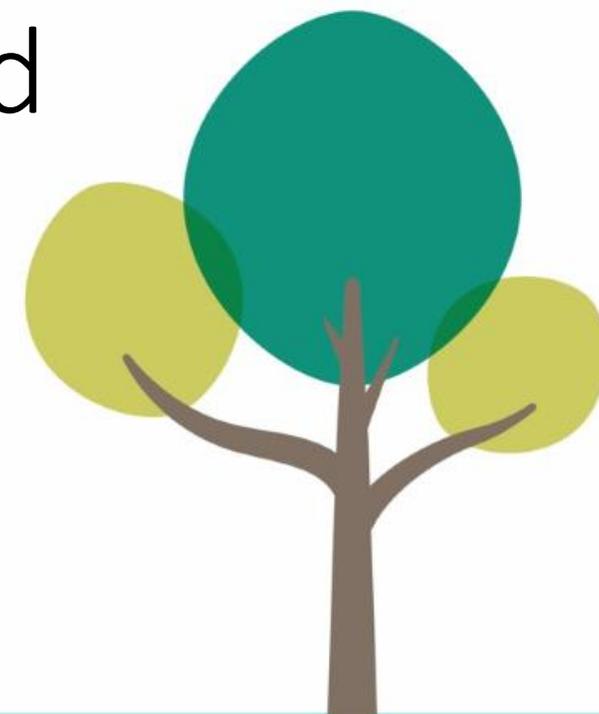




Sandwell Virtual School for Children in Care, Previously Looked After Children, Children with A Social Worker and Post 16 YP.

Balwant Bains – Executive Headteacher



Sandwell Virtual School

- Headteacher
- Operations Manager
- Lead Advisory Teacher (part-time)
- 8 X Advisory Teacher (1 X Post 16)
- 2 X Admin Support
- CWSW – 2 X Leads



Strategic Intent

- Sandwell Virtual School for CiC Strategic Intention is to have high expectations for children so that they are given every opportunity to access the very best education possible and achieve their potential.
- Our values: LEARN : ACHIEVE : TOGETHER



Inspection of Sandwell local authority children's services: May 2022.

- Leaders and the head of the virtual school have high expectations for children in care. They have worked diligently since the previous inspection to bring about improvements in the virtual school service and have had notable successes in improving the quality of how children in care are monitored and supported through education. Most children in care attend schools which are good or better and for those who do not, the reasons are clearly defined and in the best interests of the child. Children in care have a high attendance rate at school.
- Most children in care live in stable placements which meet their needs, often with brothers and sisters if this is in their best interests. They are well supported and make progress in their education and learning.

Sandwell Children's Trust Adoption Inspection Dec 2022.

- Children have access to a range of social and educational opportunities. The agency, through its links with the virtual school, keeps track of children's attainment, achievements and progress. When needed, additional support is provided to children without delay. This ensures that children's educational progress does not drift, and the support promotes children's learning.



Cohort Profile: Sandwell-503 of school age

- Nationally - There were 82,187 80,850 CiC in England (+2% from 2021).
 - The most common reason for a child to come into cares is - at risk of abuse or neglect - 54,270 children (66%).
 - Males account for 56% of the cohort this is slightly over-represented in the CLA population, compared to 51% in the overall child population.
 - CiC are predominantly older - 10 to 15-year-olds account for 39% of children, 18% aged 5 to 9 years, 14% aged 1 to 4 years and 5% aged less than 1 year.
- Approximately 48% of Sandwell children attend school outside the area of Sandwell, with 93% attending schools in and within 20 miles of Sandwell.



1. Schools attended: Sandwell-503 of school age

- 16% (-1% National) of the **overall** CiC cohort (of school age) attend an 'outstanding' education setting.
- 88% (+8% from 2020) attend an education setting that is 'good/outstanding';
-1 below all children national.
- Only 1% of the cohort attend a setting judged to be Inadequate. For all children nationally this is 3%.



