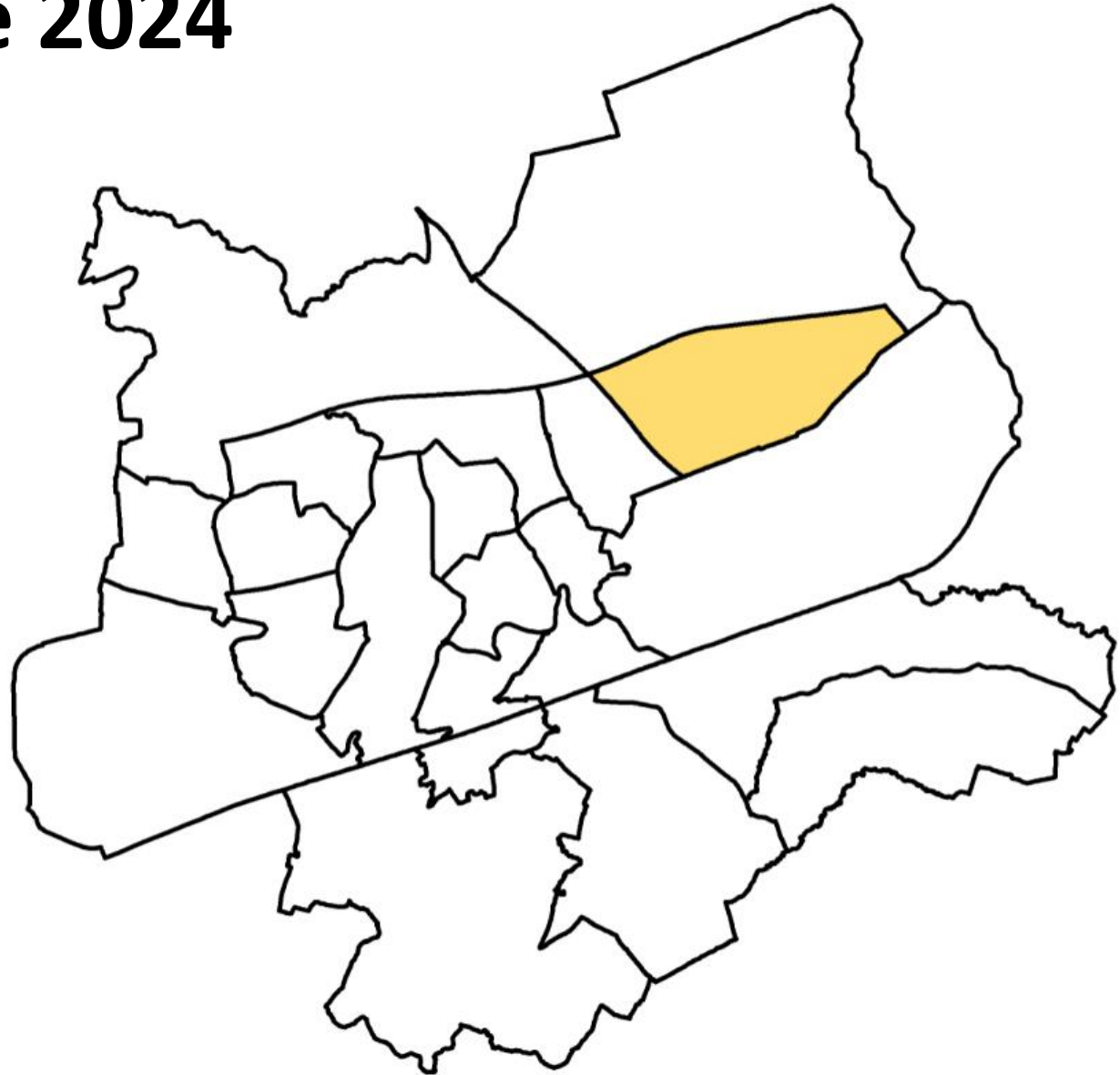


# Ward profile 2024

## Birchwood



Updated: November 2024

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Note: some statistics provided in previous years have not been collected due to Covid-19.

# Population – Warrington

**Estimated population:** Ward population were estimated from the ONS Census 2021 (based on the resident population as at 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021). Wards range from 6,212 residents in Burtonwood and Winwick to 12,415 in Poplars and Hulme.

**Population structure:** The age structure of the population affects a range of service needs. Some wards have a much older population than the Warrington average, and some a much younger population. Overall Warrington is similar to national figures and the North West, in 2021, **18% were aged 0-15, 63% aged 16-64, and 19% aged 65+.**

Looking at specific younger age groups, in Warrington approximately **5% of the population were aged 0-4.** By ward, the highest proportion of 0-4s can be found in Latchford East (6.8%), Bewsey and Whitecross (6.8%) and Fairfield and Howley (6.4%) and Poplars and Hulme (6.4%).

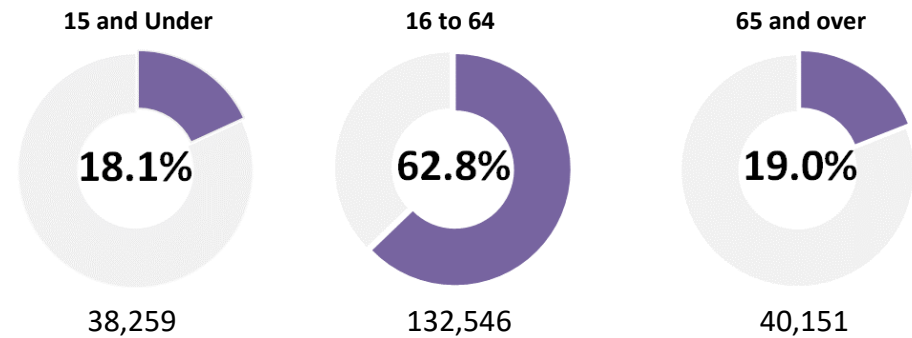
In Warrington approximately **22% of the population were aged 0-19.** The ward estimates for this age group ranges from 17.3% (Latchford West) to 28.0% (Poplars and Hulme).

The proportion of those **aged 80 and older** in Warrington is approximately **5.0%.** Wards with a higher proportion of these oldest populations include Penketh and Cuardley (9.8%), Burtonwood and Winwick (7.9%), Lymm South (7.3%) and Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft (7.2%).

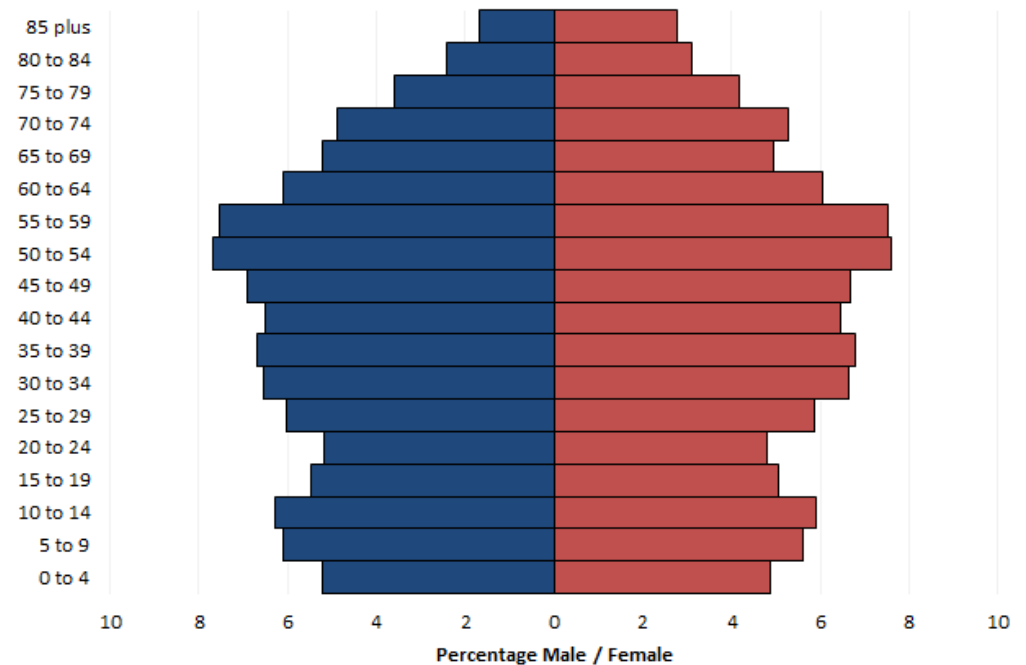
**Population projections** show that Warrington's population is forecast to increase to 214,000 by 2030.

**Households:** Warrington has approximately 98,300 residential properties as at June 2023, with the largest numbers in Bewsey and Whitecross (7,430) and Fairfield and Howley (6,145) and the smallest numbers in Poulton South (2,796) and Westbrook (2,731).

## Population by broad age group



## Warrington population – Percentage by 5 year age categories (2021)



Source: Office for National Statistics. Figures based on the 2021 Census. © Crown Copyright. Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License v3.0. Some figures are rounded, and percentages may not sum to 100.

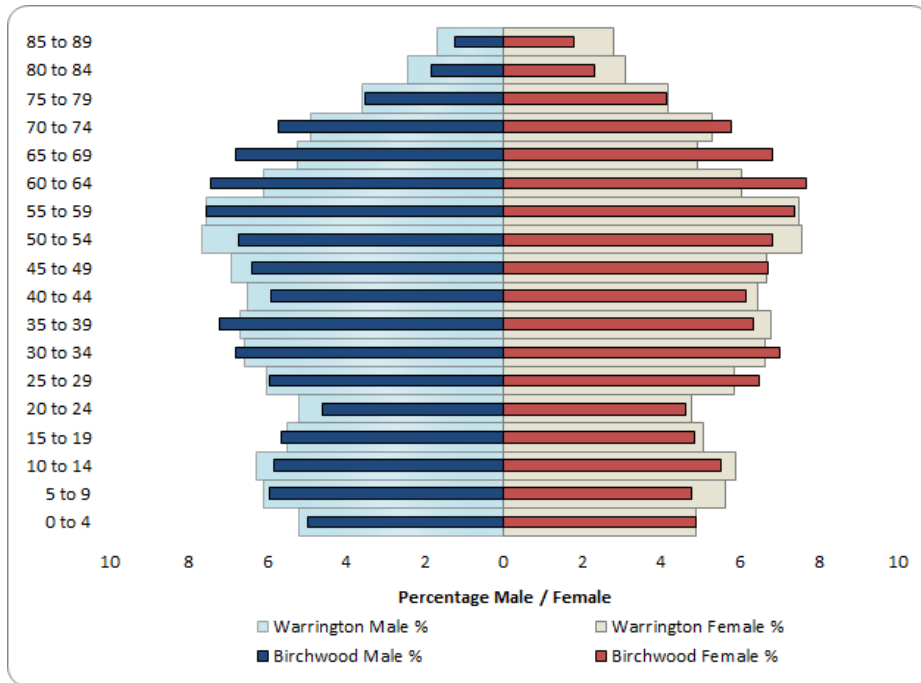
# Population – Birchwood

Compared to Warrington's population structure there are:

- Higher proportions of 55 to 74 year olds with smaller proportions in age groups 75 and older. The overall population structure is fairly similar to Warrington's.

**Warrington's population:** The latest population estimate from the Census (2021) for Warrington is 210,956. Projections show that Warrington's population is forecast to increase to 214,000 by 2030.

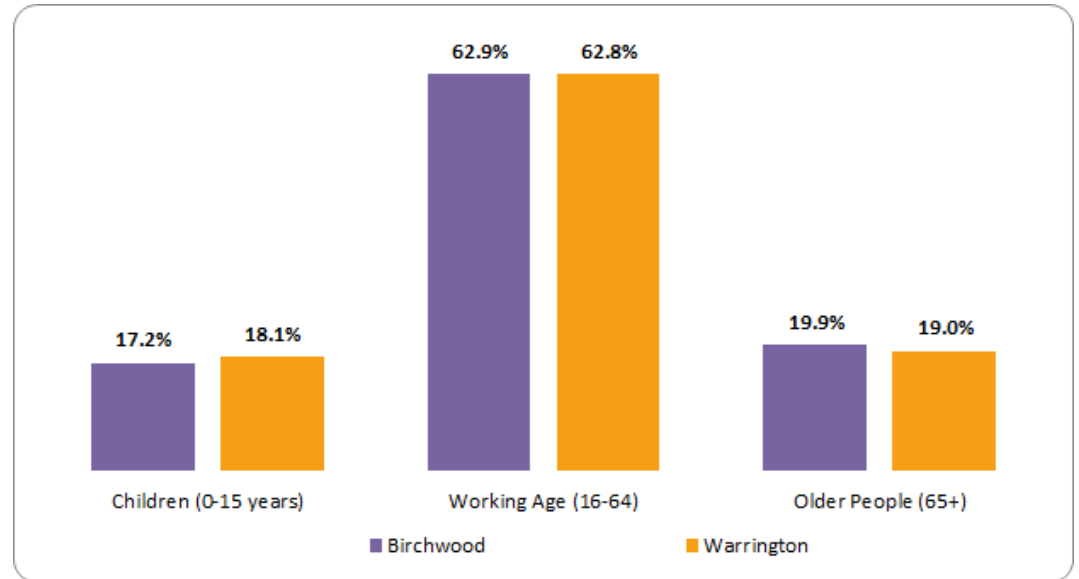
## Ward population - 5 year age categories (2021)



## Population by broad age category (2021)

	Birchwood	%	Warrington	%
<b>Total population 2021</b>	10,605		210,956	
<b>Children (0-15 years)</b>	1,822	17.2%	38,259	18.1%
<b>Working age (16-64)</b>	6,668	62.9%	132,546	62.8%
<b>Older people (65+)</b>	2,115	19.9%	40,151	19.0%
<b>Younger age groups</b>				
0-4	521	4.9%	10,637	5.0%
0-19	2,245	21.2%	49,936	23.7%
<b>Oldest people (80+)</b>				
80+	380	3.6%	10,509	5.0%

## Age category proportions compared to Warrington (2021)



Source: Office for National Statistics. Figures based on mid-2020 population estimates. © Crown Copyright. Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License v3.0. Some figures are rounded and percentages may not sum to 100.

