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Coventry City Council

Agenda

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2)

Time and Date
11.00 am on Thursday, 1st February, 2024

Place
Diamond Rooms 1 and 2 - Council House

Public Business

1. **Apologies and Substitutions**

2. **Declarations of Interests**

3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 8)

    a) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 21st December 2023

    b) Matters Arising

4. **Coventry Education Performance 2023** (Pages 9 - 38)

    Briefing Note of the Director for Education and Skills

5. **Work Programme and Outstanding Issues** (Pages 39 - 44)

    Briefing Note of the Chief Legal Officer

6. **Any Other Business**

    Any other items of business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

Julie Newman, Chief Legal Officer, Council House, Coventry

Wednesday, 24 January 2024

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Tom Robinson, Governance Services, Email: tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors J Blundell, S Hanson (Co-opted Member), D Jackson (Co-opted Member), S Keough, T Khan, R Lancaster, A Masih, S Nazir, E M Reeves, CE Thomas (Chair), A Tucker and G Vohra (Co-opted Member)

By invitation: Councillor Dr K Sandhu (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

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Tom Robinson, Governance Services,
Email: tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2)
held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 21 December 2023

Present:

Members:	Councillor CE Thomas (Chair)
	Councillor J Blundell
	Councillor S Keough
	Councillor R Lancaster
	Councillor A Masih
	Councillor K Maton (substitute for Cllr T Khan)
	Councillor S Nazir
	Councillor E M Reeves
	Councillor A Tucker
Co-Opted Members:	Mrs S Hanson and Mr D Jackson
Other Members:	Councillor G Duggins (Leader)
	Councillor Dr K Sandhu (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)
	Councillor P Seaman (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)
Employees (by Directorate):	
Children's Services	N Macdonald (Interim Director), M Clayton, R Jayswal
Education and Skills	R Sugars (Director), H Bedford, A Coles
Law and Governance	G Holmes, E Jones, T Robinson
Apologies:	Councillor A Jobbar (Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)
	Mr G Vohra

Public Business

22.   **Declarations of Interests**

The Board noted that Councillor R Lancaster was involved in the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme and Councillor CE Thomas was a Governor of Riverbank Academy and a trustee of the Willenhall Community Forum. As these were not disclosable pecuniary interests, they remained in the meeting.

23.   **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2023 were signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

24. **Family Valued Programme**

The Board considered a briefing note of the Interim Director for Children's Services which provided an update on the progress and impact of the Family Valued Programme during the funded period and outlined the proposed next steps.

Family Valued was introduced in Coventry Children's Services as part of the national Strengthening Families, Protecting Children (SFPC) Programme; a 5-year programme funded by the Department for Education (DfE), focussing on safely reducing the number of children entering care, through implementing one of three programmes: Leeds Family Valued, Herefordshire Family Safeguarding, North Yorkshire's No Wrong Door.

Coventry City Council were one of the adopter local authorities of the Family Valued Programme; a Leeds City Council whole-system change programme seeking to create a shift in culture towards working 'with' families rather than doing things 'to' or 'for' them. The overall aim was to support more children to live safely at home with their families and within their communities, through introducing restorative practices and services.

Coventry Children's Services received grant funding of £4,204,141 over a 2.5-year period. Coventry Family Valued launched in April 2021, with the funded period ending in September 2023. The grant funded 36 full-time equivalent (FTE) additional posts in Children's Services to support the implementation of Coventry Family Valued. These additional posts have seen the significant expansion of the Family Group Conference (FGC) Service, additional capacity within the Connected Persons Team and Participation Team, the implementation of a Reunification Project and the creation of a Restorative Practice Team.

The briefing note summarised that alongside the additional posts there has been an implementation plan consisting of six workstreams: 1) Sustainability, Finance and Performance, 2) Embedding Relationship Based Practice, 3) Expansion of Family Group Conferencing and New Restorative Services, 4) Promoting Connected Persons and Permanence through Special Guardianship Orders, 5) Reunification Project, 6) Voice and Influence.

Additionally, Coventry Family Valued branding and communications across Children's Services and the partnership has centred around the three spires of Coventry Family Valued, to support practitioners, managers, and partners to connect with the aims and objectives of the programme: Spire 1 - A child friendly city, Spire 2 - Family-led decision making, Spire 3 - The Coventry Way.

The Board questioned Officers and received responses on a number of matters relating to the Family Valued Programme including:

- Family Group Conferencing (FGC) and referral percentages – the criteria and reasons for engagement and success rate including links to the Family Group Network.

- The financial sustainability of the program and the expectations for the lifecycle of the DfE grant.
- Assessments done by the Connected Persons Team instead of Child Social Workers and the communication between the two.
- The Youth Parliament Events.
- Corporate Parenting training for elected Members.
- The differences in levels of support between the Connected Persons Team and Special Guardianship Orders.
- The fostering process for family members considered as connected persons.
- Court proceeding costs and bid costs.

Councillor P Seaman (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) thanked officers for the briefing note and recognised the unquantifiable value the programme has provided to children's services to, most importantly, keep children out of care. Specifically, the programme has helped to change the whole culture of children's services and will continue to have knock on effects for families as well as reducing costs. She further emphasised that beneficial impacts have been achieved even within the wider context of national challenges to children's services and the unsustainable bidding process. Lastly, she drew attention to the Reunification Project as a key aspect of the programme that offers hope to children and families.

RESOLVED that the Board:

1. **Notes the current progress and impact for children, young people and their families.**

2. **Notes the next steps in relation to sustaining and growing Coventry Family Valued.**

25. **Coventry Holiday Activities and Food Programme**

The Board considered a Briefing Note and video presentation of the Director of Education and Skills on the Coventry Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme.

The Holiday Activities and Food programme is a national initiative, aimed at addressing holiday inequalities through a blend of free positive activities and experiences coupled with health food and support to families.

Coventry City Council receives an annual Department for Education grant (for 2023/24 with a further £100,000 Coventry Building Society investment) and leads a multi-agency partnership to deliver activities in the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

The core eligibility criteria are school-age children (reception to year 11 inclusive) on benefits-related free school meals. Local Authority areas have discretion to broaden eligibility and Coventry have extended this to: child in need, child protection plan, child looked after and children assessed (through an early help assessment) to be in financial hardship or part of the Ukrainian Family Scheme (Professionals can refer appropriate children).

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The national roll-out of HAF took place in 2021, with the first Coventry face-to-face delivery taking place in the 2021 summer holiday. HAF funding is committed until 31 March 2025, with Christmas 2024 currently being the last funded holiday. Coventry City Council is part of the national HAF network and there is a key focus on building the case for funding to be continued post-2025 in the context of increasing needs.

Councillor Dr K Sandhu (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills) began by highlighting the great achievements of the programme to deliver such a successful and wide-ranging set of activities for over 4000 children in 2023. Alongside being an exemplifier of partnership working, the programme has been able to offer opportunities to children with a wide range of different needs. Additionally, support from sponsors such as Coventry Building Society has been greatly beneficial in building confidence and support for families. She concluded by stating that these achievements speak to a wider impact than just food and activities and thanked officers for all their hard work in delivering the program.

The Board questioned Officers and received responses on a number of matters relating to the HAF programme:

- The 2024 programme of events and its circulation to the Coventry Board of School Governors.
- Day trips for children and insurance policies.
- Opportunities for children and families to pay to be part of the programme if they don't meet the qualifications for free provision.
- The relationship between HAF and the Household Support Fund – the end of the Household Support Fund, provision for vouchers for free school meals, and a current campaign underway to secure government funding for both programmes by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.
- HAF being a core service that links hard to reach families to other council services.
- Core eligibility criteria and its expansion to newly arrived families.
- Expanding provision for children to festivals and cultural events.
- Cooperation with other Local Authorities in the delivery of their HAF programmes at a regional and national level.
- The special school pilot program and ensuring that all schools sign up.

