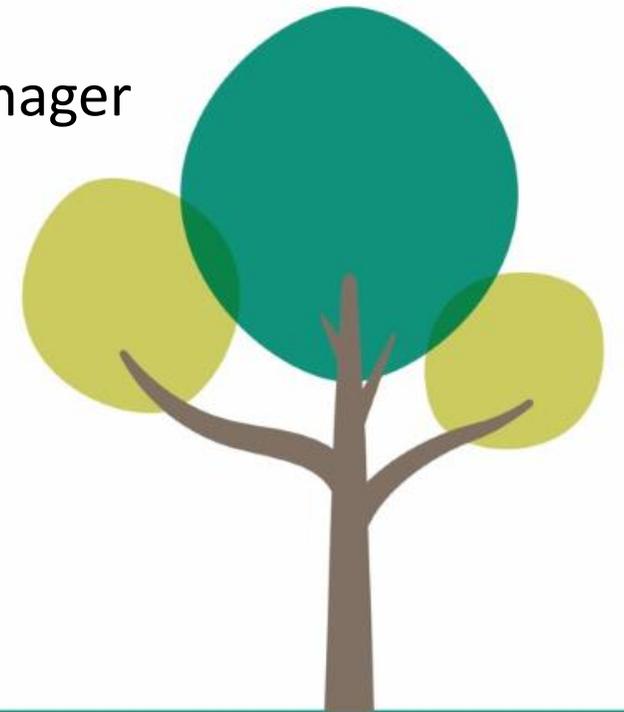


Post 16 Pathways

Kelly Harris – Skills and Employability Service Manager



Education, Employment and Training Monitoring

Statutory Duties

- Targeted careers support for vulnerable young people
- Raising of the participation age (RPA)
- Connexions Service delivery
- Monitoring arrangements in place



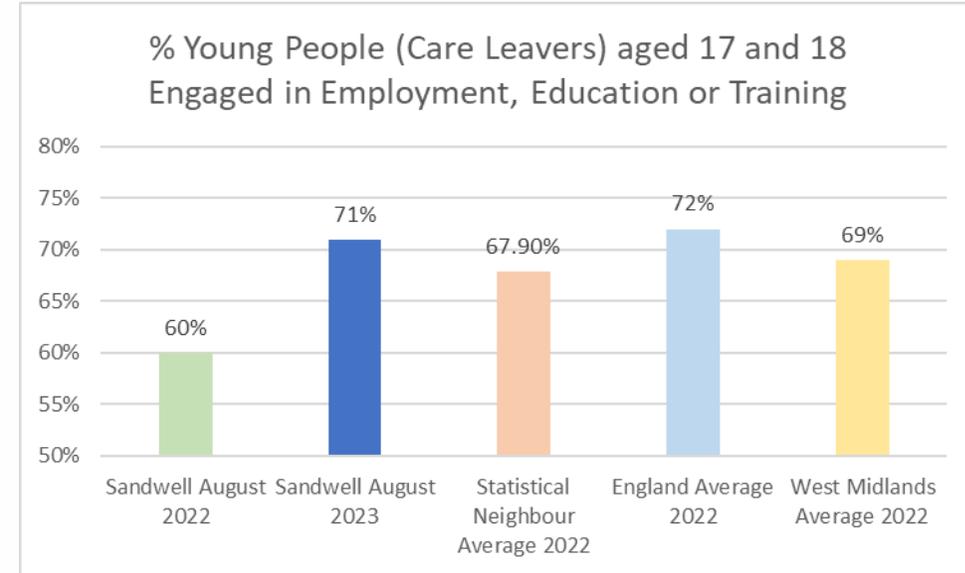
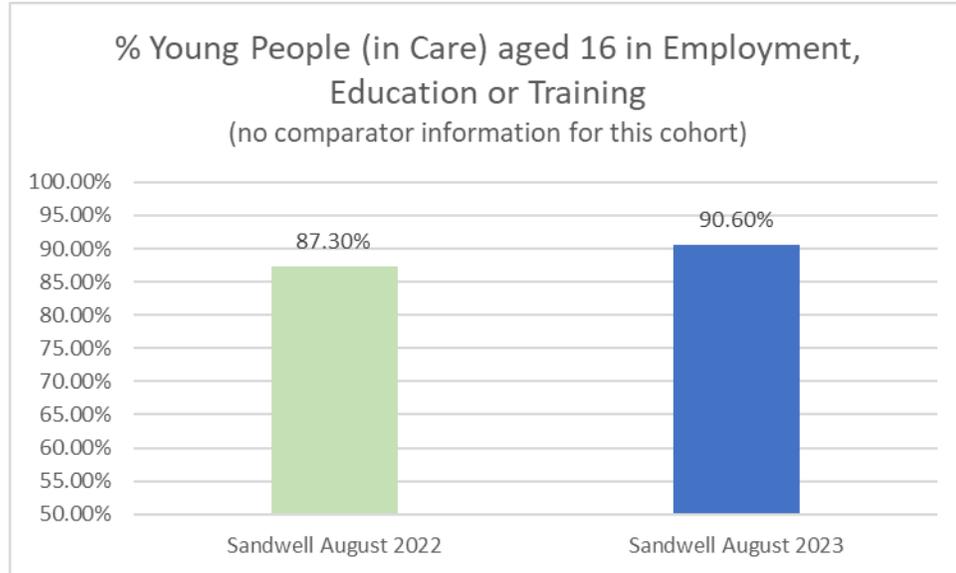
NEET/EET Statistics