2. Creative Curriculum – Partnership with West Midlands Foundation.

a) Arts and Crafts Day - 10th December 2022

- Children watched a pantomime, decorated biscuits made decorations and experienced a 'Dohl' lesson.
- *"They both loved the independence and being able to express themselves and make friends."*

b) Film Making Workshop February 2023 Birmingham and Black Country Cluster 3 children from each cluster

- Develop reels and edit their own epic videos.

c) Easter Arts Festival April 2023 – A Partnership between HAF, Sandwell Virtual School and The STEPS Centre

- 46 adults and 84 young people attended.

d) WMVS Foundation in partnership with Women & Theatre: Easter Performance April 2023

- 17 Sandwell children – 3 days of creativity over Easter dance and a drama programme culminated in a performance



e) An Introduction into TV Acting 12th April 2023 at The Grand Theatre Wolverhampton

- By the end of the workshop, students understood the difference between theatre and TV acting and performed one of the scripts (EastEnders or Casualty) to peers and staff.

f) Year 7 Prosthetics Workshop 30.05.23

6 Sandwell CiC - fantastic hands-on opportunity to learn how to create prosthetics and television/ film make up from an industry professional!



3. Raising Aspirations – Aspire 2 University

- 129 young people (years 8-13) on the programme from (Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Dudley & Staffordshire. (45 from Sandwell).
- 2023 – 10 graduates all in positive destinations

KA	B - English B - Law C - Chemistry	Bath University studying Law
JB		Sandwell College studying a Diploma in Esports (Business & Gaming Course)
TB		Sandwell College studying a Diploma in Esports (Business & Gaming Course)
KD		Juniper Training studying English and Maths
VH	B - Physics B - Geography C - Maths	University of Swansea studying Aerospace Engineering
MJ		Sandwell College studying Level 2 in Electronics
RK		Second year at Cardiff University studying Architecture
ZM		Looking for apprenticeship
LO		Dudley College studying Art (second year)
TS	C – Media Distinction - Business	Kingston University London studying Software Engineer.

4. Attendance - The attendance of Sandwell CiC continues to pass that of all students nationally. There has been a 1.14% increase in attendance from the previous year .

	2018 CIC matched	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Attendance						
No. of pupils	298	543	474	456	574	503
Sandwell CiC	95.30%	94.30%	92.80%	90.35	92.82	93.96%
National CiC	95.50%	95.3%				
National (all)	95.20%	95.3%	95.3% (Aut 2020)	94.2*	92.4	92.5% Autumn 2022/23

- 2022-23 – of a 503 cohort, there were 106 occasions of suspension (21.1%); representing 45 children (8.9%).
- 3 PX in 8 years.



5) Sandwell Virtual School engaged 554 service partners & carers in training over the academic year.

- **ePEP - 65 attendees** The impact of early experience on sensory development and processing.
- **Trauma Informed Practice – 480** (Anxiety based difficulties and school, Developing emotional Regulation in children and YP who experience Trauma, A world of distractions, successful inclusion of children and Young people with ADHD, Attachment and Trauma demystified and Developing trauma Sensitive Classrooms and Children’s mental health in Covid-19 era – Jenny Nock : Steven Russell from Elements Support - Inspiring young people).

6) **Sandwell Virtual School Music Provision Programme/SIPS Music Services:** Sandwell Virtual School recognises the value of music in **strengthens a child’s perseverance and self-esteem. 81** Years 4 to 7 **weekly 30 minute 1:1 lessons** (keyboard, drums, tabla, guitar, ukulele, flute, clarinet, saxophone, vocal, trumpet, baritone and violin). **12 of the students passed their gradings:** elementary grade keyboards, ukuleles and brass, grade one clarinet and grade clarinet, elementary, grade 1 and grade two flute.

- 30 children attended The Symphony Hall in Birmingham where they experienced The Music of Harry Potter performed by a professional orchestra.

