



REQUEST 18908

Definitions

We are interested in exploring the pathways between early help and statutory children's social care services, in particular for children who have their cases closed after a section 17 or 'child in need' assessment. For children who have their case closed after assessment, we include children who are assessed as being 'not in need' and children for whom no further action is taken. These categories correspond to those used by the Department for Education's Children in Need census (codes RC7 and RC8). For children who are subsequently referred to early help, this category corresponds to code RC9.

Guidance on questions

For questions 2 - 7 please provide data for the following time periods:

And for the following age groups:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| • 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | a. All children |
| • 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | b. 5-9 years |
| • 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 | c. 10-15 years |
| • 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 | d. 16 years and over |
| • 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025 | |

If no breakdown by age is available, please provide an overarching figure for all children.

If no complete data is available for any question, please provide incomplete data.

1. Does your local authority have a process to refer children to targeted early help services when their case is closed after a Child in Need assessment? (Yes or No)
2. For each of the periods and age groups as stated above, how many children received an early help assessment in your local authority?
3. How many children were subject to a child in need (CIN) assessment?
4. For how many children was the case closed following the CIN assessment?
5. How many of the children whose case was closed after CIN assessment were subsequently re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months of their initial referral?
6. How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?
7. Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?

RESPONSE

1. Yes.

2-7 Please see below.

2020/2021	All Age Group	5-9	10-15	16+
Completed Early Help Assessments	2242	707	881	230
Completed S17 assessments	Publicly available information			
Case closed following CIN assessment	Publicly available information			
Re-referrals as per DFE definition	Publicly available information			
How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?	227	79	79	13
Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?	39	12	8	3

2021/2022	All Age Group	5-9	10-15	16+
Completed Early Help Assessments	2260	634	1064	201
Completed S17 assessments	Publicly available information			
Case closed following CIN assessment	Publicly available information			
Re-referrals as per DFE definition	Publicly available information			
How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?	185	53	66	13
Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?	42	13	14	1

2023/2024	All Age Group	5-9	10-15	16+
Completed Early Help Assessments	2522	765	1099	262
Completed S17 assessments	Publicly available information			
Case closed following CIN assessment	Publicly available information			
Re-referrals as per DFE definition	Publicly available information			
How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?	252	70	102	17
Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?	37	13	8	0

2024/2025	All Age Group	5-9	10-15	16+
Completed Early Help Assessments	2698	823	1175	282
Completed S17 assessments	Publicly available information			
Case closed following CIN assessment	Publicly available information			
Re-referrals as per DFE definition	Publicly available information			
How many of the children whose case was closed after the CIN assessment were referred to early help services?	118	34	40	7
Of the group of children who had been referred on to early help services following the closure of their initial CIN assessment, how many were re-referred for a CIN assessment within 12 months?	31	6	8	2

NB figures for question 7 are for referrals starting up to 23/11/25.