Arising from the briefing note, video presentation, comments from the Cabinet Member, and questions to officers, the Board shared their thanks to officers and the Cabinet Member in successfully delivering the programme so far.

RESOLVED that the Board:

1. **Notes the information in the report about the Coventry Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.**

2. **Promotes the Coventry HAF programme and enables the programme to continue to develop and to contribute to the national HAF Framework case for continued funding post March 2025.**

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3. **Thank officers and the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills for their delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme.**

4. **Formally supports the campaign of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to secure government funding for the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme and Household Support Fund beyond the committed end date of 31 March 2025.**

26. **Work Programme**

The Board noted the Work Programme with the agreement that the following item be moved to a later date:

- One Strategic Plan - School Place Sufficiency

Secondly, the Board noted that at the meeting scheduled for the 14 March 2024, with the agreement of both Chairs, there will be a joint meeting of Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) and Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5) to discuss the following item:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Finally, it was noted that following a review of the One Coventry Annual Performance Report at Scrutiny Co-Ordination Committee on 20 December 2023, performance indicators which have not been met have been referred to the Board for inclusion on the Work Programme 2023/24.

27. **Any Other Business**

There were no other items of business.

(Meeting closed at 11.45 am)

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Coventry City Council

Briefing note

To:	Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board
Date:	01 February 2024
Subject:	Coventry Education Performance 2023

1   Purpose of the Note

1.1 To update members on Coventry's 2023 performance on the following:

- Ofsted profile
- Trends in pupil numbers
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- Phonics and Key Stage 1
- Key Stage 2
- Key Stage 4 (provisional)
- Age 16-19 attainment
- Post-16 participation in education, employment and training
- Attendance and exclusions
- Difference in performance between males and females
- Performance of vulnerable groups

1.2   Refer to Section 4 for the executive summary, and Appendix 1 for the data.

1.3   This report includes published data available through government sources. For operational and planning purposes the Local Authority (LA) also use NCER Nexus and FFT Aspire, which are used by most of the Local Authorities for data analysis. This enables further in-depth analysis but is not quoted in this report as regional and national comparisons may not represent the total cohort.

2   Recommendations

2.1   The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) are recommended to:

1) Consider the information provided to comment and/or raise questions

2) Identify any recommendations for the appropriate Cabinet Member

3) Identify any areas for further scrutiny to be added to the work programme

3   Background/context

3.1   KS4 data is currently provisional and does not take account of amendments to data made by schools. Notwithstanding, significant changes in the data are not expected at this stage. We are expecting further data updates in January.

3.2   National and statistical neighbour averages are included where available. Statistical neighbour comparator information includes local authority areas that are more like Coventry in terms of statistics such as levels of deprivation, ethnicity, size, etc. These are all factors that can have an impact on educational performance. A list of Coventry's statistical neighbours is included in Appendix 2.

3.2   The Department for Education (DfE) has been clear that all users of educational school performance data need to consider the data alongside a range of other information about the school and its individual circumstances, for example by speaking to the school directly, and that conclusions should not be drawn based on a single piece of data alone. This will continue to be important given the ongoing impacts of the pandemic which we know affected individual schools/colleges and pupils differently.

3.3   KS4 data and 16-18 performance measures based on qualification outcomes cannot be compared between 2021/22 and 2022/23. This is because for the majority of qualifications that count in performance measures, a different grading approach was used in 2021/22, to take account of the impact of the pandemic. Within the report the 2022/23 data has therefore been compared to 2019. 2022/23 KS4 data can be used to make cautious comparisons between schools/colleges, trusts, local authority and national averages from the same year.

3.4   Unlike KS4 and 16-18 performance measures, users of KS2 data can make comparisons with KS2 data from 2021/22 as the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) has maintained a consistent standard since 2016.

3.5   KS1 and EYFS data follows the same principles as for KS2 in that cautious comparisons can be made with previous years and between schools, trusts, local authority and national averages from the same year.

3.6   Last year, Ofsted set out that 2022 outcomes would only be used with caution, that 2021/22 data would only be used to inform discussion with the schools about pupil outcomes, and that no school would be marked down on the basis of 2021/22 data alone. That continues to be the case for 2021/22 data, but 2022/23 performance data will be used to inform inspection in the normal way.

4   Executive summary

4.1   The vision of the Coventry Education Partnership encompasses high expectations for the achievement of children and young people to achieve their full potential whatever their culture or background. Statutorily it is the responsibility of school leaders to secure improvement in their school, but as part of our working partnership with all schools and settings, the LA acts as champions of educational excellence, forging strong professional relationships and networks.

4.2 The LA, in partnership with the primary school networks and secondary collaboratives (including special schools), supports all schools in the city on their improvement journey. Additional improvement, through school-to-school support is also provided to schools most in need to ensure they can maintain/achieve an Ofsted outcome of Good or better. The Coventry Education Improvement priorities for the 2023/24 academic year are included at Appendix 3.

4.3 In line with our expectations, the overall trend for Ofsted inspection outcomes in the last 12 months has been mainly positive. However, the proportion of children attending a good or better school remains below national. It is worth noting that many inspections are imminent with positive outcomes anticipated which will improve Coventry's current Ofsted profile.

4.4 It's important to note the trends in pupil numbers and the increase in certain groups, particularly over the last year.

- There has been a steady increase in **pupil population** over the last 5 years from 56,833 in 2019 to 60,135 in 2023 – making the number on roll 5.8% higher than it was in 2019
- The number of children eligible for **free school meals** has increased from 18.3% in 2019 to 27.5% in 2023 – making a 9.2% point increase over 5 years.
- There has been an increase of 5.9% in **non-white British** children from 2019 to 2023. The population of white British children had continued to decrease at a steady 1% point rate per year however this year the decrease was over 2% points as ethnic diversity accelerates.
- **SEN support** has also increased by at least 0.6% per year since 2019, with a total of 1,610 (1.9%) more children on SEN support and 571 (0.8%) more children on an EHCP since 2019.

4.5 In the EYFS there has been an improvement in performance in Coventry in 2023 and at a faster rate than national. Outcomes remain below national, but we have seen improved performance when compared with statistical neighbours. Early years continues to be a citywide priority through the Early Years Strategy and the Best Start for Life programme.

4.6 In the Year 1 phonics screening check there has been an improvement in performance in Coventry in 2023 and at a faster rate than national. Outcomes remain below national, but we have maintained our statistical neighbour position.

4.7 In KS1 attainment, for each of reading, writing and maths, there has been an improvement in performance in Coventry in 2023 and at a faster rate than national. Outcomes remain below national, but we have improved performance when compared with statistical neighbours.

4.8 In KS2 attainment, for reading, writing and maths combined, there has been an improvement in performance in Coventry in 2023 and at a faster rate than national. Outcomes remain below national, but we have improved performance when compared with statistical neighbours. Individually our position improved for writing and maths but declined in reading. For all KS2 progress measures, rates declined from 2022 with reading showing the largest decline.

4.9　In KS4, the Attainment 8 measure for 2023 showed an improvement from 2019. During the same period, national declined. In English and Maths combined, for both the standard pass (GCSE grade 4) and strong pass (GCSE grade 5), there has been an improvement in performance in Coventry in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (since 2019). Outcomes remain below national, but we have improved or maintained our performance when compared with statistical neighbours. The Progress 8 measure for 2023 showed an improvement from 2019. During the same period, national remained the same.

