

Corporate Parenting Panel

Date: Monday 15 May 2023
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Committee Room 2, Shire Hall, Warwick

Membership

Councillor Jeff Morgan (Chair)
Councillor Caroline Phillips
Councillor Marian Humphreys
Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse
Councillor Sue Markham

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

(3) Minutes of the previous meeting 5 - 10

2. Children in Care Council - Update 11 - 20

3. Performance Data 21 - 22

4. Report from the Virtual School Head 23 - 40

For the period January 2023 – March 2023

5. Corporate Parenting Panel Road Shows

Verbal update to be provided by Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting.

6. Placement Stability for Children in Care

Verbal update to be provided by Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting.

7. Governance for Child in Care and HELAC Feedback

Verbal update to be provided by Angela Richardson, Designated Nurse Children in Care.

8. The Vanguard Project

Verbal update to be provided by George Shipman, Service Manager (Safeguarding Communities).

9. Development of the Work Programme and Items on the Forward Plan

41 - 44

Items from the Forward Plan are relevant to the remit of the Panel.

10. Any Other Business

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 19th June 2023 at 10am.

The meeting will be held in Shire Hall, Warwick.

Monica Fogarty

Chief Executive

Warwickshire County Council

Shire Hall, Warwick

Disclaimers

Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. Any changes to matters registered or new matters that require to be registered must be notified to the Monitoring Officer as soon as practicable after they arise.

A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless they have a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if they have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter within the remit of the Committee. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

COVID-19 Pandemic

Any member or officer of the Council or any person attending this meeting must inform Democratic Services if within a week of the meeting they discover they have COVID-19 or have been in close proximity to anyone found to have COVID-19.

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Corporate Parenting Panel

Monday 16 January 2023

Minutes

Attendance

Panel Members attending in person

Councillor Marian Humphreys
Councillor Sue Markham

Panel Members attending virtually

Councillor Pete Gilbert
Councillor Caroline Phillips
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse

Officers

Helen Barnsley, Senior Democratic Services Officer
John Coleman, Assistant Director - Children and Families
Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting Service

Nigel Minns, Strategic Director for People (attended virtually)
Deena Moorey, Deena Moorey, Virtual School Head (attended virtually)

Others Present

Angela Richardson, Designated Nurse – Children in Care

1. General

(1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Peter Gilbert, Councillor Jeff Morgan and Councillor Penny Anne O'Donnell. Apologies were also received from Umar Teerab, Family Support Worker.

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the previous meeting

In relation to the second paragraph of item 3 of the minutes from the 12th of October 2022

requested that clarification was given in relation to the unaccompanied asylum seekers placed in the hotels. It was noted that the children are placed in hotels by The Home Office; they are not Warwickshire children.

In relation to Item 4 from the agenda on the 28th of November 2023, paragraph three of the minutes was amended to read –

The panel noted that post-16 funding had been received and that there is a comprehensive training programme worked out. Warwickshire is working with the North Warwickshire College, South Leicestershire College and the Warwickshire College Group.

The minutes were then agreed as a true and accurate record and there were no matters arising.

2. Performance Data

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting Service presented the performance report to the Panel who noted the following –

- Warwickshire has continued to see a decrease in the number of children in care. The total in November 2022 saw a decrease of 17 and as at the time of this meeting, the total was 799 children in care.
- It was confirmed that more children are now being looked after by foster carers in Warwickshire not by carers outside the county which is very positive.
- It was confirmed that there are more male children in care than female, but that this is due to unaccompanied asylum seekers.
- Placement stability is still a key area of work for officers and is still a national issues. There continues to be a shortage of fostering and residential placements. Officers confirmed that there is no 'quick fix' to this issue but things should improve within the next 8 to 12 months.
- The Panel noted that since the last report, 24 children in care were reported as missing (52 episodes). It was noted that the majority of children missing were known to be going back to family members or parents and that officers were aware where they were. It was confirmed that Full Care Orders are being used when circumstance change/ a young person is older. This means that children are placed back with family members and the number of missing episodes will start to reduce.

Following a question from Councillor Sue Markham it was confirmed that a child is noted as missing if they are away from their placement after midnight and this accounts for the majority of missing episodes. An example was given of a young person who was out on New Year's Eve but returned home in the morning. There are one or two children who are logged as missing for a longer period of time but who are in touch with officers daily. There are some unaccompanied asylum seekers who go missing and officers don't know where they are – but none are Warwickshire children.

Councillor Caroline Phillips asked if the Police were made aware in cases where a child is missing for over a certain period of time. Sharon Shaw confirmed that there are multi-agency meetings between Warwickshire Police, the police from the authority where the child is believed to be (if outside Warwickshire), the exploitation team, social workers and placement providers. The multi-agency team will put together a risk assessment and a plan. Every child who does go missing will have a return to home meeting to identify potential patterns/reasons that they go missing which are then addressed. There are currently 12 children with multiple missing episodes and there are active plans in place looking at triggers/reasons and investigation solutions.

3. Warwickshire Response to the National Review Children with Disabilities and Complex Needs

John Coleman, Assistant Director - Children and Families presented a summary of the report to the Panel.

A national review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings was requested of all Directors of Children's Services in August 2022.

The National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel undertook a review considering the experiences of children placed in three specialist independent residential settings located in the Doncaster area.

Part one was to review every child where providers provide home and education. The example of Witherslake in Warwickshire was given to the Panel, where there are 29 children. A team of social workers and quality assurance officers completed a deep dive of the service looking at staffing, quality issues as well as talking to the children. The Panel noted that this was a big piece of work and congratulated officers on completing it within the required timescales.

The findings of the review found that 27 out of the 29 children had no significant concerns.

Two children raised concerns. One was in relation to the staff and the Panel noted that there had been a number of changes to the staff in recent months which meant that there was no stability for the children. However, a rating of no major concerns was given. The second child raised the issue of wanting to go home.

Warwickshire has two Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) in post, whose role is to deal with complaints about professionals who are responsible for the safeguarding of children. The LADO raised no concerns and noted that all referrals in Warwickshire were dealt with appropriately.

