

Investigating the long-term outcomes of pupils who experience Alternative Provision and/or permanent exclusion

Introduction

Being placed in an Alternative Provision (AP) school and being permanently excluded are both relatively rare eventsⁱ. But they are disproportionately experienced by vulnerable groups of pupilsⁱⁱ, for example, those who have been referred to social services for a child in need assessment and those with an identified special educational need (SEN).

We know already that outcomes for such pupils tend to be poor. In 2019, only 4.3% of pupils who finished Key Stage 4 in state-funded AP schools achieved GCSEs in English and Maths at grades 9-4 compared with 64.6% in mainstream and state-funded special schoolsⁱⁱⁱ. And work^{iv} published last year found that around 36% of those who had experienced AP by the age of 16 remained in education in the summer they turned 17. The figure for those who never experienced AP was 82%.

However, less is known about their longer term outcomes. And next to nothing is known about their outcomes beyond education, for example, earnings and employment. This report aims to fill that gap.

Data

This work makes use of the Longitudinal Educational Outcomes (LEO) dataset, linking National Pupil Database data from 2002 to 2019 to a variety of educational and labour market outcomes datasets. This provides the opportunity to measure longer-term pupil outcomes.

In this study, we are interested in the outcomes for pupils who have experienced state-funded Alternative Provision (AP) schools or been permanently excluded. Pupils are defined as having experienced AP if they appeared on roll at a pupil referral unit (PRU) or alternative provision academy or free school in either School Census or the former PRU Census¹ at any point while they were of secondary school age.

We present results for pupils who experienced AP, for pupils who were permanently excluded, and for the subset of both groups who experienced AP *and* were permanently excluded.

Population

The population for this study includes all individuals born between 1st September 1993 and 31st August 2002 who were observed in the School Census, AP Census or PRU Census at any point while of secondary school age.

We examine outcome data at age 19 for the five birth cohorts of young people born between 1st September 1993 and 31st August 1998. These cohorts are chosen because LEO data covers the period to age 19. For the three oldest cohorts, born between 1st September 1993 and 31st August 1996, we also examine outcomes at age 21.

We present contextual data for a further four (younger) birth cohorts, born between 1st September 1998 and 31st August 2002. Outcome data at age 19 is not available for these cohorts.

¹ The PRU Census took place between 2010 and 2013 before later being subsumed into the School Census

Throughout, we refer to cohorts by the academic year their members would have been expected to reach the end of compulsory schooling (i.e. the academic year they turned 16).

Limitations

As School Census data for PRUs is only available from 2010 onwards, and alternative provision academies and free schools from 2014, the number of individuals deemed to have experienced AP in cohorts before 2018/19 (and especially before 2013/14) will be undercounted.

A further limitation is that Universal Credit (UC) data is not included in the version of LEO that was made available for this project. UC began to replace a number of income-related benefits from April 2013. We discuss the specific impacts of this limitation in the interpretation of our results. UC data has been included in later iterations of the LEO data.

Context

The proportion of pupils experiencing Alternative Provision or Permanent Exclusion

Attending an AP school and/or being permanently excluded are relatively rare events. Below we summarise the number of pupils in each cohort who experienced AP, permanent exclusion, or both.

Table 1: Proportion of pupils experiencing AP, permanent exclusion, or both at any time while of secondary school age by cohort year

Cohort	Total pupils	Ever AP	Ever PEX	Ever both
2009/10	617,688	1.6%	1.0%	0.5%
2010/11	604,024	1.9%	0.9%	0.5%
2011/12	595,807	2.1%	0.8%	0.5%
2012/13	606,283	2.2%	0.7%	0.5%
2013/14	592,704	2.6%	0.7%	0.6%
2014/15	587,941	2.9%	0.7%	0.6%
2015/16	575,583	3.1%	0.7%	0.6%
2016/17	566,735	3.2%	0.8%	0.7%
2017/18	562,739	3.3%	1.0%	0.8%
2018/19	584,977	3.2%	1.0%	0.8%

In later cohorts, those not affected by lack of AP data coverage, around 3% of pupils had been on the roll of an AP provider. Of these, between a fifth and a quarter had also been permanently excluded.

