeting in December 2023. This panel would give a greater understanding of what parents, carers and young people felt about their final EHC plan, and their experiences in the process. This would be crucial feedback on the quality improvement journey.
- Monthly Quality Assurance sessions of EHC Plans commenced in October 2023 and would ensure that all staff were responsible for the plans they produce.

Improved Focus and Self-Evaluation

- After constructive discussions, a new reporting method had been agreed for the Written Statement of Action (WSOA). New work streams were being developed to support this new way of working. This new approach would focus on the impact that improvements were having on children, young people, parents and carers.
- The SEND SEF had been presented to Ofsted in November 2023. The SEF focussed on the ten areas of weakness identified by Ofsted in the WSOA and would form the basis of the SEND Improvement Plan.
- A new SEND Improvement Plan and SEND Scorecard was being developed to support and drive the improvements identified in the SEF and ensure there was a robust plan to provide the best outcomes for the children and families.
- The SEND Improvement Group had been refreshed and the SEND Local Area Partnership Board had been established and included an independent Chair and Multi-Agency representation. The first meeting was on 6 December 2023 where Terms of Reference and Improvement planning were discussed and agreed. The Board would meet bi-monthly as will an Executive Board meeting. DfE and CQC representatives attended Board and met with key Area leads in between meetings to offer support and challenge.

The next steps were outlined and included the SEND Improvement plan and Performance Scorecard to be completed in January 2024 and implementation on actions identified in the SEF was already underway. Practice and resource would be focused on getting the basics right for children and adopting the Children's Services 'Brilliant at the Basics' principles. A cycle of learning and continuous improvement would be embedded through the implementation of a Performance Management Framework, due to be finalised in January 2024. This would see the implementation of a detailed delivery plan, overseen by the Directorate Management Team via a set of performance management and quality meetings, centred around a monthly Brilliant at the Basics Meeting and Performance and Accountability Meeting linked to the scorecard and SEND Local Area Partnership Board bi-monthly.

It was highlighted that the monthly performance cycle of meetings and actions would create a methodology of ensuring a shared focus and accountability regarding performance management to ensure children's best outcomes from all levels across the Service. The cycle operated as a 4-weekly cycle, informed by key performance data for each service area. This would support a high

standard of service delivery and performance, via a review, analysis, learn, plan and action methodology

Board members were informed that the SEND Local Area Partnership Board would continue to provide oversight of the delivery of the SEND Improvement Plan; advanced multi-agency preparation for any upcoming Ofsted visit had already commenced that would incorporate reflection and learning from the recent Children's Social Care Inspection. Annex A information was being finalised and completion prioritised and the next formal DfE Monitoring Meeting would take place in January 2024.

In conclusion, the creation of the SEND Area Partnership SEF had allowed a refocus on the ten identified areas of weakness. The Improvement Plan would allow continuous improvements at pace ensuring that the team were better able to evidence the impact the changes were making to children and young people and their families and carers. The SEND Local Area Partnership Board and Education Attainment Improvement Board would focus on rapid improvement of outcomes and experiences for children and their families and evidence and evaluate quality and impact.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the summary of progress be noted; and**
- (ii) That it be noted that work streams currently detailed in the Written Statement of Action plan were now included in the SEND Self Evaluation Framework and SEND Improvement Plan. Going forward, progress would be reported to the Education Attainment Improvement Board against the Improvement Plan and Self Evaluation Framework.**

19. VIRTUAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ANNUAL REPORT

The Assistant Director for Education submitted a report, which summarised the activities and outcomes of the Virtual School and College 2022/23 and improvement plans for 2023/24.

It was reported that following the restructure of the Virtual School and College in April 2022, as previously reported, there had been a change in leadership in March 2023 with the appointment of a new Virtual School Head Teacher. The academic year 2022/23 was, therefore, characterised by the identification and implementation of new systems, made possible by the expansion of the team and responding to staffing and leadership changes. A graphic detailing an overview of the team structure was provided and it was highlighted that there was a wide variety of experience offered by the post holders in the team.

The Board were informed that at the end of 2022/2023 academic year there were 515 cared for children on Tameside's Virtual School roll from Reception to Year 13 with 466 cared for children attending 191 separate schools across 41 local authorities - 83% of pupils attended a mainstream setting, 15% attended a specialist setting with a further 2% attending provision at Tameside PRU. 79% attended either a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' school and for those who attended a school rated less than good, the team prioritised attendance at termly PEP meetings and progress of pupils was monitored through PEP QA

A table demonstrating average attendance was included in the report and average attendance of all cared for children was 87%. The overall Persistent Absence rate for all Tameside compulsory school age cared for children for the year 2022-2023 was 24%. An attendance action plan for 2023/24 was outlined with priorities and actions for the next academic year including timely intervention; continuing close work with educational psychology; monitoring of term time holidays; the impact of school and placement moves on attendance; understanding of factors that affected attendance and attendance of children with a social worker.

Board members were notified that there were no permanent exclusions in 2022/23, but there were several cases where the Virtual School Head and members of the team had intervened, in line with

the national guidance on exclusions, to support or co-ordinate an alternative package of education to avoid a permanent exclusion. This included addressing the reasons for the risk of permanent exclusion, supporting both pupil and school, and ensuring access to full time education that could meet the needs of the pupils. Pupils had enhanced support and monitoring to address concerns and prevent the risk of exclusion reoccurring, supported by positive relationships with the schools.

A case study, which demonstrated the positive effect the intervention of the Virtual School achieved with a student was detailed in the report and highlighted to the Board.

During the academic year 2022/23, it was reported that a total of 413 days were lost to suspensions. The data showed a continuing rise in suspensions for cared for children with 76 pupils within 43 schools receiving a suspension last year. A Suspension action plan for 2023/24 was outlined. Over the last academic year, part-time timetables and alternative provision were used in exceptional circumstances where it is in the pupil's best interests to support their presenting needs and in accordance with DfE guidance.

It was highlighted that PEP completion rates had remained consistently high over the 2022/23 academic year and the Virtual School team had attended 22% of PEP meetings to offer advice, guidance and support to schools, social workers and carers.

Levels of Pupil Premium funding were outlined and it was highlighted that the Virtual School had actively promoted schools utilising Pupil Premium Plus to provide cared for children with enriching experiences beyond the classroom such as extracurricular and residential experiences, access to programmes like the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and there had been a successful partnership with the Tameside Music Service for young people struggling to attend school with academic tuition.

It was reported that as at July 2023, 146 (31%) school age cared for children were in receipt of an EHCP and a further 91 school age children (19%) were in receipt of SEN support in school. The Virtual School had increased efforts to offer further support and training for schools on Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs and strategies to support presentation in schools. This had included specific training commissioned by the educational psychology service and a case study demonstrating how the Virtual School Head had utilised the close partnership with the educational psychology service to support a young person with significant emotionally base school avoidance was provided.

Tables detailing the attainment of Tameside cared for children during 2022/23 were highlighted with the results as follows:-

- There had been an increase in the number of children achieving the expected standard in phonics, reading writing and maths at the end of year 1 and achieving good level of development at the end of early years and foundation stage.
- The Key Stage 2 cohort had performed better in reading, writing and maths compared to the previous academic year, 2021/22.
- In Key Stage 4, there has been an increase in the number of pupils achieving at least 1 higher grade (6 or above) with an increase in the number of pupils achieving grade 4 or above in English and Maths.

Board members heard that analysis of Key Stage 2 outcomes showed that a large proportion of cared for children were not meeting the expected standard, which placed them at a further disadvantage at Key Stage 3 and 4. As a result of this trend, a focus needed to be on promoting the use of Pupil Premium Plus at Key Stage 3 to close gaps in learning for those pupils not meeting the expected standard at Key Stage 2. There also needed to be a focus to ensure those pupils at risk of not meeting the expected standard at Key Stage 2 were identified early and schools supported to ensure interventions were precisely and swiftly targeted to address this. Another area of development was to improve data gathering processes to allow attainment and progress of cared for children to be monitored and reported more effectively. This included amending the PEP to easily

identify children who were not making expected progress during the year and then work with schools to target existing or additional Pupil Premium Plus spend more effectively if needed.

Data summarising the further and higher education, employment and training activities of post 16 cared for young people and care leavers, as recorded at the end of the summer term, was provided alongside a case study. It was announced that the 2022/23 academic year saw the highest number of students entering into university and Tameside Council continued to provide opportunities for care leavers with four care leavers currently accessing employment. 'Cared for Children and Care Leavers' had been included as a protected characteristic in the Council's Equality Strategy 2023-2027 thereby ensuring guaranteed assessment to candidates who declared this and met the essential criteria of job roles advertised.

It was reported that an area of focus remained to be pupils who were not accessing Education, Employment or Training and there was a renewed and increased focus on multi-agency working to address this. In order to strengthen outcomes, the Virtual School partnership with Tameside College would continue in the academic year 2023/24 to further increase expertise in post 16 in the Virtual School team.

The report included information on the utilisation of the School Led Tutoring Grant, a revised reading initiative for cared for children to encourage reading at home and a comprehensive calendar of training opportunities for schools, social workers, foster carers and governors.

In conclusion, it was outlined that for the 2023/24 academic year, the Virtual School would continue to:

- develop an offer for care leavers and work to reduce NEET
- improve the quality of PEPs
- promote good outcomes
- reduce suspensions
- improve attendance
- develop an offer to fulfil wider duties for children with a social worker or involved in the youth justice system
- develop wider support for cared for children and means of recognising their achievements.

A detailed discussion ensued and Members enquired about Ofsted data and the steps that would be taken to reduce exclusions, to which it was responded that there were currently three ongoing projects, each of which were outlined in detail and included forest school, trauma informed practice and a relation inclusion champion in schools. Members also commented on children in receipt of an education health care plan and the importance of early intervention, good employment opportunities for care leavers in the borough and digital poverty.

RESOLVED

That the report and improvement priorities be noted.

20. SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING

The Head of Access Services submitted a report, which set out the proposed admission arrangements for Tameside community, and voluntary controlled schools for admission in September 2025. The Board were informed that the report would also be presented to Executive Cabinet on 14 February 2024.

It was reported that admission authorities were required to consult on their coordinated admission scheme and on changes to admission arrangements every seven years and determine their admission arrangements, on an annual basis, by 28 February to be published on websites by 15 March every year. The Council last consulted on amendments to the admission arrangements for September 2024 and as no changes were planned for admission in September 2025, consultation was, therefore, not necessary.

The latest information on school place planning was presented, which demonstrated that there were currently sufficient places to meet expected demand for mainstream primary and secondary schools with rising levels of surplus capacity in primary schools due to the current birth rate pattern in the borough. There was a need to engage in dialogue with primary school leaders to begin to consider options to reduce projected levels of surplus capacity. Whilst levels of surplus in secondary schools were not expected to increase significantly for a number of years, dialogue would begin to ensure that temporary places that had been added to cope with the increase in pupils over recent years were removed first.

The report concluded that there was a need to continue to develop capacity for specialist places given the predicted continuing rise in demand set out in the SEN Sufficiency Strategy. The school place planning process would need to continue to be dynamic, particularly in view of significant housing development and predicted increases in children and young people requiring support for their additional needs within the borough and the impact that would have on demand and travel to learn patterns.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the date of the next meeting of Education Attainment Improvement Board be held on 12 March 2024.

Board members were notified that the Head of Access Services would shortly leave the Council after working in the Education service for 38 years. Thanks were extended to Catherine for her dedication, hard work and invaluable contribution over that time.

CHAIR

Agenda Item 4.

Report to:	EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
Date:	12 March 2024
Reporting Officer:	Deborah Myers, Assistant Director for Education
Subject:	SEND & WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION (WSOA) UPDATE
Report Summary:	<p>This report provides an update to the Education Attainment Improvement Board on the Local Area's progress in addressing Tameside's areas of identified weakness, as in the Ofsted inspection in 2021. The report explains the most recent reset to ensure that progress is visible and delivered at pace through a single prioritised Local Area Partnership SEND & AP Improvement Plan with strengthened governance.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>That the Board note and reviews the improvement journey through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the regular summary of progress.2. support and challenge of the refreshed integrated SEND & AP Improvement and Delivery Plans and Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) which encompasses the WSOA.
Corporate Plan:	<p>The recommendations support the Council's SEND Strategy and starting well priority, ensuring the Council can meet its statutory duties.</p>
Policy Implications:	<p>There are no policy implications in this report.</p>
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	<p>The report provides an update on the Local Area's Improvement journey against the Written Statement of Actions (WSOA) and refreshed Improvement and delivery plans. There are no direct financial implications arising from this update report with any spend referred to in this report, being subject to separate governance process for approval.</p> <p>It should be noted that there is a significant and increasing deficit on the High Needs block, as reported to Schools Forum, which is funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). Implementing the required improvements is vital to improving practice and to supporting the deficit management plan.</p>
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>There are no legal issues arising from the report. The report describes the Improvement Plan to address weaknesses identified by Ofsted in 2021 and which demonstrates that the Council is addressing the issues raised and to ensure compliance with its statutory obligations.</p>
Risk Management:	<p>Failure to meet statutory obligations in relation to SEND could result in poor outcomes for children and young people and significantly increase the risk of poor inspection outcomes for the local area.</p> <p>To mitigate this risk, a refreshed improvement approach has been developed to strengthen oversight and delivery. The SEND Improvement Group was reset in 2023 as the SEND Local Area Partnership Board with an independent Chair, and will continue to provide oversight, challenge and support of the delivery of improvements within the SEND & AP Improvement Plan and SEF. In addition, formal oversight is provided by the Education Attainment</p>

and Improvement Board (EAIB) and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Background Information: The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting



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e-mail: deborah.myers@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Between 18 and 22 October 2021, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Tameside to judge the effectiveness of the area in implementing the special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014. The outcome of the inspection was that a [Written Statement of Action](#) (WSOA) was required and this identified 10 significant areas of weakness. The WSOA was approved by Ofsted on 1 July 2022.

- 1.2 Progress in implementing the WSOA was previously overseen by the SEND Improvement Group which was reset as the SEND Local Area Partnership Board in Autumn 2023. The Board is chaired by an independent chair, with updates provided to this committee. The Department for Education (DfE) and NHS England's SEND Advisors meet monthly with Council and health officers to monitor progress and agree priority actions. The next formal monitoring meeting is scheduled for 23 April 2024.

2. UPDATE ON THE SEND IMPROVEMENT PLAN INCORPORATING THE WSOA

- 2.1 A diagnostic review of the SEND service was completed in Autumn 2023/Spring 2024 and this work informed the SEND SEF. Recommendations were reported to the DCS together with the anticipated impact.

- 2.2 The second meeting of the SEND Local Area Improvement Board was held in February 2024. The 10 aspects of the WSOA were incorporated into a refreshed 4 priority action plan:

Priority 1: Increasing & Improving Inclusion of children and young people in mainstream settings ensuring appropriate preparation for adulthood.

Priority 2: Increasing confidence of parents and carers in services and systems across all the partners in Tameside ensuring appropriate preparation for adulthood.

Priority 3: Involving children & young people who have SEND, and their families, in decisions about their future and in the shaping, accountability, quality and delivery of services ensuring appropriate preparation for adulthood.

