

SUBJECT: Provisional Report on Outcomes of Looked After Children in Academic Year 2016-17

DIRECTORATE Children and Young People

MEETING: DMT- CYP and SS

DATE:

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information on the outcomes of Monmouthshire Looked After Children in 2016/17

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That both Children and Young People's Directorate and Social Care Directorate's DMT accept the report prior to its submission at Corporate Parenting Panel.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 The achievement at all key stages for LAC pupils fluctuates due to very small cohort numbers and a greater representation of pupils at School Action Plus or with statements of SEN than the overall population. (e.g. as of March 31st 2016, there were 76 school aged pupils who were looked after and out of this cohort 11 pupils 14.5% were statemented compared with approximately 3% of Monmouthshire's universal population). The distribution of statements reflected that 22.2% of secondary pupils had a statement of ALN (8 pupils out of a secondary population of 36). Of these 8 pupils 50% were placed in out of county specialist provision, with 1 placed in specialist provision in county with the other 3 attending local in county mainstream provision. Of the 7.5% (3/40) of primary aged LAC pupils who were statemented LAC pupils, 1 was educated within out county specialist provision, whilst 2 others were educated within mainstream provision, one within Monmouthshire and the other child in a neighbouring SEWC Local Authority. This associated with underlying issues for pupils being accommodated presents schools and LA Officers with significant challenges in engaging, maintaining engagement resulting in positive outcomes for this cohort of very vulnerable young people.

3.2 The Welsh Government have launched their strategy and action plan for Raising the ambitions and educational attainment of children who are looked after in Wales and funding for raising the attainment of LAC pupils is now distributed on a consortia basis. Funding is allocated on the basis of the numbers of Welsh LAC pupils in each cluster across the region. Our LAC children placed in England have been raised as an issue and to ensure that they have access to support it has been agreed that a sum of money is allocated to each pupil that their school can bid for.

3.3 The picture in Monmouthshire for academic year 2016-17 shows that all LAC pupils in Foundation Phase achieved the CSI together with improved 3 year rolling averages in attainment at the end of key stages 2 and 3. The outcomes at Key Stage 4 will need detailed explanation.

3.4 The Local Authority monitors the progress of this cohort of pupils using targets set by the schools which have been submitted to the EAS. The performance of LAC pupils across all key stages is favourable in comparison with other Welsh Local Authorities. The latest data for academic year 2016-17 is detailed below.

4. OUTCOMES:

Following discussion at the Welsh LAC National Steering Group, it was agreed to report Key Stage LAC outcomes for different cohorts of LAC pupils, namely:-

- LAC pupils educated in mainstream
- LAC Pupils with a statement of ALN education in specialist provision
- LAC pupils educated in EOTAS/PRU provision
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers who are LAC

Additionally Key Stage 4 outcomes are now going to be reported against the following criteria:-

- LAC Pupils achieving L2+,
- LAC Pupils achieving a qualification
- Capped 9 points score

The latest available national data for comparison is for academic year 2015/16 shows Monmouthshire outcomes compared with the Local Authority outcomes for each Key Stage, as outlined in the following tables:

4.1 Foundation Phase- The table for LAC pupils educated in mainstream provision. There were no LAC pupils at Foundation phase from the other 3 cohorts identified above.

Academic year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire						100% (5/5)
Three year rolling average						100% (5/5)
LA Outcomes						93.8%
LA FSM Outcomes						
Welsh Outcomes						87.3%

All Foundation Phase pupils that were LAC achieved the Foundation Phase Indicator in 2016/17. This compares favourably with 93.8% of all Monmouthshire pupils and 87.3% of all Wales pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator in 2016/17. LAC Pupils performance in this phase was 6.2% higher than the LA figure and 12.7% higher than the Welsh Average for Foundation Phase.

4.2 Key Stage 2- The table for LAC pupils educated in mainstream provision. There were no LAC pupils at Key Stage 2 from the other 3 cohorts identified above.

