

Disabled children and young people in Central Bedfordshire Needs Analysis

1. Population estimates*

614,800	Bedfordshire County (All ages)
255,200	Central Bedfordshire (All ages)
75,600	Central Bedfordshire (Ages 0-24)

*Office for National Statistics 2010 mid year estimates unless otherwise stated

2. Disabled children and young people population estimates

7,560	10% Lancaster University ¹
5,292	7% Family Resource Survey & ONS ^{2 3}
5,292	7% School Census ⁴
1,970	2.6% Disability Living Allowance ⁵
607	0.8% DLA Higher care rate ⁶
225	No. of Cases held – Child Disability Team Ampthill ⁷

N.B Only 1 in 13 disabled children receive a regular support service of any sort from their local authority.(Contact a Family: Statistics)⁸

School Census January 2011 – Primary Learning Difficulty/ Disability (LDD) Levels of need

	Nos. per category	Percentage per category	Nos. per 100,000 rounded up
Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulty (BESD)	699	25.5%	27960
Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)	428	15.6%	17120
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	388	14.1%	15520
Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN)	348	12.7%	13920
Specific Learning Difficulties (SPLD)	313	11.4%	12520
Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)	189	6.9%	7560
Other (OTH) which may include children without a clear diagnosis	118	4.3%	4720
Physical Disability (PD)	113	4.1%	4520
Hearing Impairment (HI)	79	2.9%	3160
Visual Impairment (VI)	37	1.3%	1480
Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulty (PMLD)	26	0.9%	1040
Multi Sensory Impairment (MSI)	8	0.3%	320
Total	2,746	100.0%	109840
Total number of all children and young people on school census	39,214		

¹ 'The Socio-Economic Circumstances of Families Supporting a Child at Risk of Disability in Britain in 2002'. Lancaster University .Emerson, E. and Hatton, C. (2005) analysed the 2002 Families and Children Study using a broader definition of disability. Their results suggested that 10% of all children are disabled. This equates to just under 1.2 million children under the age of 17 in the UK.

² The Family Resource Survey 2005-2006, Office for National Statistics also estimates over 700,000 (7%) children under the age of 16 with an 'estimated longstanding illness, disability or infirmity that limits their activity'.

³ 'Living in Britain, Results from the 2002 General Household Survey', Office for National Statistics (2004) reports there are 770,000 (7%) disabled children in the UK.

⁴ 7% - rate of LDD prevalence found within the School Census (January 2011)

⁵ Entitled Disability Living Allowance cases aged 0-24. DWP - February 2011

⁶ Number of children in receipt of higher rate DLA has been used as a proxy indicator as recommended by the government (HM Treasury & DfES 2007). These children are by definition severely disabled with substantial care and/or mobility needs.

⁷ No. of Cases held (All Roles) at 20 October 2011

⁸ 1 in 13 disabled children based on school census as a proxy indicator in Central Bedfordshire would equate to 407.