Priority 4: Improving quality, accuracy & timeliness with which we identify and assess children's and young people's needs including ensuring appropriate preparation for Adulthood

- 2.3 Each of the 4 priority areas are co-led by strategic leaders representing the local area partnership with members from across the partnership contributing to the delivery of the actions identified within each priority.

- 2.4 To secure improved governance and partnership accountability for the delivery of each of these priority areas a Priority Delivery Group has been established which is co-chaired by the Assistant Director of Education at Tameside and the Deputy Chief Executive of the ICB. The work stream leads are held to account for progress towards the delivery of the priorities, report on achievements, ensure the actions within each priority are appropriate and updated, and can engage in a solution focussed approach to ensure continued progress and delivery. Exception reports will then be presented to the Local Area Partnership Board to secure improvement at pace, through challenge and support. The first exception reporting will take place at the Board meeting on the 17 April 2024.

- 2.5 The new Local Offer website will launch in March 2024 after extensive consultation with parents, carers, children, young people, partner agencies and stakeholders. The Local Offer website will provide clear, detailed, accessible, and up-to-date information about the provision available and how it can be accessed.
- 2.6 The Tameside Graduated Response has completed the first stage of its co-production with schools. A wider multi-agency partnership conference takes place on the 20 March 2024 with DfE attendance with the aim of finalising the co-producing a Graduated Response. The Graduated Response focusses upon ensuring that children and young people with SEN get the right support at the right time in their schools and settings.
- 2.7 Tameside's aim is to ensure that all children and young people receive an Education Health and Care Plan within the statutory 20 weeks, if assessed as in need.
- 2.8 Tameside experienced a 30% increase in service demand for EHCPs between 2022 and 2023. This impacted upon the service's ability to meet statutory timelines for EHCP's issued within 20 weeks. In January 2023, 79% of between EHCPs were issued within the 20-week timeframe, this declined significantly throughout the year. January 2024 data showed that new processes put in place did not have the desired impact. The new AD for Education introduced additional capacity and new team structure in February 2024 and at the time of writing, the proportion of EHCPs being finalised within 20 weeks had improved to 46%.
- 2.9 Tameside have a statutory responsibility to ensure that all children and young people with an EHCP have an annual review of their plan. Tameside need to ensure the annual review process is timely, well established and embedded into business as usual.
- 2.10 Tameside carries circa 3000 active EHCPs and has a statutory requirement to ensure each plan is reviewed annually. To reduce the backlog of annual reviews, an interim backlog team was recruited in October 2023 to implementing an annual review recovery plan. Review of performance data in February 2024 showed there was still further work required. A revised team structure was immediately put in place to recognise performance data and improved caseload management. Team capacity has been calculated on this basis and recruitment is underway to ensure improved demand management and sustainability.
- 2.11 A multi-agency placement, provision and transport panel was established in November 2023 to ensure a transparent, multi-agency approach to placement, provision and transport decisions and panel meetings commenced. The impact of this will be reviewed at the end of March 2024.
- 2.12 An EHC Quality Assurance Framework was introduced in spring 2024. The purpose of this is to improve the experiences of children, young people and families, and to ensure high quality plans which have impact on outcomes of children and young people. This protocol was presented at the SEND Local Area Partnership Board meeting in December 2023 for comment and approval. This work will be reviewed and further developed with multi agency support in April 2024.

3 NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The SEND & AP Improvement and Delivery plans and Performance Scorecard are being refined and will be in final draft form for the next Local Area Partnership Board meeting on 17 April 2024.
- 3.2 Practice and resources are firmly focused service improvement, quality and timeliness. Improving data capture and analysis is at the heart of the drive to securing improvement.

- 3.3 A cycle of learning and continuous improvement will be embedded through the implementation of the wider Children's Services 'Brilliant at the Basics' principles. This will see the implementation of practice standards, overseen by the Children's Services Directorate Management Team (DMT).
- 3.4 Advanced multi-agency preparation for upcoming Ofsted monitoring visits and SEND Local Area Inspection is continually in place and reviewed weekly. This incorporates reflection and learning from the recent Children's Social Care Inspection.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The creation of the SEND Local Area Partnership governance and accountability structures have enabled the refreshed focus upon securing sustainable improvements at pace underpinned with rigour.
- 4.2 The refreshed improvement and delivery plans which integrate all aspects of required improvement and reflect the 10 points from the WSOA allow the Local Area to have clear oversight of what is required, against a clear timeframe to ensure impact is evidenced and progress closely monitored.
- 4.3 The strong governance put in place through the Local Area Partnership Board and EAIB enable forensic challenge and support which will drive improvements, and ensure that the outcomes and experiences for children, young people, their families and carers, across Tameside are significantly improved and at least meet required standards.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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Agenda Item 5.

- Report to:** EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
- Date:** 12 March 2024
- Reporting Officer:** Deborah Myers – Assistant Director of Education
- Subject:** **CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023**
- Report Summary:** The following report outlines the outcome of the Childcare Sufficiency Annual Report 2023. The report includes an analysis of the supply and demand for childcare within the borough collated during 2023 calendar year and any changes from the previous year for example whether any new provision has been established or ceased. These changes can indicate any alterations to the stability of the childcare market in the borough. The report sets out how the childcare market is assessed and where there is a need for additional places to be established, as well as details of any actions recommended or taken for this to be achieved. The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Report is based on data available at the time of collection. The data review confirm there was sufficient provision, which offers parents choice but the purpose of the annual report is to appraise readers of the ongoing monitoring, which takes place across all providers within TMBC.
- Recommendations:** It is recommended that the Board:
1. note the content of the report
 2. endorse the recommendations set out in the report conclusion
 - To conduct additional analysis with all early years providers to ascertain their ability to offer the new expanded entitlements for working parents launching in April 2024 and to collate data from them to gauge potential take up, prospective eligible families on waiting lists, vacancy levels and demand for future places.
 - Continue to monitor the number of places across the borough for all age ranges of children to analyse any trends or shifts in the market place and the sufficiency of the number of places available.
 - Conduct more detailed analysis of Out of School Care for children aged from reception to year 6, to support the work to plan and deliver the new government programme to develop term time out of school care between the time of 8 am to 6pm.
 3. approve the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Report 2023 for publication on the Council's website in line with the Councils statutory duty.
- Corporate Plan:** The report supports two elements of the Community Strategy - Very Best Start in Life and Opportunities for people to fulfil their potential.

Policy Implications: There are none arising from this report.

Financial Implications: Early Year’s education is funded from ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant. The funding is based on provision in the borough. The allocation for 2024-25 is outlined overleaf:

(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)

Early Years Funding Streams	2023-24 Early Years Allocation at Nov 2023 £m	2024-25 Provisional Early Years Allocation £m	Increase / (Decrease) in Funding £m
3 & 4 Year Olds Universal Entitlement*	10.539	11.302	0.763
3 & 4 Year Olds Additional 15 Hours Entitlement for Eligible Working Parents*	5.205	5.581	0.377
2 Year Old Disadvantaged Entitlement*	2.927	3.466	0.539
2 Year Old Entitlement for Working Parents	-	4.828	4.828
Under 2s Entitlement	-	3.337	3.337
3 & 4 Year Olds Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)*	0.243	0.257	0.014
2 Year Olds EYPP	-	0.140	0.140
Under 2s EYPP	-	0.007	0.007
3 & 4 Year Olds Disability Access Fund (DAF)*	0.137	0.168	0.032
2 Year Olds DAF	-	0.065	0.065
Under 2s DAF	-	0.007	0.007
Total	19.051	29.158	10.108

Note: the table above includes rounding's

* The 2023-24 Early Years Allocation includes the Early Years Supplementary Grant (EYSG) which has been rolled into the DSG from 2024-25. The EYSG covered the period September 2023 to March 2024

The increase in funding for the 2024-25 financial year is due to an increase in the hourly rate for Early Years as well as the rolling in of the Early Years Supplementary Grant, which previously was funded separately, and new entitlement funding announced by government. Funding will be updated following the January 2024 census. Additional headcount information will be submitted for the new entitlements which could also lead to an update in funding.

Additionally, there is capital funding through the Childcare Expansion Capital grant. The allocation for Tameside is £0.552m. Whilst it is ultimately up to local authorities to determine how best to prioritise this funding to address local priorities, it must be spent on capital projects, and is being provided to meet the capital costs associated with projects that help ensure sufficient places for:

- Children taking up an early years place through the expanded 30-hours entitlement for qualifying working parents (from the term following the child reaching 9-months to the term in which they turn 3-years-old);
- Increasing the supply of wraparound childcare for primary-school aged children.

Legal Implications: Section 2 of the Childcare Act 2016 and sections 6, 7, 7A, 9A, 12 and 13 of the Childcare Act 2006 set out the Council's statutory duties for the provision of early year's education.

(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

This report provides the data to ensure that those duties are being met and to provide Members with the opportunity to review the provisions.

Risk Management:

The statutory duty for childcare sufficiency is a crucial aspect of ensuring the well-being and safety of children in early years settings.

Ensuring sufficiency involves planning for the quality, quantity, and availability of early childhood services, including wraparound childcare. In TMBC this is an ongoing process taking account of maintained, private, voluntary and independent sector provision. Sufficiency is locality based and therefore is considered not just in terms of raw data but also in terms of geographical shift and other factors.

Access to Information:

This report does not contain information, which warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Jacqueline Nurney, Early Education Funding and School Organisation Manager



0161 342 2384



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Early Education and Childcare statutory guidance for local authorities sets out the outcome for securing sufficient childcare, which is to ensure that parents are able to work because childcare places are available, accessible and affordable, and delivered flexibly through a range of high quality settings. In order to meet its' statutory duty, the Council needs to complete an annual sufficiency audit, which includes all types of early years providers located within the borough offering childcare services to families.
- 1.2 The guidance is not prescriptive on the method of reporting but indicates that, as part of the process, local authorities should provide an annual report to Elected Council Members showing how they are meeting their duty.
- 1.3 The report sets out how the childcare market is assessed and where there is a need for additional places, and details any actions recommended or taken for this to be achieved.

2. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY

- 2.1 The report includes the supply and demand for childcare within the borough and any changes from the previous year e.g., whether any new provision has been established or ceased. These changes can indicate any change in the stability of the childcare market in the borough.
- 2.2 The childcare sufficiency report is compiled by the Early Years Funding Team using a range of information to assess supply and demand.
- 2.3 The primary source of information is the assessment from previous years available on the Council's [website](#), which is updated annually. Information from parents and carers is obtained through enquiries to the Families Information Service and collated to give an assessment of where demand is greater than supply. Other primary information used includes annual birth rate information, national census data, information on the local economy and school readiness. Information on the supply of places and numbers and types of providers is generated through the Early Years Funding Team and the Families Information Service. All of this is considered within the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, analysed and recommendations made.
- 2.4 There is also a more detailed analysis of places for free early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and Out of School clubs, which includes places available at the time of the snapshot, the take up of places and the number of vacancies available within each ward within the borough.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The 'Childcare Sufficiency Annual Report 2022' was approved at the Education and Attainment Board, in March 2023 and the attached report provides an updated position on the assessment of childcare sufficiency during 2023.
- 3.2 The data indicates that the childcare market in Tameside has contracted since the last report, but this could be aligned to sustained lower birth rates and reduced demand. There has been a reduction in the number of Private Day Nurseries, Pre-Schools/Playgroups and Childminders, which has decreased the total number of places overall but not considerably. Some provision has reported issues with recruiting experienced staff however this is a national issue and has been highlighted to the DfE. For 2023, despite a reduction in providers overall, the number of childcare places available across the borough has remained relatively

stable, which impacts positively on parental choice. The hourly rates paid to providers are set to increase in April 2024 for all age ranges and this will be welcomed by providers to assist with their sustainability especially considering increases to overheads and running costs. With the roll out of 30 hours for 2's and under 2's, which should be fully implemented by September 2025, it is anticipated that this will have a positive impact on the sector with more families being able to afford formal childcare.

- 3.3 The report provides a number of recommendations, based on the data provided during the assessment, for some providers this is voluntary. It is worth noting that not all providers within Tameside who offer childcare services contributed to the audit therefore a full assessment of all childcare available was not possible.
- 3.4 All previous recommendations/actions detailed in the 2022 report have been implemented. Improving data quality is now embedded within the data collection and data verification processes and forms part of the overall data process. The childcare market and the monitoring of places for 2-year-olds and take up of 30 hours is an ongoing and a continuous termly process and the 2023 report provides further update and suggested actions for both areas.
- 3.5 Despite reported closures of some provisions at the time of collation, the 2023 report does not highlight any major gaps in provision within the borough based on the data available during the snapshot period. However, due to the number of closures, very close analysis of supply will be required. In addition to this, further analysis will be required to ascertain providers' readiness to deliver the new entitlements which commence roll out from April 2024. The 2023 report provides recommendations for action, which include:
 1. To conduct additional analysis with all early year's providers to ascertain their ability to offer the new expanded entitlements for working parents launching in April 2024 and to collate data from them to gauge potential take up, prospective eligible families on waiting lists, vacancy levels and demand for future places.
 2. Continue to monitor the number of places across the borough for all age ranges of children to analyse any trends or shifts in the marketplace and the supply and sufficiency of the number of places available.
 3. Conduct more detailed analysis of Out of School Care for children aged from reception to year 6, to support the work to plan and deliver the new government programme to develop term time out of school care between the time of 8 am to 6pm.
- 3.6 Approval of the attached Childcare Sufficiency Annual Report 2023 is requested and for the Board to approve this report for publication on the Councils website. <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/childcare>

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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1. INTRODUCTION

Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 introduced a new statutory duty on local authorities to ensure sufficient childcare to meet demand. The act defines sufficient childcare as:

“As far as is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in the area who require childcare in order to enable them:

- a) To take up or remain in work*
- b) To undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work”*

The duty also applies to the provision of free early education and childcare for 3 and 4 year old children.

A sufficient childcare market is defined as one that develops sustainable childcare that is affordable and of high quality.

2. LEGISLATION

Local Authorities are required to secure sufficient childcare so far as reasonably practicable for working parents or those studying or training for employment with children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

Local Authorities should take into account where it is ‘reasonably practicable’ when assessing what sufficient childcare means in the area and include:

- The state of the local childcare market, including supply and demand
- The state of the labour market
- The quality and capacity of childcare providers including funding, staff, premises and experience

The Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on the Delivery of Free Early Education for Three and Four Year Olds and Securing Sufficient Childcare (2023) suggest that Local Authorities should “report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare”.

3. THE BOROUGH OF TAMESIDE

3.1 Description

Tameside Borough was created on 1 April 1974 and is one of the ten metropolitan districts of Greater Manchester. It consists of nine towns in a mainly urban area, stretching from the city of Manchester to the Peak District and shares its borders with Stockport, Oldham, Manchester and the Borough of High Peak.

Tameside is comprised of 19 wards and is characterised by some of the worst 5% of deprived areas nationally. Tameside is noted to be the 37th most deprived borough nationally on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019.

See **Appendix 1** Income Deprivation affecting Children 2019 - for further information.

