



‘Identifying the Children’s Nursing Workforce Required in Special Needs Schools – a pilot project’

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Introduction & background

- ▶ Review of Special Schools Nursing Services in Bradford
 - ▶ Discussions with NICE, Department of Health & local commissioners
- ▶ Concerns raised across the country, often related to incidents and near misses e.g. Kent Head Teachers
- ▶ Trudy Ward's work on a tool to assess nursing needs: Assessing nursing needs in school tool: Commissioning and workforce planning tool
- ▶ RCN updating guidance for Community Children's Nursing Teams
- ▶ Roundtable hosted by RCN and Bradford District Achievement Partnership



Roundtable



Involved Head Teachers,
Commissioners & LA lead
from 5 areas:

Bradford
Kent
Sheffield
South Wales
West Sussex



Discussion regarding the way forward resulted in an agreement to undertake a study to assess the nursing needs of all children in special schools within the areas using Trudy Ward's nursing needs assessment tool

Methodology



One individual undertakes training of the teams to ensure consistency in application of the tool



Children's Nurses with experience of looking after children with special needs to collect the data in the autumn term of 2018



Data to be collected on all children in identified schools within each area



Data collated & anonymised and sent to Project Lead



Categories of need



Complex and fluctuating health needs likely during the school day

Indicates children's nursing priority input required & shows the need for nursing assessment during the school day



Complex long term health conditions

Indicates children's nursing advice and interventions regarding LTC management during the school day



Everyday complex healthcare needs

Indicates that a children's nurse is required to train a member of school staff in specific skills under delegated duties