The proportion of pupils who had been permanently excluded fell from 1.0% of the 2009/10 cohort to 0.7% of the 2012/13 cohort. It remained constant for the next three years, before increasing to 0.8% of the 2016/17 cohort, and again to 1.0% of the 2017/18 and 2018/19 cohorts. Most ([but not all](#)) pupils who had been permanently excluded had also been enrolled at an AP provider.

The timing of AP and exclusion

Below we summarise the average academic age of individuals' first entry into an AP setting and of their first permanent exclusion. Typically, pupils will start secondary school at academic age 11 and finish Key Stage 4 at academic age 16.

AP enrolments which began while individuals were of primary school age are only counted if they continued until the individuals were of secondary school age. This is the only situation where individuals had an academic age of first AP entry younger than 11.

Table 2: Average academic age of first AP entry and first permanent exclusion for those experiencing AP and/or permanent exclusion at any time while of secondary school age

Cohort	Ever AP - academic age of first AP entry (years:months)	Ever PEX - academic age of first exclusion (years:months)
2009/10	14:6	13:6
2010/11	14:4	13:5
2011/12	14:1	13:6
2012/13	13:11	13:7
2013/14	13:12	13:7
2014/15	14:0	13:8
2015/16	13:11	13:8
2016/17	13:10	13:10
2017/18	13:9	13:9
2018/19	13:8	13:8

The decline in average age of first entry into AP between successive cohorts from 2009/10 to 2013/14 is not meaningful; it reflects the increased coverage of AP data during that time. Generally, the average age of first entry to AP was between 13 years 8 months and 14 years – for most pupils, this is equivalent to the end of Year 9.

First permanent exclusion tended to occur slightly earlier – between 13 years 5 months and 13 years 10 months – generally equivalent to the middle of Year 9.

For the group of individuals who experienced both AP and permanent exclusion, we summarise the proportion of each cohort who were permanently excluded and entered AP at the same time, the proportion who were permanently excluded at least a month before entering AP, and the proportion who entered AP at least a month before being permanently excluded.

Table 3: Timing of AP entry and permanent exclusion for individuals experiencing both AP and permanent exclusion during secondary school

Cohort	AP entry and PEX at the same time	PEX before AP	AP before PEX
2009/10	18.1%	79.7%	2.3%
2010/11	21.9%	75.3%	2.8%
2011/12	26.6%	69.2%	4.3%
2012/13	30.0%	63.9%	6.1%
2013/14	29.1%	62.9%	8.0%
2014/15	31.8%	59.2%	9.0%
2015/16	32.4%	54.1%	13.5%
2016/17	31.3%	53.3%	15.3%
2017/18	31.5%	52.6%	15.9%
2018/19	32.2%	52.5%	15.3%

Most individuals either entered AP after being permanently excluded, or both events happened around the same time.

Pupil characteristics

Below we summarise the characteristics of the pupils in our cohorts of interest – 2009/10 to 2014/15 - who have ever experienced AP, permanent exclusion, or both, and compare with pupils who have experienced neither.

In addition to characteristics such as gender and ethnicity, we construct the following measures. These are limited to observations while individuals are of secondary school age²:

- Highest SEN is EHCP or Statement: % of cohort who ever had an identified SEN with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Statement of Need.
- Highest SEN is SEN without EHCP or Statement: % of cohort who ever had an identified SEN but never had an EHCP or Statement.
- Never SEN: % of cohort who never had an identified SEN.
- Average % terms eligible for FSM: the average % of terms on-roll where a pupil is eligible for free school meals.
- Average % terms with SEN: the average % of terms on-roll where a pupil is recorded as having an identified SEN (with or without an EHCP/Statement).

² Primary school ages are additionally included only for pupils who didn't change provider between primary and secondary school ages – in these cases, measures include the full time pupils were enrolled at those providers, including the time the pupils were of primary school age.