- Current NEET/Not known figure for 16-17 year olds – 1.7%
- Improvement on 2021/2 – 2.6%
- Sandwell ranked in Quintile 1, 7th in the Country
- September offer:

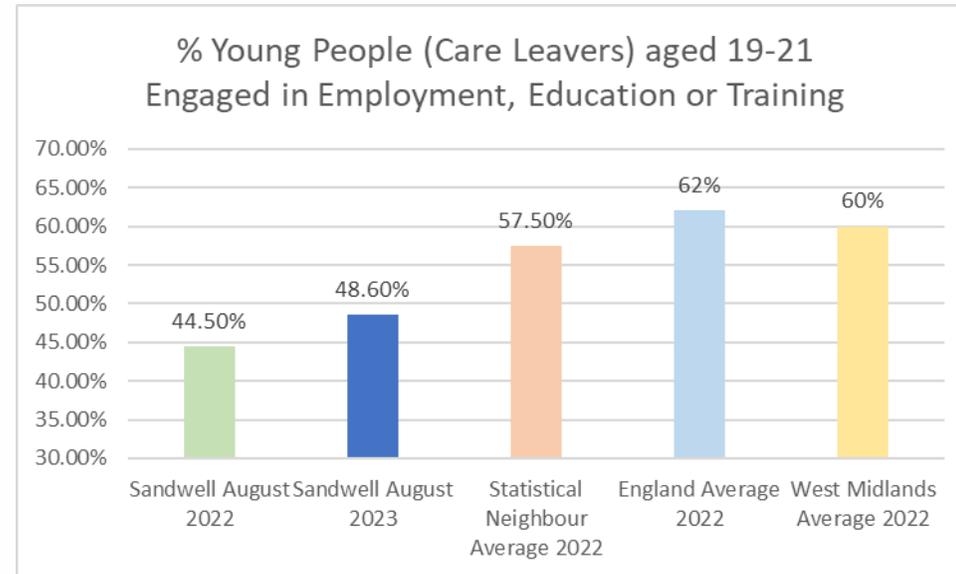
	Total Y11 Guarantee	Offer made	% Offer made	Total Y12 Guarantee	Offer made	% Offer made	Combined %
ENGLAND	609273	590123	96.4%	608035	563617	92.6%	94.5%
WEST MIDLANDS	68515	67029	97.8%	68751	64935	94.4%	96.1%
Sandwell	4371	4357	99.7%	4561	4530	99.3%	99.5%



Children in Care/Care Leaver NEET/EET



Children in Care/Care Leaver NEET/EET



SEND NEET/EET

- Sandwell has a high percentage of SEND young people in learning aged 16-17
- Sandwell's NEET and Not known figures compare favourably against the West Midlands and England averages

	In-learning	NEET	Not Known	NEET/NK combined
Sandwell (SEND)	85.5%	5.6%	2.6%	8.3%
West Mids. (SEND)	87.3%	7.8%	1.6%	9.4%
England (SEND)	87.2%	8.2%	1.5%	9.7%
Sandwell (SEN Support)	88.4%	5.3%	1.0%	6.3%
West Mids. (SEN Support)	84.8%	6.6%	4.3%	11.0%
England (SEN Support)	85.9%	6.3%	2.9%	9.1%



Specialist EET Support

CIC/Care Leavers

- Connexions bespoke careers careers advice and guidance programme yr 8-11
- Aspire to HE
- NEET panel
- Ringfenced apprenticeship opportunities
- Employment and Skills team offer

SEND

- Connexions targeted service
- Support available up to 25 with EHCP
- Supported internships offer
- Supported apprenticeships
- Specialist employment team offer



Apprenticeships

2070 apprenticeship start 2021/2

Declining apprenticeship figure – 46.6% reduction since 2016/17

- 430 under 19
- 650 19-24
- 990 25 plus

Levels of apprenticeship

- 44% Advanced apprenticeships
- 29% Higher apprenticeships
- 27% Intermediate apprenticeships

Sectors – Business administration and law/Health and Social Care



Council Apprenticeship Programme

Apprenticeship Levy

- **954** starts in Councils and schools since 2017
- Age range 16-62
- 355 substantive staff, 599 new entrant apprentices
- **Inclusive** recruitment practices eg for Children in Care/Care Leavers

Employment and Skills Team

- Apprenticeship recruitment for local employers
- Engagement activities



Youth Unemployment

	Sandwell %	Dudley %	Walsall %	Wolverhampton %
Jan 2020 (pre pandemic)	7.3	6.9	7.6	8.7
Aug 2020	14.5	13.2	14.5	16.0
Aug 2021	11.1	9.9	11.6	12.9
Aug 2022	9.0	6.9	8.2	9.4
Aug 2023	9.1	7.5	9.2	10.5

- Sandwell's out of work benefits claimants 2600 in August 2023
- Higher than pre-pandemic levels (1930)
- Sandwell rate higher than West Midlands (6.7%) and national average (4.9)



Causes of Youth Unemployment

- End of funding streams/support available reduced
- Lack of skills and experience for vacancies available
- Mental health and anxiety
- Lack of work experience
- Financial barriers – benefit reliance/apprenticeship wage
- Generational worklessness
- Lack of willingness to travel outside of borough for opportunities



Measures to Reduce Youth Unemployment

- Accelerate programme
- New Sandwell youth hub – partnership with DWP
- UKSPF – People and Skills pillar
- Commonwealth games legacy funding – jobs and skills support, incentivised work placements, NEET prevention
- CIC/Care Leavers NEET strategy
- YJS deep dive NEET
- SEND employment activities – LSE, growing supported internship model
- Skills and employment strategy refresh



Any questions?