John Coleman confirmed that OFSTED were happy with the Warwickshire Review and that the National Review Body were satisfied with the report and findings.

Councillor Marian Humphries reiterated the Panel's thanks to all the officers involved in this work.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse raised concerns about the high turnover of staff, stating that stability and consistency is so important to children. Councillor Roodhouse wondered if the right

experienced people were in place and if, perhaps, there was a shortage across the board of social care of experience people.

John Coleman stated that in relation to the Witherslake providers, there have been struggles but officers have been working with them to support continuing improvement. It was noted that there are no Warwickshire children there at present.

Sharon Shaw, Service Manager, Corporate Parenting confirmed that there is a current challenge in recruiting to children's home. It is one of the lowest paid roles in children's care; this is a national issue, not just in Warwickshire. Warwickshire officers are looking at recruiting from across a range of professions, such as ex-teachers, nursery managers etc and then ensuring that the right training programme is in place. It was noted that the management positions at the moment are very well fulfilled with excellent professionals in place. Warwickshire officers are doing everything that they can to make sure that when the new Warwickshire children's homes are open, the very best staff are in place.

4. Outline for the Corporate Parenting Panel Road shows

Following a request from Councillor Jeff Morgan at an earlier meeting, Sharon Shaw, Service Manager - Corporate Parenting Service confirmed to the Panel that she would be looking into the finer details of what each roadshow would entail and be able to bring an update to the next meeting.

Councillor Marian Humphries stated that the amount of work involved should be highlighted. It was agreed to continue promoting the work of the panel to the district and borough councils of Warwickshire, but also with the county council itself. Consideration will be given to taking something to the next appropriate full council meeting.

5. Development of the Work Programme and Items on the Forward Plan

The following additions/changes were made to the work programme –

The following items will be presented at the next meeting (27th of March 2023)

- Placement Stability for Children in Care
- Corporate Parenting Roadshows – Verbal Update
- Governance for Child in Care and HELAC Feedback – Verbal Update
- The Vanguard Project – Verbal Update

John Coleman, Assistant Director - Children and Families will draft a letter for Councillor Jeff Morgan to sign to all District and Boroughs inviting them to present The Corporate Parenting Charter at the June meeting.

An update on the Work Force Strategy will also be presented in June along with a report in relation to the CAMHS/RISE service.

The updated work programme was agreed by the Panel.

6. Any Other Business

Angela Richardson, Designated Nurse – Children in Care confirmed that there was now a designated Doctor in place for Coventry and Warwickshire and asked that she be invited to the next panel meeting. It was agreed that Helen Barnsley, Senior Democratic Services Officer would contact Angela for the contact details and ensure an invitation was sent.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 27th March 2023 at 10am.

The meeting will be held in Shire Hall, Warwick.

The meeting rose at 11am

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Chair

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Corporate Parenting Panel

15th May 2023

CiCC/CLF & Voice, Influence and Change Team Update

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the Panel note the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC), Care Leavers Forum (CLF) and the Voice, Influence and Change Team (Participation).
- 1.2 That the Panel acknowledge the work that continues to take place with young people.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This is a standing item on the Corporate Parenting Panel agenda which updates members on the work of the CiCC and CLF.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no significant financial implications to consider at this stage.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant environmental implications to consider at this stage.

5. Supporting Information

This update covers the period from 22nd November to 31st March 2023.

5.1 *Care Leavers/CLF Christmas Party:*

On the 13th of December a Christmas Party was held for our Care Leavers and UASC Young people. Around 75 young people were in attendance. It was held at the St Nicolas parish Church in Nuneaton.

There was a lovely set up with a balloon arch on entrance, table decorations, balloons, lights etc.

There was a DJ who was incredible who bought his foster son to support him and our young people danced together to the music. We had a John the poet come who played some songs which the young people loved. We had a rustic pizza pop up who provided pizzas with a wide range of toppings.

There was a caricaturist, a mocktail stand, a photo booth, a sweet stand, a tattoo/ glitter stands and a bag full of goodies for our young people to take home once the party had finished.



5.2 *CiCC/Youth Council Christmas Party*

On 13th December a joint Christmas party was held for the Children in Care Council and Youth Council at Myton Park. Around 40 young people came and enjoyed a winter BBQ, live music, games, activities and arts and crafts.



5.3 *Norma's Hampers and Christmas Frozen Meals from Stacy*

In December, the team was involved in supporting Norma in producing over 200 hampers to send to care experienced young people to support them over the Christmas period. Child Friendly Warwickshire, Evelyn's Gift, Morrisons Leamington Spa and Warwickshire Children and Families were all involved in sourcing the contents for the hampers. Warwickshire Search and Rescue supported in the collection and delivery of the goods to Norma for her to make up the hampers ready for delivery.

In addition to the hampers provided by Norma, a family support worker in the Voice, Influence and Change team also arranged with Stacy for 40 frozen Christmas meals to be prepared and delivered to care leavers.



5.4 ***Santa's Grotto – 10th December***

On 10th December, young parents with care experience had the fantastic opportunity to take their children to see Santa at the Heart of England centre in Fillongley. The children were able to write a letter to Santa, make reindeer food, speak to the elves and then board the Santa Express through the magical woods to visit Santa himself! A great opportunity for our young people to make memories with their children that they wouldn't have been able to do.



5.5 Cross Ministerial Board Meeting – 8th February

On 8th February, one of our family support workers with Care Experience was invited to attend the ministerial board meeting held in London. 3 young people in total were invited to talk about experiences for care leavers regarding EET, Health and Housing. Ministers in attendance listened carefully to their talks and made suggestions and considerations for issues raised going forward. In particular, Fiona Walshe (Director for Mental Health and Disabilities) is keen to discuss further working with our family support worker.

Letter received from Rt Hon Gillian Keegan and Rt Hon Michael Gove:



5.6 Ofsted Engagement Sessions

On the 11th and 13th January, the Voice, Influence and Change team were involved in supporting the housing commissioner to collate views from young people in supported accommodation for the Ofsted Consultation. Two accommodation providers were visited (Binswood Lodge and Deepmore). 18 young people in total were supported to fill in the survey produced by Ofsted so they directly had access to the young peoples' views.

