

# Opportunities

## Outcomes

---



## Executive Summary

---

























A new plan has been agreed, “Delivering Educational Excellence”, to continue the recent and much needed improvements in educational attainment. Working with our Strategic Partners in Hampshire County Council excellent progress is being made although there is still much left to do.

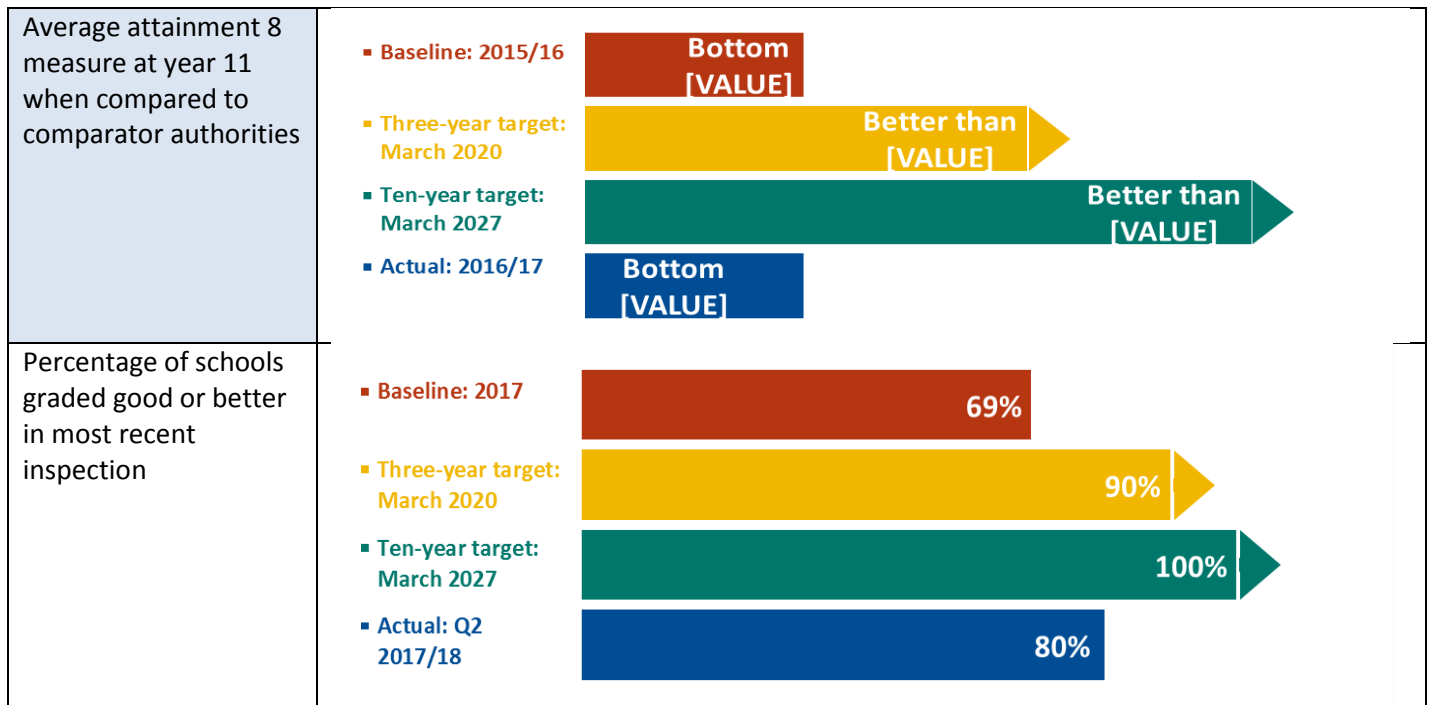
The Council has great ambition for schools on the Isle of Wight and is well on the way to a position where all schools whether primary or secondary will have a rating from Ofsted of “Good” or better. The vast majority of recent Ofsted inspections in recent times have been positive and where they have not the Council has taken immediate steps to address any issues raised and to quickly solve them to maintain the upward curve of progress within our schools.