Table 4: Characteristics of those who experienced AP, permanent exclusion, or both at any time while of secondary school age vs those who experienced neither. Cohorts 2009/10 to 2014/15 combined.

	never AP nor PEX	ever AP	ever PEX	ever AP and PEX
Number of pupils	3,516,659	78,856	28,916	19,984
% of all pupils	97.6%	2.2%	0.8%	0.6%
Gender: male	51.0%	63.0%	75.7%	74.3%
Maximum SEN: EHCP	4.1%	14.1%	15.7%	11.5%
Maximum SEN: School Support	29.7%	75.6%	75.3%	83.2%
Maximum SEN: Not SEN	66.2%	10.3%	9.1%	5.3%
Ethnicity: Asian (including Chinese)	8.5%	4.2%	4.4%	4.2%
Ethnicity: Black African	2.8%	2.4%	3.1%	2.9%
Ethnicity: Black Caribbean	1.4%	2.7%	4.2%	4.5%
Ethnicity: Black Other	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%
Ethnicity: Mixed White & Black Caribbean	1.2%	2.8%	3.4%	3.5%
Ethnicity: Mixed White & Black African	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Ethnicity: Mixed White & Asian	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%
Ethnicity: Other Mixed	1.3%	1.7%	1.8%	1.9%
Ethnicity: White British	75.6%	75.3%	72.7%	73.3%
Ethnicity: Other White	6.1%	7.8%	6.9%	6.3%
Average % terms eligible for FSM	15.0%	37.5%	38.5%	40.2%
Average % terms with SEN	20.7%	59.7%	59.2%	62.1%

We see that those who experienced AP, permanent exclusion or both are more likely to be male, have an identified SEN, and be from a Black Caribbean or Mixed White & Black Caribbean background compared with those who have experienced neither. They were also eligible for free school meals and recorded as having an identified SEN for a greater proportion of their secondary school careers on average. These are all characteristics known to be associated with lower educational achievement^v.

Outcomes

Attrition

Not all members of the original cohorts were observed in all follow-up years. This is true of all longitudinal studies. In this study, individuals are counted in every follow-up year until the year we never observe them again. For example, a pupil who completes year 11 in 2010/11 and is observed in follow-up years 2011/12 and 2014/15 will be counted as part of the cohort in 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Individuals may stop being observed for a variety of reasons including migration, economic and educational inactivity, and, in rare but tragic cases, death.

Below we show attrition at age 19 for the cohorts of academic age 16 (i.e. usually the year pupils finish Year 11) in 2009/10 to 2014/15.

Table 5: Proportion of individuals observed at age 19 by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

Cohort	Number in cohort				Proportion still observed at age 19			
	never AP nor PEX	ever AP	ever PEX	ever AP and PEX	never AP nor PEX	ever AP	ever PEX	ever AP and PEX
2009/10	604,766	10,072	6,226	3,376	96.8%	96.9%	96.0%	97.0%
2010/11	590,755	11,269	5,295	3,295	96.9%	96.2%	96.0%	96.5%
2011/12	581,996	12,309	4,747	3,245	96.8%	94.8%	94.9%	95.3%
2012/13	591,842	13,314	4,443	3,316	96.6%	93.9%	93.8%	94.0%
2013/14	576,806	15,128	4,062	3,292	95.4%	89.5%	89.1%	89.2%
2014/15	570,494	16,764	4,143	3,460	92.5%	80.0%	79.0%	79.1%

We see higher rates of attrition for pupils in later cohorts particularly among pupils who experienced AP or permanent exclusion.

That later cohorts should have higher attrition than earlier ones isn't surprising: they have fewer possible follow-up years for us to have observed activity in. That it should be so much higher among those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion is more puzzling. Due to the timing and the gradual increase in successive cohorts we think this is likely due to the rollout of Universal Credit. As data on UC entitlement was not available for this project, we do not observe individuals who are receiving UC while seeking work. If young people who experienced AP and/or exclusion while at school are disproportionately more likely to fall into this group, then we will be less likely to observe them in the data. (Indeed, Table 17 shows the proportion of those observed receiving out of work benefits at age 19 decreases in each successive cohort, and is higher among those who experienced AP and/or exclusion than those who experienced neither.)

