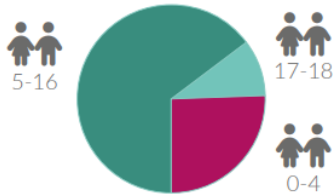


South Gloucestershire Children and Young People Needs Assessment 2023*

Summary for Education Settings

Our population



There are over 62,000 children aged 0-18 living in South Gloucestershire, and this number is forecast to **grow**.

- Aged 0-4: 16,000
- Aged 5-16: 40,000
- Aged 17-18: 6,000



1 in 5 children are from an ethnic minority background, and this has been **increasing** over the last decade.



South Gloucestershire doesn't rank highly as a deprived area but within the area striking **inequalities** exist, and between 10% and 20% children live in poverty, with rates **increasing**.



1 in 20 children regularly go to school or to bed hungry as there isn't enough food in the house (Online Pupil Survey, 2021).



1 in 7 children are eligible for Free School Meals, and this has **almost doubled** from 1 in 14 over 5 years.



Vulnerable groups are growing in number: the count of child protection plans is increasing, with re-referral rates also increasing and higher than national levels.



Nearly half of help provided to prevent or relieve homelessness involves households with children, and 1 in 5 is for people aged 16-24.



Just over 4 out of 5 children aged 2-2.5 years achieve a good level of development at the 2.5 year check.

*A **needs assessment** uses a range of data and information to understand more about a population, community' or group of people to help identify what their health, care or other needs might be.

Early years

What did we find?

The health and wellbeing of children and young people in South Gloucestershire is generally good. However, there are notable inequalities in relation to health, mental health, education engagement and educational outcomes. These affect children's development and can impact into adulthood too.

Key outcomes

Breastfeeding

- While rates have been improving, there are inequalities in breastfeeding along deprivation, age and ethnicity lines and rates **decline** between initiation to 6–8-week check.

Child development

- The majority of babies receive their health visitor reviews on time and 84% of children achieve a good level of development at age 2-2 ½.
- However, there **is no local understanding of inequalities** and disparities in early years development, and inequalities are evident in 4–5-year-olds in school.



How you can help

- ✓ **Encourage breastfeeding support** for families: [South Gloucestershire Breastfeeding Support Services - Welcome \(breastfeedingsouthglos.co.uk\)](https://breastfeedingsouthglos.co.uk)
- ✓ **Continue to work positively with Midwifery and Health Visitors.** Contact health visitors here: [Health Visiting South Gloucestershire | Community Children's Health Partnership \(cchp.nhs.uk\)](https://cchp.nhs.uk)
- ✓ **Support data collection and analysis in the Early Years** to gain a better understanding of emerging needs before children go to school.

Read the needs assessment summary here:



Link: [Children and Young People's Needs Assessment Executive Summary \(southglos.gov.uk\)](https://southglos.gov.uk)

Any queries? Get in touch:
healthpromotionineducation@southglos.gov.uk

Recommendations across all ages

- ✓ Keep a focus on inequalities across health, wellbeing and education. We plan to conduct an education needs assessment focusing on inequalities.
- ✓ There is a lot we don't know: we need to find out more about 'hidden' vulnerable groups such as young carers. The Online Pupil Survey, school census and feedback from service users provide crucial local insights.
- ✓ See the bigger picture: challenges with mental health, diet, oral health and exercise could all be related and could benefit from a joined-up approach.

Recommendations underpinned by local insight including children and young people.

Primary school

What did we find?

The health and wellbeing of children and young people in South Gloucestershire is generally good. However, there are notable inequalities in relation to health, mental health, education engagement and educational outcomes. These affect children's development and can impact into adulthood too.

Key outcomes

Childhood obesity

- 1 in 5 reception aged children are overweight or obese.
- This **risks** to 1 in 3 in year 6 pupils, with rates highest in the most deprived areas.

Oral health

- 1 in 6 five-year-olds have decayed, missing or filled teeth.
- One third of planned hospital admissions for 6–10-year-olds in South Gloucestershire are for tooth extraction due to decay, and rates are **disproportionately high** in more deprived areas.

Educational attainment gaps

- The biggest gaps between the all-pupil average attainment at all key stages and specific groups identified in educational data are seen in those with a SEN (SEN support & EHC Plans), children in care and children eligible for free school meals.
- Educational attainment and health are closely linked as building blocks of a child's wellbeing.

How you can help

- ✓ **Support healthy eating and physical activity in your setting.** The health promotion team at the council can offer support for your school: [Core-Offer-HPES.pdf \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ The National Child Measurement Programme is vital in monitoring child obesity rates.
- ✓ **Contribute to our understanding of inequalities** in and barriers to healthy lifestyles and what evidence-based support could help. The Online Pupil Survey (OPS) helps with our understanding of this area.
- ✓ **Promote the supervised toothbrushing scheme** at your school: [Improving oral health: supervised tooth brushing programme toolkit - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ **Encourage families to register with a dentist.**

Recommendations across all ages

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- ✓ There is a lot we don't know: we need to find out more about 'hidden' vulnerable groups such as young carers. The Online Pupil Survey, school census and feedback from service users provide crucial local insights.
- ✓ See the bigger picture: challenges with mental health, diet, oral health and exercise could all be related and could benefit from a joined-up approach.

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Recommendations underpinned by local insight including children and young people.

Secondary school

What did we find?

The health and wellbeing of children and young people in South Gloucestershire is generally good. However, there are notable inequalities in relation to health, mental health, education engagement and educational outcomes. These affect children's development and can impact into adulthood too.

Key outcomes

Childhood obesity

- Only 1 in 6 secondary aged children eat 5+ fruit and veg a day.

Mental health

- Intentional self-harm admissions in 15-19 year olds has increased by **254%** (or **2 ½ times**) in nine years. Girls or those living in deprived areas are **disproportionately affected**.
- There are **high** hospital admission rates for alcohol specific conditions compared to national figures, and **high** and **increasing** rates of substance misuse admissions.
- Stress and worry about school increase with age and is more prevalent in girls, students that define their gender as other, amongst SEN pupils and those in vulnerable groups.

HPV vaccination

- Coverage against all major childhood diseases is similar to or better than national averages, however coverage for HPV vaccine in 12–13-year-old girls is **low** and **declining**.

How you can help

- ✓ **Support students with healthy eating and physical activity:** Contact the local health promotion team for advice with PSHE teaching: [Core-Offer-HPES.pdf \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ **Connect with Mental Health support:** early, stigma-free and trauma-informed services are preferred by children and young people. Local options are available: [Support with mental health and wellbeing for children | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ YPDAS can help with concerns such as stress, worry and drug/alcohol support: [Young people's drug and alcohol support | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ Contact us for advice on improving mental health in school: [Core-Offer-HPES.pdf \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)
- ✓ **The Online Pupil Survey (OPS)** provides insight into how schools can support students with stress and worry, and improves understanding of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.
- ✓ **Strengthen the immunisation programme in your school:** nominate a contact to work with the local immunisation team. Further advice here: [Adolescent vaccination programme: briefing for secondary schools 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Recommendations across all ages

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- ✓ There is a lot we don't know: we need to find out more about 'hidden' vulnerable groups such as young carers. The Online Pupil Survey, school census and feedback from service users provide crucial local insights.
- ✓ See the bigger picture: challenges with mental health, diet, oral health and exercise could all be related and could benefit from a joined-up approach.

Educational attainment and health are inextricably linked as building blocks of a child's wellbeing.

Recommendations underpinned by local insight including children and young people.

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