**Briefing 1: Some key facts about children & young people living in Brighton & Hove: Updated March 2015**

**Population**

* The total population of Brighton & Hove from the 2011 Census = **273,369**
* There are **50,500** children and young people aged 0-17 in Brighton & Hove[[1]](#footnote-1)
* Approximately 19.6% of the local authority’s children are living in poverty[[2]](#footnote-2)
* The proportion of children entitled to free school meals in primary schools is 14.3%[[3]](#footnote-3) (national actual percentage is 18)
* The proportion of children entitled to free school meals in secondary schools is 13.6% [[4]](#footnote-4) (national actual percentage is 15.7)
* Children and young people from minority ethnic groups account for 21% of all children living in the area.[[5]](#footnote-5)
* The largest minority ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are Any other White Background (4.1%) and White and Asian 2.9%[[6]](#footnote-6)
* The percentage of under 18s in the city who are not White British has risen from 11.4% in 2001 to 21% in 2011.

**Cases open to Children’s Social Work**

* At 31 Dec 14, there are **2,327** cases open to Children’s Social Work. This represents 4.6% of the 0-17 population. Nationally, 3.5% of the 0-17 population were a Child in Need as at 31st March 2014[[7]](#footnote-7)

**Number of CIN Plans**

* **790** children required a Child in Need Plan as at 31st December 2014. Comparator data on CIN Plans is not available.

**Number of Child Protection Plans**

* There were **308** children subject of a child protection plan as at 31st December 2014. This represents 0.61% of the 0-17 population. Nationally, 0.42% of the 0-17 population were subject of a child protection plan as at 31st March 2014.
* At 31 March 2014, **17** children were living in a Private Fostering Arrangement. This is an increase from 7 at 31 March 2013.
* Three in ten children (30 per cent) who were the subject of a Child Protection Plan in December 2014 were not White UK/British. This means that there are more BME children with CP Plans in place than we would expect based on the ethnic profile of children aged under 18 in the city at the time of the 2011 census, when 21 per cent were not White UK/British.

**Number of Children Looked After**

* At 31 December 2014, there are **476** children looked after by the Local Authority. This represents 0.94% of the 0-17 population compared to 0.6% nationally.
* 56% of children are placed outside of Brighton & Hove[[8]](#footnote-8)
* 13.3% of children are placed more than 20 miles
* 7.6% are placed outside of Sussex. Note: In addition, 6.3% children are placed for adoption but we don’t record the placement for these cases.
* Of the **183** children who ceased to be looked after in the year ending 31st December 2014, **47** (26%) were adopted, above the national average of 17% for the year ending 31st March 2014.
* Two out of ten children (21 per cent) who were Looked After Children were not White UK/British in December 2014. Based on the ethnic profile of the city’s children this is in line with what we would expect if all other things were equal, as 21 per cent of under 18s were not White UK/British at the time of the 2011 census

**Number of Children Missing from Home or Care during the last 3 months**

There were **156** missing episodes between 6th November 2014 and 5th February 2015, with 67 children going missing during that period. 112 missing episodes relate to children looked after.

**Number of children rated high risk CSE (Red Op Kite)**

There are **24** Red Op Kite cases as at January 2015.

For further information or to request copies of these briefings please contact the Children’s Services Service Development Officer on 01273 293736 or Carolyn.bristow@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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1. At mid year 2013 (projection) based on 2011 census [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Q3 2013-14 B&H Children’s Services DMT Key Performance Indicator Report [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. School Census data Jan 2015 (incl: Academies & Free Schools) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. School Census data Jan 2015 (incl: Academies & Free Schools) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 2011 Census [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. 2011 Census [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. A child in need is one who has been referred to children’s social care, and who has been assessed, usually through and initial assessment, or continuous assessment, to be in need of social care services. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The percentage of looked after children placed within 20 miles of their home address has increased. A number of children continue to live outside the geographical boundaries of Brighton & Hove (some for reasons of safety or to remain in the care of relatives/existing carers) and work continues to take place with providers to increase local placement options particularly in relation to residential care for children with specific/complex needs [↑](#footnote-ref-8)