To complete this section, we show attrition at age 21 for cohorts of academic age 16 in 2009/10 to 2012/13.

Table 6: Proportion of individuals observed at age 21 by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

Cohort	Number in cohort				Proportion still observed at age 21			
	never AP nor PEX	ever AP	ever PEX	ever AP and PEX	never AP nor PEX	ever AP	ever PEX	ever AP and PEX
2009/10	604,766	10,072	6,226	3,376	94.9%	92.9%	91.2%	93.0%
2010/11	590,755	11,269	5,295	3,295	94.5%	90.9%	90.1%	90.8%
2011/12	581,996	12,309	4,747	3,245	93.7%	87.3%	86.4%	87.2%
2012/13	591,842	13,314	4,443	3,316	91.1%	80.1%	79.0%	78.9%

Again, we see higher rates of attrition for pupils in later cohorts, particularly among those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion. There are bigger increases in attrition between successive cohorts among those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion. We suspect this too is related to the lack of Universal Credit data.

Attrition at age 19 and 21 is similar for pupils who ever experienced AP and those who were ever permanently excluded.

Results

Outcome measures

We construct a series of measures for the outcomes of pupils in each cohort. Measures are reported separately for the year in which the individuals turn 19 and the year they turn 21.

- In any positive destination: in employment, further education or higher education for at least 180 days of the year.
- Average daily earnings of those in continuous employment (2015 prices).
- In continuous work and receiving in-work benefits.
- Receiving out-of-work benefits.

We also construct the following “ever” measures. These differ from those listed above by describing observations of the cohort **by** the year they turn 19 and 21 rather than **in** the year they turn 19 and 21.

- Achieved NQF Level 2, the equivalent of 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C.
- Achieved NQF Level 3, the equivalent of two A-levels.
- Achieved NQF Level 4, the equivalent of a Higher National Certificate.
- Experienced custody (recorded as being in custody in the National Client Caseload System, NCCIS)

Only pupils who are still observed in the cohort at age 19 and 21 are included in the measures (see [attrition](#)). This will bias our measures, as individuals whose only labour market activity is being in receipt of Universal Credit are omitted altogether. It is likely that if they were able to be included, measured outcomes would be worse. It is important to bear this in mind when comparing differences in measures between successive cohorts, and between the groups who experienced AP and/or permanent exclusion and the group who experienced neither.

Outcomes

Any positive destination

We first present the proportion of individuals in each cohort observed as being in a positive destination at age 19. We compare those who experienced AP, permanent exclusion, or both with those who never experienced either.

Table 7: Percentage of individuals observed at age 19 in a positive destination by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	82.8%	85.0%	86.1%	86.7%	87.9%	89.1%
Ever AP	42.4%	46.7%	48.3%	48.3%	51.7%	56.7%
Ever PEX	42.9%	47.6%	48.9%	50.4%	49.6%	54.1%
Ever AP and PEX	41.0%	45.0%	47.1%	48.8%	47.8%	53.4%

The increase in this measure over time for all groups is likely attributable to the rollout in Universal Credit for which we are missing data. (Individuals whose only observed activity in the data was being in receipt of government benefits wouldn't have appeared in the numerator in earlier years but would have appeared in the denominator, and in later years they would have been removed from the denominator too).

Pupils who experienced AP or permanent exclusion were less likely to be observed in a positive destination at age 19 than those who experienced neither. Rates are similar between pupils who experienced AP, permanent exclusion, or both.

For the older cohorts, we also calculate the same measure at age 21. We see similar patterns, with those experiencing AP and/or permanent exclusion less likely to be observed in a positive destination.

Table 8: Percentage of individuals observed at age 21 in a positive destination by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Never AP nor PEX	87.5%	88.6%	89.9%	91.5%
Ever AP	49.0%	50.0%	50.2%	53.8%
Ever PEX	51.2%	51.4%	52.6%	56.4%
Ever AP and PEX	49.2%	49.4%	50.5%	55.7%

Qualification rates

First, we show the proportion of individuals in each cohort who achieved the equivalent of at least 5 GCSEs at A*-G and A*-C by the age of 16, i.e. typically the end of Key Stage 4.

