

From: Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education.
Matt Dunkley, CBE, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education.

To: Corporate Parenting Panel – 25th July 2019

Subject: Narrowing the attainment gap between Children in Care and their peers.

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report provides Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel with an overview of 2018 Summer Examination results in relation to narrowing the gap in attainment and accelerating progress for Kent Children in Care. It also gives an insight into how the Virtual School effectively tracks and monitors data down to an individual level.

Recommendation: The Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to **NOTE** the work of the Virtual School Kent in promoting the attainment and progress of its children and young people in care.

1. Introduction

1.1 VSK continually strive towards 'diminishing the difference' in attainment and progress for Children in Care (CIC) in Kent in comparison to their CIC peers nationally. This report includes the verified SATs and GCSE data from Summer 2018 which reflects the measurable achievements of each 'eligible' Kent CIC in year 6 and 11 and incorporates the NEXUS results on the national picture for CIC so that comparisons/gaps are able to be viewed. The last section looks at how VSK measures attainment and progress for each child through their education over time.

1.2 It is important to recognise that outcomes for CIC for attainment in particular, are viewed as being 'cohort specific'. CIC are recognised as a very transient group - some may have been supported by VSK for many years, whereas others may have been supported for just a year before they take exams. This makes year on year attainment analysis more complex and so it is important to acknowledge the progress indicators that reflect how children have performed in comparison to their own starting points and how VSK support has made positive impact since coming into care.

2. End of Key stage 2 results Summer 2018 – Headlines

- Kent CIC achieved a **greater Combined Score** than the National figure for CIC (*CLA is the term used in Nexus data*).
- There is an **improvement** where 35.6% of Kent CIC achieved the Expected Standard at Combined in Summer 2017 this was 35.8% in summer 2018
- Progress for Kent CIC in **Reading** from end of KS1 to End of KS2 was significantly better than the National CLA figure (-0.13 compared to -0.62)
- A greater % of Kent CIC had a progress score of > or equal to 0 in Reading than **learners in all Kent schools**
- Kent CIC achieved **above** the National CLA score in Writing and had a greater % of children achieving the 'Higher' indicator; Progress in Writing was almost in line with the National CLA figure.

- Kent CIC achieved less than the National CLA figure for GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) – and similarly in Maths, although a greater % of our children achieved the ‘Higher’ indicator in Maths. Maths attainment and progress is confirmed as a specific area for developing Kent primary CIC attainment and progress.

3. End of Key stage 4 Results Summer 2018 – Headlines

- Kent CIC’s Average P8 (Progress 8) Measure was -1.09 and the National CLA figure was -1.18 in Summer 2017. This means that our children made better progress than National CLA. In summer 2018 Kent CIC achieved an **improved** P8 score of -1.04 and the National CLA figure was -1.24. This reflects that the gap between Kent CIC and National CLA is **widening in Kent CIC’s favour** (from 0.09 to 0.2)
- Kent CIC achieved a significantly better **Attainment 8** score than the National CLA at the end of KS4
- Additionally, Kent CIC achieved year on year trend improvements against last year **in every indicator*** and also the same against the National CLA data
- In Maths, Kent CIC **outperformed** National CLA in Attainment and Progress Scores
- In English, Kent CIC were in line with the National CLA figures for Attainment and Progress Scores
- Kent CIC outperformed National CLA in EBACC and in ‘Other’ subject Attainment and Progress scores.
- A greater % of Kent CIC achieved **5 or more GCSEs including English and Maths** than the National CLA

4. Additional Information - How do VSK measure and judge attainment and progress for each child?

4.1 The new Kent Personal Education Plan (PEP) gathers attainment and progress data **three times** each academic year for each individual child/young person. Each child/young person’s attainment and progress is described using terms in line with national expectations e.g. Accelerated, Expected, Working Towards are some of the drop-down terms. This enables VSK Asst Heads to have a clear **standardised** report on all the children in their cohort and use it to effectively plan support for them.

4.2 The new Kent PEP also tracks through time an individual child’s steps towards achieving Expected Standards in achievement and progress for National Indicators. This enables gaps/needs to be identified and **action planning** to be implemented as part of early intervention. The new Kent PEP enables reporting for each child at the end of their Key Stage and a **longitudinal picture** of each child’s achievement through their education to be built.

5. Summary

5.1 Kent are leading the way in Progress 8. The gap between Kent CIC and National CLA has actually widened at the end of Key stage 4 with not only better progress scores for our children but an improving gap over the last 2 years (not a narrowing of the gap).

5.2 In KS2 there are some remarkable achievements for our children, for example where a greater % of Kent CIC had a progress score of > or equal to 0 in Reading than **learners in all Kent schools**.

5.3 Gap and trend analysis indicates a need for VSK to develop an increased strategic focus on Maths attainment and progress at end of Key Stage 2 as a next step. A Task and Finish Group has recently been created for this purpose.

6. Recommendation: The Corporate Parenting Panel is asked to **NOTE** the work of the Virtual School Kent in promoting the education achievement and progress of its children and young people in care.

7. Background Documents

None

8. Contact Details

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Appendix of results for summer 2018
END OF KEY STAGE 2
Attainment - Combined Measure

Performance for each group against indicator	Reading, Writing and Maths Combined - % achieving Expected	Reading, Writing and Maths Combined – % achieving Higher than Expected
KENT CIC	35.8	4.5
NATIONAL CLA	35	2

Individual Measures

Performance for each group against indicator	READING - % achieving Expected or above	READING - % achieving Higher than Expected	WRITING (Teacher Assessed) % achieving Expected or above	WRITING (Teacher Assessed) % achieving Greater Depth	GPS % achieving Expected or above	GPS % achieving Higher than Expected	MATHS - % achieving Expected or above	MATHS % achieving Higher than Expected
KENT CIC	47.9	16.9	49.3	7.5	38	9.9	38	9.9
NATIONAL CLA	51	14	49	6	50	14	47	8

(GPS - Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling)

Progress Measures

Performance for each group against indicator	Cohort size	READING % Progress Score > or equal to 0	READING Average Progress Score	WRITING % Progress Score > or equal to 0	WRITING Average Progress Score	MATHS % Progress Score > or equal to 0	MATHS Average Progress Score
KENT CIC	71	53.3	-0.13	44.4	-0.92	45	-1.78
NATIONAL CLA	3110	50	-0.62	50	-0.82	48	-0.76

END OF KEY STAGE 4

Overall Measures for Attainment and Progress

Performance for each group against indicator	Cohort size	Average A8 (Attainment 8)	Average P8 (Progress 8)
KENT CIC	146	20.1	-1.04
NATIONAL CLA	5230	18.7	-1.24

English and Maths

Performance for each group against indicator	ENGLISH Average Attainment Score	ENGLISH Average Progress Score	MATHS Average Attainment Score	MATHS Average Progress Score	ENGLISH + MATHS - % achieving Grade 5-9
KENT CIC	4.1	-1.38	4.1	-0.79	8.9
NATIONAL CLA	4.2	-1.39	3.9	-0.98	8.0

EBacc and 'Other'

Performance for each group against indicator	EBACC Average Attainment Score	EBACC Average Progress Score	OTHER Average Attainment Score	OTHER Average Progress Score	% achieving a Grade 5-9 in 5 or more subjects including English + Maths
KENT CIC	5.3	-1.02	6.6	-1.05	16.4
NATIONAL CLA	4.8	-1.28	5.9	-1.38	15