It is critically important that all island children are given the best start in life; that they are not only educated well, but that they are safe, protected and supported to achieve the very best for themselves in adulthood. An Ofsted inspection of Children’s Safeguarding in August 2017 identified significant improvements in this service. There are still areas for improvement and there continues to be highly focused action to address this.

## Long Term Success Factors

We will assess our long term achievements over 3 and 10 years against the following measures

<p>Reduce the proportion of children living in poverty (All under 20)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Baseline: 2014</b>  20.7%</li> <li>▪ <b>Three-year target: March 2020</b>  19% </li> <li>▪ <b>Ten-year target: March 2027</b>  16% </li> <li>▪ <b>Actual: Q2 2017/18</b>  19.2%</li> </ul>
<p>Number of children looked after (per 10,000 children ≤ 18 years old)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Baseline: 2017</b>  88.6</li> <li>▪ <b>Three-year target: March 2020</b>  80 </li> <li>▪ <b>Ten-year target: March 2027</b>  70 </li> <li>▪ <b>Actual: Q2 2017/18</b>  88.49</li> </ul>
<p>Reduce the percentage of 16 to 18 years old Not in Education, Employment of Training (NEET)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Baseline: 2015</b>  2.8%</li> <li>▪ <b>Three-year target: March 2020</b>  2% </li> <li>▪ <b>Ten-year target: March 2027</b>  1% </li> <li>▪ <b>Actual: Q2 2017/18</b>  0.9%</li> </ul>
<p>Proportion of the working age population qualified at NVQ level 2 or higher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Baseline: 2016</b>  73.8%</li> <li>▪ <b>Three-year target: March 2020</b>  75% </li> <li>▪ <b>Ten-year target: March 2027</b>  80% </li> <li>▪ <b>Actual: Q2 2017/18</b>  73.8%</li> </ul>



## Key Priorities

### **Consider and implement arrangements for the long term strategic management of Children’s Services**

*Cabinet at its meeting of 9 November 2017 agreed to extend the strategic partnership with Hampshire County Council into the longer term, with break clauses in the partnership agreement to be reviewed after each substantive Ofsted inspection/every five years.*

*This will ensure a continuity of the improvements secured during the period of the partnership and in meeting the council’s ambition to get a ‘good’ and then an ‘outstanding’ rating.*

### **Work with and challenge schools’ performance to ensure that all are good or outstanding**

*The Island deserves an education system that is a source of pride to every learner, parent/carer, educator, business and member of the community. The realisation of this ambition would greatly enhance the quality of life, economic prosperity and social cohesion of the Island. Moreover, the collective drive to achieve this, if widely shared and co-operatively constructed, would transform educational opportunities and success for all pupils.*

*The Isle of Wight Council is pledged to improve the education of all pupils on the Island. We expect that every pupil will have access to a place in a good or better school by 2020/21. More than that, we are committed to driving up standards, step by step, for all pupils whatever their background or starting point. Every pupil should expect to make progress every day through high quality teaching and learning and inspirational leadership. They will be supported and challenged throughout their education and to aspire for successful, rewarding and worthwhile lives on the Island or beyond.*

*The 4 key strategic objectives driving school improvement are*

#### **1. Ensuring that all schools are good or better**

*We will provide appropriate challenge and support to all schools, irrespective of status and governance, to strengthen their performance, improve professional learning opportunities and play our part in strengthening recruitment and tackling financial challenges.*

#### **2. Building on the improvements in standards**

*We will maintain a keen focus on schools’ drive to improve the standards achieved by all their pupils. We will ensure that there are opportunities for sharing and developing excellent practice in the teaching of mathematics. We will facilitate the development of stronger transition arrangements between the primary and secondary phases.*

