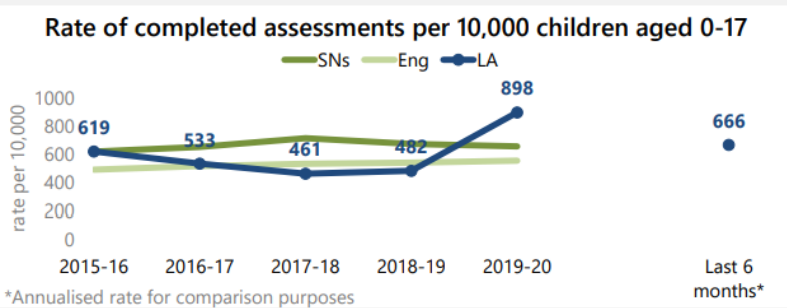


Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Scrutiny Monitoring – 4 November 2021

Date	Title	Action proposed	Action Taken	Progress Status															
17/06/21	Ofsted Focused Letter	1) That the Cabinet Member for Education lobbies the Government, on behalf of the Council, to give local authorities additional powers with regards to the oversight of elected home educated children.	The Cabinet Member has received a briefing from the Head of Education and Early Years on Elected Home Education.	Partially complete															
30/09/21	Educational Attainment	1) That the Executive Director engages with the leadership of Oasis Community Learning to encourage them to reverse their policy not to share school attainment data with local authorities.	The Executive Director is working with the Head of Service for Education regarding the engagement plan for senior leaders to discuss the issues with Oasis Academy Learning.	Partially complete															
		2) That, if available, the Panel are provided with an overview of the disparity between KS4/5 projected and awarded grades at Southampton schools and colleges.	Given the nature of this year's exams which involved teacher assessed grades (TAGs) it is unlikely that there will be much disparity between what the schools submitted and the grade awarded. The only situation where this might arise is where a grade is moderated down because it was felt the marks were too generous. There is no evidence that this has occurred within Southampton.	Complete															
		3) That the latest available school attendance data for Southampton schools is circulated to the Panel.	Data provided by Education Welfare Service Manager below: <table border="1" data-bbox="1137 1023 1798 1370"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Overall absence</th> <th>Persistent absence</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Primary</td> <td>4.0%</td> <td>10.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary</td> <td>6.9%</td> <td>19.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Special</td> <td>14.2%</td> <td>46.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PRU (Compass) (85 enrolments)</td> <td>51.9%</td> <td>84.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Overall absence	Persistent absence	Primary	4.0%	10.3%	Secondary	6.9%	19.3%	Special	14.2%	46.5%	PRU (Compass) (85 enrolments)	51.9%	84.7%	Complete
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4) That available KS4 attainment data for Southampton children who were home educated is circulated to the Panel.	Unfortunately, this information is not available to the LA and it is not clear whether the DfE collect the data. There is no lawful basis for requesting the information from parents	Complete																	

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			because these children are not educated by the LA and examinations are not a service the local authority provides for this cohort of children.	
		5) That, to develop understanding of the attainment of Southampton's care experiencing children and young people, the Virtual School Annual Headteacher Report is circulated to the Panel.	Report circulated – 01/10/21	Complete
30/09/21	Post 16 Provision and Participation	1) That analysis is undertaken of Post 16 performance to identify the reasons behind the attainment gap, particularly the achievement of A*/A grades, between Southampton FE providers and national performance.	More able students tend to leave Southampton to study at Barton Peveril and Peter Symonds, or Eastleigh. Until there is independent validation of the quality of provision at the post 16 providers this situation has the potential to continue.	Complete
		2) That, in addition to seeking to learn from best practice in reducing NEET levels, officers liaise with Bristol City Council and Coventry City Council to identify how they were able to reduce NEET levels during the pandemic.	The Service Manager – Education Strategy, Planning and Improvement has contacted Bristol and Coventry to discuss successful strategies. A meeting with Bristol has been set up. Awaiting a response from Coventry.	Complete
		3) That analysis is undertaken to improve our understanding of the reasons behind the rise in NEETs between Yr12 and Yr13 in Southampton.	The Service Manager – Education Strategy, Planning and Improvement has initiated conversations with Southampton college Principals to gain a better understanding of factors at play. It will take some time to undertake this piece of research and CF suggests reporting back to Scrutiny in March 2022 (in part due to data cycles).	Complete
		4) That the Panel are provided with data that enables comparisons to be made between the level of 'unknowns' in Southampton and other areas.	Information attached as Appendix 2	Complete
30/09/21	Performance	1) That feedback is provided on the relatively high levels of missing children in August 2021 in comparison to August 2020. (EH5-QL)	The current data does not differentiate between Southampton children and other local authority children placed in the area. The Panel has previously heard that the	Complete

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			<p>data will become more accurate with the implementation of Care Director.</p> <p>A manual check by the Missing, Exploited, Trafficked (MET) team manager has identified that there is a small increase in Southampton children (45 in August 2021, in comparison to 42 in August 2020).</p>																													
		<p>2) The number of Single Assessments completed has been low compared to other similar areas. As posed by the commentary (EH3), the Panel want clarity as to whether the figure is a reflection that our Early Help offer is working well to prevent risk with families escalating, or, that professionals are not aware of some families in need and are therefore not referring them into the service.</p>	<p>Referring to the rate of assessments completed, we can see that Southampton is moving to a comparable position with statistical neighbours:</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="1144 528 1928 837"> <caption>Rate of completed assessments per 10,000 children aged 0-17</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>SNs</th> <th>Eng</th> <th>LA</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015-16</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>619</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-17</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>533</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-18</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>461</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018-19</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>482</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-20</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>898</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last 6 months*</td> <td>~500</td> <td>~500</td> <td>666</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Annualised rate for comparison purposes</p> <p>Data source: CHAT tool October 2021.</p> <p>The service assessment is that access to early help services and the quality of assessments needs to be more robust and this is reflected in the Early Help element of the Destination 22 programme. The Scrutiny Panel will receive a presentation on Destination 22 on 26th November 2021.</p>	Year	SNs	Eng	LA	2015-16	~500	~500	619	2016-17	~500	~500	533	2017-18	~500	~500	461	2018-19	~500	~500	482	2019-20	~500	~500	898	Last 6 months*	~500	~500	666	Complete
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