

**Q4 2022/23 PERFORMANCE REPORT**Education and Children's Social Care Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee**CONTENTS**

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## I. CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY SERVICES

### I.1. Referrals & Re-Referrals

| I.1. Referrals & Re-Referrals |   |                |                | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                    |                        | Current Period |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Ref                           | Indicator Name  | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | 2021/22 Actual               | England            | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23     |
| 1                             | Number of referrals received within the last 12 months                  | 3,164          | 3,616          | 3,285                        | 537.7<br>(2021/22) | 713.4<br>(2021/22)     | <b>2,351</b>   |
|                               | Referrals received within the last 12 months - Rate per 10,000 children | 598.1          | 678.5          | 616.4                        |                    |                        | <b>441.2</b>   |
| 2                             | Number of re-referrals within 12 months (last 12 months)                | 772            | 861            | 743                          | 21.5%<br>(2021/22) | 23.1%<br>(2021/22)     | <b>457</b>     |
|                               | % of re-referrals within 12 months (last 12 months)                     | 24.4%          | 23.8%          | 22.6%                        |                    |                        | <b>19.4%</b>   |

In the 12 months to the end of quarter four, the Initial Response Teams received 2,351 referrals, this is 934 less than the 12 months to March 2022 and 1,265 less than the 12 months to March 2021. At a rate per 10,000 children (enabling comparisons against other authorities) Plymouth is reporting at 441.2 at the end of quarter four. This is lower than Plymouth's published position for 2021/22 (616.4), lower than statistical neighbours and is currently lower than the England average of 537.7.

The proportion of re-referrals received (where a referral had been received for the same child in the 12 months prior) has seen further improvements. The end of quarter four position was reported at 19.4%, down 3.2 percentage points from Plymouth's published 2021/22. Plymouth is currently at a level lower than the 2021/22 published level for its statistical neighbours and the England average.

The recent Ofsted report (published 30 January 2023) identified two priority actions for the 'Front Door' and these are being progressed through a detailed action plan for this part of the service. We continue our partnership work to support partner agencies to think about the different types of support available in our city whilst monitoring the reduction in referrals to ensure we're providing the right support, at the right time.

### I.2. CHILDREN IN NEED

| I.2. CHILDREN IN NEED |   |                |                | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                 |                        | Current Period |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Ref                   | Indicator Name  | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | 2021/22 Actual               | England         | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23     |
| 3                     | Number of children subject to a Child In Need Plan (snapshot)       | 841            | 1,121          | 965                          | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked        | <b>944</b>     |
|                       | Children subject to a Child In Need Plan - Rate per 10,000 children | 159.0          | 210.4          | 181.1                        | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked        | <b>177.1</b>   |

As the table above shows Plymouth's 'Child in Need' caseload (which does not include children subject to Children Protection Plans or Looked after Children) has remained reasonably stable over the last 12 months. The net number of children subject to a Child in Need Plan is currently higher than the level prior to the pandemic but has seen a reduction of 21 children when compared to the end of 2021/22 position.

The number of children subject to a Child In Need Plan is reducing, but there continues to be some pressures including timeliness of assessments which is currently being addressed. The service continues to review all children in need to ensure the right support at the right time for families. The additional resource within the Initial Response Teams to provide early intervention for families has not yet proven to reduce the number of children transferring to the Children Social Work service.

Through its recent quality assurance work, the service has identified seven areas of practice improvement and is currently working on structured plans to support practice development and Team Manager over sight in the Initial Response Team and in Children Social Work to ensure robust, timely care planning for children. The seven areas of practice improvement are:

1. Assessment
2. Plans
3. Supervision
4. Management Oversight
5. Lived experience and voice of the child
6. Domestic Abuse
7. Neglect

