

Committee:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	16 October 2015
By:	Director of Children's Services
Title of Report:	The Virtual School Annual Report including report on the use of the Pupil Premium
Purpose of Report:	To report on the work of the Virtual School 2014 – 2015 and on educational outcomes for children who are Looked After by East Sussex County Council, and the use of Pupil Premium for Looked After Children (LAC).

RECOMMENDATION: The Corporate Parenting Panel is recommended to note the contents of the report

1. Background

1.1. The Virtual School is made up of a small team of educationalists who have a responsibility to promote and support the educational success of East Sussex LAC wherever they are educated.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 The Virtual School is funded by a combination of £212k from the Dedicated School's Grant with a 'top up' of £60k from the LAC Management budget. Pupil Premium is additional funding from Central Government, designed to improve educational outcomes for Looked After Children.

2.2 See appendices for further information.

3. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation

3.1 The East Sussex Virtual School is recognised as an example of good practice by the Department for Education (DfE) and continues to influence national policy (for example, statutory guidance on Promoting the Education of Looked after Children published last summer)

3.2 The Pupil Premium Grant for Looked After Children (LAC) continues to be managed as it has over the last three in a non-bureaucratic, easily understood and accessible way.

3.3 The Grant is used to improve educational outcomes, reduce exclusions, improve attendance and reduce the number of care leavers who are not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET).

3.4 This is achieved by supporting Personal Education Plan (PEP) targets, developing the 1:1 tutor programme, providing additional funding for schools for training and resources and ensuring wherever possible the security and consistency of school placements

STUART GALLIMORE
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Local Member(s): All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Use of Pupil Premium

Appendix 2 – Distribution of Pupil Premium 2014

Appendix 3 – Case Studies

Appendix 4 – Educational Outcomes over the last 4 years
Appendix 5 – East Sussex LAC Educational Outcomes 2015