4.10　In KS5 attainment, the average A level grade has improved from 2019. However, the gap to national has widened. It is worth noting that there was an 11.7% increase in A Level entries in Coventry compared to 5.2% nationally. This corresponds to a 27.6% increase in the level 3 cohort in Coventry compared to 14.9% nationally.

4.11　For post-16 participation, the data is positive as shown by the number of pupils progressing to education, employment or training in the year after completing their 16 to 18 study. The number of young people 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEET) is at an all-time low and below (better than) national.

4.12　Compared to the 2018/19 academic year there has been a decrease in attendance in all phases. The decrease mirrors the national position and is largely attributed to the impact of the Covid pandemic. 2019/2020 data does not appear in the tables in the report due to the impact of the pandemic during that academic year.

4.13　Compared to the 2018/19 academic year the suspension rate in primary has decreased but is above national. In secondary, the suspension rate has increased and is now above national. In special, the suspension rate has increased and is now above national.

4.14　Compared to the 2018/19 academic year the exclusion rate in primary has increased slightly and is above national. In secondary the exclusion rate has stayed the same and is below national. In special the exclusion rate has decreased but remains above national. Schools have reported increased behavioural challenges since pupils returned to school following the covid pandemic. This can be seen in an increase in the national secondary rate. The data for 22/23 is not yet published, but early feedback suggests we will see an increase in levels of suspensions and exclusions, both locally and nationally.

4.15　In Coventry the "gender" gap narrowed at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 with male attainment increasing as female attainment slightly decreased. This local trend was mirrored nationally; however, the male increase was much less across the country. The net effect is the Coventry differences are now in line with the national pattern.

4.16　The performance of vulnerable groups is summarised below across EYFS, KS1, 2 and 4. It is important to note that due to small cohort size this data can fluctuate significantly, and fluctuations should always be viewed in this context, and consideration given to longer term trends.

Disadvantaged children in Coventry saw an improvement in achievement data in most measures, and although achievement remained below national average in most measures there was a closing of the gap.

Children with an EHCp in Coventry saw an improvement in achievement data in some measures but a decrease in others. The cohort size is growing but remains small. Achievement remains below national averages with the gap widening for half of the measures and narrowing for the other half.
SEND Support children in Coventry saw an improvement in achievement data for most measures – achievement is below national averages for most measures, but the gap is narrowing for a majority of these.
Children Looked After (CLA) in Coventry saw an improvement in achievement in half of measures – achievement is above national averages for most measures.

4.17 Overall, Coventry's performance is in line with or above its statistical neighbours for most measures at all key stages of education – these statistical neighbours are directly comparable to Coventry because of similarities in size and other important characteristics. For many (but not all) of the key performance measures Coventry is below national average and this reflects the characteristics of the city in comparison to all Local Authorities nationally. However, national averages remain the target and all Coventry schools continue to strive to meet or exceed national benchmarks. It is important to note that as children and young people progress in education within Coventry their performance continually improves and by the time they reach the end of their school years they secure positive destinations, i.e. high levels of education, employment, or training. This is testament to the whole system, the strong partnership between Coventry education providers and a relentless focus on next steps.

Appendices:
Appendix 1
1. Ofsted profile
2. Trends in Pupil Numbers
3. Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
4. Phonics and Key Stage 1 (final)
5. Key Stage 2 (final)
6. Key Stage 4 (provisional)
7. 16-18 Attainment (provisional)
8. Post 16 participation in education, employment and training
9. Overall Attendance Rates by Phase 2019 – 2023
10. Suspensions and Permanent Exclusions by phase 2019 – 2022
11. Performance KS2 and KS4: difference between males and females in 2022 and 2023
12. Performance of vulnerable groups
13. References and sources
Appendix 2
Information regarding comparative groups and A Level performance points
Appendix 3
Coventry Education Partnership – Priorities 2023/24
Appendix 4
Glossary of key terminology

Report Author
Rachael Sugars, Head of Service Education

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1. **Ofsted profile**

   All maintained schools across England are subject to monitoring and inspections by the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted).
   Further information on Ofsted and its purpose can be found at the following link:
   http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/school-inspections-guide-for-parents
   When a school has been inspected, Ofsted will determine whether the school falls into one of four categories, these are:
   - Grade 1 (Outstanding)
   - Grade 2 (Good)
   - Grade 3 (Requires Improvement)
   - Grade 4 (Inadequate)

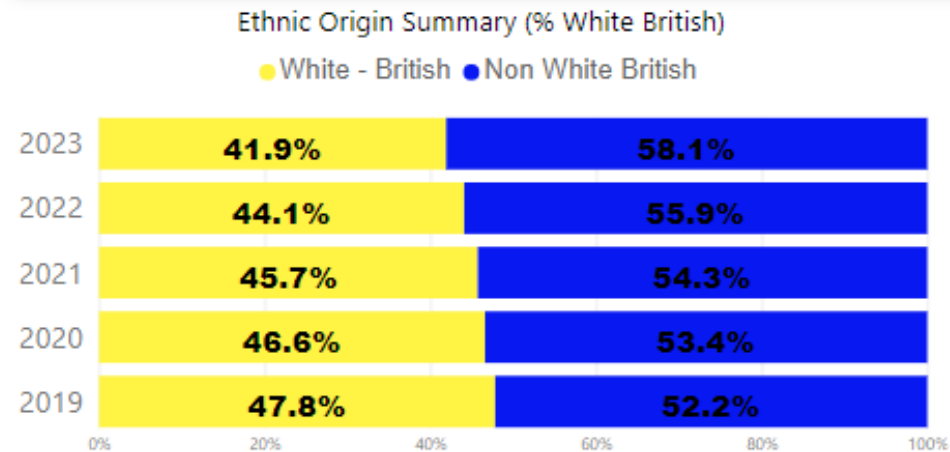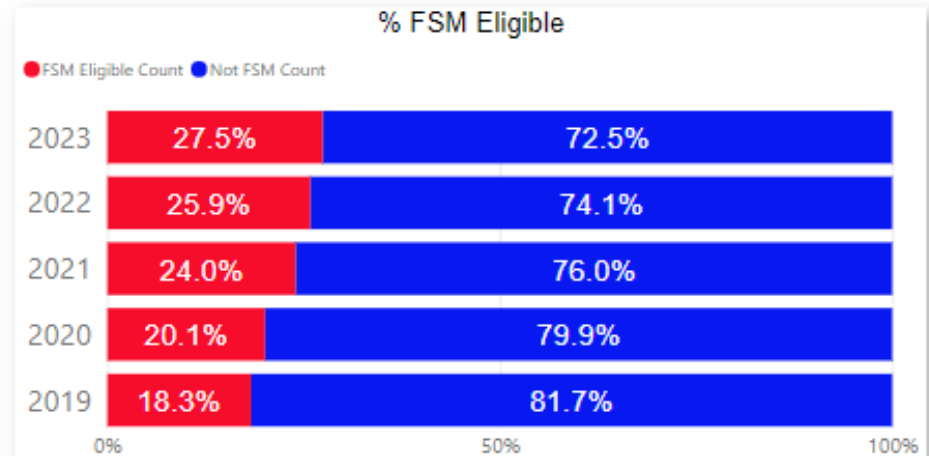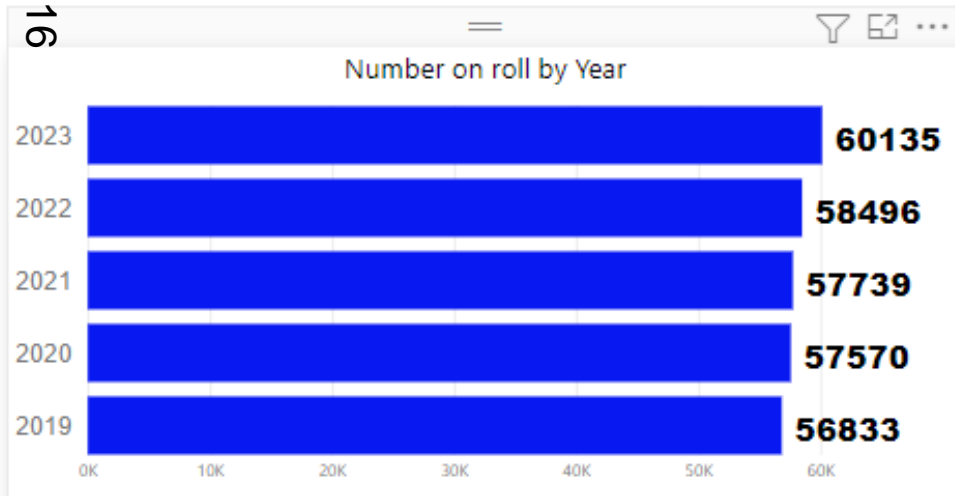   **Percentage of pupils attending good or outstanding provision (05 January 2024)**