### 1.3. CHILDREN SUBJECT TO A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN

| 1.3. CHILDREN SUBJECT TO A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN |  |                |                | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                    | Current Period         |                        |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Ref  | Indicator Name   | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | 2021/22 Actual               | England            | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23             |
| 4  | Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (Snapshot)   | 310            | 333            | 326                          | 42.1<br>(2021/22)  | 53.1<br>(2021/22)      | <b>233</b>             |
|  | Children subject to a Child Protection Plan - Rate per 10,000 children   | 58.6           | 62.5           | 61.2                         |                    |                        | <b>43.7</b>            |
| 5  | Category of abuse for current Child Protection Plan: Neglect   | 53.2%<br>(165) | 50.2%<br>(167) | 51.5%<br>(168)               | Not benchmarked    | Not benchmarked        | <b>45.9%<br/>(107)</b> |
|  | Category of abuse for current Child Protection Plan: Physical Abuse  | 8.7%<br>(27)   | 7.8%<br>(26)   | 7.7%<br>(25)                 | Not benchmarked    | Not benchmarked        | <b>6.4%<br/>(15)</b>   |
|  | Category of abuse for current Child Protection Plan: Sexual Abuse  | 3.9%<br>(12)   | 5.1%<br>(17)   | 3.7%<br>(12)                 | Not benchmarked    | Not benchmarked        | <b>4.3%<br/>(10)</b>   |
|  | Category of abuse for current Child Protection Plan: Emotional Abuse   | 34.2%<br>(106) | 36.9%<br>(123) | 37.1%<br>(121)               | Not benchmarked    | Not benchmarked        | <b>43.3%<br/>(101)</b> |
| 6  | % of children subject to multiple child protection plans - Within lifetime of the child (new plans starting in last 12 months) | 28.8%<br>(96)  | 27.4%<br>(90)  | 27.5%<br>(103)               | 23.3%<br>(2021/22) | 22.9%<br>(2021/22)     | <b>25.7%<br/>(65)</b>  |

At the end of quarter four (31 March 2023) there were 233 children who were subject to a Child Protection Plan. This is a rate of 43.7 children per 10,000 children, which is lower than the published 2021/22 rate of 61.2. The rate per 10,000 children is 1.6 above the England average and remains lower than our Statistical Neighbour average.

The proportion of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan within the 12 months up to quarter four (April 2022 to March 2023), who have been on a previous Child Protection Plan in their lifetime was reported at 25.7%.

This is the lowest level reported since for the last four year end positions but we wish to improve further. During the last 12 months, 65 children/young people have started repeated Child Protection Plans (within their lifetime), this is an improvement on the 103 reported for the reporting year of 2021/22. The current percentage is higher than statistical neighbours and the England average. All local authorities experience repeat child protection planning processes for children.

There is a strong focus on requests for repeat Child Protection Plans with greater oversight by both the Safeguarding Service Manager and the requesting social workers' Service Manager. This provides more consistency and further opportunity to have reflective discussions to ensure that the care plan is right for these children, or whether we can work differently with the family.

This area for improvement is included within the remit of our ongoing Sector Led Improvement Partnership (SLIP) work with Dorset and is the subject of a Practice Learning review by the new service manager.

The service is working with the Plymouth Safeguarding Partnership Board to roll out the 'NSPCC Neglect Graded Care Profile 2 Assessment Tool' to support all staff and volunteers working across the system to identify and improve support for children and young people who may experience neglect.

#### 1.4. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (ALSO REFERRED TO AS CHILDREN IN CARE)

| Ref | Indicator Name  |                |                |                | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                        | Current Period |
|-----|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|     |   | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | 2021/22 Actual | England                      | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23     |
| 7   | Number of children subject to a Care Plan - Looked After Children (Snapshot)  | 434            | 485            | 490            | 70.0<br>(2021/22)            | 94.5<br>(2021/22)      | 501            |
|     | Children subject to a Care Plan - Looked After Children - Rate per 10,000 children                                      | 82.0           | 91.0           | 91.9           |                              |                        | 94.0           |
| 8   | % of Looked After Children placed outside of the city of Plymouth (i.e., the placement is not within PL1 to PL7 or PL9) | 34.9%          | 39.0%          | 38.0%          | Not benchmarked              | Not benchmarked        | 39.9%          |
| 9   | Placement Type: Family Placement (fostering or connected carers)  | 326            | 336            | 325            | Not benchmarked              | Not benchmarked        | 339            |

|   |    |    |    |                 |                 |           |
|---|----|----|----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Placement Type: Children's Homes & Residential Care                       | 36 | 53 | 56 | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>57</b> |
| Placement Type: Hostels & other Supportive accommodation                  | 23 | 31 | 33 | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>48</b> |
| Placement Type: Lodgings or Independent living (16+)                      | 18 | 12 | 16 | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>x</b>  |
| Placement Type: Other Placement   | x  | x  | x  | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>5</b>  |
| Placement Type: Placed for Adoption                                       | 12 | 25 | 24 | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>18</b> |
| Placement Type: Placed with Parents                                       | 13 | 25 | 28 | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>32</b> |
| Placement Type: Other accommodation - NHS, Family Centres, Parent & Child | 5  | 6  | 7  | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>x</b>  |
| Placement Type: Secure Units  | x  | x  | x  | Not benchmarked | Not benchmarked | <b>x</b>  |