Table 9: Percentage of individuals observed at age 16 who achieved the equivalent of 5 GCSE A*-Gs by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	87.8%	87.1%	86.9%	86.9%	88.6%	90.0%
Ever AP	14.6%	15.8%	16.7%	18.7%	23.8%	26.3%
Ever PEX	18.9%	19.3%	19.6%	20.6%	22.4%	23.7%
Ever AP and PEX	10.0%	12.2%	13.7%	16.4%	19.1%	21.4%

Table 10: Percentage of individuals observed at age 16 who achieved the equivalent of 5 GCSE A*-Cs by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	65.4%	67.6%	67.9%	66.0%	63.1%	61.8%
Ever AP	4.4%	5.7%	6.4%	6.9%	7.7%	7.8%
Ever PEX	5.7%	6.8%	7.5%	7.8%	5.7%	5.1%
Ever AP and PEX	1.8%	2.7%	3.9%	5.2%	4.2%	4.0%

The proportion of pupils reaching age 16 with 5 GCSE A*-G grades increased slightly with time for pupils who never experienced AP or permanent exclusion, and for those who experienced permanent exclusion. There was a bigger increase for pupils who had experienced AP, though much of this is likely attributable to improved AP data coverage over time – the earlier cohorts capture pupils who were in AP for Year 11, and then Year 10 and/or 11, while the later cohorts contain pupils who were, for example, in AP in Years 7 and 8 but in mainstream schools from Year 9 onwards.

The proportion of pupils who achieved the equivalent of 5 GCSE A*-C grades by 16 increased from 2009/10 to 2011/12, then decreased in each successive cohort. This could be related to the Wolf review of qualifications included in performance tables. The decrease was proportionally bigger for pupils who had been permanently excluded than the Never AP

nor PEX group. Those who had experienced AP saw outcomes improve slightly by this measure between 2011/12 and 2014/15 – again, this is likely due to improved coverage of AP data.

Moving on to qualifications achieved by age 19. Below we show the proportion of individuals who achieved the equivalent of 5 GCSEs at A*-C and the equivalent of 2 A-Levels.

Table 11: Percentage of individuals observed at age 19 who achieved the equivalent of 5 GCSE A*-Cs by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	84.5%	85.3%	86.0%	85.5%	84.8%	85.1%
Ever AP	26.2%	27.3%	26.4%	28.0%	29.4%	31.4%
Ever PEX	27.0%	26.6%	26.8%	27.2%	24.0%	24.3%
Ever AP and PEX	22.8%	21.7%	22.5%	23.8%	21.6%	22.5%

Table 12: Percentage of individuals observed at age 19 who achieved the equivalent of 2 A-Levels by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	56.4%	57.3%	57.9%	57.9%	59.0%	60.3%
Ever AP	6.3%	7.1%	6.7%	7.8%	10.2%	12.1%
Ever PEX	6.0%	5.9%	6.2%	5.9%	5.7%	7.3%
Ever AP and PEX	4.2%	4.0%	4.1%	4.5%	4.5%	6.4%

By 19, the difference in GCSE A*-C qualification rates between those who experienced AP and/or PEX and those who experienced neither is similar to the difference at age 16 – between 50 and 60 percentage points. Rates were around 20 percentage points higher at 16 than at 19 for all groups. This suggests that post-16 routes to Level 2 qualifications are equally valuable for those who experienced AP and/or permanent exclusion and for those who experienced neither.

A level qualification rates at age 19 are also between 50 and 60 percentage points lower for those who experienced AP and/or permanent exclusion than those who experienced neither.

As with the positive destination measures, the changes between successive cohorts are difficult to interpret because of the variation in attrition rates related to the lack of Universal Credit data.

That said, despite having similar attrition, those who experienced AP had higher qualification rates at both GCSE and A-Level (or equivalent) than those who were permanently excluded, particularly in the younger cohorts. This could be related to the improved availability of AP data in later years of this study. Younger “ever AP” cohorts contain more individuals who were observed in AP settings during the first few years of secondary education but who completed Key Stage 4 in mainstream schools. Such pupils are known to have better educational outcomes than those who complete Key Stage 4 in AP^{vi}.

