

Produced on: 06 June 2024



# Performance Report

## Quarter 4

### 2023/24 financial year

#### Children and Young People Committee

Governance & Performance  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
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## Key



Data Item	Explanation
<b>Target / Pro Rata Target</b>	The target that has been set for the indicator, relevant for the reporting period
<b>Current Month / Current Period</b>	The latest performance figure relevant to the reporting period
<b>Previous Month / previous period</b>	The previously reported performance figure
<b>Direction for Improvement</b>	Indicates whether 'good' performance is a higher or a lower figure
<b>Change in Performance</b>	Indicates whether performance is 'improving' or 'declining' by comparing the latest performance figure with that of the previous reporting period
<b>Statistical Neighbours Mean</b>	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recently available data from identified statistical neighbours.
<b>England Mean</b>	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recent nationally available data
<b>RAG Rating</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Red</b> – current performance is off target by more than 10%</li> <li>• <b>Amber</b> – current performance is off target by 10% or less</li> <li>• <b>Green</b> – current performance is on target by up to 5% over target</li> <li>• <b>Blue</b> – current performance exceeds target by more than 5%</li> <li>• <b>Baseline</b> – indicates performance is currently being tracked in order to inform the target setting process</li> <li>• <b>Contextual</b> – these measures track key activity being undertaken, to present a rounded view of information relevant to the service area, without a performance target.</li> <li>• <b>In Development</b> - measure has been agreed, but data collection and target setting are in development</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator Description</b>	Provides an overview of how a measure is calculated. Where possible, this is based on a nationally agreed definition to assist benchmarking with statistically comparable authorities
<b>Commentary</b>	Provides a narrative to explain the changes in performance within the reporting period
<b>Actions</b>	Actions undertaken to address under-performance. Populated for 'red' indicators only
<b>Useful Links</b>	Provides links to relevant documentation, such as nationally available data and definitions

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
20.0%	↓	34.8%	23.6%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG Rating
21.3%		21.5%		Red

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the level of re-referrals into children's social care. A re-referral could mean that the child's needs were not previously fully met, or a significant incident has occurred to change their circumstances.

This measure is expressed as a percentage of children, with a referral to social care, within the reporting month, who have had a previous referral to social care which opened within the last year.

A referral is defined as a request for services to be provided by children's social care. It is in respect of a child who is currently not assessed to be in need. New information relating to children who are already assessed to be a child in need is not counted as a referral.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) * 100$$

Where:

X = The number of children with a referral who also have a previous referral starting within the last 12 months.

Y = The number of children with a referral this month.

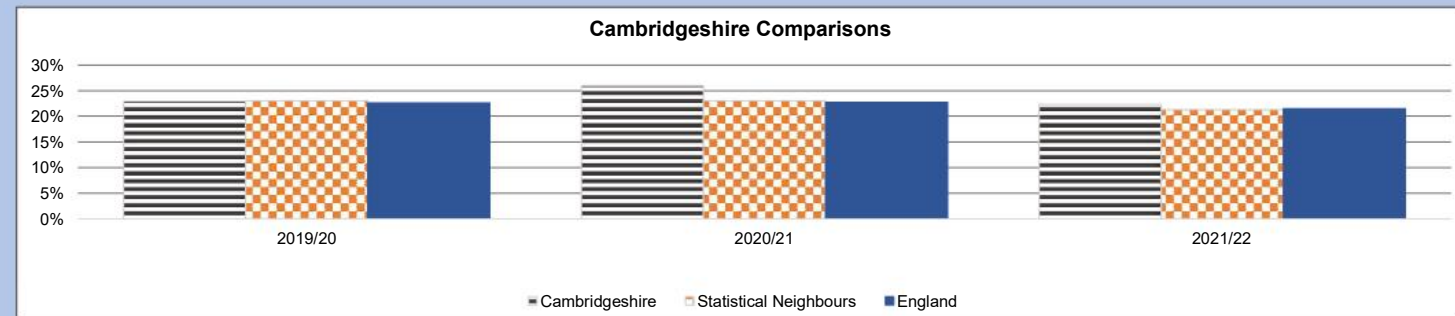
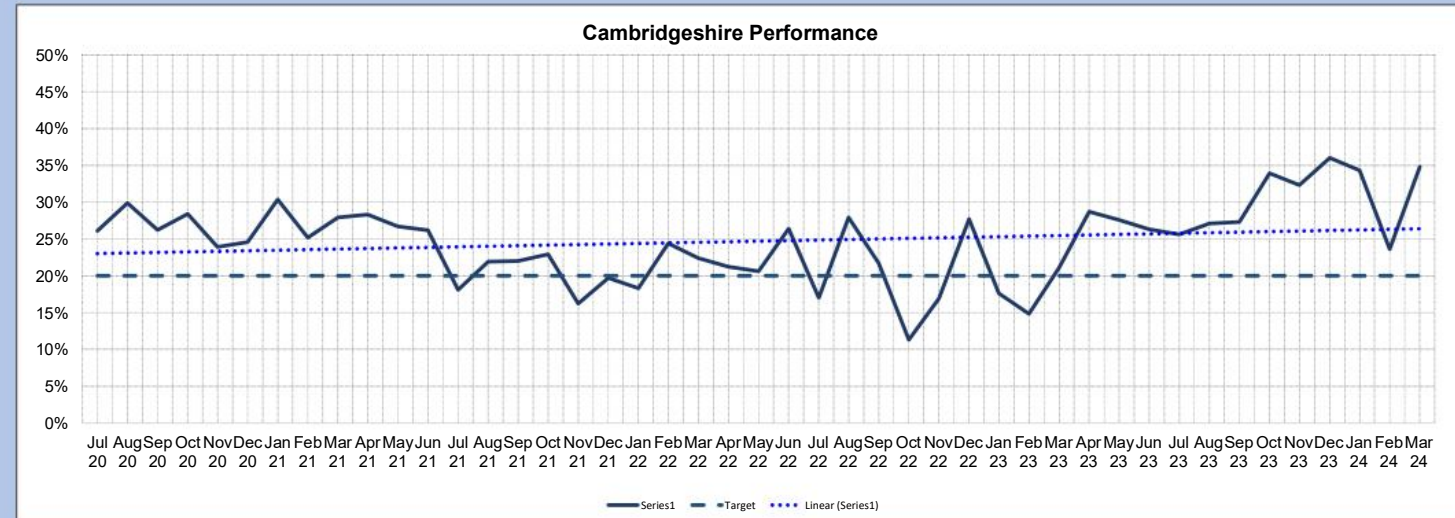
Sources: Department for Education; Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT); Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



**Commentary**

The re-referral rate over the last 12 months continues to reduce but is still higher than statistical neighbours. The service has identified through audits a number of challenges that are currently working on to improve practise and performance. These include the quality of referrals received, the application of threshold is not always consistent across the MASH, assessment and early help services. Through the Audits completed in January and February there is clear evidence of threshold application improving and ongoing work is taking place with partner agencies regarding improving referrals and consent.

**Actions**

Quality and Assurance Service to undertake an audit of the rereferral cases to understand the themes and to provide clear actions to identify areas that require further intervention, either application of threshold or improvement of assessments and plans.

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
21.1	↓	29.0	28.0	Declining
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b> 38.1		<b>England Mean</b> 42.1		<b>RAG Rating</b> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">Red</div>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the number of children at risk of significant harm within the county.

A Child Protection Plan is put in place where a child is at risk of significant harm. This plan sets out the action needed to keep the child safe and to promote their welfare.

This measure is expressed as the rate of children with a Child Protection Plan, at month end, for every 10,000 population (0-17).

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) * 10,000$$

Where:

X: The number of children with a Child Protection Plan at month end.

Y: The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

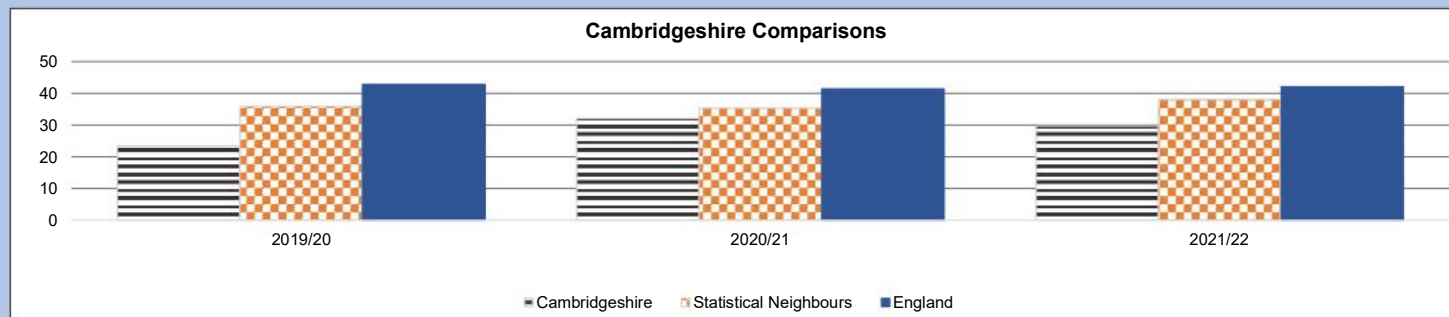
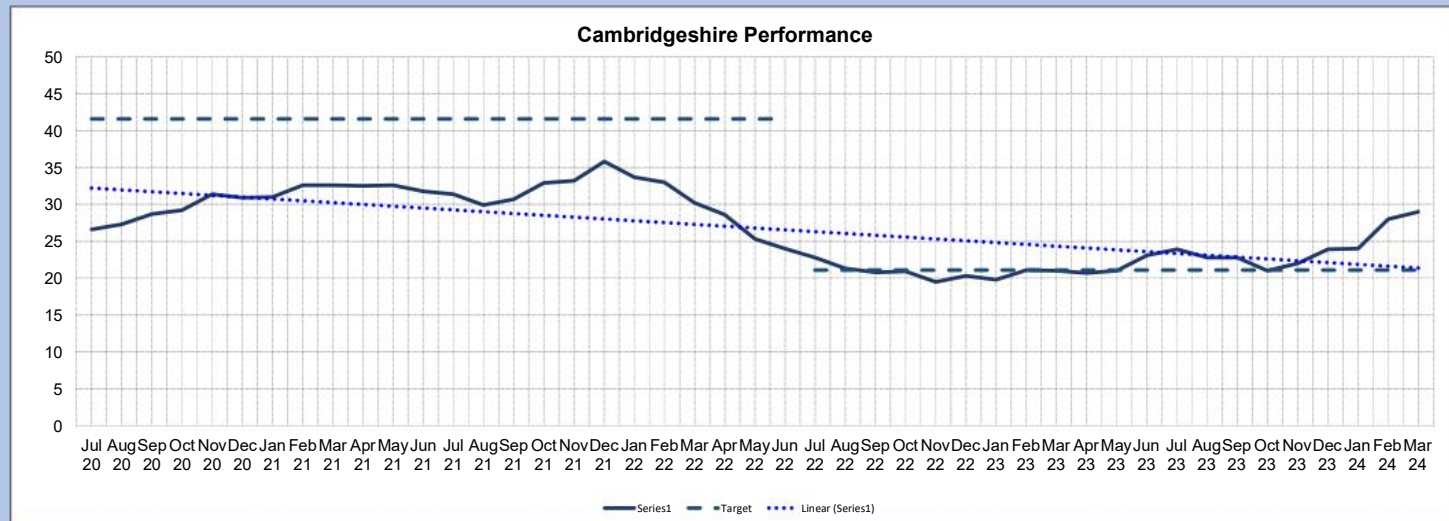
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



**Commentary**

Cambridgeshire have a better performance regarding numbers per 10,000 of children subject to CP plans than statistical neighbours and England. Over the past few years there has been a steep rise in numbers of children subject to CP plans from mid 2020 up until early 2022 which reflects the experience of many Local Authority Children's services working in the context of COVID. There was a reduction and then a period of stability in numbers from July 22 – May 23. There was a rise May -July 23 in numbers, a drop in September and then slight increase to April 23 levels. As part of revised QA work the service has identified the need to have further analysis of the cohort of children, to consider by category and any patterns there. The service also needs to consider the 'journeys' of children and previous involvement by the service and partners. There is further exploration of the connection between the application of threshold and partnership involvement

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
40.0	↓	48.0	47.0	Declining
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b>	<b>England Mean</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>		
53.1	67.0	<b>Red</b>		

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the number of children who are in the care of the local authority. This measure is expressed as the number of children in care as a rate for every 10,000 children aged 0 to 17. Children in care include all children being looked after by a local authority:

1. Children subject to a care order under section 31 of the Children Act 1989.
2. Children looked after on a voluntary basis through an agreement with their parents under section 20 of the Children Act 1989.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) * 10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of children in care at month end.