5.7 Young Inspectors Reports

In 2021, two accommodation providers were visited by one of our apprentices with care experience and young people with care experience to assess the properties and ensure they were fit for young people. Based on these reports, recommendations were made to the providers. In February, the young

inspectors re-visited these accommodation providers to see if improvements has been made.

Select Care in Birmingham was visited on the 2nd February. Although there are still improvements to be made, there were some great improvements within the property, including the kitchen area and shared living areas.

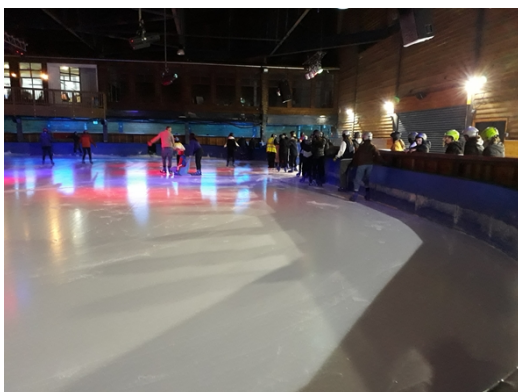
Link to report for Select Care: [Young inspectors - Select Care Feb 2023.docx](#)

P3 Arbury Lodge in Nuneaton was visited on the 15th February. Again, there were some vast improvements including a brand new kitchen area and new paint in various rooms. More improvements are still to made in the old kitchen.

Link to report for Arbury Lodge: [P3 Arbury Lodge Feb 2023 young inspectors.docx](#)

5.8 Snow Dome Trip – 20th February

On 20th February, 27 children in care aged 9-15 went on a trip to the Snow Dome in Tamworth. Children were transported from across Warwickshire. They took part in 3 activities, swimming, climbing and ice skating. The group included some sibling groups that are not able to live together currently.



5.9 Bear Grylls – 22nd February

On 22nd February, 15 care leavers took part in a trip to the Bear Grylls experience. They completed the assault course, did some high ropes and participated in archery.



5.10 *Forum Updates*

Children in Care Council

10th January – The council had a representative from Coventry and Warwickshire MIND to talk about the importance of mental health and how to promote this. The designated nurse for children in care was also in attendance and asked for feedback via a survey to capture opinions of young people on health, particularly around health assessments, mental health and school nursing.

14th February – CiCC met and discussed Improving the School Experience. And Education Advisor from the Virtual School attended and joined in with experiences around positive aspects of school, improvements to be made, the support available and the transition between schools.

14th March – Representatives from Family Group Conference (FGC) came and spoke to CiCC about what FGC is how they can learn more about it. They asked for feedback from CiCC about their leaflet, video and whether they thought FGC would work in different situations.

Care Leavers Forum

10th January – Wellbeing check in and catch up.

14th February – CLF discussed the route from being in care to leaving care and experiences of housing and living independently. Care Leavers discussed what makes their houses a home and what is a priority for them in where they live and what is in their home

14th March – The theme was around Watch Your Words. The young people were encouraged to write their own poem to social services which will be

shared. Young people also shared that producing videos to go alongside the Watch Your Words booklet would be beneficial.

5.11 Young People involved in interviews

Youth Justice Turnaround Practitioner - 16th and 23rd February

A young person from the Children in Care Council sat on the interview panel for two positions for Youth Justice Turnaround Practitioners.

Feedback from Adrian Seymour (YJS Team Manager):

"Erika helped us out by interviewing 5 candidates for a range of practitioner roles in the youth justice service. She came prepared with a range of questions which we agreed that she would ask between those asked by Becky Sumner and me. The questions that she asked helped us to gain an insight into how the candidates thought and how they would deal with children using our service. Erika was polite and professional and contributed constructively to the conversation around each candidate after their interviews and the final discussion on who to appoint. As a group we were in agreement on those that should be appointed and the feedback that should be given to the unsuccessful candidates. I really hope Erika is able to engage with future interview panels as her contribution was valued in this round."

Feedback received from the young person:

"I think this was actually quite fun although I did get a bit upset at first, the meetings went rllly well and i got the hang of it quite quickly I would definitely do it again cuz I got to learn about other people's experiences and i found it very educational:)"

Family Support Worker (Family & Adolescent Support Team)- 13th February

A young person from our Care Leavers Forum supported with interviews for a Family Support Worker role within the Family & Adolescent Support Team on Teams.

Lead Education Strategy Commissioning Manager – 28th March

A youth interview panel was set up including representatives from the Care Leavers Forum, Children in Care Council, Youth Council and Impact (SEND Forum), to interview candidates for the role of Lead Education Strategy Commissioning Manager.

The young people met prior to the interview to put together the questions that they would like to ask the candidates, this included a short presentation on the School Inclusion Charter.

The representative from the Children in Care Council fed back the views and opinions from the youth panel to the interviewing managers. The young people enjoyed and appreciated being part of these interviews.

5.12 Ofsted Focused Visit – Care Experienced Young People – 28th/29th March

As part of the recent Ofsted focused visit for care experienced young people, the inspectors wished to talk to different groups of young people. These included:

- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Young People
 - Young parents with care experience
 - Young people in full time education or employment and those that are not currently in education or employed.
- Young people attended these focus groups with Ofsted and were able to share their views and opinions around the support that they have received and the services that have been available to them as young people of Warwickshire.

5.13 In celebration of Mother's Day – 30th March

On 30th March, an event was held at the CHESS centre in Nuneaton to celebrate our young parents with Care Experience. Parents had the opportunity to socialise with other parents, the children were able to play together and the parents created a height chart for their child to take away and use for memories of their child growing up.



5.14 Monthly Social Nights for Care Experience Young People

At the start of 2023, a monthly social for our care experienced young people was launched. This has taken place during the last week of the month.

January – Bowling in Leamington

February – Bowling in Nuneaton

March – Games night at Myton Park. Young people enjoyed coming together and playing games with and against each other.

