



# Corporate Parenting Panel Agenda

**Date:** Wednesday 7 June 2023

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** The Auditorium - Harrow Council Hub, Kenmore Avenue, Harrow, HA3 8LU

## Membership (Quorum 3)

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**Chair:** Councillor Hitesh Karia

**Conservative Councillors:** Matthew Goodwin-Freeman  
Chetna Halai

**Labour Councillors:** Simon Brown  
Aneka Shah-Levy

**Non-Voting Advisory Member:** Valerie Griffin

## Reserve Members:

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**Conservative Reserve Members:**

1. Vipin Mithani
2. Govind Bharadia
3. Zak Wagman

**Labour Reserve Members:**

1. Sasi Suresh
2. Krishna Suresh

## Officers:

**Contact:** Sonia Karimzada  
E-mail: [sonia.karimzada@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:sonia.karimzada@harrow.gov.uk)

Scan this code for the electronic agenda:



# Useful Information

## Joining the Meeting virtually

The meeting is open to the public and can be viewed online at [London Borough of Harrow webcasts](#)

## Attending the Meeting in person

### Directions by car:

Go along Kenmore Avenue and head towards the Kenton Recreation Ground. When approaching the end of the Kenmore Avenue turn right before reaching the Kadwa Patidar Centre.

You will be admitted on a first-come-first basis and directed to seats.

Please:

- (1) Stay seated.
- (2) Access the meeting agenda online at [Browse meetings - Corporate Parenting Panel](#)
- (3) Put mobile devices on silent.
- (4) Follow instructions of the Security Officers.
- (5) Advise Security on your arrival if you are a registered speaker.

## Filming / recording

This meeting may be recorded or filmed, and if you choose to attend, you will be deemed to have consented to this. Any recording may be published on the Council website.

**Agenda publication date: Friday 26 May 2023**

## Agenda - Part I

1. **Attendance by Reserve Members**  
To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.
2. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**  
To consider the appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel for the 2023-2024 Municipal Year.
3. **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members present.
4. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 12)  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.
5. **Public Questions**  
To receive any public questions received.  
  
Questions will be asked in the order in which they were received. There will be a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.  
  
[The deadline for receipt of public questions is 3.00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023. Questions should be sent to [publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk)  
No person may submit more than one question].
6. **Petitions**  
To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors.
7. **Deputations**  
To receive deputations (if any).
8. **Update from Participation Service and care experienced young people about their experiences** (Pages 13 - 18)  
Verbal update and presentation from the Participation Officer.
9. **Update and performance for Corporate Parenting Service** (Pages 19 - 30)  
Presentation from the Assistant Director of Corporate Parenting.
10. **Virtual School Performance Update** (Pages 31 - 44)  
Presentation from the Harrow Virtual School Headteacher.
11. **Update and Performance on Health for Children Looked After** (Pages 45 - 58)  
Presentation from the Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow.
12. **Any Other Urgent Business**  
Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

## Agenda - Part II - Nil

### Data Protection Act Notice

The Council will record the meeting and will place the recording on the Council's website.

**[Note:** The questions and answers will not be reproduced in the minutes.]



# Corporate Parenting Panel

## Minutes

### 27 March 2023

**Present:**

**Chair:** Councillor Hitesh Karia

**Councillors:** Simon Brown Chetna Halai  
Matthew Goodwin-Freeman

**Non-voting  
Advisory  
Member:** Valerie Griffin Foster Carer

**Absent:** Councillor Aneka Shah-Levy

**Officers (in attendance):**

Joy Bell	Participation Officer
Jacinta Kane	Assistant Director – Corporate Parenting
Maria Luscombe	Head of Harrow Children’s Services, CNWL
Sarah Moriarty	Assistant Headteacher, Harrow Virtual School
Christine Nichols	Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow
Peter Tolley	Director of Children Services
Joanna Tortipidis	Senior Education Officer
Mellina Williamson-Taylor	Head Teacher, Virtual School

Bridget Owen	Interim Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and LAC (Harrow)
Tina Swain	Service Director for CAMHS & Eating Disorders
Brian Bekoe	Housing Advice and Assessment Officer
Mahnoor Awan	Leaving Care Representative

**36. Attendance by Reserve Members**

**RESOLVED:** To note that there were no Reserve Members at the meeting.

**37. Declarations of Interest**

**RESOLVED:** To note that during the course of the meeting the following interests were declared:

- Councillor Simon Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in that his daughter had started working for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CNWL). He remained in the meeting while the items were being discussed.
- Councillor Hitesh Karia declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he worked for an organisation that provided care services. He remained in the meeting while the items were being discussed.

**38. Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2023 be taken as a read and signed correct record.

**39. Public Questions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no public questions were received.

**40. Petitions**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no petitions were received.

**41. Deputations**

**RESOLVED:** To note that deputations were received.

**Resolved Items**

#### **42. Update from the Participation Service and from a care experienced young people about their experiences**

The Panel heard a presentation from the participation officer who confirmed that children aged 4-17 had the opportunity to provide independent yearly feedback. The responses included many positive responses regarding the social workers. It was noted that overall young people were satisfied with their placement and could identify a safe, trusted adult who they could discuss their worries. However, they also sensed that their social worker was lacking time and was overburdened. Some young people also felt uncertainty about the role of their Independent Reviewing Officer. The Panel then heard a presentation from the Participation Officer who highlighted a number of service developments:

- A virtual feedback form had been rolled out
- Free National Gym Membership – for all Children Looked After no matter where they are in the country. Partnership was formed with Everyone Active offering gym memberships to young people. It was confirmed that 14 young people have taken up the offer.
- In-person Children in Care Council meetings were in place.
- Planned activities for Children Looked After were in place (e.g. 20 young people going to Thorpe Park next week).
- Care Experienced Art Exhibition at Harrow Arts Centre was planned between 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Panel Members were invited to attend this event.
- Activities and programmes were planned after consultation with Young People and they were encouraged to attend and take part.

The Panel acknowledged the positive feedback from young people about their placements and noted the improvements that had been made in the service and noted engagement of care experienced young people in contract monitoring and procurement as a positive step forward.

The Participation Officer advised that work was underway towards putting together a booklet or information for children first coming into care, including roles of social workers and IROs. The Chair suggested that an electronic copy should also be made available.

The Service Director for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) & Eating Disorders, provided an update in relation to CAMHS's response to the feedback shared by a young person at the January Corporate Parenting Panel meeting. The Service Director for CAMHS & Eating Disorders acknowledged the young person's journey had been difficult and there had been additional investment into mental health and significant improvements. She acknowledged that there was room for improvement and that a robust urgent care and out of hours service was now in place. The Panel also heard that the 'Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability and engagement

(THRIVE) model was being used to work with children at the earliest opportunity, to be driven by need rather than diagnosis.

The Panel thanked the Participation Officer and young person for their contributions and requested that an invite be extended to the Service Director for CAMHS & Eating Disorders to future meetings of the Panel.

**RESOLVED:** That the update be noted.

#### **43. Update and Performance for Corporate Parenting Service**

The Panel received a presentation from the Assistant Director of Corporate Parenting which covered a number of areas such as performance scorecard, policy and Ofsted updates, commissioning updates and plans for Quarter 1 2023.

