



BROMLEY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSON JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2022 Section 1: Demography Dr Jenny Selway

For more information visit <u>www.bromley.gov.uk/JSNA</u> or contact <u>JSNA@bromley.gov.uk</u>

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Table of Contents

The Population of Bromley: Demography		
a) Current Picture & Projections	4	
b) Ethnicity of children and young people in Bromley		
Key findings from Section 1	11	
Glossary and abbreviations	12	

The Population of Bromley: Demography

a) Current Picture & Projections

The total population for Bromley is 330,000, of which approximately 22% are children aged 0-18 years. Children and young people population projections are shown in the table below. The age groups roughly correspond to pre-school, primary school and secondary school age groups. The only growth is due to be in the secondary school age group but this is also expected to fall by 2032.

	Age	2022	2027	2032
	0-4	18750	17290	16960
	5-10	23480	21730	19590
	11-18	31200	31490	29480
	Total	73430	70510	66030

Table 1.1: Children's Population Projections 2022 to 2032

Source: GLA 2020-based housing-led population projection

Some health services as well as education services are provided to children who live outside the borough but attend pre-school or school within the borough. Data on populations attending school in Bromley are also included in this description of the demography of children in Bromley.

The number of live births in Bromley has been decreasing over the last few years. In 2008 there were 4,000 births in Bromley, which rose to 4,300 in 2016 but fell to 3,600 in 2020.

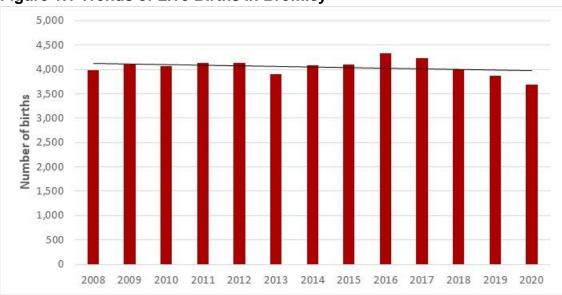


Figure 1.1 Trends of Live Births in Bromley

Source: ONS Births in England and Wales: summary tables

Birth rates vary between wards. The highest rate is in Clock House and the lowest in Farnborough and Crofton.

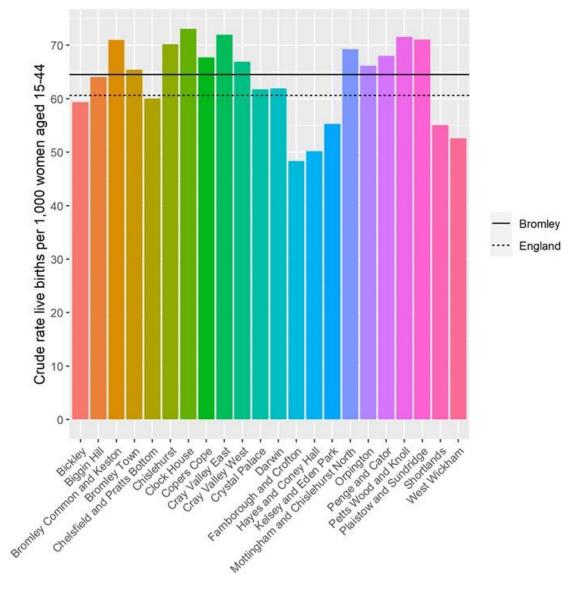


Figure 1.2 Birth rate by ward, Bromley, 2021/22

The population projections for children aged 0-4 years in Bromley are currently fairly static but are projected to fall in the mid-2020s before recovering again.

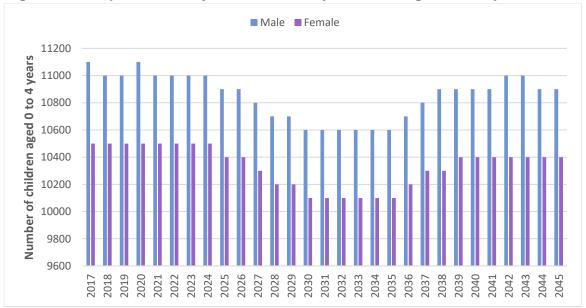
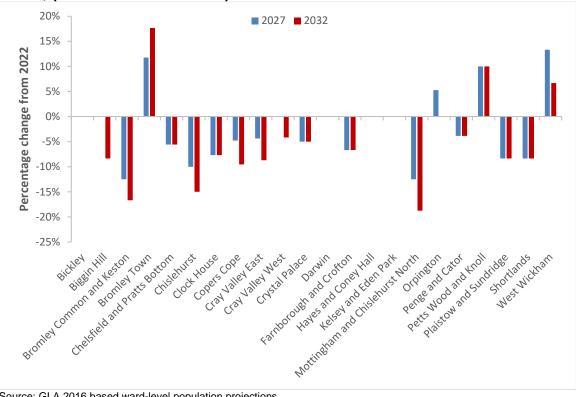


Figure 1.3 Population Projections Bromley Children aged 0 to 4 years

Source: GLA 2016-based housing-led population projection

A few wards are expected to see a rise in the proportion of young children aged 0-4 years, but most will see a reduction in the number of young children.





