

# Equality, diversity and inclusion 2024 to 2025 - children and young people supported by social care

## Youth support – Future4Me

Future4Me offer direct work and consultation to support a board range of children known to Children’s Services in Lincolnshire,

The multi-disciplinary team is a responsive and skilled workforce meeting the diverse and complex needs of our children. They facilitate timely and appropriate intervention so that:

- Children are supported without the need for statutory intervention – either through social care or youth justice
- Older adolescents are supported to remain with their existing carers (where this is safe) and there is a reduction in late entrants into the care system
- Relationships are maintained with key professionals accessing specialised wrap-around support from both complex need’s services (including psychology and speech and language) together with positive activities
- Appropriate sentencing proposals are offered to Courts to ensure the public are protected and children receive timely and robust interventions
- Victims of crime are supported and given a voice through restorative practice to ensure safe communities
- Children are fully supported to realise their potential

In the year from April 2024 to March 2025 the team supported a total of 432 children within the youth justice cohort of the team. The data below shows a summary of their characteristics by gender, age, nationality, ethnicity and religion.

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number within Future4Me caseload</b>	<b>% within Future4Me caseload</b>
Male	329	76.2%
Female	100	23.1%
Other or Unknown	3	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Religion	Number within Future4Me caseload	% within Future4Me caseload
Unknown	237	54.9%
Agnostic	14	3.2%
Christian (any)	54	12.5%
Atheist	17	3.9%
Other (ink no religion)	110	25.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Age in years as of 1st Oct 24	Number within Future4Me caseload	% within Future4Me caseload
10	2	0.5%
11	11	2.5%
12	26	6.0%
13	42	9.7%
14	80	18.5%
15	70	16.2%
16	98	22.7%
17	76	17.6%
18	25	5.8%
19	2	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Region	Number within Future4Me caseload	% within Future4Me caseload
Europe	47	10.88%
UK	357	82.64%
Unknown	25	5.79%
Asia	0	0.00%
Africa	1	0.2%
America and Caribbean	2	0.5%
Oceania	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number within Future4Me caseload</b>	<b>% within Future4Me caseload</b>
White British	343	79.4%
Other White	62	14.4%
Black, Asian and other ethnic minority	25	5.8%
Unknown	2	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

There are some gaps in recording which impacts on the quality of data; this continues to be addressed, and it remains a priority to improve the accuracy of data collection.

## Children’s Health Service

The Children’s Health Service delivers the Healthy Child Programme, which aims to support families in ensuring their children grow up healthy, safe, and capable of achieving their full potential. This service offers robust universal provision from the antenatal period through to the age of six years, alongside targeted support for the school-aged population. Emphasizing early intervention and prevention, the programme strives to provide effective and efficient services, thereby contributing to the reduction of health inequalities across Lincolnshire.

In the year April 2024 to March 2025 the service had a total of 61,243 children and adults open to receive care.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, there were 44,930 children and adults were open to the service.

<b>Age at 31 March 2025</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
0-5	37987	84.55%
6-11	969	2.16%
12-17	399	0.89%
18-23	800	1.78%
24-29	1777	3.96%
30-35	2078	4.62%
36-41	818	1.82%
42-47	96	0.21%
48-54	6	0.01%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44930</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Ethnicity and Gender breakdown:

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Black	1379	3.07%
Mixed	1190	2.65%
Other	1085	2.41%
South Asian	1117	2.49%
White	39312	87.50%
Not Stated	847	1.89%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44930</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Female	24688	54.95%
Male	20242	45.05%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44930</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Infant Feeding

The Health Visiting element of the service (supporting mothers in the antenatal period and babies from 0–6 years) records feeding status. Breastfeeding and combined feeding (breast plus supplement such as formula or parenteral nutrition) are reported at birth, the primary birth visit (10–14 days), 6–8 weeks, and 8–12 months from 2024/25. In previous years, feeding data was reported only up to 6–8 weeks.

Children’s Health were notified of 5,995 births in 2024/25, of which 3,817 babies were breastfed at birth (63.7%). This figure reduces slightly at the primary birth visit to 58.6%. At 6–8 weeks, 45.82% were still breastfed (a decline of 0.38% from 2023/24). Finally, at 12 months, 21.9% were still breastfed. Ethnicity breakdown is shown below.