3.2 Population

The population of Tameside as recorded by the Census 2021 highlighted an increase of 5.4%, or 11,747 residents compared to the previous Census 2011.

The population using the latest mid- year population estimates is approximately 231,199. This is an increase of 1.8% or 4,082 residents over the previous mid-year population estimate figure of 227,117.

3.3 Ethnicity

The following table shows 82.32% of residents recorded by the Census 2021 in Tameside describe themselves to be White British. This is above the national average of 74.42% but less than the Census 2011 when 88.51% of residents identified as White British.

	White British		Other	
	Number	%	Number	%
Tameside	190,305	82.4	40,765	17.6
East	53,930	90.2	5,940	9.8
North	33,931	67.9	16,672	32.1
South	41,904	83.6	8,311	16.5
West	60,540	86.2	9,839	13.8

(Source Census 2021)

3.4 Age

Using data extracted from the Census 2021 the following table shows the breakdown of age across the borough and by the administrative neighbourhoods – north, east, south and west:

- North-Ashton
- East- Mossley, Stalybridge, Dukinfield
- South-Hyde and Longdendale
- West-Denton, Droylsden, Audenshaw

Notably, from a childcare demand perspective, approximately 63% of the population is of working age: 16 to 64 years which is a small decrease compared to the Census 2011 when it was 65% approximately. This figure becomes significant when considered in conjunction with Birth Rate data.

	0 to 4		0 to 15		16 to 64		65+	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Tameside	13,664	5.9	45,934	19.9	144,620	62.6	40,509	17.6
East	3,367	5.6	11,616	19.3	37,548	62.6	10,729	18.0
North	3,364	6.6	10,926	21.5	31,653	62.3	8,041	16.1
South	3,186	6.3	10,368	20.6	31,417	62.4	8,416	17.0

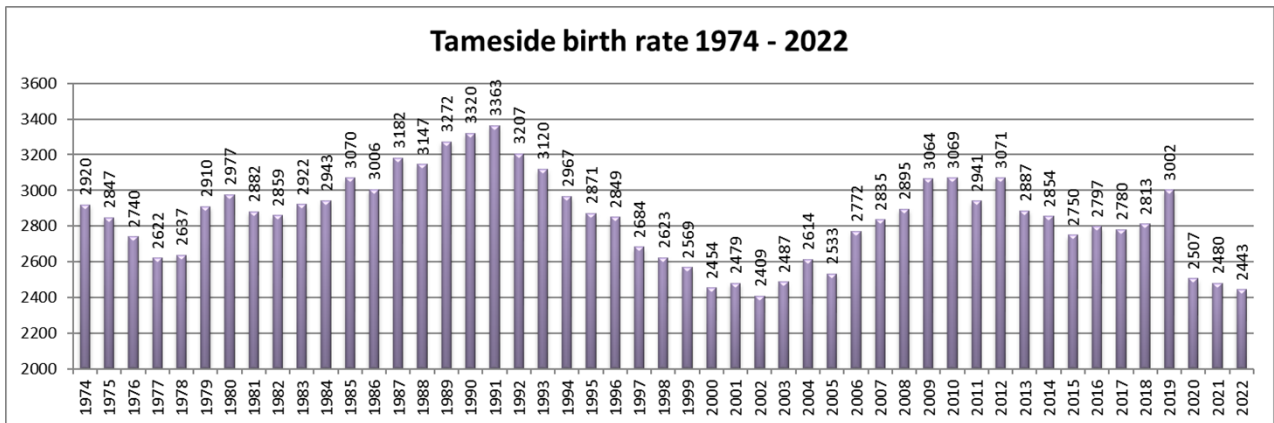
West	3,756	5.3	13,034	18.5	44,034	62.5	13,320	19.0

(Source Census 2021)

3.5 Birth Rate

The graph shows Tameside births from 1974 to 2022 and illustrates there has been an upward trend for births across the borough from 2005 onwards, which caused an increase in demand for childcare places for early years and school age children.

The graph shows that the birth rate, following a notable decrease has remained static, until 2020 when it has dropped to similar levels to that in 2005. Traditionally, the birth rate tends to follow a fluctuating 25 year cycle, it is expected therefore that this trend will repeat again in future years. During 2022, the birth rate decreased slightly compared to 2021. Birth rates will continue to be monitored and remain one of the key factors in determining demand for childcare, especially given the sustained decrease during 2020 to 2022, and with the predicted birth rate for 2023 to be at a similar lower levels. A sustained lower birth rate can affect demand for childcare and primary school places, which may start to impact early years' provision from 2023 onwards. This could negatively affect the supply of early years' provision where providers are struggling with low numbers. Low occupancy levels may affect sustainability, potentially resulting in a reduction of early years places, which will in turn affect early years roles and in a worst-case scenario potential closures.



3.6 Economic Growth

Since 2008, Tameside's economy has been adversely affected by the global recession and has suffered to a greater extent than most other parts of Greater Manchester. Despite experiencing steady employment growth over time, it is notable that Tameside has secured the lowest level of employment growth in the past 5 years compared to other Greater Manchester (9GM) authorities. However, Tameside does have a reasonably strong employment rate and the business growth rate over the past five years has been fairly strong compared to the others in GM

Due to the rollout of Universal Credit replacing Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and other benefits for many claimants, the following table illustrates the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work. This data set replaces the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance as the headline indicator of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed.

The Claimant count during 2022 has decreased compared to the previous year, which is a fall of approx. 11.34% from January to December 2022. The claimant count represented as a percentage of the population using age 16 to 64 has also decreased from 5.3% in January 2022 to 4.7% in December which represents an 11.32% decrease in claimants.

Claimant Count Numbers for 2022 (to the nearest 5)

	North Total	West Total	South Total	East Total	Tameside Total*
January 2022	2,180	1,855	1,515	1,900	7,450
February 2022	2,175	1,870	1,525	1,910	7,485
March 2022	2,125	1,830	1,470	1,855	7,280
April 2022	2,080	1,745	1,405	1,740	6,965
May 2022	2,055	1,690	1,375	1,690	6,820
June 2022	2,035	1,695	1,380	1,675	6,785
July 2022	2,000	1,705	1,380	1,670	6,755
August 2022	2,005	1,710	1,365	1,670	6,750
September 2022	2,020	1,685	1,390	1,660	6,760
October 2022	1,975	1,670	1,350	1,620	6,620
November 2022	1,965	1,685	1,325	1,580	6,555
December 2022	1,995	1,670	1,360	1,575	6,605

(Source: NOMIS: Claimant Count Jan – Dec 2022)

*The Tameside total is sometimes higher or lower than the sum of its constituent neighbourhood totals. This is because each neighbourhood figure is calculated by adding together the totals of its constituent lower-super output areas (about 35 LSOAs per neighbourhood) and the LSOA totals are pre-rounded by NOMIS to the nearest 5 whereas the total Tameside figure is extracted by NOMIS separately.

Claimant count represented as a percentage of 16-64 population

	North Total	West Total	South Total	East Total	Tameside Total*
January 2022	6.9	4.3	5.0	5.1	5.3
February 2022	6.9	4.4	5.0	5.1	5.3
March 2022	6.7	4.3	4.9	4.9	5.2
April 2022	6.6	4.1	4.6	4.6	4.9
May 2022	6.5	3.9	4.5	4.5	4.8
June 2022	6.4	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.8
July 2022	6.3	4.0	4.6	4.4	4.8
August 2022	6.3	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.8
September 2022	6.3	3.9	4.6	4.4	4.8
October 2022	6.2	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.7
November 2022	6.2	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.6
December 2022	6.3	3.9	4.5	4.2	4.7

(Source: NOMIS: Claimant Count Jan – Dec 2022)

3.7 Economic Activity

The following table indicates the breakdown of the borough according to economic activity, which highlights at the time of Census 2021, 60.50% of the borough is economically active.

	Economically Active		Economically Active: Employees		Economically Active: Self-Employed		Economically Active: Unemployed		Economically Active: Full-Time Student		Economically Inactive	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Tameside	112,079	60.5	91,692	49.5	13,963	7.5	6,424	3.5	3,215	1.7	73,057	39.5
East	29,012	60.1	23,930	49.6	3,718	7.7	1,364	2.8	769	1.6	18,479	38.3
North	22,041	55.6	17,625	44.5	3,008	7.6	1,408	3.5	770	1.9	16,873	42.5
South	23,537	58.9	19,423	48.4	2,979	7.5	1,135	2.8	706	1.8	15,605	39.4
West	34,282	59.7	28,480	49.6	4,168	7.2	1,634	2.9	968	1.7	22,098	38.6

(Source: Census 2021)

3.8 School Readiness

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early years' providers must meet to ensure children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children are school ready and gives them the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life. (*Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, page 5*).

Tameside accepts that being school ready is about more than just the child being ready for school. This transition needs the support and cooperation of all individuals involved, to create a holistic approach so a child has an enjoyable and positive experience. Schools should be ready for the child as much as the child is ready for school, helping smooth the transition between play based early learning and more formal classroom based teaching. Parents are encouraged to recognise that they are key to preparing their children for school. Key to this successful transition is positive cooperation between parents, childcare professionals and teachers.

In 2023, 61% of pupils in Tameside have achieved a good level of development (GLD) on the revised EYFS profile – an increase of 1% on 2022. The national average for achievement of GLD is 67% (though this is subject to change) compared to 65% in 2022%.

From September 2021, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) reforms and new framework became statutory, which is designed to improve outcomes for the most disadvantaged children to narrow development gaps at school entry. The reforms are also designed to reduce bureaucracy in the early years' assessments and planning, which will enable practitioners to have more time to spend developing a rich curriculum focusing on the needs of the children in their care.

4. REVIEW OF THE LOCAL CHILDCARE MARKET

4.1 Childcare Supply

The amount of childcare provision that is currently available has seen some minor changes since the last annual sufficiency report completed in 2022, the most notable change is a further decrease in the number of registered childminders within the borough.

Based on the information collected during summer 2023 the childcare market and the number of childcare places in School Nursery classes, Out of School Care and Independent Schools appears

to have remained stable. The number of childminders, private day nurseries and pre-school playgroups have all fallen and will continue to be monitored.

A high proportion of providers offer 30 hours free childcare which indicates continued demand and we have also seen an increase in take up over the last 12 months. Further analysis of the sufficiency of current 2 year and 30 hour provision in the borough is detailed later in this report.

Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Difference + / -
Childminders	285	280	271	254	223	211	188	167	-21
Pre-school playgroups	21	20	17	16	16	17	16	14	-2
Private nurseries	49	51	55	54	54	56	55	53	-2
Out of school Care	53	57	54	84	92	94	96	97	+1
School Nursery Classes	66	66	66	66	65	64	63	64	+1
Independent School with Early Years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-

(The figures given above are for providers who are listed with the Families Information Service, some providers are not listed e.g. crèches that are not required to be registered with Ofsted as they offer less than 2 hours of provision).

4.2 Breakdown of Current Childcare by Area

The following tables highlights the number of providers and places reported during the summer term 2023, where available.

Ashton Under Lyne Area

Type	2020 No of Providers	2020 No of Places	2021 No of Providers	2021 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places	2023 No of Provid ers	2023 No of Places
PDN	14	989	14	946	12	771	12	834
Childminder	36	117	31	103	32	112	28	95
Playgroup/ Pre-School	3	108	3	112	3	92	3	95
Out of School Care	20	576	22	689	19	700	21	777
School Nursery Class	15	607	15	599	14	476	14	463
Totals	88	2397	85	2449	80	2151	82	2264

In Ashton-under-Lyne, we have seen a further decrease in the number of childminders but the overall number of reported places in other sectors has increased on the previous year. Overall the total number of childcare places has increased in this area which is positive and provides for parental choice.

Denton/Droylsden/Audenshaw Area

Type	2020 No of Providers	2020 No of Places	2021 No of Providers	2021 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places	2023 No of Provid ers	2023 No of Places
PDN	13	1013	13	1015	13	965	13	972
Childminder	93	313	93	303	82	306	74	228
Playgroup/ Pre-School	7	345	7	345	7	275	7	311
Out of School Care	30	808	28	695	31	1087	31	977
School Nursery Class	18	874	18	908	18	903	18	810
Totals	161	3353	159	3266	151	3536	142	3298

In this area the number of childminders has reduced further, which accounts for most of the overall reduction in providers, there are the same number of Out of School Care providers and School Nursery classes, however the total places for both has reduced. Both of these changes account for the overall reduction in providers and places in these areas.

Dukinfield/Stalybridge/Mossley Area

Type	2020 No of Providers	2020 No of Places	2021 No of Providers	2021 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places	2023 No of Provid ers	2023 No of Places
PDN	16	1084	16	1093	17	1169	15	1049
Childminder	62	200	53	174	46	201	40	124
Playgroup/ Pre-School	2	45	3	65	3	61	1	20
Out of School	24	791	24	859	26	1068	26	999
School Nursery Class	17	662	16	584	16	494	17	555
Independent School	1	14	1	14	1	13	1	13
Totals	122	2796	113	2789	109	3006	98	2760

In this area, we have seen of the loss of 2 Private Day Nurseries and pre-schools and playgroups which has reduced overall place numbers. There is a further reduction in the number of childminders which again has impacted places. A school nursery class has reopened which has added extra places which is positive. Numbers remain the same for Out of School Care however places appear to have fallen slightly. Whilst there is a reduction in total number of providers, the overall reduction to places remains comparable to 2020 and 2021 where we retained sufficient places in this area, which is positive.

Hyde/Longdendale

Type	2020 No of Providers	2020 No of Places	2021 No of Providers	2021 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places	2023 No of Providers	2023 No of Places
PDN	11	764	13	867	13	897	13	820
Childminder	32	106	34	116	28	96	25	83
Playgroup/ Pre-School	4	100	4	100	3	68	3	68
Out of School Care	18	587	20	716	20	717	19	794
School Nursery	15	525	15	506	15	482	15	529
Totals	80	2082	86	2305	79	2260	74	2294

In this area, the total number of places remains virtually the same as the previous year which is positive. We have seen a further reduction in childminders and the loss of 1 Out of School Care and a reduction in places in private day nurseries but overall reported places in most of the other sectors have increased or remained the same.

Totals for Tameside

Type	2020 No of Providers	2020 No of Places	2021 No of Providers	2021 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places	2022 No of Providers	2022 No of Places
PDN	54	3850	56	3921	55	3802	53	3675
Childminder	224	736	211	696	188	715	167	530
Playgroup/ Pre-School	16	598	17	622	16	496	14	494
Out of School	92	2762	94	2959	96	3572	97	3547
School Nursery Class	65	2668	64	2597	63	2355	64	2357
Independent School	1	14	1	14	1	13	1	13
Totals	438	10628	443	10809	418	10953	396	10616

Across the borough, the most marked reduction of places is linked to childminder places due to a reduction overall in the numbers operating. The total number of childcare providers has decreased, however total reported places highlights only a small reduction of places compared to the previous year. Despite these changes, the data highlights that overall the number of places across the borough remains similar to the previous year, which will impact positively for parental choice for childcare.

