

ESWS Child Protection Duty Advice Line Referral Statistics **1998-2002**

Summary

The period in question has seen increases of 48.8% in the number of referrals and of 38.7% in the number of children being referred;

There has been significant increases in the number of referrals from the Primary/Nursery, Secondary and Special School Sectors;

Allegations against members of staff doubled in 2001/2002 compared to the trend of the previous three academic years;

The number of girls referred increased dramatically and in 2001/2002 nearly 60% of referrals were on girls though there was also an increase in the number of boys referred;

The proportions of children referred from different ethnic groups have moved towards a trend that more accurately reflects the ethnic composition of the school population in Tower Hamlets. The highest number of children referred being from the Asian-Bangladeshi group followed by English/Scottish/Welsh (ESW) and then the combined Black categories;

In 2001/2002 the majority of referrals from each of the Asian-Bangladeshi, ESW and combined Black categories were for girls;

When analysing the 3 academic years from 1999/2000 – 2001/2002 there were significant increases in the number of children referred from the Primary-Junior and Secondary Phases but particularly so in the Early Years Phase. In all phases there were increases in both the number of girls and boys referred but the increases in the number of girls referred were greater across all the phases and particularly so in the Early Years.

ESWS Child Protection Duty Advice Line Referral Statistics 1998-2002

1. Total No. of Referrals Received (this does not include calls that are filtered out as not being of referral status and are not referred to Social Services):

	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Referrals Received	213	211	277	317
No. of children	248	234	291	344

Key Points:

- (i) The number of Referrals Received increased by 48.8% over the period in question;
- (ii) The Number of Children Referred increased by 38.7% over the same period;
- (iii) At the beginning of the 2000/01 academic year major pieces of work were undertaken with schools to ensure that child protection concerns were being reported and that all referrals were reported through the ESWS Child Protection Duty Advice Line:
 - Following major restructuring of the Education Social Work Service and of Social Services Children's Services a campaign was undertaken with schools to ensure that all concerns of a child protection nature were reported through the Child Protection Duty Advice Line and not directly to Social Services;
 - Analysis of referrals made to the Child Protection Duty Advice Line identified a number of schools who were not reporting any concerns at all though their statistical peer schools within the Borough were reporting significant numbers of concerns. Visits to these schools were undertaken by the Senior Education Social Worker with responsibility for Social Inclusion and the issue was discussed with the Designated Teachers for Child Protection. This led to these schools subsequently becoming active users of the Child Protection Duty Advice Line to report concerns of a child protection nature.

2. Referrals by School Sector:

	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Primary/ Nursery	104	98	111	151
Secondary	59	71	117	115
Special	18	9	13	24
PRU	-	-	19	18
Other	32 (inc. PRU)	21 (inc. PRU)	17	9

Key Points:

- (i) Referrals from the Primary/Nursery Sector increased by 45.2%. In 1998/99 they represented 48.8% of referrals received and in 2001/02 they represented 47.6%;
- (ii) Referrals from the Secondary Sector increased by 94.9%. In 1998/99 they represented 27.7% of referrals received and in 2001/02 they represented 36.3%;
- (iii) Referrals from the Special School Sector increased by 33.3%. In 1998/99 they represented 8.5% of referrals received and in 2001/02 they represented 7.6%;
- (iv) The number of referrals from the PRU/Other fluctuates with no particular pattern being discernible. In 1998/99 they represented 15% of referrals received and in 2001/02 they represented 8.5%.

3. Allegations against Staff:

	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Allegations	11	12	10	23

Key Points:

- (i) From 1998/99 to 2000/01 there was a trend of an average of 11 allegations against staff referred each academic year;
- (ii) In the 2001/02 academic year the number of allegations reported increased by 109.1%.