Mothers in the White ethnic category have lower breastfeeding rates compared to other ethnic groups at various stages. Although the Black ethnic minority has the highest breastfeeding rates, there was a slight drop at 6–8 weeks in 2024/25 (85.78%) compared to 2023/24 (94.3%). Likewise, the 6–8 week breastfeeding rate for the White ethnic category was 41.69% in 2024/25, slightly lower than 43.3% in 2023/24.

Improving breastfeeding rates in Lincolnshire will be supported by the Lincolnshire County Council-led development of a collaborative Infant Feeding Strategy. This strategy, approved by the Lincolnshire Midwifery and Neonates System (LMNS) Board on 16 December 2024, aims to ensure a joined-up approach across organisations and that services meet the needs of local communities. A public-facing version is currently in development and will be published in early 2026.

Category	Breastfeeding Initiation at Birth	Breastfed Total
White	60.30%	3102
Mixed	78.50%	164
South Asian	87.00%	207
Black	89.30%	192
Other	82.40%	131
Not Stated	65.60%	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>63.70%</b>	<b>3817</b>

Category	Breastfeeding at Primary Birth Visit (10-14 days)	Total
White	54.40%	2796
Mixed	76.10%	153
South Asian	92.00%	208
Black	92.20%	188
Other	77.70%	122
Not Stated	64.30%	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>58.50%</b>	<b>3485</b>

Category	Breastfeeding at 6-8 W	Total
White	41.69%	2168
Mixed	57.67%	109
South Asian	80.66%	171
Black	85.78%	175
Other	68.79%	108
Not Stated	48.39%	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.82%</b>	<b>2746</b>

Category	Breastfeeding at 12 Months	Total
White	20.07%	1070
Mixed	23.60%	42
South Asian	41.35%	86
Black	50.58%	87
Other	25.16%	39
Not Stated	25.49%	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.94%</b>	<b>1337</b>

## Infant Feeding Support in the year April 2024 to March 2025

The Children’s Health service also provides infant feeding support through antenatal and breastfeeding support groups, a call at 3–4 weeks, and individualised care delivered by health visitors, children’s health workers, and peer support workers. The following data represents the total support provided and includes attendance at breastfeeding groups. Please note: the data counts each child as one attendance only, rather than multiple, to ensure accuracy.

In 2024/25, 74.66% of mothers whose ethnicity is White received infant feeding support, a decrease from 84.1% in 2023/24. The reason for this drop requires further investigation. On a positive note, 987 more mothers received support during 2024/25 compared to 2023/24 (2,459 versus 1,472).

Infant Feeding Support Mother Ethnicity	Total	Percentage
Black	91	3.70%
Mixed	29	1.18%
Other	77	3.13%
South Asian	108	4.39%
White	1836	74.66%
Not stated	318	12.93%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2459</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is government-funded until March 2029 and provides free holiday clubs for pupils from reception to year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals in Lincolnshire during the summer, Christmas, and Easter holidays

The HAF programme is designed to ensure a high-quality experience for children that will result in receiving healthy and nutritious meals and maintaining a healthy level of physical activity. Children and Young People (CYP) who attend HAF develop a greater understanding of food, nutrition and other health-related issues and have the opportunity to take part in fun and engaging activities.

The following data is based on HAF delivery within the 2024-2025 academic year. Winter 2025 data does not feature due to still being collated at the time of writing.

**Attendance to HAF provision**

Period	Primary	Secondary	Total
Winter 2024	2160	426	2586
Easter 2025	3656	586	4242
Summer 2025	5239	861	6100

A higher proportion of primary aged children attend HAF, though secondary attendance continues to grow.

**HAF 2024-25 attendance by gender**

Period	Male (%)	Female (%)	Other/Rather not say
Winter 2024	52.91	46.99	0.11
Easter 2025	54.31	45.54	0.15
Summer 2025	53.48	46.28	0.24

A slightly higher proportion of males attend HAF provision than females.