Source: GLA 2016 based ward-level population projections

Children and young people are unevenly distributed within the borough. Mottingham and Chislehurst North has the highest proportion of children and young people and Copers Cope the lowest.

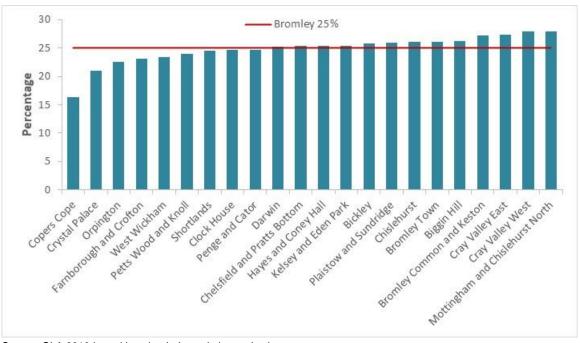


Figure 1.5 Percentage Distribution of 0-19 Year Olds by Ward in Bromley, 2022

The migration of children into Bromley schools, having been positive for many years, went into reverse in 2019 and continues to be negative except for the youngest children.

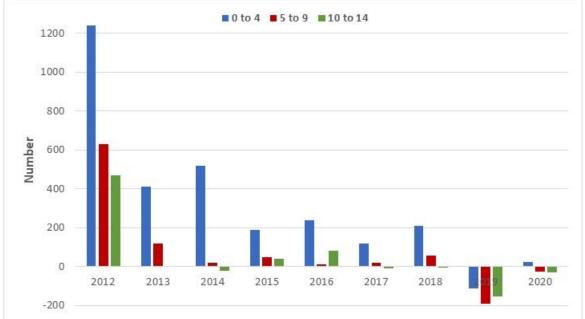


Figure 1.6: Bromley Net Migration by Age, 2012-20

Source: ONS Internal migration: by local authority and region, five-year age group and sex

Source: GLA 2016-based housing-led population projection

Since 2010 there has been a 19% increase in the primary school population (4,290 pupils), with the number of Reception year pupils increasing from 3,442 in 2010 to 3,850 with a peak of 4,050 in January 2021. Key growth areas have been Penge and Anerley, Beckenham, Central Bromley and Cray Valley. Primary school rolls are projected to fall over the next decade although the reduction in the number of primary school places in Bromley is less than the rest of London.

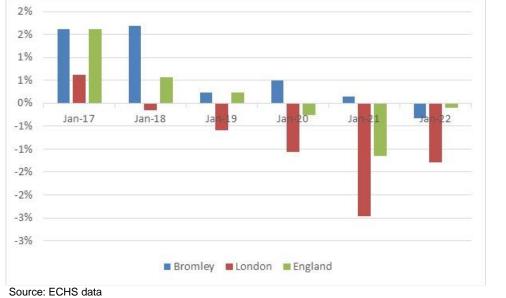


Figure 1.7: Comparative annual change in primary school rolls 2016-22

The growth in demand for school places is now in the secondary sector, with the need for Year 7 places in secondary schools increasing from 3,463 in 2017 to 3,937 in January 2022, a 14% increase. There are now 2,572 more pupils in Bromley secondary schools than there were in 2016, an increase of 12%.

Between January 2016 and January 2022 the total number of school pupils has increased from 54,398 to 58,419, an increase of 7.4%. The primary school population has increased by 2% and the secondary school population has increased by 11%. Based on the 2017 GLA School Roll Projections, the school population will rise to a peak of 54,392 in 2026, before falling back slightly to 53,441 in 2032.

Since 2019 Bromley has experienced a growth of 47% in the number of children and young people aged 0-25 with an Education Health and Care Plan. Over the past 10 years, special school places have increased by 85% and primary resource provision places by 52%. Children and young people with an EHCP are supported in mainstream classes where appropriate.