From these events, more care leavers are now signed up to attend Chill n Grill which is being launched in April.



6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

6.1 An update report to be presented to the next Corporate Parenting Panel.

Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Deborah McGarvey	deborahmcgarvey@warwickshire.gov.uk 077990 400006
Assistant Director	John Coleman	johncoleman@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Nigel Minns	nigelminns@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Member	Jeff Morgan	jeffmorgan@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): n/a

Other members: n/a

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777
Children in Care

A decrease of
6 Children in Care
since February 2023

Children in Care Placement Type

WCC Foster Carer (inc Family and Friends carers)
319 children (41.1%); which is an increase of 6 children on the previous month end.

Placed for Adoption
21 children (2.7%) of all CiC at 28/02/2023; the same number as the previous month end.

Agency Foster Carer
178 CiC (22.9%); an increase of 5 children since 28/02/2023

Residential Establishment
81 children (10.4%); an increase of 4 children since 28/02/2023

No. Children in Care - Monthly trend

	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
ALL CiC (Including Asylum Seekers)	824	- 1	- 17	- 21	- 2	-6 777
ALL CiC (Excluding Asylum Seekers)	711	- 3	- 15	- 14	+ 6	-7 678

At 31 March 2023, Warwickshire's Children in Care population decreased by 6 to 777, whilst the no. of CiC excluding asylum seekers decreased by 7 to 678.

670 CiC target for 2022/23

Legal Status of Children in Care as at 31 March 2023

55.9% (434) of CiC are on a **Full Care Order**; this is a decrease of 6 children since 28/02/2023.

10.6% (82) of CiC are on an **Interim Care Order**; this is a decrease of 3 children since the previous month end.

5.1% (40) of CiC are on a **Placement Order**; this is an increase of 1 children since 28/02/2023.

28.4% (221) of CiC are subject to **S20 Accommodation**; this is an increase of 4 children since the previous month end.

Leaving Care Activity Status

As at 31 March 2023, of those Relevant and Former Relevant Care Leavers (aged 16 - 21) ...

90.7% had a contact within the last 8 weeks

85.6% were in suitable accommodation

52.0% were in EET (Employment, Education & Training)

CiC out of county as at 31st March 2023

22.5% (175) of CiC were placed outside the LA boundary and more than 20 miles from where they used to live

NB. Please note that this is a quarterly measure

CiC 'Missing' or 'Away from placement without authorisation'

34 children in care were missing (106 missing episodes)

During March 2023 there were **106 episodes** of a child missing or away from their placement without authorisation. This related to **34 individual children** with **23 children** having multiple missing episodes during the month.

Gender

61.1% (475) Male

38.7% (301) Female

1 'Indeterminate'

Ethnicity

1/4 (25.5%) of Children in Care (Including Asylum Seekers) are **Minority Ethnic (198)**;

74.5% (579) are of White ethnicity

Allocated Team

12.7% (99) of Children in Care are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers

6.2% (48) are allocated to the Children with Disability teams

29.1% (226) are allocated to the CiC 14-18 Years Team

89.5%

89.5% of Children in Care at 31 March 2023 have had a 'completed' health assessment in the last 12 months

Age breakdown of the 777 children

3.0% (23) 0 years old	13.5% (104) aged 1 - 4	17.4% (135) aged 5 - 9	35.0% (272) aged 10 - 15	31.1% (272) aged 16 - 17
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% of CiC accommodated during the month (who remained accommodated) and who had their IHA within 20 working days (Monthly trend)

Oct: 0.0%
Nov: 14.3%
Dec: 14.3%
Jan: 69.2%
Feb: 25.0%
Mar: TBC

Short Term / Long Term Placement Stability of Children in Care as at 31 March 2023

Warwickshire | National Average (2022)

Short Term
Warwickshire: 13.8%
National Average: 10%

Long Term
Warwickshire: 57.7%
National Average: 71%

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Warwickshire Virtual School

Summer 2023 Report For the period January – March 2023

Contents

1.1 Current context

ATTAINMENT OF CHILDREN IN CARE*

2.1 Early Years Foundation Stage

2.2 Year One Phonics

2.3 Key Stage 1

2.4 Key Stage 2

2.5 Key Stage 4

2.6 Post 16

THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

3.1 Cohort overview

3.2 SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disability)

3.3 Enrichment

3.4 Training

3.5 Staffing

SCHOOL INFORMATION

4.1 Ofsted Grading

4.2 Attendance and suspensions

4.3 Personal Education Plans

4.4 Pupil Premium Plus

CHILDREN PREVIOUSLY IN CARE

5.1 Spring 2023 update

CHILDREN WITH A SOCIAL WORKER

6.1 Spring 2023 update

* Warwickshire uses the term Children in Care in preference to the DfE term Looked After Children, so the acronym CiC will be used throughout this report.

1.1 Current Context

Focussing on all Children With a Social Worker, the Virtual School worked with Challenging Education to deliver a conference focussed on Raising Attainment of Disadvantaged Youngsters (RADY). It was a fantastic event, enriched by three of our local schools. The schools presented their creative curricular, describing how they include all children and how all children are supported to be successful. Strong relationships underpinned all.

All raising aspirations partners came together for a development day. New team members were introduced and Warwickshire Virtual School, Coventry Virtual School, Think Higher, Coventry University and the University of Warwick, reviewed the impact and ethos of the university-based programmes. A great opportunity to meet face to face and celebrate how far the programme has developed since implementation.

The Virtual School training offer for education settings was redesigned. A series of webinars is planned, alongside individual online learning modules, led by experts in attachment and trauma. Training for the new PEP system was very well attended and the move across largely without issue.

Research into improving the attendance of children with a social worker in Warwickshire secondary schools on behalf of the Virtual School was planned. This work will start in the summer and largely finish at the end of the year, with the intention of providing evidence-based solutions to support all our schools.

Take up of additional 1:1 tuition continues to be good, with over 50% of the priority years having accessed at least one block of support.