The number of childminder places where no data is provided is an estimated number based on each childminder having the capacity to take three children under the age of 5 (as per Ofsted guidance) so this will depend on how many under 5 children childminders elect to take.

See **Appendix 2** – Maps highlighting Group Provision, Out of School Clubs and Childminders

4.3 Demand for Childcare

During 2022, the Families Information Service (FIS) received a total of 7112 enquiries of various types. Of these 549 were enquiries where full details were taken. A further breakdown confirmed that a large proportion of these full enquiries initiated, related to childcare, nursery education or 2 year funded places, totaling 97.26% of the enquiries, which highlights continued demand for formal childcare.

On analysis of the short enquiries where full details were not provided, 34% approx. of this type of enquiry related to childcare, nursery education and 2 year funded places or from childcare providers. The number of enquiries relating to early help during 2022 amounted to 71% of the overall calls. This follows the amalgamation of Early Help Access Point together with Families Information Service.

Many parents search online and Tameside provides an 'Online Childcare Finder'. Statistics inform that during the period between January to December 2022 there were 4042 different searches for childcare on the Families Information Service Online service, which is a 5.92% increase from the previous year in 2021.

This can be accessed from the following web link: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/childcarefinder>

The Tameside website also provides access to a Service Information Directory, which is a much wider online search function providing, parents with information on services for children, young people and their parents/carers e.g.

- Activities
- Children Centre Activities
- SEND – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Parenting
- Youth Clubs
- Toddler Groups and more

This site can be found by accessing the following link <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Tameside-Service-Information-Directory>

4.4 Parental Questionnaires

The Families Information Service emailed a brief survey to all those who had made an enquiry for childcare during 2022 to establish data about their search and ascertain any issues or barriers to finding the type of childcare they were seeking.

Of those who responded 73% were successful in finding childcare with 27% not able to find provision at that time.

Of those who found childcare, the following confirmed if they were able to find their first choice:

100%	Found their 1 st Choice of childcare
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Of those who were unable to find suitable childcare, the following reasons were offered:

33%	Indicated no places available at their 1 st Choice of Childcare
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33%	There were no Ofsted registered providers in their locality only childminders
34%	Indicated there were no wraparound places for school aged children who attend specialist provision

Of those who responded, the following confirmed their preference for the type of childcare sourced:

50%	Looking for a Group Provider e.g. Private Day Nursery/Pre School Playgroup
7%	Looking for a Childminder
29%	Looking for a School Nursery
14%	Looking for Out of School Care

Of those who responded, the following replied to confirm their preference for the amount of childcare required

13.33%	Looking for Full Time Childcare
13.33%	Looking for Part Time Childcare
60%	Looking for just their free early years hours
13.33%	Looking for Out of School Care

Of those who responded and had sourced childcare, the following indicated their overall experience with their provider:

100%	Found the experience positive
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Of those who responded, they were all asked what the main factor in choosing childcare was:

12.5%	Indicated Location
37.5%	Indicated they had used the provision before
12.5%	Indicated it was based on recommendation
25%	Based on the overall Environment of the provision
12.5%	Stated other reasons

Of those who responded and found childcare, they were all asked if they felt the costs were reasonable

50%	Indicated zero costs as they were accessing their free hours
50%	Felt the costs were reasonable

Parental Comments on their Chosen childcare

Of those who responded and found their chosen childcare, parents were asked about their experience with their childcare provider so far, the following comments were offered:

“Its been great”

“Very satisfying”

“Good”

“Great”

“Amazing”

“Fantastic”

Child Comments

The following responses were given by children to ask for what they think of their childcare/nursery

“I like nursery when I can play, I love my friends”

“I like nursery because we sing songs”

“I like the snacks”

“I like playing outside on the climbing frame”

“I like playing with the bricks”

“I have lots of friends at nursery”

Location and Reputation of childcare are the main reasons parents choose their provision, whilst cost is important it is not the main factor in a parent’s decision making.

The quotes provided by Parents about their chosen childcare highlight a positive experience for their children whilst attending.

4.5 Free Places for Three and Four Year Old Children

In Tameside according to Department for Education national statistical release data, (provided to all local authorities in 2023 from data sourced from the January census) and comparing to population data, 96.6% of 3 and 4 year olds are taking up some or all of their free early education funding. This is a 1.6% increase on the previous year and hopefully if this trend continues we may achieve the pre pandemic levels of take up, of approx. 98%.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage	98%	99%	99%	98%	98%	95%	93%	95%	96.6%

Again using data from the January 2023 DfE statistical release, take up for 2-year funding saw a decrease during both 2020 and 2021 however, during 2022 take up started to recover again and this has also continued into 2023 where the increase of take up has increased by a further 4.4%. This reflects the ongoing work by teams within the council to encourage families to take up this offer. Despite some loss of provision and changes to places, there were no reported issues with families having difficulties accessing places during summer 2023 which is the busiest term and based on data collected during summer there appears to be adequate choice and opportunity for parents to take up the offer.

Percentage of 2 year old children benefitting from funded early education places by local authority									
All providers - Percentage of population									
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage	59%	73%	85%	85%	77%	75%	71%	77%	81.4%

See **Appendix 3** - Map of Childcare providers delivering free Early Education Funding.

4.6 **Free Places for Two Year Old Children**

The complete eligibility criteria for 2 years olds who are entitled to a free 15-hour early education and childcare place can be found on the following page:

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/surestart/childcare/2yearoldfunding>

The council receives DfE target lists, approx. 7 times per year and from this the council contact families who may be eligible to apply. This list is not exhaustive so parents who feel they meet the criteria can apply and be eligible for the offer despite not appearing on one of the DfE lists.

Numbers for potentially eligible 2 year olds from the DfE target lists remained relatively static up to autumn 2021 when the target number was 1215. However, since summer 2022 the target list have been decreasing steadily to 916 in summer 2023, which is quite a substantial decrease but this also aligns with other nearby authorities. A detailed assessment of the number of two-year places was collated during summer 2023 to inform on the number of two-year places available within the borough and to identify any further gaps.

In Tameside, we generally have a good take up of places, which are monitored term on term. Take up, taken from data from the January census for 2023 increased to 81.4% compared to 2022 which was 77%.

The information provided to collate this information was based on the following data sets:

- Potentially eligible families identified by the DFE during summer 2023 by ward
- Total number of vacancies – Supplied from all providers delivering free early education (summer 2023)
- Total number of 2 year olds attending provision by ward area (summer 2023)

This year's data is highlighting that only 51% of families take up a 2 year place in the ward in which they live, with 44% taking up their place in another ward in Tameside, we also import 5% of families from outside the borough. This makes it difficult to map places and identify any gaps in provision as families are not all looking to take up a place in their home ward.

The data highlights that 809 families are taking up a place with 5% of these coming from outside of Tameside. Therefore we know that 145 families who were on the target list are not accessing a place in Tameside. However some of these families could be accessing a place in a bordering local authority or they are actively choosing not to take up their place or they may not feel their child is ready. The information is highlighting further vacancies of 313 across the borough, which would ensure that all children that wish to access a place could do so.

Taking into consideration the above, there were a number of wards that were highlighting a shortfall in places however in some of these wards the vacancy shortfall was minimal.

The following wards indicated minimal places: (assuming every family on the list was to take up a place)

- Ashton Waterloo
- Audenshaw
- Denton West
- Droylsden West
- Mossley
- Stalybridge North

The eligible family data was collated, analysed and mapped according to their postal address, and additional data was added to pinpoint group provision and childminders delivering free early education to show location in relation to potentially eligible families.

Consideration was given to other provision located in bordering wards that were also within a reasonable walking distance (approx. half mile radius) to ascertain sufficiency of 2-year-old provision.

Ashton Waterloo – this area is showing 70% of families who live in this ward taking up a place in Tameside. From the data it highlights a large proportion of families migrating into this ward from other wards in the borough to take up their place. This has resulted in a small deficit of vacancies, however there are sufficient places in other wards in the Ashton area that are within walking distance in Ashton St Michaels and Ashton St Peters.

Audenshaw – this area is showing that 68% of families who live in this ward are taking up a place within Tameside. Data highlights of those accessing a place in this ward, 57% is by families who do not live in Audenshaw and 29% coming from outside Tameside. The data highlights a small shortfall of overall places, however there are some surplus places in the area of Ashton St Peters which borders Audenshaw.

Denton West – this area is showing that 58% of families who live in this ward are taking up a place within Tameside. Data highlights a small deficit of places within this ward however there are surplus of places in Denton North East and Denton West which both have places within a half-mile radius.

Droylsden West – this area is showing that 85% of families who live in this ward are taking up a place within Tameside. Data highlights a small deficit of places within this ward however there are a surplus of places in Droylsden East which is within a half-mile radius.

Mossley – this area is showing that 63% of families who live in this ward are taking up a place within Tameside. Data highlights that whilst there is some inward migration from outside Tameside for parents accessing a place, the remainder of families are those who reside in Mossley and are accessing a place there. This could be due to the accessibility for families accessing a place in other nearby wards, but there could also be further inward migration for working families from Saddleworth who are paying for childcare which, will reduce the overall number of places available. There is a small deficit of places in this area, but the amount of places required, would not sustain another group provider on just 2 year places alone and this area will continue to be monitored.

Stalybridge North – this area is showing that 63% of families who live in this ward are taking up a place within Tameside. The data indicates a deficit of places in this area but there is a proportion of the children accessing provision in this area who reside in Stalybridge South. The data indicated there is a deficit of places which is largely due to the closure of a nursery in this area. This area

borders Dukinfield/Stalybridge, which had surplus places that could provide places for all families that require a place, however not all of these places will be within a reasonable walking distance for all families living in Stalybridge North. At this point it is unlikely that the loss of places at the closed nursery will be replaced therefore this area will continue to be monitored.

See **Appendix 4** – Analysis of 2 Year Free Places and Take up

Further Action – 2 Year Place Creation

The current level of deficit places within wards in the main are quite small e.g. less than 10 places with the exception of Stalybridge North. Overall there are sufficient places for all families who may want to access a place in Tameside but not all families will want to take up the offer. From the places that are available not all families could access a place in their home ward however we know that approx. 50% of families will take up a place in another ward or are coming from outside Tameside.

We are unable to track how many families residing in Tameside maybe accessing a place in a neighbouring authority and if this data was available it would indicate how many more children were accessing a place.

With the new expanded entitlement for 2 year olds commencing from April 2024 we will continue to monitor 2 year places and review the impact of room closures and issues sighted by providers in recruiting experienced and trained staff as this may prevent some providers from expanding their places to pre pandemic capacities. Staff recruitment has been highlighted as a national issue and has been raised at both national and regional level.

The birth rate for the first half of 2023 is highlighting similar projected birth levels as in 2020 2021 and 2022, which confirms a further year of births at anticipated lower levels; the birth rate is also predicted to remain at lower levels for the next few years.

In light of a predicted lower birth rate, which is one of the biggest factors for demand for early years and childcare places, this is a key consideration in the decision making for place creation. Overall there are sufficient places based on the summer 2023 data and with a lower demand for places, adding new places into the market place could adversely impact on the sustainability of existing provision. With the announcement of the expanded entitlements commencing from April 2024, further data is needed from the sector to understand how many providers will be offering the expanded entitlement for working families with a 2 year old. Therefore further place creation will not be considered until more data is available.

4.7 30 Hours Free Childcare

Since 1 September 2017, parents/carers that qualify are entitled to a further 15 hours of free early education per week or a maximum of 570 hours per year, giving them up to 30 hours free early education per week over a maximum of 38 weeks. To apply parents/carers must apply directly to Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs (HMRC) and renew their eligibility regularly as per their renewal dates. Further information can be located on the HMRC website <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

The take up of places of the 30 hours offer during summer 2023 increased to some of the highest levels of take up seen since its implementation. Continued monitoring of take up and available places will continue.

No's of Families taking all or part of their Extended Entitlement (30 Hours)									
2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023	
Term	Take up	Term	Take Up	Term	Take Up	Term	Take Up	Term	Take Up
Autumn 2018	1251	Autumn 2019	1307	Autumn 2020	1242	Autumn 2021	1282	Autumn 2022	1299
Spring 2019	1651	Spring 2020	1760	Spring 2021	1649	Spring 2022	1719	Spring 2023	1820
Summer 2019	1938	Summer 2020	1996	Summer 2021	1971	Summer 2022	1992	Summer 2023	2111

The majority of all group providers and childminders on the directory are registered to deliver the offer, and 53 of the 64 primary schools with a nursery, are also delivering the offer or registered to deliver the offer.

30 Hours Free Childcare

Following the effects of the pandemic where we saw a decrease in take up, levels have increased again in 2023 to their highest levels of take up which is very positive. After analysis of the data provided during summer 2023, approximately half of all families (49.50%) taking up their offer sourced provision within their home ward, 43.58% took up a place in another Tameside ward and approximately 6.92% of families taking up a place, came from outside of Tameside.

This level of movement makes it difficult to plan for the sufficiency of places as potentially families are sourcing provision which is convenient, for either extended family, on routes into work or as a preference for a particular provider. (See **Appendix 5**)

The analysis during summer 2023 highlighted a total of 506 vacancies for universal 15-hour entitlement, with recorded vacancies in all wards of Tameside. For the 30 hours or the extended part of the entitlement there were a total of 244 vacancies, again with recorded vacancies in all wards, however there are three areas where the level of vacancies were minimal and this will continue to be monitored. (See **Appendix 5**)

Further Action

There is no detailed statistical data available on qualifying numbers of families for 30 hours, so monitoring will be ongoing to see where and how families are taking up their place. In addition, this level of monitoring will be expanding for summer 2024 with the introduction of the new offer of 15 hours for working parents from April 2024. As the 30 hour offer is predominantly aimed at working parents/carers, it is difficult to monitor how far parents are travelling from home to an early years provider e.g. they may source childcare near work or extended family. Information from the 2023 sufficiency data collection indicates that more families took up a place within their home ward (approx. 6%) which is also a positive indicator.

The number of recorded vacancies across the whole sector for the extended part of the entitlement has decreased from the previous year, however, there was an increase in vacancies for the universal entitlement.

Based on vacancy data available during summer 2023, it appears that there are sufficient places available. However more work is need to understand how many providers may change their models of delivery for the new entitlements from April 2024 when the expanded entitlement

commences. Further data will be sought from providers to establish how many will offer the expanded entitlement and what this offer will look like and the continued monitoring of places, take up and vacancies will support this.

4.8 **Childcare for Children Aged 5-11 and During School Holidays**

In Tameside at the time of analysis, there were 97 Out of School clubs, (includes holiday clubs) but in total 186 providers offering out of school care, which includes childminders. The overall number of places has decreased slightly by 3%, which could be due to the decrease in the number of childminders.

From September 2024 the government are implementing a new programme to encourage more provision for wraparound care for primary school age children. The new programme will encourage the expansion of existing provision and also the development of new provision to provide term time wraparound care from 8 am to 6pm. More details will be available to local authorities towards the end of autumn 2023 and early 2024.