Academic year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire	80% (4/5)	0	66.7% (2/3)	57.14% (4/7)	66.7% (2/3)	85.7% (6/7)
Three year rolling average		50% (5/10)	54.54% (6/11)	46.15% (6/13)	61.5% (8/13)	70.6% (12/17)
LA Outcomes	86.3%	89.3%	89.5%	92.5%	94.1%	93.2%
LA FSM Outcomes	62.4%	75.8%	70%	81.9%	85.7%	
Welsh Outcomes	82.6%	84.3%	86.1%	87.7%	88.6%	89.5%

85.7% of Key Stage 2 pupils that were LAC achieved the Key Stage 2 Core Subject Indicator in 2016/17. This compares favourably with 93.2% of all Monmouthshire pupils and 89.5% of all Wales pupils achieving the Key Stage 2 Core Subject Indicator in 2016/17. LAC Pupils performance in this phase was 7.5% lower than the LA figure

and 3.8% lower than the Welsh Average for Key Stage 2. Of this small cohort, (each pupil is equivalent to 14.3%) all pupils were in mainstream provision but 1 pupil had a statement of additional learning needs. The 3 year rolling average for LAC pupils' outcomes at the end of Key Stage 2 has risen by 9.1 percentage points to 70.6%.

4.3 Key Stage 3- The table for LAC pupils educated in mainstream provision. There were no LAC pupils at Key Stage 3 from the other 3 cohorts identified above.

Academic year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire	33.33%	50%	57.1% (4/7)	66.67% (4/6)	57.14% (4/7)	50% (3/6)
Three year rolling average		35.3% (6/17)	47.3% (9/19)	57.9% (11/19)	60% (12/20)	57.9% (11/19)
LA Outcomes	77.7%	80.3%	84.2%	90.8%	91.9%	92.7%
LA FSM Outcomes	50%	59.6%	66.3%	62.3%	73.1%	
Welsh Outcomes	72.5%	77%	81%	83.9%	85.9%	87.4%

50% of Key Stage 3 pupils that were LAC achieved the Key Stage 3 Core Subject Indicator in 2016/17. This small cohort (6 pupils) is 42.7% lower than the all Monmouthshire figure 92.7% and 37.4% lower than all Wales pupils achieving the Key Stage 3 Core Subject Indicator in 2016/17. Of this small cohort, (each pupil is equivalent to 16.7%) all pupils were in mainstream provision but 1 pupil had a statement of additional learning needs. The 3 year rolling average for LAC pupils' outcomes at the end of Key Stage 2 has fallen slightly by 2.1 percentage points to 65.2%.

4.4 Key Stage 4- Within Key stage 4 there were LAC pupils educated in mainstream provision, ALN provision and PRU/EOTAS provision

Using the current available data this gives the following:-

LAC pupils educated within mainstream in 2016/17 -cohort size 3

Academic year	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire L2+	3/6 50%	2/3 66.7%
Monmouthshire L1	2/6 33.3%	1/3 33.3%
Qualification	1/6 16.7%	
3 year rolling average L2+		
LA Outcomes at L2+	67%	66.1%
LA FSM Outcomes	31%	
Welsh Outcomes	60.3%	

There were 3 LAC pupils educated within mainstream provision, of these, 2/3 66.7% achieved the L2+ indicator and the other pupil achieved the L1 Threshold. The percentage of LAC pupils educated in mainstream achieving the L2+ compares favourably with the overall LA figure but it is acknowledged that this is a very small cohort.

LAC Pupils with a statement of ALN education in specialist provision in 2016/17 –cohort size 1

Academic year	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire L2+	0/2 0%	0/1 0%
Monmouthshire L1	1/2 50%	0/1 0%
Qualification	1/2 50%	0/1 0%
3 year rolling average L2+		
LA Outcomes at L2+	67%	66.1%
Welsh Outcomes	60.3%	

There was 1 LAC pupil educated within highly specialist ALN provision due to their identified educational needs. This pupil had significant ASD and was placed in a highly specialised 52 week provision which provided educational and social care provision. Due to the nature of this pupils' needs and their reluctance to engage with any educational provision and their highly complex social needs they did not achieve a qualification.