Post 16 remains a priority and an additional post has been approved to facilitate an even stronger focus on supporting those Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

Ongoing Virtual School projects:

- Improving attendance with Warwickshire Attendance Service
- Supporting the SEND workstream on Emotional Based School Avoidance
- Monitoring academic attainment and progress through termly Personal Education Plans (PEPs)
- Monitoring attendance of all CiC
- Challenging suspensions
- University programme to raise aspirations and encourage participation in further and higher education
- Enriching arts and sports activities
- Trauma Informed Attachment Aware Schools Programme
- Training Programme
- School monitoring visits

ATTAINMENT OF CHILDREN IN CARE

2.1 Early Years Foundation Stage

Table A1, 2

2021-22 outcome: *21.1% (4 out of 19) achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD).*

Outcomes were significantly lower than national (40%) and previous Warwickshire outcomes. As this is a new group of children each year, large fluctuations are not unusual.

Levels of SEND were high in this cohort and school stability was lower than for other cohorts. Over 20% of this cohort are now no longer in care.

2.2 Year One Phonics

Table A3,4

2021-22 outcome: *60% (12 out of 20) achieved the expected standard in the phonics test.*

Attainment is in-line with national (60%).

2.2 Key Stage One

Table A5,6

2021-22 outcome: *37.5% (6 out of 16) achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.*

Attainment is above national (30%).

2.3 Key Stage Two

Table A7,8

2021-22 outcome: *28.6% (8 out of 28) achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.*

Attainment is below national (32%).

The prior attainment score for this cohort was also below the national cohort.

However, outcomes were 4% higher than predicted, based on prior attainment.

Warwickshire had 10% more CiC with EHCPs than the national cohort.

40% attended two or more schools in Key Stage 2, which is a known contributor in reducing achievement.

2.4 Key Stage Four

Tables A9,10,11,12

2021-22 outcome: *16.1% (10 out of 62) achieved a strong pass in the basics and 24.2% (15 out of 62) a standard pass.*

Attainment is above national (14%). This is particularly positive as the prior attainment score for this cohort was lower than national.

2.5 Post 16

Table A13

Education, Employment and Training destinations for the spring term:

100% had planned destinations for September

88% college/school/apprenticeship

5% training

7% employment

The spring term saw an increase in the number of CiC who were NEET, from 15% to 23%. Of these, 33% entered care this academic year.

3.1 Cohort overview

Tables B1,2,3,4

Spring term numbers:

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
Pre school	65	66	62
School age	461	466	474
Post 16	213	201	186
Total	739	733	722

3.2 SEND

Tables B5,6,7,8

Statutory school age CiC with recorded SEND 2021-22 reduced by 1.2% and remains lower than national CiC.

Statutory school age CiC with EHCPs 2021-22 increased by 0.9% and remains higher than national CiC.

All EHCP provision is the responsibility of the SEND services where the young person resides. However, the Virtual School works closely with all professionals to ensure termly PEPs track and support EHCP targets.

3.3 Enrichment

Table C1

Planning for summer term arts activities got underway, including a three-day theatre event and a trip to see a West End show. There were also several staff training sessions, focussed on supporting and developing the arts, sports and university aspiration programmes.

The new Year 6 cohort had their first university experience, taking place over four Saturdays at the University of Warwick. The Explorers undertook a campus tour, met

the student ambassadors, and designed their own mascot. The children beat staff at both table tennis and football, and Wonder Woman beat the Incredible Hulk in a general election! In the final session the children got to meet a PHD student, who led a drama and poetry workshop.

Sessions continued for the UniGo! cohorts, focussing on a range of academic sessions, demonstrating the possibilities for Higher Education.

All cohorts were invited to Silverstone for a fantastic immersive experience day!

3.4 Training

As previously mentioned, the RADY conference was very successful, and in response to feedback the training offer for schools has been redesigned.

Training to develop expertise in individual settings is ongoing and always very well received.

3.5 Staffing

Table C2

The Virtual School welcomed one Education Adviser back from maternity leave. Her cover was an asset to the team and the CiC she worked on behalf of were very well supported.

The focus on continued delivery of a high-quality service and constantly striving to achieve more for our CiC has increased demand on the Virtual School team and four new posts have been approved:

- An additional Post 16 Education Officer
- An additional Enrichment Coordinator
- Two new Education Advisers for Children With a Social Worker

SCHOOL INFORMATION

4.1 Ofsted Grading 2020-2021

Table D1

84% of Warwickshire CiC attended Good or Outstanding schools.

Two Warwickshire schools (one secondary, one special) were judged to be Inadequate during the year which reduced the percentage attending Good or Outstanding schools.

One CiC was placed in an Ofsted Inadequate school during the autumn term 2022 at the request of parents as the child was returning to their care. The Virtual School liaised with the host local authority and was satisfied that the school would be able to support the child appropriately.

Virtual School policy remains that when moving schools Good or Outstanding schools are always prioritised.

4.2 Attendance and suspensions

Tables D2,3,4,5

Overall attendance for 2021-22 was 89.5%.

Attendance for primary school CiC was 94.8% (+0.1% from last year).

Attendance for secondary school CiC was 86.6% (+ 3.1% from last year).

Increasing attendance remains a focus for the Virtual School.

The latest recorded suspension rate was in-line with national at 9.43% (number of Warwickshire CiC receiving at least one suspension).

No CiC were permanently excluded.

Reducing suspensions remain a priority for the Virtual School.

4.3 Personal Education Plans (PEPs)

The Virtual School worked hard to ensure all CiC had termly PEP reviews to support their educational development. The PEP review rate for the spring term was 100%.

Post 16 NEET PEPs take place at the start of term and the Virtual School facilitates additional reviews to ensure young people are appropriately supported to become engaged in Education, Employment and Training.

4.4 Pupil Premium Plus (PP+)

Table D9

For the termly PEPs, schools select the funding allocation required for the planned interventions within that term. This is in addition to the tuition which is funded separately.

Schools can access up to £1500 per child per term.

CHILDREN PREVIOUSLY IN CARE

5.1 Revised duties

Warwickshire Virtual School worked in partnership with Worcestershire Virtual School to deliver a series of information sessions for parents and carers. The first session was delivered twice during the spring term. Topics included:

- The role of the Designated Teacher
- Choosing a school and the admission process
- Transition support

The sessions were very well received with 63 parents attending.