It was highlighted that:

- Drop in performance related to an independent review officer (IRO) on long term leave and delays in appointing an interim IRO. Reviews were covered and completed in no longer than 2 weeks to ensure that service continuity and prevent unnecessary deviations in the review of care planning.
- Majority of children who had 3 or more placements were now in matched, long-term placements, with family members, or in specialist residential homes which were meeting their needs.
- Most children placed 20+ miles from home were in long-term, settled placements which met their assessed needs. A small number of children were placed in short term or temporary placements, based on assessed needs and were living with their parents, in children's homes for safety reasons or in custody due to offences.
- Ofsted Inspectors were on-site this week for Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of the multi-agency response to children and their families who needed help. It was highlighted that there was also a new inspection judgement for care leavers with a separate judgement and evaluation criteria on 'the experiences and progress of care leavers', for implementation from January 2023.
- Advocacy and Independent Visitor tendering process was expected to commence in Spring 2023
- Market capacity for 16+ provisions which met the new Ofsted regulations in terms of placement sufficiency was being reviewed.
- Recruitment and development of newly qualified social workers and permanent managers to improve manageable caseloads and worker stability for children and young people was underway to address ongoing challenges due to a national shortage of social workers.



- An Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) life skills training and assessment for care leavers was being introduced.

The Panel welcomed the updates and discussed that there should be clarity around the duties of the social workers, and that feedback should be taken from the young person to improve the transparency of the service and encouragement of integrated services.

**RESOLVED:** That the update be noted.

#### **44. Housing Needs Update**

The Panel received a housing needs update from the Council's Housing Advice and Assessment Officer.

It was confirmed that:

- Since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, Harrow Council had housed 39 care leavers into secure tenancies and removed 13 care leavers from the housing register.
- There had been 17 allocations in 2022/2023 into secure tenancies compared to 8 from 2021/2022.

Members thanked the Officer and requested that more details on why people refused accommodation be provided at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) The update be noted; and
- (2) Detail regarding housing accommodation refusals be provided at the next Panel meeting.

#### **45. Virtual School Performance Update**

The Panel received a presentation from the Virtual School Head Teacher, which focused on Personal Education Plans and Looked After Children (CLA) with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

The Panel heard that:

- 26% (25/97) of children of statutory school age (SSA) had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and 22% (16/73) of young people in Key Stage 5 had an EHCP.
- The national average for CLA with an EHCP was 28%, however not all children with SEN met the criteria for an EHCP. In addition to EHCPs, approximately 30% of all our CLA require SEN support, which was in line with the national average for CLA.

- CLA with SEN were assessed by a range of professionals, which could include an educational psychologist. Assessments determined what support was required to meet their learning needs.
- Schools, social workers, and carers had accessed training on meeting the mental health needs of CLA. This intervention had supported over 30 school placements and 15 foster placements.
- Over the past 3 years the Virtual School had supported schools and social workers with EHCP referrals. The number of children with EHCPs had now doubled.
- It was highlighted that approximately 50% of children with an EHCP attended a Special School. 75% of students who attended Special Schools were outside of Harrow and one fifth of students were educated in mainstream provisions (80% of these students were educated in Harrow).

The Chair was pleased to hear that CLA presenting mental health needs were supported by the Clinical Psychologist and noted that over 40% of these students had timely interventions. These had made a positive effect on the Young People where they had the chance to raise their voice and it was child-centred.

Members thanked the Virtual School Headteacher for the detailed report.

**RESOLVED:** That the update be noted.

#### **46. Update and Performance on Health for Children Looked After**

The Panel received a presentation from the Named Nurse for Children Looked After in Harrow, who explained what the role of the Named Nurse included and outlined the key performance indicators for Harrow CLA, exception reporting, and further areas of assistance provided to the Council.

It was highlighted that:

- 100% of requests for Initial Health Assessment (IHA) were received outside timescales. Only 2 of the 8 late requests were seen within timescales.
- Factors contributing to completing Review Health Assessments (RHA) outside of timescale were Out of Borough LAC teams experiencing capacity issues, late requests and appointments declined or did not attend
- 41% of requests for RHA were received outside timescales, with 11 out of the 12 late requests were completed in timescales.

- Several improvements had been made such as meetings with local authority colleagues to improve late requests were in place; liaison with Senior Managers/Team Managers; offer of additional flexible appointments such as Saturday clinics and reminder telephone calls to carers/young people regarding appointment times.

The Named Nurse also informed the Panel of a positive case study where a Young Person received a major improvement following an officer review which resulted in the Young Person putting more effort into making healthy choices for his own as well as the sake of their siblings.

The Panel thanked the Named Nurse for their comprehensive presentation.

**RESOLVED:** That the update be noted.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 6.01 pm, closed at 8.00 pm).

(Signed) Councillor Hitesh Karia  
Chair

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# Participation Service Update

June 2023

*Joy Bell*

*Participation Officer*

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Children (aged 4-17) have the opportunity to provide feedback at least once-yearly

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My carers are good and take care of me very well.

I would like to see my dog during Family Time.

My Social Worker doesn't always return my calls.

My Social Worker does her job well; she is calm and collected.

I love my placement – the staff really care about me.

I want my Social Worker to check in with me more often.

## Key themes:

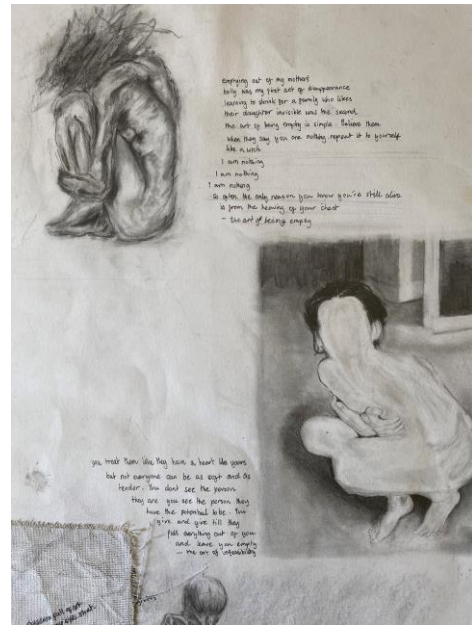
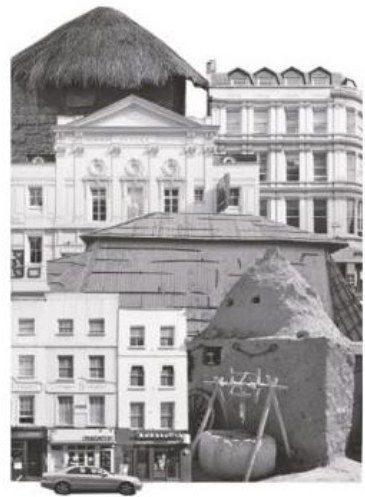
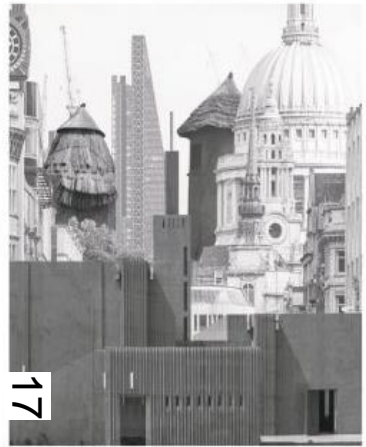
- all young people could identify a safe, trusted adult with whom they could discuss their worries
- many young people expressed difficulties around timely communication with their Social Worker
- two young people requested a change of Social Worker; these changes have been actioned within three months
- most young people felt uncertainty around the role of the Independent Reviewing Officer
- all young people were satisfied with their placement