Figure 1.8 provides details about actual changes to primary and secondary rolls from the school census up to 2017 and forecasts from the GLA School Roll

Projections up to 2032. It demonstrates the significant growth in primary and secondary school rolls that will be sustained over the next decade.

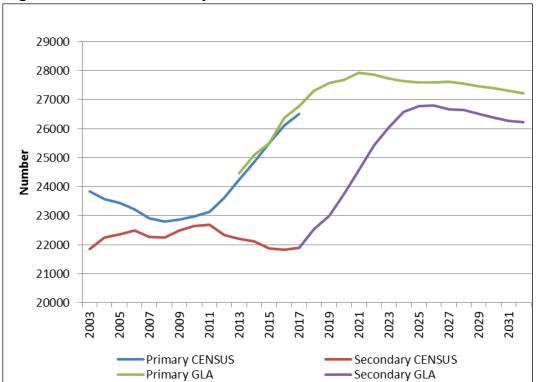


Figure 1.8: Actual and Projected School Rolls 2003 to 2032

Primary school pupils attending school in Bromley from other boroughs are mostly from Croydon (3.3%) and Lewisham (2.4%).

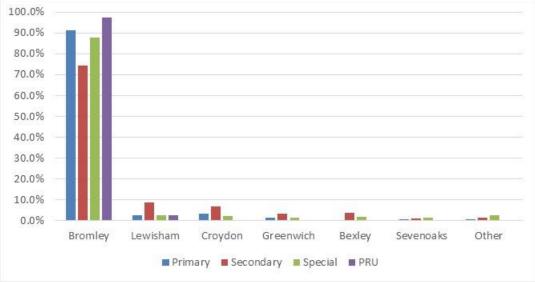


Figure 1.9: Pupils in Bromley Schools by borough of residence

Source: School Census and GLA 2017 School Roll Projections

Source: ECHS data

There is a greater number of cross borough movements at secondary age, supported by secondary school pupils' ability to travel further for a school place and larger schools generally having a greater catchment area from which pupils are attracted.

Many pupils in Bromley secondary schools are residents of another borough. Lewisham (8.8%), Croydon (6.9%), Bexley (3.7%) and Greenwich (3.5%) are the boroughs with the greatest number of pupils in Bromley schools.

b) Ethnicity of pupils in Bromley schools

In Bromley schools, 64% of pupils are white, 12% are mixed ethnicity and 11% are black.

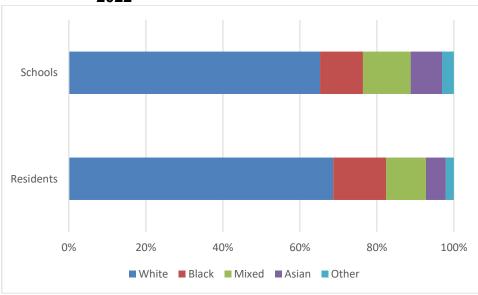


Figure 1.10: Ethnicity of Bromley residents and pupils in Bromley schools, 2022

Source: ECHS data and GLA 2016 population projections

This data is slightly different to the ethnicity of the resident population which has slightly higher proportion of white children (69%), and black children (14%) and slightly lower proportion of mixed ethnicity (10%).

GLA population projections show that the greatest proportional rise is expected in the Black African community which is predicted to grow in size by 16.6% between 2021 and 2026 and by 29.5% between 2021 and 2031.

Gypsy Traveller Population

Nationally, 60% of Gypsy or Irish Travellers have no academic or professional qualification (2011 census) compared to 23% of the general population. Evidence shows that Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children are less likely to achieve a good level of development in their early years and reach the GCSE threshold

compared to other 'White' children. This group were also among those most likely to be excluded from school, being four to five times higher than other 'White' children. There is also a marked decline in the number of enrolled Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils between primary and secondary school.

Bromley has a large settled Gypsy Traveller Community living in houses, concentrated chiefly in the east of the borough in the Crays.

Estimating the number of people in these communities is problematic as individuals are often reluctant to identify themselves for a number of reasons.

In the 2011 census for Bromley, 582 individuals were recorded as Gypsy or Irish Travellers of whom 65% lived in the Cray Valley wards with another 10% in the Orpington Ward.

Key findings from Section 1

The main growth in the child population is now the 11-18 age group

Most wards in Bromley will see a reduction in the proportion of their population aged 0-4 years

There is no longer migration of pupils into Bromley schools.

The Black African population is growing.

Under-recording of the Gypsy Traveller population makes pro-actively addressing the needs of this population difficult.

Glossary and abbreviations

- ECHS Education, Care and Health Services
- GLA Greater London Authority
- ONS Office for National Statistics