



Open Report on behalf of Heather Sandy, Executive Director – Children’s Services

Report to:	Corporate Parenting Panel
Date:	11 May 2023
Subject:	Children in Care school attendance – addendum to Virtual School Annual Report for the academic year 2021 -22

Summary:

This report provides an overview of the school attendance of children in the care of Lincolnshire for the academic year 2021-22. The information in this report was not included in the Virtual School Annual Report presented in January 2023 as national and regional comparative data was not available at that time.

Actions Required:

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are invited to:

- (1)** Consider and comment on the information contained in the report (Appendix A);
and
- (2)** Review and endorse the report.

1. Background

A key focus of the Virtual School is to have robust procedures in place to monitor the attendance and educational progress of our children in care. The Virtual School works in partnership with Children’s Services colleagues, education settings, parents, carers and other local authorities to avoid drift and delay in our young people accessing suitable educational provision. Termly Personal Education Plans (PEP) provide the basis for multiagency discussions on interventions or support that may be needed to remove barriers to expected levels of school attendance.

2. Conclusion

Regular school attendance enables pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances. For our children in care, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and enables needs to be

identified and support provided. Lincolnshire Virtual School regularly reviews the robust procedures in place to monitor the attendance of our children in care and is committed to working with schools, Children’s Services’ colleagues, parents and carers to continue to aspire to high standards of attendance for all our pupils.

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 Virtual School – School attendance for the academic year 2021-22

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 Sarah Lane, Interim Virtual School Headteacher, who can be contacted by e-mail at sarah.lane@lincolnshire.gov.uk.