Since January 2023, we have:

- connected 18 young people with free gym memberships
- begun hosting Children In Care Council meetings
- hosted a Care-Experienced Art Exhibition, showcasing the work of 12 young artists
- recommenced events and activities for children looked after – with 33 young people attending trips to Thorpe Park, Flip Out, Wembley Stadium and Wicked

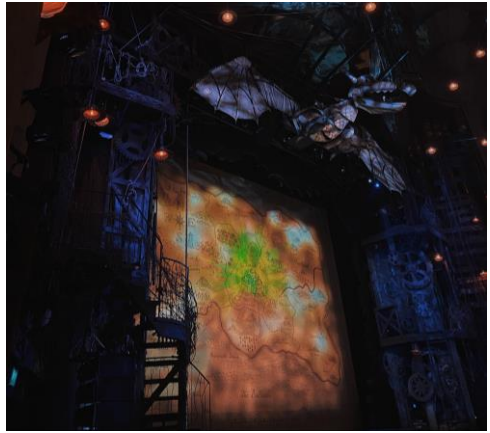


# Participation Activities



## Care-Experienced Art Exhibition

# Participation Activities



CLA Activities

# Corporate Parenting Service Update

June 2023

*Jacinta Kane*  
*Assistant Director*  
*Corporate Parenting*

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- Performance Scorecard
- CLA Demographics
- Policy and Practice Updates
- Commissioning Updates

# Performance Scorecard

Ref No	Indicator Description	Statistical Neighbour Average 2020/21	England average 2020/21	Harrow 2019-20	Harrow 2020-21	Harrow 2021-22	Harrow target 2022/23	Harrow Q1 2022-23	Harrow Q2 2022-23	Harrow Q3 2022-23	Harrow Q4 2022-23
1	Number of current CLA at end of quarter	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	186	182	188	N/A	187	191	192	179
2	Number of current Care Leavers at end of quarter	Not Published	Not Published	166	183	189	N/A	188	191	185	186
3	Rate of CLA per 10,000 children aged under 18	38.6	67.0	31.7	30.0	31.5		31.2	31.8	32.0	29.8
4	Timeliness of Reviews of Looked After Children	Not Published	Not Published	98.9	97.1	89.8	95%	93.8 (167/178)	86.7 (157/181)	70.9 (134/189)	68.8 (119/173)
5	% of CLA with 3 or more placements	10.0	9.0	13.5	10.0	13.8	Q1 - 2.5% Q2 - 5% Q3 - 7.5% Q4 - 10%	1.1 (2/187)	2.1 (4/191)	8.3 (16/192)	8.9 (16/179)
6	% of CLA looked after for 2.5+ years and in the same placement for 2 years	69.5	70.0	69.7	81.0	68.4	70%	76.5 (26/34)	77.5 (31/40)	65.9 (27/41)	61.1 (22/36)
7	% of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation (19 - 21 year olds)	86.4	88.0	92.9	82.1	89.9	85%	96.3 (27/28)	84.3 (43/51)	88.6 (78/88)	93 (119/128)
8	% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (19 - 21 year olds)	37.5	41.0	29.1	40.0	27.6	35%	25 (7/28)	35.3 (18/51)	34.1 (30/88)	30.5 (39/128)
9	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Dental Checks (rolling year)	41.7	40.0	94.0	73.0	91.5	90%	89.9 (98/109)	89.9 (94/109)	91.5 (107/117)	92.1 (105/114)
10	% of CLA who are looked after 1 yr + with up to date Health Checks (rolling year)	91.8	91.0	94.0	99.0	99.1	95%	93.5 (102/109)	91.7 (100/109)	94.9 (111/117)	91.2 (104/114)
11	% of children who ceased to be looked after who were adopted	5.5	10.0	3.1	4.3	3.8	N/A	3.7 (1/27)	4 (2/50)	2.6 (2/78)	3.5 (4/115)
12	% Children who ceased to be looked due to a Special Guardianship Order	Not Published	12.3	13.0	19.1	14.3	N/A	0.0	4 (2/50)	9 (7/78)	8.7 (10/115)
13	% of CLA placed more than 20 miles away from home (snapshot)	22.1	16.0	20.0	20.0	16.0	20%	20.9 (29/139)	20.4 (29/142)	22.5 (32/142)	23.6 (34/144)
14	% of all CLA (current and ceased) with at least 1 missing episode in year	12.9	10.0	12.8	9.0	8.8	Q1 - 3% Q2 - 6% Q3 - 9% Q4 - 12%	1.9 (4/214)	4.1 (10/246)	5.9 (16/270)	8.2 (24/292)

NB: If target is than 5% variance = amber; greater than 5% variance = red.

- Drop in performance related to an IRO on long term leave and delays in appointing an interim IRO, reviews were covered and completed no longer than 2 weeks
- This ensured children were being reviewed and no drift in the review of care planning
- This is a cumulative indicator

# % of CLA looked after for 2.5 years + and in the same placement for 2 years

REASON FOR PLACEMENT MOVE	Q3	Q4
Now in matched, long-term placement	9	10
In children's home / complex needs	4	3
Moved placement due to risk outside the home	0	1
Returned home to parents	1	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>

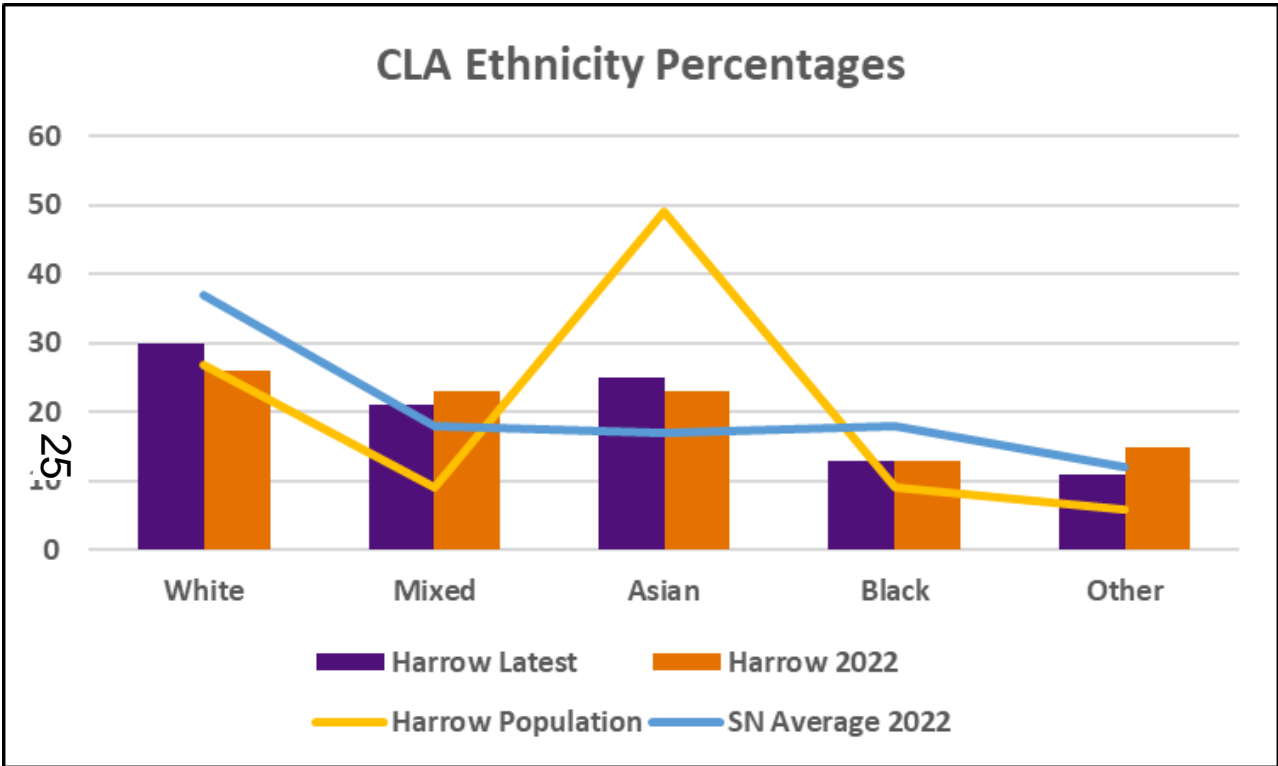
The majority of the children within this stability performance indicator now live in matched, long term placements. A small number of children have complex needs which are being met in children's homes provisions.