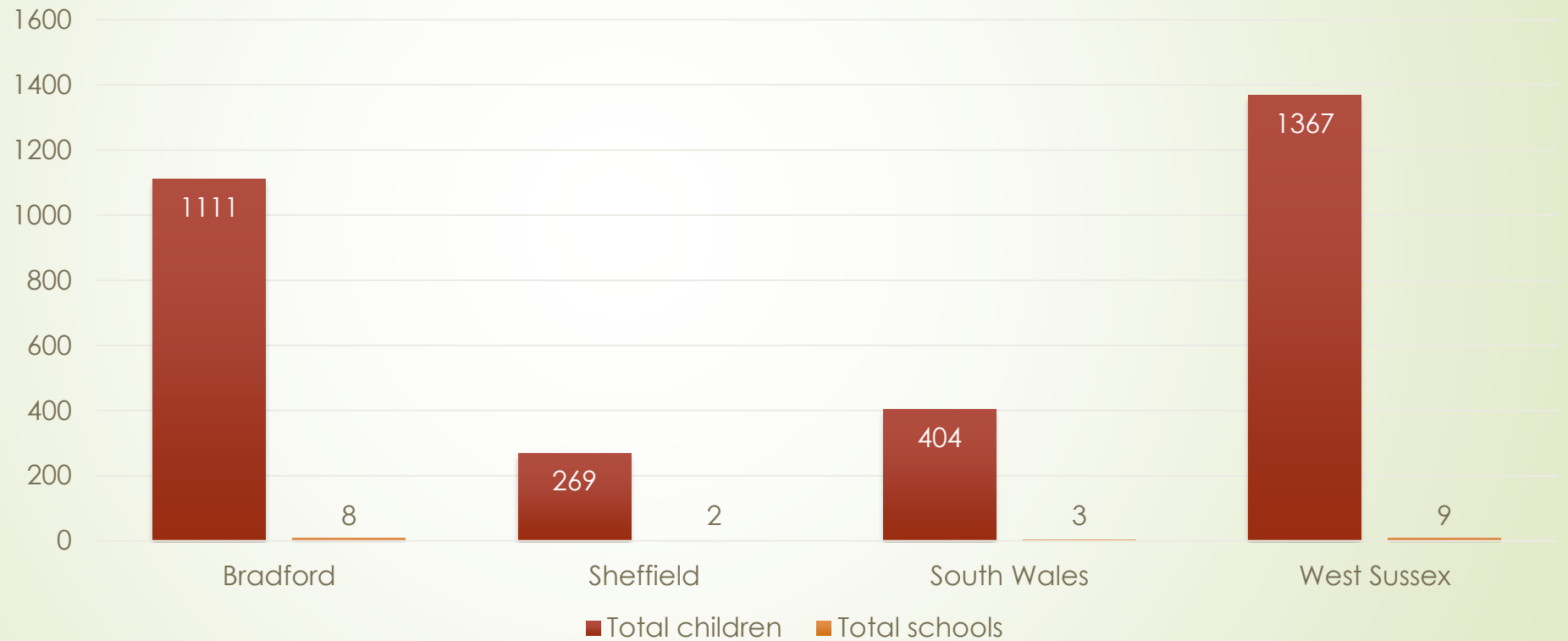


Medicine Safety

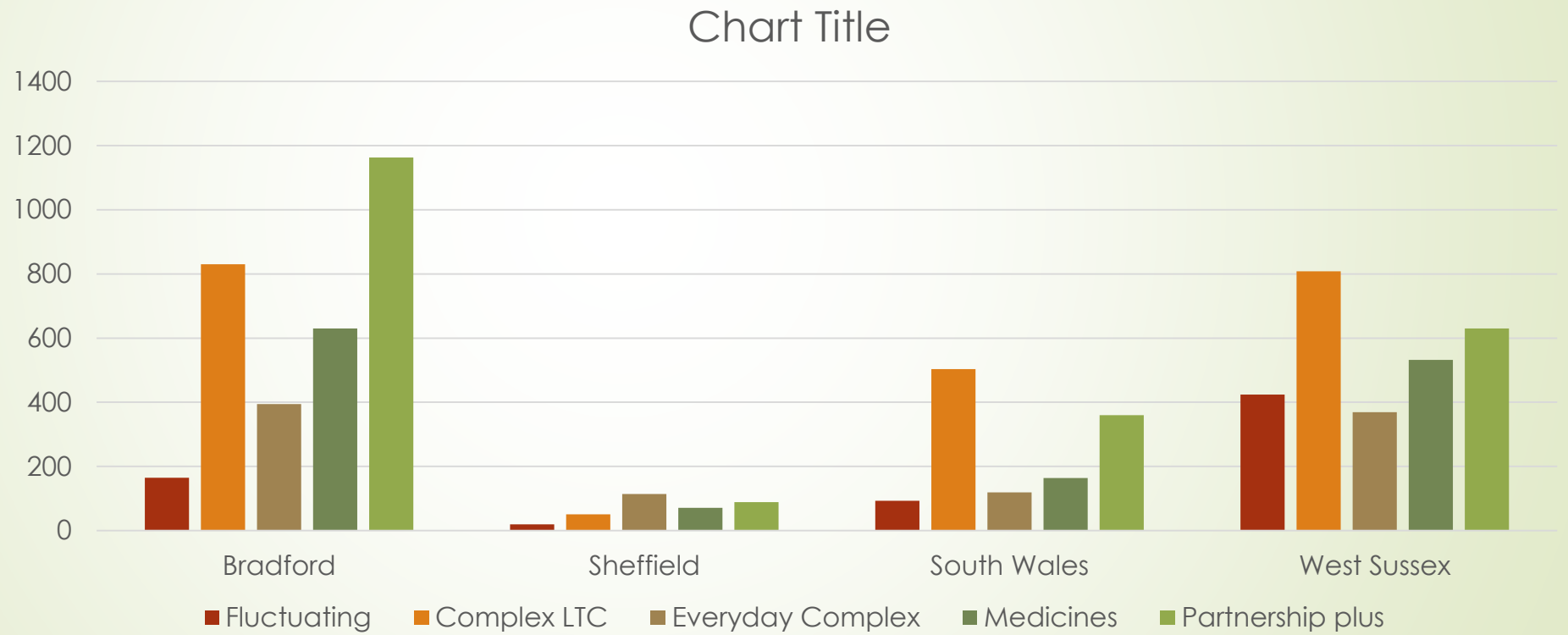


Partnership plus: Safeguarding, Looked After Children, Transitions and Education Health care Plan.