#### **3. Ensuring schools are good for all children**

*We will challenge and support schools to do more for children with lower attainment on entry to education, or who fall behind their peers. An excellent Island schools’ system needs to deliver for all children, irrespective of their start in life or barriers to learning and participation. We will continue our work in highlighting effective practices, working with a wide range of partners to develop expertise in each school.*

#### **4. Leading a cohesive system for children based on effective partnership working**

*The leadership needed to transform life chances for all our children resides in schools, colleges, partner organisations, employers and our communities themselves. We intend to play our part in brokering the appropriate partnerships and collaborations to realise this potential and offset possible fragmentation and distraction. We will offer strategic leadership so that the Island’s education system is a source of pride to all.*

**Consider the options, including the benefits and risks in altering the current arrangements for school term times, following a wide ranging consultation exercise with all stakeholders; any identified changes to be implemented no earlier than the 2019/20 academic year**

*The Council wishes to investigate the patterns of term and holiday dates within the IWC school year to ensure that they best support learning and outcomes for children as well as best supporting our education and wider communities in how they organise the work and home life calendars.*

*It is the responsibility of a local authority to schedule a maintained school year which provides the statutory 190 pupil days and 195 teacher days in voluntary controlled and community schools. In other status of school the governing body must set a school year. The current pattern of term and holidays includes:*

- *A start of term in very early September and a long autumn term with a single week's half term holiday*
- *Christmas holidays of about two weeks which wherever possible include three weekends*
- *A shorter spring term with a single week's half term holiday*
- *Easter holidays which are scheduled to include the Easter weekend*
- *A summer term, punctuated by public examinations, again with a single week's half term holiday*
- *The long summer holiday break lasting up to 6 weeks*

*The Isle of Wight Council has committed to consult on alternatives to the current school year. A paper was presented to [cabinet in November 2017](#) and the consultation will run from 24 November 2017 to 12 January 2018.*

**Support schools and the education system in adapting to changes in the National Funding Formula**

*Current school funding arrangements and potential changes to the National Funding Formula are presenting schools on the Island with challenges, despite the potential for some to be a net gainer and an overall settlement that could result in increases to Island resources. Nonetheless, it is clear that there are significant challenges to many schools and in particular smaller primaries. In addition, there are some long-standing financial challenges in the secondary sector that present a risk of dissipating energy away from the central educational challenges.*

**Maintain focus on children's safeguarding practice to ensure a high quality of service with effective systems to protect children and keep them safe**

*The annual safeguarding report that was presented to Cabinet in November 2017 provided evidence of how the IW Council has continued to deliver an improved service to safeguard children while ensuring that all the resources available to the Island are used in the most effective way.*

*The report identifies future challenges and operational priorities that are summarised below (this list is not exhaustive as new priorities can emerge periodically):*

*There has been an incremental reduction in the number of children on child protection plans over the past three years. This is a positive indicator of a maturing children's safeguarding partnership. However, the rates of children subject to child protection planning and who may then become looked after represent an ongoing financial risk to the Isle of Wight Council which remains considerable and which has been acknowledged by the Council's leadership. The council has reiterated the position that the right children will be taken into care where necessary.*

*The recruitment and retention of social workers will need continued focus to maintain the current good performance. Nationally vacancy rates are now at around 20% of all posts and previously have been at similar levels within Isle of Wight Children's Services. The South East memorandum of co-operation is now in operation and it is anticipated this will have a positive impact on the level of agency social worker pay rates. Further work on promoting resilience within the workforce and attracting experienced social workers is underway.*

*'Putting Children First' is the government's strategy to transform children's social care. The ambition is that by 2020 all vulnerable children, no matter where they live, receive the same high quality of care and support, and the best outcome for every child is at the heart of every decision made. The Children and Social Work Act is part of this strategy and introduces a number of changes ranging from a new assessment and accreditation system for the social work profession, changes to local safeguarding children boards and a new power to innovate to test where legislation, regulations and guidance might be getting in the way of excellent social work practice.*