Y = The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

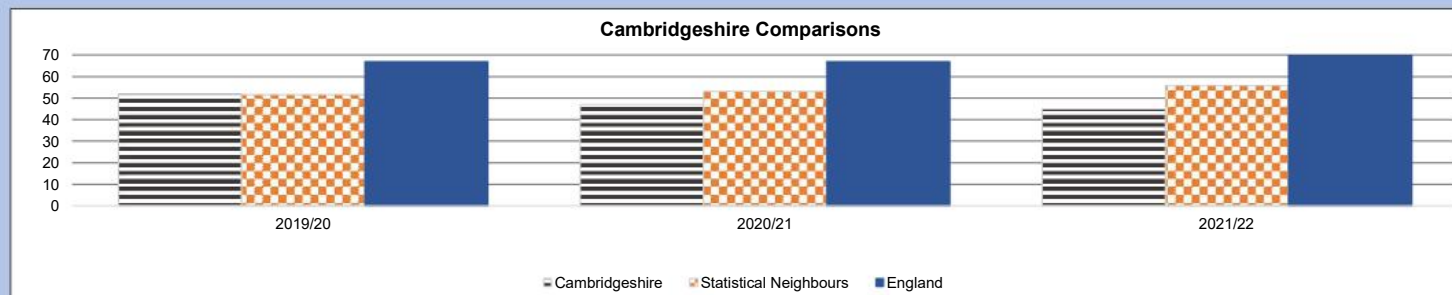
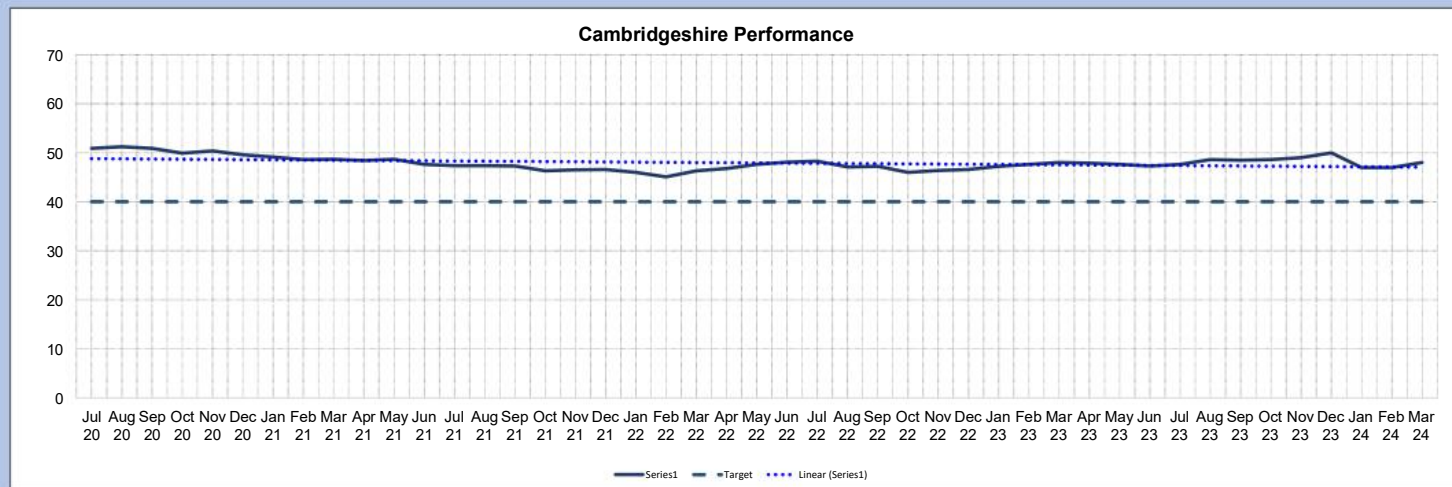
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAI\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



**Commentary**

The number of children in care has increased recently, but Cambridgeshire remains below the statistical neighbours and the England average. Notably, there is a rise in older adolescents with complex needs, who have suffered significant trauma and often present with challenging behaviours. The service continues to support our children through long term care arrangements and where needed specialist services are commissioned to provide timely support and aid recovery. Nonetheless, the service is persistent in exploring reunification options where appropriate. Additionally, where possible the service secures permanency for children through a plan of adoption at the earliest opportunity along through applications made for a Child Arrangements Order or a Special Guardianship Order.

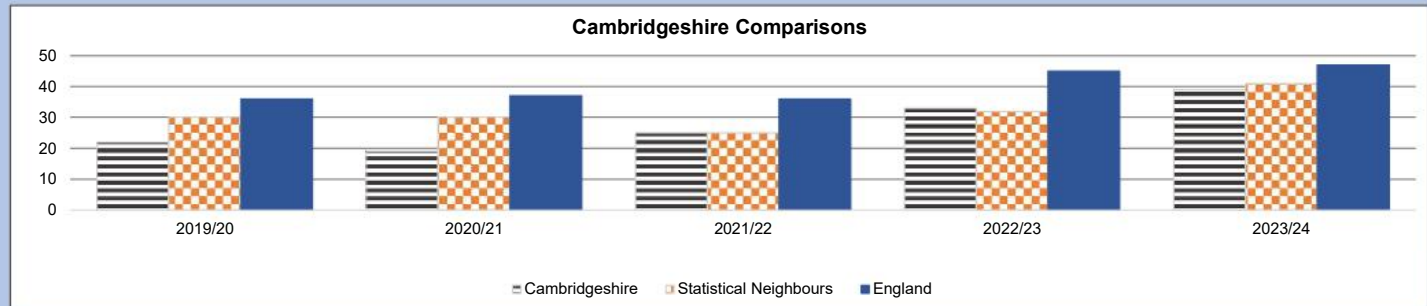
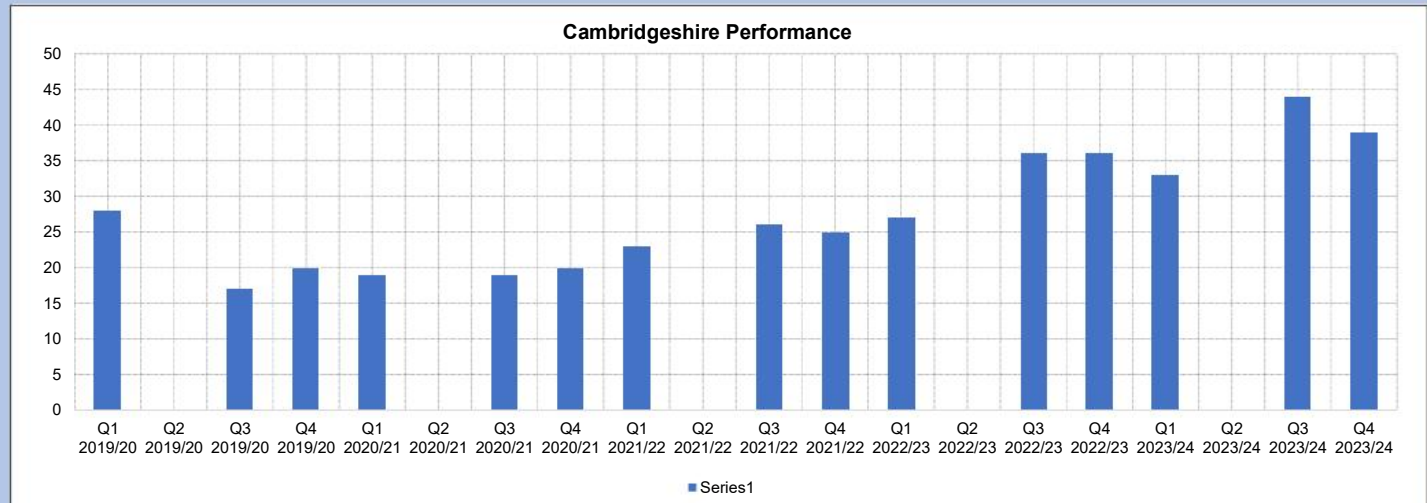
**Actions**

The service continues to review children's placements at the weekly panel to track cases and ensure children are provided the right support at the right time. The service continues to strive to find adoptive and SGO placements for children. Where possible family options such as connected persons assessments are completed. We continue to have a focus on reunification at the earliest opportunity where it is safe to do so.

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	39.0	44.0	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
41.0	47.0	<b>Contextual</b>		

**Indicator Description**

Number of young people aged 16&17 who have a current Education, Health and Care Plan and are either Not in education, employment or training (NEET) or their situation is not known as a ratio per 10,000 people.



**Commentary**

The actual number of SEND young people who are NEET or not known situation is 62 young people with a % of 8.3% of all SEND young people aged 16-17. These figures are higher than previous years and have been steadily increasing over last 3 years. The figures this quarter are good in comparison with local and statistical neighbours average which are 10.0% and 9.6% respectively. The annual data shown above takes an average from quarters 1, 3 and 4 in the year as it is well documented that due to Annual Activity Survey processes that Q2 is not statistically viable data to use for reporting. The results for Cambridgeshire are in line or better than local and statistical neighbours and compared with England average. Part of the strategy that is being developed is to improve the amount of provision that is available for young people who are unable to attend the mainstream further education provision. The number of alternative education provision for post 16 has been declining in recent years and this has impacted on the NEET figures for SEND young people.

**Useful Links**

- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

**Actions**

Indicator 7: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Nursery Schools)

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June 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
100.0%	↑	100.0%	100.0%	Unchanged
Statistical Neighbour Mean 100.0%		England Mean 97.7%		RAG Rating <span style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px 5px;">Green</span>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded nursery schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded nursery schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded nursery schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded nursery schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

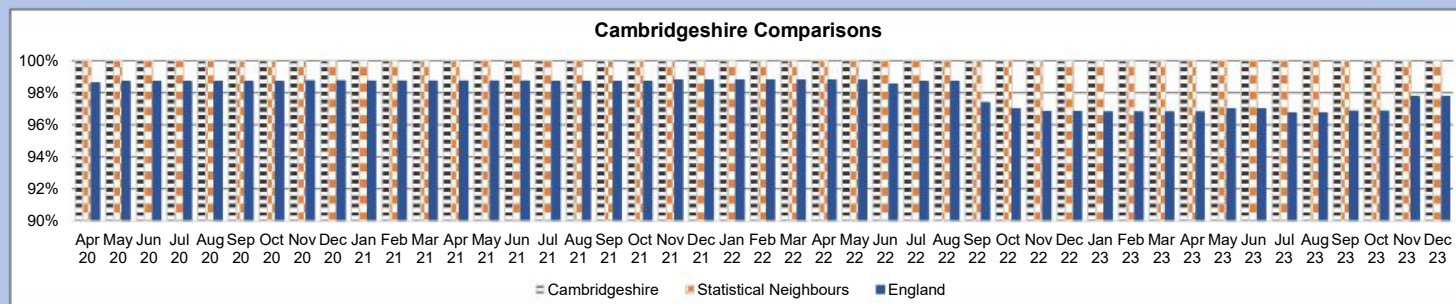
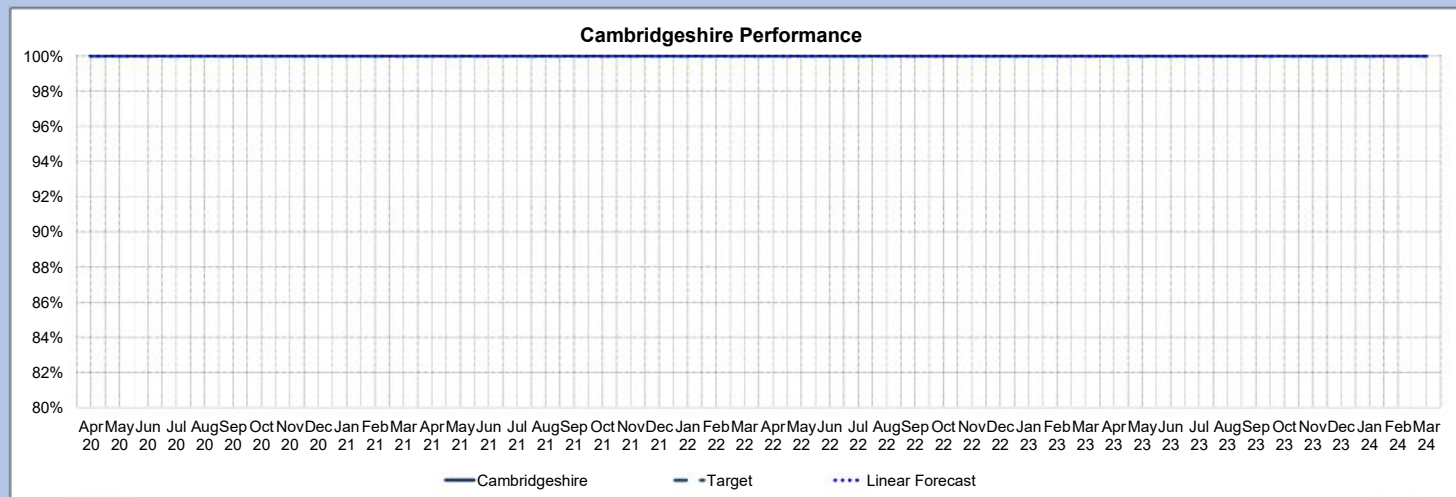
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

There are 7 maintained nursery schools in Cambridgeshire. All have been judged by Ofsted to be either Good or Outstanding.