At age 21, the gap in GCSE and A-Level qualification rates between those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion and those who experienced neither isn’t much smaller than at

age 19. Those who experienced AP still have higher qualification rates than those who were permanently excluded. Qualification rates at ages 16, 19 and 21 are summarised in Figure 1.

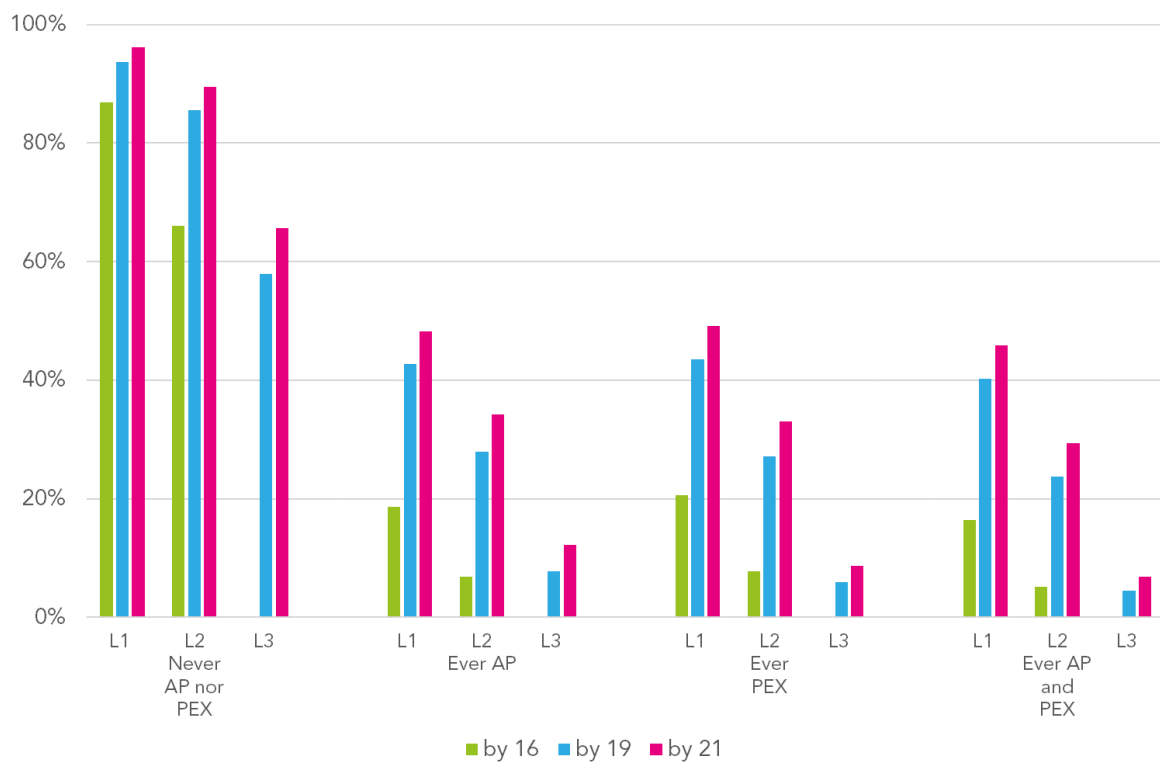
Table 13: Percentage of individuals observed at age 21 who achieved the equivalent of 5 A*-C GCSEs by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Never AP nor PEX	86.7%	87.6%	88.7%	89.5%
Ever AP	30.2%	31.5%	30.9%	34.2%
Ever PEX	31.0%	30.7%	31.0%	33.0%
Ever AP and PEX	26.7%	25.2%	26.2%	29.4%

Table 14: Percentage of individuals observed at age 21 who achieved the equivalent of 2 A-Levels by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Never AP nor PEX	62.0%	63.2%	64.3%	65.7%
Ever AP	9.0%	10.2%	10.2%	12.3%
Ever PEX	8.4%	8.5%	8.8%	8.7%
Ever AP and PEX	5.9%	5.7%	6.2%	6.9%

Figure 1: Qualification rates for individuals observed at ages 16, 19 and 21 in the 2012/13 cohort - proportion achieving the equivalent of 5 A*-G GCSEs (L1), 5 A*-C GCSEs (L2) and 2 A levels (L3)



Other outcomes

To finish, we present the results of the remaining outcome measures at age 19.