4. Gender of Children:

	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Girls	124	122	158	199
Boys	124	112	133	145

Key Points:

- (i) The number of girls referred increased by 60.5%;
- (ii) The number of boys referred increased by 16.9%;
- (iii) Whereas in 1998/99 girls and boys were referred in equal numbers, there has since been the development of a significant gap in the levels of increase each academic year so that in 2001/2002 57.8% of referrals were for girls and 42.2% of referrals were on boys.

5. Ethnicity of children:

	Asian – Bangla	Asian-Indian	Asian - Pakistn	Asian – Other	Black African	Black Caribb	Black Somali	Black Other
G	42	0	1	1	3	1	5	8
1998/99								
B	31	0	0	4	5	4	4	8
Total	73	0	1	5	8	5	9	16
G	60	2	0	0	6	6	0	4
1999/00								
B	41	0	0	0	6	6	3	2
Total	101	2	0	0	12	12	3	6
G	65	0	1	3	12	8	6	3
2000/01								
B	42	2	1	2	14	9	2	1
Total	107	2	2	5	26	17	8	4
G	91	1	5	1	18	12	3	1
2001/02								
B	56	3	2	0	13	8	3	0
Total	147	4	7	1	31	20	6	1

Key Points:

- (iii) The proportions of children referred from different ethnic groups have moved towards a trend that more accurately reflects the ethnic composition of the school population in Tower Hamlets;
- (iv) In 1998/99 the largest proportion of children referred was from the ESW category with 33.9%, followed by 29.4% from the Asian-Bangladeshi category and 15.3% from the combined Black categories;
- (v) This changed in 1999/2000 when the largest proportion of children referred was from the Asian-Bangladeshi with 43.2%, followed by 33.3% from the ESW category and 14.1% from the combined Black categories;
- (vi) This trend was maintained in subsequent years. In 2001/02 42.7% of children referred were from the Asian-

Bangladeshi category, followed by 32.6% from the ESW category and 16.9% from the combined Black categories;

(vii) Children from the Asian-Bangladeshi category were still under-represented in that they constituted just over 50% of the pupil population in 2001/02;

(viii) Regarding gender and ethnicity, in 1998/99 57.5% of children referred from the Asian-Bangladeshi category were girls. This proportion increased year by year upto 2001/02 when 61.9% of the children referred from this category were girls;

(ix) In 2001/02 53.6% of the children referred from the ESW category were girls and 58.6% of the children referred from the combined Black categories were girls.

(v) Age of Children:

	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9
G 1999/ 00	6	7	5	11	9	8	5	9	16
B	7	3	10	11	11	14	8	3	13
Total	13	10	15	22	20	22	13	12	29
G 2000/ 01	8	3	10	6	11	4	10	10	15
B	7	5	11	13	9	11	15	15	8
Total	15	8	21	19	20	15	25	25	23
G 2001/ 02	11	11	12	12	4	17	8	18	16
B	8	17	17	15	12	6	10	7	11
Total	19	28	29	27	16	23	18	25	27

Key Points:

- (iv) This data has been collated from the records for 3 academic years and so some caution is warranted in attempting to identify trends;**
- (v) Over the 3 academic years in question there was an increase in the number of children referred from the Early Years (Nursery/Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) of 78.8% (Girls – 113% increase, Boys – 45.8% increase);**
- (vi) In 1999/2000 children referred from the Early Years represented 20.1% of all children referred, this increased to 24.4% in 2001/2002;**
- (vii) The number of children referred from the Primary-Junior Phase (Years 3-6) increased by 20.3% (Girls 36.4% increase, Boys – 8.7% increase);**
- (viii) In 1999/2000 children referred from the Primary-Junior Phase represented 33.8% of all children referred, this decreased to 27.6% in 2001/2002;**
- (ix) For the Secondary Phase (Years 7-11) the number of children referred increased by 35.8% (Girls – 47.7% increase, Boys – 17.1% increase);**
- (x) In 1999/2000 children referred from the Secondary Phase represented 45.3% of all children referred, this decreased to 41.9% in 2001/2002.**