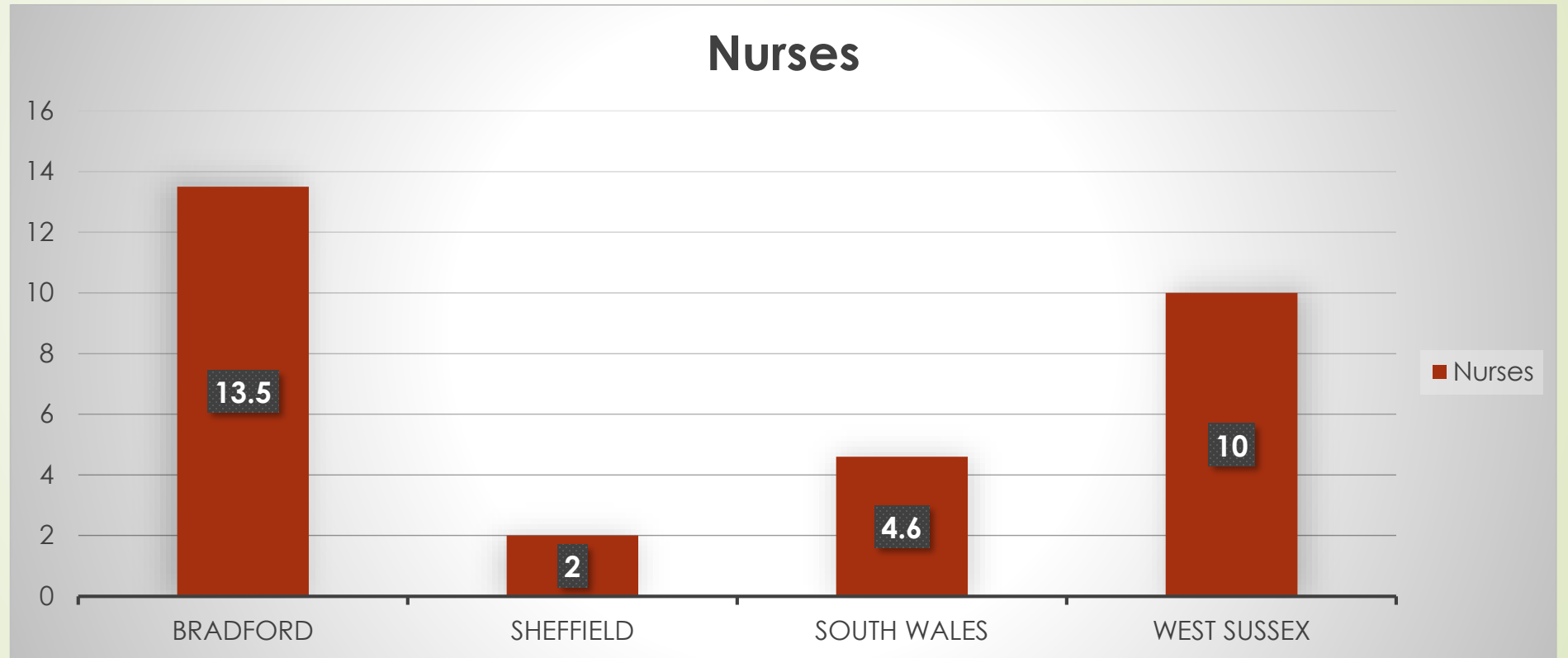
Data overview: Total number of children and schools