**Growth of HAF funded SEND spaces**

Period	2022	2023	2024	2025	Growth (%)
Easter	177	784	765	878	396
Summer	597	1215	1427	2158	261
Winter	622	604	763	TBC	TBC

The volume of HAF-funded SEND spaces has generally increased across holiday periods, although Easter 2024 and Winter 2023 saw slight decreases due to fewer providers offering SEND-specific provision at those times.

**Volume of HAF funded spaces taken up**

Period	Total
Winter 2024	5544
Easter 2025	8756
Summer 2025	35110

The above figures are based on the number of days each HAF provider offered and the number of places per day **and should not be confused with number of CYP.**

The volume of HAF funded spaces differ per delivery period, with summer provision providing the highest proportion of places due to the duration of the holiday.

Reporting on other protected characteristics is challenging as the Department of Education (DfE) do not require returns on age, race and religion.

HAF in Lincolnshire has grown significantly, and partnerships have also strengthened. SEND and secondary-specific provision continues to be a key area of development and identifying creative solutions to increase the volume of funded HAF places across the county.

## Early Years

Information on the gender (male or female) and ethnicity of pupils, Early Years Pupil Premium, and Special Educational Needs (EHCP and Inclusion Funding) is collected through the early year’s provider claims.

The data below shows the latest information for academic year September 2024 – August 2025.

### Inclusion Funding

#### Early years claim by gender

##### 3- & 4-year-olds

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	5638	51.59%
Female	5290	48.41%
Total	10928	100%

A higher number of males claimed their 3- & 4-year-old funding than females.

##### 2-year-olds

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	3751	50.37%
Female	3696	49.63%
Total	7447	100%

A higher number of males claimed their 2-year-old funding than females.

#### Early Years Claim by Ethnicity

##### 2-year-olds

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage	Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
African	50	0.67%	Other Black	0	0.00%
Any other Asian background	22	0.30%	Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%
Any other Black background	4	0.05%	Other Mixed Background	0	0.00%
Any other ethnic group	39	0.52%	Other White British	0	0.00%
Any other mixed background	139	1.87%	Pakistani	10	0.13%
Any other white background	377	5.06%	Portuguese	0	0.00%
Arab Other	3	0.04%	Sri Lankan Other	0	0.00%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage	Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Asian and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.0%	Traveller of Irish Heritage	0	0.00%
Bangladeshi	2	0.03%	Turkish	0	0.00%
Black - African	0	0.00%	White - British	6603	88.67%
Black and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White - Cornish	0	0.00%
Black Caribbean	9	0.12%	White - English	0	0.00%
Chinese	3	0.04%	White - Irish	7	0.09%
Chinese and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Asian Background	0	0.00%
Filipino	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%
Greek	0	0.00%	White and Asian	51	0.68%
Gypsy	9	0.16%	White and Black African	49	0.66%
Gypsy / Roma	0	0.00%	White and Black Caribbean	26	0.35%
Indian	29	0.39%	White Eastern European	0	0.00%
Iraqi	0	0.00%	White European	0	0.00%
Italian	0	0.00%	White Northern Irish	0	0.00%
Other Asian	0	0.00%	White Other	0	0.00%
Information not yet obtained	18	0.24%	Total	7447	100%

The majority of children accessing 2-year disadvantaged funding were White-British.

### 3- & 4-year-olds

Ethnicity	No	%	Ethnicity	No	%
Afghan	0	0.00%	Other Black	0	0.00%
African	266	2.43%	Other Black African	0	0.00%
Any other Asian background	107	0.98%	Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%
Any other Black background	27	0.25%	Other Gypsy/Roma	0	0.00%
Any other ethnic group	80	0.73%	Other Mixed Background	0	0.00%
Any other mixed background	229	2.10%	Other Pakistani	0	0.00%
Any other white background	746	6.83%	Other White British	0	0.0%
Arab Other	8	0.07%	Pakistani	35	0.32%
Asian and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	Portuguese	0	0.00%
Asian and Black	0	0.00%	Roma	2	0.02%