Due to the COVID pandemic there were no Ofsted inspections between March 2020 and September 2021, with some inspections under the education inspection framework restarting on 4 May 2021. Any slight fluctuations in the data during the pandemic are due to delayed publication of reports or changing pupil numbers in schools.

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
90.0%	↑	91.4%	91.7%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG Rating
91.8%		92.7%		<b>Green</b>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded primary schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded primary schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded primary schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded primary schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

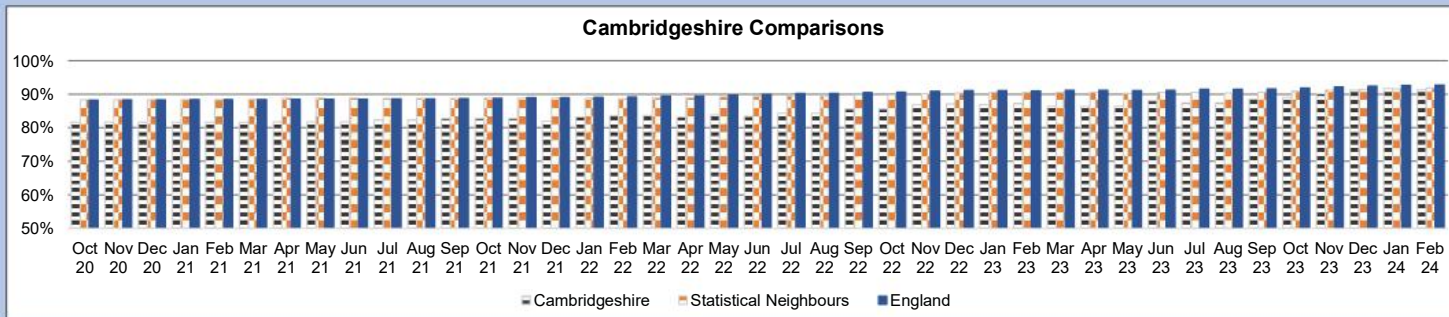
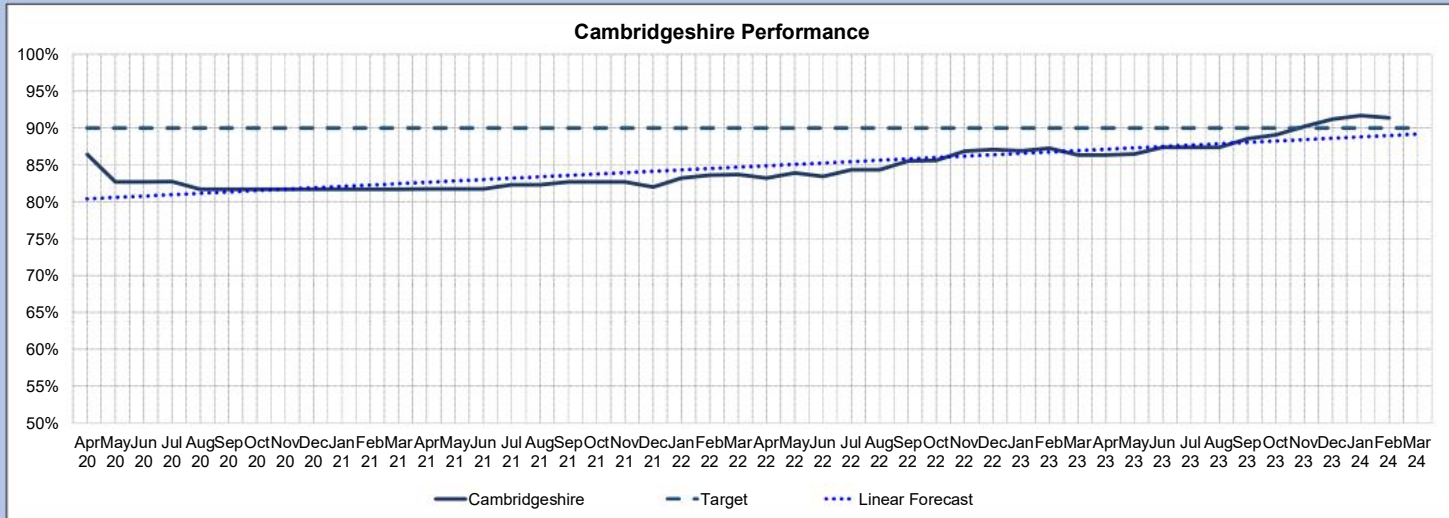
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

The continued positive position in the percentage of schools good or better is hugely encouraging. There continues to be a large number of schools awaiting inspections especially in the academy sector where they are now over 3 years since they joined a trust. However the vast majority of schools inspected this year have been judged as good schools. The service continue to work closely with maintained schools to ensure schools are ready for inspection including review safeguarding and the schools self evaluation. Where there is not the assurance that a school will achieve good, the service is intervening to ensure rapid improvement in performance. This can include issuing warning notices, providing additional support or looking at other structural changes to provide capacity. The service has secure judgement on all of our schools and the last year the service was accurate in all of assessments for schools. The service continue to work closely with academies to ensure improvement.

**Actions**



Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
90.0%	↑	81.1%	81.1%	Unchanged

Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating
91.8%	85.3%	<b>Amber</b>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded secondary schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded secondary schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$(X/Y)*100$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded secondary schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded secondary schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

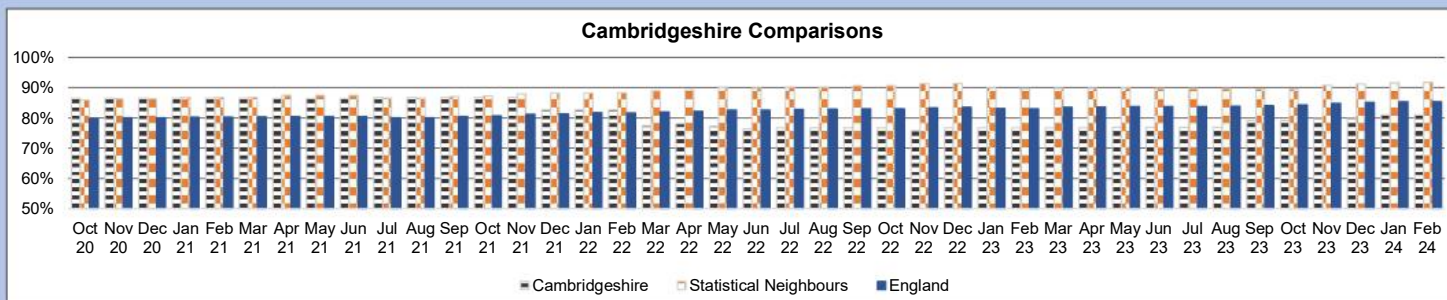
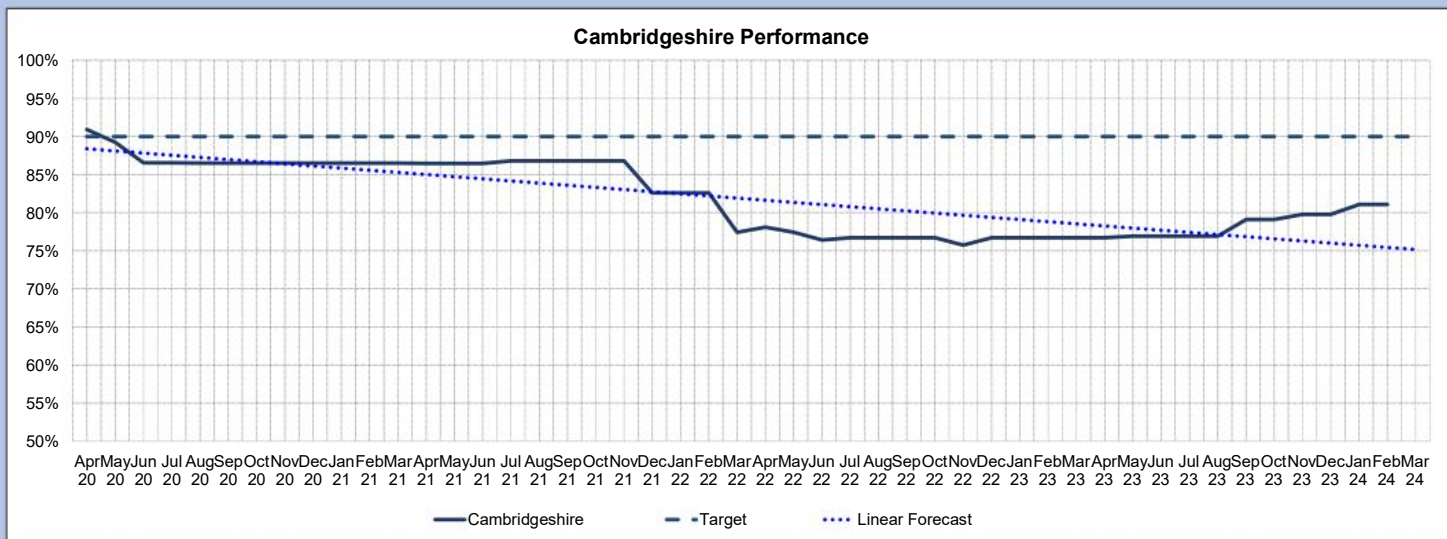
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

All secondary schools in the county are Academies. All but two schools are part of multi-academy trusts with the remaining two set up as single academy trusts (SATs). The overall level of schools which are good or better is of concern. The service is awaiting publication of Ofsted reports from two schools who were previously judged as requiring improvement. Cambridgeshire Secondary Heads association have identified the need to work more closely together on key elements of school improvement.

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
100.0%	↑	87.8%	87.8%	Unchanged
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG Rating
89.2%		92.8%		Red

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded special schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded special schools, at month end.  
Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded special schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded special schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

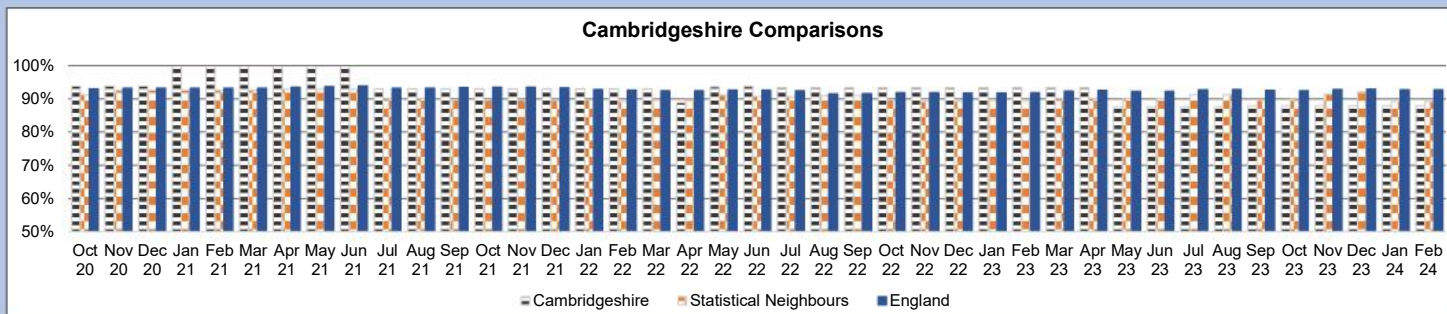
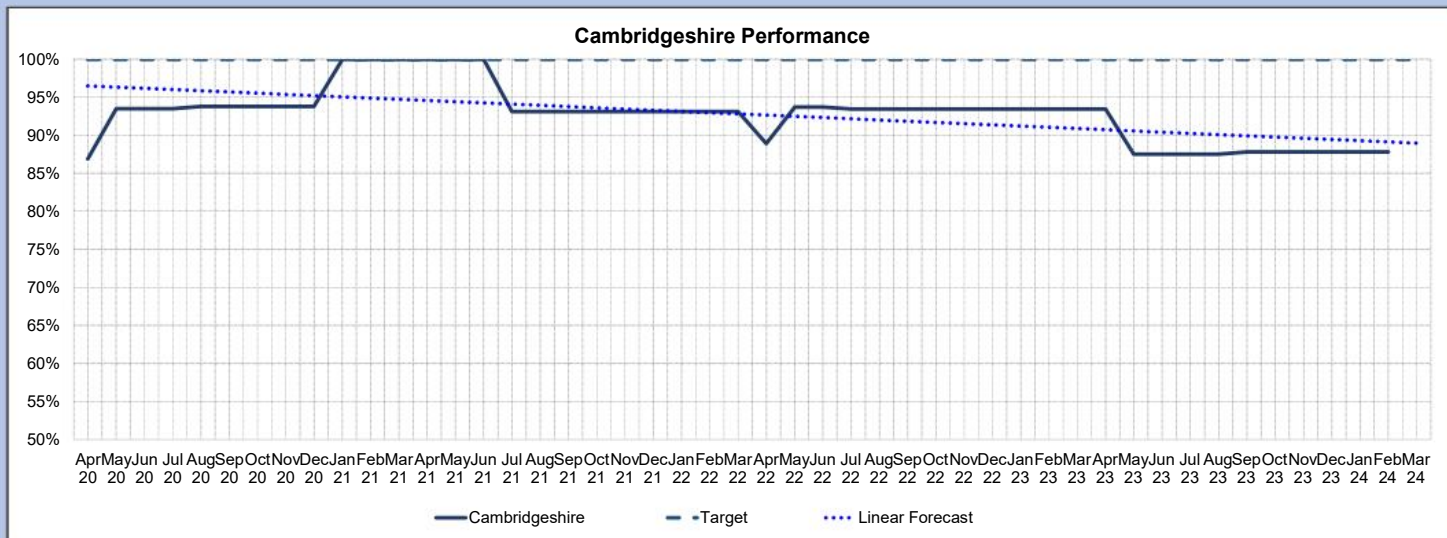
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

There is strong work between special schools in Cambridgeshire. One school, which is requires improvement, has recently moved Trust and is making positive progress towards 'good'. The one school from 2019 that has a legacy judgement of 'inadequate' has since been reinspected in January of this year. The improvements resulted in a judgement of requiring improvement overall with good in 3 of the 4 areas.

