

MEETING - Corporate Parenting Board Date – 30th July 2019



Report sponsor: Andy Smith Strategic Director Report author: Graeme Ferguson Virtual School Head teacher

Report on Children in Care (CiC) Missing Education

Purpose

1.1 This report provides an update on the numbers of Derby City CiC who do not have a school place and the reasons for this

Recommendation

2.1 To note the numbers of CiC missing education and agree the appropriateness of the actions taken to date to minimise the time a pupil is without a school place

Reason

3.1 CiC pupils are supported by the Virtual School, social workers, the SEND team, admissions and the New Communities Achievement team to access education as quickly as possible.

Supporting information

4.1 On a daily basis the number of looked after children who are not accessing education is monitored. The numbers of pupils without a school place varies due to pupils coming into care and care placement moves. Throughout this year on average 2-3% of pupils at any one time can be without a school place. In July 2019 this equated to 11 pupils.

Of these 11 pupils:

- 5 pupils were Y11 UASC coming into care after since January
- 3 pupils with EHCP awaiting suitable provision
- 2 pupils in Y11 who have given birth
- 1 pupil in Y7 who has come into care and moved out of the area
- 4.2 All pupils who do not have a school place are offered appropriate 1 to 1 tuition until a school place can be found.

- 4.3 The Virtual School, social workers and SEND teams work very hard to ensure pupils are found appropriate education as soon as possible.
- 4.4 CiC pupils without any SEND needs are admitted to schools very quickly and there is usually very little delay or disruption to education. When a CiC pupil with SEND needs requires a school place there are statutory timelines and consultation processes which need to be adhered to. This ensures that the educational establishment can meet the needs of the pupil.
- 4.5 When a CiC pupil has significant learning difficulties schools who are being consulted can say they cannot meet the needs of the pupil. This can cause delay in the pupil accessing education as further schools will need to be consulted. There may also be a lack of specialist provision in the area where the pupil is being carer for.
- 4.6 In a few instances where a school says they are full or cannot meet the needs of the pupil the local authority has directed the school to take the pupil on roll.
- 4.7 In a few instances where a school says they are full or cannot meet the needs of the pupil the local authority has directed the school to take the pupil on roll.
- 4.8 At all times when a pupil is out of school appropriate risk assessments are undertaken to safeguard the pupil when accessing one to one tuition.

Public/stakeholder engagement

5.1 NA

Other options

6.1 NA

Financial and value for money issues

7.1 NA

Legal implications

8.1 NA

Other significant implications

9.1 NA

This report has been approved by the following people:

Dele		
Role	Name	Date of sign-off

Legal Finance Service Director(s) Report sponsor Other(s)

Pauline Anderson Andy Smith

15.07.19