

Annual Report 2019/20 – Appendix 1

COVID19 Update Autumn Term 2020.

This annual report covers the impact of COVID19 on our children from the lockdown until the end of the summer break. It outlines the Virtual School measures taken to reduce the impact. Weekly risk registers were completed and advice guidance and ensuring all children have laptops, internet, printers, books, etc. so that they could continue their learning. Those who needed to be in school were supported to attend and the attendance figures are included in this report. During the summer the support continued and the “fresh start” programme was offered to our post-16 young people to try to keep them engaged.

Since coming back in September, with all schools open, we have been carefully monitoring attendance daily. If a child is marked as “x” which means a “COVID19 related absence” we will phone the foster carer to find out more, and ensure they have the support needed – especially where pupils are off school for an extended period – for example any of those who have their “bubble” closed for up to 14 days.

Current school attendance is 91.81% which is about where we would expect it to be at this time of year. However, this does not include COVID19 absence as the “x” code is not to be included in school absence figures. Attendance figures including the COVID19 absence is 90.05% which compares favourably with the national attendance figure of 82.9% as of 19th November.

COVID19 absence since September for statutory age pupils.

Reason for COVID absence	Number of pupils	% of cohort
Self-isolating	33	16%
Part time table*	9	4%
Symptoms	2	1.8%%
School /year group closure	25	12.3%
Total	69	33.8%
COVID absence for more than a school week**	12	5.9%
Children at home due to COVID19 as of November 24 th snapshot.	20	9.8%

**this was mainly in September as many schools had a slow reintegration back to full time.*

*** the majority of pupils have only had one to three days off school whilst awaiting a test result for themselves or someone in their bubble*

Post-16

Due to the support with the year 11 transition project and the summer “Fresh Start” project we had positive numbers start year 12 in September. 90% of the year 12 cohort were EET at the beginning of September which is hugely improved from the 2017 figure of 71%. However, since that point, 5 of these young people have now left their courses meaning year 12 now has 75% of the cohort EET.

Year 13 EET figures were 82% in September and are currently 77%. We don’t know the full extent of how COVID19 and lockdown has affected young people leaving their courses. We know that many young people are reporting low mood, and this is affecting their attendance. In post-16 colleges young people will be withdrawn from their course if their attendance is unacceptable. We continue to prioritise working with

those who are NEET to support them to participate in suitable education, employment or training.