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Term	Previous Term	Change in Performance
75.0%	↑	78.3%	71.1%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean 79.0%		England Mean 74.0%		RAG Rating <div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Green</div>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the proportion of children benefitting from some funded early education.

All 4 year olds have been entitled to a funded early education place since 1998. In 2004 this was extended to all 3 year olds. From September 2013, the entitlement to 15 hours of funded early education every week was extended to 2 year olds. This was to meet the Department for Education's eligibility criteria.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of 2 year olds taking up places.

Y = All of the 2 year old population eligible for funded early education.

NB: Where they are receiving funded provision at more than one provider, they have only been counted once. This is a unique count of children.

The estimated number of eligible children is derived from data supplied to the Department for Education by the Department for Work and Pensions in November 2016 on the number of children believed to meet the benefit and tax credit eligibility criteria.

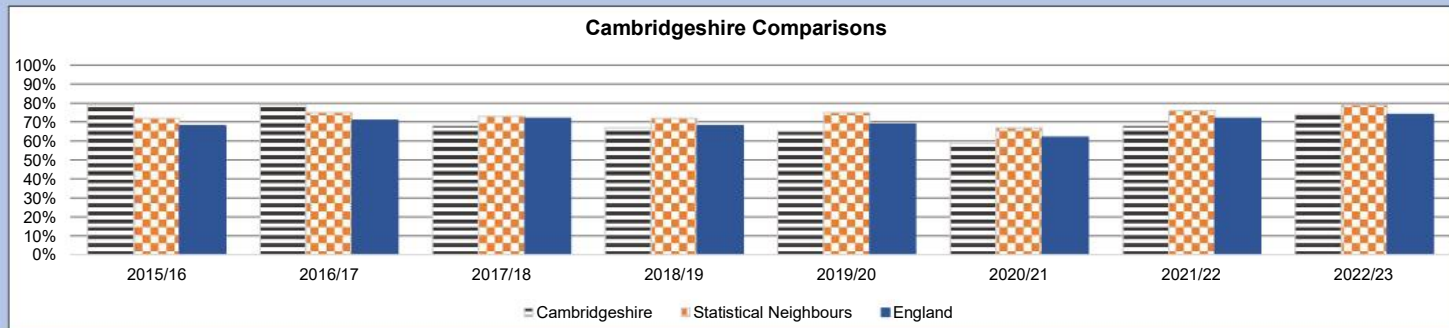
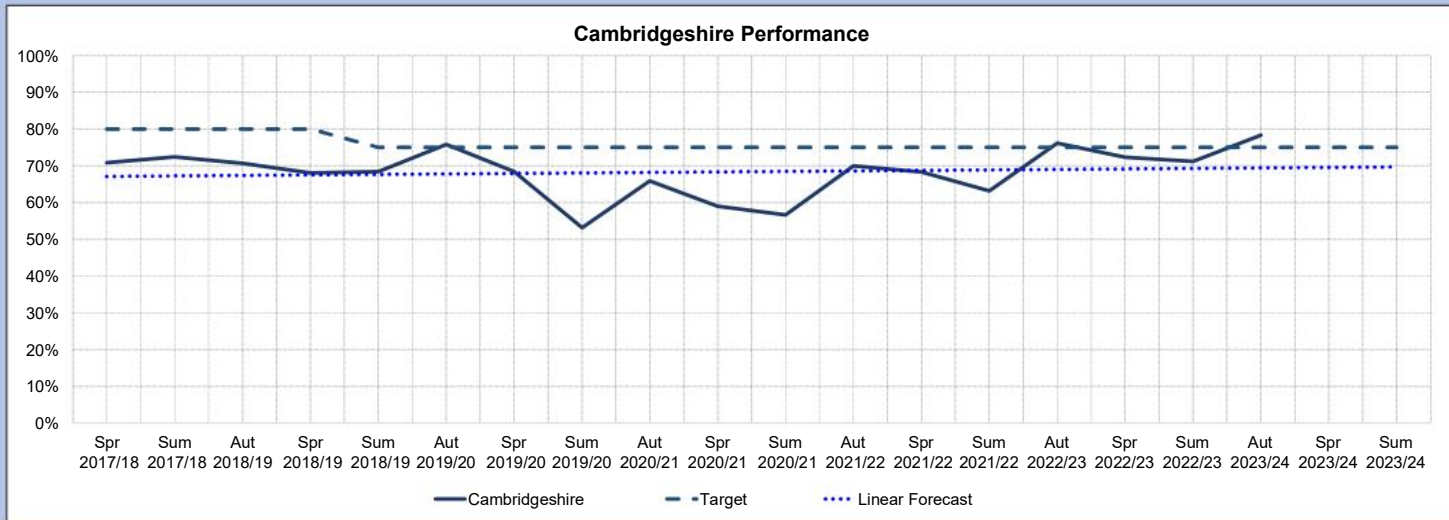
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: Childcare and Early Years](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

The data for Autumn 2022/23 has been updated. The data for 2023/24 will not be available until July 2024.

"The proportion of families taking up their two-year funded offer is increasing, however there are barriers to accessing provision.

The current percentage of children taking up Funded Two places in Cambridgeshire is 73.5%, which is slightly below the national percentage of 73.9%. In comparison to our statistical neighbours Cambridgeshire is 8th out of 11 statistical neighbours in 2023. Current take-up is approximately 71% for autumn term.

Data from the Education Capital & Place Planning Team shows that Cambridgeshire has a good spread of providers allowing funded two year olds to access places in their provision.

There are however some gaps in capacity in the far south of the county, and also in the East Cambridgeshire villages.

The service has identified a number of barriers including -

- Families unsure how to use their free entitlement code when they receive it or not aware they can use the code with a childminder,
- Settings not offering places to children under a given age e.g. 2 years 6 months or 2 years 9 months, meaning they can't use the code for an additional term,
- Data provided by DWP not matching our data, or having incorrect contact details so we can't let parents know they are eligible."

**Actions**

**Indicator 116: Rate of referrals to Children's Social Care per 10,000 of population under 18**

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June 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
25.0	↓	52.0	41.0	Declining
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b>	<b>England Mean</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>		
41.1	44.8	<b>Red</b>		

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the level of referrals into children's social care.

A referral is made when there are concerns expressed about the safety and wellbeing of a child.

This measure is expressed as the number of referrals to children's social care for every 10,000 population under 18. A referral is defined as a request for services to be provided by children's social care. It is in respect of a child who is currently not assessed to be in need. A referral may result in:

1. An initial assessment of the child's needs
2. The provision of information or advice
3. The referral to another agency
4. No further action

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) * 10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of referrals to social care within the month.

Y = The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

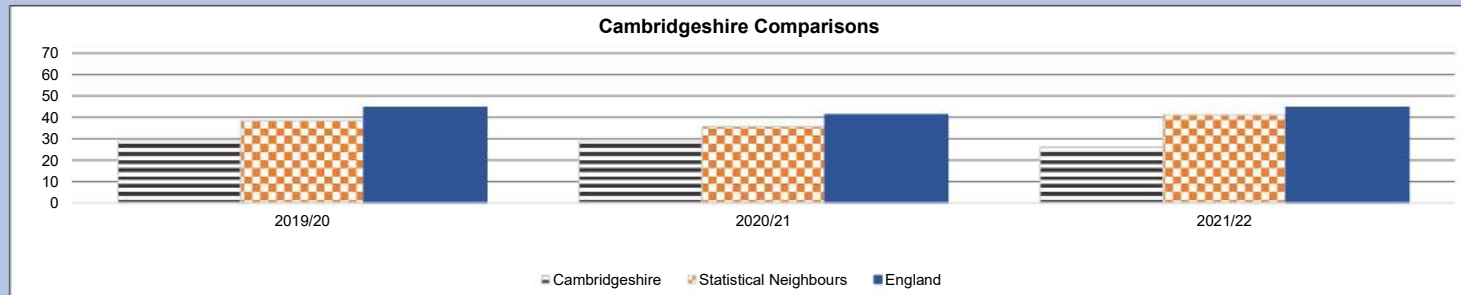
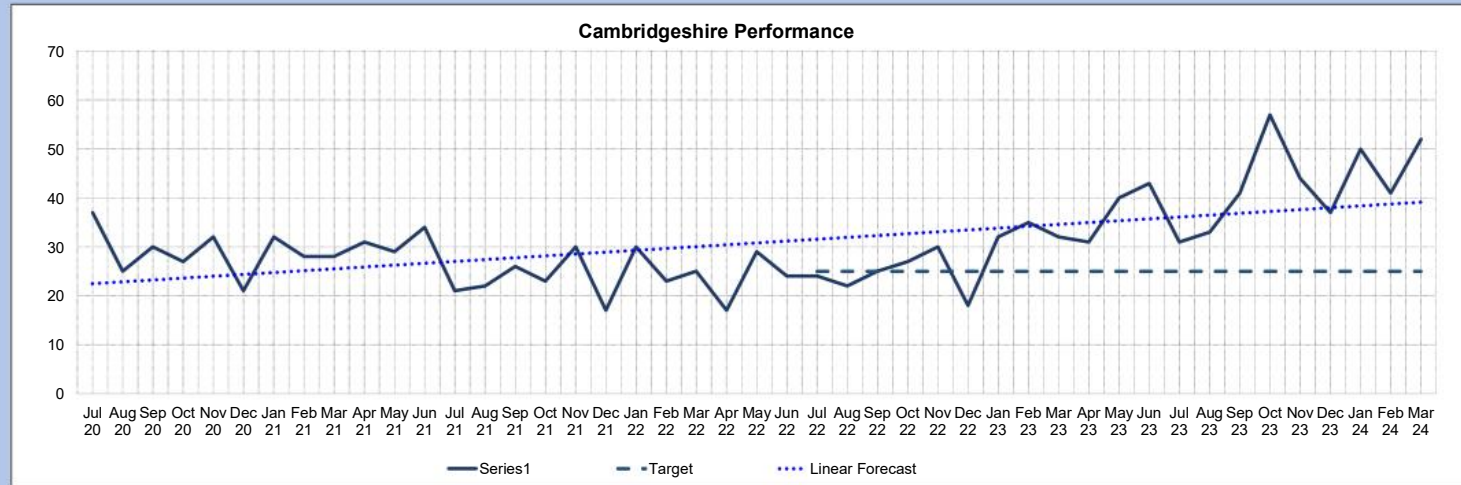
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAI\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



**Commentary**

The number of referrals received remains consistent over the last three years but remains higher than the expected target. There has been significant change's within the functionality of the MASH over the last 12 months, which has contributed to the fluctuation of referrals being received into the MASH. There has been a high number of referrals from partner agencies where consent has not been obtained by partners, these are now being rejected immediately and partners advised, and educated regarding expectations and actions required prior to a referral being made.

**Actions**

MASH have streamlined the referral process and this remains under constant review. Rejection of contacts with no consent is now embedded in the practice. MASH Manual has been formerly agreed and signed off by the Safeguarding Board and implemented. A revised threshold document is under review by the partnership. Work with partners to reinforce the need to obtain consent is ongoing. The identification of support for low level needs is transferred directly to the Early Help Hub.

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
21.0%	↓	8.6%	7.9%	Declining
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b>	<b>England Mean</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>		
24.6%	23.3%	<b>Blue</b>		

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the number of children at risk of significant harm for a second or more times. Re-registration of a child indicates that the actions to reduce the risk of harm were not successful or significant event has occurred to change their circumstances.

