

Appendix A3 Q2 – CHILDREN’S SERVICES Key Activities

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

Provisional figures reported by secondary schools indicate that GCSE students on the Island have attained higher grades than in previous years. The proportion of students attaining a grade 4 or above in English and maths this year has improved from 55 per cent in 2018, to 60 per cent.

The ‘attainment 8’ outcome which measures the results across the wider curriculum is also significantly better.

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 number of contacts received by CRT (Childrens Reception Team)/Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	% progressed to Children In Need (CIN) referral
Q2 2018/19	3,254	35.1
Q3 2018/19	3,602	35.3
Q4 2018/19	3,153	36.0
Q1 2019/20	3,340	38.3
Q2 2019/20	3,415	38.0

This is in line with previous quarters and demonstrates consistent thresholds being maintained at CRT/MASH. Thresholds in CRT/MASH have been tested in three recent Ofsted inspections and have been rated as outstanding in the last inspection. The rate of contacts and referrals remain above the average of the Isle of Wight’s statistical neighbours and schools remain the highest referrers locally.

	The number of children subject to child protection planning	% timeliness of Initial Child Protection Conferences (within 15 days)	% of repeat child protection plans (within 2 years of previous?)	% of (repeat) child protection conferences held within timescales
Q2 2018/19	155	98	0	100
Q3 2018/19	170	80	19.6	98
Q4 2018/19	167	91	12.5	100
Q1 2019/20	133	100	12.5	94.9
Q2 2019/20	128	89	20.8% (13.3% within 2 years)	100

The investment in the Transformation Programme is designed to keep more children safely at home. The reduction in children on child protection plans is because more are being safeguarded within early help and child in need planning. The ICPC timeliness remains above the target of 85% as does the percentage of children subject to a second or subsequent plan above the target of 23%.

Average caseload numbers across the service continue to be stable. The average caseload excluding fostering and adoption remained at 20. This continues to allow for support to be delivered to families with effective interventions which sustain change which safeguards children and improves their outcomes.

	Children in Care (1)	Looked after children reported missing (2)	Care leavers supported	Care leavers in Education, Employment or Training (3)
Q2 2018/19	240	2%	119	56.3%
Q3 2018/19	239	2.2%	121	58.7%
Q4 2018/19	244	2.9%	117	64%
Q1 2019/20	256	2.0%	110	63.6%
Q2 2019/20	256	2.3%	109	67%

- 1. The number of children in care remains a significant pressure on the service with regards to costs of placements. The national rise in numbers is 4% although locally this is 5% per annum. Forty nine percent of children continue to be placed with Isle of Wight foster carers and an active recruitment campaign continues. The new Transformation Programme is focussed on keeping children safely at home and returning them home when it is safe to do so.*
- 2. The data with regards to looked after children reported missing demonstrates that robust processes are in operation in terms of multi-agency strategy meetings and return interviews for children who go missing. A sexual exploitation risk assessment (SERAF) is undertaken with each child and medium/high risk children are considered at a multi-agency risk assessment conference to ensure that information is shared, and effective collaborative plans are in place that reduces the risks to children.*
- 3. The Local Offer for Care Leavers sets out the support provided to care leavers to access employment, education or training. The team work with Island Futures, JobCentrePlus and the Isle of Wight college. Each care leaver has an individual action plan in place. A new tender for pathways into independent adulthood supported accommodation is now in operation.*
- 4. The recruitment of experienced permanent social workers continues to be a challenge locally and nationally. The provision of a market supplement and payment of relocation expenses ensures that the Isle of Wight remains competitive in attracting staff compared to Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton. Agency workers, when used, are used to ensure that caseloads remain manageable during periods of staff absence and to cover vacancies that cannot be recruited to despite regular national advertising campaigns. Current agency social worker rate was 10% in Quarter 2 2019/20. The Graduate Entry Trainee (GETs) scheme for Social Workers continues with five additional students appointed.*

Work with and challenge schools in financial deficit to secure a more sustainable position for the schools and the council

The work will need to be continued throughout this year. All schools in a deficit at the end of 2018/19 were discussed at CSDMT and action were agreed in relation to all schools. Work will be ongoing between the IoW Education Finance team and school improvement to reduce the deficits moving forward. Budget reviews in schools during November 2019 will show what progress has been made

Work to deliver an Island Higher Education (HE) Prospectus by April 2020, based on current opportunities offered on Island.