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Asian and Chinese	0	0.00%	Sri Lankan Sinhalese	0	0.00%
Bangladeshi	10	0.09%	Sri Lankan Tamil	0	0.00%
Black - African	0	0.00%	Thai	0	0.00%
Black - Ghanaian	0	0.00%	Traveller of Irish Heritage	0	0.00%
Black - Nigerian	0	0.00%	Turkish	0	0.00%
Black and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	Vietnamese	0	0.00%
Black Caribbean	13	0.12%	White - British	8953	81.93%
Black European	0	0.00%	White - Cornish	0	0.00%
Chinese	15	0.14%	White - English	0	0.00%
Chinese and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White - Irish	15	0.14%
Egyptian	0	0.00%	White - Scottish	0	0.00%
Filipino	0	0.00%	White - Welsh	0	0.00%
Greek	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Asian	0	0.00%
Gypsy	24	0.22%	White and Any Other Ethnic	0	0.00%
Gypsy / Roma	0	0.00%	White and Asian	91	0.83%
Hong Kong Chinese	0	0.00%	White and Black African	61	0.56%
Indian	165	1.51%	White and Black Caribbean	55	0.50%
Iraqi	0	0.00%	White and Chinese	0	0.00%
Italian	0	0.00%	White and Indian	0	0.00%
Kurdish	0	0.00%	White and Pakistani	0	0.00%
Latin/ South/ Central American	0	0.00%	White Eastern European	0	0.00%
Malaysian Chinese	0	0.00%	White European	0	0.00%
Nepali	0	0.00%	White Other	0	0.00%
Other Asian	0	0.00%	White Western European	0	0.00%
Information not obtained	30	0.27%	Total	10928	100%

The majority of children accessing 3- & 4-year-old funding were White-British.

## Early Years Pupil Premium

### Early Years Pupil Premium by Gender

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	2082	52.42%
Female	1890	47.58%
Total	3972	100%

A higher number of males claimed EYPP than females.

### Early Years Pupil Premium by Ethnicity

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>EYPP</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
African	21	0.53%	Other White British	0	0.00%
Any other Asian background	20	0.50%	Pakistani	2	0.05%

Ethnicity	EYPP	Percentage	Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Any other Black background	8	0.20%	Portuguese	0	0.00%
Any other ethnic group	33	0.83%	Unknown	11	0.28%
Any other mixed background	79	1.99%	Traveller of Irish Heritage	0	0.00%
Any other white background	260	6.55%	Turkish	0	0.00%
Arab Other	1	0.03%	Vietnamese	0	0.00%
Asian and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White - British	3411	85.88%
Bangladeshi	5	0.13%	White - English	0	0.00%
Black - African	0	0.00%	White - Irish	10	0.25%
Black and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White - Scottish	0	0.00%
Black Caribbean	7	0.18%	White - Welsh	0	0.00%
Chinese	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Asian	0	0.00%
Greek	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%
Gypsy	17	0.54%	White and Asian	19	0.48%
Gypsy / Roma	1	0.03%	White and Black African	31	0.78%
Indian	3	0.08%	White and Black Caribbean	30	0.76%
Iraqi	0	0.00%	White and Pakistani	0	0.00%
Kurdish	0	0.00%	White Eastern European	0	0.00%
Nepali	0	0.00%	White European	0	0.00%
Other Asian	0	0.00%	White Other	0	0.00%
Other Black	0	0.00%	White Western European	0	0.00%
Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%			
Other Gypsy/Roma	0	0.00%			
Other Mixed Background	0	0.00%	Total	3972	100.00%

The majority of children claiming EYPP were White-British.

# Special Educational Needs

## Inclusion Funding

### By Gender

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	456	70.92%
Female	187	29.08%
Total	643	100%

A significantly higher number of males claimed inclusion funding than females.