Phase	%	Statistical neighbours (SN)	National
Early Years (as of 31st August 2023)	**97.2%**	Above SN at 95.8%	Above National at 95.9%
Primary	**89.5%**	Below SN at 93.3%	Below National at 93.2%
Secondary	**81.7%**	Below SN at 87.2%	Below National at 86.3%
Special	**90.6%**	Below SN at 92.8%	Below National at 94.1%
Overall	**86.4%**	Below SN at 90.7%	Below National at 90.2%

   Commentary
   - The Ofsted school profile changes every month as inspection reports are published.
   - Coventry is above statistical neighbours and national in the Early Years.
   - The city is below in all other phases but is following an upward trend.

Trends in Pupil Numbers 2019-2023

Trends 2019-2023 : Pupil Numbers , % Free School Meals (FSM) , % SEN and Ethnic Summary (% White British)

Number on roll by Year

Year	Number
2023	60135
2022	58496
2021	57739
2020	57570
2019	56833

% FSM Eligible

● FSM Eligible Count ● Not FSM Count

Year	FSM Eligible	Not FSM
2023	27.5%	72.5%
2022	25.9%	74.1%
2021	24.0%	76.0%
2020	20.1%	79.9%
2019	18.3%	81.7%

Ethnic Origin Summary (% White British)

● White - British ● Non White British

Year	White - British	Non White British
2023	41.9%	58.1%
2022	44.1%	55.9%
2021	45.7%	54.3%
2020	46.6%	53.4%
2019	47.8%	52.2%

% SEN Profile

● SEN Support ● SEN EHC Plan ● No SEN

Year	SEN Support	No SEN
2023	15.6%	80.9%
2022	14.9%	81.8%
2021	14.3%	82.6%
2020	14.3%	82.9%
2019	13.7%	83.6%

3. **Early Years Foundation Stage Profile**

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE PROFILE				
Good Level of Development	2019*	2022	2023	**Trend since 2022**
Coventry	69.0%	61.1%	63.9%	upward
National	71.8%	65.2%	67.2%	upward
LA ranking	**132**	132	124	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average and ranking	69.0% 6th	62.0% 7th	64.3% Joint 5th	upward below SN average

Commentary
- Coventry has improved in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (2.8ppts compared to 2.0ppts)
- The statutory EYFS framework sets the standards and requirements that all early years providers must follow to ensure all children have the best start in life and are prepared for school. It requires that children be assessed against the EYFS profile in the summer term of the academic year in which they turn 5.

Definition of a 'Good Level of Development' (GLD)
- Children are defined as having a good level of development if they are at the expected level for the 12 early learning goals within the 5 areas of learning relating to: communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; physical development; literacy; and mathematics.
- The EYFS profile (the approach to assessing children for GLD) is intended to provide an accurate representation of each child's development at the end of the EYFS to support their transition into year 1. It is made up of an assessment of the child's outcomes in relation to 17 early learning goals (ELGs) across 7 areas of learning.
- *As part of wider reforms to the EYFS, the EYFS profile was revised significantly in September 2021. However, 2019 is shown here for reference only (pre-Covid and a different assessment system).

4. **Phonics and Key Stage 1 (final)**

Year 1 Phonics	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2022
Coventry	**80.4%**	**72.3%**	**76.3%**	upward
National	81.9%	75.5%	78.9%	upward
LA ranking	113	127	123	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average and ranking	79.9% 6th	72.5% 4th	76.4% 4th	maintained in line with SN average

Commentary
•	Coventry has improved in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (4.0ppts compared to 3.4ppts)
•	The phonics screening check assesses children on how well they can decode certain words. Decoding means sounding out an unfamiliar written word. To do this, children will need to be able to recognise letters and the sounds that they represent. This is an important part of achieving reading fluency.
•	The Year 1 phonics screening check is a statutory assessment for all children in Year 1 (typically aged 6). Pupils are judged to have met the expected phonics standard if they exceed the nationally published performance level.

Key Stage 1 (final)

Key Stage 1 Expected standard Reading, writing and maths (subject level)	2019			2022			2023			Trend since 2022
	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	
Coventry	**72**	**65**	**73**	**61**	**52**	**64**	64	55	67	upward in all 3 subjects
National	75	69	76	67	58	68	68	60	70	upward in all 3 subjects
LA ranking	117	131	117	141	137	129	135	138	128	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	72 Joint 6th	66 9th	74 Joint 8th	63 10th	53 9th	65 9th	65 Joint 8th	57 Joint 8th	68 Joint 7th	upwards below SN averages

Commentary
•	Coventry has improved by 3 ppts in every subject and at a faster rate than national.
•	Pupils' achievements in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 1 are based on teacher assessment informed by statutory tests. KS1 writing is based on teacher assessment only.

5. Key Stage 2 (final)

Key Stage 2 ATTAINMENT Expected standard (subject level)	2019			2022			2023			Trend since 2022
	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	
Coventry	**69**	**78**	**77**	**71**	**65**	**68**	67	68	70	upward in writing and maths; downward in reading
National	73	78	79	75	70	72	73	71	73	same as city trend
LA ranking	140	86	115	132	136	121	145	122	116	rankings have increased/ decreased in line with city trends
Stat neighbour (SN) average and ranking	70 Joint 8th	77 Joint 2nd	77 Joint 5th	72 Joint 6th	66 Joint 6th	69 Joint 6th	69 Joint 8th	68 Joint 6th	70 Joint 5th	rankings have increased/ decreased in line with city trends

Commentary
- Writing (+3ppts) and maths (+2ppts) improved at a faster rate than national (+1ppt for both subjects) whereas reading decreased and faster rate than national (-4ppts v -2ppts)
- Pupils' achievements in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2 are from statutory tests. KS2 writing is based on teacher assessment.

Key Stage 2 ATTAINMENT Expected standard Reading, writing and mathematics (combined)	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2022
Coventry	**62.0%**	**53.6%**	**55.9%**	upward
National	65.0%	58.7%	59.5%	upward
LA ranking	121	134	124	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average and ranking	61.0% Joint 6th	56.0% 8th	55.6% Joint 6th	upward above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry has improved in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (2.3ppts compared to 0.8ppts)

- Pupils' achievements in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2 are from statutory tests. KS2 writing is based on teacher assessment.