LAC pupils educated in PRU/EOTAS provision in 2016/17 cohort size 2

Academic year	2015/16	2016/17
Monmouthshire L2+	0/1 0%	0/2 0%
Monmouthshire L1	0/1 50%	0/2 0%
Qualification	1/1 100%	1/2 50%
3 year rolling average L2+		
LA Outcomes at L2+	67%	66.1%
Welsh Outcomes	60.3%	

There were 2 LAC pupils educated within PRU/EOTAS provision. One who had previously been in specialist ALN provision for their identified needs and was at risk of permanent exclusion from a special school and the Local Authority worked closely with the special school, the Local Authority where he was resident and Monmouthshire's Pupil Referral Service to develop a bespoke provision so that he could complete his formal education and achieve some qualifications. This pupil did achieve a GCSE English

qualification with the support of Monmouthshire’s Pupil Referral Service and his Personal Advisor. The other LAC pupil was at risk of permanent exclusion from his previous school and Local Authority supported him with a managed move to a Monmouthshire School, but he refused to engage and then withdrew from the process. Staff from the PRU together with colleagues from Social Services attempted to engage him by visiting the home, offering sessions in the PRU centre, within a library. However the pupil didn’t engage with any provision other than attend 1 pastoral support meeting during the whole of year 2016-17. He didn’t achieve a qualification despite all staff efforts from both departments.

In summation the overall picture for LAC Key Stage 4 pupils are as follows:-

	L2+	L1	Qualification
Pupils attending mainstream provision	2/3 66.7%	1/3 33.3%	3/3 100% achieved a qualification
Pupils attending Specialist ALN Provision	0/1	0/1	0/1 0% achieved a qualification
Pupils attending EOTAS/PRU	0/2	0/2	1/2 50% achieved a qualification
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Pupils	N/A	N/A	N/A
All LAC	2/6 33.3%	3/6 50%	4/6 66.7%

Attendance and exclusion data is being finalised. However three LAC pupils were at risk of permanent exclusion this year and in all instances this was avoided. Pupils were provided with provision via the Pupil Referral Service and this was undertaken in conjunction with Social Worker, Pupil and the Pupil’s Parents/Carers.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 There is no dedicated LACE Officer with the role being subsumed within the Principal Officer Inclusion’s role. The Principal Officer Inclusion will attend National and SEWC LACE meetings and will also prioritise any individual pupil meetings in relation to:-

- Pupil who are risk of exclusion,
- Pupils who are or have become disengaged
- Pupils placed in specialised provision

5.2 Pupil Referral Service Administrator is currently processing data and is maintaining tracking sheets for LAC pupils. This is in addition to the existing job description and an honorarium is paid for this and other work.

6 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 The Welsh Government has developed funding to target LAC pupils to the SEWC and schools and Local Authorities will need to submit bids to identify how they are going to close the gap between LAC Pupil outcomes and their peers.

6.2 Welsh Government are implementing the revised LAC Strategy which covers LAC pupils, Pupils identified under SGO and adopted pupils. Monmouthshire's Principal Officer Inclusion Chairs the Welsh National Strategic Group

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There is a need to ensure that all staff within schools, CYP and SS Directorates are aware of their Corporate Parenting responsibilities to improve the outcomes of Looked After Children.

8. CONSULTEES:

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Chief Officer Children and Young People

Directorate Management Team Children and Young People

Head of Children's Services Social Care and Health

Management Information Officer Policy and Performance

Administrator Pupil Referral Service

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix A - Raising the ambitions and educational attainment of children who are looked after in Wales- Strategy

Appendix B - Raising the ambitions and educational attainment of children who are looked after in Wales- Plan

10. AUTHOR:

Richard Austin Principal Officer Inclusion

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644559

E-mail: richardaustin@monmouthshire.gov.uk