### By Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage	Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
African	27	4.20%	Other Pakistani	0	0.00%
Any other Asian background	5	0.78%	Other White British	0	0.00%
Any other Black background	3	0.47%	Pakistani	5	0.78%
Any other ethnic group	6	0.93 %	Roma	0	0.00%
Any other mixed background	19	2.95%	Gypsy	1	0.18%
Any other white background	43	6.69%	White - British	514	79.94%
			White - Irish	2	0.31%
Arab Other	0	0.00%	White - English	0	0.00%
Asian and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%
Bangladeshi	0	0.00%	White and Asian	6	0.93%
Black - African	0	0.00%	White and Black African	1	0.16%
Black and Any Other Ethnic Group	0	0.00%	White and Black Caribbean	2	0.31%
Black Caribbean	1	0.16%	White and Pakistani	0	0.00%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage	Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Filipino	0	0.00%	White Eastern European	0	0.00%
Indian	6	0.93%	White European	0	0.00%
Nepali	0	0.00%	Unknown	2	0.31%
Other Asian	0	0.00%	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Other Black African	0	0.00%	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Other Mixed Background	0	0.00%	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
White Other	0	0.00%	Total	643	100%

## Education Health Care Plan

### By Gender

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	73	57.03%
Female	55	42.97%
Total	128	100%

A significantly higher number of males claimed EHCP funding than females.

### By Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Education, Health and Care Plan
African	3
Any other ethnic group	3
Black - African	1
Information not yet obtained	0
White - British	114
Any other mixed or multiple ethnic background	2
Any other white background	4
Caribbean	0
Indian	0
White and Asian	1
White and Black African	1
Grand Total	128

# Schools

School information on the gender (male or female) and ethnicity of pupils, free school meals, special educational needs provision and exclusions is collected in the school census. This takes place in January each year.

## School pupils by gender

Gender	Number of pupils	Percentage
Female	52,665	48.93%
Male	54,958	51.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,623</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## School pupils by ethnicity

Ethnicity	Number of pupils	Percentage
White	94,356	87.67%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	3,630	3.37%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	4,309	4.00%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	2,132	1.98%
Information not yet obtained	1,520	1.41%
Another ethnic group	967	0.90%
Refused	709	0.66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,623</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

The 2021 census data for Lincolnshire shows that 96.0% of the population are White, compared to 87.67% of the population of children in Lincolnshire schools in 2025. Higher than last year’s 9.18%, 10.25% of children in school are black or other ethnic minority background which is also higher than the proportion of the total population of Lincolnshire which was 4% in 2021.

## School students eligible for free school meals

Free school meals	2020 number of students	2021 number of students	2022 number of students	2023 number of students	2024 number of students	2025 number of students
No	89,478 (83.61%)	85,750 (79.66%)	83,928 (77.12%)	82,127 (75.11%)	80,222 (73.44%)	77,467 (71.98%)
Yes	17,536 (16.39%)	21,895 (20.34%)	24,902 (22.88%)	27,220 (24.89%)	29,014 (26.56%)	30,156 (28.02%)
Total	107,014 (100%)	107,645 (100%)	108,830 (100%)	109,347 (100%)	109,236 (100%)	107,623 (100%)

The number of students eligible for free school meals has increased since 2020 by 11.63 percentage points, from 16.39% to 28.02

## School students eligible for free school meals by gender

Free school meals (FSM) by gender	Number of students with FSM eligibility	Percentage of FSM total	Percentage of total students
Female	14,545	48.23%	13.51%
Male	15,611	51.77%	14.51%
Total	30,156	100.00%	28.02%

## School students eligible for free school meals by ethnicity

Free school meals (FSM) by ethnicity	Number of students with FSM eligibility	Percentage of FSM total	Percentage of total students
White	27,521	91.26%	29.17%
Refused	219	0.73%	30.89%
Other ethnic group	247	0.82%	25.54%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	1132	3.75%	26.27%

Free school meals (FSM) by ethnicity	Number of students with FSM eligibility	Percentage of FSM total	Percentage of total students
Information not yet obtained	523	1.73%	34.41%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	206	0.68%	9.66%
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	308	1.02%	8.48%
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,156</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>28.02%</b>

A slightly higher proportion of male students are eligible for free school meals than female students.

For those where ethnicity is known and obtained, White students have the highest eligibility for free school meals at 29.17%, slightly above the overall average of 28.02%. In contrast, eligibility among Asian students (8.48%) and Black students (9.66%) is significantly lower.

Although the promotion of free school meals is equal to all residents, not all ethnic groups claim this benefit related entitlement equally.