Before and After School places for children aged 4 years and over

The analysis of vacancy data highlighted that there were vacancies for both before and after school places within all wards within the borough, with the exception of Hyde Werneth where there were no vacancies for before school and only 1 place for after school however, all the other Hyde wards were showing availability of places.

Holiday Club Places for 4 years and over

The analysis of vacancy data highlighted that there were full time vacancies for Holiday Club places within 17 wards within the borough, there was 1 ward with zero vacancies and 1 with only 1 part time place.

The areas that were showing minimal vacancies is:

- Audenshaw –2 full time places
- Droylsden West – 1 part time place
- Hyde Werneth – 1 full time place
- Mossley – 1 full and 1 part time place
- Stalybridge South – no places

The data also highlighted that there has been a considerable drop in the overall number of Holiday Club places with a decrease of 17% compared to last year. This will account for the reduction in overall vacancies when comparing data from 2023 to the previous year.

The Department for Education is offering Childminder start up grants with applications commencing during 2024, which may hopefully stimulate interest in this part of the childcare sector, that has been showing reducing numbers year on year.

In all of the reported wards where places were minimal, places were available in neighbouring wards and overall there were still full and part time vacancies available across the borough, however places will continue to be monitored. (See **Appendix 6**)

4.9 **Childcare for Disabled Children and Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND)**

Tameside Early Years Provides registered with Ofsted can access advice, support and guidance for Children with SEND from The Early Years Quality Team, via training, visits, networks, SENDCo surgeries and consultations.

Childcare providers are able to support children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and there has been increased parental confidence that Early Years providers are able to meet the needs of children with SEND.

Data provided from the Census 2021 highlights that 19.90% of residents in the borough are identified as Disabled under the Equality Act. (At the time of publication data was not available from Census 2021 to identify the percentage of children.)

	Total: All usual residents		Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a lot		Disabled under the Equality Act: Day-to-day activities limited a little		Not disabled under the Equality Act	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Tameside	231,071	100.0	21,138	9.1	25,071	10.8	184,862	80.0
East	59,868	100.0	5,358	8.9	6,685	11.2	47,825	79.9
North	50,600	100.0	4,941	9.7	5,311	10.5	40,348	79.7
South	50,217	100.0	4,520	9.0	5,542	11.1	40,155	79.9
West	70,382	100.0	6,319	9.0	7,530	10.8	56,533	80.2

(Source: Census 2021)

Since July 2017, there has been a dedicated Special Educational Needs Caseworker available for early years. They work closely with the Early Years Quality Officers and Early Years Settings, including those in the maintained, non-maintained and Private Voluntary and Independent Sector.

Three Dedicated Early Years Quality Officers (EYQO) have a focus on SEND in Early Years provision across the borough. The EYQO will ensure the highest quality of care and education is offered to meet children’s needs. They support the Tameside SEND process, making sure all early years’ practitioners are collecting relevant information to ensure smooth transitions to the most appropriate educational setting for children with SEND.

All Early Years Childcare providers are able to access additional support for children with identified disabilities and special education needs, by means of the:

- Disability Access Fund
- SEN Inclusion Fund

Both measures are intended to enable Early Years providers to promote equal access to opportunities and resources for children in early years whom have an identified SEND.

4.10 Quality of Childcare

The DfE identify within current statutory guidance that they would like the outcome for all children to be able to take up their free hours in a high quality setting. Evidence shows that higher quality provision has greater developmental benefits for children, particularly for the most disadvantaged children, leading to better outcomes.

Legislation was agreed and Ofsted is now the sole arbiter of quality for delivery of Early Education Funding, which has resulted in a changed role for Local Authorities. In response to this, the

following table provides a breakdown of all the key types of providers according to their Ofsted rating (data collated as at summer 2023):

Group Settings and Independent Schools	Data Collated Summer 2020		Data Collated Summer 2021		Data Collated Summer 2022		Data Collated Summer 2023	
	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %
Inadequate	0	0	0	0	1	1.39	1	1.47
Requires Improvement	0	0	0	0	2	2.78	2	2.94
Good	54	76.1	52	70.27	51	70.83	44	64.71
Outstanding	9	12.7	9	12.16	7	9.72	4	5.88
Not Yet Graded	7	9.8	13	17.56	11	15.28	16	23.53
Meets Standards	1	1.4	0	0	0	0	1	1.47

There are 68 group providers in total with approximately 70.59% rated as good or outstanding, which is a decrease on the previous year. The number of providers who are awaiting their first inspection has increased to 23.53%. This is largely due to a number of nurseries changing hands or re-registering during the year which has increased the number of those not graded. The number of settings rated inadequate or requires improvement has increased slightly.

Out of School Clubs	Data Collated Summer 2020		Data Collated Summer 2021		Data Collated Summer 2022		Data Collated Summer 2023	
	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %
Inadequate	0	0	0	0	1	1.04	2	2.06
Requires Improvement	1	1.09	1	1.10	2	2.08	1	1.03
Good	61	66.30	66	72.53	65	67.71	60	61.86
Outstanding	10	10.87	8	8.79	9	9.38	5	5.16
Await 1 st Inspection	16	17.39	13	12.09	14	14.58	13	13.40
Met	4	4.35	5	4.39	5	5.21	15	15.46
Other			1	1.10	0	0	1	1.03

There are 97 Out of School Clubs with 67.02% rated as good or outstanding, which is a decrease on the previous year. In addition, 15.46% are awaiting their first inspection.

Childminders	Data Collated Summer 2020		Data Collated Summer 2021		Data Collated Summer 2022		Data Collated Summer 2023	
	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %	Actual	Percentage %
Inadequate	7	3.14	5	2.37	7	3.72	0	0
Requires Improvement	6	2.7	6	2.84	3	1.60	2	1.20
Good	145	65.02	132	62.56	125	66.49	131	78.44
Outstanding	13	5.83	12	5.69	8	4.26	3	1.80

Awaiting Inspection	30	13.45	37	17.54	29	15.42	9	5.39
Met	22	9.86	19	9.00	16	8.51	22	13.17

In total, there are 167 childminders within the borough, which is a further decrease on the previous year. Of these, 131 or 80.24% of the childminders are rated as good or outstanding. 31 childminders have not yet been inspected, or are classed as 'Met'.

Schools with a Nursery Class	Data Collated Summer 2022	
	Actual	Percentage %
Inadequate	1	1.56
Requires Improvement	2	3.13
Good	56	87.50
Outstanding	5	7.81
Yet to be Inspected	0	0

In total there are 64 primary schools within the borough that have a nursery class and provide early education, of these 92.06% are rated good or outstanding, with only 1 school awaiting inspection.

Of the 64 schools, 53 or, 82.81% are currently offering the 30 hours free childcare for 3/4 year olds.

4.11 Affordability of Childcare

Childcare costs vary from area to area within the borough and from type to type, however the tables below illustrate typical average childcare costs in Tameside collated during summer 2023 based on a full time attendance e.g. 50 hours of care per week and 25 hours:

Average cost for group providers offering up to 50 hours per week:

Under twos per week attending 50 Hours	£236
Under twos per week attending 25 Hours	£138
Aged 2 plus per week attending 50 hours	£235
Aged 2 plus per week attending 25 Hours	£136

- The most expensive rate for under two's for 25 hours was £159.50
- The cheapest rate for under two's for 25 hours was £100
- The most expensive rate for aged 2 plus for 25 hours was £173
- The cheapest rate for aged 2 plus for 25 hours was £93
- The most expensive rate for under two's for 50 hours was £297.50
- The cheapest rate for under two's for 50 hours was £190
- The most expensive rate for aged 2 plus for 50 hours was £297.50
- The cheapest rate for aged 2 plus for 50 hours was £190

Childminders - The typical average weekly costs for a childminder in the area:

Under twos per week attending 50 Hours	£200
Under twos per week attending 25 Hours	£104
Aged 2 plus per week attending 50 hours	£200

Aged 2 plus per week attending 25 Hours	£104
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Out of School provision can be offered at various providers however typical costs include:

Out of school club typical average weekly Cost for a place for 15 hours per week	£79.00
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The data highlights that childcare costs within the borough has increased in all sectors and age ranges which is reflective of the increased costs for childcare providers to run their businesses and also pay their staff e.g. increased pension and national insurance contributions, plus increases to the national minimum wage..

5. CONCLUSION

During 2023 the initial indicators highlight the childcare market in Tameside has contracted, this could be aligned to the lower birth rates over the last 3 years reducing demand for formal childcare and the lasting effects of the pandemic and changing family circumstances e.g. working from home. There has been a reduction in the number of Private Day Nurseries, Pre-Schools/Playgroups and Childminders which has decreased the total number of places but not considerably. From the data and anecdotal information received from providers on the reductions, a reduced demand for places is an overarching factor. A number of provision reported issues with recruiting experienced staff with desired levels of qualification as another factor. Most have confirmed that as demand increases again for places subject to the ability to recruit they can reopen rooms that have been closed. Whilst there is generally place reductions in 3 of the 5 childcare types, because of the predicted lower birth rate for the next few years, providers are adapting to meet these lower levels of demand for childcare. The childcare market in Tameside is constantly changing and at the time of reporting data, we were made aware of 5 further expected closures. This will impact the childcare market and could affect the roll out of the expanded entitlement from April 2024.

For 2023 despite a reduction in providers overall, the number of childcare places available across the borough has remained stable which impacts positively on parental choice.

The number of families that were potentially eligible for a 2 year place at the time of the data collection (summer 2023) has decreased further which impacts on demand. The data shows an increase in take up, which could be attributed to growing confidence with families to return to formal childcare and the consistent and sustained approach by a number of teams within children’s services to assist parents with applications and sourcing provision.

Further analysis of two-year provision highlighted a number of areas to monitor. All areas will be reviewed but because of the predicted and sustained lower birth rate, no further action for capital projects is required at this time.

In light of the additional closures announced post data collection, more work will be needed to understand the market for the roll out of the expanded entitlements. In addition it is expected that the hourly rate offered to providers for 2, 3 and 4 year olds is set to increase further, which will support providers with sustainability and offsetting some of their higher operating costs. More detailed analysis is required into how many providers will offer the new expanded entitlements and their ability to quickly expand to meet increasing demand. Providers who have reduced their places in identified wards due to demand, have indicated that they can increase their 2 year places as the

need for places grows. Any corresponding increase for places should influence the market, with providers responding to meet any increased childcare need.

Analysis of the sufficiency of two-year places and the take up of the free entitlement for three and four year olds will remain under review. The DfE statistical release 2023 indicates that take up of 3 and 4 year olds is 96.6% in comparison to the total 3 and 4 year population; this is considered a high take up and is evident across the borough at maintained, private, voluntary and independent providers.

Whilst there are some places with less vacancies on further investigation, most families in these areas can be served by neighbouring wards with vacancies. There were 2 areas specifically identified for monitoring, Mossley and Stalybridge North. Mossley is on the outskirts of the borough and therefore further for families to travel to other provision in neighbouring wards. It also borders Saddleworth and this could be impacting access to provision with families migrating in, as there are 2 large Day Nurseries serving this area. Currently the number of childminders in this area is minimal and would benefit from generating interest in childminder startups who would be able to access the new grant. In Stalybridge North, during 2022 a large private day nursery closed and the latest information is that this building will no longer be used for childcare leaving a reduction of places in this area. Families could travel to neighbouring wards to access a place but again this area would benefit from more childminders.

This year's data collection was much improved on the number of returns submitted however not all sectors of childcare providers responded to the request to provide data, which prevents a full assessment of the sufficiency of childcare places in all areas. Without any other anecdotal information to highlight any specific gaps in provision for childminders, we have been unable to fully assess sufficiency of all places, but conclude from the vacancies available from those that did submit that there is still adequate provision.

The current costs for energy remains a cause for concern as it is evident it is impacting the childcare sector, government announcements to expand the entitlements and also to increase the hourly rates for delivery of the free entitlements will be welcome, however this is still an area for concern and the longer term impact on the sector. Some businesses may need to increase fees further for parents or as we have already seen, will cease to trade due to sustainability. Both may have a detrimental effect on the sector as the loss of childcare providers will reduce choice and availability and some parents may be priced out of the cost to afford formal childcare. However with the roll out of 30 hours for 2's and under 2's which should be fully implemented by September 2025, it is anticipated that this will have a positive impact on the sector with more families being able to afford formal childcare.

30 Hours Free childcare

The roll out of 30 hours free childcare is now in its seventh year and from the information available, there are no reported issues with parents experiencing insufficient provision. Approximately 80% of the boroughs primary schools with a nursery offer 30 hours, which provide much-needed additional places. At the time of data collection which was during the busiest reported term, (summer) there were vacancies for 30 hours in all areas of the borough. This will be continually monitored and reported upon annually.

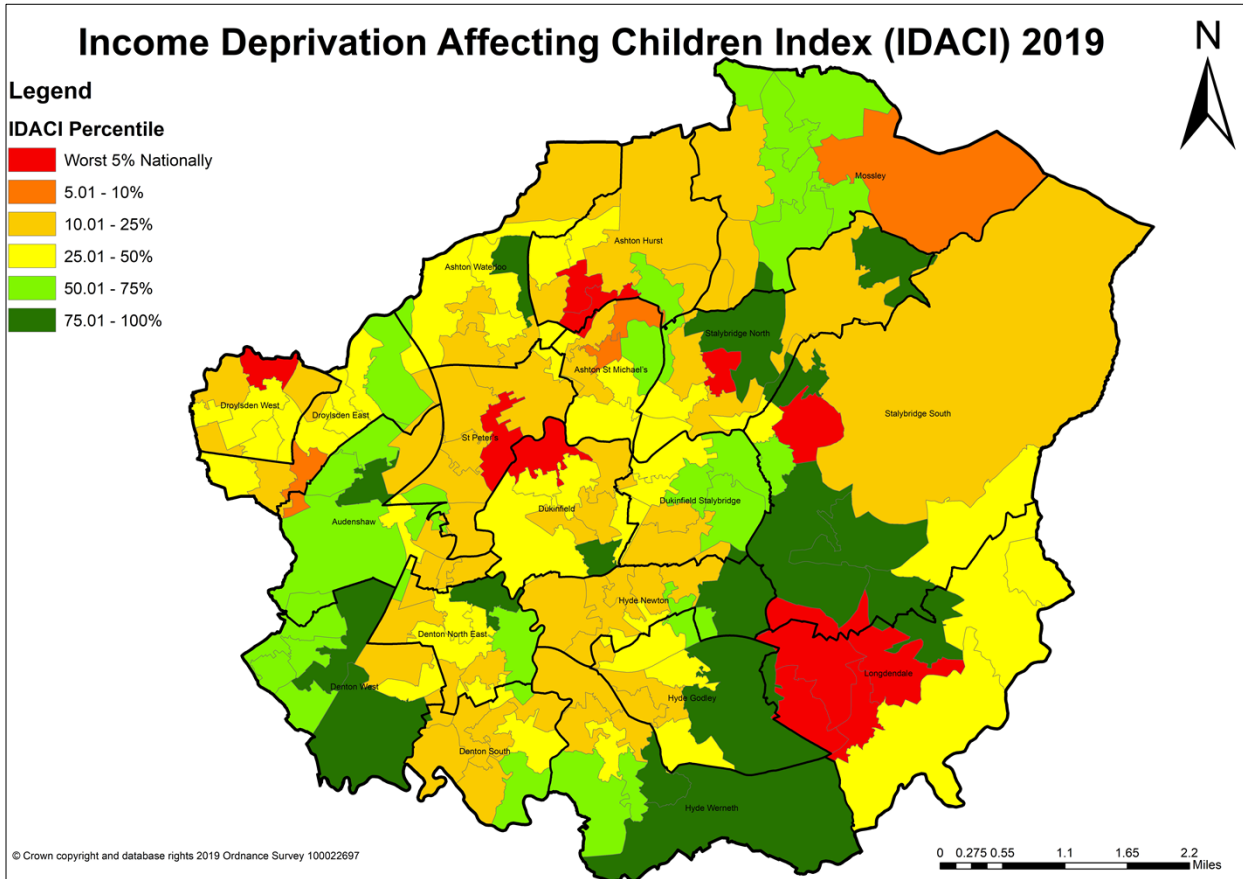
6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2023 annual report highlighted some contraction in the childcare market which warrant further analysis especially in light of the expanded entitlement roll out commencing in April 2023 and the new programme for Wraparound care.

