# Children in Midlothian's Profile

From 2011 to 2015, the child population of Midlothian increased by **971 (6.2%)**.

From 2016 to 2020, the child population of Midlothian increased by **1,205 (7.1%)**.

15,653 15,928 16,061 16,365 16,624

16,884 17,229 17,590 17,953 18,089
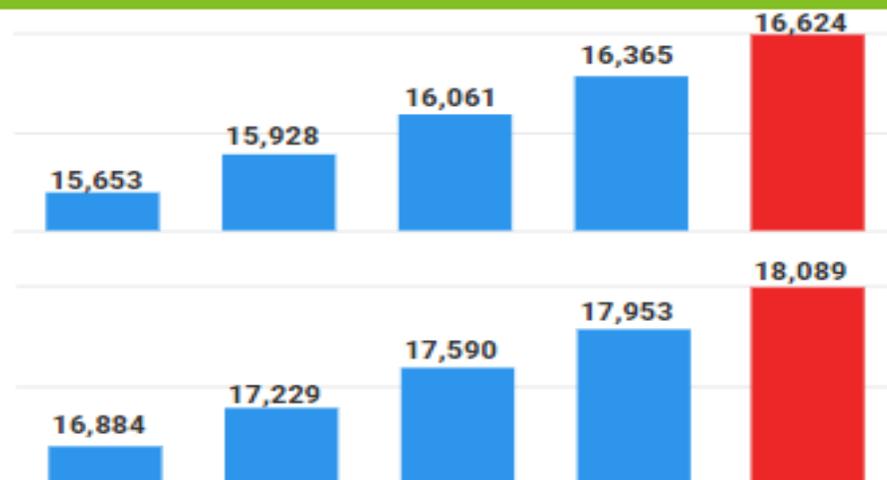
19.42% of Midlothian's Population are Children (around 1 in every 5 people).

Details and Comparisons

Population Rise

The population of children in Midlothian has increased by 15.56% (2,436) from 2011 to 2020. This is a much larger increase than Scotland, which has increased by 0.07% in the same time.

Lone Parent Households

Midlothian's percentage of lone parent households is similar to Scotland's (7.15%). In numbers, Midlothian has 2,577 lone parent households and Scotland has 169,707.

Child Poverty

Since 2015, child poverty has increased by 1.5%. Midlothian's child poverty percentage is lower than Scotland which has 26% of children living in poverty.

Child Safety

Midlothian performs better in most categories of child safety than Scotland, this is most evident in 'Looked-After' children rates, where Scotland has 2.3 more children per 1,000 than Midlothian.

15.72% of Children are from low income families (as of 2016)

At the end of the 2020/21 school year, **15.9%** of children were receiving free school meals.

22% of children are living in poverty (around 1 in every 5 kids).

7.37% of all households in Midlothian are lone parent households

The rate of under 16's pregnancy in Midlothian is 2.8 per 1,000 as of 2019.

Reduce Exclusions in Primary (Rate per 1,000)
- Q1 21/22: 4.07
- Q2 21/22: 0.49
- Q3 21/22: 0.86
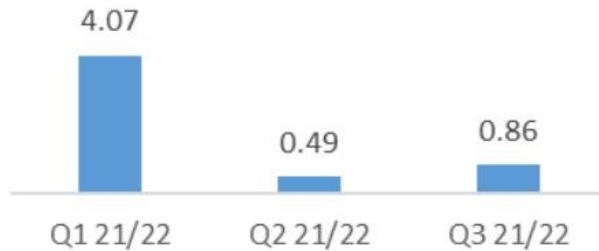
Average Primary Attendance %
- Q2 20/21: 94.0%
- Q3 20/21: 94.1%
- Q4 20/21: 95.4%
- Q1 21/22: 94.9%
- Q2 21/22: 93.1%
- Q3 21/22: 91.4%

Care Experienced School Leavers progressing to Positive destinations
- 2017/18: 76.92%
- 2018/19: 69.23%
- 2019/20: 62.50%
- 2020/21: 92.31%