Need categories



Number of Nurses

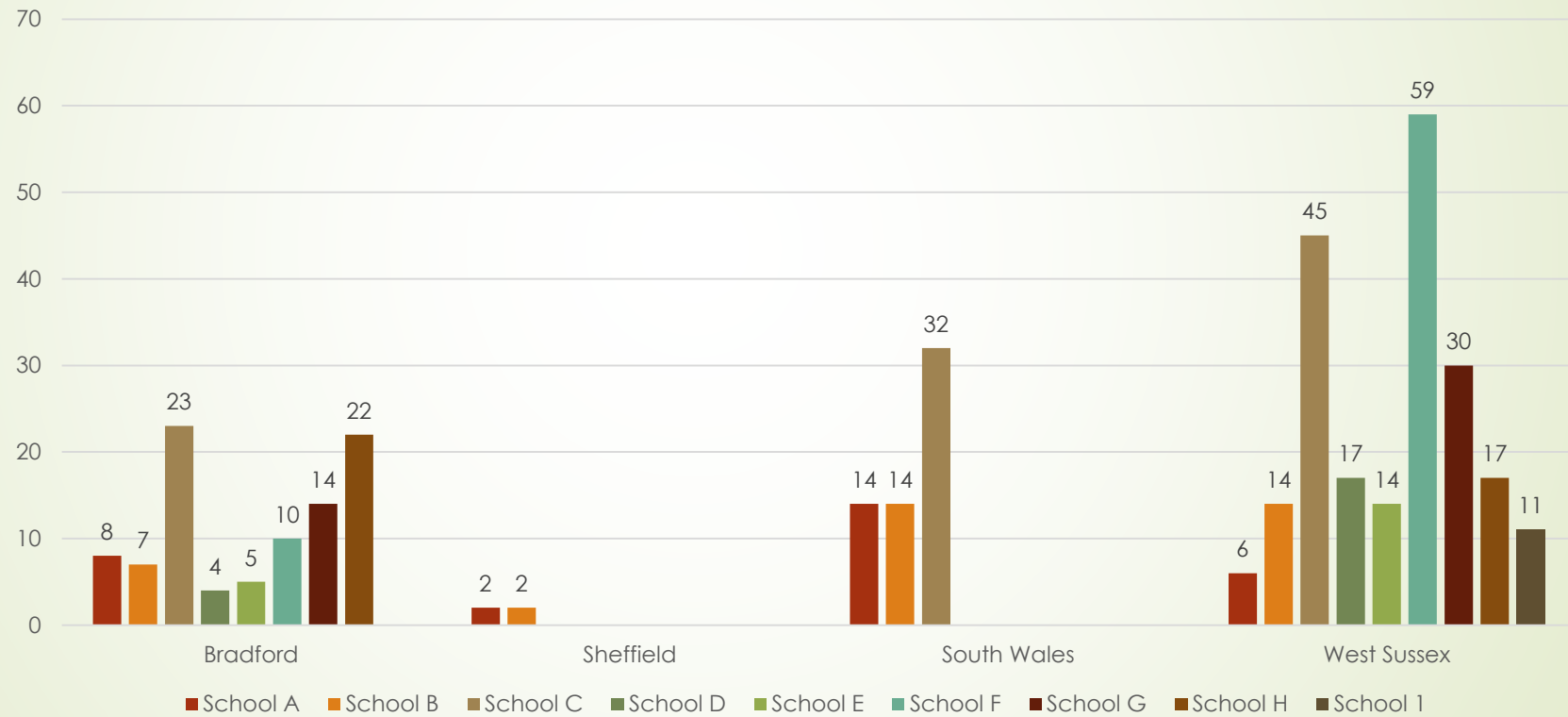


Complex & fluctuating health needs

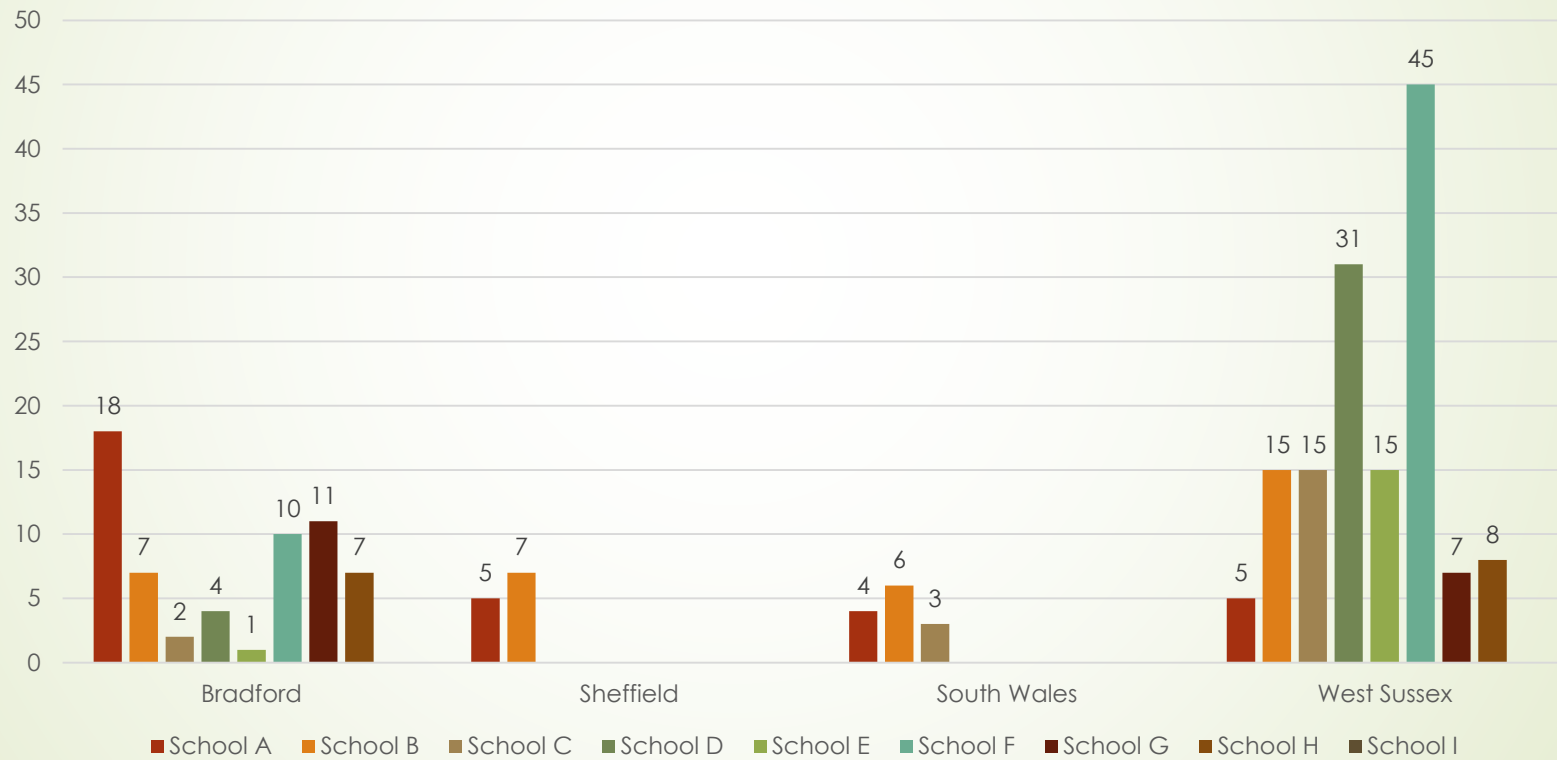
Table 2: Children with complex and fluctuation health needs during the school day

	Continuing Care Support	Life limiting condition	Unstable health	Nursing needs	Other
Bradford	22	93	60	0	0
Sheffield	3	4	12	0	0
South Wales	12	60	13	4	2
West Sussex	59	213	147	5	0