# Children placed 20+ miles from Home Address

In house fostering (long-term)	9	10
CYADS specialist placement (long-term)	7	9
Children's home (medium term – risk based)	4	4
Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) (long-term)	4	4
Parent and child placement (assessment / short term)	3	2
Kinship carer (long term)	2	0
Young Offenders Institute (YOI) (Short term)	1	0
Placed for adoption (long term)	1	1
Placed with Special Guardians (long term)	1	1
Move planned to return to London / Harrow	0	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>



# CLA Demographics - Ethnicity

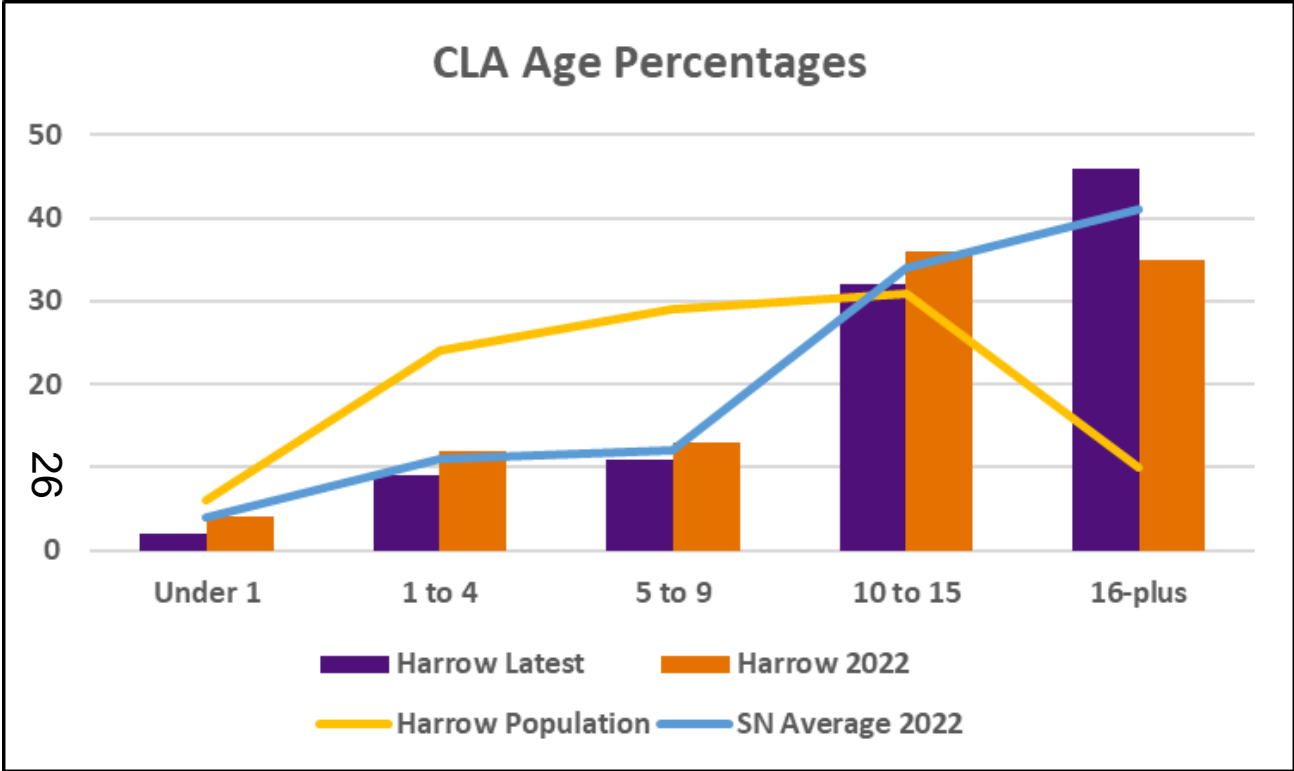


This data highlights that children of Asian ethnicity are significantly underrepresented in the Harrow CLA population.

All other ethnic groups are over-represented, particularly children of mixed ethnicity, followed by black, other and white ethnicities.

Ethnicity Percentages				
	Harrow Latest	Harrow 2022	Harrow Population	SN Average 2022
White	30	26	27	37
Mixed	21	23	9	18
Asian	25	23	49	17
Black	13	13	9	18
Other	11	15	6	12