# Deprivation

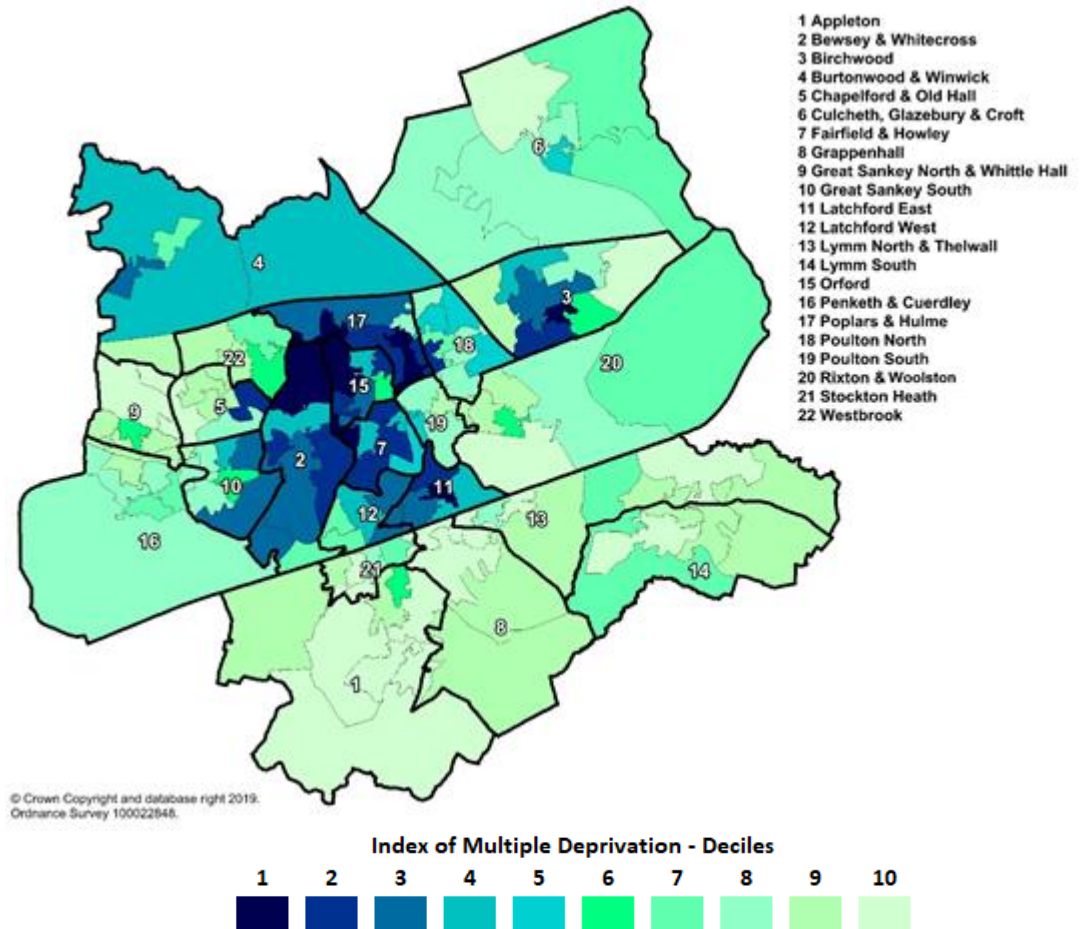
## Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019

The map shows the spread of deprivation across Warrington along with the ward boundaries. The most deprived areas are shaded blue, tend to be in inner Warrington, and the least deprived shaded green, in outer Warrington.

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are small geographical units. Deprivation is measured using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019. For each LSOA, a deprivation score is calculated covering a broad range of issues: income, employment, health and disability, education and skills, housing and services, crime, and living environment. There are wide inequalities between people living in areas of high levels of deprivation and those living in areas of low deprivation; more deprived populations generally have poorer outcomes in terms of health, education etc.

All 127 LSOAs in Warrington are ordered by IMD score and have been split into ten different categories (deciles).

In Warrington borough, approximately 19% of residents live in the 20% most deprived areas. Approximately 31% live in the 20% least deprived.



### Average deprivation score by ward (higher score = more deprived)

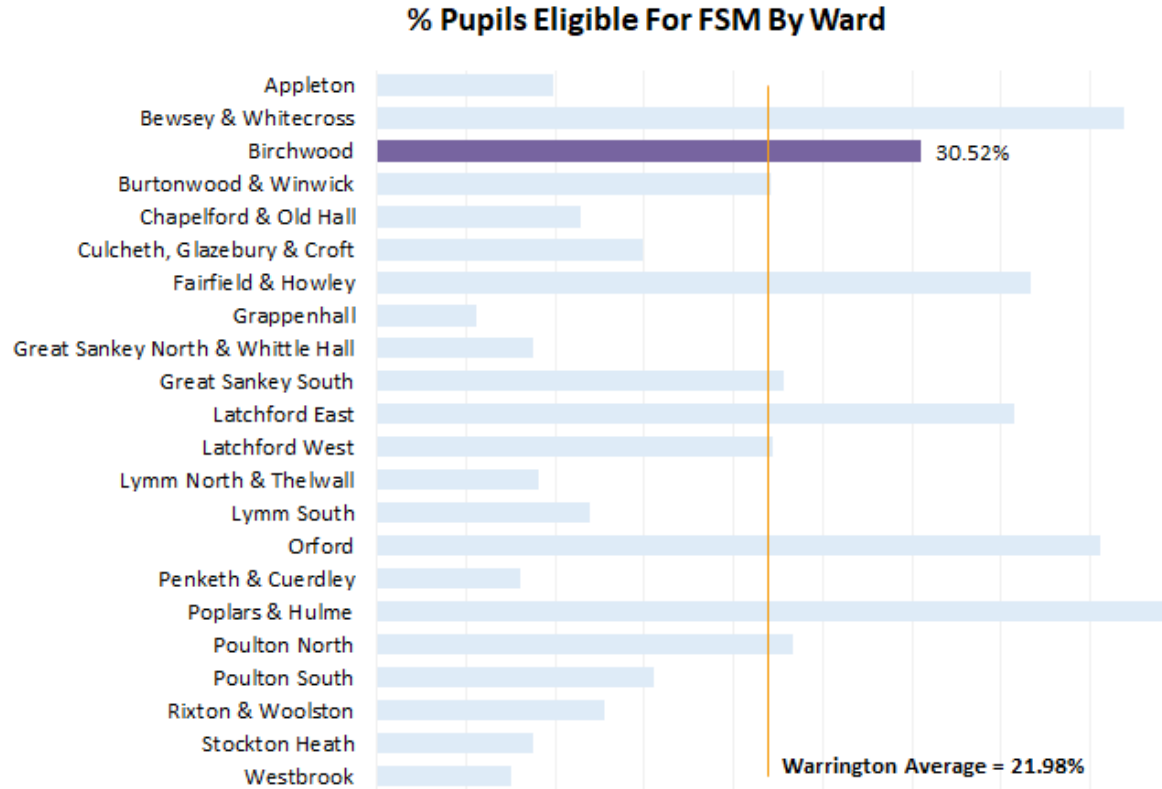
Appleton	Bewsey and Whitecross	Birchwood	Burtonwood and Winwick	Chapelford and Old Hall	Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft	Fairfield and Howley	Grappenhall	Great Sankey North and Whittle Hall	Great Sankey South	Latchford East
7.6	36.3	22.8	18.5	9.9	11.5	32.8	4.8	8.2	15.3	34.0
Latchford West	Lymm North and Thelwall	Lymm South	Orford	Penketh and Cuedley	Poplars and Hulme	Poulton North	Poulton South	Rixton and Woolston	Stockton Heath	Westbrook
20.1	6.3	6.6	37.5	10.1	39.5	21.6	12.1	10.2	7.4	11.1

**Warrington total: 19.1**

# Education – Free School Meals (FSM)

## School census 2023 – FSM based on pupil postcodes

Pupils that were eligible from the school census in January 2023.



## Free School Meals

The Department for Education considers the gap between children who are known to be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), and other children. Eligibility for FSM is based on being in receipt of certain means-tested benefits. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 changes have been made by central government, this means that any child with an existing entitlement to free school meals will continue to be eligible until the rollout is completed. The rollout is scheduled to end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. Once the rollout is completed the child will keep their free school meal entitlement until the end of their current phase of education (i.e. Primary or Secondary). As a result of this protection period FSM eligibility numbers are likely to be higher than previous academic years.

## In Warrington

According to the January 2023 School Census, the average proportion of pupils eligible for FSM is **21.98%**. Twelve out of Warrington's 22 wards fall below the average. The lowest three being Penketh and Cuedley (8.01%), Westbrook (7.49%) and Grappenhall (5.60%). Ten wards are above this average. The highest three being Orford (40.52%), Bewsey and Whitecross (41.93%) and Poplars and Hulme (45.03%).

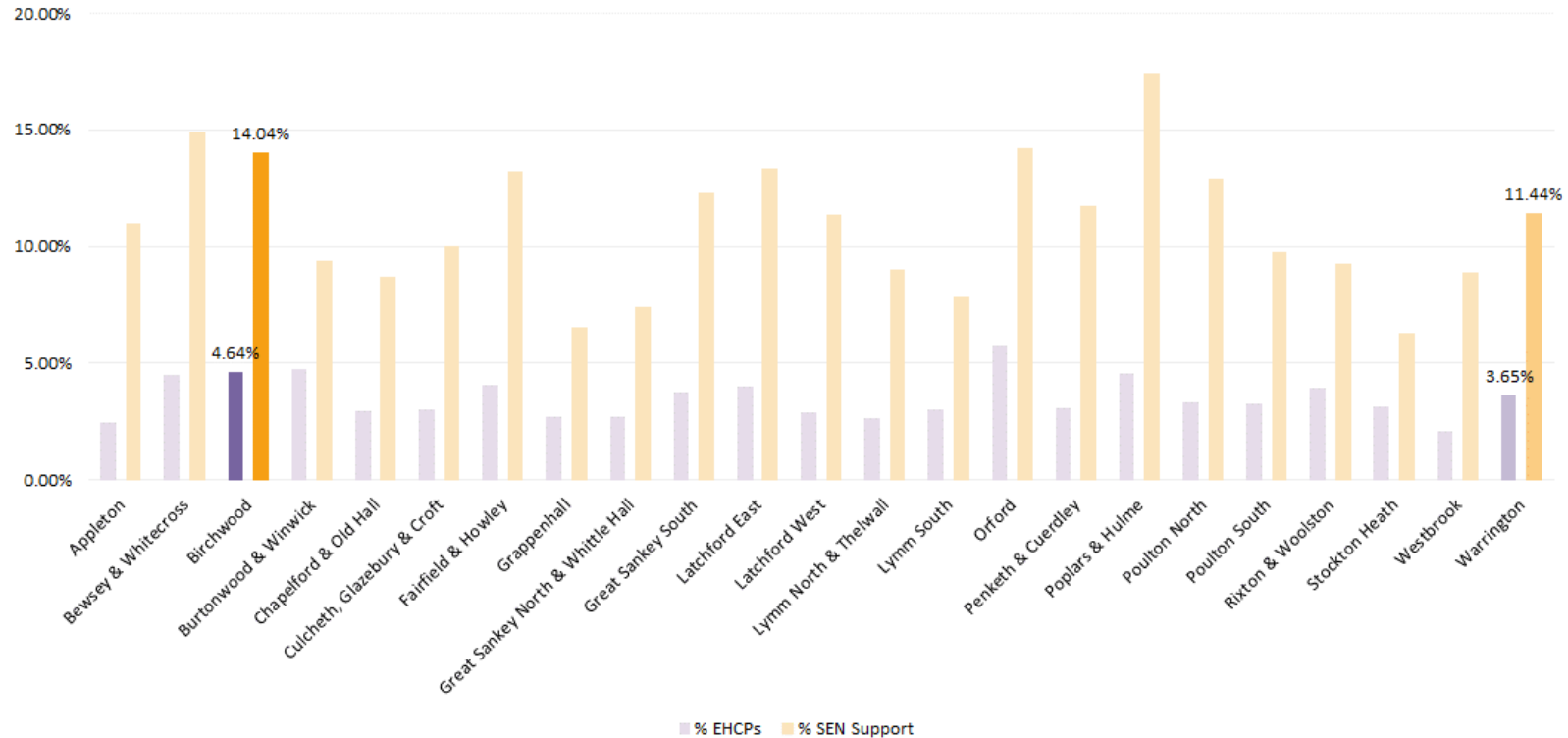
## In Birchwood

According to the January 2022 School Census, the average proportion of pupils eligible for FSM in Birchwood is **30.52%** (Warrington: 21.98%). Birchwood is one of 10 wards that are above the Warrington average.

