

Bradford Exclusions Summary 2020/21

Source: DfE Published Data 29th July 2022
Position: Full School Year 2020/21
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Introduction:

This report summarises and compares Bradford to the Yorkshire & Humber region and to national key outcomes relating to exclusions and suspensions using the recently published data '*Permanent Exclusions and Suspensions in England*' (<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/permanent-and-fixed-period-exclusions-in-england>).

Notes & Definitions:

The data used in this analysis has been collected in the school census.

This year's data includes the period in Spring term 2020/21, where restrictions meant that only worker and vulnerable children were attending school in person, with others being educated remotely. Suspensions and permanent exclusions were possible throughout the full academic year but comparisons to previous years should be treated with caution.

Sections:

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Headline Outcomes

National Summary of Key Outcomes – 2020/21

Permanent exclusions

3,928

Down from 5,057 in 2019/20

Permanent exclusions (rate)

0.05

Down from 0.06 in 2019/20

Suspensions

352,454

Up from 310,733 in 2019/20

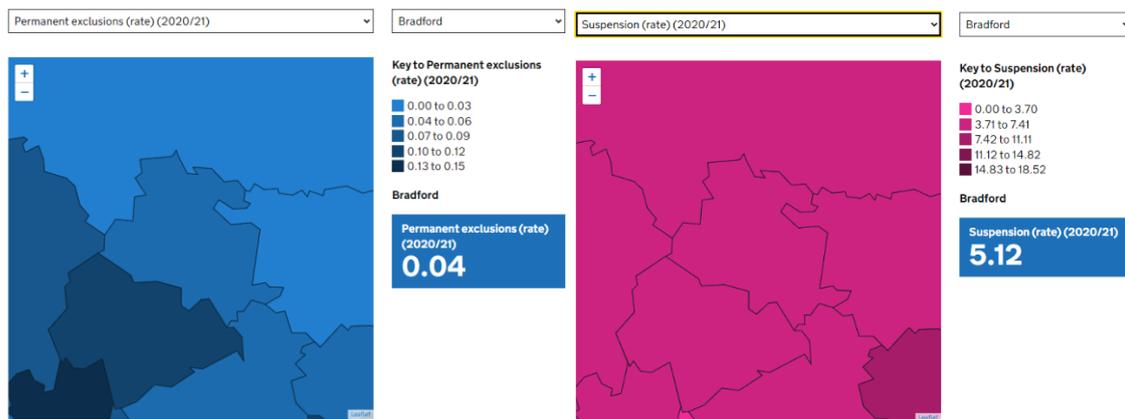
Suspension (rate)

4.25

Up from 3.76 in 2019/20

Regional and Bradford Summary of Key Outcomes – 2020/21

- Bradford’s 2020/21 exclusion rate is 0.04, down from 0.06 in 2019/20, with 42 permanent exclusions being issued compared to 55 in the previous year. The Yorkshire & Humber rate for 2020/21 is 0.5, down from 0.6, which means that **Bradford’s exclusion rate for 2020/21 is lower than both the national and regional averages.**
- Bradford’s 2020/21 suspension rate is 5.12, up from 4.76 in 2019/20, with 5099 suspensions being issued compared to 4756 in the previous year. The Yorkshire & Humber rate for 2020/21 is 5.64, up from 5.41, which means that **Bradford’s exclusion rate for 2020/21 is lower than the regional average, but higher than the national average rate of 4.25.**