Life limiting conditions

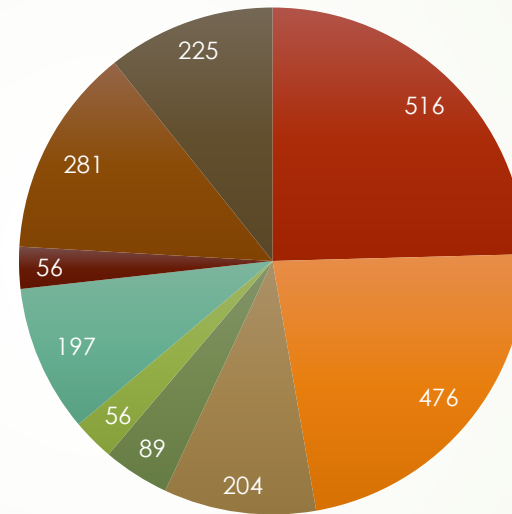


Unpredictable or unstable health



Complex long term health needs

Number of children with complex long term conditions by health needs

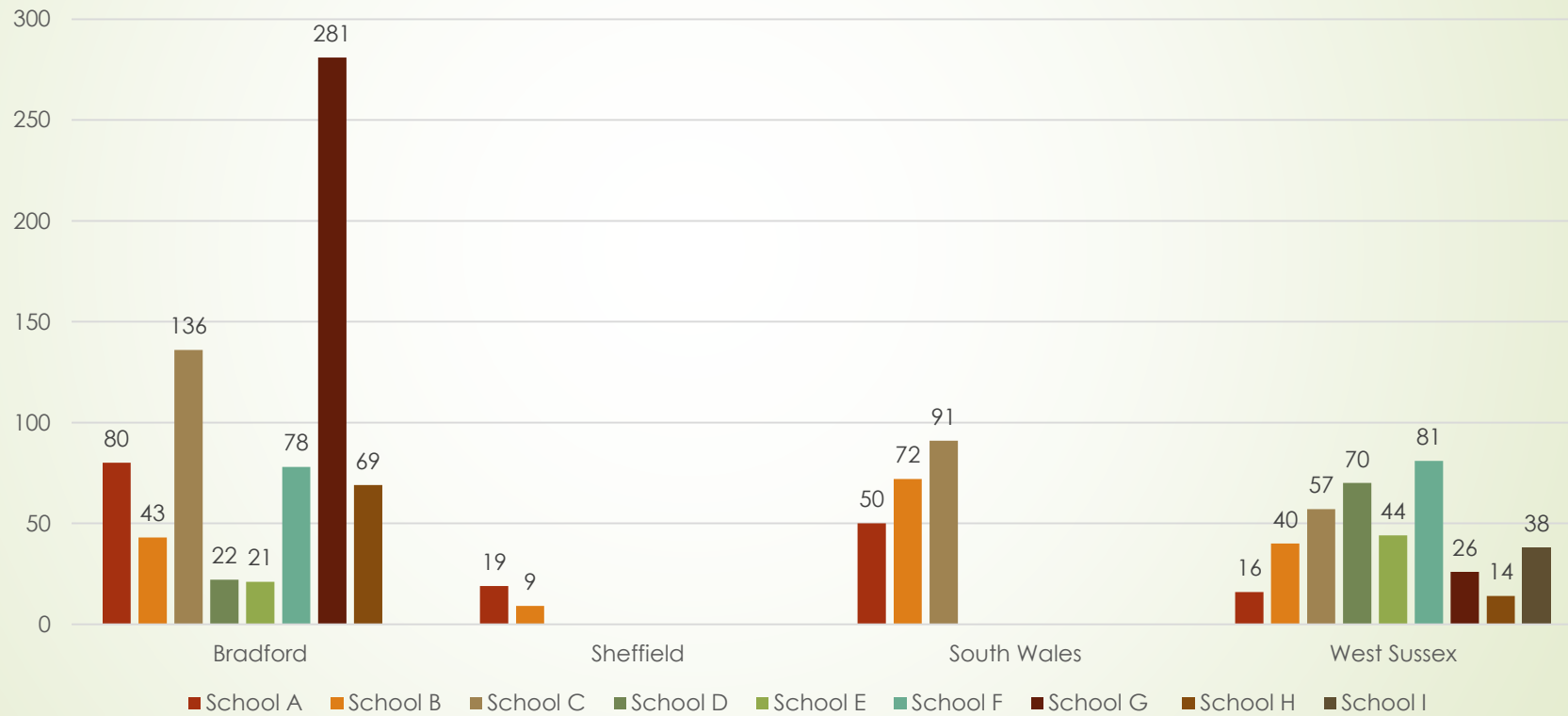


- Complex neurodisability
- Epilepsy
- Respiratory management
- Pain profile
- Post operative needs after complex surgery
- Tissue viability
- Continenence need
- Enteral feeding
- Other (includes 132 children with ASD/ADHD)

Complex long term needs by area

	Complex neuro	Epilepsy	Respiratory	Pain profile	Post-op	Tissue viability	Continence	Enteral feed
Bradford Schools	304	272	62	6	10	9	5	152
Sheffield	21	5	5	4	4	1	5	2
South Wales	73	91	55	4	6	41	9	49
West Sussex	118	190	82	75	36	146	37	78

Complex neurodisability, epilepsy and enteral feeding



Children with complex everyday health needs

Total children with complex everyday healthcare needs									
	Enteral feeding	Resp: ventilation	Resp: airway	Resp: suction	Resp: oxygen	Resp: humidity	Epilepsy rescue meds	Central line	Blood glucose
Bradford	159	2	3	50	19	16	118	1	4
Sheffield	36	2	2	4	2	0	58	1	2
South Wales	47	0	2	6	5	3	51	0	5
West Sussex	78	4	7	60	26	19	109	3	13