CHILDREN WITH A SOCIAL WORKER

6.1 Extended duties

Revised guidance was published in June 2022. This remains a non-statutory duty, but Warwickshire Virtual School is keen to support this cohort of children. Provisional data available to the Virtual School highlights a gap between both the achievement and the attendance of Warwickshire children compared to the national cohort.

Awareness raising across Education Services continues and services are keen to start thinking about this cohort. There was a marked increase in the number of social workers seeking advice from the Virtual School regarding school attendance. All listed tables are included in the separate appendix.

Deena Moorey
Virtual School Head, Lead Commissioner

For questions or further information email: deenamoorey@warwickshire.gov.uk

Useful links:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/virtualschool> <https://www.wmvscicfoundation.org.uk>

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Warwickshire Virtual School

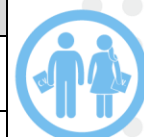
Summer 2023 Report

For the period January – March 2023

Appendices

All tables are referenced in the main report





APPENDICES

Tables with **BLUE** headings represent the statistical cohort

Tables with **ORANGE** headings represent the whole cohort, regardless of time in care

APPENDIX A – Outcomes

Table A1 – Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes

GLD*	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	21.1%
National CIC	-	-	40%
Difference	-	-	-18.9%

*Good Level of Development, the expected level of development at the end of the EYFS

Table A2 - CiC achieving GLD compared to those who did not:

GLD	SEN	Attendance <90%	In-year school move
GLD achieved	0%	0%	0%
Not achieved	47%	20%	27%

Table A3 – Year One Phonics outcomes

WA*	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	60%
National CIC	-	-	60%
Difference	-	-	In line

*Working at or above standard

Table A4 - CiC achieving standard compared to those who did not:

WA*	SEN	Attendance <90%	In-year school move
Expected standard	33%	0%	42%
Below expected standard	67%	45%	33%

*WA = working at the standard

Table A5 – Key Stage One outcomes

RWM*	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	37.5%
National CIC	-	-	30%
Difference	-	-	+7.5%

*RWM = Reading, Writing and Maths at the expected standard

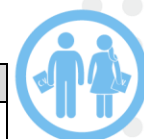


Table A6 - CiC achieving RWM* compared to those who did not:

RWM	SEN	Attendance <90%	In-year school move
RWM achieved	0%	0%	17%
Not achieved	70%	40%	20%

*RWM = Reading, Writing and Maths at the expected standard

Table A7 – Key Stage Two outcomes

RWM	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	28.6%
National CIC	-	-	32%
Difference	-	-	-3.4%

Table A8 - CiC achieving RWM compared to those who did not:

RWM	ARE* in KS1	SEN	Attendance <90%	In-year move KS2
RWM achieved	63%	50%	0%	13%
Not achieved	13%	79%	4%	42%

*Achieved Age Related Expectation

Table A9 – Key Stage Four outcomes

The Basics*	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	16.1%
National CIC	-	-	14%
Difference	-	-	+2.1%

*English and Maths GCSE at grade 5 or above

Table A10 - CiC achieving a strong pass compared to those who did not:

En+Ma Grade 5	ARE in KS2	SEN	Attendance <90%	In-year move KS4
Strong pass	70%	10%	30%	0%
Not achieved	16%	61%	54%	20%

Table A11 – Attainment 8

Attainment 8	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	23.0
National CIC	-	-	25.8
Difference	-	-	-2.8



Table A12 – Progress 8

Progress 8	2020	2021	2022
Warwickshire CIC	-	-	-1.02
National CIC	-	-	-1.28
Difference	-	-	+0.26

Table A13 – Post 16 destinations end of spring term 2023

	Y12	Y13
College	48%	53%
School	19%	13%
Apprenticeship	1%	0
Training	1%	8%
Employment	3%	10%
Other	2%	2%
Unknown	0	0
NEET	24%	15%

APPENDIX B – Cohort Information

Table B1 – Number of preschool CIC spring 2023

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
Attending settings	55	54	50
Not attending/not known	10	12	12
TOTAL	65	66	62

Table B2 – Number of school age CIC spring 2023

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
New to care	13	7	17
Out of care	14	2	7
TOTAL	461	466	473

Table B3 – Number of Post 16 CIC spring 2023

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
Y12	122	124	125
Y13	91	77	61
TOTAL	213	201	186

Table B4 – Number of UAS, all ages spring 2023

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
New UAS	1	0	7
TOTAL	122	122	129



Table B5 – Designation of schools attended by CiC spring 2023

	CiC
mainstream	77.6%
special	10.9%
ISP	8.2%
other	3.1%

Table B6 – CiC with SEND 2021-22

	CiC
National CiC with SEND*	27.4%
Warwickshire CiC with SEND	20.3%
Difference	-7.1%
All Warwickshire*	12.60%

*LAIT March 2022

Table B7 – CiC with EHCPs 2021-22

	CiC
National CiC with EHCP*	28.9%
Warwickshire CiC with EHCP	28.3%
Difference	-0.6%
All Warwickshire*	3.8%

*LAIT March 2022

Table B8 – SEND overview by year group spring 2023

	SEND (inc EHCP)	EHCP	School type
Rec	6%	3%	100% mainstream
Y1	25%	8%	100% mainstream 0 special
Y2	27%	7%	93% mainstream 7% special
Y3	36%	8%	96% mainstream 4% special
Y4	50%	27%	92% mainstream 8% special
Y5	47%	25%	78% mainstream 13% special 6% ISP 3% other
Y6	40%	26%	83% mainstream 11% special 6% ISP
Y7	61%	39%	76% mainstream 10% special 10% ISP



Y8	61%	46%	61% mainstream 17% special 20% ISP 2% other
Y9	64%	42%	62% mainstream 11% special 21% ISP 6% other
Y10	60%	33%	68% mainstream 10% special 12% ISP 10% other
Y11	49%	36%	70% mainstream 19% special 6% ISP 4% other
TOTAL	47%	29%	See table B5