Table 15: Average daily earnings (£ - 2015 prices) of individuals observed in continuous work at age 19 by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	17.49	18.33	18.20	19.03	19.90	-
Ever AP	18.40	18.60	19.31	20.64	21.88	-
Ever PEX	19.38	19.36	20.93	21.78	21.75	-
Ever AP and PEX	19.99	19.06	20.32	22.19	21.70	-

The average daily earnings of individuals observed in continuous employment at age 19 were higher for those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion than those who experienced neither. However, this measure is missing the crucial information of the number of hours worked and is therefore not a good indicator of how rates of pay vary.

Table 16: Percentage of individuals observed in continuous work at age 19 receiving in-work benefits by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	1.5%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.0%	0.5%
Ever AP	8.3%	7.2%	8.2%	9.8%	7.1%	3.0%
Ever PEX	5.8%	5.4%	6.7%	5.7%	3.9%	2.1%
Ever AP and PEX	3.8%	3.8%	6.5%	5.4%	4.2%	1.8%

Table 17: Percentage of individuals observed at age 19 receiving of out-of-work benefits by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	10.8%	8.6%	6.8%	5.5%	4.4%	4.2%
Ever AP	43.2%	37.5%	34.0%	30.8%	27.1%	25.3%
Ever PEX	38.2%	32.3%	29.9%	25.9%	24.8%	25.3%
Ever AP and PEX	41.4%	35.4%	32.5%	26.8%	25.6%	26.1%

Though both these measures are impacted by the lack of Universal Credit data, we see that those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion are more likely to be in receipt of in-work and out-of-work benefits at age 19 compared with those who experienced neither. In contrast to the average earnings data shown in Table 12, the proportion of individuals in receipt of in-work benefits suggests that experience of AP/permanent exclusion is related to an increased likelihood of being in low paid work at age 19.

Table 18: Percentage of individuals observed at age 19 who have experienced custody by cohort year and AP/PEX experience

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Never AP nor PEX	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Ever AP	6.6%	6.1%	5.4%	4.7%	3.2%	2.4%
Ever PEX	8.4%	8.0%	7.2%	5.3%	4.1%	3.7%
Ever AP and PEX	8.9%	8.6%	7.9%	5.7%	4.4%	3.9%

And finally, those who experienced AP or permanent exclusion were much more likely to have experienced custody by the age of 19.

Conclusion

A relatively small proportion of the individuals in the cohorts covered by this study attended an AP institution and/or had been permanently excluded during their time at secondary school. Those who had spent more of their school careers eligible for FSM, were more likely to have an identified SEN, and were more likely to be from a Black Caribbean or Mixed White and Black Caribbean background compared with those who hadn't. These characteristics are known to be associated with lower educational achievement.

Indeed, we observe lower qualification rates at age 16 among those who experienced AP and/or permanent exclusion compared with those who experienced neither. These differences persist to qualification rates at age 19 and age 21.

More generally, they were much less likely to be observed in a positive destination at age 19 and age 21, were more likely to be in receipt of in-work and out-of-work benefits, and were more likely to have experienced custody.

A note about the data

This work contains statistical data from ONS which is Crown Copyright. The use of ONS statistical data in this work does not imply the endorsement of ONS in relation to the interpretation or analysis of the statistical data. This work uses research datasets which may not exactly reproduce National Statistics aggregates.

ⁱ <https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2021/09/investigating-alternative-provision-part-one/>

ⁱⁱ <https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2021/09/investigating-alternative-provision-part-2/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/key-stage-4-performance-2019-revised>

^{iv} <https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2021/09/investigating-alternative-provision-part-2/>

^v <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/key-stage-4-performance-2019-revised>

^{vi} https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/working_paper_reintegration.pdf