This measure is expressed as a percentage of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan at any time during the year, who had previously been the subject of a Child Protection Plan, or on the Child Protection Register of that council.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 100$$

Where:

X = The number of children with a Child Protection Plan at month end, who have had a previous child protection plan.

Y = The number of children with a Child Protection Plan, at month end.

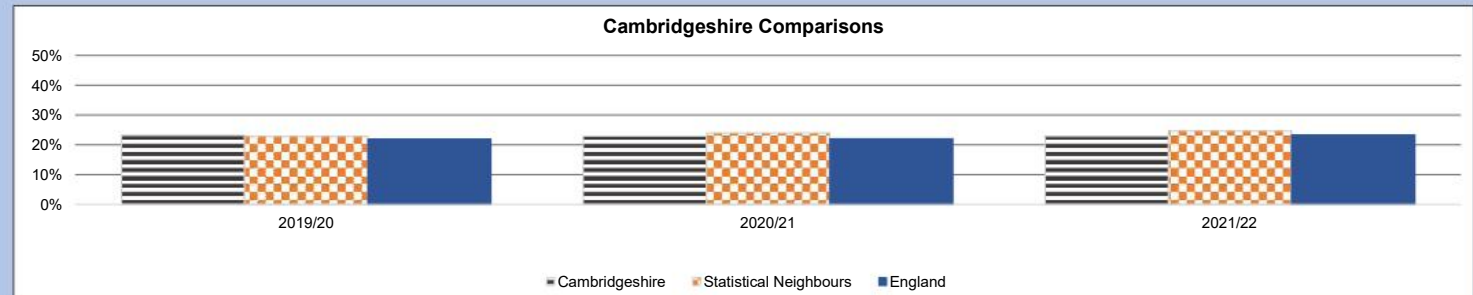
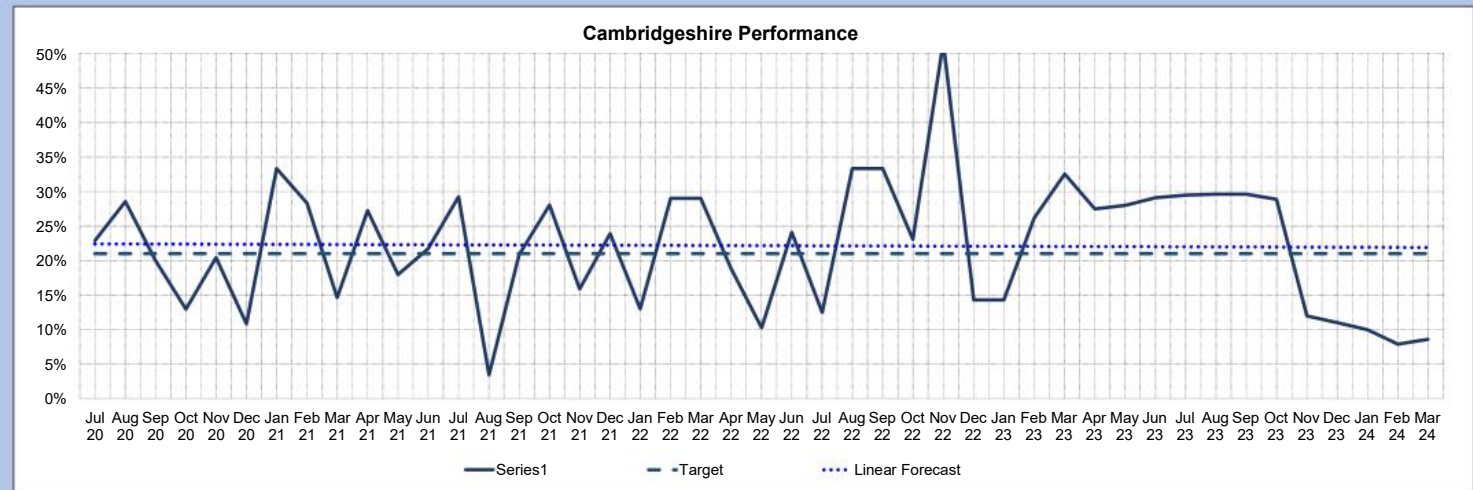
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

**Useful Links**

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[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



**Commentary**

Between Jan – March 23 there was a sharp increase in the number of children who had been made subject to a CP plan who had previously been subject to a CP plan. This number dropped subsequently and the percentage of the cohort improved and remained stable between June and Sept 23. There was a smaller spike in October 23 but this then reduced to comparable levels to June -Sept in the months of Nov-Dec. We are in the process of establishing a monthly Quality Assurance Child Protection report from the area of the service which will include the narrative on this cohort and the context of their experiences and journey through intervention and support. Being made subject to CP for a second time may not be linked to effectiveness of previous work. However we need more analysis of the cohort and responses made by the service to individual children and families to give context to this data. This work is a small part of our overall developments in more robust performance monitoring and audit across the system

**Actions**

Indicator 118: Number of young first time entrants to the criminal justice system, per 10,000 of population

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June 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
3.94	↓	3.19	3.99	Improving
Cambes Mean Yearly	Statistical Neighbour Mean Yearly	England Mean Yearly	RAG Rating	
17.1	16.2	16.6	<b>Blue</b>	

**Indicator Description**

This indicator is a Youth Justice Board National measure. It shows the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system where first time entrants are defined as young people (aged 10 to 17) who receive their first substantive outcome. These are outcomes relating to a youth caution, youth conditional caution or court disposal. The measure is expressed by the rate for every 10,000 population.

Calculation:

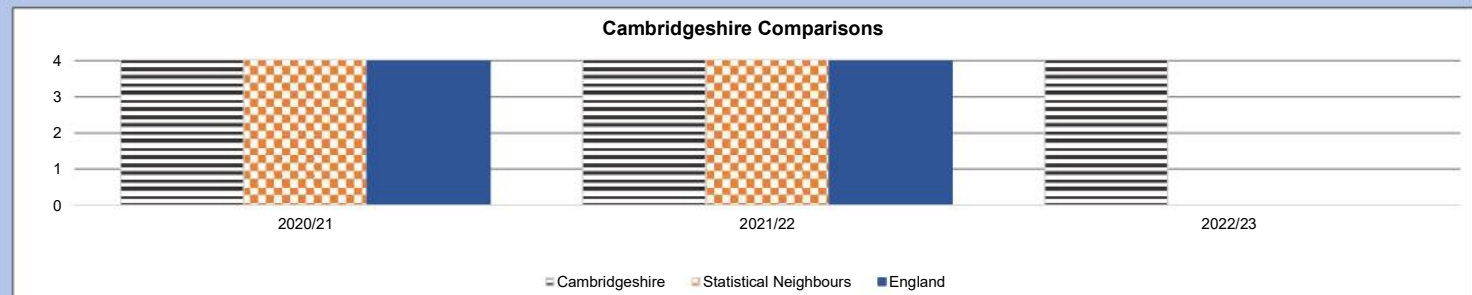
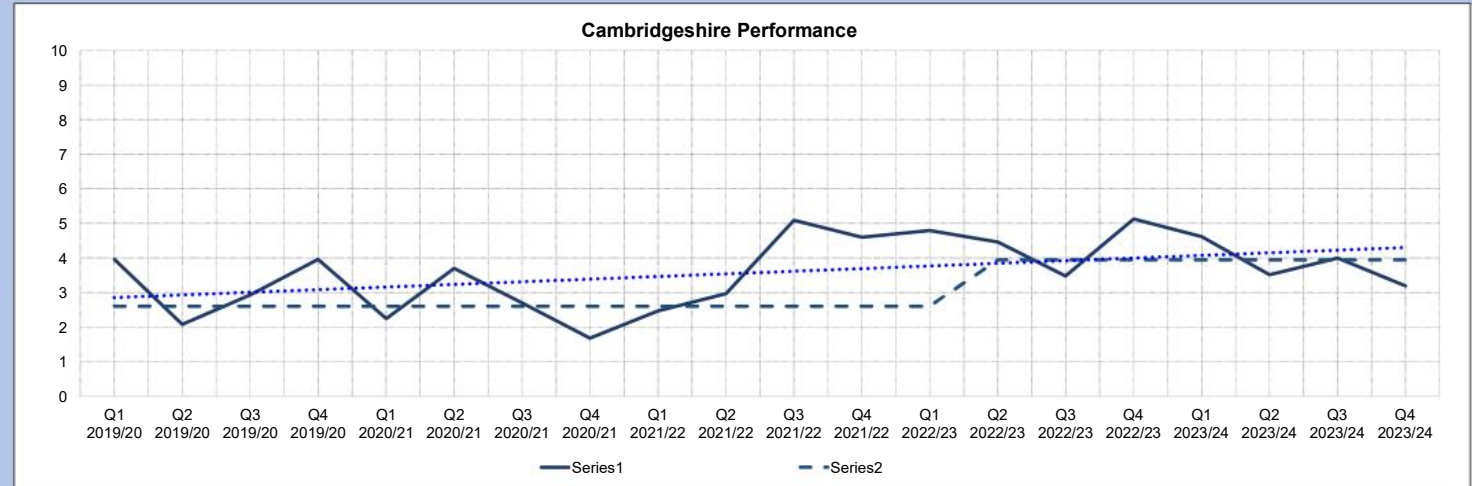
$$(X/Y) * 10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10-17 in the month.

Y = The population of 10 to 17 year old children.

Sources: Ministry of Justice; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.



**Commentary**

There has been a decrease this quarter from last quarter and overall Cambridgeshire's figures remain similar to regional and national comparators. The Youth Justice Service have received Turnaround funding for 2 years to deliver targeted prevention work through the Diversion Support Team / Turnaround work that specifically focusses on prevention activity. The team started delivering interventions at the start of last financial year this earlier intervention with young people at high risk of becoming involved in offending will have directly positively impacted the FTE performance measure. An evaluation of the DST / Turnaround is currently being carried out locally and nationally and the initial findings are extremely positive with focussed intervention so far leading to no young people going on to offend. The reduction in FTEs is also linked to a greater use of diversion of young people to informal outcomes through the Out of Court decision making panel following the new Youth Justice Board Case Management Guidance on the use of Out of Court Disposals. This work continues following the recent HMIP inspection of Youth Justice with greater focus on earlier interventions managed jointly with the Constabulary as part of updated working and processes.

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)

**Actions**

The greatest challenge is that the funding for the Diversion Support Team is ending in March 25 as it is fixed term. It is hoped that this may be extended but given the impending general election it is unlikely that this will be agreed for some time and also likely that any new Government are going to deliver to different agendas and projects. This would be a huge loss as the impact of the DST is very profound across Children's Services and partner agencies, being able to delivery skilled and targeted interventions to those at risk of offending. Funding needs to be explored for this as a priority as the loss of this team would be very negative for this whole area as well as the performance measures themselves. Following the recent HMIP inspection there has been a particular action plan priority on Out Of Court work which makes up the majority of Youth Justice interventions now. Extensive work has taken place on updated protocols and processes which allows for a much more effective and 'Child First' approach to this work. The policies are due to be approved at the next Youth Justice Management Board w/c 13th May.

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
70.0%	↑	5.19%	5.21%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG rating
31.7%		49.1%		Red

**Indicator Description**

Education, Health and Care plans for children and young people aged up to 25 were introduced on 1st September 2014. This was part of the Special Educational Needs and Disability provisions in the Children and Families Act 2014.

This indicator shows the percentage of Education, Health and Care plan assessments completed within 20 weeks. It includes exception cases.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of Education, Health and Care plan assessments issued within the month that took 20 weeks or less to complete. This number includes exception cases.

