

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
21 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Executive Director People and Communities Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Sam Smith, Cabinet Member for Children's Services.	
Contact Officer(s):	Dee Glover HeadTeacher Virtual School	Tel. 863678

VIRTUAL SCHOOL REPORT 2016 – 2017

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Nicola Curley Assistant Director Children's Services	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the content of the report. 2. Raise any queries they have with the lead officer. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Virtual School for CIC report is presented annually to Corporate Parenting Committee.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Panel on the outcomes for Children in Care in the academic year 2016 - 2017.

2.2 This report is presented under the Corporate Parenting Committee's Terms of Reference,

3.4.2.3 To raise the aspiration, ambitions and life chances of children and young people in care, narrowing the gap of achievement between children in care and their peers.

2.3 This links to the Children in Care Pledge under:

1.**Respect** - We will respect you as individuals, with differing wants, needs and beliefs and tailor the service you get to fit you.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Peterborough's Children in Care, regardless of their location, deserve the best start in life. Enabling them to secure good educational outcomes is key to ensuring that their dreams and aspirations can be realised. As Corporate Parent, Peterborough City Council is committed to ensuring that children and young people in care have access to high quality education provision and timely and appropriate support when it is needed. Securing good educational outcomes for children in care will enable them to live economically independent, successful and fulfilling adult lives.
- 4.2 Peterborough Virtual School works strategically across the local authority and in partnership with schools and other agencies, in order to improve standards of achievement for this group of children and young people, whether they are placed in or out of Peterborough.
- 4.3 Peterborough Virtual School for Children in Care has a focus on improving educational outcomes and accelerating learning from Early Years to the end of Year 13. This is undertaken through ensuring that all children in care have a high quality and compliant Personal Education Plan (PEP) that has challenging and meaningful targets which are aspirational and includes the support needed to enable the plan to be achieved. The tracking of attainment, progress, attendance, exclusion, with early intervention to raise attainment and to reduce or remove barriers to education is a key activity of the Service, whilst ensuring all children in care have access to a high quality education.
- 4.4 In addition to fulfilling their educational potential and increasing life chances through academic achievement; it is a priority for young people leaving care to be positive and contributing members of their communities.
- 4.5 Celebrating and recognising achievements is an important role that encourages high aspirations and raises self- esteem.
- 4.6 Safeguarding children and young people in care is a priority that is threaded through all activities of Peterborough Virtual School.
- 4.7 There are 4 main strands of focus for improvement of the Virtual School.
- Raise attainment and accelerate progress for children in care across all key stages;
 - Improve school attendance and reduce exclusion;
 - Improve the quality of Personal Education Plans; and
 - Support school leadership to enhance a shared objective of improving life opportunities through education.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 N/A

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 To provide Corporate Parenting Committee members with an oversight of the outcome for Peterborough CIC educationally.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 N/A

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 None

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 None

Legal Implications

9.2 None

Equalities Implications

9.3 None

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 - Peterborough Virtual School for Children in Care September 2016 – August 2017

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