

Summerhouse cohort study - An analysis of the pupil cohort accessing Summerhouse between 2013/14 and 2018/19

Introduction

Summerhouse is a preventative provision working with primary aged pupils at risk of exclusion in mainstream schools. Summerhouse offers advice and / or support to mainstream schools, and can offer part-time placements to pupils at risk of exclusion due to behaviour difficulties. The staff from Summerhouse works closely with staff in the mainstream school to develop more appropriate and effective ways of working with the pupil. Summerhouse also offers places to pupils who have been permanently excluded from mainstream school and facilitates reintegration programmes.

Scope of the project

Summerhouse provided the local authority with details of those pupils who had left the provision within the last six academic years (2013/14 to 2018/19). In all, this totalled 234 children. This data was in turn matched to a number of datasets held by the local authority

Limitations

There was a great deal of movement within this cohort; either from pupils resident outside the borough who were educated for a short time in Southwark, or from Southwark residents opting to move away. Southwark council only holds data on pupils who either attend school or reside within its bounds, and thus for some of these children the data is incomplete.

Key findings:

- After a three year period of stability the number of pupils referred to Summerhouse increased in the most recent academic year (2018/19),
- 87% of students at Summerhouse were boys and 13% girls
- Aggregate data on the year group of pupils arriving at Summerhouse this included all Primary year groups from Year 0 (4% of the total pupils) to year 6 (17%) with Year 3 (aged 7-8)
- There is a wide range of pupils across year groups in each academic year however the proportion of Reception and Year 1 pupils has generally been increasing year on year rising to 30% in 2018/19
- The proportion of BAME pupils was consistent at ~75% for 5 years but dropped to 65% in 2018/19
- Students typically spend between 1.5 to 3 terms at Summerhouse but 20% attend longer than a year.
- There are many potential outcomes for pupils when they leave Summerhouse, in terms of school provision. The majority return to the school that referred them for the support.
- Overall, half of the Summerhouse cohort had a formal EHCP in place at the time of analysis, and a further 15% a SEN need
- On average each pupil had attended 2.7 different educational placements at Primary phase
- Of those pupils who were Southwark residents 62% had some form of statutory social work involvement and 57% engagement with family early help
- Where a social care assessment had been undertaken domestic violence was the most common feature with over a third of children experiencing this within their family
- 15 (6%) of pupils have had some contact with the police or YOS
- Of those Southwark children who attended Summerhouse and are now in the Secondary education phase (110) two have since been permanently excluded.