Reduce Exclusions in Secondary (Rate per 1,000)
- Q1 21/22: 12
- Q2 21/22: 2.3
- Q3 21/22: 6.2
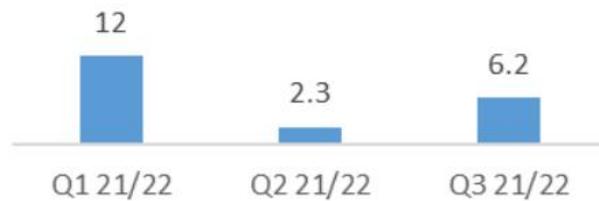
Average Secondary attendance %
- Q2 20/21: 90.2%
- Q3 20/21: 89.0%
- Q4 20/21: 92.6%
- Q1 21/22: 91.1%
- Q2 21/22: 90.0%
- Q3 21/22: 85.0%

School Leavers progressing to positive destinations
- 2017/18: 94.35%
- 2018/19: 94.35%
- 2019/20: 93.81%
- 2020/21: 94.47%
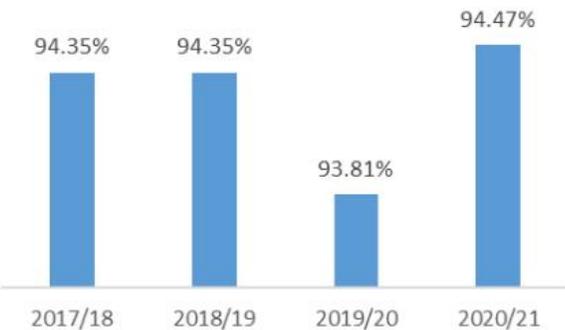
Service Priorities – Attainment and Achievement

Holistic

Modern

Sustainable

Preventative

Key Highlights

- Scottish Government published the National Improvement Framework report, including Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) data December 2021 indicating a decrease in the number of children achieving CfE levels across Literacy and Numeracy. The Midlothian data reflects the national picture and an Education Recovery Team is working closely with schools to address learning loss caused by the impact of the pandemic.

- Secondary school attainment visits held with senior managers across all secondary schools with the identification of strengths and areas for improvement to inform future improvement priority actions.

- Equipped for Learning Programme is on track with all secondary school pupils in receipt of their device and ASN provisions provided with assistive technology.

- Targeted support in place for young people who are at risk of underachievement, with additional inter-agency focus from Children's Services, Skills Development Scotland and CLL.

- Our Parent Learner Liaison Officer is working with focus groups of parents and Scottish Government colleagues to create a parental engagement survey which will inform our new parental engagement strategy.

Children reaching the required level (CFE 2021)

P1	
Reading	78.4%
Writing	75.0%
Listening and Talking	88.3%
Numeracy	82.3%

Children reaching the required level (CFE 2021)

P4	
Reading	72.0%
Writing	64.0%
Listening and Talking	82.9%
Numeracy	71.1%

Children reaching the required level (CFE 2021)

P7	
Reading	72.1%
Writing	65.0%
Listening and Talking	79.6%
Numeracy	62.3%
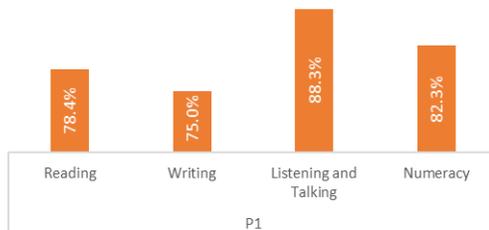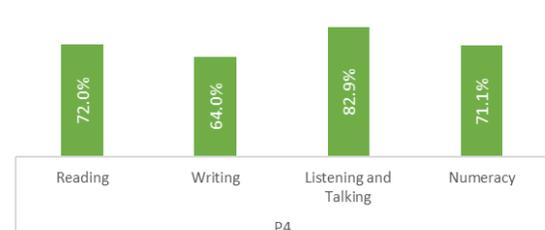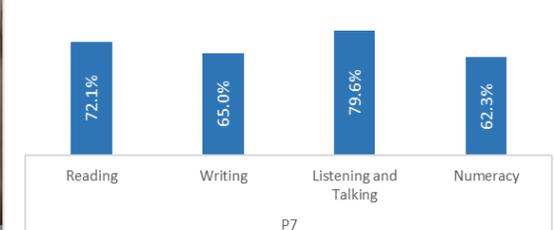
Areas for improvement

- Increasing attendance

- Review of senior phase curriculum to ensure all young people achieve their potential