# CLA Demographics - Age



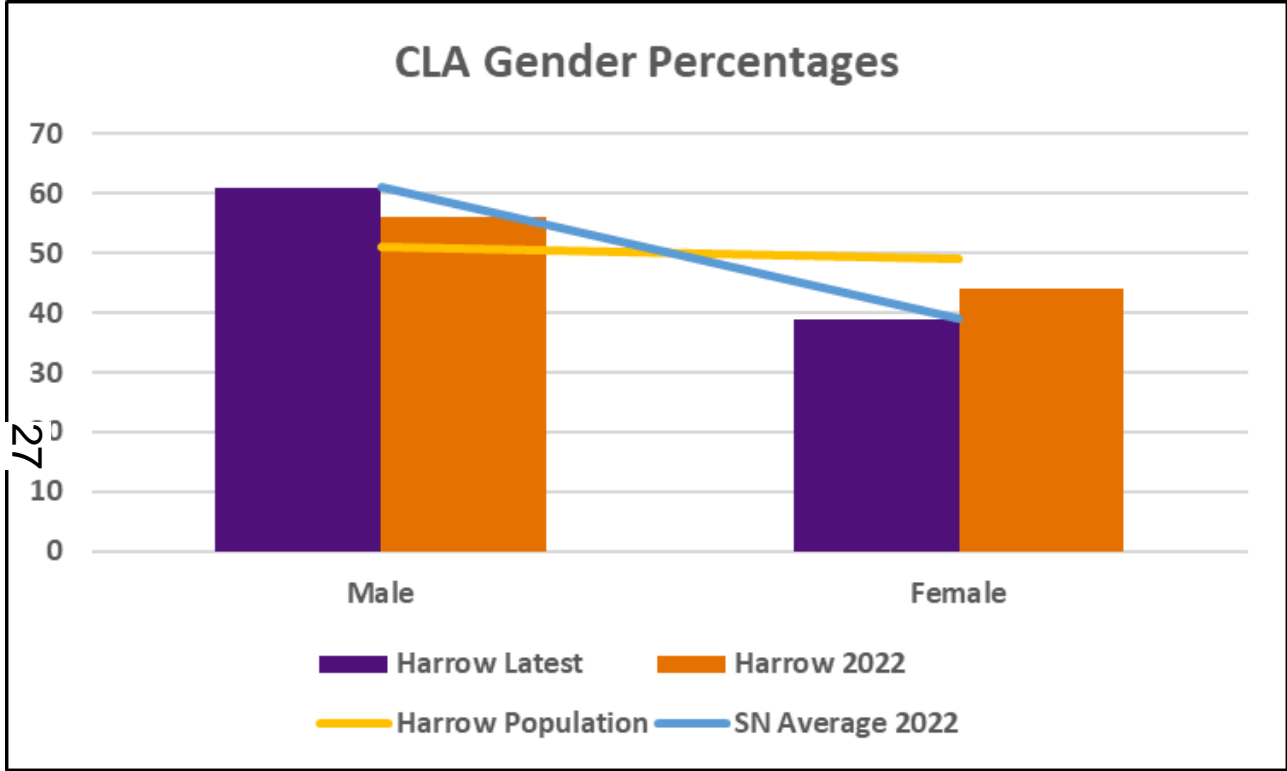
The majority of children in Harrow's care are 10 +.

This is largely in line with statistical neighbours.

Compared to the general Harrow population, there is a disproportionately high % of 16+ children in care. The majority of UASCs are 16 +.

	Age Percentages			
	Harrow Latest	Harrow 2022	Harrow Population	SN Average 2022
<b>Under 1</b>	2	4	6	4
<b>1 to 4</b>	9	12	24	11
<b>5 to 9</b>	11	13	29	12
<b>10 to 15</b>	32	36	31	34
<b>16-plus</b>	46	35	10	41

# CLA Demographics - Gender



Boys are over-represented in our CLA population. This is similar to our statistical neighbours.

90% of our UASC CLA population are boys which elevates the figures.

		Gender Percentages			
		Harrow Latest	Harrow 2022	Harrow Population	SN Average 2022
Male		61	56	51	61
Female		39	44	49	39

- Ofsted Annual Engagement Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- Department for Education is providing additional funding to LA's to support with the costs associated with implementing reforms to supported accommodation for 16&17 year olds

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- Ofsted will begin registering providers from 28 April 2023, and registration will be mandatory from 28 October 2023. **From 28 October 2023, it will be illegal for providers to carry on supported accommodation that is not registered with Ofsted, and local authorities will be prohibited from placing children with providers that are not registered.**

- Advocacy and Independent Visitor tendering process is now live; moderation panel 2<sup>nd</sup> week June 2023
- Plans underway to commission Housing First – a 3 year pilot with Centrepoin. This is will provide targeted, trauma-informed support at care leavers most at risk of homelessness.

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# Corporate Parenting Panel



## Virtual School Updates 7th June 2023

Mellina Williamson-Taylor  
Headteacher Harrow Virtual School

# Key Updates



- Statistical First Release: Attendance, Attainment and Progress (2021- 2022).
- Broadening Educational Pathways- The Royal Springboard Programme.



# Outcomes for Children Looked After Statistical Release March 2023

The statistical release provides a range of outcome measures at national and local authority level for children children looked after (CLA) by local authorities in England.

The outcome measures cover:

- special educational needs
- educational attainment (Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4) and progress (Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4)
- destinations from school
- absence from school
- suspensions and permanent exclusions from school
- type of school attended

(DfE 2023)

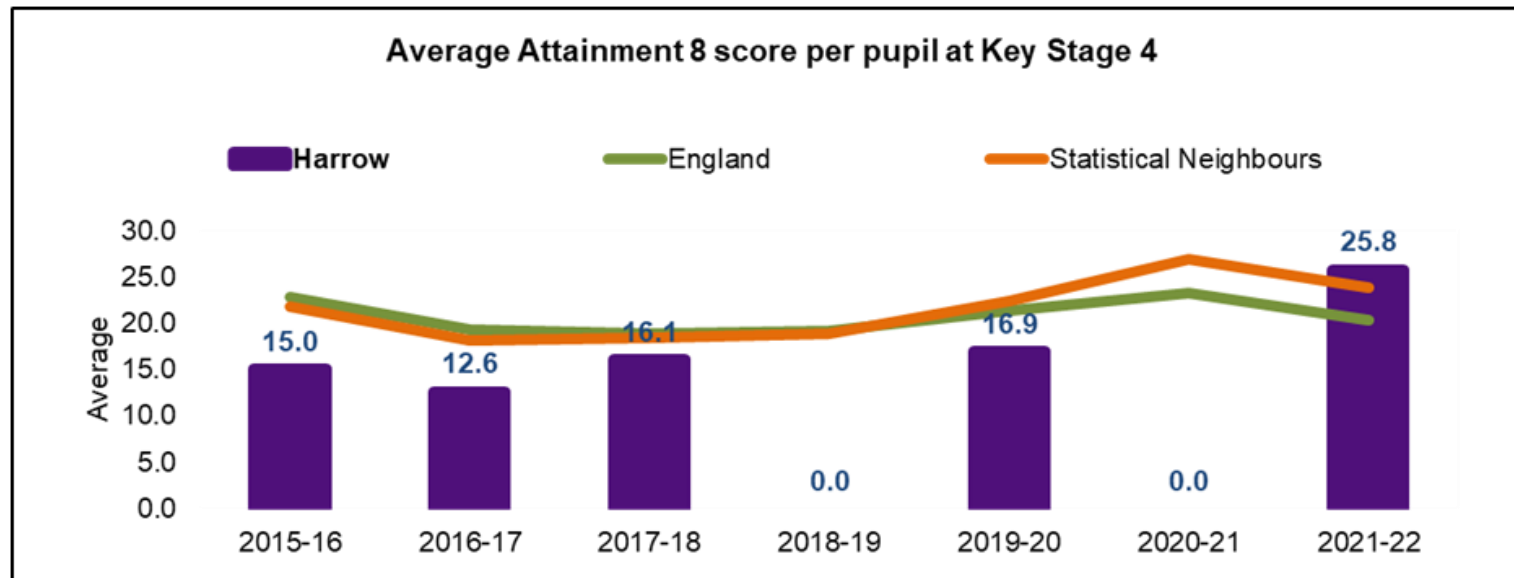
# National Headline Facts and Figures for CLA

- The Average Attainment 8 is 20.3 for CLA - 12 months at 31 March.
- Sustained destination i.e in Employment, Education and Training, is 80% for CLA in care for 12 months at 31 March. (No national breakdown by LA available as yet.)
- Persistent absentees are at 19.1% for CLA in care for 12 months at 31 March.
- Persistent Absence is at 7.8 % for CLA in care for 12 months at 31 March.
- Permanent Exclusions is at 0.03% ( 10 pupils) for CLA in care for 12 months at 31 March.