# Education – Special Educational Needs (SEN)

## School census 2023 – SEN based on pupil postcodes

Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP), Statements and SEN Support



### In Warrington

The proportion of pupils across Warrington requiring SEN support (not including statements or EHCPs) is **11.44%**. Nine wards are above the Warrington average, the highest being Orford (14.23%), Bewsey and Whitecross (14.90%) and the highest proportion in Poplars and Hulme (17.45%). The proportion of pupils across Warrington with a statement or EHCP is **3.65%**. Nine wards are above the Warrington average, the highest being Birchwood (4.64%), Burtonwood and Winwick (4.78%) and the highest proportion in Orford (5.77%).

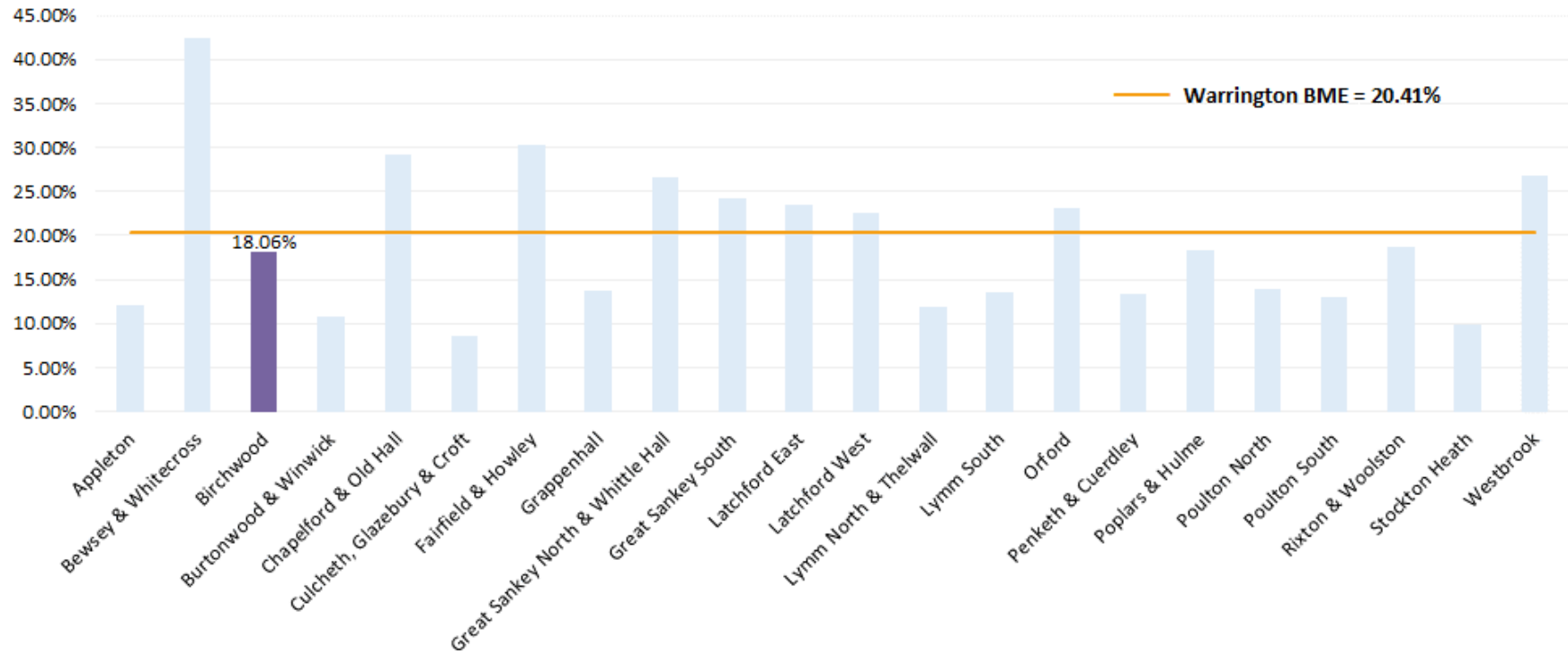
### In Birchwood

The proportion of pupils in Birchwood requiring SEN support (not including statements or EHCPs) is **14.04%**, which is above the Warrington average of 11.44%. The proportion of pupils in Birchwood with a statement or EHCP is **4.64%**, which is above the Warrington average of 3.65%.



# Education – Black Minority Ethnic (BME)

School Census 2023 - Ethnicity based on pupil postcodes



## In Warrington

According to the January 2023 School Census, the average proportion of pupils who are BME is 20.41%. The ward with the highest proportion of BME pupils is Bewsey and Whitecross with 42.46%. The ward with the lowest proportion of BME pupils is Culcheth, Glazebury & Croft with 8.57%.

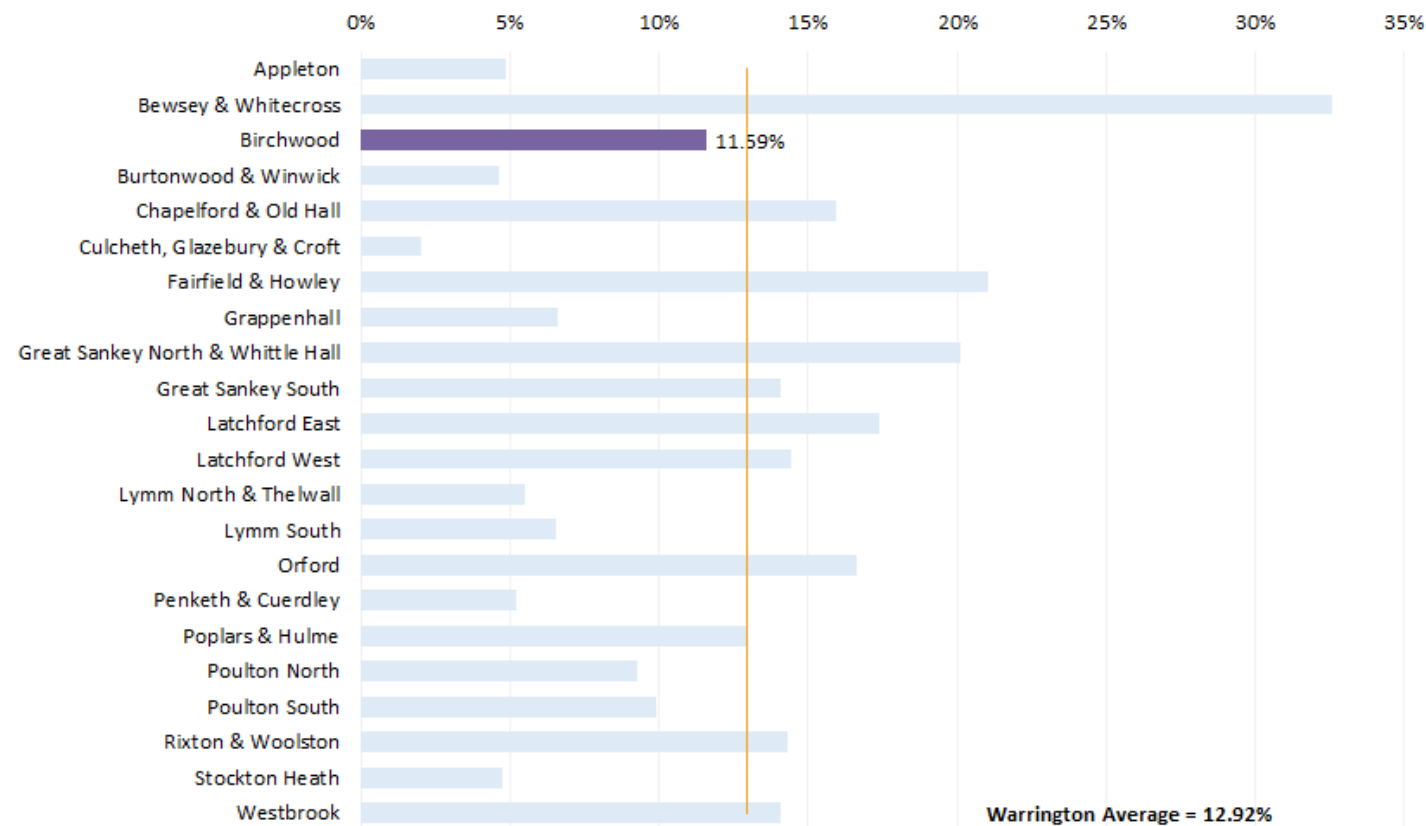
## In Birchwood

According to the January 2023 School Census, the average proportion of pupils who are BME in Birchwood is 18.06% (Warrington: 20.41%).



# Education – first language

## School census 2023 – Key first languages recorded, excluding English



Language	No. of pupils
Chinese	1,301
Polish	797
Romanian	240
Urdu	177
Kurdish	170
Hungarian	94
Malayalam	93
Turkish	89
Latvian	85
Arabic	74
Tamil	67
Panjabi	63
Ukrainian	62
Chinese (Cantonese)	60
Bulgarian	56
Russian	56

### In Warrington

Across Warrington, Chinese, Polish and Romanian are the main languages spoken as a first language other than English. Urdu, Kurdish, Hungarian, Malayalam, Turkish, and Latvian also featured with 80 or more pupils having these as a first language other than English. In Bewsey and Whitecross, nearly a third of all pupils do not have English as their first language.

### In Birchwood

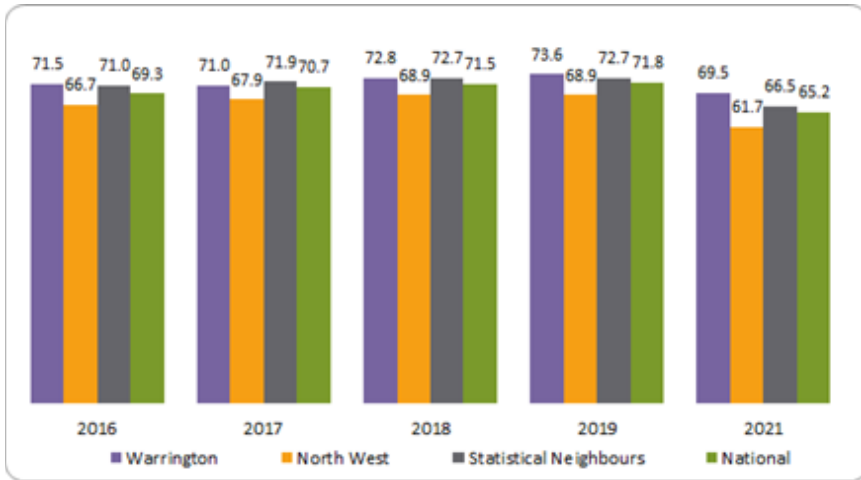
In Birchwood, 11.59% of pupils do not have English as their first language, below the Warrington average (12.92%).