On the 31 March 2023, there were 501 children/young people who are children in care. This is an increase of 11 children on the published figure for 2021/22 and 16 more children than the end of 2020/21 position. Unlike the levels of children subject to a Child in Need Plan and Child Protection Plan that have seen reductions, the net number of children in care has plateaued at around 490 to 500.

301 (60.1%) of children in care are placed within the city, the remaining 200 children (39.9%) placed outside of the city. This measure is simply based on the postcode of the child's placement address. Those not within PL1 to PL7 or PL9 are considered outside of the city. For example, PL12 refers to Saltash in Cornwall (potentially be less than a mile from a child's home address), but it is outside of Plymouth. Using information being developed, approximately 73.5% of children in care are placed within 20 miles of their home address.

We're strongly focused on ensuring that children and young people at risk of care are provided with a supportive response so they can remain with their families if possible. We know that this is not working well enough and as such is under review for further development. This work sits alongside the progression of offering intensive support for children to be reunited with their immediate or extended family network where this is in their best interest. We are developing our services so children can benefit from placement choice and reduce our use of residential care, keeping children in family homes wherever possible.

*Please note: where the number of children is below five, the actual figure is suppressed and shows 'x'.*

**1.5. CARE EXPERIENCED (ALSO REFERRED TO AS CARE LEAVERS)**

| Ref | Indicator Name   | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                 |                        | Current Period        |
|-----|--|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|     |  |                |                | 2021/22 Actual               | England         | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23            |
| 10  | % of Care Experienced young people in Unsuitable Accommodation (Statutory Service (aged 18 to 20))               | Not available  | 9.6% (17/178)  | 6.1% (11/181)                | 12.0% (2021/22) | 11.6% (2021/22)        | <b>4.1% (8/192)</b>   |
| 11  | % of Care Experienced young people in Education, Employment and Training (Statutory Service (EET aged 18 to 20)) | Not available  | 52.8% (94/178) | 56.4% (102/181)              | 55.0% (2021/22) | 55.7% (2021/22)        | <b>50.0% (96/192)</b> |

Plymouth's quarter four figure shows that the proportion of Care Experienced young people in unsuitable accommodation was at a lower level than the statistical neighbour and England averages (as published 2021/22).

Those in Education, Employment and Training were reported at a level circa 5.0 to 5.7 percentage points lower than our comparators.

In May 2023, PCC voted to treat care experience as a protected characteristic. This has built on the PCC Care Leaver Covenant signed in June 2022 and strengthened the expectation on each directorate to create or increase opportunities for care experienced individuals to access work experience, apprenticeships or employment where their care experience may have impacted educational outcomes.

The increase in Personal Advisors in the service is supporting this work and the plan to increase social worker capacity in the permanence service along with a stronger practice focus, will support earlier stability and better education outcomes for all children in care.

Our hypothesis is that intensive and sustained support, motivation and reward will increase the preparedness of young people to find their pathway back into education, training or employment and to sustain this in the longer term. To test this hypothesis, we have designed a 'Seeking Education, Employment and Training' (SEET) pilot incentive scheme for Care Leavers which will be piloted in the autumn of 2023.

Children's Services are in the process finalising the city wide 'NEET' strategy called 'Unlocking the Plymouth's potential', with the aim of moving young people from 'NEET' to 'SEET' through to EET'.

The directorate is working closely with the Skills for Plymouth and SEND partners response to ensure all care experienced young people have the opportunity to engage in education, training and employment. A SEND Employability Fast Track Residential scheme has been developed in response to young people's feedback and will be piloted in July/August 2023 with a cohort of 10 care leavers (aged 19-24).