# Harrow CLA Attainment 8



35



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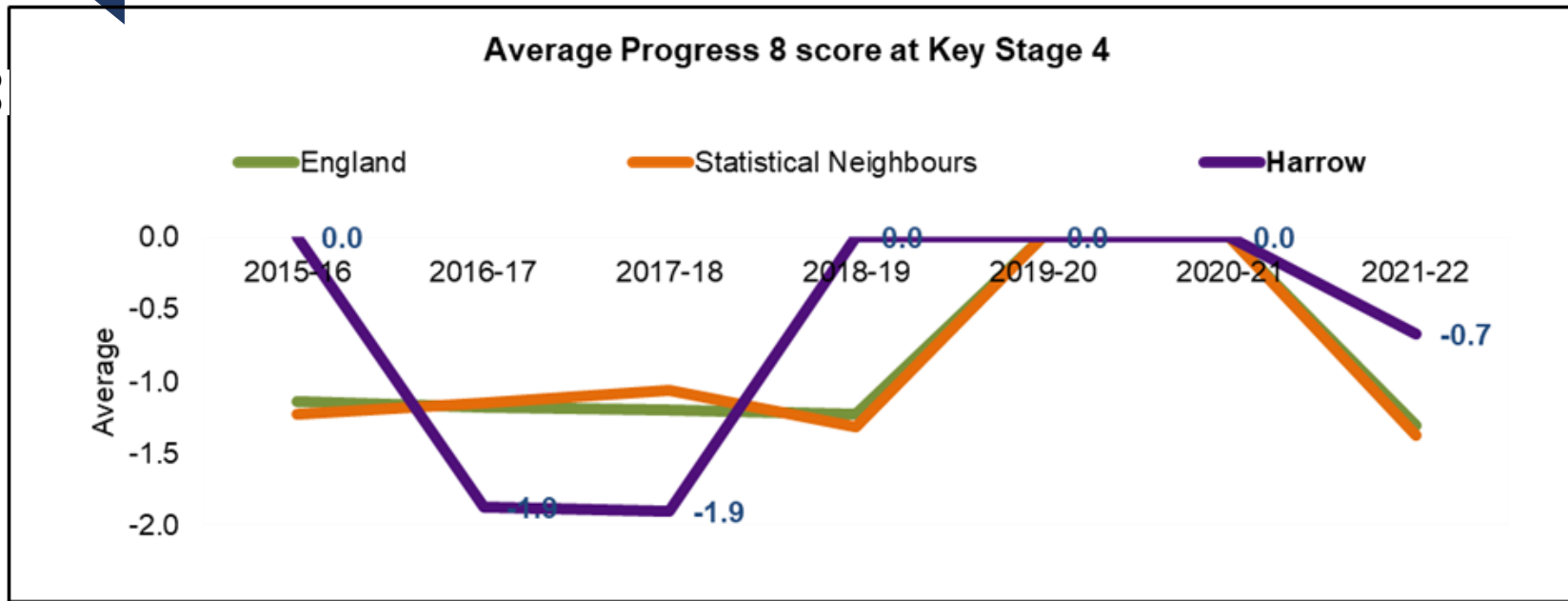
Attainment 8 is a measure published annually showing the average academic performance of a secondary school. It is calculated by adding together pupils' highest scores across eight government approved school subjects. Scores taken from across a school year group are averaged to produce a school's overall score

Harrow Virtual School has an Attainment 8 score of 25.8. This is above the England score (20.3) and Statistical neighbours' (SN) averages (20)

# Harrow CLA Progress 8



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A Progress 8 score is calculated for each pupil by comparing their Attainment 8 score with the average Attainment 8 scores of all pupils nationally who had a similar starting point, using assessment results from the end of their primary school.

Schools where children are making good progress will have a score of zero.

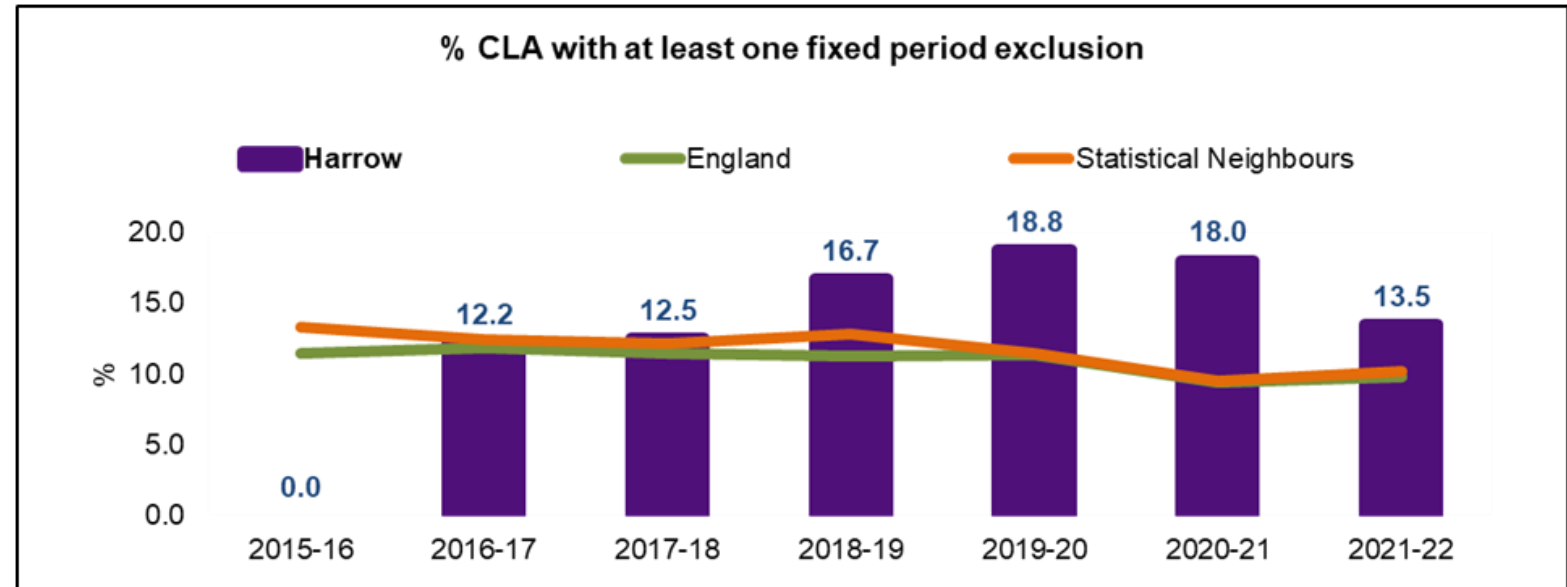
Harrow's Progress 8 score has improved over time. Harrow is now performing better than the England average and our statistical neighbours' averages.

# Harrow Children with at least one Suspension (Fixed-Term Exclusion)



37

Harrow has a higher proportion of CLA with at least one suspension when compared to the England average and our SN. Suspension numbers have reduced by approximately 5%.