# Education (Early Years aged 4/5) – Early Years Foundation Stage

## Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)

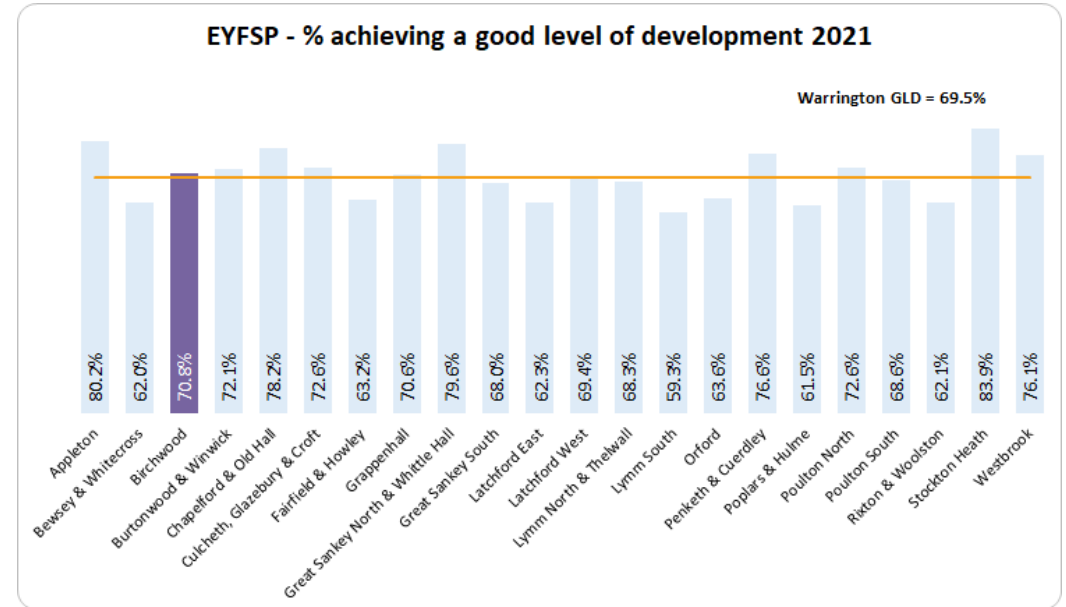
EYFSP is used to assess a child’s overall development by the age of 4/5. As well as literacy and maths, teacher assessments cover a range of elements including personal, social and emotional development, communication skills and physical development. In 2013 there were significant changes to the curriculum in the Early Years Foundation Stage; as a result the data has taken a few years to be considered robust. In 2021, performance for Warrington is above North West, Statistical Neighbour and England average.



### In Warrington

The overall measure used is % **achieving a Good Level of Development** with the proportion for Warrington being **69.5%**.

The top 5 performing wards are Stockton Heath, Appleton, Great Sankey North and Whittle Hall, Chapelford and Old Hall and Penketh and Cuerdley. The bottom 5 performing wards are Lymm South, Poplars and Hulme, Bewsey and Whitecross, Rixton and Woolston and Latchford East. Eleven of Warrington’s wards are above the average and eleven wards are below it.

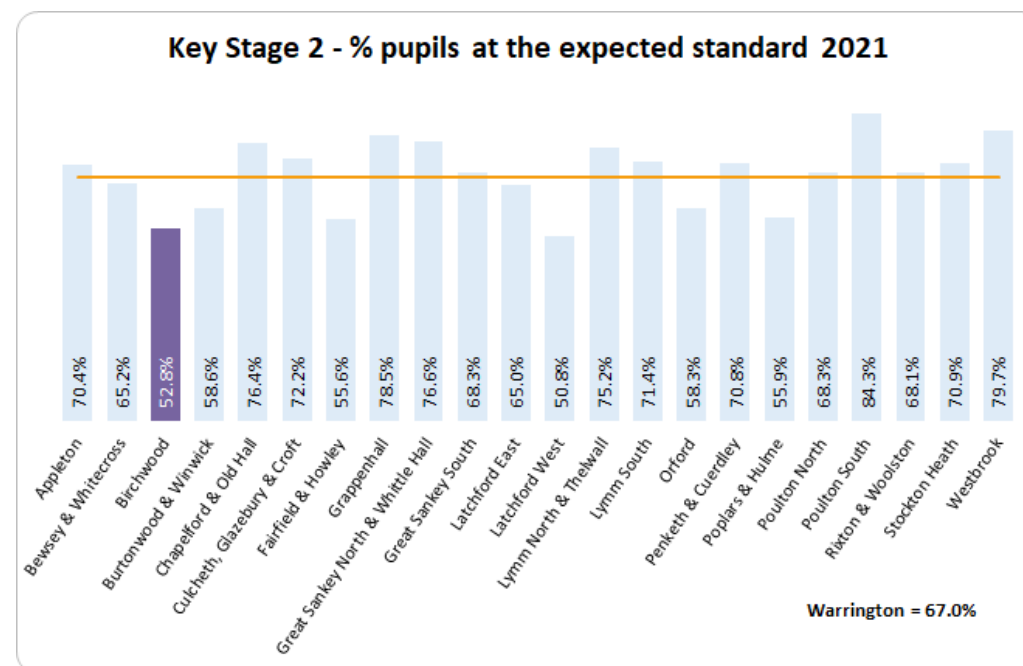
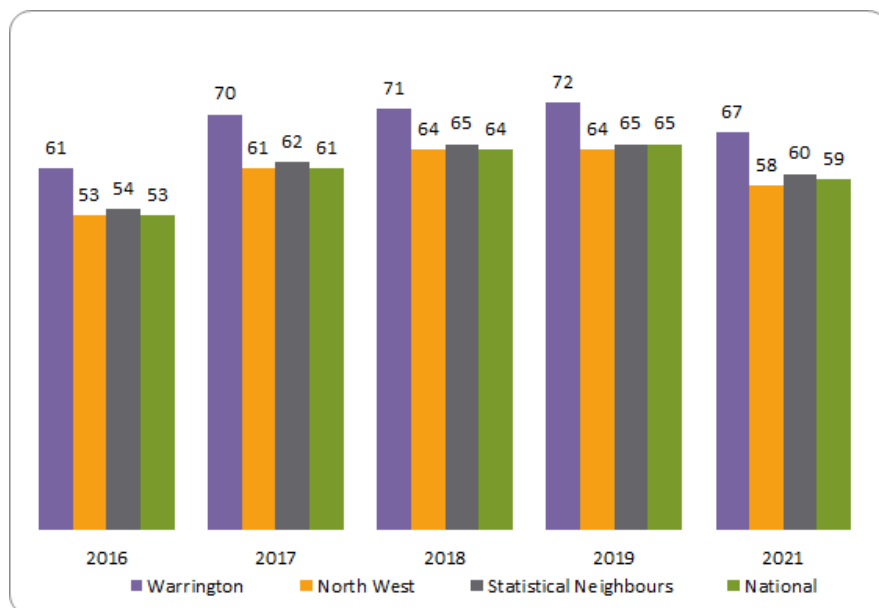


### In Birchwood

The percentage achieving a Good Level of Development with the proportion for Birchwood is **70.8%** (Warrington: 69.5%). Birchwood is above the Warrington average.

## Education (end of primary school aged 10/11) – Key Stage 2 reading, writing, maths

In 2016, there were also significant changes to how performance is measured at the end of Year 6. There was a new curriculum as well as a much higher test and teacher assessment standard than the previous Level 4. Because of these changes comparing data with previous years is problematic. However, based on the first statistical release from the Department for Education, Warrington is ranked 7th (of 149) in the country and 2nd in the North West for Reading, Writing and Maths (RWM) combined. In 2021, Warrington is above the North West average, our Statistical Neighbour average and the England average in all subjects.



### In Warrington

In Warrington overall, **67%** of pupils are **achieving the expected standard in RWM** at Key Stage 2.

Eight wards are below the Warrington average with Latchford West being the lowest at 50.8%. Other wards with the lowest averages are Birchwood (52.8%), Fairfield and Howley (55.6%) and Poplars and Hulme (55.9%). Fourteen wards are above the Warrington average with Poulton South being the highest at 84.3%. Other wards with the highest averages are Westbrook (79.7%), Grappenhall (78.5%) and Great Sankey North and Whittle Hall (76.6%).

### In Birchwood

In Birchwood, **52.8%** of pupils (Warrington: 67.0%) are achieving the expected standard in RWM at Key Stage 2. Birchwood is 1 of 8 wards which are below the Warrington average.

# Education (end of secondary school aged 15/16) – Key Stage 4: Progress 8

In 2013-14 there were major reforms to Key Stage 4 which affected how results were calculated. Schools and local authorities are now judged on how much progress students have made since the end of primary school. Progress 8 measures the achievement of a pupil across 8 qualifications and compares this to what their estimated achievement is based on their prior attainment. It is a type of value-added measure.

For all mainstream pupils nationally in 2021 the average progress score is -0.03; a positive score means pupils in the schools on average do better at KS4 than those with similar prior attainment nationally. (A score of 0.25 for example would mean that on average pupils in the school achieved a quarter of a grade more than other pupils nationally with similar starting points).

## In Warrington

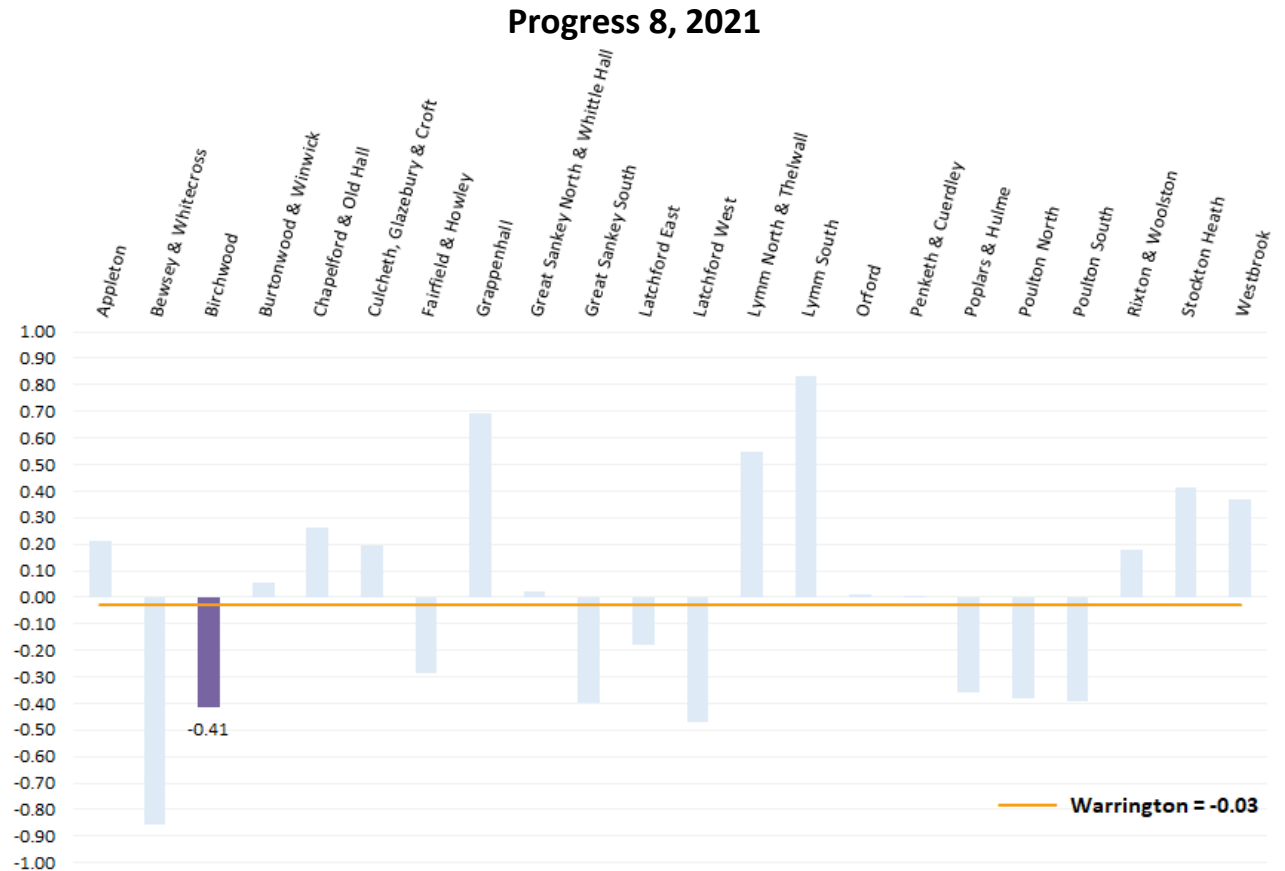
In Warrington in 2021, the Progress 8 score is -0.03, the North West figure is -0.16.

Warrington is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the North West and 71<sup>st</sup> nationally (out of 150 authorities).

Warrington has twelve wards with a positive score, with the highest being Lymm South (0.83). Warrington has nine wards with a negative score, the lowest being Bewsey and Whitecross (-0.86).

## In Birchwood

Birchwood has a score of **-0.41** and is below the Warrington average (-0.03).



## Education (end of secondary school aged 15/16) – Key Stage 4: Attainment 8

Attainment 8 measures the achievement of a pupil across 8 qualifications. It includes Mathematics and English (both double weighted), 3 qualifications that count within the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) measure and a further 3 qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications on the DfE approved list. Each individual grade a pupil achieves is assigned a point score, which is then used to calculate a pupil's total Attainment 8 score.