## 2. EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND SKILLS

### 2.1. OFSTED OUTCOMES

| Ref | Indicator Name   | 2019/20 Actual                  | 2020/21 Actual                  | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                       |                        | Current Period |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|     |  |                                 |                                 | 2021/22 Actual               | England               | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23     |
| 1   | % of all schools judged by Ofsted as good or outstanding                       | Inspections paused due to COVID | Inspections paused due to COVID | 76.0%                        | 89.0% (December 2022) | 84.6% (December 2022)  | <b>76.5%</b>   |
| 2   | % of pupils attending Plymouth schools judged by Ofsted as good or outstanding | Inspections paused due to COVID | Inspections paused due to COVID | 77.1%                        | Not benchmarked       | Not benchmarked        | <b>81.0%</b>   |

There are 98 state-funded schools in Plymouth and at the end of quarter four, 81.0% of pupils are attending a school judged as good or outstanding in our city; this is an increase of 2.2 percentage points on the previous quarter. When we break this figure down in to the rate of pupils attending primary or secondary schools, we can see that 85.0% of pupils are attending primary schools rated as good or better (compared to 84.3% at the end of quarter three) and 74.0% of pupils are attending secondary schools that are rated as good or better (compared to 73.8% at the end of quarter three).

The phase improvement partnerships, including Early Years, Primary/Special, and Plymouth Strategic (Secondary) Education Group, continue to provide momentum for the place based approach for school improvements, reporting directly to the Plymouth Education Board and the Regional Director. Overall the proportion of actual schools rated good or better by Ofsted has increased to 76.5% by March 2023 (end of Q4 2022/23).

### 2.2. ABSENCE MONITORING

| Ref | Indicator Name   | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Actual | Previous Year & Benchmarking |         |                        | Current Period |
|-----|--|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------|
|     |  |                |                | 2021/22 Actual               | England | Statistical Neighbours | 2021/22        |
| 3   | % of overall absence in all schools  | Not reported   | 4.9%           | 8.8%                         | 7.6%    | -                      | <b>8.8%</b>    |
| 4   | % of persistent absence (less than 90% attendance) in all schools  | Not reported   | 12.9%          | 28.1%                        | 22.5%   | -                      | <b>28.1%</b>   |
| 5   | % of persistent absence (less than 90% attendance) of pupils with Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) | Not reported   | 38.8%          | 45.0%                        | 36.9%   | -                      | <b>45.0%</b>   |

Previously, the information provided in this report was from the "Attendance in education settings during the COVID-19 pandemic" national survey. The survey was introduced at speed to obtain attendance data in response to the pandemic and replaced the school absence reporting pre-COVID. This survey is now requested fortnightly and is not mandatory. Schools are now re-focused back to school absence reporting.

The information provided above is provided from the Department for Education "Absence rates" collection. This is a statutory return completed on a termly basis. The latest available report is for the 2021/22 full academic year.

Local unvalidated data shows that the overall absence rate at the end of quarter four has reduced to 8.2%; persistent absence rate of all pupils has reduced to 24.4% and the persistent absence rate for pupils with an EHCP reduced to 41.0%. The indication is that this will have a positive impact on our end of 2022/23 academic year performance.

The strengthened education improvement partnership between the local authority, trusts and schools continues to provide momentum for the place based school improvement approach reporting directly to the Plymouth Education Board and the Regional Director.

The new national Attendance expectations for local authorities, multi academy trusts and schools is reshaping the work done by each of these partners with regard to attendance. Plymouth City Council are working with schools to implement this for September 2023. The new duties focus the work of school and families towards direct engagement with their families and focuses the work of the local authority towards strategic oversight, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups and children with SEND.

There is a city wide campaign set up for the start of the Autumn term 2023 which will promote strong attendance. Attendance is a key focus for all schools. Multi agency work to support those pupils who are severely absent is a focus for the locality work.

### 2.3. EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

| 2.3. EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING |  |             |             | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                    |                        | Current Period |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Ref                                     | Indicator Name   | 2020 Actual | 2021 Actual | 2022 Actual                  | England            | Statistical Neighbours | Q4 2022/23     |
| 6                                       | % of 16 and 17 year olds in Education, Employment and Training           | 92.1%       | 92.1%       | 91.1%                        | 92.5% (Q4 2022/23) | Not benchmarked        | <b>89.8%</b>   |
| 7                                       | % of 16 and 17 year olds with SEND in Education, Employment and Training | 87.7%       | 83.1%       | 83.2%                        | 88.7% (Q4 2022/23) | Not benchmarked        | <b>84.8%</b>   |

At the end of quarter four 2022/23, 92.5% of 16 and 17 year olds were participating in Education, Employment, and/or Training (EET). This is 1.1 percentage points higher than the EET figures at the end of quarter four in 2021/22 (91.4%).