The development of an Island HE Prospectus has been commissioned and is due to be published in the autumn (Quarter 3). There will also be a schools-based roadshow to promote HE progression. The prospectus will include details of all Level 4+ programmes offered directly on the Island. The exercise is funded from the National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) HE outreach project and represents one of the three strands of the i-Aspire project.

Encourage schools to work collectively in the delivery of improved sixth form provision on the Island.

As part of the i-Aspire project, the Isle of Wight Council has identified a 3-year budget to support an improvement in post 16 A level outcomes. The programme will be managed by Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS) and commence in the autumn (Quarter 3). All Island sixth form providers are invited to participate (on a voluntary basis). The programme will focus on three key areas; leadership and management, subject networks and pedagogy.

Resolve the issue of surplus primary school places in the West Wight area.

In October 2019 Cabinet approved the following recommendations:-

- 1. that a Public Notice be published in accordance with Section 15 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 to discontinue All Saints' Church of England Primary School with effect from 31 August 2020 and;*
- 2. officers support the Governing Body of The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth to undertake a period of consultation on the relocation of Yarmouth CE Primary School to the Freshwater site for the start of the 2021 academic year.*
- 3. a further report be brought to Cabinet in January 2020 to:*
 - a. approve the outcome of the Public Notice period on the closure of All Saints' CE Primary School and;*
 - b. consider the implications of the outcome of the consultation on the relocation of Yarmouth CE Primary School.*

Through joint working across council services, work to ensure that care leavers housing needs are properly met.