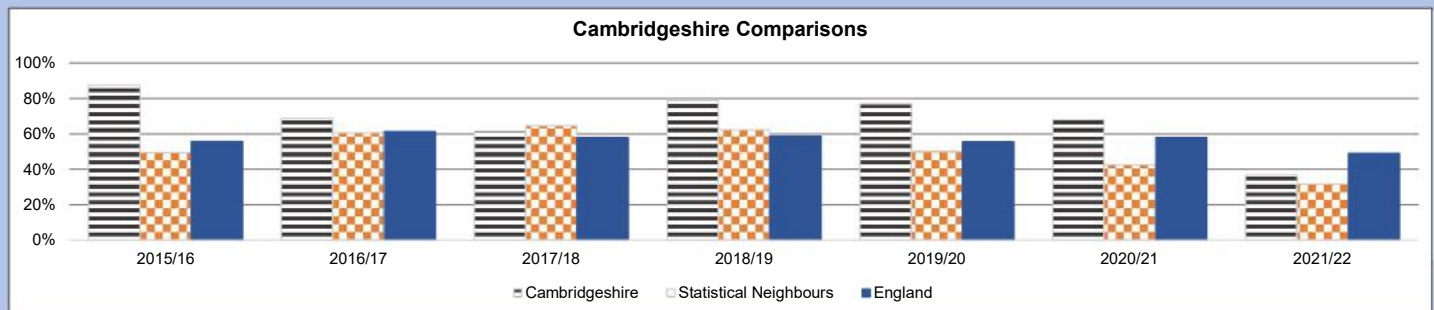
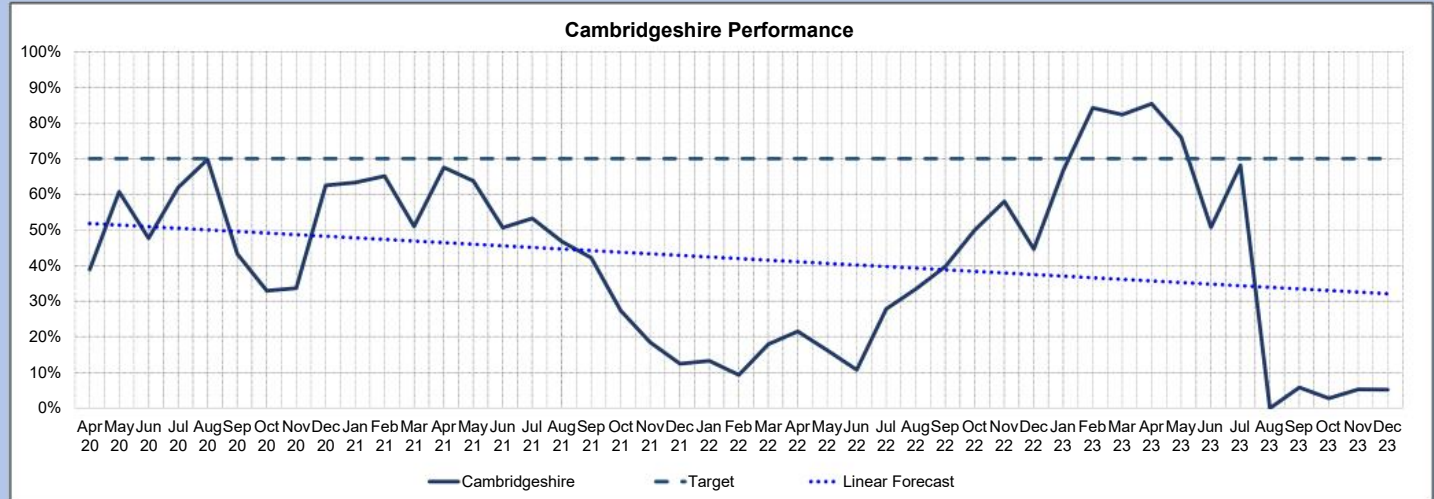
Y = The number of Education, Health and Care plans assessments issued within the month.

The Cambridgeshire County Council target of 70% was set in June 2018. This was when this indicator was included in corporate performance reporting. Before this, no target was set.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

- [Department for Education Statistics: Special Educational Needs](#)
- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

Following the introduction of the Impulse Nexus system, which went live on 13 May 2024, there is a phase of data migration which will conclude by early June. The service is able to access a range of reports which will be produced after conclusion of the data migration. The data within these reports will be tested for accuracy before moving into business as usual, which will take approximately 4 weeks after conclusion of data migration activities. The data will then be used to support with the development of a SEN Dashboard and preparation of SEN 2 data for 2025 submission.

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	298.0	309.0	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG rating		
578.0	539.0	<b>Contextual</b>		

**Indicator Description**

Number of young people academic age 16 and 17 who are Not in Education, employment or training (NEET) or their situation is not known as a ratio per 10,000 people.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) * 10,000$

Where:

X = The number of young people aged 16&17 who are NEET/Unknown.

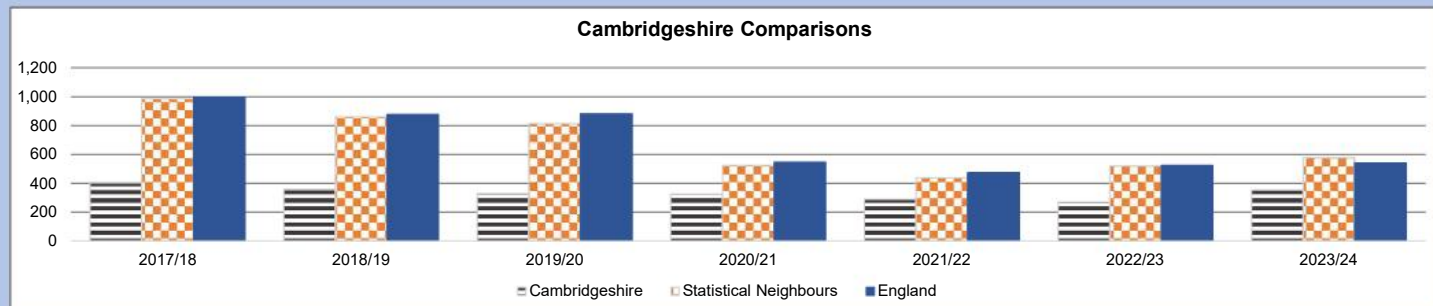
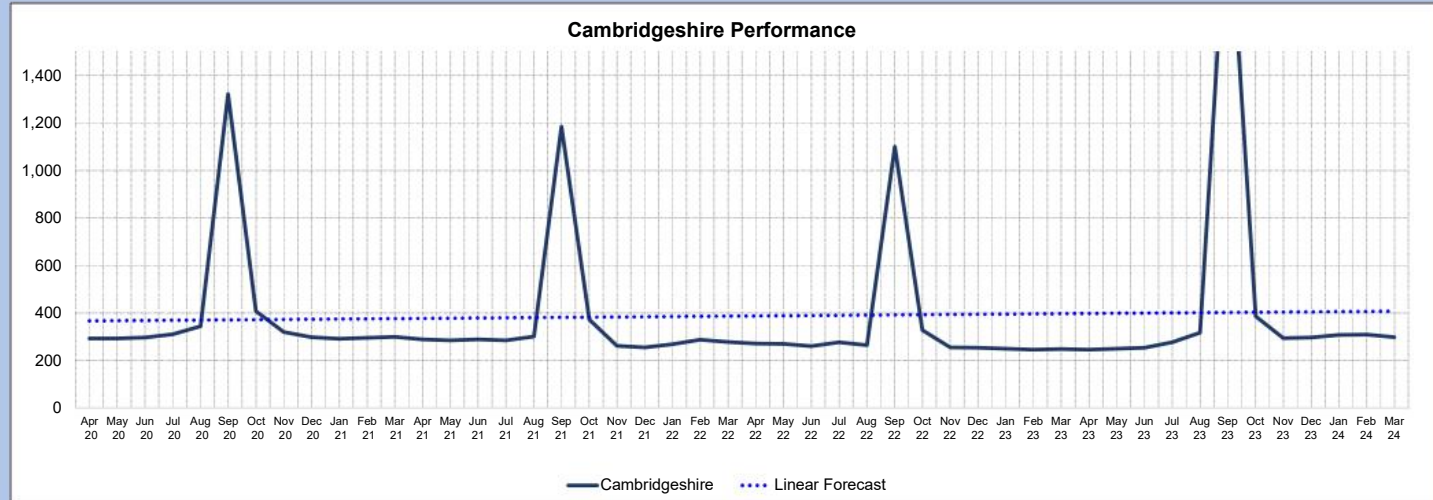
Y = The population of 16&17 year old children.

Sources: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Children's Team

**Useful Links**

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

The number of young people with a situation of NEET or not known in March 2024 was 465 making a % of 3.4%. In comparison with local and statistical neighbours and with England, Cambridgeshire's result is better than those averages.

Cambridgeshire's NEET figures over the last few years have stayed stable, however the figures this year have increased slightly. Other local authorities are also reporting on increases of NEET figures as well. There has been a number of alternative training provisions and funding stopping over the last few years and this has had an impact on the NEET figures. The strategy that is being developed includes a key strategic objective to identify more provision for young people who cannot attend mainstream further education provision.

**Actions**



Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
65.0%	↑	57.9%	58.0%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG Rating
58.9%		59.8%		Red

**Indicator Description**

This indicator measures the attainment of children, in state-funded schools, at the end of Key Stage 2.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded schools at end the end of the academic year.

Calculation:

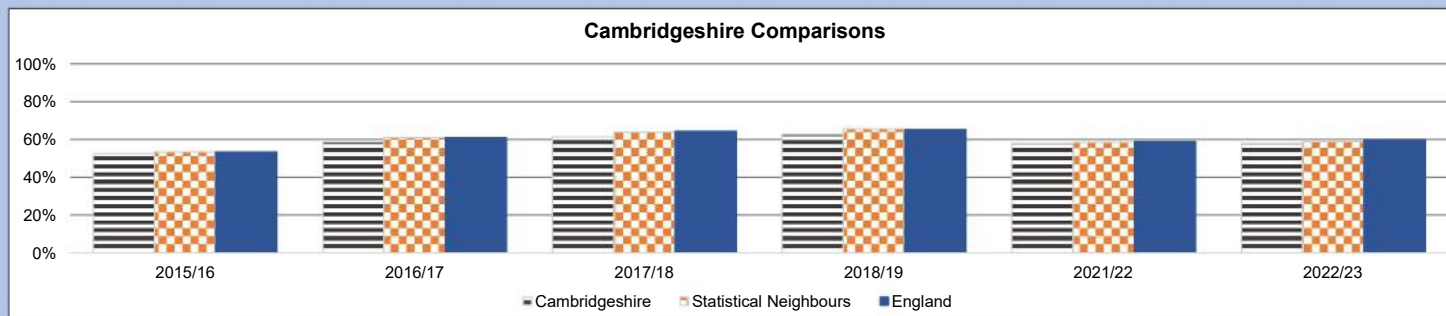
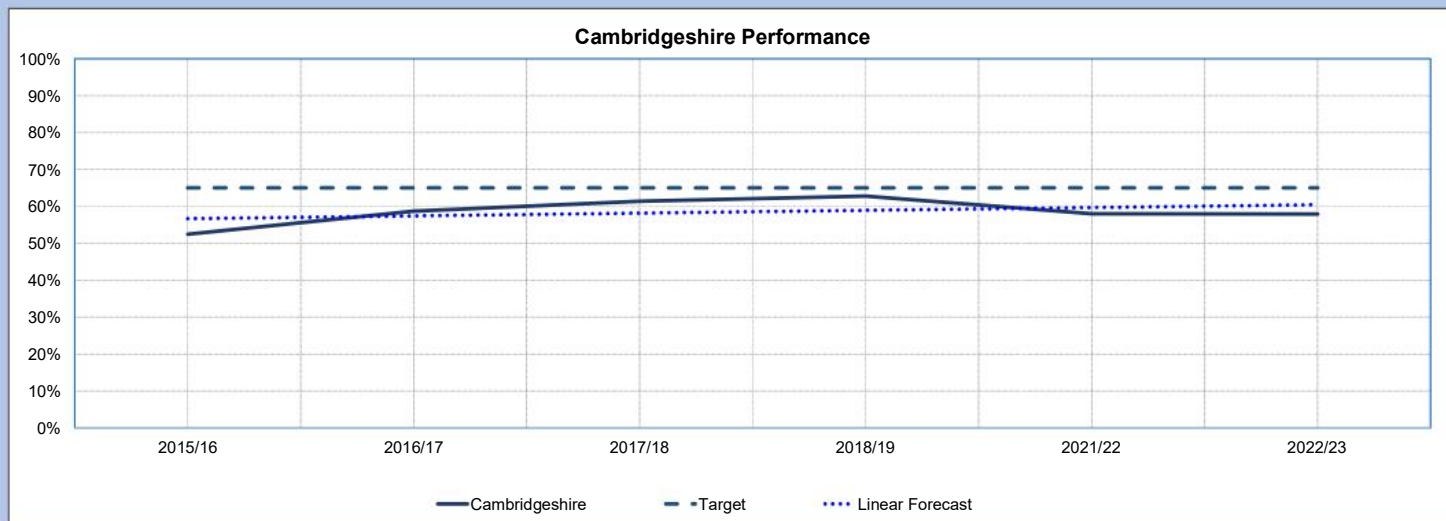
$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 2 with a valid result showing they have reached the expected standard in all three subjects.

Y = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 2 with a valid result.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.



**Commentary**

This has been updated with the DfE's revised data for 22-23 which was released in November 2023. Writing is both the national and local area of focus. The service is are working closely with the local teaching school hub to support LA maintained and academy schools to improve their writing outcomes.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: Key Stage 2](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
50.1	↑	48.7	51.7	Declining

Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating
47.9	46.4	Amber

**Indicator Description**

Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications. These include:

1. English. Double weighted if the combined English qualification, or both language and literature are taken.
2. Maths. Double weighted.
3. Three further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate.
4. Three further qualifications that can be GCSE (including English Baccalaureate subjects).
5. Any other non GCSE qualifications on the Department for Education approved list. This measure is expressed as an average score derived from the scores of children in all state funded schools at end the end of the academic year.

Calculation:

$X/Y$

Where:

X = The sum of all pupils Attainment 8 scores

Y = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 4 with a valid Attainment 8 score.

