

Children and young people in Cheshire West and Chester

Data from Joint Strategic Needs Assessment www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/jsna (October 2017)

Demographics

- **335,680** people (all age) living in the borough (2016 MYE)
- **94,350 (28.1%)** under 25s (2016 MYE):
 - 18,850 (6%) under 5's
 - 18,870 (6%) 5-9 year olds
 - 17,880 (5%) 10-14 year olds
 - 18,760 (6%) 15-19 year olds
 - 19,990 (6%) 20-24 year olds
- **15.9%** of under 16's live in low income families,, around 9,240 children. This is lower than in England. In some areas child poverty is in excess of 40% (2014)
- **2.9%** of 16-18 year olds were not in education, employment or training (320 young people); lower than the England average
- **94%** of children are White British.
- Around **1 in 14** under 25 year olds will have a disability, approximately 6,600 people.
- **9,000** lone parent households with dependent children age 0 to 18 (23% of all households)
- There are around 9,000 children aged under 16 living in workless households (13.9%)
- Under 25s by locality (2015):
 - 29%** of Ellesmere Port locality
 - 25%** of Rural locality
 - 30%** of Chester locality
 - 29%** of Northwich and Winsford
- Number of children aged 0-15 forecast to increase by **8%** from 58,600 to 63,400. Biggest increase in those aged 11-15.

Health

- Life expectancy for babies born in more deprived areas is significantly lower than the rest of the population
- **68.9%** of mothers initiated breastfeeding. Breastfeeding 6-8 weeks was **35.1%**, significantly worse than England (2015/16)
- **20.5%** of 4-5 year olds and **33.6%** of 10-11 year olds have excess weight; both better than the England average (2016)
- Levels of obesity doubles between reception year and final year of junior school
- Around **1 in 15** young people aged 15 smoke (**6.8%**) (2014/15)
- **98** conceptions to females aged 15-17 a rate of **17.9 per 1,000** (2015) 60.2% led to an abortion
- **707** hospital admissions for an injury in children aged under 15. Rate of **131.8 per 10,000**, worse than the England average. The majority of injuries were for those aged under five (2015/16)
- An estimated **8.8%** of children and young people aged 5-16 have a mental health disorder, around 3,850 children (2015)
- The rate of hospital admissions in 0-17 year olds for mental health conditions is **95.1 per 10,000**, approximately 63 young people. This is higher than the England average (2015/16)

Education

- **12%** of primary school pupils and **9%** of secondary school pupils are eligible for free school meals (2017)
- **1 in 7** pupils have a special educational need (7,882). **1 in 33** (1,662) have a high level of need and have a EHC plan or SEN statement (2017).
- **70.9%** of five year olds achieved a good level of development, better than the England average (2016)
- **50%** of children receiving free school meals achieved a good level of development, **21 percentage points lower** than the average of all pupils and lower than the England average
- At key stage two **59%** of pupils achieved the expected standard or above in reading, writing and maths, lower than the England average (2017)
- The average attainment 8 score per pupil at key stage four was **51.3** higher than the England average of 48.5 (2016)
- The average progress 8 score at key stage four in 2016 was **0.04** - positive progress
- Children facing disadvantage perform significantly worse than their peers including looked after children, children in need, those on free school meals and those with a SEND

Vulnerable children

- **2,245** children in need (March 2017), rate of **337.2 per 10,000** 0-18 year olds children. Most common reason for being in need was abuse or neglect
- At March 2017, **251** children were on a child protection plan (37.7 per 10,000 0-18 year olds) , the majority for emotional abuse
- **485** children looked after, a rate of **73 per 10,000** under 18's (March 2017)
- 1,522 recorded incidents of domestic abuse impacting on involving 2,651 children (0-17 years (2016/17)
- There were 58 first time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17 (2016), a rate of 200.9 per 100,000 10-17 year olds, lower than the England average
- **133** cases of child sexual exploitation (2016-17)
- During 2016-17, there were **660** missing incidents relating to **212** young people (67 looked after children)
- An estimated **2,080** 12 to 24 year olds (4.2%) deliberately injured themselves on 6,550 separate occasions in 2015
- Between 2013/15-15/16, there were 90 hospital admissions for substance misuse in 15-24 year olds; 76.1 per 100,000