APPENDIX C – Virtual School Information

Table C1 – Enrichment Activities spring 2023

University Explorers Year 6	Four one-day sessions on Saturdays at the University of Warwick. Sessions included: Manufacturing – focussed on robot cars and coding Philosophy and pirates! Sports Hub and Politics Drama and Poetry
UniversityGo! Year 7	Academic sessions at the University of Warwick included an Introduction to University Life, a Theatre Masterclass and a Life Sciences Masterclass.
UniversityGo! Year 8	Year 8 also undertook academic sessions, but at Coventry University. Their sessions included Forensic Investigations, Law, Sport Science and Photography.
UniversityGo! Year 9	Year 9 had just one session in the spring term, focussed on Degree Apprenticeships and Engineering.
UNlty	Masterclasses have included Games Technology, Accounting, Finance and Economics. A unique trading floor experience ensured plenty of winners!
All cohorts	Trip to Silverstone Museum, an immersive museum telling the story of the past, present and future of British motor racing.

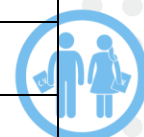


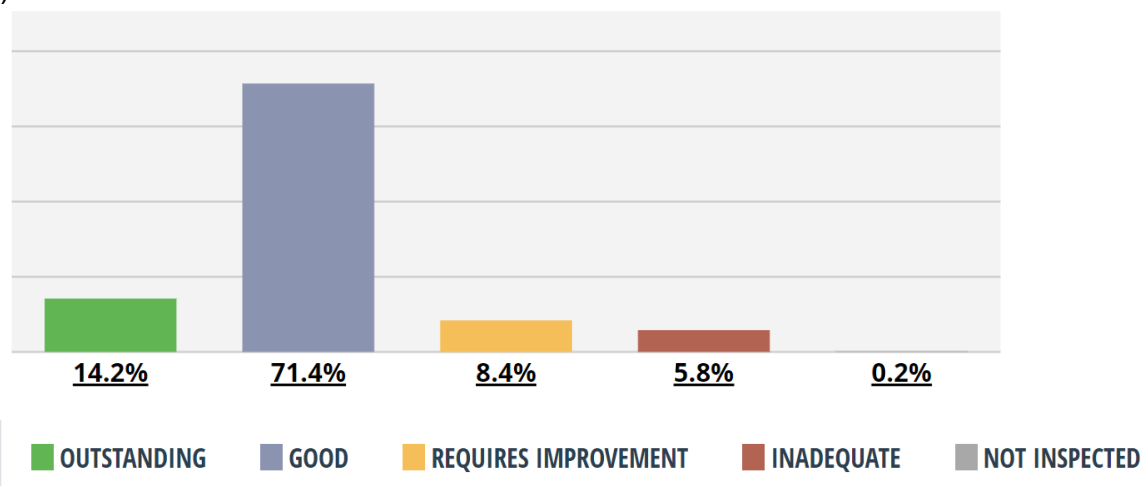
Table C2 – Virtual School Staffing Structure

Role	Post status	working weeks	hours per week	Salary scale/point	budget
VSH	permanent	52	37	Hay	core funding
Senior Education Adviser	upgraded	52	37	Soulbury 10-14	core funding Section 31 top up
Education Adviser, CIC	permanent	41	37	Soulbury 3-6	core funding
Education Adviser, CIC	fixed term	41	37	Soulbury 3-6	Section 31 reserves
Education Adviser, CPiC	permanent	52	30	Soulbury 3-6	Section 31
Post 16 Education Officer	permanent	41	37	Scale G	core funding
Early Years Education Officer	fixed term	52	12	Scale G	Section 31
Enrichment Coordinator	permanent	41	30	Scale G	core funding
VS Officer	permanent	52	22.5	Scale F	core funding
VS Officer	permanent	52	30	Scale F	core funding

APPENDIX D – School Information

Table D1 – Ofsted grading for schools attended 2021-2022

i) Warwickshire CiC





ii) National CiC

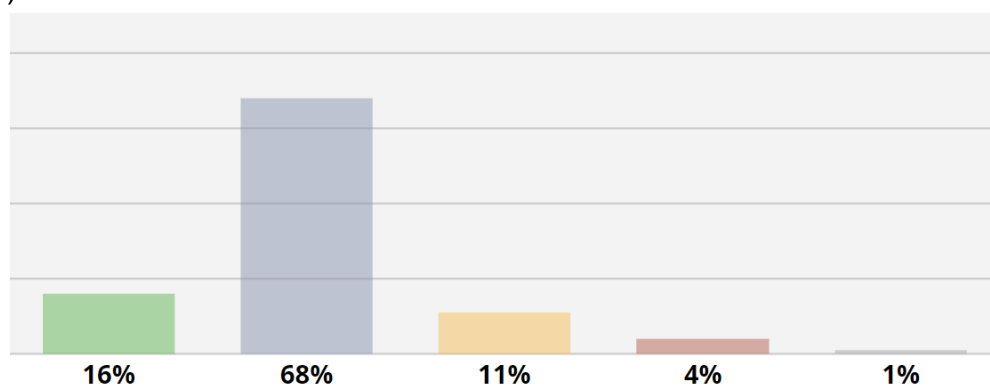


Table D2 – Attendance 2021-2022

	Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	Persistent absence	Severe persistent absence
Warks CiC	10.5%	6.5%	3.3%	24.4%	4.5%
Difference to 2020-21	+0.7%	-3.3%	+2.3%	+0.5	-0.2
National	9%	5%	2%	18%	3%
Difference	+1.5%	+1.5%	+1.3%	+5.9%	+1.7%

Table D3 – Attendance by year group 2021-2022

Year group	Attendance
Reception	93.4%
Year 1	93.2%
Year 2	92.4%
Year 3	96.7%
Year 4	94.1%
Year 5	95.4%
Year 6	96.4%
Year 7	92.5%
Year 8	89.9%
Year 9	82.8%
Year 10	86.0%
Year 11	85.5%



