

Appendix 2: Summary of recent and projected take up of specialist places

The below table sets out the growth in the number of learners accessing specialist provision in recent years:

Table: Cardiff pupils accessing specialist placement, 2017/18 to 2022/2023						
	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cardiff maintained provision						
Primary SRB	174	192	192	192	213	204
Secondary SRB	219	274	274	294	341	365
Primary Special (4-11)	204	216	240	254	282	299
Secondary Special (11-19)	186	196	205	208	210	227
Ty Gwyn (3-19)	184	177	190	198	208	222
PRU (single-registered to PRU)	38	51	57	64	72	68
Sub-total - Cardiff special school, SRB & PRU	1005	1106	1158	1210	1326	1385
Primary - other LA	17	14	14	13	11	13
Secondary - other LA	68	55	59	59	51	40
Primary Independent / EOTAS	3	4	9	9	15	37
Secondary Independent / EOTAS*	312	279	267	228	257	272
Sub-total - other	400	352	349	309	334	362
Total Placements	1405	1458	1507	1519	1660	1747

When comparing the number of learners accessing specialist provision to the overall school population in the past five years, a year-on-year increase in the proportion of the pupil population accessing specialist provision can be identified.

The below table represents a continuation of this trend projection in the requirement for specialist placements, against the projected pupil populations in the primary, secondary and post-16 age phases.

Table: Continuation of recent trend in Cardiff pupils accessing specialist placement						
	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28
Continued growth projection	1747	1776	1817	1854	1887	1915
Continued growth projection - % of population	3.4%	3.4%	3.5%	3.6%	3.7%	3.8%

The identified trend of growth from circa 2.9% in 2017/18 to circa 3.4% in 2022/23, if continued, would reach 3.8% (1,915 pupils) by 2027/28. However, whilst this consolidates the need for proposals to expand specialist provision to date, such growth trends cannot be modelled to continue indefinitely above 3.8% of the overall school population. It is not anticipated that such a high proportion of learners should be placed in specialist provision, such as special schools, SRBs and PRUs. Support in

mainstream schools should, where appropriate, allow for learners to remain within their home school community. The Council is investigating opportunities to improve facilities for prevention and early intervention in primary and secondary schools, including flexible spaces to allow for smaller classes and for setting up in-house nurture arrangements and internal exclusion.