### In Warrington

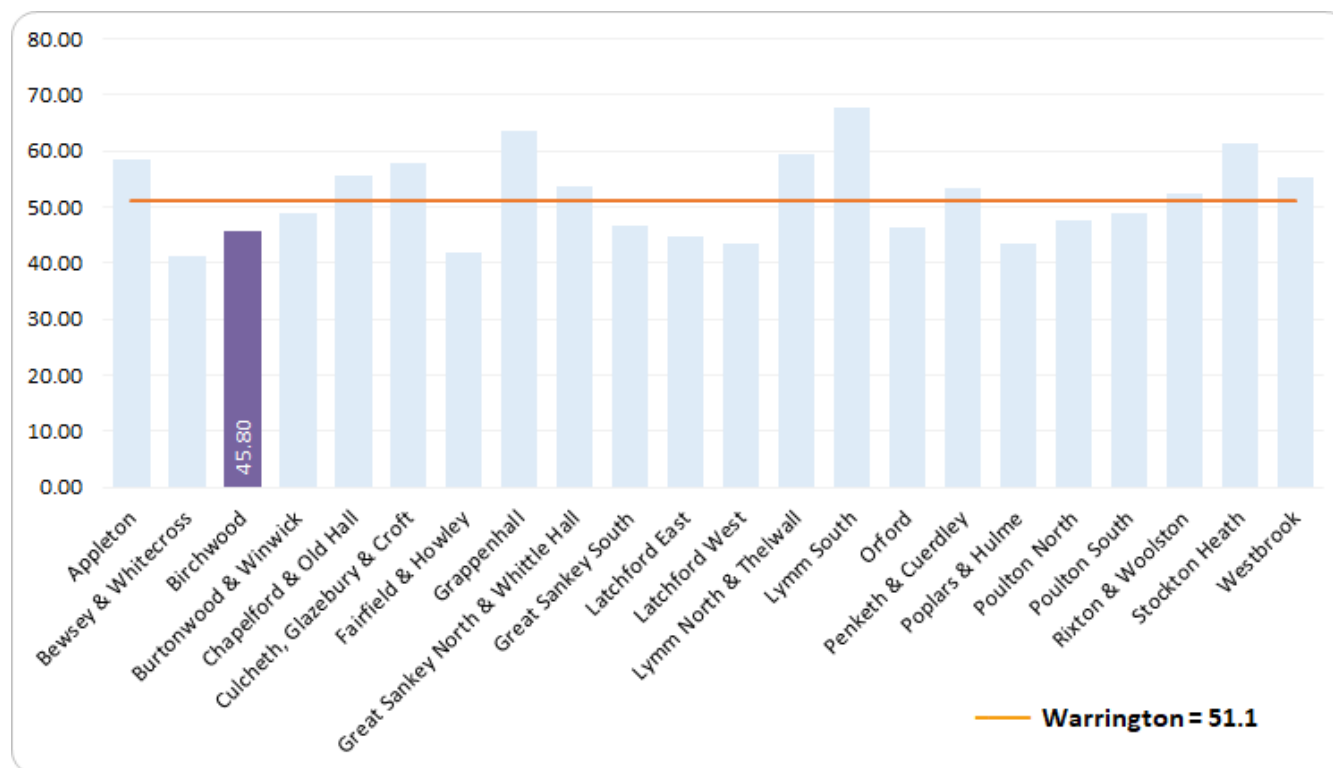
In Warrington in 2021, the Attainment 8 score is 51.1, the North West figure is 47.2, Warrington is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the North West. The England average is 48.9, Warrington is ranked 39<sup>th</sup> out of 150 authorities. Warrington is higher than both the North West and England averages.

Warrington has eleven wards above the Warrington average with Lymm South being the highest score (67.6). Warrington has eleven wards below the Warrington average with Bewsey and Whitecross being the lowest score (41.1).

### In Birchwood

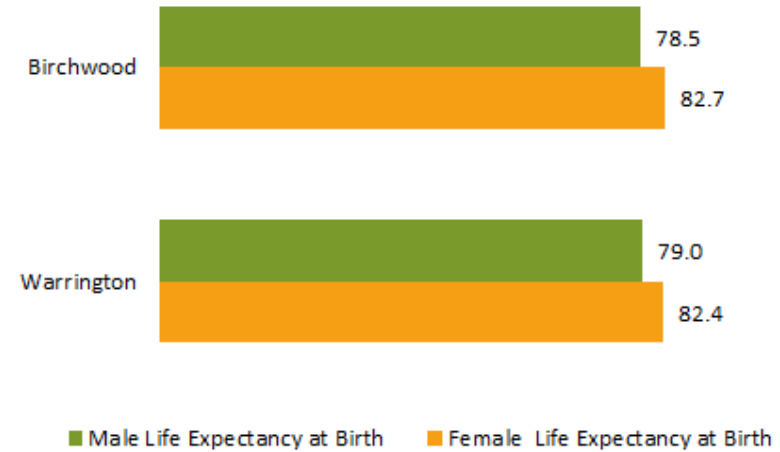
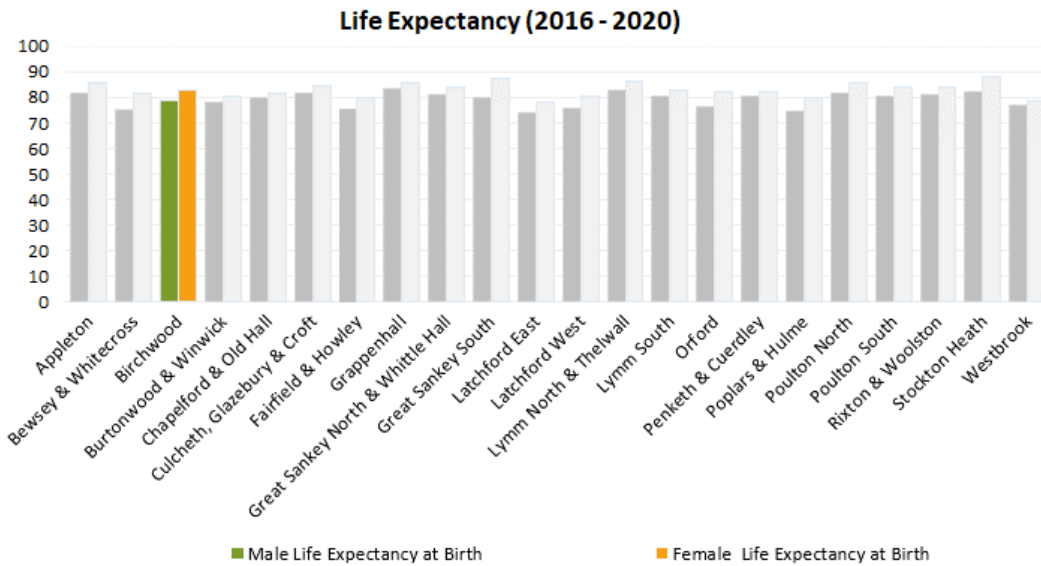
Birchwood has an Attainment 8 score of **45.8** and is below the Warrington average (51.1).

Attainment 8, 2021



# Health – life expectancy

Life expectancy is an internationally accepted measure of the overall health of a population. It provides an estimate of the average number of years a new-born baby would live for if s/he experienced the age-specific mortality rates of a particular area throughout his or her life.



## In Birchwood

Life expectancy of residents in Birchwood is shorter for males and longer for females compared to the Warrington average.

- Male life expectancy (78.5 years) was slightly lower than the Warrington average (79.0 years).
- Female life expectancy (82.7 years) was slightly higher than Warrington average (82.4 years).

The UK life expectancy (2018-20) is 79.0 for males and 82.9 for females.

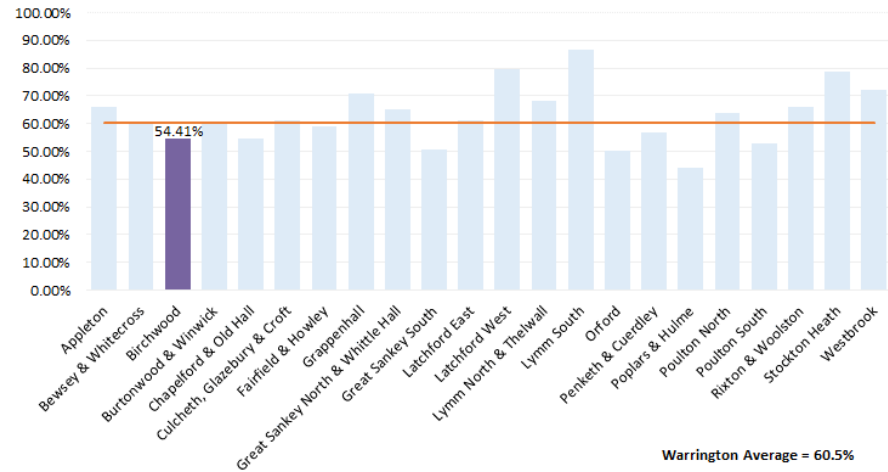
# Health – breastfeeding and smoking mothers

**Breastfeeding at birth:** 54.41% of mothers started breastfeeding their babies at birth, lower than the Warrington average (60.5%).

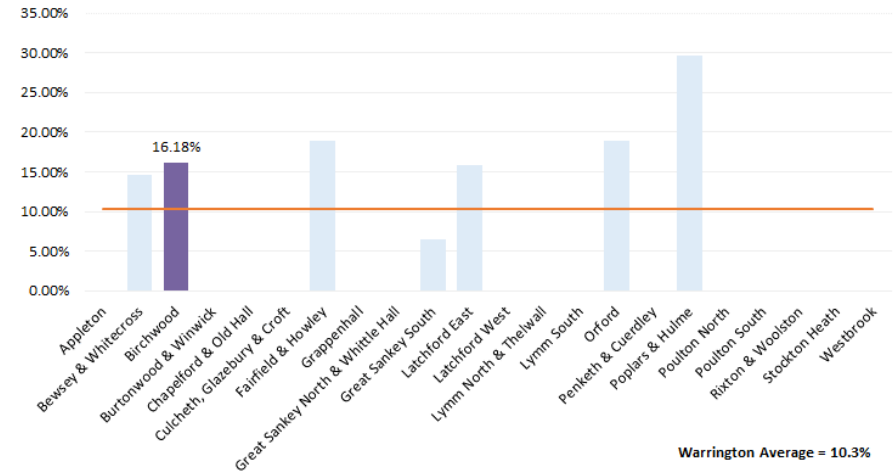
**Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks:** 42.31% of mothers were continuing to breastfeed their babies at 6-8 weeks old, lower than the Warrington average (45.3%).

**Smoking at time of delivery** (Women who are regular/occasional smokers at time of delivery) is 16.18% and is higher than the Warrington average (10.3%).

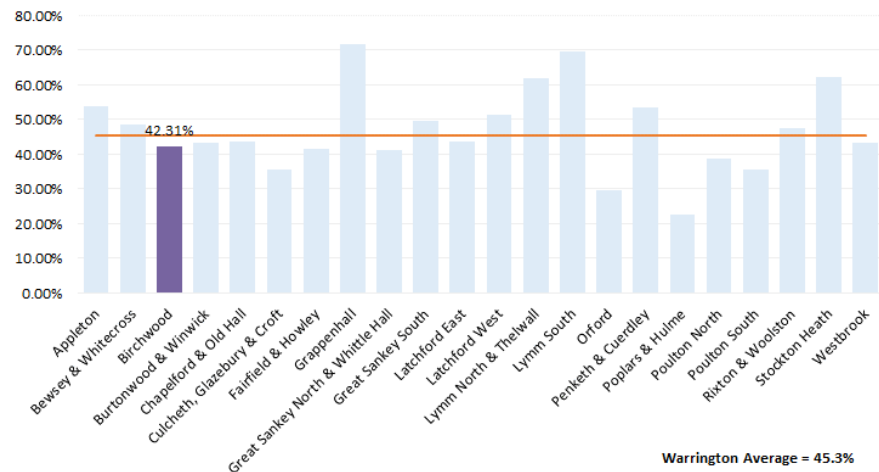
## Breastfeeding at birth



## Mother a smoker at time of delivery



## Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks



Sources: Warrington Hospital (mother a smoker), Bridgewater NHS Trust (breastfeeding)



# Health – overweight and obese reception children

**Child obesity.** Children are measured at the start and end of primary school (in Reception aged 4/5 and in Year 6 aged 10/11). The graphs show the percentage of obese children and the percentage with excess weight (i.e. either overweight or obese).  
**Warrington 2021/22 – 2023/24 - Reception: almost 1 in 10 are obese.**

**Warrington comparisons:** In Reception, overweight/obesity prevalence was higher in Warrington (23.0%) than England (21.9%). Warrington (9.5%) is slightly lower than England (9.6%) in terms of reception age obesity.

