

Report to: Corporate Parenting Panel

Date of meeting: 29 January 2026

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Title: Virtual School Annual Report
1 September 2024 - 31 August 2025

Purpose: To outline the performance of the Virtual School between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

The Corporate Parenting Panel is recommended to note the contents of the Virtual School Annual report 1 September 2024 – 31 August 2025.

1. Background

1.1 The Virtual School supports the education of children in care. It is not a building, and children and young people do not attend. They remain the responsibility of the school where they are enrolled.

1.2 The Virtual School works in partnership with the child or young person's educational setting and their social worker, parents and carers. The Virtual School supports the child or young person to fulfil their potential at all stages of their education. This gives them the best opportunity to be successful in their adult lives.

1.3 The Virtual School Report is contained within Appendix 1.

2. Budget Implications

2.1 The Virtual School is funded through a combination of the Pupil Premium grant, Children with a Social Worker grant and the base budgets within Children's Services. We continue to direct the funding to support the best possible educational outcomes for Children in care (CIC) and children with a social worker as well as children previously looked after and those in Kinship care, by effective use of available resources.

3. Conclusion and Reasons for recommendation

3.1 The annual Virtual School report enable the Corporate Parenting Board to scrutinise educational outcomes, identify risks, and fulfil its responsibility to improve life chances for looked after children.

3.2 The Corporate Parenting Panel is recommended to note the contents of the report paying particular attention to the extension of duties.

CAROLYN FAIR

Director of Children's Services

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Local Members:

All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

Appendices

Appendix 1 Virtual School Report 2024/25