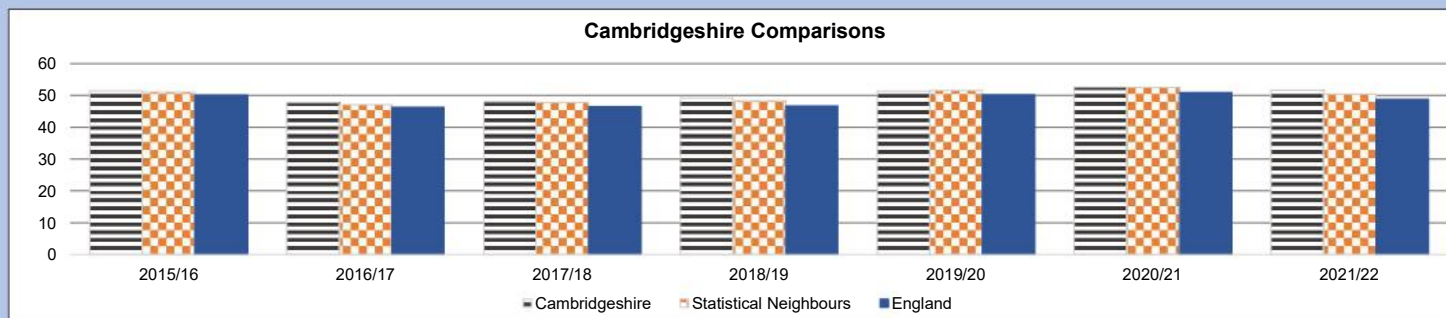
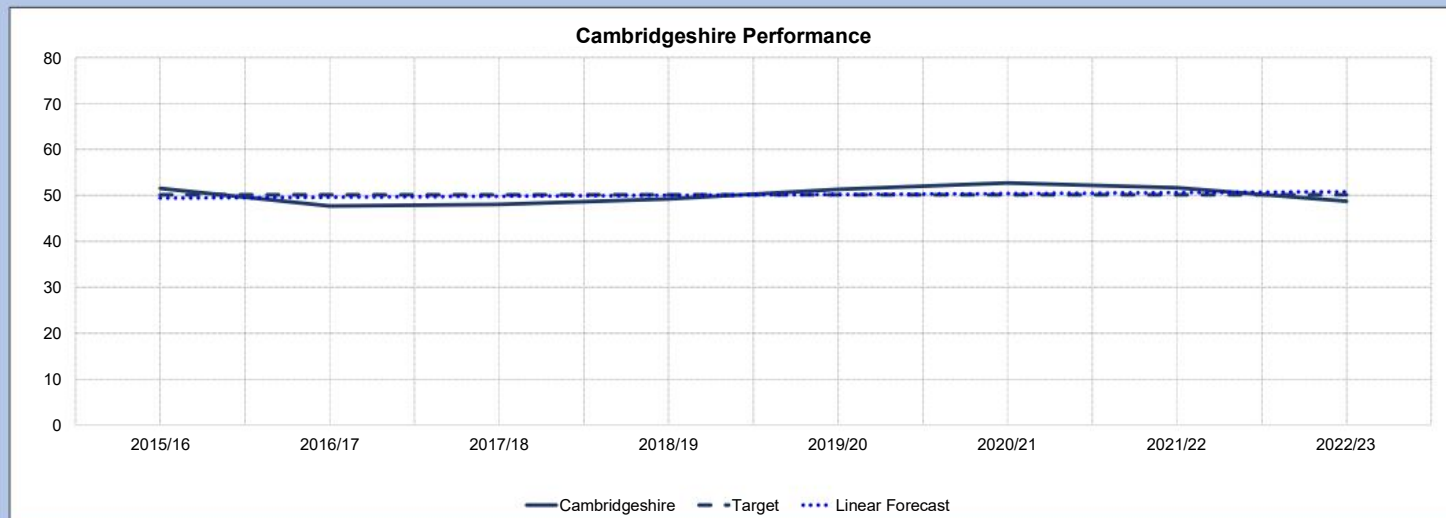
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: Key Stage 4](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

Although the KS4 outcomes are below the target set, Cambridgeshire have maintained the position above its statistical neighbour and the national overall percentage. There is still further work to do and the service continue to work with the secondary heads and CEO's to improve the provision further.

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
8.5%	↓	18.5%	21.2%	Improving
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b> 21.3%		<b>England Mean</b> 22.5%		<b>RAG Rating</b> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">Red</div>

**Indicator Description**

In law, parents of children of compulsory school age (5 to 16) are required to make sure their children receive a suitable education by regular attendance at school. Failure to follow this law can lead to prosecution.

Local authorities are responsible in law for making sure that pupils attend school. Schools are required to take attendance registers twice a day. Once at the beginning of the morning session and once during the afternoon session.

In their register, schools are required to say whether pupils are present, away on an approved educational activity, or are absent. Where a pupil of compulsory school age is absent, schools have to show if their absence is authorised or unauthorised by the school.

Since the beginning of the 2015/16 academic year, pupils have been identified as persistent absentees if they miss 10% or more of their possible sessions.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of enrolments classed as persistent absentees.

Y = The number of enrolments.

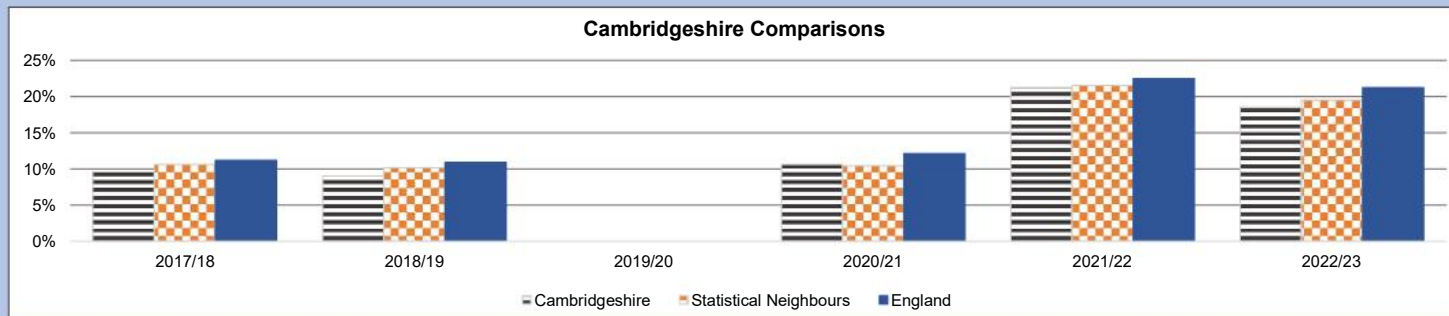
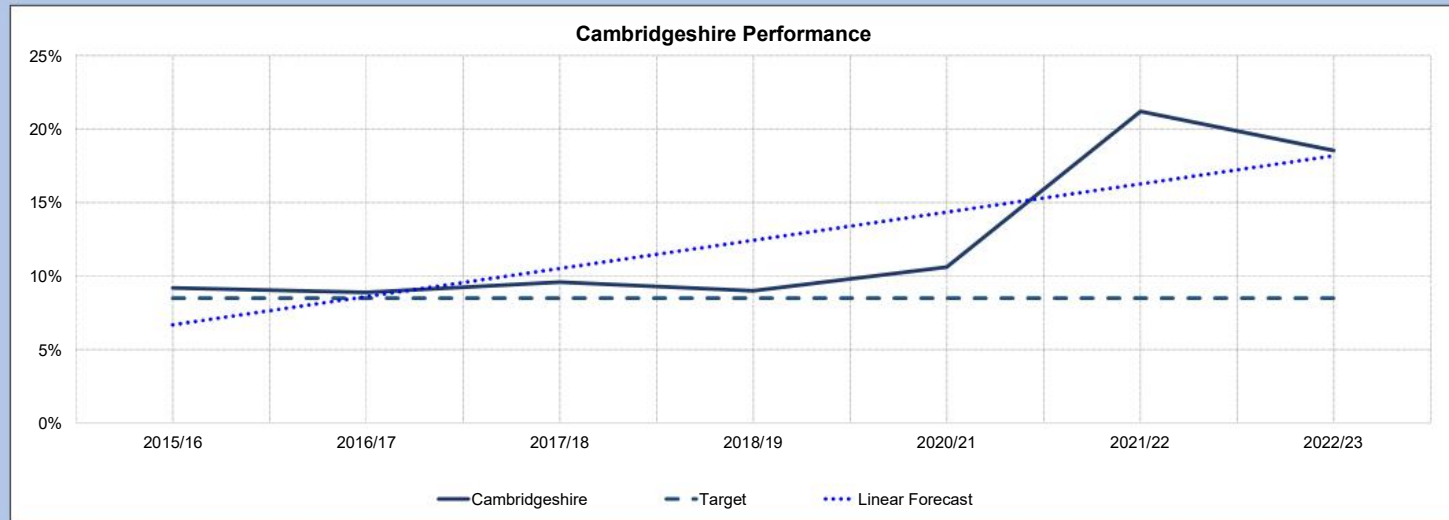
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: Pupil Absence](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

"Data for the 22/23 academic year will be included in the next performance update. Previous narrative is included below:

The absence data collected for the 2020/21 academic year was the first absence data collected via the school census covering the pandemic. From 1 September 2020 schools were expected to be open throughout the Autumn term although in some schools, where there was a case of coronavirus, pupils were sent home in bubbles to self-isolate. The data for both 2020/21 and 2021/22 includes absences where a pupil could not attend school due to COVID 19 which includes: pupils who were self-isolating; pupils who were advised to shield; pupils quarantining; and class bubbles. Due to this, the DFE suggest caution should be taken with comparisons across years. The DFE attribute the increase in persistent absences across England in the 2021/22 academic year to an increase in illness absence (including positive COVID cases that may have required isolation up to ten days)."

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
3.7%	↓	6.2%	4.1%	Declining
<b>Statistical Neighbour Mean</b>		<b>England Mean</b>		<b>RAG Rating</b>
5.9%		6.9%		Red

**Indicator Description**

A suspension refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school but remains on the register of that school because they are expected to return when the exclusion period is completed.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

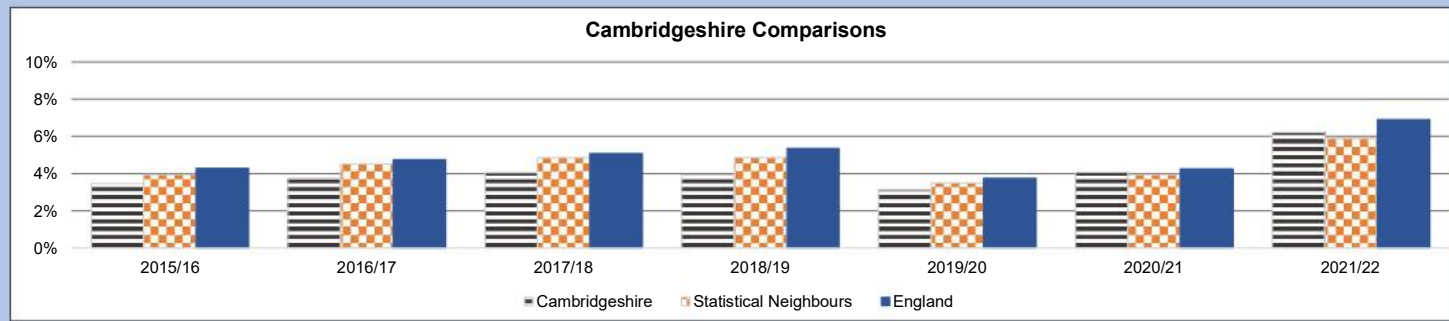
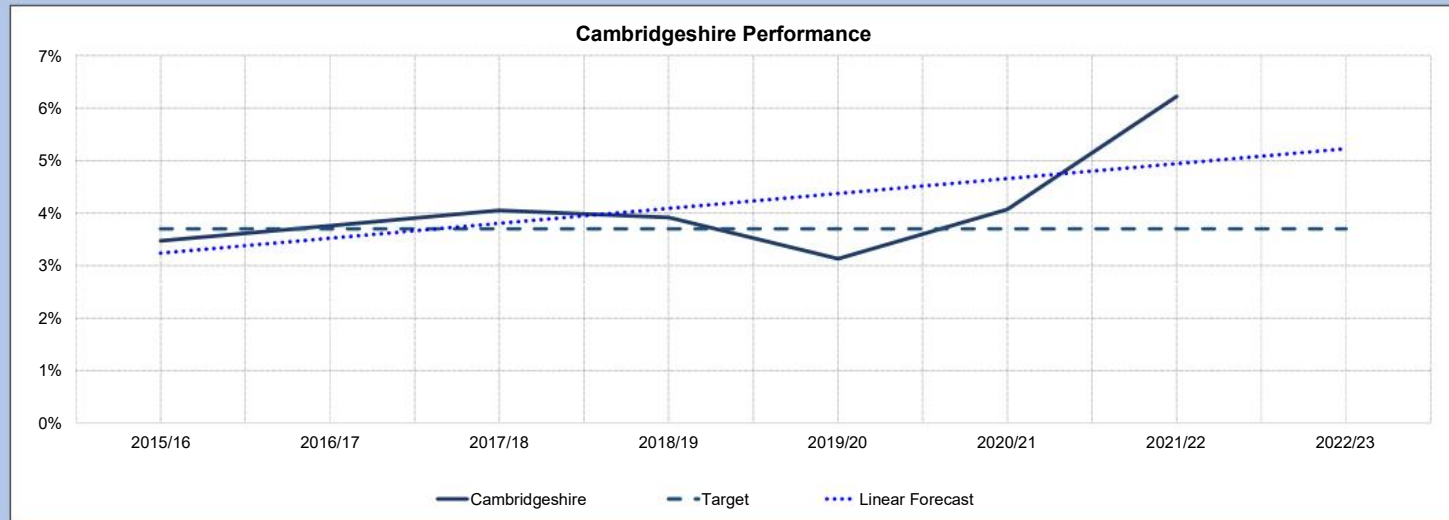
$$(X/Y) * 100$$

Where:

X = The number of suspensions recorded across the whole academic year.