‘IGNITE’ – 25 Children performed on 4 separate occasions.

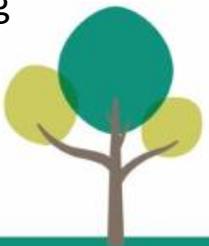


7) The VSH holds schools and education settings to account for the impact of the Pupil Premium Plus.

- PEP completion for the 2022-23 academic year indicates that 94% (2022 - 91%) PEP completed (5 to 16 years old).
- Quality assurance process showed that 69% (2022 - 76%) of those completed were judged as Good/Outstanding with 10% (2021 – 6.6%) being inadequate.

8) **Extended Role for Children with a Social Worker:** Virtual School Heads take a strategic leadership role in promoting the educational outcomes of CWSW and those who have previously had a social worker (Child in Need plan or a Child Protection plan, CiC).

- There are approximately 1000 Sandwell Children WSW. A programme of engagement and Professional Development is in place to build professional capacity.
 - Professional drop-in meeting - 8 school consultations, 13 Social work consultations.
 - Tuition - 6 children received tuition for 6 weeks
 - Poverty proofing – 19 Schools
 - Training (2022-2023) - Improving Attendance (65 participants), Pupils under Stress (20 participants), Learning Behaviours (11 participants), Engaging with Parents (17 participants)



9) Albion Foundation

The Albion Foundation

6 young people and 7 Carers attended WBA home fixtures

Inspire Coaching
70 young people in 7 Secondary Schools engaged

120 Club
KS 2 Club - 8 YP

Supporting the KS3 Transition residential

10) Reducing NEET

- 2017 – 24%
- 2023 1.8%

	Cohort (12 Months +)	NEET Sept (End of Y11)	NEET Year 12	NEET Year 13
2017	42	24%	21%	36%
2018	49	12%	37%	31%
2019	50	14%	8%	18.0% (9 Children)
2020	63	6% (4 children)	13.0% (7 children)	9.5% (6 Children)
2021	38	8% (2 children)	13.2% (5 children)	23.6 % (9 children) 18.4% (7 YP)
2022	53	11.3 % (6 Children)	11.3% (6 children)	
2023	59	1.8% (1 Child)		

Children & Young People Now
Awards 2020

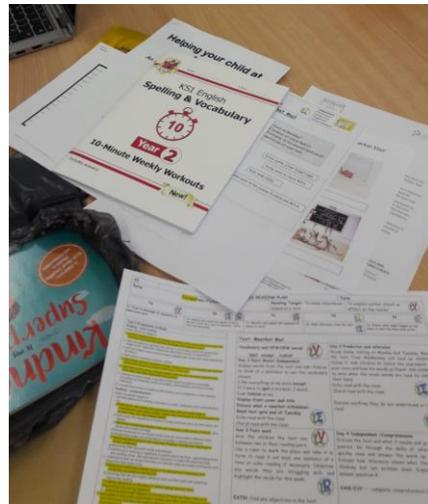
Winner



Key Stage 1 Outcomes 2023

	Reading				Writing				Mathematics			
	Expected +				Expected +				Expected +			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
LAC Sandwell	75	31	41	60	50	23	38	45	67	31	38	55
LAC National	49	46	44	45	44	36	33	33	48	45	43	45
ALL Sandwell	70	59	61	64	66	49	51	55	72	59	63	67
ALL National	72	67	67	68	67	58	58	60	73	67	68	70

Intervention Packs - . Each PEP was analysed, and personalised packs were provided to support gaps in learning and help support those children working just below the expected levels.



- There is a rise in attainment in all areas: Reading +19%, Writing +7% and Maths +17% closing the gap to All Sandwell children.
- 31% of the KS 2 cohort has SEN EHCP/Statement or SEN support, there remains a gap in this cohort attainment compared to peers.
- Of the 29 children with no SEND, this cohort's outcomes surpassed those of All Sandwell Children in Reading Writing and Maths.