Medicines safety

	Every day	Occasionally	Boarding
Bradford	97	527	6
Sheffield	48	23	0
South Wales	44	120	0
West Sussex	212	292	28

Partnership Plus

	CIN/LAC	CP Plan	MH needs	Transition	EHCP
Bradford	206	10	122	166	659
Sheffield	9	3	30	47	0
South Wales	138	10	47	37	162
West Sussex	145	25	81	75	256



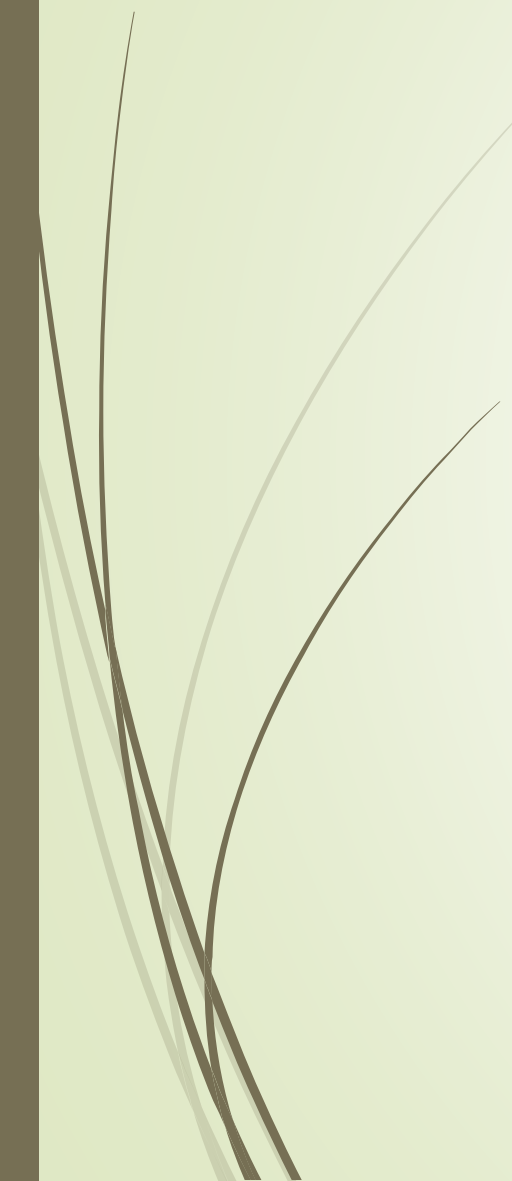
Nursing



- ▶ Role of nurse varies widely between areas
- ▶ Calculation of numbers of staff to be trained varies from all staff to multipliers/child
- ▶ Most nurses employed term time only
- ▶ Provision for continuing care packages in school varies e.g. carer attends school with child, school staff or school nurses provide care
- ▶ EHCPs form the vast majority of the work in partnership plus in some areas
- ▶ Nursing numbers are not based on number of children
 - ▶ Ratio in Bradford 90 children: 1 nurse (last year 70:1)
 - ▶ Variation 1:135 to 1:88



Components of nursing role

- ▶ Providing public health, 'children with disability' & children's community nursing functions
 - ▶ Educator
 - ▶ Coordinator
 - ▶ Governance including risk management
 - ▶ Multidisciplinary working e.g. safeguarding, clinics
- 



Recommendations

- ▶ Need a minimum of one nurse in school when school is open
 - ▶ Difficult to stipulate ratios from this data but looking at formula based on level of complexity
- ▶ Clear commissioning agreement including funding streams
- ▶ Need clear combined governance framework for all agencies involved
- ▶ All special needs schools should use the assessment of needs tool
 - ▶ Where used teams have managed to get an increase in staffing based on evidence



Ongoing work

- ▶ Bradford undertaking further work with the Centre for Applied Research in Education (CARE) & Born in Bradford
- ▶ Use evidence to work on governance frameworks in schools – RCN CCN revised guidance
 - ▶ Job descriptions
 - ▶ Training and competence assessment
 - ▶ Incident management including medications
 - ▶ Continuing care packages



Questions?

Provide further information when pilot study is complete