Key Stage 2 PROGRESS	2019			2022			2023			Trend since 2022
	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	Reading	Writing	Maths	
Coventry	**-0.35**	**-0.42**	**+0.07**	**0.17**	**-0.12**	**0.23**	**-0.48**	**-0.35**	**0.17**	downward in all 3 subjects but maths remains above national
National	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	national is always zero
LA ranking	113	113	71	66	86	64	124	113	81	downward in all 3 subjects
Stat neighbour (SN) average	-0.37 Joint 5th	-0.22 8th	-0.07 Joint 4th	-0.11 4th	-0.37 Joint 3rd	-0.17 4th	na	na	na	

Commentary
- KS1-KS2 progress rates decreased in each subject with a significant fall in reading.
- Pupils' achievements in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2 are from statutory tests. KS2 writing is based on teacher assessment.

6. Key Stage 4 (provisional)

Key Stage 4 ATTAINMENT Attainment 8 point score	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	**43.6**	**46.2**	**43.7**	upward
National	46.7	48.8	46.3	downward
LA ranking	125	118	120	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	44.0 8th	46.0 Joint 5th	43.4 6th	upward above SN average
Commentary				
• There was a small increase in Coventry by 0.1 points whereas nationally Attainment 8 decreased by 0.4 points • Attainment 8 measures pupils' attainment across the same 8 qualifications as Progress 8.				

Key Stage 4 PROGRESS Progress 8	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	**-0.12**	**-0.03**	**-0.05**	upward
National	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	no change
LA ranking	97	72	76	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	-0.14 5th	-0.12 3rd	-0.14 3rd	upward above SN average
Commentary				
• Coventry increased 0.07 points moving closer to the national average. • Progress 8 was introduced in 2016 as the headline indicator of school performance. It aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of key stage 4. It shows how pupils have improved during secondary school, compared to other pupils who were at the same level when they finished primary school.				

Key Stage 4 ATTAINMENT Grade 5 or above in English and maths ('strong' pass')	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	**38.0**	**46.6**	**40.8**	upward
National	43.4	49.8	45.3	upward
LA ranking	115	95	109	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	38.2 7th	44.9 5th	39.7 5th	upward above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry has improved in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (2.8ppts compared to 1.9ppts)
- The way GCSEs are graded changed in 2017. They're graded using 9 to 1, rather than A* to G. Grade 9 is the highest grade.
- Grade 4 at GCSE is described as a 'Standard Pass' and is equivalent to a C grade.
- This measure shows the proportion of pupils who achieved a Grade 4 or above in both GCSE English and maths.

Key Stage 4 ATTAINMENT Grade 4 or above in English and maths ('standard' pass)	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	**59.4**	**65.1**	60.8	upward
National	64.9	68.8	65.1	upward
LA ranking	**119**	116	118	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	59.9 6th	64.3 6th	59.7 6th	maintained above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry has improved in 2023 and at a faster rate than national (1.4ppts compared to 0.2ppts)
- Grade 5 at GCSE is described as a 'Strong Pass' and is placed between a low B and a high C grade.
- This measure shows the proportion of pupils who achieved a Grade 5 or above in both GCSE English and maths.

Key Stage 4 PUPIL DESTINATIONS	2019/20 cohort in 2021	2020/21 cohort in 2022	2021/22 cohort in 2023	Trend since 20/21
Coventry	**92.0**	**91.6**	**92.1**	upward
National	94.2	93.8	93.6	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	92.4	92.5	91.9	above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry increased by 0.5ppts compared to a national decrease of 0.2ppts
- Destination measures provide information on the success of schools and colleges in helping young people continue in education, apprenticeships or employment.
- Key stage 4 destination measures follow pupils at the end of key stage 4 study (GCSE and equivalent qualifications) and reports their destinations in the following academic year.
- They show the percentage of pupils going to an education, apprenticeship or employment destination. To be counted in a destination, young people have to have sustained participation for a 6-month period in the destination year.

7. **16-18 (provisional)**

16-18 ATTAINMENT Average A level result	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	**Grade C 30.37**	**Grade B- 35.44**	**Grade C 30.97**	upward
National	Grade C+ 33.77	Grade B 38.77	Grade B 35.16	upward
LA Rank	114	118	129	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	Grade C 30.71	Grade B- 35.87	Grade C 31.96	upward below SN average

Commentary
- Coventry increased by 0.6 points compared to a greater increase nationally of 1.39 points. Coventry is below both national and statistical neighbour average.
- The attainment measure shows the average point score per entry, expressed as a grade and average points.

16-18 ATTAINMENT Average tech level result	2019	2022	2023	Trend since 2019
Coventry	Distinction 32.75	Merit 25.97	Merit 24.72	downward
National	Merit+ 28.64	Distinction- 30.61	Merit+ 28.51	downward
LA Rank	16	135	137	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	Merit- 27.65	Merit+ 29.50	Merit 27.85	upward below SN average

Commentary
- In 2019 the number of young people studying tech levels in Coventry represented only 4% (111) of all level 3 entries. In 2023 this had risen to 9.3% (219) compared to 6.1% nationally. The increase in entries in Coventry in 2023 represents a 97% increase and may explain the difference in performance when compared to 2019.
- Compared to 2019, Coventry decreased by 8 points compared to a smaller decrease nationally of 0.13 points. Coventry remains below national and statistical neighbour average, although Coventry's average grade of Merit is the same as statistical neighbours in 2023.
- Tech-Level qualifications are the vocational equivalent of A-levels. Their purpose is to lead to a recognised occupation, e.g. engineering, accounting, construction, manufacturing, agriculture, and IT.

Key Stage 5 DESTINATIONS	2019/20 cohort in 2021	2020/21 cohort in 2022	2021/22 cohort in 2023	Trend
Coventry	**81.6**	**78.0**	**82.0**	upward
England	80.5	79.1	82.6	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	78.0	76.5	79.5	upward

Commentary
- Coventry performed above statistical neighbours and just below national by 0.6 ppts.
- Key stage 5 destinations show the percentage of students continuing to education, apprenticeship or employment destinations in the year after completing their 16 to 18 study in schools and colleges.

8. **Post-16 participation in education, employment and training**

Post-16 PARTICIPATION September Guarantee	2021	2022	Trend 2021 to 2022
Coventry	**98.6**	**98.6**	maintained
England	95.5	94.6	downward
LA Rank	17	16	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	92.7 3rd	94.2 3rd	maintained
Commentary • The 2023 data have not yet been published and are expected in February 2024. • The September Guarantee helps local authorities fulfil their duty to provide education and training to young people and find them a suitable place. The offer should be appropriate to the young person's needs and can include full-time education in school sixth-forms or colleges; an apprenticeship or traineeship; employment combined with part-time education or training.			