## School students receiving Special Educational Needs provision

Special Educational Needs provision in schools includes education, health and care plans (EHCPs) and Special Educational Needs (SEN) support.

Special educational needs provision	2020 Number of students (%)	2021 Number of students (%)	2022 Number of students (%)	2023 Number of students (%)	2024 Number of students (%)	2025 Number of students (%)
Education, health and care plans (EHCP)	3,772 (3.52%)	4,545 (4.22%)	4,850 (4.46%)	5,172 (4.73%)	5,702 (5.22%)	6,197 (5.76%)
Special Educational Needs (SEN) support	14,184 (13.25%)	13,611 (12.64%)	14,277 (13.12%)	15,089 (13.80%)	15,554(14.24%)	14,974 (13.91%)
No Special Educational Need	89,058 (83.22%)	89,489 (83.13%)	89,703 (82.42%)	89,086 (81.47%)	87,980(80.54%)	86,452 (80.33%)

<b>Special educational needs provision</b>	<b>2020 Number of students (%)</b>	<b>2021 Number of students (%)</b>	<b>2022 Number of students (%)</b>	<b>2023 Number of students (%)</b>	<b>2024 Number of students (%)</b>	<b>2025 Number of students (%)</b>
Total	107,014 (100%)	107,645 (100%)	108,830 (100%)	109,347 (100%)	109,236 (100%)	107,623 (100%)

The proportion of school students with either an Education, Health and Care Plan or Special Educational Needs support has been increasing over the last five years, however while the percentage of students with SEN support appears to have plateaued at c. 14% over the past three years, the number of students with EHC plans continues to increase.

### School students receiving special educational needs (SEN) provision by gender

<b>SEN provision by gender</b>	<b>Number of students with ECHP</b>	<b>Number of Students with SEN Support</b>	<b>Total number of students with SEN provision</b>	<b>Percentage of total students</b>
Female	1,732 (27.95%)	5,833 (38.95%)	7,565 (35.73%)	7.03%
Male	4,465 (72.05%)	9,141 (61.05%)	13,606 (64.27%)	12.64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,197 (100%)</b>	<b>14,974 (100%)</b>	<b>21,171 (100.00%)</b>	<b>19.67%</b>

### School students receiving special educational needs (SEN) provision by ethnicity

<b>SEN provision by ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of students with ECHP</b>	<b>Number of students with SEN support</b>	<b>Total number of students with SEN provision</b>	<b>Percentage of total students</b>
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	71 (1.15%)	157 (1.05%)	228 (1.08%)	10.69%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	60 (0.97%)	125 (0.83%)	185 (0.87%)	5.10%
Information not yet obtained	89 (1.15%)	207 (1.38%)	296 (1.40%)	19.47%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	209 (3.37%)	436 (2.91%)	645 (3.05%)	14.97%
Other ethnic group	34 (0.55%)	61 (0.41%)	95 (0.45%)	9.82%

SEN provision by ethnicity	Number of students with ECHP	Number of students with SEN support	Total number of students with SEN provision	Percentage of total students
Refused	26 (0.42%)	78 (0.52%)	104 (0.49%)	14.67%
White	5,708 (92.11%)	13,910 (92.89%)	19,618 (92.66%)	20.79%
<b>Total</b>	6,197 (100%)	14,974(100%)	21,171(100%)	19.67%

There is a higher proportion of male students (64.27%) accessing SEN provision than females (35.73%) when compared to the total student population (males 51.01% and females 48.99%). This translates to nearly one in four boys (24.75%) accessing some form of SEN provision compared to roughly one in seven girls (14.36%)

For those where ethnicity is known and obtained, White students account for 92.66% of those receiving SEN provision (SEN support or Education, Health and Care plans), with 20.79% of White pupils accessing support compared to 10.69% of Asian pupils and 5.10% of Black pupils. This highlights a notable difference in SEN provision uptake among ethnic groups.

There is a lower proportion of students receiving SEN provision from all other ethnic minority backgrounds than in the school student population.

Further investigation is required to confirm whether this is affected by accessibility or whether all children requiring SEN provision are receiving the support required.