*Transforming children's social care, delivering a new social care case management system, improving mobile working and developing multi-agency teams to support families will be a significant challenge over the next three years but will deliver a modern social work service fit for the future challenges over the next decade.*

**Work with partners and key stakeholders to deliver a youth conference to increase the council's connections to young people and promote local wellbeing opportunities**

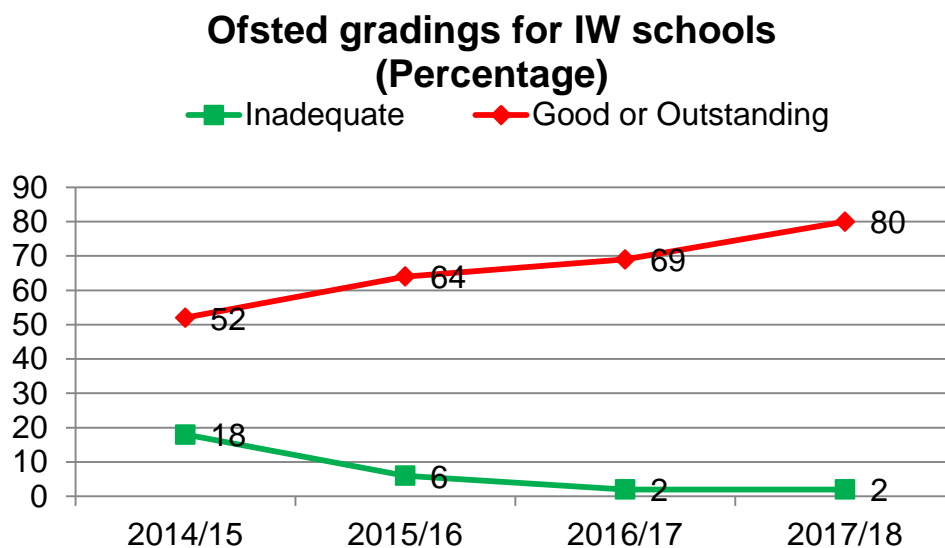
*A regeneration conference for young people is being co-ordinated for delivery in March 2018. This is to afford young people a direct voice into the pending regeneration strategy for the IOW. It is to be held at Cowes Yacht Haven and will involve employer and members. The Youth Council are helping co-ordinate and design the programme.*

**Work with businesses and training providers to develop a plan for increasing the number of apprenticeship placements and reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training**

*The 'Island youth Investment Programme' was launched in October 2017. This is providing pre-apprenticeships (traineeships) to young people with a specific focus on priority groups including those who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and those in care. In addition, we are creating more employment and apprenticeship opportunities through the development of Employment & Skills plans attached to the council's planning, procurement and partnership activities. An example of this is the Barratt's development at Bluebell meadows. Also, through the Access Transport Project further traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities will be created as well as through the STEP programme, a European Social Fund project targeting those who are NEET or at risk of being so.*

## Short Term Progress

Percentage schools graded as 'good' or outstanding in the most recent inspection (not including schools with no inspection score)