At the end of quarter four 2022/23, 84.8% of young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities are in education, training and/or employment. This is 1.9 percentage points above the EET figures reported at the end of 2021/22 (82.9%).

This is an area of focus for the Participation and Skills areas of EPS in Plymouth City Council. A number of initiatives are under way to extend the options available to 16-25 year olds with EHCPs which includes growing the number of Supported Internships, Supported Apprenticeships, paid and



unpaid volunteering placements and the newly developed 'Your Future' 5 Work readiness programme which includes a one week residential delivered by On Course South West.

#### 2.4. KEY STAGE 4 OUTCOMES

| Ref | Indicator Name  | 2019 Actual | 2020 Actual | Previous Year & Benchmarking |                    |                        | Current Period     |
|-----|---|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
|     |   |             |             | 2021 Actual                  | England            | Statistical Neighbours | 2022 Actual        |
| 8   | Key Stage 4 - % of pupils achieving 5+ in English and Maths | 37.6%       | 47.1%       | 51.9%                        | 46.6% (2022)       | 47.7% (2022)           | <b>45.9%</b>       |
| 9   | Key Stage 4 - Average Attainment 8 score                    | 43.7 points | 48.5 points | 50.5 Points                  | 47.1 points (2022) | 47.7 points (2022)     | <b>47.5 points</b> |

The 2021/22 academic year saw the return of the summer exam series, after they had been cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the transition back to the summer exam series, adaptations were made to the exams (including advance information) and the approach to grading for 2022 exams broadly reflected a midpoint between results in 2019 and 2021. In 2021/22, 45.9% of pupils achieved the 'basics' (5+ in English and Maths). This sits below the national (46.6%), statistical neighbour (47.7%) and regional (49.2%) averages published by the Department for Education. The average Attainment 8 Score was 47.5 points this is above the national average of 47.1 points but below the statistical neighbour (47.7 points) and regional (48.7 points) averages. The strengthened education improvement partnerships continue to provide momentum for the place based approach for secondary school improvements, reporting directly to the Plymouth Education Board and the Regional Director.

