

IYFAP End of Year Summary

Academic Year September 2024 - July 2025

The In Year Fair Access Panel (IYFAP) has continued to be effective in its duty to ensure that outside the normal admissions round - unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are found and offered a place quickly, so that the amount of time any child is out of school is kept to the minimum.

We continue to see a minimal number of primary aged referrals considered by the Fair Access Panel. This is due to strong communication between the local authority (LA), school admissions officers and sufficient place planning. The LA are also extremely grateful to our schools for their support with Year 11 pupils being placed in mainstream schools. The Panel is effective in ensuring that every child receives the best possible education in line with statutory guidance.

Below is a summary of the referrals made via the IYFAP.

Key Statistics

- **1 primary referral** to the IYFAP compared to 2 primary referrals in 2023-2024
- **42% decrease – 76** total number of placements by the IYFAP in comparison to the academic year 2023-2024 where there were 132 placements.
- **46 Year 11** aged children were referred to the panel, and this was **61% of the total placements**.
- **IYFAP placements in 2024-2025 - 74%** of placements were for children residing in the south of the borough
- **40% of the placements** have been for 'Children who have been out of education for four or more weeks where it can be demonstrated that there are no places available at any school within a reasonable distance of their home. This does not include circumstances where a suitable place has been offered to a child, and this has not been accepted'.

These statistics include July's placements (15) however the children did not start until the following academic year (2024/25).

Year 11

The general expectation is that mainstream education will be inclusive and that pupils with a wide range of needs will be able to access a mainstream school place. However, in recognition of the greater challenges for pupils in Year 11 who were seeking a new school where they are nearing post-compulsory school age, pupils were offered a place at Hillingdon's Interim Provision, subject to availability. If a school place was required, the case was considered against the eligibility list for referral as a Fair Access placement. If eligibility was met the applicant was allocated a placement through the Fair Access Panel.

Placements

The table below show the Fair Access placements from September 2024 - July 2025, it also indicates where in the borough pupils were residing. For secondary schools, the north of the borough is determined as above the A40, and south as below the A40, primary schools are determined by planning areas. These referrals reflect all pupils that were taken to the panel, some pupils were not placed but have been included in the referrals.

Month/Year Group	Primary referrals								
	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	North	South
September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

July	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total per year	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	1								

	Secondary referrals						
Month/Year Group	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	North	South
September	0	0	3	1	13	1	16
October	0	0	3	0	5	0	8
November	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
December	1	1	1	4	5	1	11
January	0	1	0	2	4	0	7
February	0	1	2	1	4	2	6
March	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
April	0	2	0	3	1	3	3
June	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
July	0	0	1	3	0	2	2
Total per year	2	5	11	15	42	9	66
Total	75					75	

The month of May will not appear in any statistics as no IYFAP meetings were scheduled in May.

Referral reason

Below is a breakdown of the reasons each referral was made to the IYFAP. The additional eligible categories have not been included as there were no

referrals.

The highest number of referrals in the Secondary phase were made for children that had been out of education for 2 or more months and children of Gypsies, Roma, Travellers, refugees and asylum seekers.

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	June	July	Total
Children in alternative provision who need to be reintegrated into mainstream education or who have been permanently excluded but are deemed suitable for mainstream education.	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	3	2	9
Children who have been out of education for four or more weeks where it can be demonstrated that there are no places available at any school within a reasonable distance of their home. This does not include circumstances where a suitable place has been offered to a child, and this has not been accepted	8	6	3	4	4	2	4	4	1	0	36
Children for whom a place has not been sought due to exceptional circumstances	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3

Children of Gypsies, Roma, Travellers, refugees and asylum seekers	8	0	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	15
Children either subject to a CIN or a CP Plan or having had a CIN or a CP Plan within 12 months	1	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	9
Children from the criminal justice system	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Children with SEN (without an EHCP)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	17	8	6	12	7	8	4	6	4	4	76

Place planning areas

Of the 75 secondary school placements made through Fair Access, 66 children lived in the South of the borough and 9 children lived in the North of the borough. 92% of the children placed through Fair Access lived in the South. The panel are mindful of the volume of pupils residing in the south of the borough and will try to allocate a school in the north of the borough where a journey is deemed within a reasonable distance. Alternatively, if a parent has added a school as a preference which is within the north of the borough the panel will look to allocate this school. This assists with equal distribution and can justify the panel's decision for allocating a school not within a reasonable distance.

Comparison with previous academic years

Below is a comparison of the number of In Year Fair Access Panel placements made this year in comparison to the last three academic years.

	2022-2023			2023-2024			2024-2025		
Month	Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total
September	0	19	19	0	21	21	0	17	17
October	0	24	24	0	14	14	0	8	8
November	0	32	32	0	14	14	0	6	6

December	0	29	29	0	10	10	0	12	12
January	0	25	25	0	18	18	0	7	7
February	0	14	14	1	12	13	0	8	8
March	0	22	22	0	7	7	0	4	4
April	0	16	16	1	13	14	0	6	6
June	0	12	12	0	6	6	1	3	4
July	0	8	8	0	15	15	0	4	4
Total	0	201	201	2	130	132	1	75	76

Appeals

Our current Fair Access Policy provides schools with 5 days to contact us and supply factual evidence, that to admit additional children would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources at their school. We will also consider information that we may not be aware of at the time of placement that may evidence the suitability of the placement and whether this would be in the best interests of the child.

We received 9 appeals in the academic year 2024/25 from schools against placements. Of the 9 appeals that we received:

- 6 placements were pursued at the allocated school.
- 1 pupil was allocated an alternative school
- 2 placements were withdrawn

Interim Provision

The Interim provision has 10 places available at any one time.

- 57 pupils were referred to the Interim Provision in 2024/25. Of this cohort, pupils have come from 15 different countries, speaking 10 different languages.

- Of the 57 pupils, 10 were Looked After Children and 5 were on Child Protection plans. This was 26% of the Interim cohort.
- All of this year's cohort, have been successfully placed at a school as an outcome of the FAP, moved on through the NTS programme, accessing an alternative setting, left as they were no longer statutory school age or moved out of the country/borough.
- The provision also provided extra support to pupils when a school was not allocated through the panel, or the pupil was at a point in year 11 where it was unreasonable to place them at a school. They supported a pupil who was going through an Education, Health and Care Plan Needs Assessment, and Post 16 support for a pupil with Special Educational Needs.

School Attendance Orders

We did not place any children through IYFAP under School Attendance Orders throughout this academic year.

Fair Access Protocol 2025-2026

The School Placement and Admissions team are currently reviewing the Hillingdon's Fair Access Protocol for the academic year 2025-26. Changes will be made to strengthen the process for referring children from alternative provision back into mainstream school, and where schools are refusing to offer on the grounds of challenging behaviour. Once drafted, this will be sent to every Headteacher to review and comment on. Once agreed with the majority of schools, the new protocol will be implemented for the next meeting. Until the new FAP is agreed, we will continue to follow the process in the current FAP agreed in 2024-25.