Annual NEET and Not Known rates (3-month average – Dec, Jan & Feb)	2021 (16-17 year olds)			2022 (16-17 year olds)			2023 (16-17 year olds)		
	Com-bined figure	NEET	Not Known	Com-bined figure	NEET	Not Known	Com-bined figure	NEET	Not Known
Coventry	**4.4**	2.3	2.1	**3.9**	2.1	1.8	**3.5**	**2.2**	**1.3**
England	**5.5**	2.8	2.7	**4.7**	2.2	2.6	**5.2**	2.8	2.4
Stat neighbour (SN) average	**6.4**	3.7	2.7	**6.6**	3.4	3.2	**6.2**	3.8	2.4
Commentary Coventry's 2023 combined figure of **3.5%**: • is an improvement on the last five years' performance and an all-time low; • remains significantly **below (better than)** both national and statistical neighbours									

9. Attendance 2019 – 2023

Primary Overall Attendance *(N.B The academic year 2019/20 was not collected during COVID)*	2018/2019	2020/2021	2021/2022	2023 Aut/Spr only	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	95.9%	96.0%	93.8%	**93.7%**	downward
National	96.0%	96.4%	93.7%	94.0%	downward
LA ranking	82	106	64	na	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	95.9% 4th	96.1% Joint 5th	93.6% 4th	na	above SN average and remain 4th in 21/22

- Coventry's Primary school attendance has decreased 2.2ppts, similar to the national decrease of 2.0ppts. Coventry is above the SN average.

Secondary Overall Attendance *(N.B The academic year 2019/20 was not collected during COVID)*	2018/2019	2020/2021	2021/2022	2023 Aut/Spr only	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	94.6%	**94.5%**	90.8%	**91.0%**	downward
National	94.5%	**94.5%**	91.0%	91.3%	downward
LA ranking	59	**78**	82	na	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	94.3% 3rd	**94.1% 7th**	90.8% 5th	na	match SN average and moved down 2 places in 21/22

- Coventry's Secondary school attendance has decreased 3.6ppts, similar to the national decrease of 3.2ppts. Coventry matches the SN average.

Special Overall Attendance *(N.B The academic year 2019/20 was not collected during COVID)*	2018/2019	2020/2021	2021/2022	2023 Aut/Spr only	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	87.9%	86.8%	86.6%	**86.1%**	downward
National	89.9%	85.8%	86.8%	86.8%	downward
LA ranking	134	107	92	na	upward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	88.9% 10th	84.2% 9th	86.6% 8th	na	match SN average and moved up 2 places in 21/22

- Coventry's Special school attendance has decreased 1.8ppts in contrast to a larger decrease nationally of 3.1ppts. Coventry matches the SN average.

10. **Suspensions and Permanent Exclusions 2019 – 2022**

Primary School Suspension Rate	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Trend since 2019
Coventry	2.0%	1.6%	1.3%	1.8%	downward
National	1.4%	1.0%	1.0%	1.4%	no change
LA ranking	132	138	126	120	upward by 12 places
Stat neighbour (SN) average	1.8% Joint 7th	1.1% 10th	1.1% 10th	1.7 7th	downward above SN average
Commentary • Coventry primary school suspension rate decreased by a significant 0.2ppts and as national remain the same. Coventry is above the SN average. • Suspension rate: (Number of suspensions recorded across the whole academic year / Number of sole and dual main registered pupils on roll as at January census data) X 100					

Secondary School Suspension Rate	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021 /2022	Trend since 2019
Coventry	9.2%	7.5%	7.9%	14.7%	upward
National	10.8%	7.4%	8.5%	14.0%	upward
LA ranking	69	103	78	98	downward by 29 places
Stat neighbour (SN) average	13.1% 3rd	8.3% 7th	9.8% 4th	17.2% 4th	upward below SN average.
Commentary • Coventry secondary school suspension rate increased by 5.5ppts and at a faster than national at 3.2ppts. Coventry does however remain below the SN average					

Special School Suspension Rate	2018/ 2019	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Trend since 2019
Coventry	5.0%	13.0%	22.9%	upward
National	11.3%	7.3%	9.6%	downward
LA ranking	na	na	135	
Stat neighbour (SN) average	22.9%	7.1%	10.1% 10th	downward above SN average
Commentary • Coventry special school suspension rate increased by 17.9ppts as national decreased by 1.7ppts. Coventry is above the SN average. • It is our understanding that 21/22 was an exceptional year. The smaller numbers in the Special School cohort can create significant year-on-year fluctuation and we are monitoring emerging 22/23 data with care.				

Primary School Permanent Exclusions Rate	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	0.04%	0.04%	0.00%	**0.05%**	upward
National	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.02%	no change
LA ranking	121	141	1	141	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	0.04% 8th	0.02% 8th	0.01% Joint 1st	0.02% 11th	downward above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry primary school permanent exclusion rate increased by 0.01ppts. National remained the same. Coventry is above the SN average.
- Permanent exclusion rate: (Number of permanent exclusions recorded across the whole academic year / Number of sole and dual main registered pupils on roll as at January census data) X 100

Secondary School Permanent Exclusions Rate	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	0.14%	0.06%	0.07%	**0.14%**	no change
National	0.20%	0.13%	0.10%	0.16%	downward
LA ranking	38	25	55	69	downward
Stat neighbour (SN) average	0.27% 3rd	0.16% 2nd	0.10% 6th	0.16% 5th	downward below SN average

Commentary
- Coventry secondary school permanent exclusion rate was unchanged as national decreased by 0.4ppts. Coventry is below the SN average.

Special School Permanent Exclusions Rate	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Trend since 2018/2019
Coventry	0.21%	0.00%	0.18%	0.09%	downward
National	0.06%	0.05%	0.01%	0.06%	no change
LA ranking	na	na	na	na	
Stat neighbour (SN) average	0.06% na	0.05% na	0.01% na	0.06% 8th	maintained above SN average

Commentary
- Coventry special school permanent exclusion rate decreased by 0.12ppts as national stayed the same. Coventry is above the SN average.

11. **Performance KS2 and KS4: difference between males and females in 2022 and 2023**

Key Stage and Performance Measure	Year	Males (national)	Female (national)	Difference (national)
Primary Key Stage 2 **% Reading, Writing &** **Maths combined (RWM)**	**2022**	**48.0** (54.6)	**60.2** (63.1)	**-12.2** (-8.5)
	2023	**52.6** (56.2)	**59.8** (62.9)	**-7.2** (-6.7)
	% pt change	**+4.6** (+1.6)	**-0.4** (-0.2)	**+5.0** (+1.8)
Secondary Key Stage 4 **Attainment 8**	**2019**	**40.6** (44.1)	**46.7** (49.4)	**-6.1** (-5.3)
	2023	**41.0** (43.4)	**46.4** (48.9)	**-5.4** (-5.5)
	% pt change	**+0.4** (-0.7)	**-0.3** (-0.5)	**+0.7** (+0.2)

Commentary
In Coventry the "gender" gap narrowed at both Key Stages with male attainment increasing as female attainment slightly decreased.
This local trend was mirrored nationally; however the male increase was much less across the country.
The net effect is the Coventry differences are now similar to the national pattern; **KS2 (City -7.2 v Nat -6.7)** and **KS4 (City -5.4 v Nat -5.5)**.