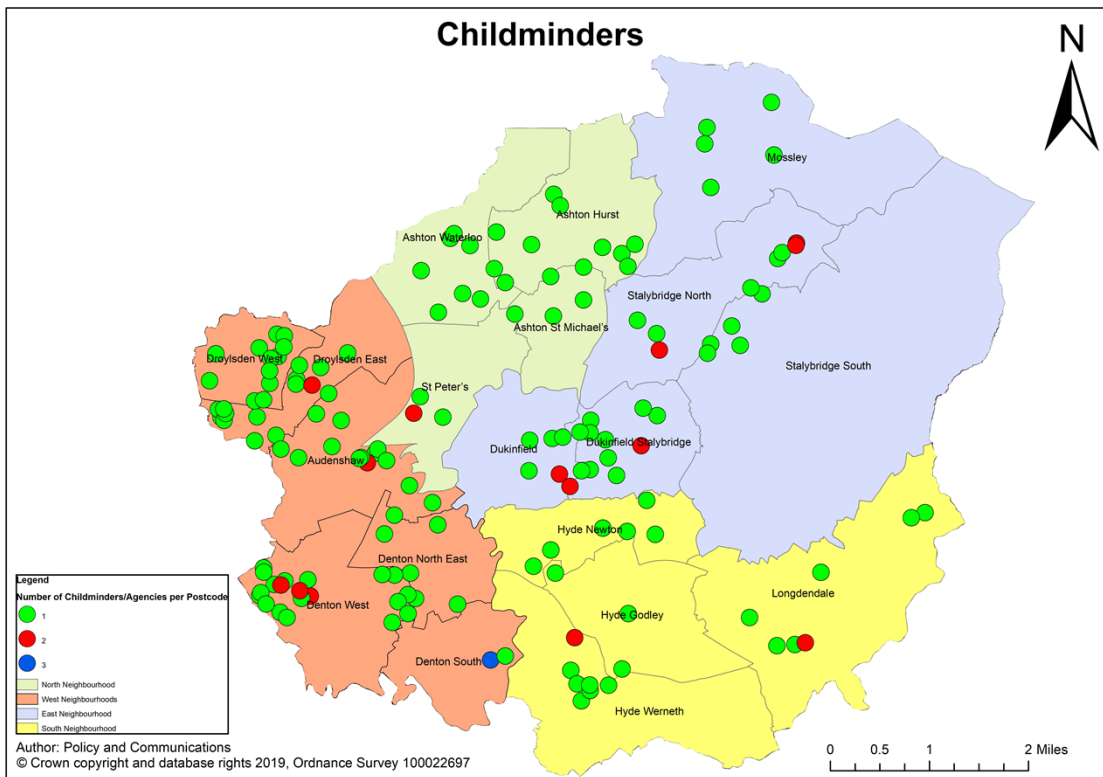
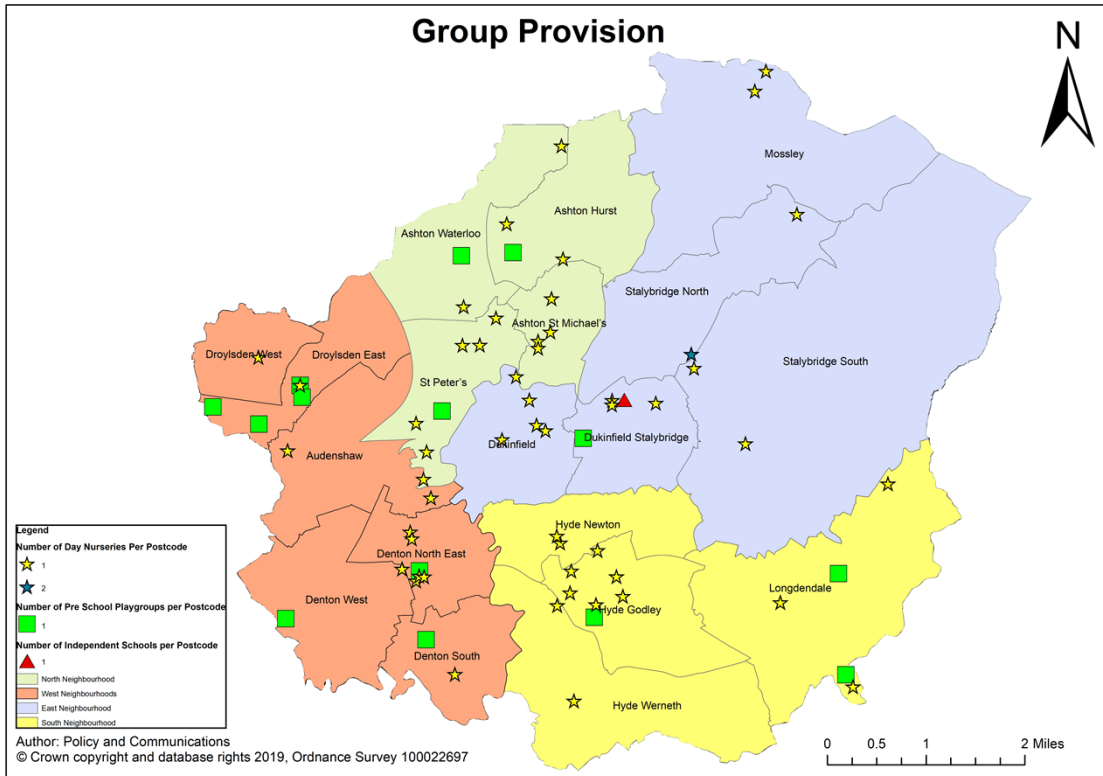
The following recommendations are suggested:

1. To conduct additional analysis with all early years providers to ascertain their ability to offer the new expanded entitlements for working parents launching in April 2024 and to collate data from them to gauge potential take up, prospective eligible families on waiting lists, vacancy levels and demand for future places
2. Continue to monitor the number of places across the borough for all age ranges of children to analyse any trends or shifts in the market place and the sufficiency of the number of places available
3. Conduct more detailed analysis of Out of School Care for children aged from reception to year 6, to support the work to plan and deliver the new government programme to develop term time out of school care between the time of 8 am to 6pm

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2 All Maps updated for 2023



Out of School Care



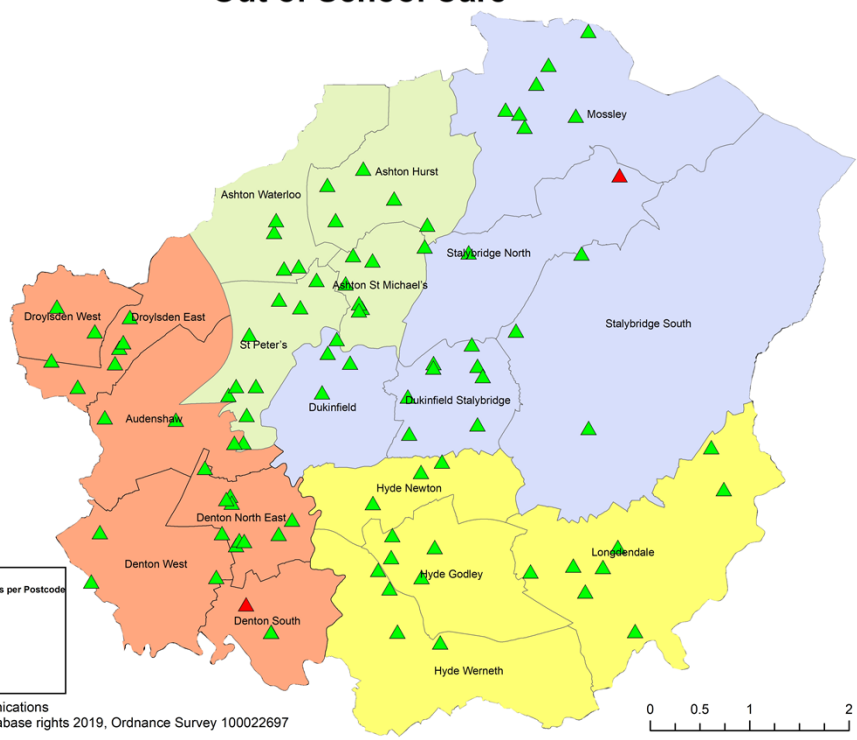
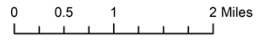
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Number of Out of School Care Settings per Postcode

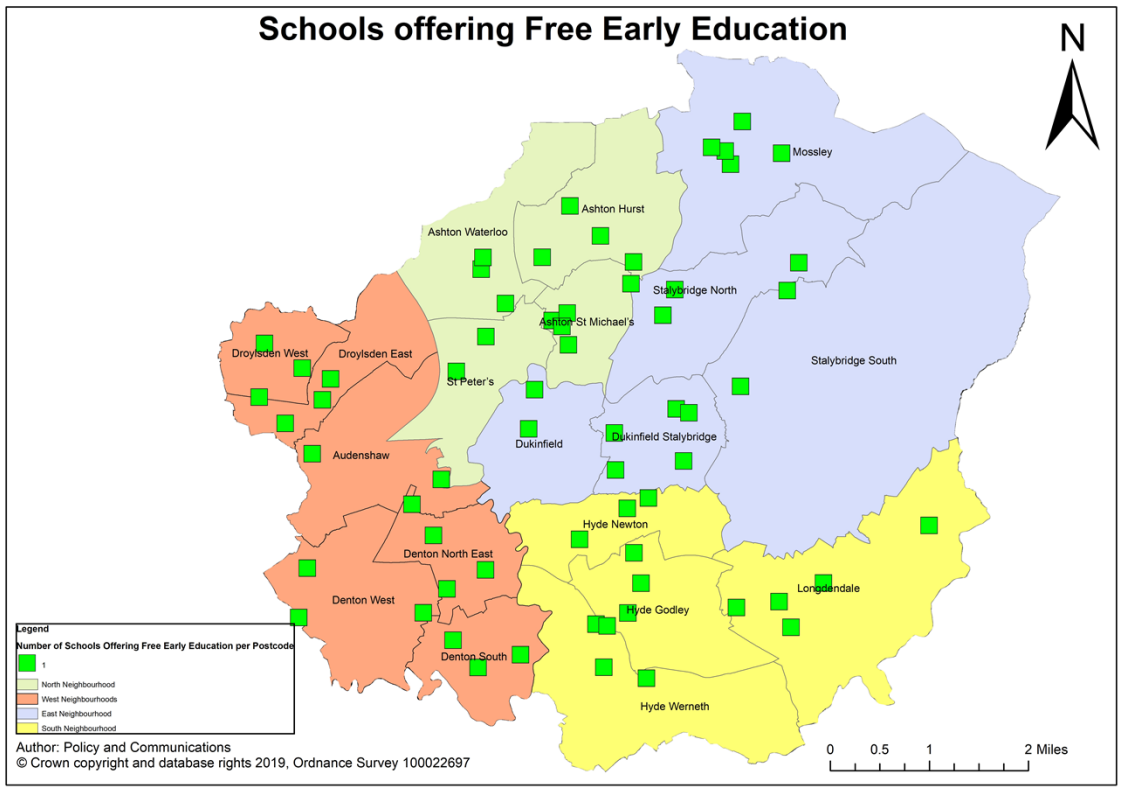
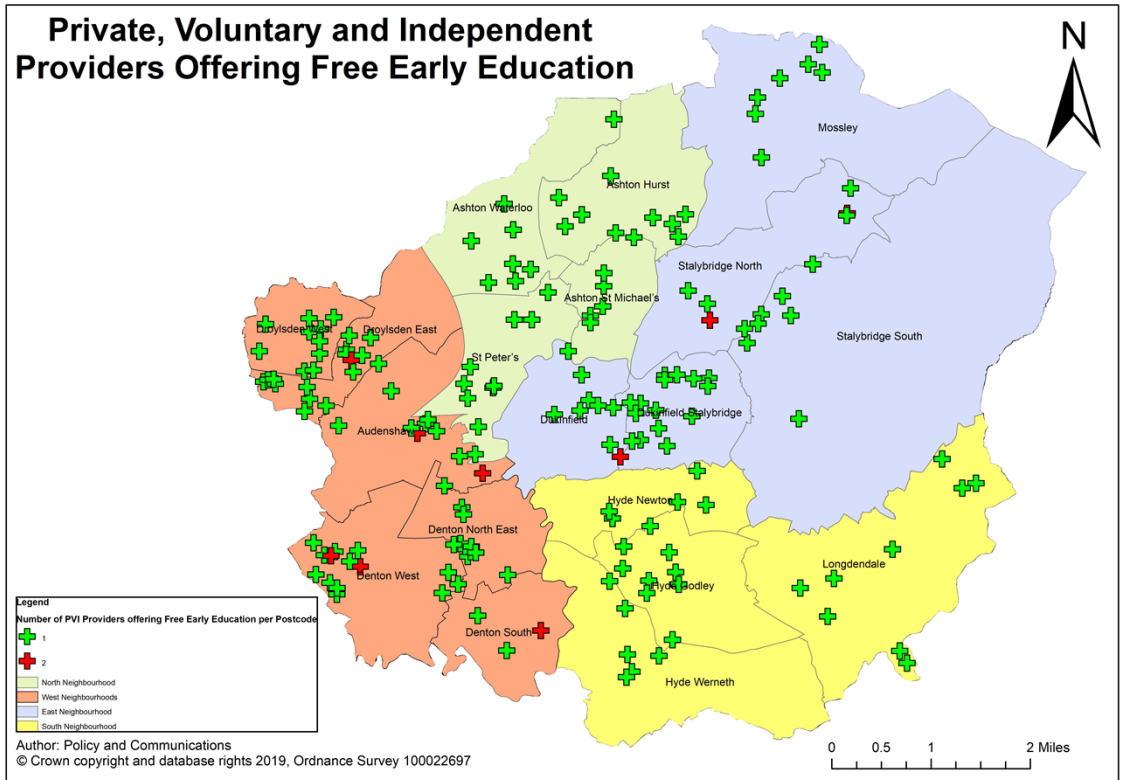
- ▲ 1
- ▲ 2

