



Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy, Executive Director - Children's Services

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	19 January 2023
Subject:	Lincolnshire County Council Virtual School Annual Report Academic Year 2021-2022

Summary:

This Annual Report covers the work of the Virtual School Head to support the promotion of educational outcomes for Children and Young People in Care for the academic year 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022. It is a statutory requirement and serves to update the Corporate Parenting Panel on the Educational Progress of Children and Young People in Care aged 3-18.

Actions Required:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are requested to consider the attached Virtual School Annual Report 2021-2022 and endorse the recommendations for the academic year 2022-2023.

1. Background

This Annual Report covers the work of the Virtual School Head to support the promotion of educational outcomes for Children and Young People in Care for the academic year 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022. It is a statutory requirement and serves to update the Corporate Parenting Panel on the Educational Progress of Children and Young People in Care aged 3-18.

2. Conclusion

2.1 Key messages within this report are:

- The Lincolnshire Virtual School Team continues to be ambitious for all of our children in care. We understand that promoting better educational outcomes is everyone's business and we provide: training, challenge, advice and support to schools, children's services colleagues, foster carers, parents and others so that they can better advocate for the learning of children and young people in their

care.

- The majority of our children and young people aged 3-18 continue to attend schools and colleges graded good or better by Ofsted.
- Pupil Premium is allocated to schools and colleges in a timely way and is linked to targets outlined in the Personal Education Plan. Personal Education Plans are reviewed three times per year or more if appropriate for all children and young people aged 3-18. Personal Education plans continue to focus upon supporting better attendance and providing schools with additional pupil premium, school tuition and recovery funding for those young people most effected by the fallout from the pandemic that has impacted their learning since 2020.
- Early intervention is key to promoting outcomes and consequently all children in care or entering care aged 3-13 continue to receive support from our Specialist Teachers so that schools are better informed of strategies to improve communication and language needs if appropriate.
- The Virtual School Team continues to work effectively and in cooperation with carers, parents, schools, and Children's Services colleagues to support the education of Children in Care regardless of where our children are placed.
- The team works closely with our children and young people with the specific aim of developing strong and effective working relationships. The voice of our children and young people is heard. We celebrate successes and provide opportunities for them and their families to be better understood. We endeavour to stick with them when things don't go so well and put any potential setbacks into context.
- Despite the many challenges that our young people and their carers have faced over the period many of our children and young people still made progress and are happy in school with many achieving outstanding results academically and personally in 2022.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire County Council Virtual School Annual Report Academic Year 2021-2022

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Kieran Barnes, Virtual School Headteacher, who can be contacted on 07854877844 or kieran.barnes@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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