- Develop Raising Attainment Strategy 2022/23 to address learning loss as a result of the pandemic

Service Priorities - Included, Involved and Engaged: Wellbeing & Equity

Holistic

Modern

Sustainable

Preventative

Key Highlights

- A Nurture Lead has been established in every school, nursery, Children and Families Service, and Community Life Long Learning Service

- A Resource Hub in GLOW currently enables Education Professionals and School Nurture Leads to share resources and ideas for practice

- School Counselling Service – MYPAS awarded the contract to deliver this service from September

- Updated guidance and training has been provided for school staff to improve the robustness and quality of our ASN data. Training and support has also been provided on the new 4 stages of interventions which will provide more accurate data on the needs of children and young people

- A Quick Reference Guide to STEM, with key concepts, has been written and printed ready to be given to all ELC settings and P1 classes in Midlothian. Seven Bite Sized modules were created and shared with ELC staff

31 Primary Schools

1 Special School

**70 Educational settings within Midlothian**

6 Secondary Schools

32 Early Years Provision

Challenges

- Impact of pandemic on wellbeing of children, young people and staff

Finances and Resources
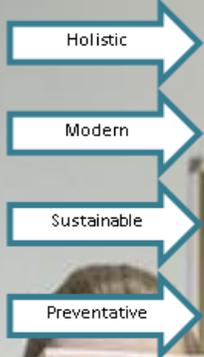
Key Highlights

- Strategic review of the ASN learning estate is underway.

- The re-structure of the business support team has concluded and all vacancies will be advertised externally

- Delivery of a device to every secondary school pupil, the introduction of a new safeguarding and internet filtering tool and the introduction of a new email and productivity and learning platforms for Education staff and pupils.

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Digital Delivery

2383
New devices Rolled-out in Term 1

10766
Pupils using new digital systems

Pupil Rolls (Year On Year) % change)

	Primary Midlothian	Primary Scotland	Secondary Midlothian	Secondary Scotland	Total Midlothian	Total Scotland
2018	1.37%	-0.01%	2.38%	1.47%	1.69%	0.62%
2019	1.90%	-0.37%	2.89%	2.07%	2.18%	0.68%
2020	2.06%	-1.21%	3.16%	3.04%	2.47%	0.60%
2021	1.95%	-0.92%	3.89%	1.95%	2.76%	0.36%
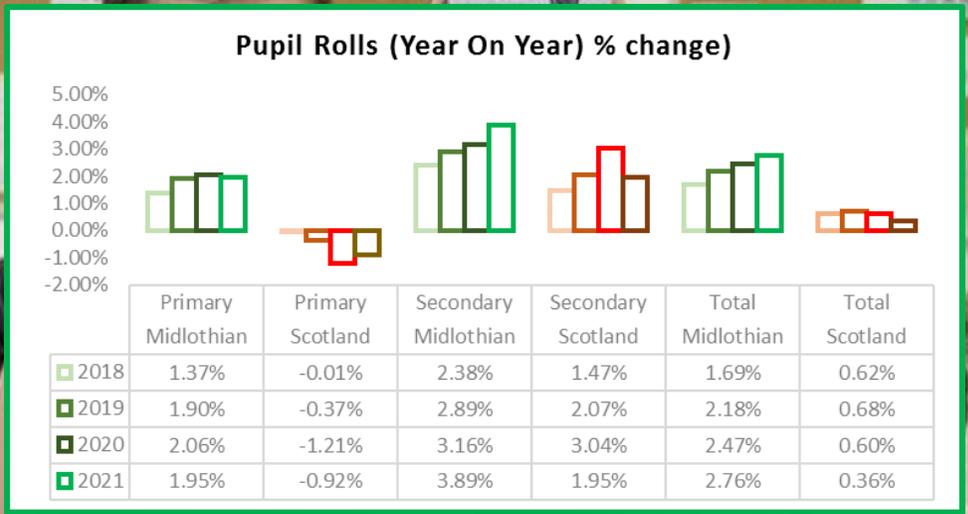
Areas for improvement

- School Estate Management – as evidenced by the graph above the rate of growth in the Midlothian School Age population continues to outpace the National picture
- Increase in the number of children and young people with additional support requiring more specialist provision will require robust monitoring to ensure staffing and specialist facilities meets level of needs.