■ North Neighbourhood
■ West Neighbourhoods
■ East Neighbourhood
■ South Neighbourhood

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APPENDIX 3 - (FEE- Free Early Education)



APPENDIX 4

ANALYSIS OF 2 YEAR FREE PLACES AND TAKE UP – SUMMER 23

Take Up from Target List				Breakdown of Attendance by Ward					% Breakdown of Attendance by Ward		
Ward	August DfE target list for Summer 2023 Families residing in this ward	2 Year Olds living in this ward accessing a place in Summer 2023	% of children from this ward that have taken up a place in Tameside	Total 2 Year Olds in a place during Summer 2023 attending provision in this ward	Children who attend in their home ward	Children who attend from another TMBC ward	Children from outside TMBC who attend in this ward	Total Number of FEF Vacancies for 2 Year Olds in this ward	% of Children attending in their home ward	% of Children attending outside their home ward but within TMBC %	% of Inward Migration from outside TMBC
Ashton Hurst	70	59	84%	47	31	13	3	16	66%	28%	6%
Ashton St Michaels	64	52	81%	68	31	37	0	16	46%	54%	0%
Ashton St Peters	86	62	72%	99	48	48	3	31	48%	48%	3%
Ashton Waterloo	50	35	70%	28	15	13	0	9	54%	46%	0%
	270	208	77%	242	125	111	6	72	52%	46%	2%
Audenshaw	34	23	68%	14	2	8	4	4	14%	57%	29%
	34	23	68%	14	2	8	4	4	14%	57%	29%
Denton North East	37	38	103%	71	28	38	5	33	39%	54%	7%
Denton South	51	53	104%	31	28	3	0	13	90%	10%	0%
Denton West	19	11	58%	20	4	10	6	1	20%	50%	30%
	107	102	95%	122	60	51	11	47	49%	42%	9%
Droylsden East	47	41	87%	74	33	33	8	14	45%	45%	11%
Droylsden West	41	35	85%	6	3	2	1	0	50%	33%	17%
	88	76	86%	80	36	35	9	14	45%	44%	11%
Dukinfield	60	66	110%	78	51	27	0	31	65%	35%	0%
Dukinfield / Stalybridge	25	20	80%	38	6	31	1	29	16%	82%	3%
	85	86	101%	116	57	58	1	60	49%	50%	1%
Hyde Godley	61	67	110%	58	31	27	0	37	53%	47%	0%
Hyde Newton	56	52	93%	63	31	30	2	11	49%	48%	3%
Hyde Werneth	37	31	84%	26	14	11	1	16	54%	42%	4%
	154	150	97%	147	76	68	3	64	52%	46%	2%
Longdendale	56	45	80%	36	25	10	1	16	69%	28%	3%
	56	45	80%	36	25	10	1	16	69%	28%	3%
Mossley	35	22	63%	19	16	0	3	4	84%	0%	16%
	35	22	63%	19	16	0	3	4	84%	0%	16%
Stalybridge North	57	36	63%	14	3	11	0	2	21%	79%	0%
Stalybridge South	30	23	77%	19	11	8	0	30	58%	42%	0%
	87	59	68%	33	14	19	0	32	42%	58%	0%
Totals	916	771	84%	809	411	360	38	313	51%	44%	5%

(Includes data provided by Private, Voluntary and Independent Early Years Providers)

APPENDIX 5

ANALYSIS OF 3/4 YEAR FREE PLACES AND TAKE UP OF UNIVERSAL AND EXTENDED ENTITLEMENT – SUMMER 2023

Universal Entitlement - 15 Hours

Ward	3/4 Year Olds in a Universal place during Summer 2023	Children who attend in their home ward	Children who attend from another TMBC ward	Children who attend from outside TMBC	Maximum Number of FEF Vacancies for 3/4 Years Universal	Total Universal Places (Children in place + Vacancies)	% of Children attending in their home ward	% of Children attending outside their home ward but within TMBC %	% of Inward Migration from outside TMBC
Ashton Hurst	201	108	77	16	19	220	53.73%	38.31%	7.96%
Ashton St Michaels	317	165	142	10	29	346	52.05%	44.79%	3.15%
Ashton St Peters	386	214	159	13	40	426	55.44%	41.19%	3.37%
Ashton Waterloo	143	101	37	5	36	179	70.63%	25.87%	3.50%
1047	588	415	44	124	1171	56.16%	39.64%	4.20%	
Audenshaw	210	88	96	26	8	218	41.90%	45.71%	12.38%
210	88	96	26	8	218	41.90%	45.71%	12.38%	
Denton North East	272	118	147	7	21	293	43.38%	54.04%	2.57%
Denton South	126	98	26	2	31	157	77.78%	20.63%	1.59%
Denton West	152	81	40	31	2	154	53.29%	26.32%	20.39%
550	297	213	40	54	604	54.00%	38.73%	7.27%	
Droylsden East	272	125	121	26	8	280	45.96%	44.49%	9.56%
Droylsden West	110	60	42	8	22	132	54.55%	38.18%	7.27%
382	185	163	34	30	412	48.43%	42.67%	8.90%	
Dukinfield	283	170	107	6	25	308	60.07%	37.81%	2.12%
Dukinfield / Stalybridge	234	74	156	4	35	269	31.62%	66.67%	1.71%
517	244	263	10	60	577	47.20%	50.87%	1.93%	
Hyde Godley	285	152	128	5	73	358	53.33%	44.91%	1.75%
Hyde Newton	267	181	78	8	24	291	67.79%	29.21%	3.00%
Hyde Werneth	169	109	53	7	33	202	64.50%	31.36%	4.14%
721	442	259	20	130	851	61.30%	35.92%	2.77%	
Longdendale	129	85	32	12	25	154	65.89%	24.81%	9.30%
129	85	32	12	25	154	65.89%	24.81%	9.30%	
Mossley	183	143	16	24	45	228	78.14%	8.74%	13.11%
183	143	16	24	45	228	78.14%	8.74%	13.11%	
Stalybridge North	162	105	57	0	18	180	64.81%	35.19%	0.00%
Stalybridge South	127	82	44	1	12	139	64.57%	34.65%	0.79%
289	187	101	1	30	319	64.71%	34.95%	0.35%	
4028	2259	1558	211	506	4534	56.08%	38.68%	5.24%	

Extended Entitlement - 30 hours

Ward	3/4 Year Olds in a Uni + Ext place (with same provider) during Summer 2023	3/4 Year Olds accessing extended hours only in this ward	Total 3/4 Year Olds accessing extended hours during Summer 2023	Children who attend extended hours in their home ward	Children who attend extended hours from TMBC ward	Children who attend extended hours from outside TMBC	Maximum Number of Extended Vacancies for 3/4 Years	Total Extended Places (Children in place + Vacancies)	% of Children attending in their home ward	% of Children attending outside their home ward but within TMBC %	% of Inward Migration from outside TMBC
Ashton Hurst	84	3	87	37	36	14	17	104	42.53%	41.38%	16.09%
Ashton St Michaels	134	2	136	51	75	10	16	152	37.50%	55.15%	7.35%
Ashton St Peters	144	3	147	43	99	5	5	152	29.25%	67.35%	3.40%
Ashton Waterloo	32	7	39	24	15	0	4	43	61.54%	38.46%	0.00%
394	15	409	155	225	29	42	451	37.90%	55.01%	7.09%	
Audenshaw	137	0	137	61	62	14	14	151	44.53%	45.26%	10.22%
137	0	137	61	62	14	14	151	44.53%	45.26%	10.22%	
Denton North East	151	12	163	60	98	5	4	167	36.81%	60.12%	3.07%
Denton South	53	2	55	39	15	1	13	68	70.91%	27.27%	1.82%
Denton West	92	4	96	59	18	19	49	145	61.46%	18.75%	19.79%
296	18	314	158	131	25	66	380	50.32%	41.72%	7.96%	
Droylsden East	156	1	157	71	71	15	11	168	45.22%	45.22%	9.55%
Droylsden West	66	4	70	33	32	5	2	72	47.14%	45.71%	7.14%
222	5	227	104	103	20	13	240	45.81%	45.37%	8.81%	
Dukinfield	144	1	145	84	56	5	11	156	57.93%	38.62%	3.45%
Dukinfield / Stalybridge	134	5	139	44	93	2	11	150	31.65%	66.91%	1.44%
278	6	284	128	149	7	22	306	45.07%	52.46%	2.46%	
Hyde Godley	140	3	143	67	71	5	25	168	46.85%	49.65%	3.50%
Hyde Newton	142	8	150	91	52	7	14	164	60.67%	34.67%	4.67%
Hyde Werneth	93	1	94	58	29	7	10	104	61.70%	30.85%	7.45%
375	12	387	216	152	19	49	436	55.81%	39.28%	4.91%	
Longdendale	42	5	47	23	16	8	12	59	48.94%	34.04%	17.02%
42	5	47	23	16	8	12	59	48.94%	34.04%	17.02%	
Mossley	132	3	135	98	13	24	11	146	72.59%	9.63%	17.78%
132	3	135	98	13	24	11	146	72.59%	9.63%	17.78%	
Stalybridge North	89	3	92	50	42	0	2	94	54.35%	45.65%	0.00%
Stalybridge South	79	0	79	52	27	0	13	92	65.82%	34.18%	0.00%
168	3	171	102	69	0	15	186	59.65%	40.35%	0.00%	
2044	67	2111	1045	920	146	244	2355	49.50%	43.58%	6.92%	



(Includes data provided by Schools and Private, Voluntary and Independent Early Years Providers)

2023		Before and After School					Holiday Club			
		Places			Vacancies		Places		Vacancies	
Area	Ward	Number of Providers	Number of Before School Places 4 Yrs and over	Number of After School Places 4 Yrs and over	Total Vacancies Before School 4 Yrs and over	Total Vacancies After School 4 Yrs and over	Number of Providers	Number of Places 4 Yrs and over	Number of Full Time Vacancies 4 Yrs and over	Number of Part Time Vacancies 4 Yrs and over
Ashton under Lyne	Ashton Hurst	10	255	205	49	49	7	83	10	14
	Ashton St Michaels	7	224	124	44	33	4	50	21	3
	Ashton St Peters	13	246	125	93	48	9	188	47	37
	Ashton Waterloo	8	118	36	18	9	4	27	3	6
Sub totals		38	843	490	204	139	24	348	81	60
Audenshaw	Audenshaw	15	181	175	25	33	8	39	2	0
Sub totals		15	181	175	25	33	8	39	2	0
Denton	Denton North East	8	134	139	29	36	6	82	20	8
	Denton South	6	178	82	71	32	4	82	28	26
	Denton West	17	210	205	55	54	13	141	14	10
Sub totals		31	522	426	155	122	23	305	62	44
Droylsden	Droylsden East	12	179	179	59	31	9	73	4	2
	Droylsden West	11	161	146	56	54	8	74	0	1
Sub totals		23	340	325	115	85	17	147	4	3
Dukinfield	Dukinfield	10	142	142	14	10	6	73	27	6
	Dukinfield / Stalybridge	14	233	231	48	35	10	129	26	11
Sub totals		24	375	373	62	45	16	202	53	17
Hyde	Hyde Godley	8	299	89	37	18	6	170	15	1
	Hyde Newton	7	184	184	45	18	5	118	5	4
	Hyde Werneth	6	108	108	0	1	6	116	1	0
Sub totals		21	591	381	82	37	17	404	21	5
Longendale/Hattersley	Longendale	7	158	88	5	9	4	25	10	0
Sub totals		7	158	88	5	9	4	25	10	0
Mossley	Mossley	10	300	162	100	71	5	56	1	1
Sub totals		10	300	162	100	71	5	56	1	1
Stalybridge	Stalybridge North	9	110	104	33	33	7	100	15	8
	Stalybridge South	8	213	213	63	58	4	118	0	0
Sub totals		17	323	317	96	91	11	218	15	8
Grand Totals 2023		186	3633	2737	844	632	125	1744	249	138
Grand Totals 2022		196	3725	992	992	594	142	2108	499	320
% change from previous year		-5%	-2%	176%	-15%	6%	-12%	-17%	-50%	-57%

(Includes data provided by Schools and Private, Voluntary and Independent Early Years Provider)

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Agenda Item 6.

Report to:	EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
Date:	12 March 2024
Reporting Officer:	Deborah Myers – Assistant Director of Education
Subject:	EDUCATION UPDATE
Report Summary:	The report provides updates from schools since the last report in October. It includes information on changes to leadership, Ofsted updates, a Priority Education Investment Area update and KS4 outcomes, which are now validated and published.
Recommendations:	It is recommended that the Board note the content of the report.
Corporate Plan:	The proposals information in this report support most aspects of the Corporate Plan by covering outcomes, updates and future policy changes at a national level, which will impact on the provision of good school places.
Policy Implications:	The report sets out the position in line with Council policies and the statutory framework.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	The Priority Education Investment Area (PEIA) update included within this report relates to areas directly commissioned by the Department for Education through external organisations. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	The report is for noting and no direct legal implications flow from the report. However, the report provides an update on current important educational information that the Education Attainment Improvement Board require to ensure that governing boards have the necessary tools, knowledge, and support to fulfil their statutory obligations and contribute to effective school governance.
Risk Management:	There are no direct risk management implications as a result of this report.
Access to Information:	NON-CONFIDENTIAL This report does not contain information, which warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.
Background Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Jo Pearson  Telephone: 07928 512561  e-mail: jo.pearson@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report follows on from the October report presented to the Board. Since the last Education Attainment Improvement Board (EAIB) KS4 outcomes have been validated and are now published (see section 4).

2. CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- 2.1 The Assistant Director of Education left post at the end of January and Tameside now has a full-time Interim Assistant Director of Education, Deborah Myers, who comes with significant experience.
- 2.2 There have been other key changes in key education leadership roles recently. The Strategic Head of SEND left the Authority at the end of February and the Head of Access and Admissions left at the end of January. These vacancies represent a challenge to the team; the Head of Access role is under active recruitment and the SEND staffing is being considered holistically as part of the preparation for inspection and wider vacancies in the service.
- 2.3 The ongoing Education Priorities - Literacy, SEND, and Attendance – remain relevant and at the centre of our commissioning, support and challenge, in particular: reading and language at each key stage; the graduated response for pupils with additional needs and persistent absence. Building on these priorities is the Department for Education (DfE) Priority Plan, which focuses on early outcomes around communication and language and strong passes at the end of Key Stage 4 (see section 3 for more detail).
- 2.4 In the current academic year, since September, there have been 18 inspections (13 Primary; 2 special and 4 Secondary). 12 schools were graded as Good, one retained Outstanding, one moved from Inadequate to Requires Improvement, two were Requires Improvement and two were Inadequate. 89% of our primary schools and 59% of our secondaries are good or above.

