Southwark Virtual School

Highlights from Virtual School Headteacher's Report from 2023 CLA outcomes

- At the time of this report, 384 students were recorded **on the roll** of Southwark Virtual School. 267 children are of statutory school age and 117 in Key Stage 5. Recorded as 162 females 222 males

- In Southwark, the proportion of Southwark's statutory school age looked after children with special educational needs is 41% (112) compared to 12.6% nationally with an EHCP is 31% (84) compared to 4% nationally

- 3% (8) of Southwark CLA are educated in schools graded less than Good by **Ofsted.** This unchanged from last year. Children only attend 'Requires Improvement' schools in exceptional circumstances, such as when a previously Good school has a RI inspection outcome and the child is already on roll.

- The Virtual Schjool received over £830k of **Pupil Premium** grant and additional covid recovery and National Tuition Programme funding to promote the education of school aged learners. In addition to payments made to schools, funding is used to support exceptional needs funding, education psychologist, speech and language, fixed-term resourcing, supplementary and interim home tuition, exam support, online learning programme, digital resources, literacy mails outs and bespoke Covid recovery tuition.

- **Southwark has moved from PEP to ePEP (electronic PEP)** to improve monitoring of attainment and data sharing between all stakeholders. Personal Education Plan performance in the summer term 2023 was reported as 97% which demonstrated the value brought by the ePEP. The target remains 100%

- Summer 2022 saw a return to pre-pandemic grading in England with protection in place for students. This impacts comparative year to year analysis. 2. It is most meaningful to compare results to 2019, the last summer exam series before the pandemic

- **KS4 GCSE outcomes:** 51% achieved a Grade1-9 in English and Maths an increase from 47% and 42% in the last 2 years.

- **KS5 Outcomes: 8 students (out of 10) received offers for first choice Universities. 1 Student achieved AAA* to accept an offer from Oxford University. 1 student started an apprenticeship with McGee Engineering, a female student meeting a deficit within this field.**

- **Southwark Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC):** Increased numbers this year with 92% are aged 16+. All received a PEP with 10 days of coming into Care. Children were placed in an ESOL provision within 14 days.

- **Destinations**: continues to be a strength of the Virtual School. KS4 destinations shows over 90% of CLA with a confirmed destination. KS5 national published data shows Southwark EET at 84% which is amongst the best EET figures in the country.

- **Persistent absenteeism** data shows 29% (62) of looked after children with below 90% attendance and is attributed to post pandemic school refusal, new to care, care placement change and medical absences. Fixed term exclusions also contributed to this increase. The Virtual School have developed systems to address each individual case.

- **Children Missing Education:** 10 children had no school place confirmed this is down from 24 reported in April 2023. 4 have an EHCP. All children have tuition in place or offered. 3 are expected to start imminently. Contributing factors are SEN sufficiency, post pandemic engagement including the rate of mobility of CLA in this cohort.

- **Virtual School Priorities:**
  - Strengthen our response to concern around persistent absence.
  - To promote the educational outcomes of children with a social worker.
  - Support the development of CPD with focus on attachment aware and trauma informed schools
  - Narrow the attainment gap and mental health support through national tuition and Covid recovery funding.