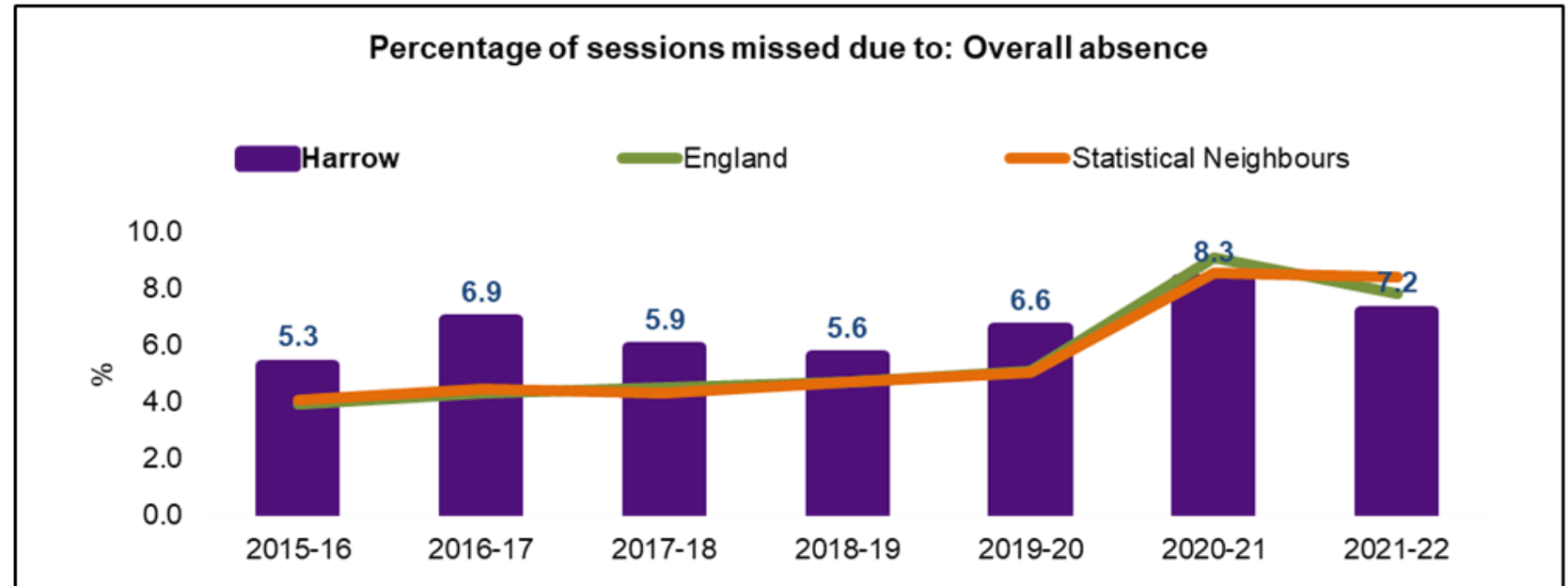


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# Overall Absence



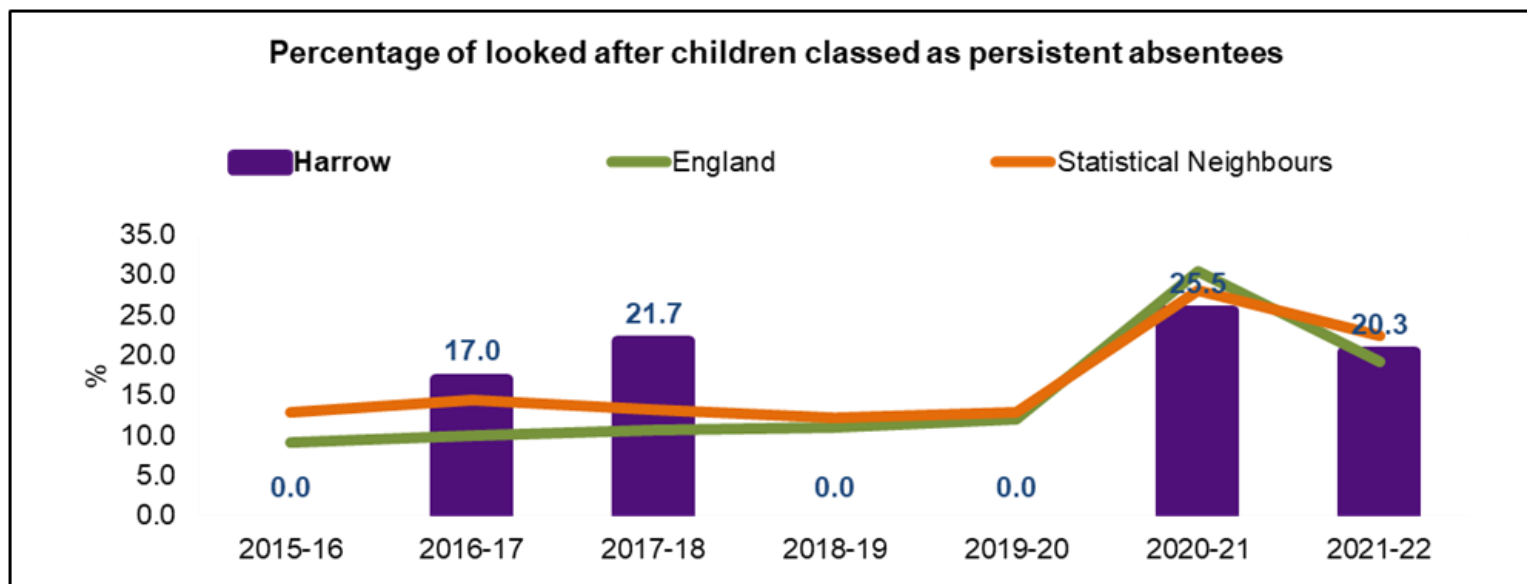
∞ Harrow's missed school sessions have a mixed trend over time, in 2021-22 Harrow (7.2) had fewer missed sessions than the England average (7.8) and statistical neighbours' averages (8.4).



# Harrow CLA Persistent Absence



39



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Harrow's persistent absentees are on -par to pre-pandemic levels. In 2021-22 Harrow (20.3) had fewer missed sessions than statistical neighbours' averages (22.4) but higher than England averages (19.1).

# Broadening Educational Pathways (BEP)



- The programme is a part of a 2 year pilot which is joint- funded by the Independent Schools Team and Children's Social Care Team in the DfE.
- It is based on the model developed by Royal Springboard on their successful placement of over 300 vulnerable children in 100 boarding schools.
- The aim is to broaden access to education at boarding schools and independent day provisions for vulnerable children.



# School Attendance - Virtual School Support

- Harrow Virtual School tracks and monitors the attendance of CLA on a daily basis. We partner with an organisation who contacts schools every day to confirm that the child has arrived at school on time.
- The Virtual School (VS) attendance officer receives and responds to this information and any anomalies in attendance, is communicated to social workers, carers and other key professionals in good time
- Pupils who are emotionally-based school avoiders are also supported by professionals in the Virtual School to include learning mentors, educational and clinical psychologists. Key assessments are conducted in a timely manner so a planned programme of support can be put in place early.