12. Performance of vulnerable groups 2022 and 2023 (and ref 2019)

Phase	Vulnerable group [cohort size for each year]	2019 (national)	2022 (national)	2023 (national)	2022 to 2023	Comparison with national
Early Years Good Level of Development (GLD)	Disadvantaged pupils [587;621]		46.5% (49.4%)	50.1% (52.0%)	⬆	Below National, gap narrowed
	Education, Health and Care Plan [51;100]		3.9 (3.7%)	0% (3.8%)	⬇	Below National, gap widened
	Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support [393;476]		24.7% (23.0%)	21.8% (24.4%)	⬇	Below National, above in 2022
	Children looked after (CLA) [27;14]		59% (40%)	42.9% (40%)	⬇	Above National in both years
Year 1 Phonics	Disadvantaged pupils (874;1026;967)	70.7% (70.8%)	63.5% (62.5%)	65.7% (66.8%)	⬆	Below National, gap widened
	Education, Health and Care Plan (84;127;131)	13.1% (19.6%)	15.7% (18.8%)	6.9% (19.8%)	⬇	Below National, gap widened
	Special Educational Needs (SEN Support) (520;581;601)	54.0% (47.8%)	45.8% (43.5%)	53.4% (48.5%)	⬆	Above National in both years
	Children looked after (CLA) [10;9;23]	80% (64%)	44% (60%)	73.9% (61%)	⬆	Above National, below in 2022
Primary Key Stage 1 Reading, Writing & Maths combined (RWM)	Disadvantaged pupils [1055;1066;1190]	49.8% (49.8%)	31.3% (36.9%)	38.7% (40.2%)	⬆	Below National, gap narrowed
	Education, Health and Care Plan [90;122;150]	2.2% (7.4%)	1.6% (6.4%)	2.7% (6.5%)	⬆	Below National, gap narrowed
	Special Educational Needs Support [666;630;703]	21.5% (20.8%)	17.2% (17.1%)	18.3% (19.1%)	⬆	Below National, above in 2022
	Children looked after (CLA) [15;16;8]	46.2% (37%)	31.2% (29%)	37.5% (31%)	⬆	Above National in both years
Primary Key Stage 2 Reading, Writing & Maths combined (RWM)	Disadvantaged [1507;1530;1558]	51.0% (51.3%)	40.3% (42.8%)	42.2% (44.3%)	⬆	Above National, below in 2022
	Education, Health and Care Plan [127;177;184]	3.9% (9.2%)	2.3% (7.1%)	1.6% (8.5%)	⬇	Below National, gap widened
	Special Educational Needs Support [785;877;909]	23.4% (25.1%)	18.2% (21.1%)	22.0% (23.7%)	⬆	Below National, gap narrowed
	Children looked after (CLA) [22;34;27]	36.4% (37%)	41.4% (32%)	22.2% (36%)	⬇	Below National, above in 2022

Phase	Vulnerable group [cohort size for each year]	2019 (national)	2023 (national)	2019 to 2023	Gap with national
Secondary Key Stage 4 Attainment 8	Disadvantaged [1124;1237]	35.7 (36.7)	34.7 (35.1)	↓	Below National, gap narrowed
	Education, Health and Care Plan [135;158]	10.7 (13.7)	9.7 (14.1)	↓	Below National, gap widened
	Special Educational Needs [436;562]	31.3 (32.4)	32.9 (33.2)	↑	Below National, gap narrowed
	Children looked after [69;51]	19.7 (18.0)	26.9 (18.7)	↑	Above National in both years
Secondary Key Stage 4 Progress 8	Disadvantaged [1080;1137]	-0.47 (-0.45)	-0.47 (-0.57)	↔	Above National, below in 2019
	Education, Health and Care Plan [133;127]	-1.38 (-1.17)	-1.17 (-1.12)	↑	Below National, gap narrowed
	Special Educational Needs Support [424;545]	-0.56 (-0.43)	-0.40 (-0.46)	↑	Above National, below in 2019
	Children looked after (CLA) [69;72]	-1.17 (-1.45)	-1.24 (-1.39)	↓	Above National in both years

Sources: NEXUS based on NPD and DfE LAIT as at January 2024

13. References and sources

Much of the data contained in the tables above is currently accessible to the public via the DfE's Government Data website:
Statistics at DfE - Department for Education - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
Statistics: early years foundation stage profile - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
 Published: 30 November 2023

Phonics screening check and key stage 1 assessments
Statistics: key stage 1 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Published: 12 October 2023

Key Stage 2 (National curriculum assessments)
[Statistics: key stage 2 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](www.gov.uk)
 Published: 14 December 2023

Key Stage 4 (GCSEs and equivalent results)
[Statistics: GCSEs (key stage 4) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](www.gov.uk)
Published: 19 October 2023

16-19 attainment (A levels and other 16-18 results)
[Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](www.gov.uk)
Published: 16 November 2023

[Accountability Measures: Technical Guidance](#)
Published: 20 April 2023

Ofsted 'Latest Data'
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maintained-schools-and-academies-inspections-and-outcomes-official-statistics#latest-data

Local authority interactive tool (LAIT)
Local authority interactive tool (LAIT) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Appendix 2

Number of Local Authorities = 153

Statistical Neighbours – LAIT, December 2023
Statistical neighbour models provide one method for benchmarking progress. For each local authority (LA), these models designate a number of other LAs deemed to have similar characteristics. These designated LAs are known as statistical neighbours.
The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) was commissioned in 2007 by the Department to identify and group similar LAs in terms of the socio-economic characteristics, each LA was assigned 10 such neighbours. These are Coventry's:
Portsmouth
Tameside
Southampton
Sheffield
Derby
Bolton
Medway
Walsall
Peterborough
Leeds

See page 23 Appendix 2 in the LAIT Tool guide to see the socio-economic characteristics used.

Advanced Level Performance Points Tables

A Level		Tech Level	
A*	60	Distinction	50
A	50	Merit	35
B	40	Pass	15
C	30		
D	20		
E	10		

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Appendix 3 Coventry Education Improvement Priorities 2022-24

Long-term strands:	Curriculum	**SEND & Inclusion**	EYFS	Behaviour	Attendance
	Secure and deliver an ambitious and relevant curriculum that is designed to give all pupils, including disadvantaged pupils, the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life	Be ambitious for children and young people with SEND and effective in the provision that we make for them so that their educational outcomes improve across all key stages	Ensure early years provision is effective in providing children with successful foundations for learning	Manage behaviour well so that schools and settings are calm, safe and supportive environments which children and young people want to attend and where they can learn and thrive	Embed attendance as an important area of school improvement, with each school and setting offering a clear vision for attendance, underpinned by high expectations and core values
Key Priority 2023/34	**Whole System** Increase the capacity of schools to meet a broader range of complex needs effectively through a workforce development strategy that is co-produced and commissioned through a system partnership, with the aim of increasing the confidence, skills and expertise of school-based staff Continue to develop and roll out a range of specialist ERPs across the City to build a continuum of provision and extend choice With a focus on the impact of the pandemic on child development, target a range of early intervention programmes to develop speech, language and communication from the early years **Network / Collaborative Focus** • Improve the quality of provision within each school/setting through focussed collaboration • Ensure network/collaborative engagement in wider system strategies to improve provision				

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Appendix 4 Glossary of key terminology

