

# Rotherham 0-19s Service Health Needs Assessment 2021

(Dated July 2021)

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## Summary

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This 0-19s assessment focuses on the health needs of children in Rotherham and current levels of service provision. It is split into four sections:

- Demographics
- Healthy Child Programme characteristics
- High impact areas – maternity, early years (0-4) and school-aged children (5-19)
- Other relevant data
- Children’s voices: local surveys

Rotherham is a relatively deprived local authority, ranking 44<sup>th</sup> of 317 local authorities according to the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation score (a slight relative increase from 52<sup>nd</sup> in 2017). Deprivation is linked to a wide variety of poor health and educational outcomes for children. As such, Rotherham often fares significantly worse than the national average when considering markers of ‘good health’ throughout this document. Comparisons have also been made with statistical ‘nearest neighbours’ to compare how well Rotherham is doing relatively to similar local authorities.

Based on these comparisons, key areas to focus on from a local perspective include:

- **Child poverty**
  - 16.8% of LSOAs were in the top 10% most deprived nationally 2019 Income Deprivation affected Children Index (IDACI)
- **Breastfeeding**
  - 59.6 % of babies first feed was breastmilk (2018/19)
  - Local data not comparable at 6-8 weeks
- **Obesity**
  - 26.6% of children in reception are overweight, including 12.6% who are obese, (High Impact Area - HIA)
- **Smoking** – including smoking in pregnancy, parental smoking around children and children themselves smoking
  - Smoking at time of Delivery for 2019/20 is 16.2%, for 2020/21 is 14% (HIA)
  - 27.9% of women smoke in early pregnancy
  - 10% of children aged 15 are regular smokers
- **Mental health – both parents and children**
  - Local data lacking but other factors suggestive of high levels of need
- **Oral health**
  - Hospital admissions for dental caries 1298.5 per 100,000 (highest LA nationally - HIA)
- **Educational attainment**
  - Average attainment 8 score 48.1
- **Additional High Impact Areas**
  - Low early access to maternity care
  - Child development: percentage of children achieving the expected level, in a variety of skills at 2 to 2½ years

One further factor to consider is the impact of COVID. The long-term impacts are likely to be wide-ranging, but it will take years to determine their full extent. For now, where relevant local or national data is available has been included, but much of the commentary around COVID represents a 'best guess' or estimate about what is likely to happen in the near future. Some potential thoughts to consider are the impact on children and young people's education, including early years (for example, increasing demand for support services such as speech and language therapy). Also, the impact on social skills, interactions, increase in home-schooling, domestic violence, caring roles and both child and parental mental health.