Y = The number of pupils (sole and dual main registered) on roll as at census day in January of the academic year.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.



**Commentary**

The data for 22-23 will not be available until July 2024.

"Cambridgeshire has seen growth in suspension as the implications of Covid and more challenging behaviour in schools are seen. As a result of the cost-of-living crises, increasing numbers of disadvantaged children from poorer backgrounds are being suspended and are therefore not meeting expected school standards.

The growth in suspensions are below national levels of increase but slight above our statistical neighbours.

For primary, the approach around Cambridgeshire therapeutic thinking is to support schools to use a therapeutic approach to understanding and analysing behaviour, considering past experiences to create pro-social and positive relationships between children and adults. This approach is based on an equitable and inclusive offer for all children.

For secondary, the BAIP (Behaviour Attendance Improvement Partnership) model which devolves funds for Appropriate Alternative Education from the High Needs Block to schools is used. It is for Head teachers to control the decision-making process by giving Heads direct financial control of the budget. Key benefits of the BAIP model are localised decision making, collaboration and working in partnership between Heads, historically low levels of permanent exclusions and peer challenge on managing behaviour. "

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: Exclusions](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
93.0%	↑	94.8%	95.0%	Declining

Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating
92.3%	92.5%	Green

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the proportion of applicants for primary school places which have received preferred offers.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

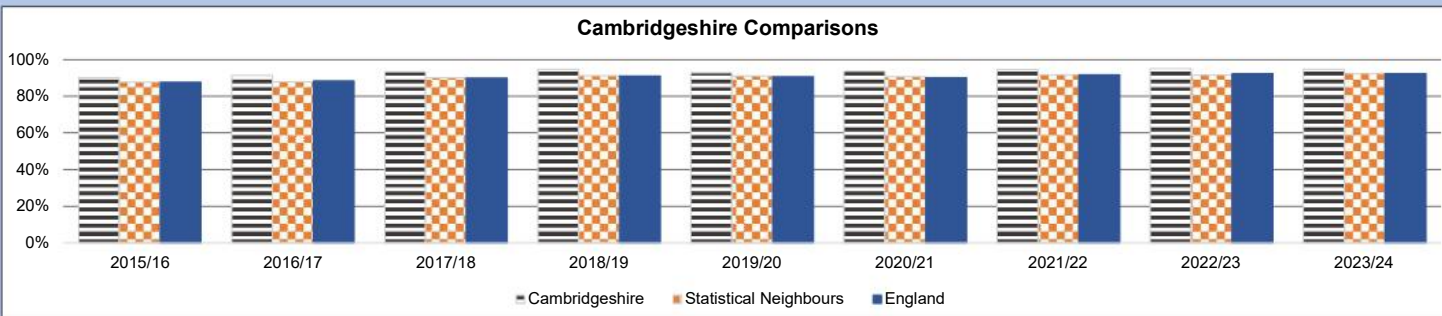
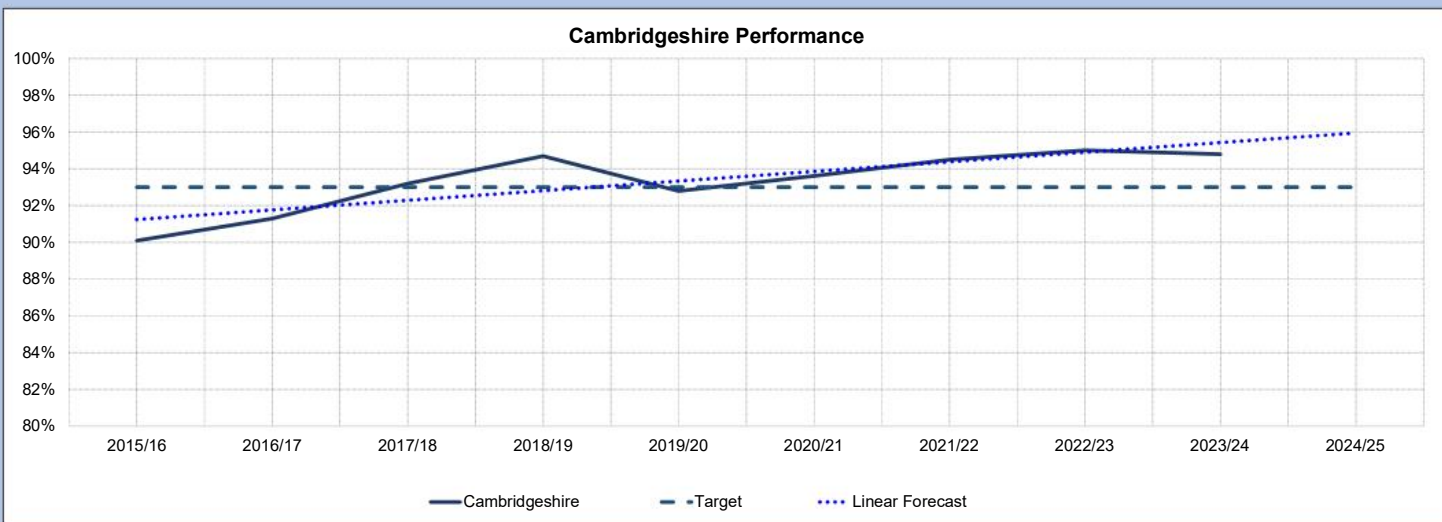
$(X/Y)*100$

Where:

X = The number of children receiving a place at their first choice school.

Y = The number of applications received.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.



**Commentary**

Overall the demand for primary school places fell in 2022 due to a lower birth rate. 6457 children were included in the allocation, down from 6568 the previous years. The service continue to see a higher level of parental choice (outside of catchment area). The service's planning focuses on ensuring a local place for a local child rather than meeting parental preference. The service been working hard on reviewing surplus capacity as part of the small school strategy to make sure there is a balance between availability of places and financial viability.

The breakdown of the allocation round is below (2021 round shown in brackets)

1st Preference 94.8% 6,122 (95.1% 6,249)

2nd Preference 3.4% 218 (3.1% 202)

3rd Preference 0.5% 33 (0.6% 37)

Directed 1.3% 84 (1.2% 80)

Early indication within the 2 primary school allocation round are that numbers will continue to fall with another low birth rate year.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: School Applications](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

**Actions**

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
91.0%	↑	86.5%	89.7%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean		England Mean		RAG Rating
85.5%		82.6%		<b>Amber</b>

**Indicator Description**

This indicator shows the percentage of applicants for Year 7 places for entry at the start of the new academic year, who were allocated their first choice school. This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) * 100$$

Where:

X = The number of children receiving a place at their first choice school.

Y = The number of applications received.

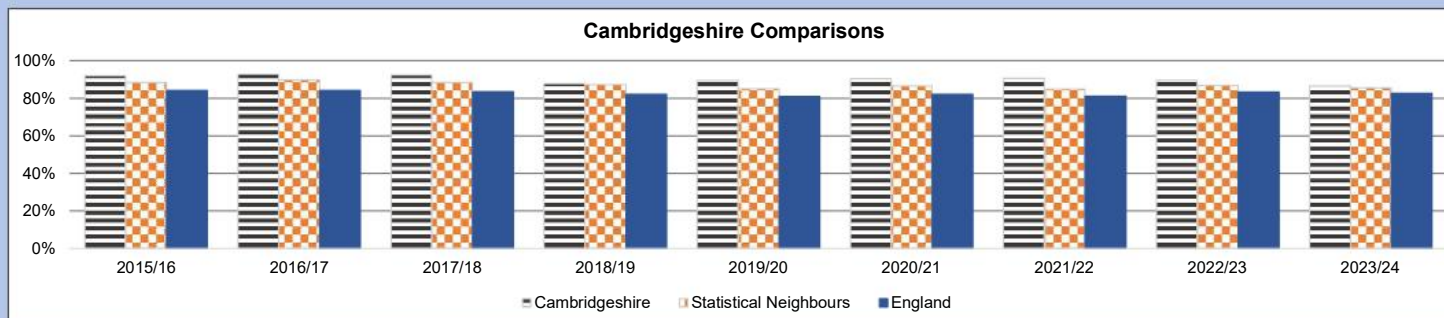
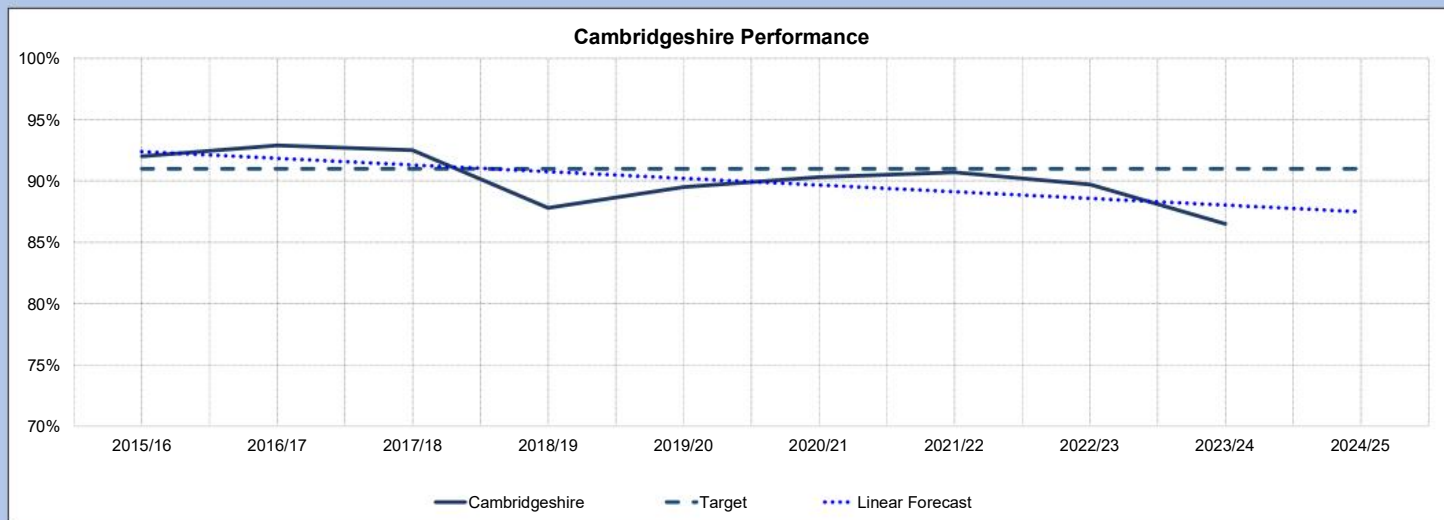
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

**Useful Links**

[Department for Education Statistics: School Applications](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



**Commentary**

7413 young people were allocated in Cambridgeshire for September 2023. This is a 6% increase (430 applications) from the previous year.

More children however achieved their first preference than in the previous year but the overall proportion was lower. The key challenge area was in Cambridge City where a higher than normal number of children transfer from primary to secondary. The proportion of children entering the independent sector was lower than in previous years. This may be as a result of capacity changes in the sector or the cost of living crisis. As a result, the service negotiated further places in the City to avoid children and young people being directed a significant distance away from their homes. Meeting parental preference is challenging where there is a lower level of surplus places and this is reflected in the position presented. The breakdown of the position is shown below (2022 intake shown in brackets) -

- 1st Preference 87% 6,459 (90% 6,285)
- 2nd Preference 6.5% 484 (5.3% 369)
- 3rd Preference 1.8% 135 (1.9% 132)
- Directed 4.5% 335 (2.8% 197)

Early indications for Sept 24 are that although numbers are starting to fall, there is still a pressure for school places in the City and Fenland area. Officers are working to unlock additional places with the DfE and local secondary schools.

**Actions**