Attainment 8	Attainment 8 is a way of measuring how well pupils do in key stage 4, which they usually finish when they are 16 years old. Each grade from 8 subject areas (with English and Maths counted twice) a pupil gets is assigned a point score from 9 (the highest) to 1 (the lowest). Each pupil's Attainment 8 score is calculated by adding up the points for their 8 subjects.
Best Start for Life Programme	The Best Start for Life programme focusses on 1001 days of a child's life, from conception to their second birthday. In Coventry, this programme involves collaboration of a wide range of partners working together (more information available here).
CLA (Children Looked After)	This refers to children who have been taken into the care of the Local Authority.
Coventry Education Partnership	All Coventry schools working in partnership with the Local Authority.
Disadvantaged	Students are classed as disadvantaged if either or both: • they were eligible for free school meals at any time during the last six years (Ever 6 FSM or FSM eligible). • they are looked after (in the care of the local authority for a day or more or who have been adopted from care).
EHCp (Education, Health and Care plans)	An Education, Health and Care plan is a legal personalised document. It sets out the education, health and social care needs of a child or young person: aged 0 to 25 years old with special educational needs or disabilities.
Exclusions and Suspensions	An exclusion is where a child is permanently taken off a school roll. A suspension is where a child is given a fixed period of time when they must not attend school.
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage – the framework which covers children's education from birth to 5 years of age. This includes children's reception year in school.
FSM	FSM stands for "Free School Meals" and denotes children who are eligible for Free School Meals (i.e. where parents/carers have made this application).
GLD (Good Level of Development)	The age-related expectation for the children by the end of their reception year (the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage). Attaining GLD means attaining the expected standard across a range of key areas.
Key Stages	Key Stage 1 (KS1) consists of Year 1 and Year 2 (5 to 7 year olds) Key Stage 2 (KS2) consists of Year 3 to Year 6 (7 to 11 year olds) Key Stage 3 (KS3) consists of Year 7 to Year 9 (11 to 14 year olds) Key Stage 4 (KS4) consists of Year 10 and Year 11 (14 to 16 year olds) Key Stage 5 (KS5) consists of Year 12 and Year 13 (16 to 18 year olds) – this is covered within 16-19 attainment within the report.
NEET	(Young people) "not in education, employment or training".

Phonics	Synthetic phonics is the standard approach used nationally for teaching early reading. Children's understanding of phonics is checked with a standard assessment at the end of Year 1.
Progress 8	Progress 8 aims to capture the progress that pupils in a school make from the end of primary school to the end of KS4. It is a type of value-added measure, which means that pupils' results are compared to other pupils nationally with similar prior attainment. Every increase in grade a pupil achieves in their Attainment 8 subjects counts towards a school's Progress 8 score.
SEN (Special Educational Needs) Support	SEN Support is a designation for children and young people who are on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Register at their school. This level of need is significant but typically lower than that for children and young people with Education, Health and Care plans.
STA (Standards and Testing Agency)	The STA are an executive agency, sponsored by the Department for Education, who develop and deliver assessment for children between reception and the end of Key Stage 2.
Statistical neighbours	Local Authorities with similar demographics who are directly comparable in terms of performance (see Appendix 2 for the list of our eleven statistical neighbours).

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) Work Programme 2023-24

Last updated 24th January 2023

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

6th July 2023
Service Overview and Priorities Apprenticeship Provision
5th October 2023
Attendance Behaviour and Exclusions Duties Ofsted Inspection Framework – including SEND
23rd November 2023
Social Worker recruitment and retention Cost of Children's Placements
21st December 2023
Holiday Activity Fund - Update Family Valued Programme – including Reunification Project
1st February 2024
School Performance Data
14th March 2024 – joint with Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5)
Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report CAMHS
18 April 2024 **Items for 2023-24**
Family Health and Lifestyles Service – heath inequalities Youth Provision in Coventry Cost of Children's Placements (Update Report) Fostering Early Years Saplings Programme Health and Wellbeing in Schools – joint with SB5 Task and Finish Group – Autism in Schools
Items taken for information
Adoption Service Annual Reports
24/25
One Strategic Plan - School Place Sufficiency - September Cost of Children's Placements

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Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
6th July 2023	Service Overview and Priorities • Education • Children's Services	An opportunity for the Board to be briefed on the service areas under the scrutiny board portfolio	Neil Macdonald/Kirston Nelson Cllr Sandhu Cllr Seaman
	Apprenticeship Provision	An item referred from Scruco to consider the range and quality of FE provision across the city, including apprenticeships but to also include work-based learning in schools, as well as opportunities for SEND pupils	Kirston Nelson Cllr Sandhu
5th October 2023	Attendance Behaviour and Exclusions Duties	To consider the implementation of the new duties around attendance, Behaviour and Exclusions	Kirston Nelson Cllr Sandhu
	Ofsted Inspection Framework – including SEND		
23rd November 2023	Social Worker recruitment and retention		Neil Macdonald Cllr Seaman
	Cost of Children's Placements	Referred from Scruco to consider the financial pressures caused by the high cost of children's placements	Neil Macdonald Cllr Seaman
21st December 2023	Holiday Activity Fund - Update	Members requested a further update on the HAF following the last item.	Cllr Sandhu Rachael Sugars
	Family Valued Programme – including Reunification Project	To consider progress and impact on families of the programme, including the Reunification Project	Neil Macdonald Cllr Seaman
1st February 2024	School Performance Data	An annual report on school performance, to include school attendance, exclusions and suspensions data, as well as post 16 performance	Cllr Sandhu Kirston Nelson
14th March 2024 – joint with Health	Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report	To include picking up the actions requested by the Board – widening work with faith groups, EDI strategy and work with children and young people	Rebekah Eaves Cllr Seaman Neil Macdonald

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Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
and Social Care Scrutiny Board (5)			
	CAMHS		
18 April 2024			
Items for 2023-24			
	Family Health and Lifestyles Service – heath inequalities	To looking in more detail at how the service is tackling health inequalities and targeting services at those in need on a localised basis.	Harbir Nagra Cllr Caan
	Youth Provision in Coventry	How and where we work with outside partners (and specifically the third sector) to deliver it	Neil Macdonald Cllr Seaman
	Cost of Children's Placements (Update Report)	At their meeting on 23rd November 2023, Member requested an update item to report on progress in addressing the cost of placements	Neil Macdonald Cllr Seaman
	Fostering	Members requested a more in-depth report on Fostering, including recruiting and supporting foster carers from minority communities	
	Early Years Saplings Programme	Following a report on the Early Years Strategy, Members requested a further item including progress on and more detail on the Saplings Programme	
	Health and Wellbeing in Schools – joint with SB5	To look at what is being done to promote health and well-being in schools and universities – including the school nursing service	
	Task and Finish Group – Autism in Schools	Following a T&F group led by SB5, it was agreed that SB2 would undertake a T&F on the in-depth challenges facing	Jeannette Essex Cllr Sandhu

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Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board (2) Work Programme 2023-24

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
		schools in providing support to children, young people and their families who are on the autism assessment pathway.	
Items taken for information	Adoption Service Annual Reports	Annual report – including information about the diversity of the adoption panel and adopters as well as support to birth mothers after their children have been adopted	Cllr Seaman
24/25	One Strategic Plan - School Place Sufficiency - September	To look at the pressures on school places across the city and what the Council is doing to support sufficient places	Kirston Nelson Cllr Sandhu
	Cost of Children's Placements	Following the item in November 23 – Members requested a progress update on actions and progress	Cllr Seaman Neil Macdonald

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Work Programme Decision Flow Chart

Is the proposed item just to provide the committee with information or update on previous item?
YES → Leave out of work programme and arrange written bulletin/training/seminar

NO ↓

Does the item have a significant impact for one or more section(s) of the population of Coventry?
Has the item been raised by communities/ residents/ partners or stakeholders?
NO →

YES ↓

Is the item linked to a priority in the One Coventry plan?
NO →

YES ↓

Will the scrutiny activity add value to the council, and/or its partners', overall performance?
NO → Leave out of work programme – Low Priority

↓

Is there an item on the forward plan which covers the issue?
NO →

YES ↓

Will scrutiny involvement be duplicating review work within the service?
YES →

NO ↓

→ Possibly include in work programme or monitor

Is scrutiny involvement timely?
NO →

YES ↓

Does the item warrant a single item agenda?
NO → Include on the work programme

YES ↓

Could the item benefit from a task and finish group?
NO → Include on the work programme and scope as a single item

YES ↓

Include on the work programme and scope as a task and finish group

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