

Committee:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	21 October 2011
Title of Report:	KS2 and KS4 outcomes for Looked After Children 2011
By:	Director of Children's Services
Purpose of Report:	To provide an overview of the KS2 and KS4 results

Recommendation: **For the Corporate Parenting Panel to note this report**

1 Background and Context

1.1 There were 16 children who finished KS2 last summer and 43 children who finished KS4 who count in the LAC cohort as defined by the DFE (children who were 11 years old or 15 years old respectively, on 31st August 2010, who were in continuous care for 12 months ending on 31st March 2011 and were educated in England). Data on outcomes has been obtained directly from exams officers at individual schools by telephone and email and is therefore un-verified data. The relatively small numbers in each cohort mean that year on year variations have limited statistical significance.

1.2 Both cohorts had a high proportion of children on the Special Educational Needs register. At KS2 62.5% of children were on the SEN Register and 37.5% had a Statement of SEN (compared to LAC nationally in 2010 where 61% were on the Register and 25.6% have a Statement). At KS4 69.8% of children were on the Special Educational Needs Register and 44% had a statement (compared to LAC nationally in 2010 where 49% were on the SEN register and 19% had a statement).

1.3 Last year, in 2010, outcomes for Looked After Children in East Sussex were the best on record in terms of attainment at KS4 and progress at KS2. This was recognised by Ofsted who judged the extent to which Looked after Children "Enjoyed and Achieved" in education to be "Outstanding".

1.4 The Virtual School for Children in Care has continued to support the education of looked after children by commissioning additional support including 1:1 tutors, additional LSA hours and running residential programmes and monitors the educational progress of all Looked after children with an emphasis on English and Maths.

1.5 Targets were set in the Autumn of 2009 for the percentage of children achieving Level 4 in English and Maths at KS2 and the percentage of children achieving 5+A *-C including English and Maths at KS4. These targets were set by the Virtual School, with advice from our School Improvement Partner, based on challenging individual targets for each child. When these targets were reviewed by National Strategies they were arbitrarily raised to meet national targets (with no consideration of the individual starting points of each child).

2 Key Stage 2 Outcomes

2.1 Outcomes at KS2 are very encouraging and an improvement on 2010 results by three out of four measures.

2.2 The percentage of children achieving level 4 in English is 37.5% up from 27.3% in 2010 but still below the LAC national figure for 2010 of 45%. This meets the original target set with the school improvement partner and governors but is below the target set by National Strategies.

2.3 The percentage of children achieving two levels of progress in English is 67% down from 80% in 2010 (national figures not available).

2.4 The percentage of children achieving level 4 in Maths is 43.8% up from 31.8% last year but below the LAC national figure for 2010 of 45% .This meets the original target set with the school improvement partner and governors but is below the target set by National Strategies.

2.5 The percentage of children achieving two levels of progress in Maths is 67% up from 63% in 2010 (national figures not available).

2.6 The fall in the number of children making two levels of progress in English may be a result of the 2010 results having been based on teacher assessment as a result of the 2010 boycott of the SATs

3 Key Stage 4 Outcomes

3.1 Outcomes at KS4, whilst higher than national LAC 2010 outcomes, are lower than the East Sussex 2010 LAC outcomes.

3.2 There are many outstanding success stories. The highest performing student achieved 9 GCSEs, four of them at grade A*, four of them at grade A and one at grade B, exceeding her targets and making 5 levels of progress in both English and Maths. Another student, in residential care, with a long history of exclusions and low self esteem, gained a grade D in English and a grade E in Maths and is now at College. Both these students benefited from direct support from the Virtual School and both attended the Virtual School residential revision programme.

3.3 The percentage of children achieving 5+ A* - C including English and Maths is 14%, down from 22% in East Sussex last year. This is just below the original target set with the school improvement partner and governors but is below the target set by National Strategies. The original target would have been met had one student achieved a C in Maths rather than a grade D.

3.4 The percentage of children achieving at least one GCSE is 84% which is the highest percentage achieved in East Sussex, is significantly higher than the 72.5% of LAC who achieved this nationally in 2010.

3.5 The percentage of children making three levels of progress in English and Maths is similar to the last two years which is 3 percentage points and 9 percentage points respectively below the targets set for next year

4 Education, Employment and Training, Care Leavers

4.1 Of this summer's exam cohort, 83% of students are in education employment or training, 9 of them on Level 3 courses (equivalent to A Level), 10 in specialist provision, 1 in custody, 1 starting an apprenticeship and 28 starting Foundation or Level 2 courses. All bar one of the 9 young people not in education, employment and training are engaging with services to support their progression into EET.

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Exam Results 2011 East Sussex looked After Children

Key Stage 2

Children Looked after continuously by East Sussex County Council for a year ending March 31st 2011 who were aged 10 on 31st August 2010 and educated in England.

	2009	2010	2011	National 2010	Original Targets	Revised Targets	Targets 2012
Cohort	27	22	16	1800			
Percentage SEN	74.1%	86.4%	62.5%	61.1%			
Percentage Statement	29.6%	54.5%	37.5%	25.6%			
% Level 4 English	29.6%	27.3%	37.5%	45.0%	37.50%	40.90%	
% Level 4 Maths	33.3%	31.8%	43.8%	45.0%	43.80%	45.50%	
% Level 4 in En and Ma	n/a	n/a	37.5%	36.0%			
% 2L Progress English	56.0%	80.0%	67.0%	n/a			85.00%
% 2L Progress Maths	33.0%	63.0%	67.0%	n/a			75.00%

Key Stage 4

Children Looked after continuously by East Sussex County Council for a year ending March 31st 2011 who were aged 15 on 31st August 2010 and educated in England.

	2009	2010	2011	National 2010			
Cohort	48	40	43	5100			
Percentage SEN	n/a	67.5%	69.8%	49.0%			
Percentage Statement	n/a	45.0%	44.1%	19.2%			
% 1+ GCSE A* - G	70.8%	80.0%	84.0%	72.5%			
% 5+ GCSEs A* - G	52.0%	47.5%	46.5%	50.6%			
% 5+ GCSEs A* -C	16.7%	32.5%	21.0%	26.1%			
% 5+ GCSEs A*-C inc En/Ma	4.4%	22.5%	14.0%	11.6%	15.90%	26.50%	
% 3 Progress English	26.0%	34.0%	32.0%	n/a			35.00%
% 3 Progress Maths	21.0%	25.0%	21.0%	n/a			30.00%

Green Best in three years
 Amber Between 2009 and 2010
 Red Lowest in three years