Statistical Neighbours Comparison – 2020/21

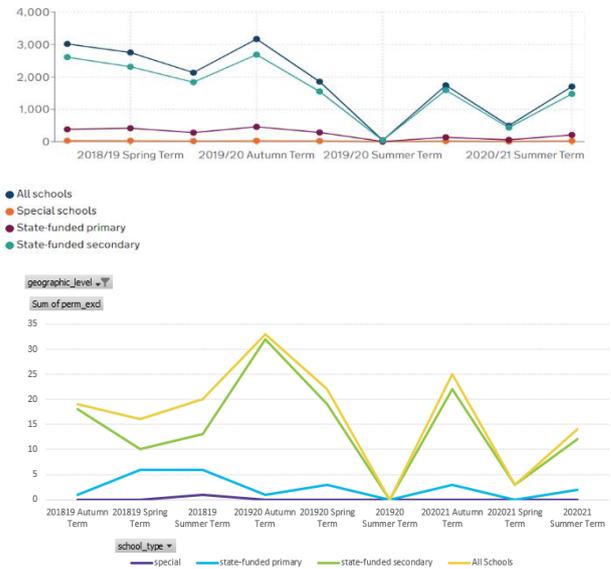
	Permanent exclusions	Permanent exclusions (rate)	Suspension (rate)	Suspensions
Blackburn with Darwen	12	0.04	2.93	801
Bolton	59	0.11	5.55	2,885
Oldham	29	0.06	3.09	1,389
Rochdale	44	0.12	5.81	2,150
Bradford	42	0.04	5.12	5,099
Kirklees	31	0.05	4.84	3,258
Derby	8	0.02	3.29	1,425
Dudley	33	0.07	5.23	2,491
Telford and Wrekin	25	0.08	7.39	2,267
Walsall	42	0.08	2.89	1,498
Peterborough	21	0.05	5.19	2,027

- Except for Derby, Bradford’s exclusion rate is the lowest within the statistical neighbour group (along with Blackburn with Darwen).
- Whilst the number of suspensions issued by Bradford in 2020/21 is the highest within the statistical neighbour group, the rate of suspension is mid-table in comparison to other Local Authorities.

Permanent Exclusions

- Nationally, permanent exclusions were highest in the 2020/21 Autumn term for the 2020/21 school year. Higher peaks of exclusionary activity can be found in the Autumn terms for 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- Bradford shows a similar pattern of when exclusions were issued in 2020/21, with a clear peak in the Autumn term.
- Most permanent exclusions (Bradford and nationally) are issued in the Secondary phase, with the numbers issued in Primary or Special settings negligible or in decline across years and terms.

Permanent exclusions, by term and school type - 2018-19 to 2020-21



	England	Bradford	England	Bradford
All exclusions (including Multiple Reasons - will not add up to total exclusions for 20/21)	5146	59	5146	59
Use or threat of use of an offensive weapon or prohibited item	541	16	10.5%	27.1%
Persistent disruptive behaviour	1526	12	29.7%	20.3%
Physical assault against a pupil	878	7	17.1%	11.9%
Physical assault against an adult	568	7	11.0%	11.9%
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against an adult	564	6	11.0%	10.2%
Drug and alcohol related	407	5	7.9%	8.5%
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against a pupil	265	3	5.1%	5.1%
Damage	109	2	2.1%	3.4%
Inappropriate use of social media or online technology	36	1	0.7%	1.7%
Abuse against sexual orientation and gender identity	11	0	0.2%	0.0%
Abuse relating to disability	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Bullying	31	0	0.6%	0.0%
Racist abuse	45	0	0.9%	0.0%
Sexual misconduct	69	0	1.3%	0.0%
Theft	19	0	0.4%	0.0%
Wilful and repeated transgression of protective measures in place to protect public health	77	0	1.5%	0.0%

Nationally, the most common reason recorded for permanent exclusions was persistent disruptive behaviour, either as a singular reason, or as a contributing reason to the exclusion. This reason was not most frequently used in Bradford in 2020/21, instead one of the new reasons for suspension and exclusion was given most often and relates to use / threat to use a weapon or prohibited item.

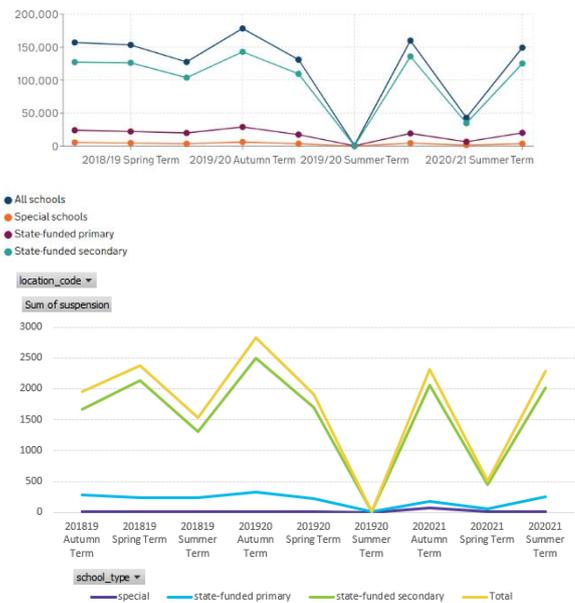
The frequency of 'drug and alcohol related' used as a reason for exclusion has decreased nationally from 10% in 2019/20, to 7.9% in 2020/21, but has continued to increase gradually in Bradford from 8% in 2019/20, to 8.5% in 2020/21, meaning the frequency of usage of this reason is now above the national rate.