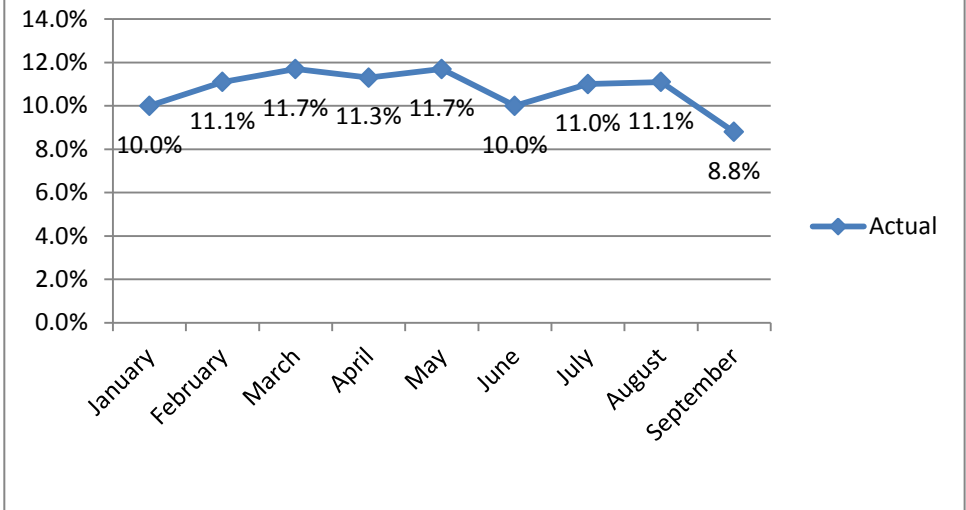
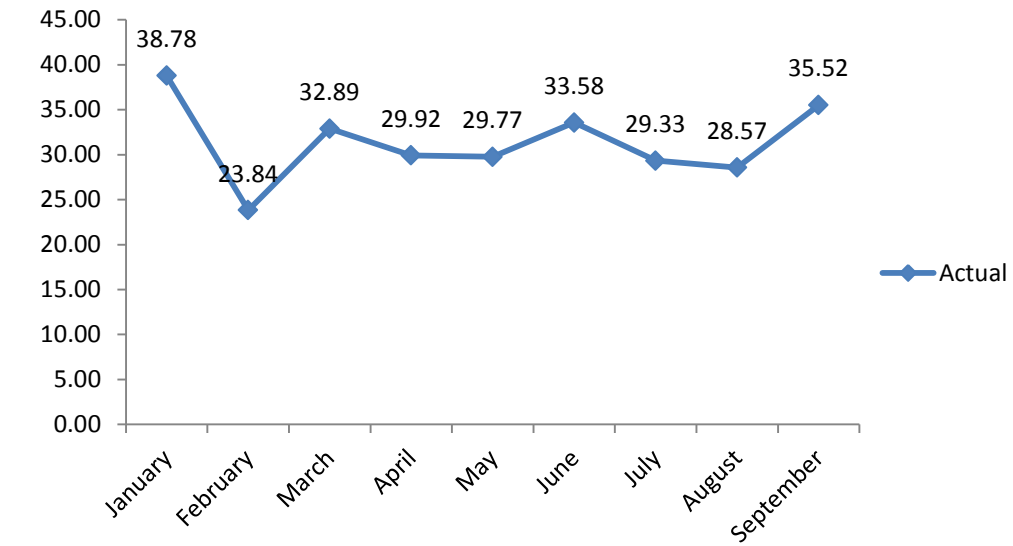
2 schools inspected during the second quarter (Cowes Enterprise College and Nine Acres Primary School) improved their rating to “Good” whilst other schools retained their already “Good” rating (Lanesend Primary School and Yarmouth CE Primary School).

Early in quarter 3, Carisbrooke College was acknowledged to be continuing to make progress towards being “Good” but remained at “Requires Improvement”

Currently 32 out of 39 primary schools with a rating are either “Good” or “Outstanding” with one school (St Francis Catholic and CE Academy) yet to be inspected.

