

## TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

DATE:	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021
REPORT AUTHOR:	Linda Mason HEAD TEACHER Virtual School
SUBJECT:	Head Teacher's Report
PURPOSE:	FOR INFORMATION

### 1. SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Corporate Parenting Board with updated information about the education of cared for children since the last report on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021, a period of 5 school weeks. Therefore, this is a short update report

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

**The Board is requested to receive the report for information**

### 3. Context - Cohort and Characteristics

Currently as of 11 November 2021 (report written) we have 564 Cared for Children aged 0 – 18 a reduction of 22 compared to 586 Cared for Children in September 2021.

Historical cohorts (when report written)

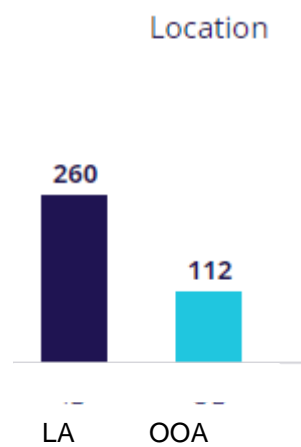
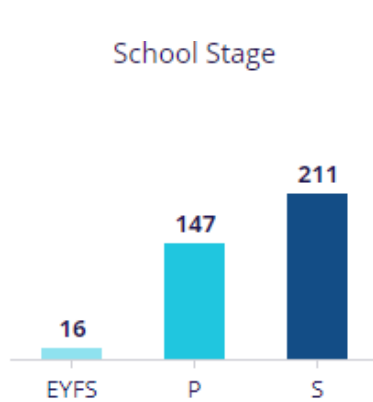
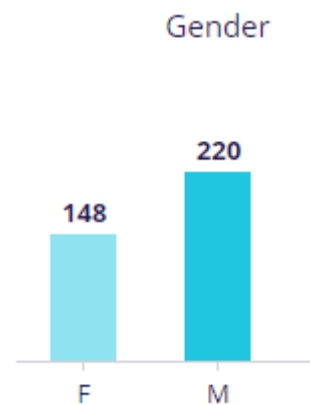
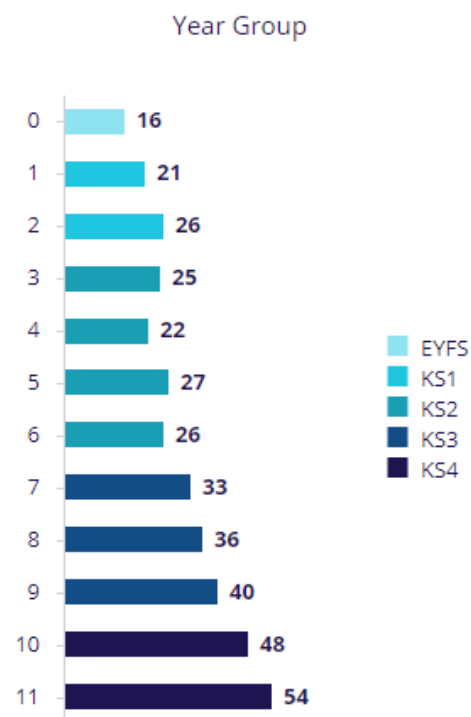
November 2021	564
September 2021	586
April 2021	625
January 2021	633

### 3.1 COHORT

Source Virtual School Data November 2021

Of the 586 :

- 59 are Pre School
- 34 attend nursery or early years provision
- 466 are school age Reception to year 11
- 94 are Post 16