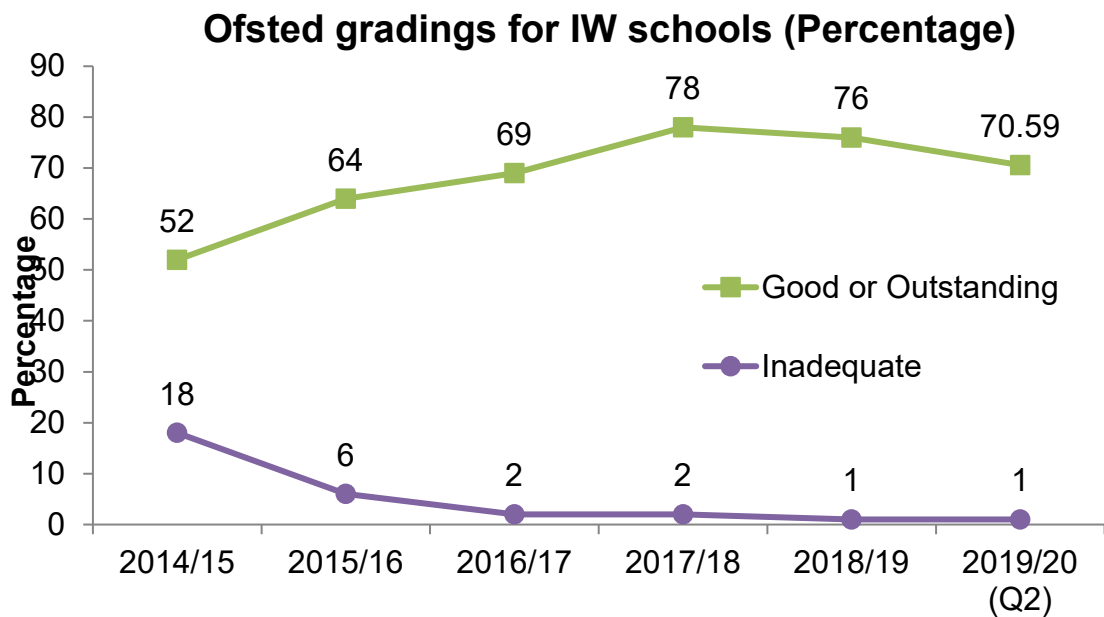
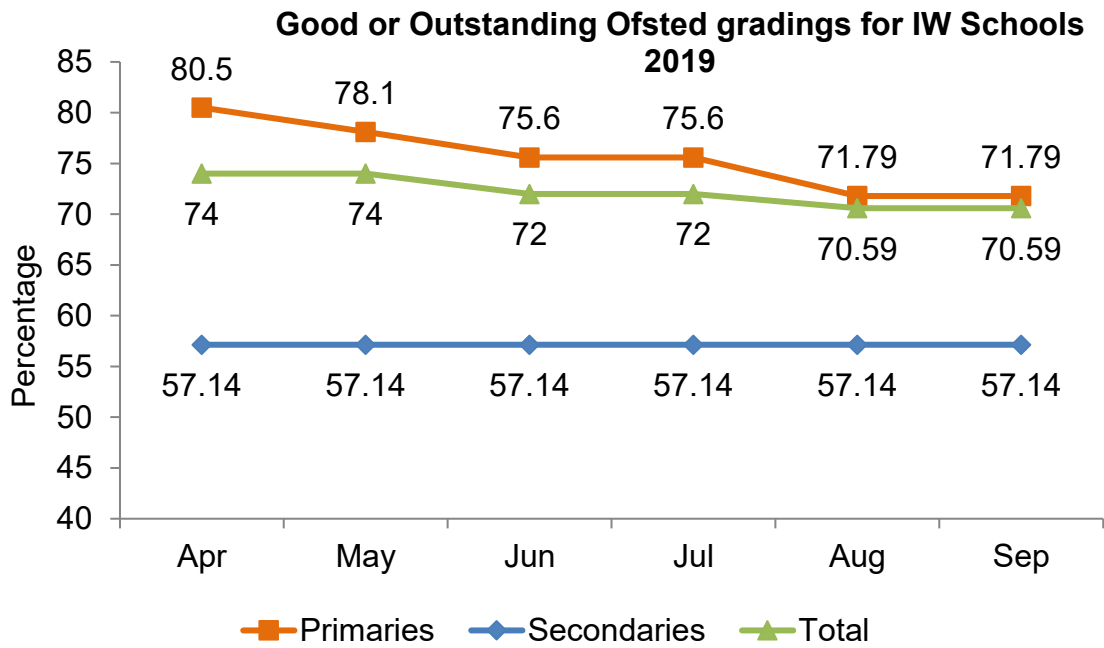
This need was identified in the 2018 Sufficiency Duty update and raised by care leavers at the Corporate Parenting Board. A tender to create a 'Pathways to Independent Adulthood' supported accommodation offer is now in operation. This new offer available since September 2019 will need to be aligned with the new Housing tender for supporting people funded accommodation from 2020. The sufficiency of suitable housing to meet the needs of all care leavers who wish or need to live on the Island was one of four recommendations from the 2018 Ofsted inspection. Children's social care are working with Housing, Planning and Regeneration to ensure that the housing needs of care leavers are an integral part of future developments Council-wide. A further £200,000 capital grant has been set aside corporately to assist in purchasing/developing a transitions accommodation offer for care leavers.

Grow the number of foster carers and adoptive parents on the Isle of Wight.

The interim marketing and recruitment officer continues to support the service to increase the number of in-house foster carers and adoptive parents on the Isle of Wight to reduce the reliance on Independent Fostering Agencies and their associated high costs.

Short Term Measures

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



Holy Cross Primary School was reclassified as "Requires improvement" in Q2 having previously been "Good". Despite this, the report is positive that effective plans for urgent improvement are in place.