3. PRIORITY EDUCATION INVESTMENT AREA UPDATE

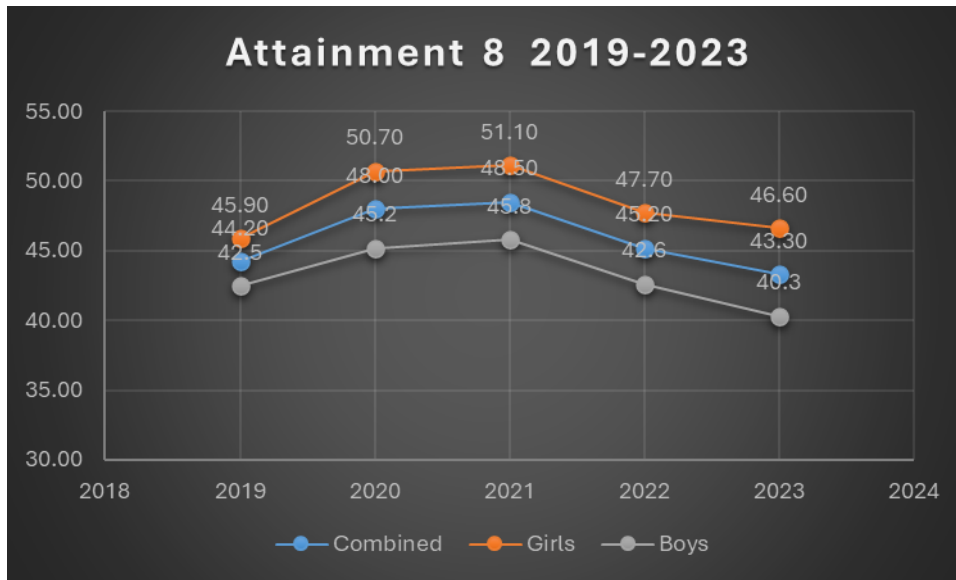
- 3.1 The work on the PEIA was significantly delayed by the DfE's commissioning process and did not actually begin with schools until September 2023. It will run until March 2025.
- 3.2 The priorities are:
Priority One: Early/Primary Literacy outcomes and the metrics DfE wishes to improve are:
- Percentage of pupils reaching the expected standard in Phonics at the end of year 1.
 - Percentage of pupils reaching expected standard in KS2 RWM, Reading and Writing.
- Priority Two: Significant improvement in KS4 English and Maths outcomes** and the metrics DfE wishes to improve are:
- Percentage of pupils achieving 9-4 in GCSE English and Maths.
 - Percentage of pupils achieving 9-5 in GCSE English and Maths
- 3.3 Priority one support includes three projects: Making it Real, commissioned to us as the LA; Helicopter Stories, commissioned to CDAT through St George's Hyde; Making a difference to Early Literacy and Communication Champions commissioned to Harmony Trust through Greenfield primary.

- 3.4 Priority two support is to improve literacy a key barrier to GCSE attainment and progress. This is a single project, commissioned via Right to Succeed, who is also supporting with Rochdale as another PEIA.
- 3.5 In addition, individual schools at both primary and secondary phases have been identified for intensive support from 'Strong Trusts' matched by the DfE.
- 3.6 All of the projects are underway: Making it Real will run as two cohorts with a target of 20 schools. 9 have been recruited in Year 1. Helicopter Stories and the Harmony project have multiple cohorts across each of the two academic years. Harmony have 26 schools on the Early Literacy programme and 7 on Communication champions. CDAT have 24 schools currently on the programme.
- 3.7 The DfE's assessment of Tameside's KPIs is that all projects are rated as green in terms of engagement. The School Improvement Team is currently working with the two external primary providers to increase the number of primary schools involved in the project. We are using a mixture of targeted approaches and universal offer mechanisms to do this. Engagement in the secondary programme is over 90% with 16/17 schools involved in the programme.
- 3.8 Impact is currently being measured in terms of engagement data from participating schools and qualitative feedback from individual participants. All projects are showing favourable sets of data in both fields. In terms of impact at pupil level each project has metrics to measure this. Given that the projects are in early years, KS1 and Year 7 we cannot expect an impact at KS2/GCSE in the academic year 2023/24. It is our intention to track schools and pupils who have participated longitudinally to evaluate impact in the coming academic years.

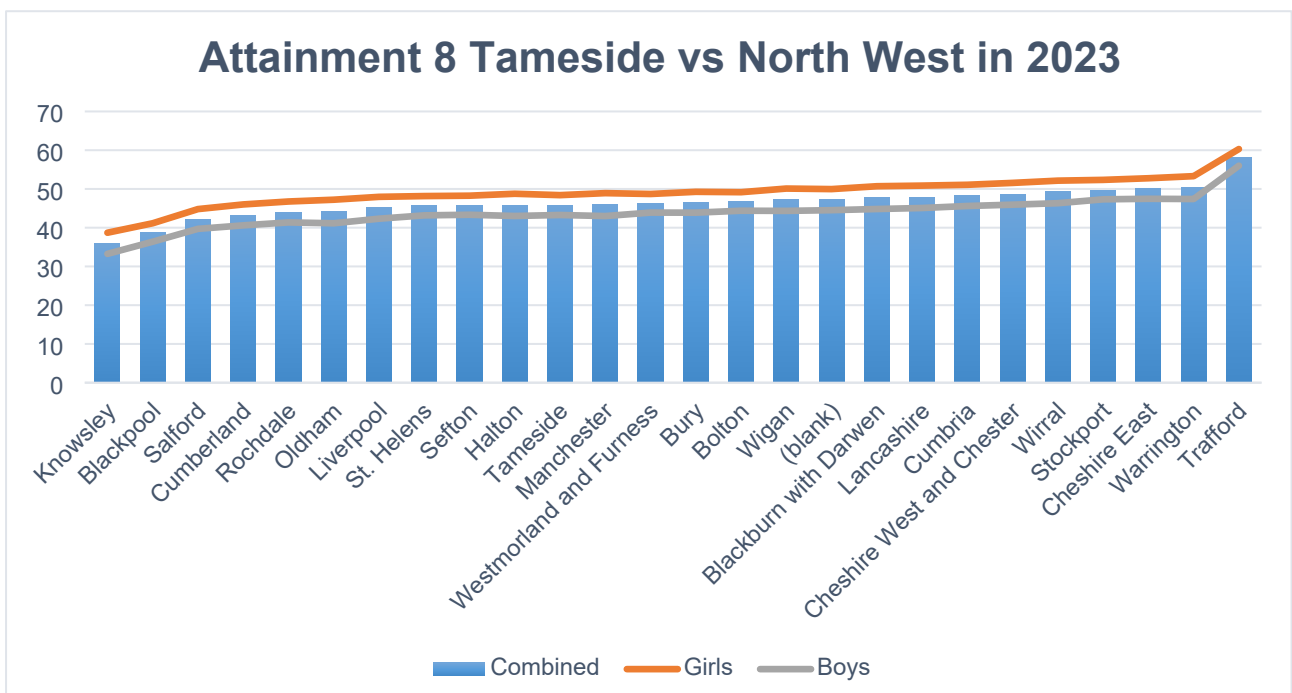
4. GCSE RESULTS 2023 (REVISED)

- 4.1 Pupils in Tameside received their GCSE results at the end of August 2023 and the unvalidated data was reported at the October meeting.
- 4.2 The main measures of pupil outcomes at KS4 are Attainment 8 and Progress 8. Attainment 8, a point score is a measure showing the average academic performance of pupils across 8 Government approved school subjects. Progress 8 is a type of 'value-added' measure that indicates how much progress pupils have made from the end of KS2 to the end of KS4. Attainment 8 and Progress 8 are linked, with a Progress 8 score being the difference between a school/pupil's estimated Attainment 8 score and their actual Attainment 8 score. The national average for Progress 8 is always 0.
- 4.3 The 'Basics' measure for attainment in English and Maths also remains and is now based on pupils achieving a strong pass in English and Maths (grade 9-5). Pupils attaining a standard pass in English and Maths (grade 9-4) is an additional measure, which is still monitored.

4.5 On Attainment 8, Tameside was 43.2 in comparison to 45.2 in the previous year when mitigations were still in place.



- The national average was 46.3
- There was a significant difference between the attainment of boys and girls (40.3/46.6)
- 40% of pupils achieved a strong pass in English and maths compared to 44% in 2021/22
- 61% of pupils achieved a standard pass in English and maths compared to 65% in 2021/22
- 56% of pupils achieved a strong pass in English compared to 59% in 2021/22, whilst 72% of pupils achieved a standard pass compared to 74% in 2021/22
- 47% of pupils achieved a strong pass in maths compared to 50% in 2021/22, whilst 68% of pupils achieved
- Compared to its statistical neighbours, Tameside ranked 11th for attainment 8



4.6 For **disadvantaged** pupils in Tameside:

- Progress 8 was 0.01 in 2022/23, the national average was 0.17
- For boys progress 8 was -0.91 for girls 0.49
- For boys Attainment 8 was 30.7, for girls it was 37.2

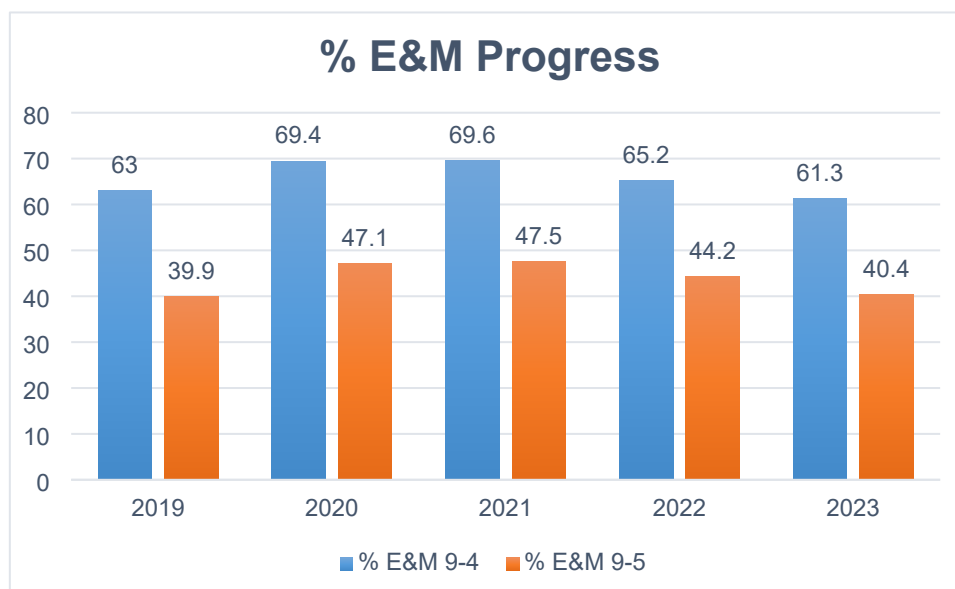
4.7 For pupils with **additional needs**:

- Attainment 8 for EHCP was 14.5 for send support 31
- Progress 8 was -0.14 for EHCP and -1.12 for send support

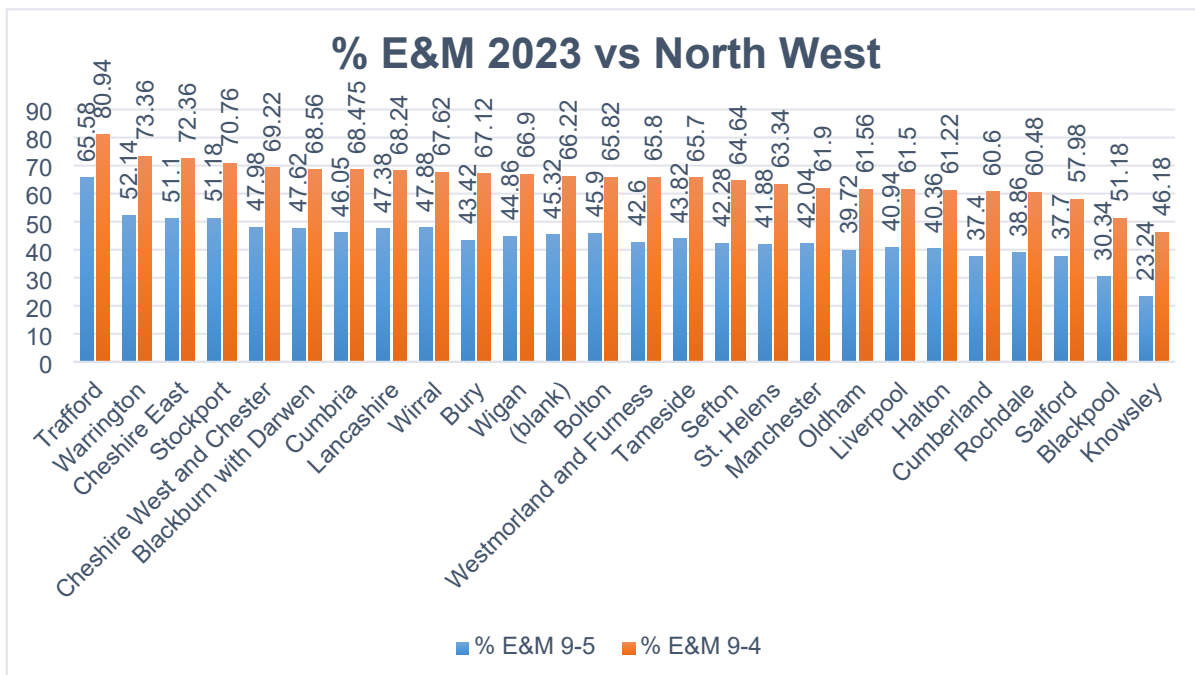
4.8 Outcomes at the end of Key Stage 4 are static in terms of attainment and progress and this remains an area where there is entrenched challenge for some of our schools, many of whom are academies. The targeted support aims to address overall performance in Tameside but this work is in its infancy and, at present, individual support plans have not been shared with the LA by the DfE.

4.9 In English and Maths, Tameside was 40.4% (9-5) and 61.3 (9-4) had decreased in comparison to the previous year.

	% E&M 9-5			% E&M 9-4		
	201819	202122	202223	201819	202122	202123
England	43.4	50	41.7	64.9	69	62.4
Tameside	39.9	44.2	40.4	63	65.2	61.3



- The national average was 41.7% and 62.4%
- There was a significant difference between the percentages for 9-4 of boys and girls (57.2/65.6)
- There was a significant difference between the percentages for 9-5 of boys and girls (36.2/44.8)
- Compared to its statistical neighbours, Tameside ranked 15th for 9-4 and 13th for 9-5.



5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The PEIA has allowed us to fund a place-based approach to tackling some of our most entrenched challenges and a coherent strategic approach to recruitment in both primary and secondary schools. We are on track for our KPIs in terms of engagement and initial data collections show that the programmes are being attended and valued by schools. By the end of the summer, we will have some pupil level impact data to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation at school level.
- 5.2 Outcomes at the end of Key Stage 4 have not made the progress hoped for but the investment at system and individual school level will hopefully support an increase in the short term for the schools receiving support and over time in the wider system as the literacy challenges of pupils are met more effectively in classrooms.
- 5.3 We need to focus on outcomes for boys, disadvantaged pupils and pupils with additional needs in order to narrow gaps and improve overall outcomes.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As set out at the front of the report.

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