





Annex 2: Sandwell regional context


Context


 Sandwell Academy opened in 2006 and serves all six towns of Sandwell. The majority of Sandwell's population live in areas deemed to be amongst the most disadvantaged in England. Over 60% of the population live in areas that are classed as the 20% most deprived in country.

 Sandwell has high levels of unemployment, which is particularly acute in areas to the west of Birmingham, which experience some of the highest levels of unemployment in England.¹

 Compared to the West Midlands and Great Britain, Sandwell has a substantially lower proportion of residents with qualifications. On average, educational attainment is lower than both the West Midlands and England. Less than 1 in 4 adults has a qualification of NVQ 4 or above and GCSE attainment is significantly below the national average.

 Children and adults in Sandwell are also significantly less physically active than their peers nationally and have higher levels of obesity across all age ranges.² Considering estimated prevalence of mental health disorders in children and young people, in 2015 Sandwell's estimated rate of 10.7% of 5-16 year olds is the highest in the West Midlands region and the third highest in the country.³

 The Social Mobility Index compares the chances that a child from a disadvantaged background will do well at school and get a good job across each of the 324 local authority district areas of England. Sandwell is considered to be in the bottom 20% of local authorities for social mobility.⁴

 We aim to sufficiently prepare students for their future careers and therefore we create opportunities for students to build resilience, self-reliance and perseverance throughout their time at Sandwell Academy.

¹ <https://sandwellandwestbhamccg.nhs.uk/equality-diversity/our-population>

² <https://www.sandwelltrends.info/education/>

³ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile-group/mental-health/profile/mh-jsna/data#page/3/gid/1938132922/pat/6/par/E12000005/ati/102/are/E08000028/iid/91141/age/246/sex/4>

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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/496103/Social_Mobility_Index.pdf