

CORPORATE PARENTING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY JOINT SUB-COMMISSION 30 September 2009

Report of the Corporate Director for Children & Young People

Provisional Results of Children in Care 2009 Years 6 and 11

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 Commission is asked to receive further information about last year's Year 6 cohort Key Stage 2 SATS results, the information about the provisional Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs results for Children in Care for 2009, and a trends comparison from 2003.
- 1.2 Commission is asked to receive the information about the provisional Year 11 GCSE and equivalent results for Children in Care for 2009 and a trends comparison from 2003.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1 At the July meeting of this Commission, further information was requested about the Key Stage 2 results for Children in Care in 2008. These had shown a dip in performance, particularly in English, when compared with previous years. (See table in 2.3). When examined further, the figures illustrate how individual circumstances within small cohorts can greatly affect the percentages. There were only 16 in the cohort, lower than any of the previous 6 years, the largest cohort being 25 in 2002. Of the 16, two had statements under SEN provisions and nine were at school action plus.

In English, in which only 31% achieved the nationally expected grade of level 4 or above for eleven year olds, there were 16 children:

1 wasn't entered (at a special school), 4 were below National Curriculum levels (2 at special schools), 1 was missing at the test, and 1 was absent. Of the remaining 9, 2 achieved level 5, 3 achieved level 4, and 4 achieved level 3. The missing child for English was the only one in the cohort to also miss more than 25 days of school, and was below National Curriculum level in Maths, but achieved a level 3 in Science. The other child absent for English achieved level 5 in both the other subjects.

One child achieved level 5 in all 3 subjects, and one achieved level 5 in English and Science with a 4 in Maths.

2.2 The table in 2.3 shows the Key Stage 2 English, maths and science results of Derby's Children in Care from 2003 to 2008, and includes the provisional results for 2009. These are provisional because the actual 2009 cohort to be measured in the return may change and the results themselves have yet to be fully validated.

Derby's percentages are in the shaded rows with comparator authority and national percentages underneath.

2.3	Percentage that achieved level 4 or above (National expected level)		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 prov'l
	English	Derby	55	36.8	42.1	50	72.2	31	46
	English	LAs	40.3	40.6	44	43.3	53.6	45.3	unknown
	English	Nat'l	37.1	39.9	42.1	42.8	45.9	46	unknown
	Maths	Derby	50	31.6	31.6	45	61.1	44	55
	Maths	LAs	37	36.3	40	41.3	45.8	50	unknown
	Maths	Nat'l	34.8	37.2	37.6	40.9	43.4	44	unknown
	Science	Derby	55	52.6	57.9	60	72.2	69	67
	Science	LAs	53.3	53.2	55	55.8	64.4	64	unknown
	Science	Nat'l	52.9	53	53.4	57.2	58.8	60	unknown

- 2.4 In the 2009 Year 6 cohort there are 24 children (provisional) and the percentage achieving level 4 or above in English and Maths is an improvement on last year. In English, 1 child achieved level 5 and 10 achieved level 4, with 4 children below National Curriculum levels. In Maths, 3 children achieved level 5 and 10 achieved level 4, with 4 children below National Curriculum levels. With only one child achieving level 5 in both English and Maths, this would suggest that by applying expected progression to this cohort, only one child would be likely to achieve five A*-C GCSEs including English and Maths in Year 11 in five years' time. English is broken up into Reading, Writing and Speaking & Listening, and in the Reading test 5 of our children achieved level 5. In Science, 5 children achieved level 5 with 11 achieving level 4 and 3 were below National Curriculum levels.
- 2.5 The following table shows the Year 11 results trend for Children in Care in Derby, comparator authorities and nationally, from 2003 to 2008, and the provisional GCSE and equivalent results for the 2009 Year 11 cohort of Children in Care provisional because the actual 2009 cohort to be measured in the return may change, and some of the results themselves are currently provisional. Derby's percentages are in the shaded rows with comparator authority and national percentages underneath.

GCSE (and equivalent) results – percentages		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 prov'l
At least 1 GCSE	Derby	55.2	58.8	62.1	67.7	64.3	69	88.2
At least 1 GCSE	LAs	53.6	54.0	60	62	61.8	66	unknown
At least 1 GCSE	Nat'l	52.9	56.0	60.2	63.2	63.7	66	unknown
At least 5 A*-Gs	Derby	27.6	44.1	44.8	51.6	42.9	54	52.9
At least 5 A*-Gs	LAs	40	39.2	39	42.6	41.9	46	unknown
At least 5 A*-Gs	Nat'l	36.8	39.4	40.7	41.4	43.1	43	unknown
At least 5A*-Cs	Derby	6.9	5.9	10.3	0	10.7	12	11.8
At least 5A*-Cs	LAs	n/a	0	5.0	14.5	11.5	13	unknown
At least 5A*-Cs	Nat'l	8.7	9.4	10.8	11.8	12.6	14	unknown
At least 5A*-Cs including English and Maths - Derby		unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	8	5.9

2.7 Only 4 young people of this year's cohort of 34 (provisional) have failed to achieve at least one GCSE at grade A*-G, or equivalent qualification, and two of these have learning disabilities and have achieved qualifications at their own expected levels at special schools. This performance of 88.2% shows a marked improvement in ensuring that a greater number of our young people in care are engaged in learning. This year and last, two of each year's cohort achieved 5A*-C including English and Maths. A further two this year achieved 5A*-C or equivalent not including English and Maths (one last year). In addition to the Year 11 results shown, a gifted and talented child in care during Year 9 in 2009 has already achieved 3 GCSE grades at grade C and above, and we have been told so far of one A level student in Year 13 who has achieved 2 A grades and 1 B grade at A level and will be going to university.

For more information contact: Keith Woodthorpe, Assistant Director CYPD, telephone 711240

Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 - Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None.

Legal

2. The Children's Act 2004 and the "Care Matters" green paper require Local Authorities to meet the needs of Children in care and to ensure that their potential is maximised.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities impact

4. Children in care are amongst the most vulnerable children in society.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. This information supports the Council's priority of 'supporting everyone in learning and achieving'.