# BEP - Process



- Ideally children will start their placements in either Year 7, 9 or 12 with at least a 12-15 month timeline from initial referral.
- Foster carer, Social worker and VSH contact Royal Springboard team to discuss suitability for boarding
- If it seems as though there is a potential suitability for boarding a MS Teams meeting with the VSH and relevant social care staff, decision will be made about whether to proceed.
- The Social Worker and Foster Carer visit the boarding school to assess suitability and discuss pupil's history. A risk assessment is undertaken.
- Pupil visits the boarding school for a tour, an interview (and sometimes additional test if very academic school) accompanied by the Foster Carer. If the pupil agrees then we take up the placement opportunity.
- The independent day placement process is similar to our school admissions procedures.

# BEP Pupil Induction



A great deal of care is taken to prepare pupils, once offered a place at boarding school, prior to their starting the placement.

- Schools provide opportunities for pupils to spend an extended period of time at the school during the term preceding the admission date (in some schools this may include an overnight visit).
- Pupils will be supported to choose their academic courses and extra-curricular activities.
- Transitions: The new school will attend current school PEP, with pre-admission PEP set up for within 3 weeks of the start of the Autumn Term.
- The new school will be invited to attend the LAC Review and all future LAC reviews

# BEP- Progress



To date , we have 2 CLA on this programme. One child started in Year 7 and attends an independent day school. The child is enjoying the experience and continues to be supported by the Virtual School, their foster carer and social worker.

Our second pupil will join the 6<sup>th</sup> Form of a Boarding School in September 2023.

Both places were offered on a full bursary with no costs to the local authority.

# Harrow Children Looked After Health Service Corporate Parenting Panel June 2023

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## Christine Nichols – Named Nurse for Children Looked After Harrow

Agenda Item 11  
Pages 45 to 58

# KPI's for Harrow CLA March – April 2023

Month	Target for IHA 100% CNWL within 20 days of child becoming CLA	Target for RHA 100% CNWL within 6/12 months
March	100%	100%
April	100%	100%

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Exception reporting excludes:

- requests and consent not made available within 3 days for IHA's and within 3 months for RHA's,
- CLA who do not attend or refuse appointments given or are missing
- CLA placed out of Harrow who depend upon another provider to offer an appointment.

# Other Service Specification Requirements

The CLA team also assist the London Borough of Harrow to:

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- Record and report dates of dental checks following health assessment
- To update immunisation status of each CLA following health assessment where possible
- GP Registration
- Record and report dates of Optician Checks

## Initial Health Assessments Completed

Month	Total Due	IHA completed within 20 days (percentage / number)	IHA completed outside of timescale (percentage / number)	IHA not yet completed (percentage / number)
2023				
March	6	100% (6)	0% (0)	0% (0)
April	5	80% (4)	0% (0)	20% (1)

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### Time scales from CYP identified as CLA to completion of IHA

Total Number of CYP = 11

- within 20 days - 10
- between day 21- 30 - 0
- between day 31- 40 - 0
- day 41+ (includes not yet seen) - 1



## Reasons for Late Completion of IHAs

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Summary of reasons for late IHA's	No of requests received	Late requests for IHA to CLA team	Carer Declined / Cancelled Appointment	DNA / WNB	Referral / Consent issues	Refusal by Young person	OoB placement	Placement move	Young Person in Hospital
March	6	3	2						
April	5	4	1					3	

# Themes for Completion of IHAs

- **Contributing challenges for completion are late requests\* and placement moves.**

7/11 (63.6%) of requests for IHA were received outside timescales. 6 of the 7 late requests were seen in timescales.

## No of requests received within

Day 4-5 – 3

Day 6-10 - 3

Day 11-20 - 0

Day 21-40 - 1

- **Other reasons can be unpredictable eg DNAs, placed of of borough etc**
- **\* (late referrals and late consents)**

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## Review Health Assessments Completed

Month	Total Due	RHA completed within timescale (percentage / number)	RHA completed outside of timescale (percentage / number)	RHA not yet completed (percentage / number)
2023				
<b>March</b>	21	76.2% (16)	19% (4)	4.8% (1)
<b>April</b>	8	87.5% (7)	% (0)	12.5% (1)

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### Time scales from CYP identified as CLA to completion of RHA

Total Number of CYP = 29

Number seen:

within statutory timescales – 23

late - between day 1-10 – 0

late - between day 11-20 – 1

late – between day 21-30 – 1

late – 31+ days plus (includes not yet seen) - 4

# Reasons for completing RHA late

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Summary of reasons for late RHA's	No of requests received	Late requests for RHA	Carer Declined / Cancelled Appointment	DNA / WNB	Referral / Consent issues	Refusal by Young person	OoB placement	Placement move	Young Person in Hospital
March	21	4				1	5		
April	8	5					1		

# Themes for Late Completion of RHAs

- The main factor contributing to completing RHA's outside of timescale are Out of Borough LAC teams experiencing capacity issues.
- 9/29 (31%) requests for RHA were received outside timescales. 7 out of the 9 late requests were completed in timescales.

## Late requests received within:

Weeks 12-10 - 6

Weeks 6-9 – 1

Weeks 8-2 - 2

1 Week or less – 0

- Other reasons are unpredictable eg sickness etc

# Work Undertaken to Improve Late IHAs/RHAs

- **Fortnightly meetings with LA colleagues to improve late requests.**
- **Liaison with Senior Managers / Team Managers.**
- **Offer of additional flexible appointments eg Saturday clinics.**
- **Reminder telephone calls to carers / young people regarding appointment times.**

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# Case Study

- **BACKGROUND**
- **17 yr old, almost turning 18.**
- **Currently living in a semi-independent placement.**
- **Young person experienced significant childhood trauma and abuse.**
- **History of poor engagement with services, known to CAMHS.**

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# Case Study Cont'd

- **Concerns**
- **Concerns around going missing and abusing alcohol.**
- **High risk of CSE risk taking behaviour.**
- **Frequenting A&E department regularly but absconds before treatment.**
- **Concerns that young person may have liver failure.**
- **Transferred in and out of borough several times due to placement changes.**
- **Unclear whether YP was aware of condition.**

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# Case Study Cont'd

- **Outcome:**
- **CLA Nurse called for a professionals meeting to help YP.**
- **CLA Nurse liaised with YP's GP to find out whether there was a confirmed diagnosis.**
- 57 • **GP shared details that helped the professionals to support YP.**
- **CLA Nurse continued to support YP and professionals even after she had just turned 18.**
- **Professionals agreed to a plan to support YP with alcohol abuse, rehabilitation and treatment.**

# Voice of the Child

- **Carer** - . All aspects of health and development thoroughly discussed and covered in depth. Fully satisfied with the assessment – Lovely lady.
- **Young Person** – I enjoyed the health assessment. This is my final one and the conductor was very kind.
- **Young Person** – The nurse was very assuring and kind whilst also being professional. Better experience than last time.
- **Young Person** – It was good.
- **Carer** – We are happy with the health assessment and how it was done. Appreciate the concern and care provided – Thank you.
- **Carer** – Very comprehensive, asked about behaviour and health in great detail. I felt all issues were raised and addressed.
- **Young Person** – It was very good, the LAC nurse was very welcoming and very understanding.

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