## In Warrington

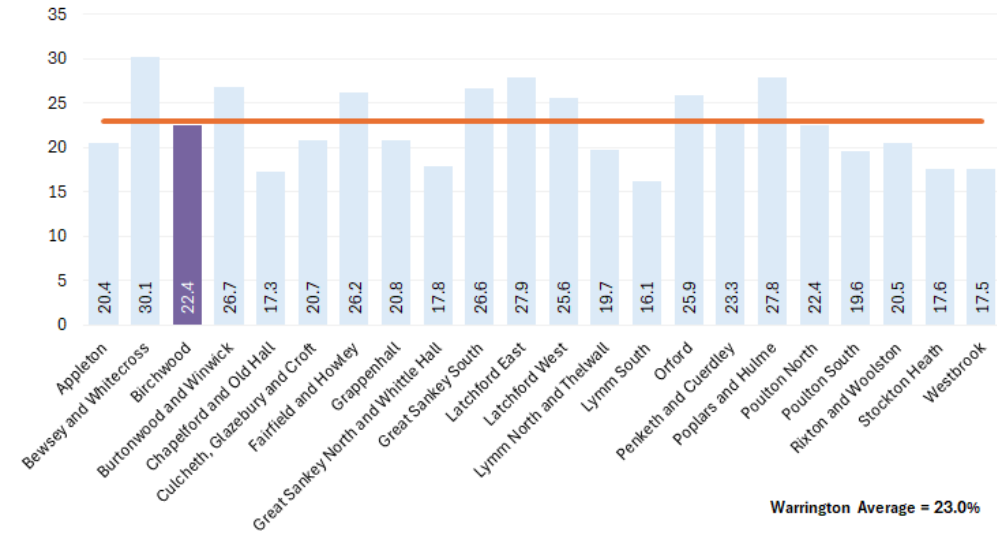
The lowest ward in terms of overweight or obese was Lymm South (16.1%) with the highest being Bewsey and Whitecross (30.1%). The lowest ward in terms of obese was Great Sankey North and Whittle Hall (4.1%) with the highest being Poplars and Hulme (13.4%).

## In Birchwood

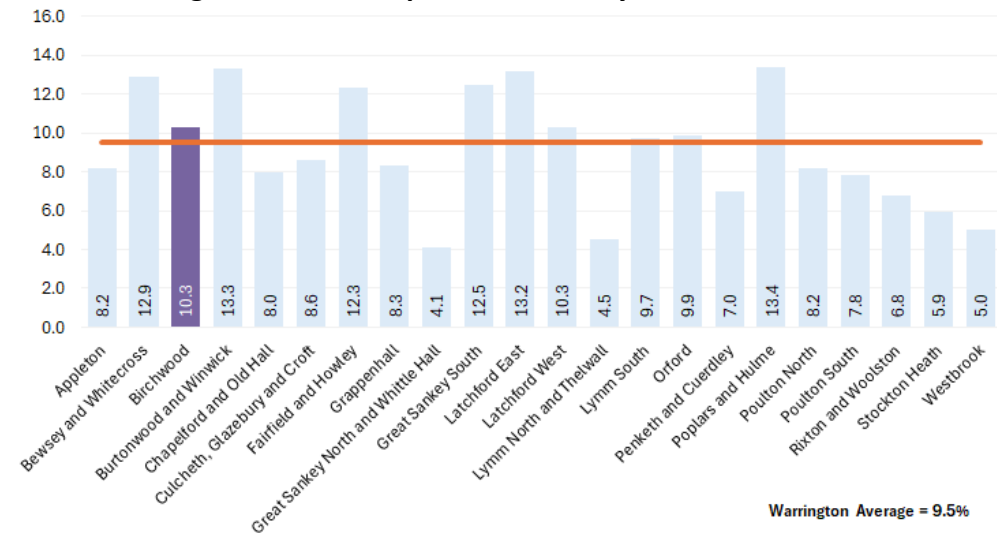
**Excess Weight (Reception):** The proportion of overweight or obese children in Reception (22.4%) for Birchwood is lower than the Warrington average (23.0%).

**Obesity (Reception):** In Birchwood, obesity prevalence is higher (10.3%) than in Warrington overall (9.5%).

Percentage of overweight/obese reception children by ward, 2021/22 – 2023/24



Percentage of obese reception children by ward, 2021/22 – 2023/24



# Health – overweight and obese Year 6 children

**Child obesity.** Children are measured at the start and end of primary school (in Reception aged 4/5 and in Year 6 aged 10/11). The graphs show the percentage of obese children and the percentage with excess weight (i.e. either overweight or obese).

**Warrington 2021/22 – 2023/24 - Year 6: almost 1 in 4 are obese.**

**Warrington comparisons:** In Year 6, prevalence of obesity, and of overweight/obesity, was lower in Warrington (35.6%) than in England (36.7%).

## In Warrington

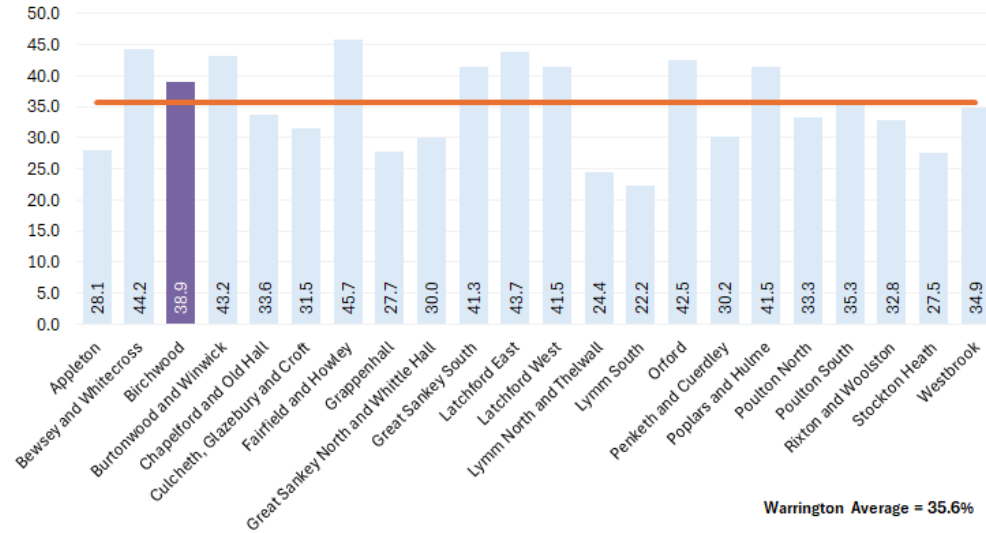
The lowest ward in terms of overweight or obese was Lymm South (22.2%) with the highest being Fairfield and Howley (45.7%). The lowest ward in terms of obese was Lymm South (9.3%) with the highest being Latchford West (31.7%)

## In Birchwood

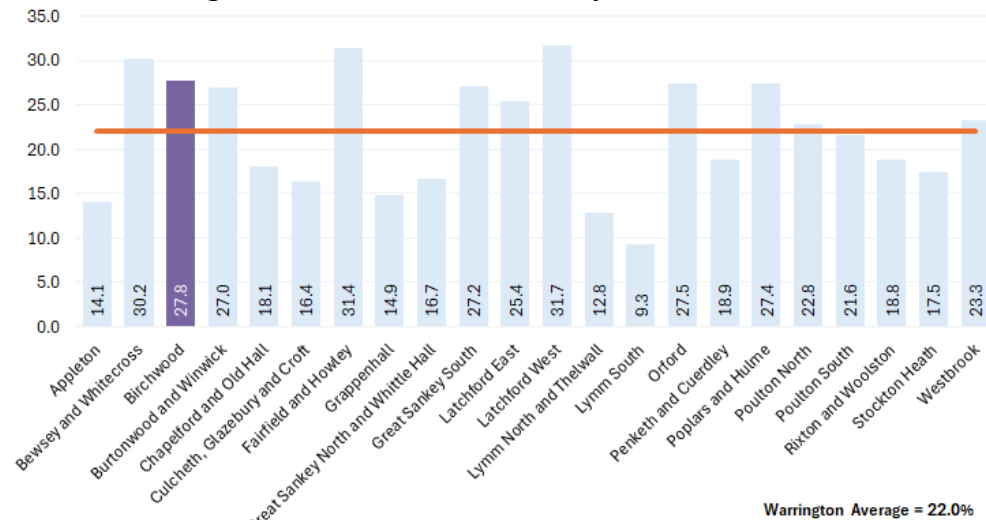
**Excess Weight (Year 6):** The proportion of overweight or obese children in Year 6 for Birchwood (38.9%) is higher than the Warrington average (35.6%).

**Obesity (Year 6):** In Birchwood (27.8%), obesity prevalence is higher compared to 22.0% in Warrington.

Percentage of overweight/obese Year 6 children by ward, 2021/22 – 2023/24



Percentage of obese Year 6 children by ward, 2021/22 – 2023/24

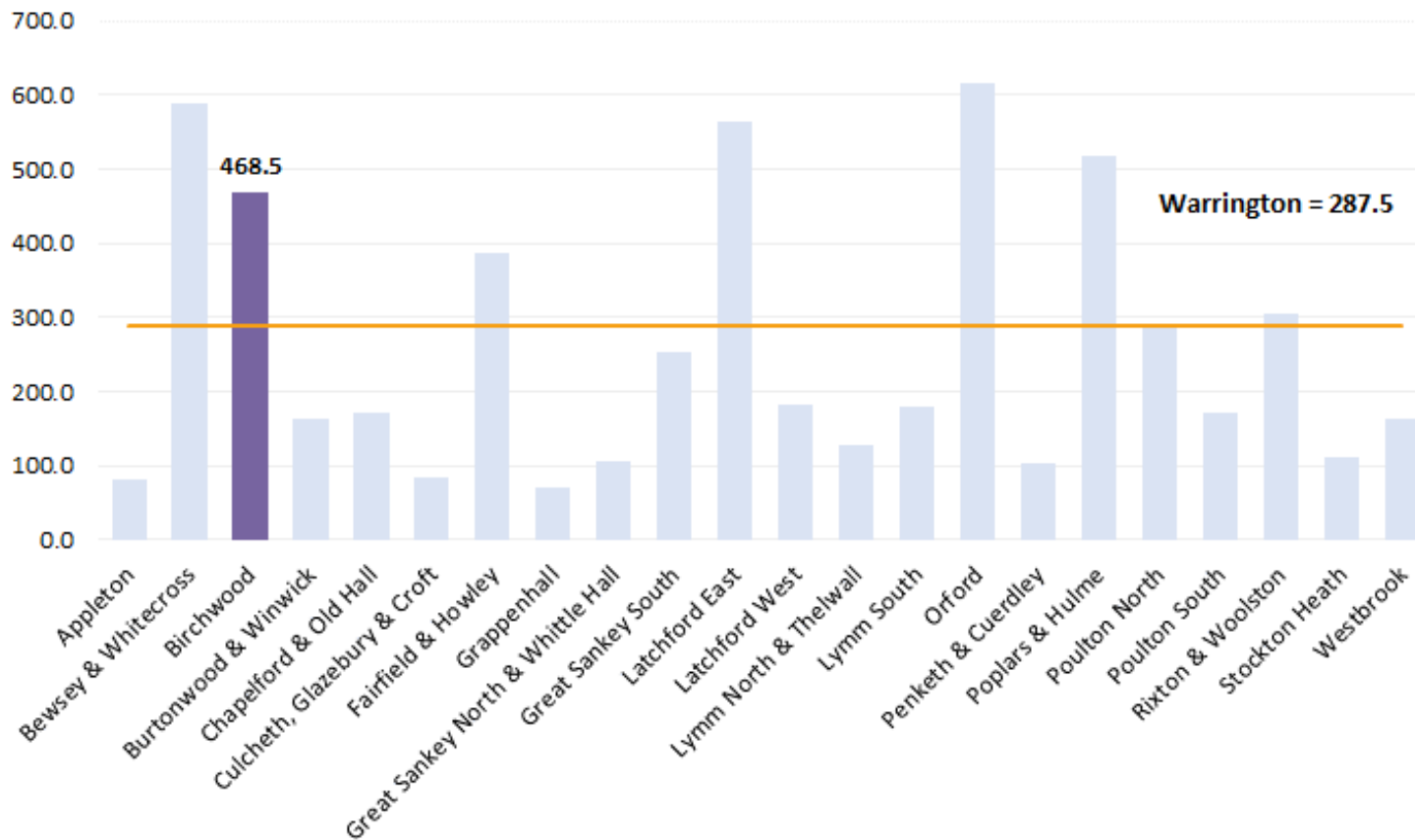


# Social Care – Children in Need

Children in Need covers children and young people receiving a social care service. This includes those placed on a child protection plan or those looked after by the local authority as a child in care. Children receiving a service under Section 17 are also included to make up a total of approximately 1400 children and young people at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Numbers were mapped by matching the young person's postcode to each ward. They were then converted to a rate based on the number of 0 -17-year-olds in each ward. The average rate of Children in Need in Warrington was 287.5 per 10,000 population aged 0-17. The highest rates above the Warrington average were in Orford, Bewsey & Whitecross, Latchford East and Poplars & Hulme. The lowest rates were in Grappenhall, Appleton, Culcheth, Glazebury & Croft and Penketh & Cuedrley.

\*As numbers in many wards are small and may be subject to large fluctuations from month to month, figures presented here should be treated with caution.