### 3. ANNEX 1: INDICATOR DEFINITIONS

| <b>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>   |
|---|
| <p><b>Referrals &amp; Re-Referrals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where concerns about a child have been raised to Children, Young People and Family Services, once the initial contact has been screened by our multi-agency hub, if appropriate, referrals will be accepted.</li> <li>The rate of referrals per 10,000 children is based on the number of referrals received in the 12 month period divided by the number of children aged 0 to 17 in the city (ONS estimate this at 53,291 for Mid-2021) multiplied by 10,000. This gives a rate that can be benchmarked against other authorities.</li> <li>A re-referral is where we receive a new referral for a child within 12 months of a previous referral. The indicator is based on a rolling 12 month period (e.g., 01 December to 30 November).</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Children In Need - CIN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the purposes of this report, the number of children within the CIN cohort are those that have been assessed as being in need (but not CP or LAC) and the number of children who are in the process of being assessed to understand their level of need.</li> <li>The rate of CIN per 10,000 children is based on the number of CIN at the end of the period divided by the number of children aged 0 to 17 in the city (ONS estimate this at 53,291 for Mid-2021) multiplied by 10,000. This gives a rate that can be benchmarked against other authorities.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Children subject to a Child Protection Plan - CP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Child Protection Plan should assess the likelihood of the child suffering harm and look at ways that the child can be protected. It should decide upon short and long term aims to reduce the likelihood of harm to the child and to protect the child's welfare, clarify people's responsibilities and actions to be taken; and outline ways of monitoring and evaluating progress.</li> <li>The rate of CP per 10,000 children is based on the number of CP at the end of the period divided by the number of children aged 0 to 17 in the city (ONS estimate this at 53,291 for Mid-2021) multiplied by 10,000. This gives a rate that can be benchmarked against other authorities.</li> <li>There are four categories for a Child Protection Plan; Neglect, Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse and Emotional Abuse. The table shows the number and proportion under each category.</li> <li>The % of children subject to multiple child protection plans is the proportion of new Child Protection Plan starting within the period, that are for a child who has had a previous Child Protection Plan at any time in the child's lifetime. The indicator is based on a rolling 12 month period (e.g., the proportion of new Child Protection Plans that started in 01 December to 30 November).</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Looked After Children (also referred to as Children In Care) - LAC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The table shows the number of Looked After Children at the end of the reporting period.</li> <li>The rate of LAC per 10,000 children is based on the number of LAC at the end of the period divided by the number of children aged 0 to 17 in the city (ONS estimate this at 53,291 for Mid-2021) multiplied by 10,000. This gives a rate that can be benchmarked against other authorities.</li> <li>The proportion of placements outside of the city is simply based on the postcode of the child's placement address. Those not within PL1 to PL7 or PL9 are considered outside of the city. For example, PL12 refers to Saltash in Cornwall, which could potentially be less than a mile from a child's home address, but it is outside of Plymouth.</li> <li>The figures provided for the placement types follow the Department for Education and Ofsted definitions, grouping multiple types into nine groups (for example, Family Placements contains six different placement types).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Care Experienced (also referred to as Care Leavers)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is deemed as 'Unsuitable' accommodation has been defined by the Department for Education. The following are examples of unsuitable accommodation: Bed and Breakfast / Emergency Accommodation, Prison, Temporary/No fixed abode/Street Homeless, Unknown/Not in Touch.</li> <li>The proportion of Care Experienced young people in Education, Employment and Training is based on our statutory service and therefore covers those young people ages 18 to 20. Whilst we work with Care Experienced young people aged 21 to 24, support is optional for the young person.</li> <li>Please note: The figures are likely to be different to the published Department for Education figures as they look at the age of the young person during the year at the period around their birthday and not at a specific snapshot.</li> </ul>   |

## EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND SKILLS

### Ofsted Outcomes

Ofsted is responsible for inspecting schools and other social care services for children. There are four possible Ofsted ratings that a school can receive; Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement or Inadequate. These Ofsted grades are based on inspectors' judgements across four Ofsted categories – quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development of pupils, leadership and management as set out under the [Ofsted framework 2019](#).

### Absence Monitoring

It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school. Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. Some pupils find it harder than others to attend school and therefore at all stages of improving attendance, schools and partners should work with pupils and parents to remove any barriers to attendance as set out in [Working together to improve school attendance](#).

### Education, Employment or Training

The law requires all young people in England to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday, although in practice the vast majority of young people continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18. The responsibility and accountability for young people not in education, employment and training (NEET) lies with the local authority and is set out in [Participation Statutory Guidance](#). The Department for Education (DfE) monitors the performance of local authorities in delivering their duties, and specifically in their tracking and supporting of 16 and 17 year olds.

### Key Stage Four Outcomes

Key Stage 4 (KS4) is the legal term for the two years of school education which incorporate GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education). During this time, pupils must follow relevant programmes of study from the National Curriculum. At the end of this stage, pupils are entered for a range of external examinations. Following a phased introduction since 2017, GCSEs taken in 2020 and 2021 are all reformed GCSEs graded on a 9-1 scale. Two particular measures are commonly reported on at key stage four:

- percentage pupils achieving 5-9s at English and Maths GCSE in the city, and
- average Attainment 8 scores achieved by schools across the city.

**Attainment 8** is calculated by adding together pupils' highest scores across eight government approved school subjects. While these numbers are not made publicly available on a pupil-by-pupil basis, scores taken from across a school year group are averaged to produce a school's overall score. The eight subjects are divided into three categories, called "buckets":

- Bucket 1 - English and maths, which are worth double marks, but English will only count for double marks if both English literature and English (i.e., English language) are taken. The higher grade of the two is used;
- Bucket 2 – The top three scores from the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects taken, i.e. sciences, computer science, history, geography and languages;
- Bucket 3 – The top three scores from remaining EBacc subjects or other government approved qualifications (e.g., other GCSEs or Level 2 Certificates in some technical subjects).

The grades are converted into points, put through a formula and finally out comes the school's Attainment 8 score.