Table D4 – Attendance levels per year group spring 2023

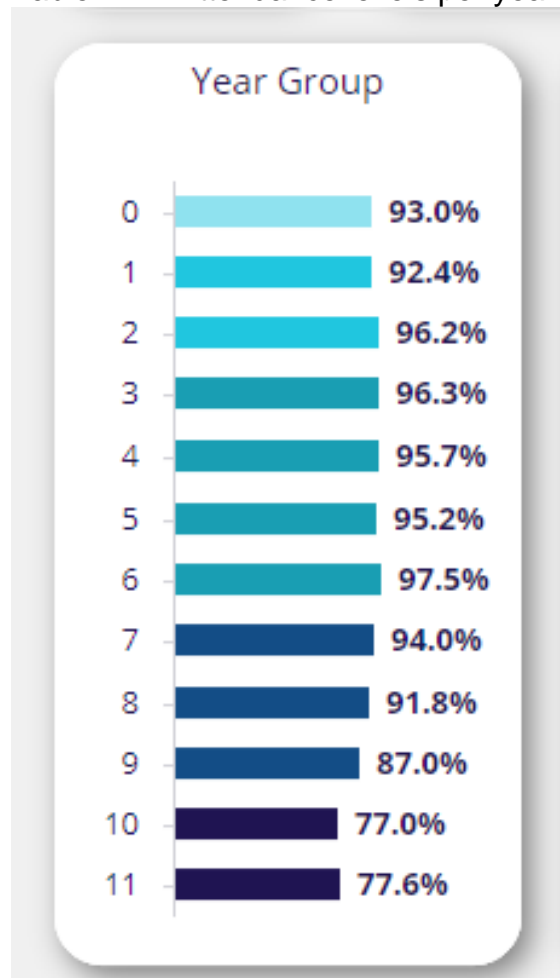


Table D5 – Annual Suspensions, LAIT data

	Warwickshire CIC	National CIC	Difference
2017	15.00	11.45	+3.55
2018	10.36	11.27	-0.9
2019	8.52	11.35	-2.83
2020	9.43	9.38	+0.05
2021	12.6		

Table D6 – CIC spending time not on a school roll spring 2023

	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23
Newly off roll	5	0	8
Put on roll	3	7	1
Total off roll*	15	8	14

*totals vary due to children entering and leaving care

Table D7 – in-year school moves by key stage spring 2023

	EYFS	KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	Totals
2019-20						101
2020-21	10	10	18	26	19	83
2021-22	4	14	26	22	10	76
Aut 22	3	13	8	9	6	39
Spr 23	2	6	6	7	4	25

Table D8 – finance

	Payments to schools via PEPs	Average PEP related spend per CIC
Aut 20	£229,465	£520.33
Spr 21	£256,700	£554.43
Sum 21	£264,500	£566.38
Aut 21	£282,400	£619.30
Spr 22	£295,000	£699.05
Sum 22	£244,900	£540.62
Aut 22	£270,500	£654.96
Spr 23		

For questions or further information email: deenamoorey@warwickshire.gov.uk

Corporate Parenting Panel Work Programme 2023

Item	Report detail	Date of Meeting
Update from CICC and Care Leaver Forum	Receive an update from children and young people from the CICC and Care Leaver Forum.	* Standing items for every meeting
Performance Data	Report which includes key data regarding CLA & Care Leavers	
Development of Work Programme for 2023 and Forward Plan information	To consider proposed work programme & future areas of work for the panel; including information from the forward plan with items relevant to the remit of the panel	
Report from the Virtual School Head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Term (March/April) - annual report • Summer Term (July/August) - school stability, exclusions, attendance, PEP completion rates for the academic year, Post 16 overview • Autumn term (November) - data forecast for the academic year, Post 16 EET destinations 	Quarterly Report – Spring Term report due 15th May 2023

Report detail	Date of Meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate Parenting Roadshows – Verbal Update from Sharon Shaw Governance for Child in Care and HELAC Feedback – Verbal Update from Angela Richardson Placement Stability for Children in Care – Verbal Update from Sharon Shaw The Vanguard Project – Verbal Update from George Shipman 	15 th May 2023
2023/2024	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District and Borough Charter in relation to Corporate Parenting (Lisa Barker) To consider the need and mental health timescales for care leavers and CLA receiving a CAMHS/RISE service and a report into the process for mental health assessments (Helen Broughton) Work Force Strategy (John Coleman) 	19 th June 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Exploitation and missing episodes Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report 	18 th September 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Fostering and Adoption Report – to include information in relation to private fostering 	13 th November 2023
	15 th January 2024
	25 th March 2024

Actions from the previous meetings/Additions to the work programme

- County Line – a police representative will be asked to attend
- Partnership working with District and Borough colleagues - A Charter with shared objectives will be presented to the panel after April 2022
- Review into the turnover of Social Workers to identify any trends (John Coleman).
- Invitation to be sent to a representative of the Police to join a discussions in relation to missing children (Sharon Shaw).

Information circulated to Members outside of meetings - *none currently***Items included on the Forward Plan relevant to the remit of the Panel:**

The remit of the panel is to secure elected member and cross-organisation support and commitment for delivering improvement services and better outcomes for looked after children, young people and care leavers:

Decision	Description	Date due	Decision Maker
School Sufficiency Strategy	A report setting out updates to the School Sufficiency Strategy	25 July 2023 County Council	13 July 2023 Cabinet
Warwickshire 0-25 Education Sufficiency Strategy	Refresh of the Warwickshire Education Sufficiency Strategy	25 July 2023 County Council	13 July 2023 Cabinet
Annual Education Sufficiency Update 2023	Annual Education Sufficiency Update 2022 - providing updated data and context in support of the Education Sufficiency Strategy	12 October 2023	Cabinet

Member Development Sessions relevant to the committee

- Overview Session on Education Services – 17th May at 2pm
- Education Services (SEND) – Session 3 – 27th June at 3pm

Future Meetings - 2023/24

- 19th June 2023 at 10am
- 18th September 2023 at 10am
- 13th November 2023 at 10am
- 15th January 2024 at 10am
- 25th March 2024 at 10am