\*Figures will differ slightly from published data as rates were calculated using the 2021 Census for population estimates.



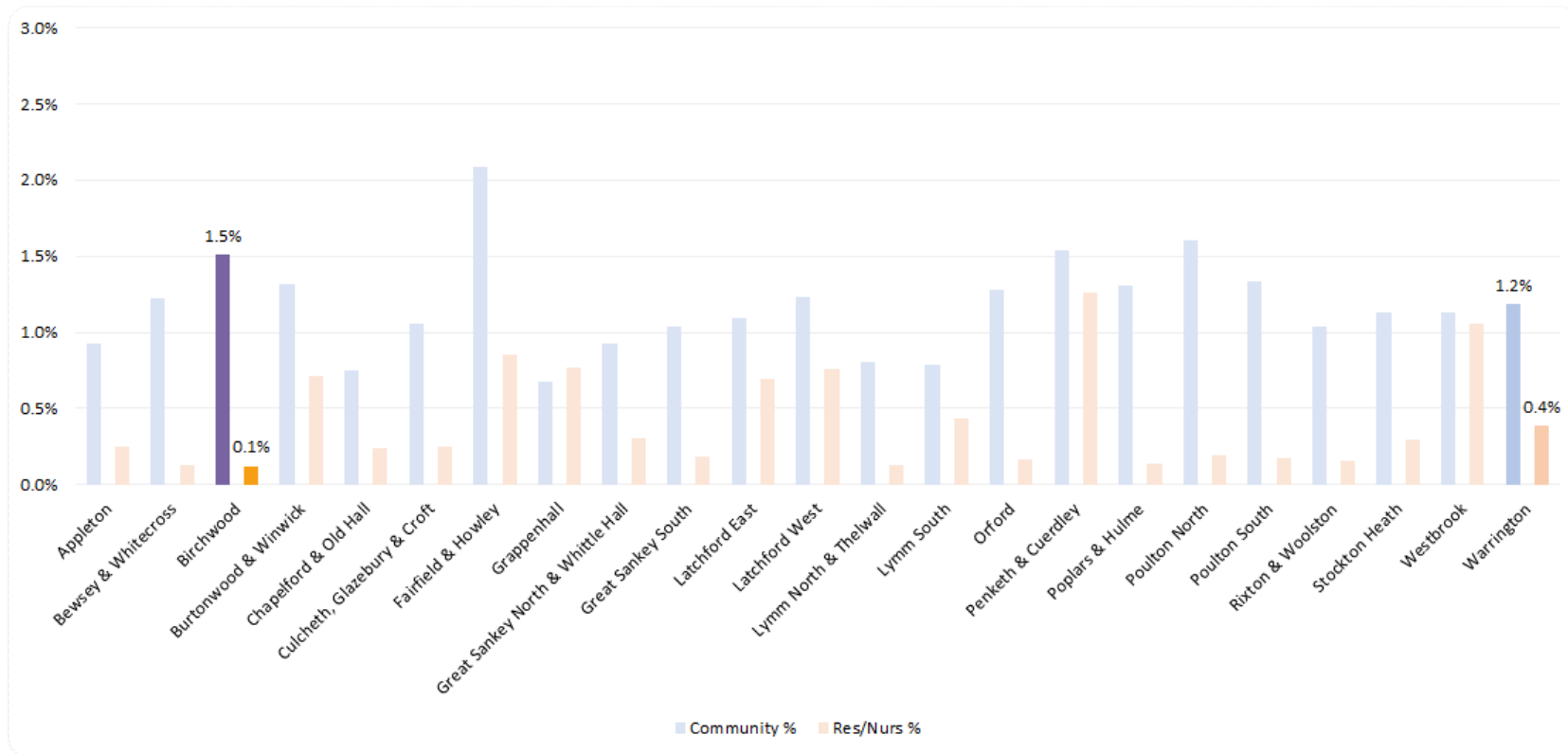
Source: Mosaic

# Social Care – Adult Social Care Service Users

Though there are many residents in receipt of adult social care services within the borough, the numbers below represent only those people receiving services paid for in part or wholly by Warrington Borough Council in 2022/23.

The number of service users from the community is approximately 2,500 and the number of service users in residential or nursing care is approximately 800. The number of service users are then converted to percentages based on the 2021 Census populations.

\*Some wards' percentages relate to relatively small numbers and should be treated with caution.

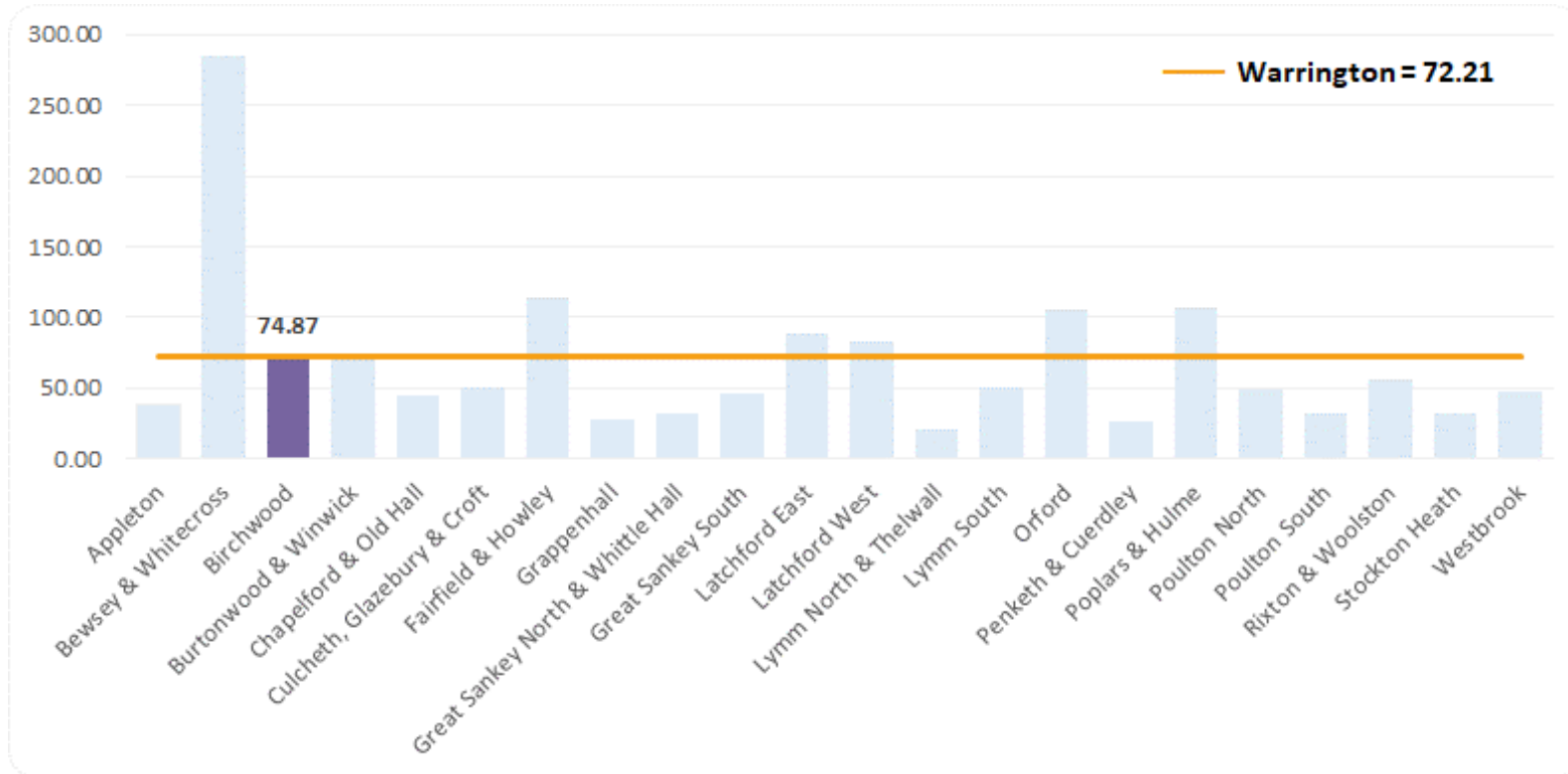


Source: Mosaic

# Crime

Reported crime in each ward per 1,000 population (in the year to October 2023).

Source: Reported crime and ASB is based on monthly data from data.police.uk.



## In Warrington

Warrington had a crime rate of 72.21 per 1,000 population in the year to October 2023.

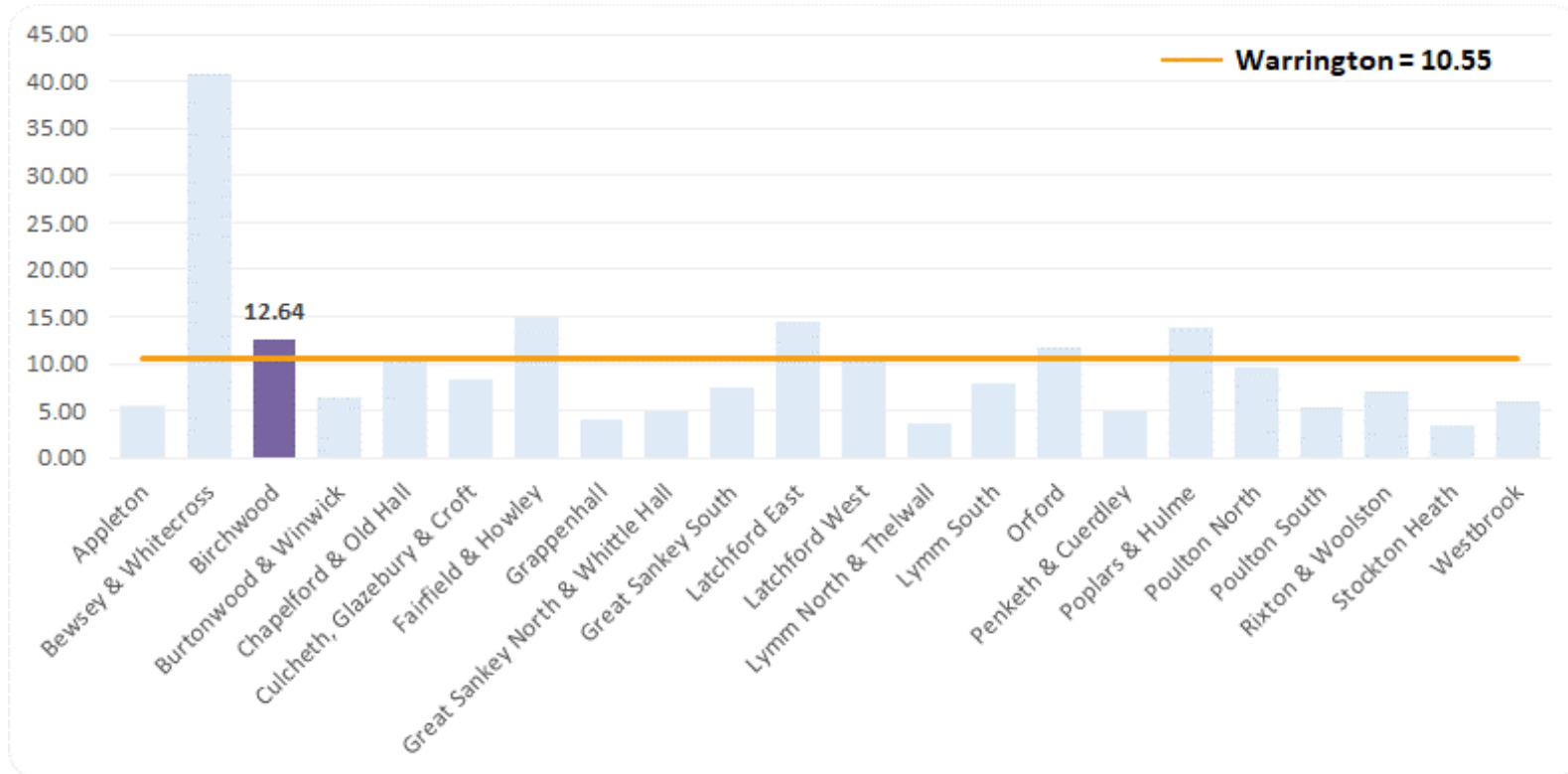
## In Birchwood

Birchwood had a crime rate of 74.87 per 1,000 of the ward population. Birchwood is 1 of 7 wards above the Warrington average.

# Anti-social behaviour

Reported anti-social behaviour in each ward per 1,000 population (in the year to October 2023).

Source: Reported crime and ASB is based on monthly data from data.police.uk.