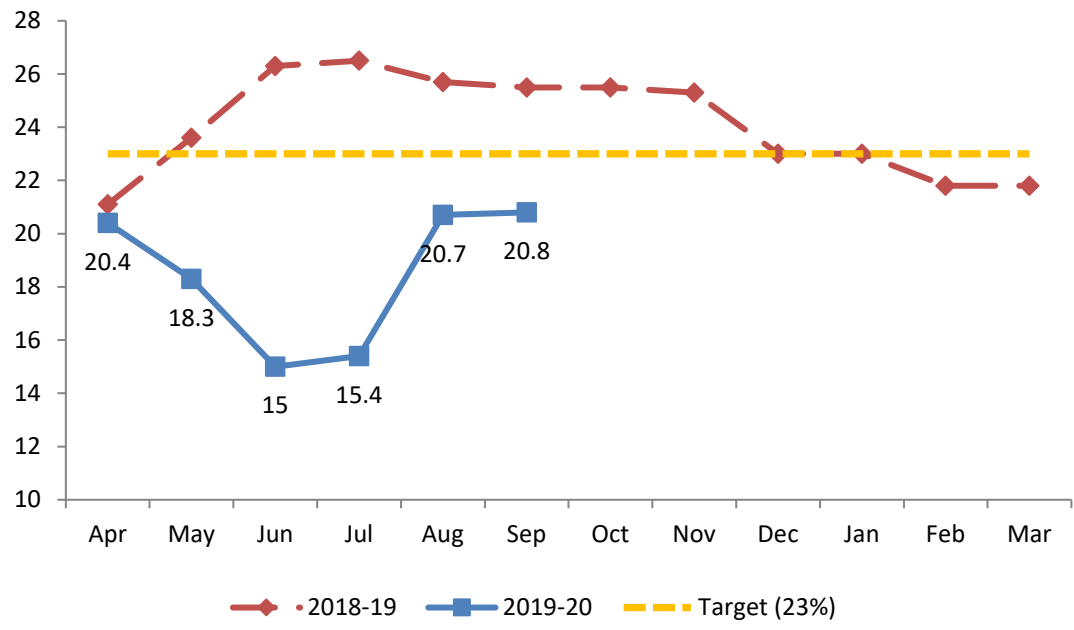
The Bay CE School is included within both primary and secondary statistics as it is an all through school that caters for 5-16 year olds.

Percentage of children who are subject to a repeat child protection plan (within two years of the previous plan) (Rolling 12 months)

All young people will have the best start in life so that they can fill their potential

A well educated and skilled community

OPPORTUNITY



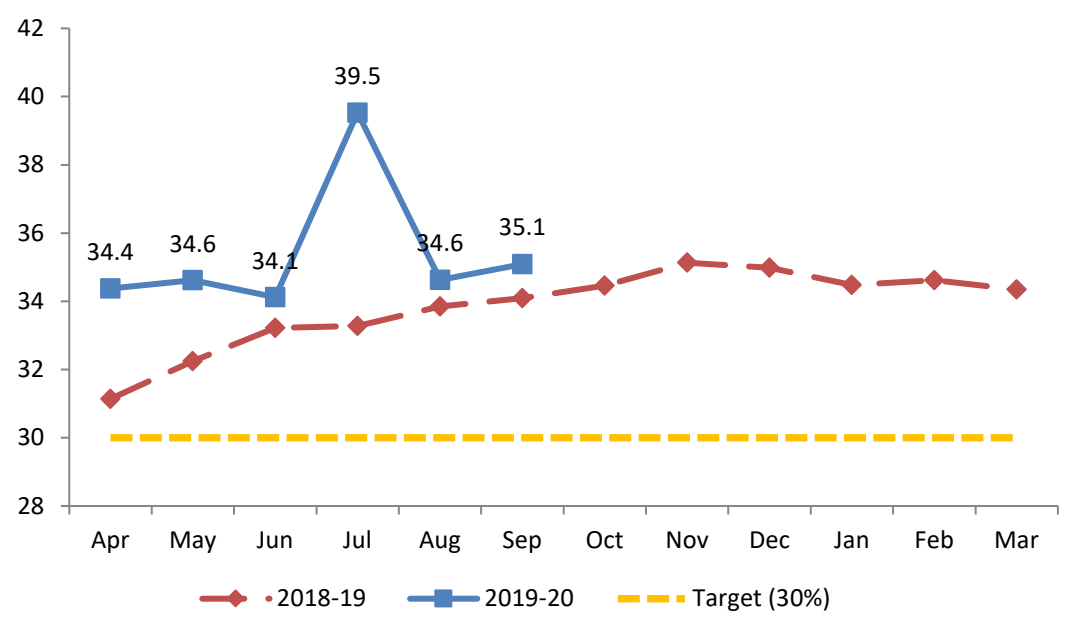
Percentage continues to remain lower than at the same time last year. Every child subject to a repeat child protection plan is scrutinised at the Performance Action Group to understand the reason for the subsequent plan.