## Children and young people supported by social care

Children’s Social Care delivers a wide range of services to children, young people and their families in Lincolnshire to ensure that they are safe, well and supported. This support ranges from universal services through to child protection and beyond. Children and young people supported by social care are assessed (under the Children Act 1989) as needing help and protection. This includes children and young people on Children in Need plans, children with a Child Protection Plan and children in the care of the Local Authority; Care experienced and disabled children.

Whilst most children will be aged under 18, the data will include young people aged 18 or over who are still receiving care and accommodation or post-care (care experienced) support from children’s services. This data is reported from the annual ‘Children in need census’ as of 31 March 2025. It includes all vulnerable children, including:

- unborn children
- babies
- older children
- young carers
- disabled children
- those who are in secure setting.

	Children in need	Children in need per 10,000 children	Child Protection Plans	Child Protection Plans per 10,000 children	Referrals	Completed assessments
<b>Child in Need census figures as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025:</b>	396,870	325.8	49,420	40.6	632,830	648,830
<b>Lincolnshire as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>	4,184	282.8	456	30.8	8,276	7,258

Population data published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS)	Children aged 0 – 17
Child in Need census figures as of 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025:	12,183,016
Lincolnshire as of 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	147,954

### Children and young people supported by social care by age:

Age	Number of children or young people	Percentage
Unborn or under 1	306	7.31%
1 to 4 years	652	15.58%
5 to 9 years	944	22.56%
10 to 15 years	1,250	29.88%
16 to 18 years	590	14.10%
19 to 24 years	442	10.56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Children and young people supported by social care by gender:

Gender	Number of children or young people	Percentage
Female	1,848	44.17%
Male	2,250	53.78%
Other, Not Recorded, Unborn	86	2.06%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

Since January 2023 and in collaboration with trans and non-binary people who helped shape how we record gender, Lincolnshire Children’s Services can now record a person’s gender separately from their sex and include pronouns. This ensures professionals can respond and refer to people respectfully and appropriately.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, of the 4,184 children being supported by Children’s Social Care 19 (0.46%) identify with a gender different to their sex.

### Children and young people supported by social care by disability:

Disability	Number of children or young people	Percentage
Yes	317	7.58%
No	3,867	92.42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Children and young people supported by social care by ethnicity:

Ethnicity	Number of children or young people	Percentage
White	3,589	85.78%
Mixed	170	4.06%

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of children or young people</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Asian or Asian British	68	1.63%
Black or Black British	105	2.51%
Other	206	4.92%
Not Recorded/Refused	46	1.10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

Recording of ethnicity information has improved over the past year, reflected by a reduction in entries listed as ‘Not Recorded or Refused’. This improvement helps us better understand the diversity of communities served by Lincolnshire Children’s Services and ensures our services meet the needs of all residents.

The Department for Education Children in need census codes for ethnicity include the following:

**White:**

- White British
- White Irish
- Traveller of Irish Heritage
- Any other white background
- Gypsy or Roma

**Mixed:**

- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- any other mixed background

**Asian or Asian British:**

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- any other Asian background

**Black or Black British:**

- Caribbean
- African
- any other black background

**Other:**

- Chinese
- any other ethnic group

Not Recorded/Refused

- refused
- not yet obtained.

### Children and young people supported by social care by nationality:

Nationality	Number of children or young people	Percentage
British	2,871	68.62%
EU Countries	140	3.35%
The Rest of The World	302	7.22%
Not Recorded	871	20.82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Children and young people supported by social care by religion:

Religion	Number of children or young people	Percentage
Buddhist	5	0.12%
Christian	636	15.20%
Muslim (Islam)	221	5.28%
Other Religion	26	0.62%
No Religion	1,587	37.93%
Not Willing to Declare	8	0.19%
Not Recorded	1,701	40.65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>100%</b>

Data on age, gender, disability, ethnicity, nationality and religion is available daily to the wider management team within Children's Services. Disability data is considered regularly by the relevant teams. Where information such as ethnicity, nationality and religion is not recorded, it can be accessed as needed to address gaps. Routine collection and analysis help us understand the accessibility of support for children from different backgrounds and identify trends that may inform improvements to services tailored to local demographics.