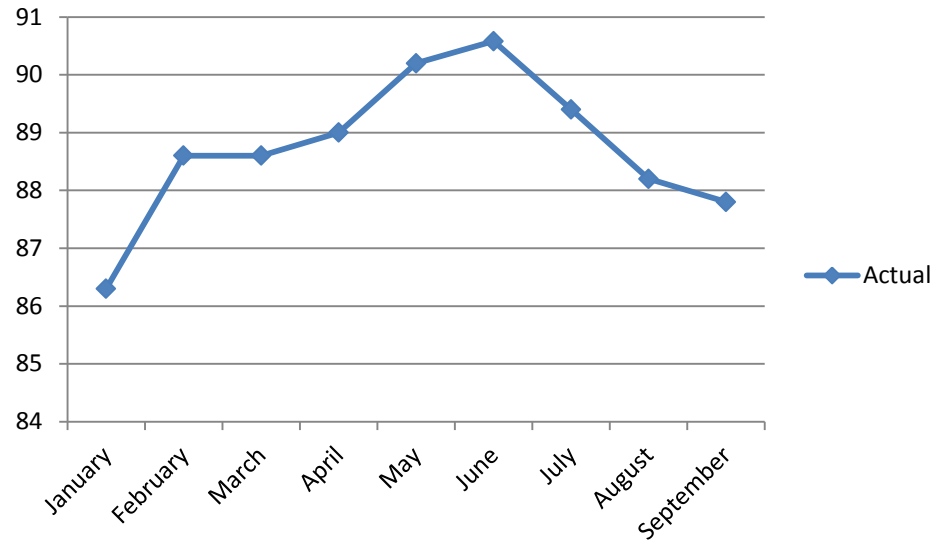
4 out of 7 secondary schools with a rating are “Good”. Sandown Bay Academy is rated as “Inadequate” but the local authority has taken extremely positive steps to address this by expanding the Bay Primary School (which is rated “Good” by Ofsted) to an all through 4 to 16 school. This plan was put in place to preserve secondary education in the Bay area which was under threat by the plans of the existing academy sponsor (AET) to close the school.

Nationally 89% of all schools are “Good” or “Outstanding”

<p>Percentage of child protection plans which were a second or subsequent plan</p>	 <p>The England average for 2016/2017 was 18.7%, the Isle of Wight was 20.8% and statistical neighbour average was 21.7%.</p> <p>Current performance suggests that the first child protection plan is effective in addressing the issues that had put the child at risk of significant harm.</p>
<p>Percentage of children with a referral within 12 months of a previous referral</p>	 <p>The England average for 2016/2017 was 20.6%, the Isle of Wight was 27.6% and statistical neighbour average was 21.1%.</p> <p>Work is underway to audit cases to understand what the factors are that are contributing to this higher percentage.</p>



Number of children looked after at month end (rate per 10,000 population)



Targets are not set for children who need to be in care are in care. However, benchmarking is undertaken against national and statistical neighbours for monitoring purposes. The rate of 67.8 is the statistical neighbour average as of 31 March 2016.

## Strategic Risks

<p><b>Failure to Improve educational attainment</b></p> <p>This risk remains at the same level as in the previous quarter. The improvement in the number of schools being rated as “Good” or better by Ofsted shows that excellent foundations are being put in place to drive continual improvement in attainment.</p> <p>A new Strategic Plan for School Improvement was presented to Cabinet on 14 September 2017. The plan sets out the key focus areas and associated actions to further improve the quality of education in Isle of Wight schools in line with the Department for Education’s (DfE) letter of direction. The areas are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring that all schools are good or better. (Ofsted ratings)</li> <li>2. Building on improvements in standards.</li> <li>3. Ensuring schools are good for all children.</li> <li>4. Leading a cohesive system for children based on effective partnership working.</li> </ol>	Inherent Score	16 RED
	2017 Assessed Score	9 AMBER
	Target Score	6 GREEN
	<b>Current Score</b>	<b>9 AMBER</b>
<p><b>Failure to identify and effectively manage situations where vulnerable children are subject to abuse</b></p> <p>This risk remains at the same level as in the previous quarter. Further embedding of the improvements that have been recognised by Ofsted will see this risk rating reduce</p> <p>Children’s Services continues to make good progress against the required improvements as reported to <a href="#">Cabinet on 9 November 2017</a>. This has also been supported by an Ofsted pilot focused visit in the summer the outcome of which was strong which was also included in the report to Cabinet.</p>	Inherent Score	16 RED
	2017 Assessed Score	9 AMBER
	Target Score	5 GREEN
	<b>Current Score</b>	<b>9 AMBER</b>