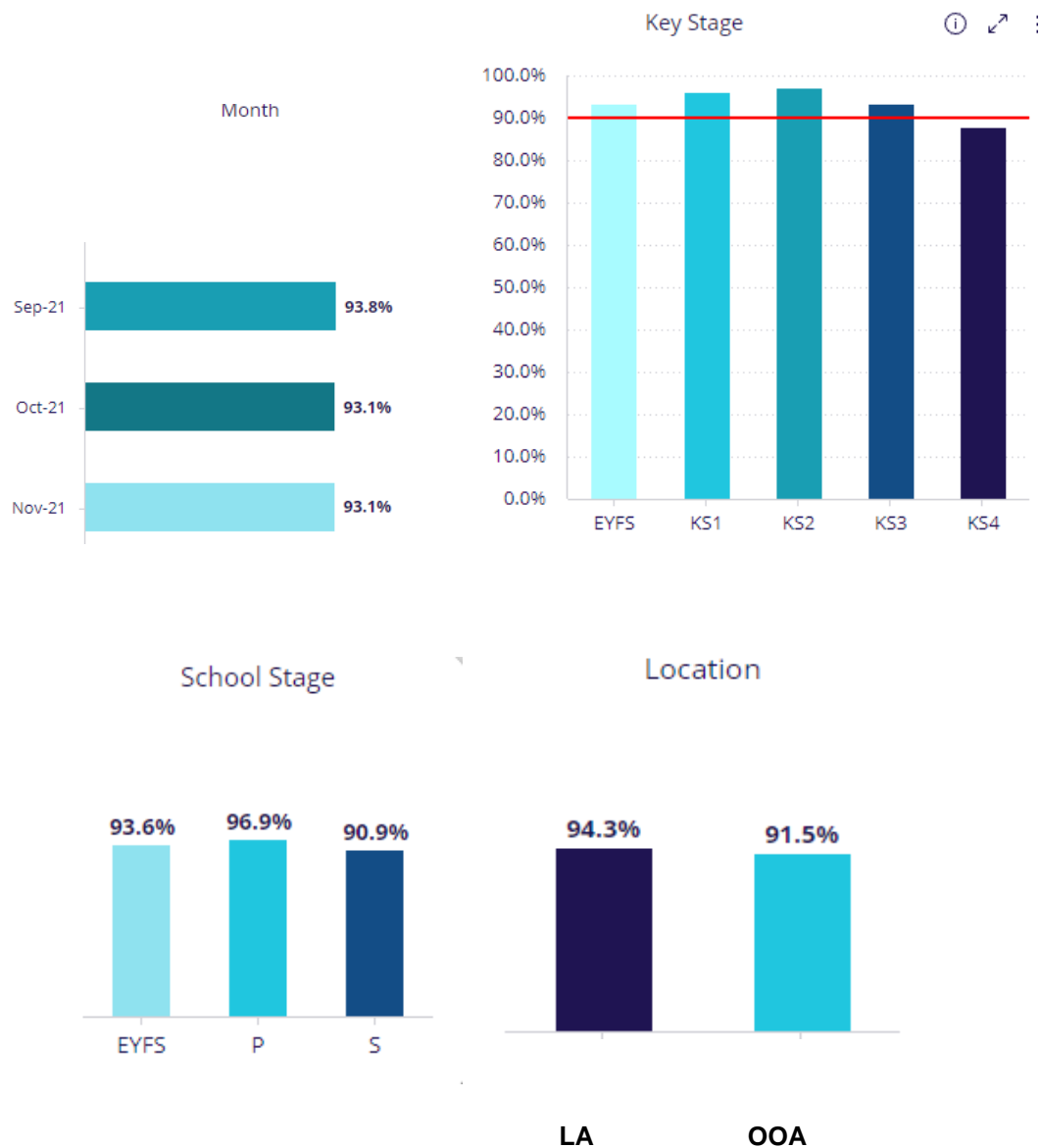


## 4 Progress and Achievement

There is no progress and achievement data to report.

## 5 Attendance and Absence monitoring

Current attendance since returning to school is 93.43%.



The Virtual School monitors attendance daily through Welfare Call and contacts carers to ensure attendance at school is a key priority if concerns arise. Analysis of the detail behind the data occurs termly and virtual school staff work closely with schools, carers and social workers to ensure attendance is improved.

## 6 Suspensions and Permanent Exclusions

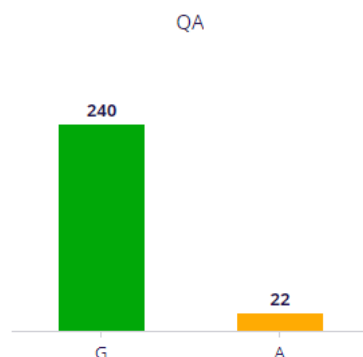
Autumn 2021 (11 Nov 2021)			
Permanent Exclusions	0	0	0
Fixed Term (Suspensions)	12 episodes	16 days	9 children

- 1 Cared for Child received more than 1 exclusion
- 1 lives in a children's home
- 4 have an EHCP
- 4 attend specialist educational provision
- 3 receive SEN support
- 1 attends a Pupil Referral Unit
- 4 currently live outside of Sunderland LA

The Virtual School works closely with schools, carers and social workers when suspensions occur to understand the antecedents and to ensure appropriate support and plans are put in place to prevent further suspensions. This includes the use of the SEND ranges to ensure needs are identified and resources are put in place, but also referrals to other agencies are aligned such as CYPS, CAMHS for example. The EPEP should include targets related to any social and emotional or mental health needs.

## 7 EPEPS

Quality assurance continues to be a key area of focus this year. Each section of the EPEP is assessed and this is fed back to schools using a RAG rating. If there are concerns about the quality of the EPEP a meeting is held to consider how it can be improved. Virtual School staff are also involved in moderation exercises to ensure a consistency of judgements. This will be expanded in future training with Designated Teachers.



Compliance rate for the Autumn Term 2021 will be reported in January 2022

## **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **9 CONTACT**

Name: Linda Mason  
Position: Head Teacher Virtual School  
Email: [linda.mason@togetherforchildren.org.uk](mailto:linda.mason@togetherforchildren.org.uk)  
Tel: 07900 350502