The frequency of 'physical assault against an adult' used as a reason for exclusion has decreased nationally from 12% in 2019/20, to 11.0% in 2020/21, and has decreased sharply in Bradford from 31% to 11.9%, meaning the frequency of usage of this reason is still above the national rate, but much closer. The introduction of the new codes may explain in part the sudden decline in this reason being given in Bradford in relation to permanent exclusions.

Suspensions

- Nationally, suspensions were highest in the 2020/21 Autumn term for the 2020/21 school year. Higher peaks of exclusionary activity can be found in the Autumn terms for 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- Bradford shows a similar pattern of when exclusions were issued in 2020/21, with a clear peak in the Autumn term.
- Most suspensions (Bradford and nationally) are issued in the Secondary phase, with the numbers issued in Primary or Special settings negligible or in decline across years and terms until Summer 2020/21, when Primary suspensions increase.

Suspensions, by term and school type - 2018-19 to 2020-21



	England	Bradford	England	Bradford
All suspensions (including Multiple Reasons - will not add up to total suspensions for 20/21)	410,466	6,272	410,466	6,272
Persistent disruptive behaviour	148,416	1,932	36.2%	30.8%
Physical assault against a pupil	73,229	1,171	17.8%	18.7%
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against an adult	70,763	1,034	17.2%	16.5%
Wilful and repeated transgression of protective measures in place to protect public health	12,888	494	3.1%	7.9%
Physical assault against an adult	24,389	323	5.9%	5.1%
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against a pupil	21,247	305	5.2%	4.9%
Damage	14,528	245	3.5%	3.9%
Drug and alcohol related	11,343	243	2.8%	3.9%
Use or threat of use of an offensive weapon or prohibited item	7,763	168	1.9%	2.7%
Racist abuse	7,403	126	1.8%	2.0%
Inappropriate use of social media or online technology	6,626	90	1.6%	1.4%
Bullying	4,663	64	1.1%	1.0%
Sexual misconduct	3,077	33	0.7%	0.5%
Theft	2,325	21	0.6%	0.3%
Abuse against sexual orientation and gender identity	1,668	21	0.4%	0.3%
Abuse relating to disability	138	2	0.0%	0.0%

Nationally, the most common reason recorded for suspensions was persistent disruptive behaviour, either as a singular reason, or as a contributing reason to the exclusion. The proportion of suspensions relating to this reason nationally has increased from 34% in 2019/20 to 36.2% in 2020/21. This is also the most frequently used reason for suspension in Bradford, with the rate rising from 25% in 2019/20 to 30.8% in 2020/21.

Of the new codes introduced in 2020/21, Bradford has seen a higher rate of 'wilful and repeated transgression of protective measures in place to protect public health' being used as a reason in comparison to national. Again, as seen with permanent exclusions, 'Use or threat of use of an offensive weapon or prohibited item', has been used more in Bradford.

There has been no increase in suspensions being linked to racist abuse in Bradford, with the proportion staying at 2%, against a national proportion of 1.8%. The proportion of suspensions linked to 'verbal abuse or threatening behaviour against an adult' has fallen from 22% in 2019/20, to 16.5% in 2020/21.

Pupils Characteristics

The key national findings for suspensions and exclusions:

- **Suspensions and permanent exclusions peak at age 14** - *The permanent exclusion and suspension rates generally increase with age and are highest at age 14 (0.18 and 12.38 respectively). This follows similar trends seen in recent years.*

Bradford's exclusions peak at age 13, and has done across recent years:

Year	Age 4 and under	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15
201819	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.06	0.13	0.23	0.14	0.08
201920	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.10	0.09	0.19	0.15	0.19
202021	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.08	0.12	0.19	0.09	0.03

Similarly, **suspensions peak at age 13 or 14** and follows trends seen in recent years:

Year	Age 4 and under	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15
201819	0.21	0.66	0.65	2.22	1.54	1.52	2.56	11.15	16.06	18.14	18.47	13.28
201920	0.10	0.31	0.55	0.83	1.57	1.80	1.79	6.55	12.64	14.89	14.53	13.02
202021	0.08	0.46	0.37	0.77	0.94	1.26	2.18	9.41	13.29	16.88	16.47	9.45

- **Boys continue to have higher permanent exclusion and suspensions rates than girls** - *Boys continue to have more than three times the number of permanent exclusions, with almost 3,000 exclusions, at a rate of 0.07, compared to almost 1,000 for girls (0.02). Boys also account for more than twice the number of suspensions for girls, at 248,000 compared to 105,000. This equates to a suspension rate of 5.86 for boys compared to 2.58 for girls.*

The rates of exclusions for boys and girls in Bradford in 2020/21 are the **same as those nationally**, meaning that **boys have more than three times the number of exclusions than girls** (9 girls excluded, 33 boys excluded). The rate has reduced across years from 2018/19, where boys in Bradford had ten times the number of exclusions compared to girls (5 girls excluded, 50 boys excluded).

Similar to national, **boys also account for more than twice the number of suspensions issued in 2020/21**, at 3708 compared to 1391 (a rate of 7.37 compared to 2.82).

- **Rates are higher among pupils eligible for free school meal (FSM)** - *The permanent exclusion rate for pupils eligible for FSM is 0.12, around four times higher than for those not eligible, at 0.03. The suspension rate is also higher at 9.68 for pupils eligible for FSM, compared to 2.82 for those not eligible.*

Bradford's exclusion rate for pupils eligible for FSM is 0.09 in 2020/21, **three times higher** than those who are not eligible (0.03). The suspension rate is 9.51 for eligible pupils compared to 3.65 for ineligible pupils.

- **Rates are higher among pupils with special education needs (SEN)** - *The permanent exclusion rate for pupils with an education, health, and care (EHC) plan is 0.08, and for pupils with SEN with no EHC plan (SEN support) is 0.15, compared to 0.03 for those without SEN. The suspension rate is also higher at 12.98 for pupils with an EHC plan and 11.86 for pupils with SEN support, compared to 2.80 for those without SEN.*

Bradford has a **zero rate of exclusion for pupils with an EHCP**, a rate of 0.14 for pupils with SEN Support, and a rate of 0.03 for pupils with no SEN. Suspension rates for pupils with an EHCP and for

pupils with SEN Support are **higher than the national rates** at 13.42 and 13.02 respectively, with pupils with no SEN having a suspension rate of 3.58 (again, higher than the national rate).

- **Rates vary by ethnicity** - Gypsy/Roma pupils continue to have the highest rates of permanent exclusions (0.18) and suspensions (15.00). Pupils of mixed White and Black Caribbean ethnicity have the second highest rate of permanent exclusion (0.12). Pupils from Traveller or Irish Heritage ethnic groups have the second highest rate of suspension (11.22). Pupils in the Chinese ethnic group have the lowest rates of permanent exclusions and suspensions in 2020/21.

White and Black Caribbean children have the highest rates of exclusion in Bradford in 2020/21 (0.16), followed by **Gypsy / Roma** (0.10), and **Other Mixed Background** (0.10).

Gypsy / Roma children have the highest rates of suspension (18.18, although this rate has decreased across years), followed by **Black Caribbean** children (11.93, increasing rate), and **White and Asian** children (10.69, fluctuating rate). **Chinese pupils have a zero rate of suspension** in 2020/21, with **Indian** children having the second lowest rate (1.22).

Exclusion Reviews

National: *The number of independent reviews lodged in 2020/21 was 330, a reduction from 430 in 2019/20 and just less than half the number seen in 2018/19, the last full academic year before the pandemic. This decrease is in line with the overall decrease in number of permanent exclusions.*

The percentage of reviews lodged that were determined by a panel in 2020/21 was 95%, an increase from 89% in 2019/20 and higher than the final year before the pandemic (92% in 2018/19).

59% of exclusions were upheld at the independent review panel, an increase from 55% in 2019/20.

Bradford: 1 independent review was lodged in 2020/21, from 4 in 2019/20. This single review was determined by an independent review panel, and the exclusion was upheld.

Due to the small numbers of reviews lodged each year in Bradford, trends and percentages are difficult to establish or compare.