## In Warrington

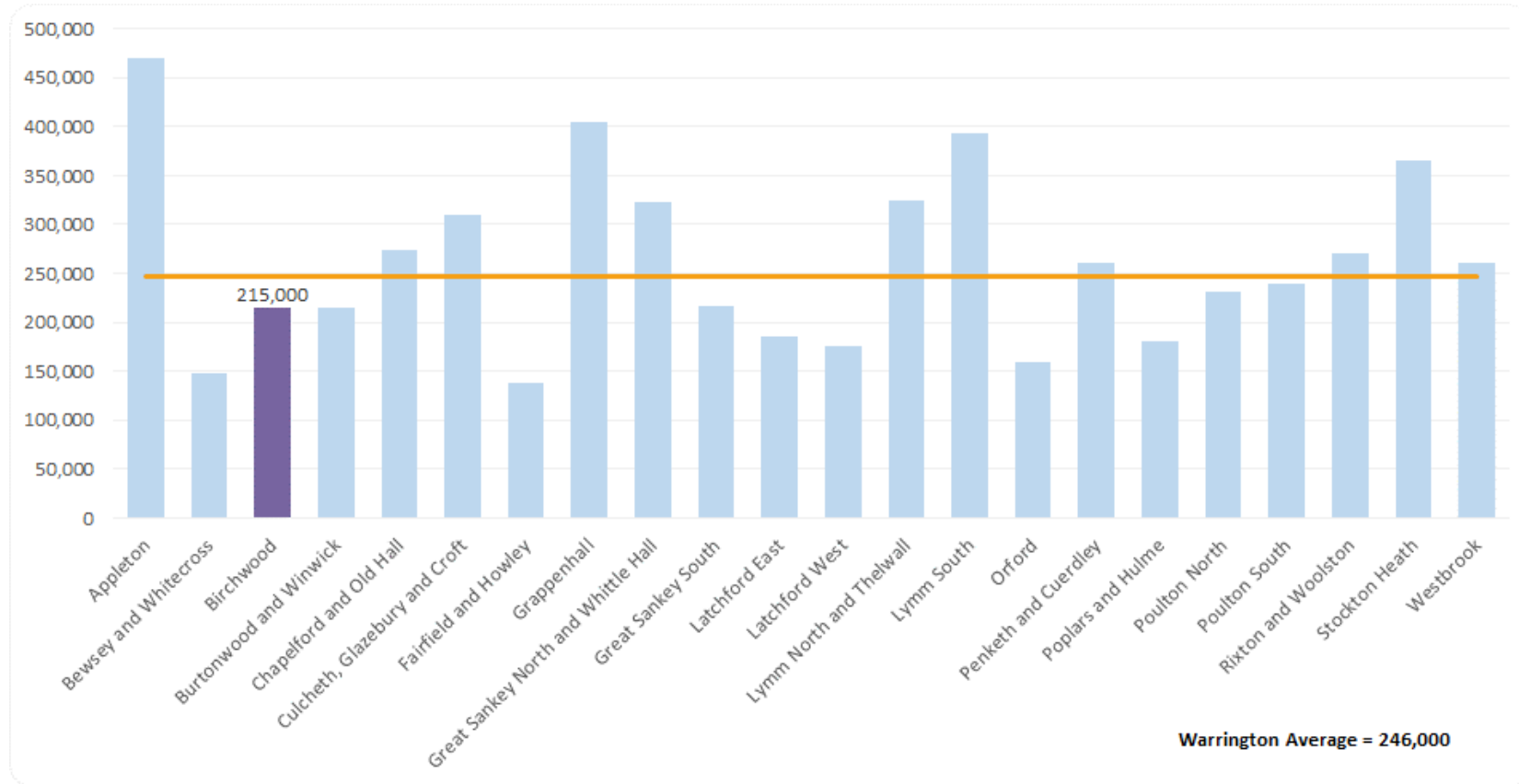
Warrington had an anti-social behaviour rate of 10.55 per 1,000 population in the year to October 2023.

## In Birchwood

Birchwood had an anti-social behaviour rate of 12.64 per 1,000 of the ward population. Birchwood is 1 of 17 wards below the Warrington average.

# House Prices – Median house prices by Ward

Source: Office for National Statistics, Median house prices by ward: HPSA dataset 37, house prices in the year to March 2023 © Crown Copyright.  
Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License v3.0.



## In Warrington

Warrington had a median house price of £246,000 from 2,584 sales in the year to March 2023.

## In Birchwood

Birchwood had a median house price of £215,000 from 103 sales in the year to March 2023. Birchwood is 1 of 11 wards below the Warrington average.

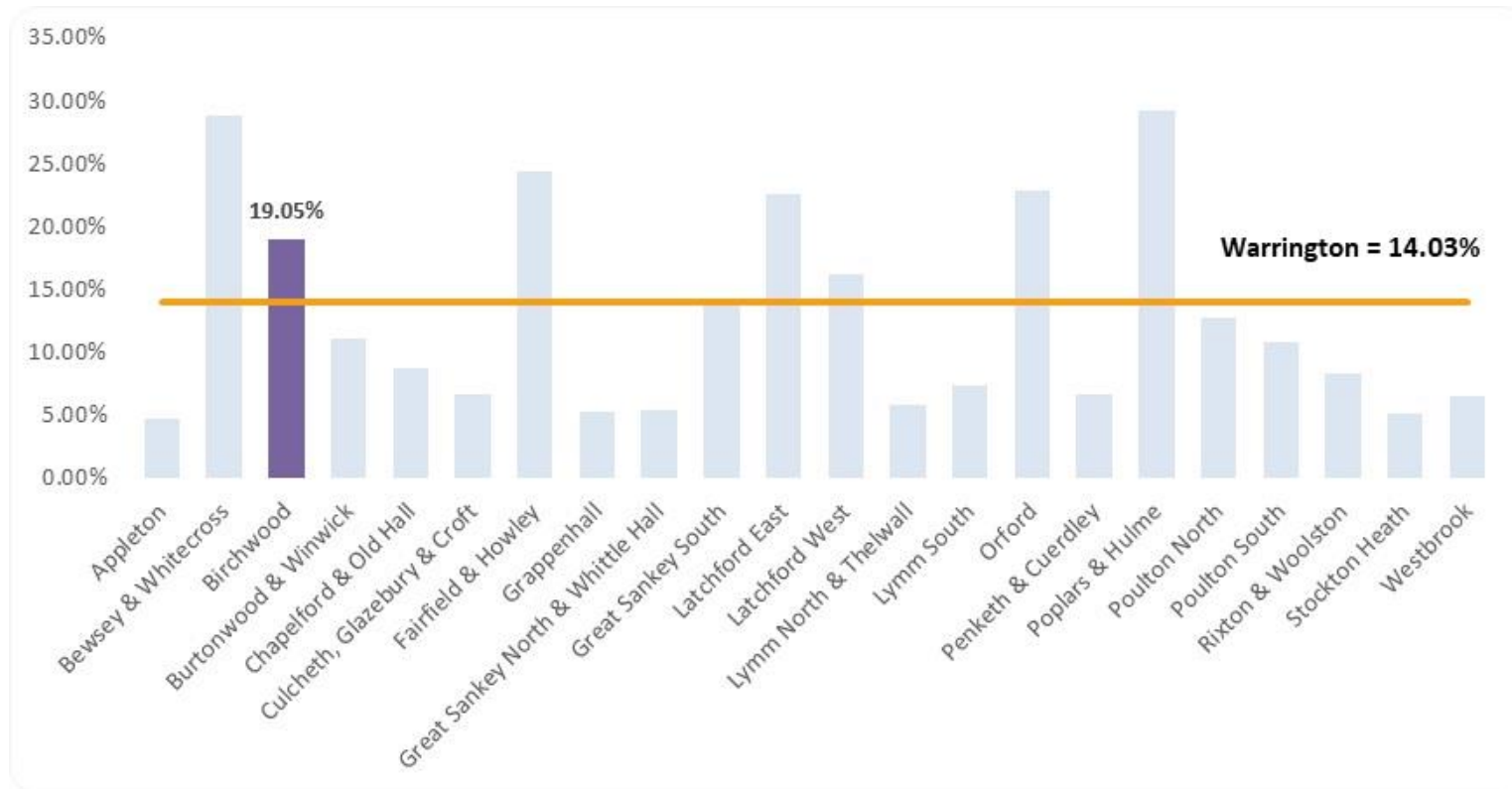


# Universal Credit – December 2023

This measures the percentage of the working age population (16-64) in each Ward who are claiming Universal Credit as of December 2023.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, via Stat-Xplore, Universal Credit by ward.

Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License v3.0.



## In Warrington

Warrington, in December 2023, has 14.03% of its working age population (16-64) claiming Universal Credit.

## In Birchwood

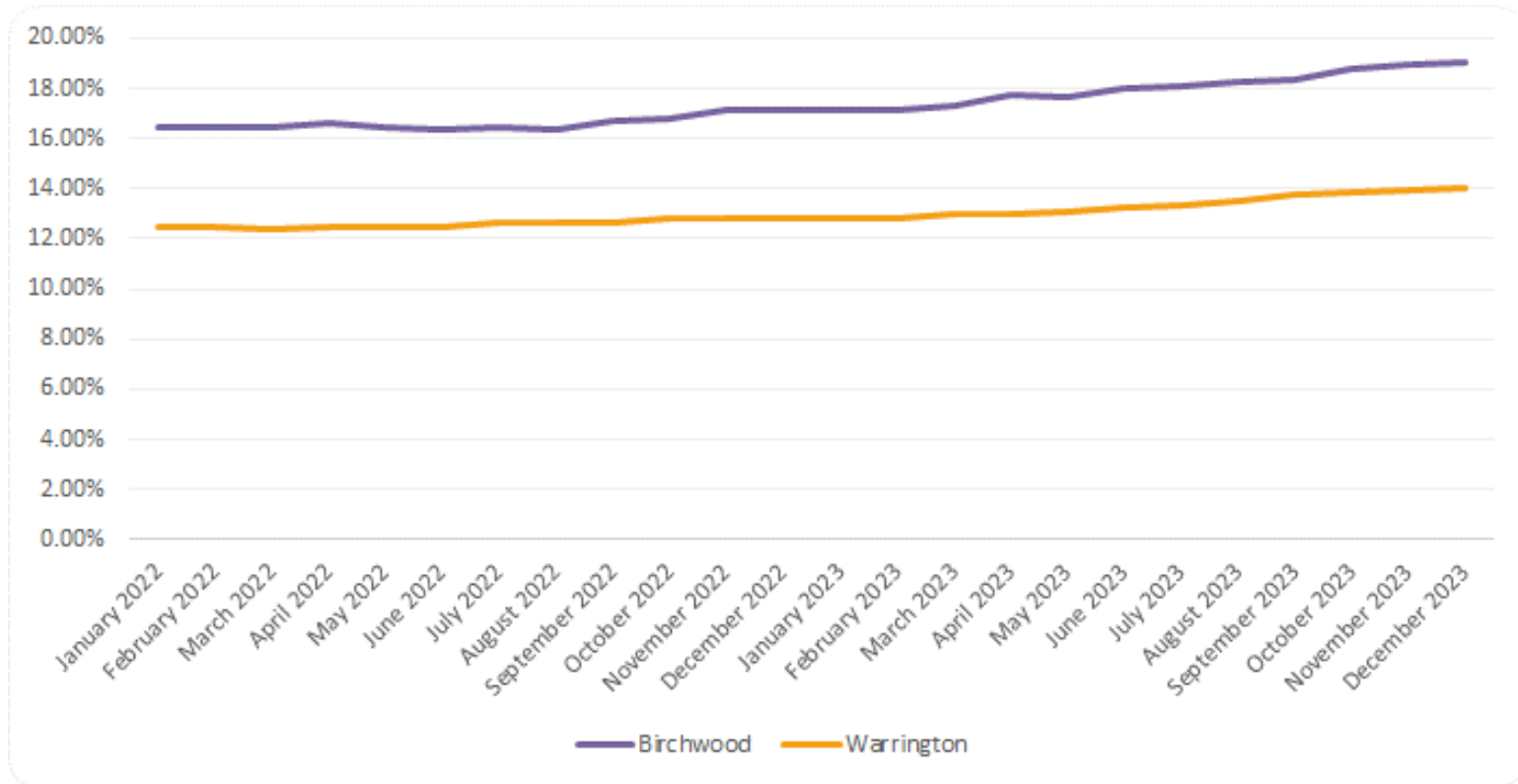
Birchwood has 19.05% of its working age population (16-64) claiming Universal Credit as of December 2023. Birchwood is one of 7 wards above the Warrington average.

# Universal Credit – 24 month rolling period to December 2023

This measures the percentage of the working age population (16-64) in the Ward who claimed Universal Credit during the last 2 years in comparison with the Warrington average during the same period.

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, via Stat-Xplore, Universal Credit by ward.

Adapted from data from the Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government License v3.0.



## In Warrington

The percentage of the working age population (16-64) claiming Universal Credit has increased from 12.5% in January 2022 to over 14% at December 2023.

## In Birchwood

The percentage of the working age population (16-64) claiming Universal Credit has increased from 16.4% in January 2022 to 19.1% at December 2023.

Birchwood has been consistently above the Warrington level during the previous two years.