Percentage of children with re-referrals within 12 months (Rolling 12 months)

All young people will have the best start in life so that they can fill their potential

A well educated and skilled community

OPPORTUNITY



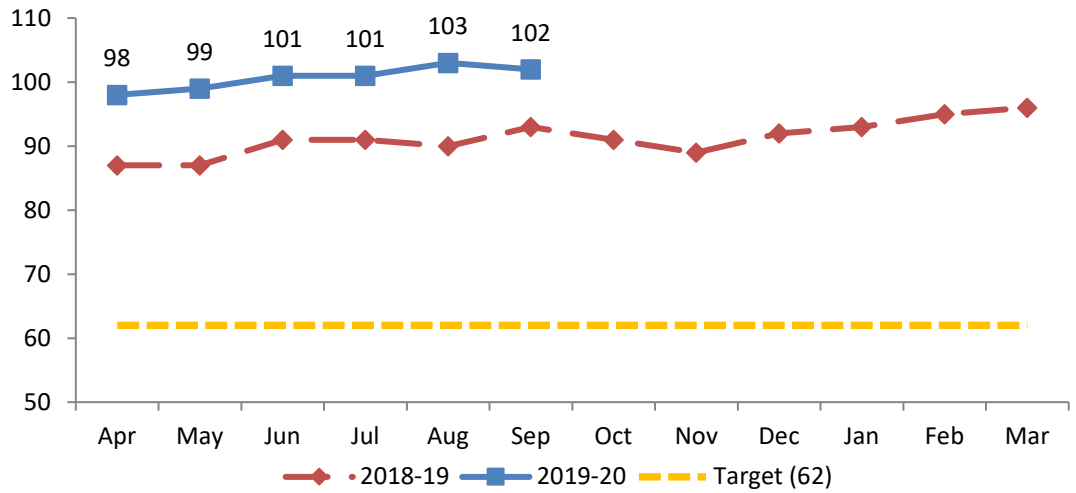
Percentage remains higher than target and 2017/18 figures. The high rate may be due to the way referrals are recorded in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Other local authorities may only record a re-referral if this progresses to an assessment.

Number of children looked after at month end (rate per 10,000 population) (Rolling 12 months)

All young people will have the best start in life so that they can fulfil their potential

A well educated and skilled community

OPPORTUNITY



The rate of Looked After Children continues to rise compared to last year and is well above target.

There is a statistical correlation between areas with high income deprivation and high rates of Looked After Children; local authority work with partner agencies around reducing child poverty, improving housing, employment and regeneration is critical.

Strategic Risks

Failure to improve educational attainment <i>(This risk will be reviewed following the release of 2018/19 academic year results during the summer)</i>			Assigned to: Director of Children's Services		
Inherent score	Target score	Current score	Previous scores		
			Sep 19	Jul 19	May 19
16 RED	6 GREEN	9 AMBER	9 AMBER	10 AMBER	10 AMBER
Risk score reduced					

Failure to identify and effectively manage situations where vulnerable children are subject to abuse			Assigned to: Director of Children's Services		
Inherent score	Target score	Current score	Previous scores		
			Sep 19	Jul 19	May 19
16 RED	5 GREEN	8 AMBER	8 AMBER	8 AMBER	8 AMBER
No change to Risk					