

# Southwark Virtual School

## Highlights from Virtual School Headteacher's Report from 2020 CLA outcomes

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1. In the 2019/2020 academic year, there were approximately 422 children on Southwark Virtual School roll at any point in time. Of these, 300 children had been in Care for more than 12 months.
2. 56% of the cohort are male, 44% female and 72% of the cohort are of **secondary school age**.
3. 3% of Southwark Looked after children are educated in schools graded less than Good by **Ofsted**. This decreased from 6% reported last year. Children only attend 'Requires Improvement' schools in exceptional circumstances, such as when a previously Good school has a poor inspection outcome but it is considered in best interests of the child for them to remain there.
4. Over £800k of **Pupil Premium** grant has been received by the team to support its work with school aged learners.
5. **Southwark Personal Education Plan (PEP)** performance as at December 2020 was reported as 83% up from 70% last year. The target remains 100%.
6. This report relates to the 2019-2020 academic year which was marked by **the global pandemic**. **The Summer 2020 exam series** was cancelled as part of the government's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which included the closure of schools and colleges to all but the children of key workers and vulnerable children from 20 March 2020. The majority of pupils did not return until the beginning of the autumn term in September 2020.
7. **Ofsted Local authority focused inspection** September 2021 noted 'Senior managers and staff have ensured that children and young people continue to be safeguarded. The best possible decisions are being made about children's care and education'. Virtual School Pandemic response was also noted.
8. **KS4 GCSE outcomes:** Southwark's 2020 CLA for the 12 months plus cohort achieved a strong pass in both English and Maths at grades 9 to 5. This is an improvement of 6 percentage points on the 2019 results. Southwark's 2020 full GCSE cohort achieved a Strong 9-5 which was a 5 percentage point increase from outcomes the previous year.
9. **KS5 Outcomes:** 83% of learners across the key stage are achieving at the expected level for their course against 87% last year. This down turn of 4% could be attributed to the shortened academic year and reduction in teaching hours due to School/College lock down. 26% of the cohort are NEET compared to 33% at this stage last year.
10. **Destinations:** continues to be a strength of the Virtual school with vast the majority of children choosing to continue in education.
11. **Children Missing Education:** Through very focussed advocacy work the number of children out of education is currently 6 with 5 of the children in this group new to care this week.. This is a significant achievement when considering that the rate of mobility of looked after children in this cohort as well as the challenges created through school and local authorities closures this year.
12. **Virtual School Priorities:**
  - In relation to Covid-19 – Narrow the attainment gap, lost learning and mental health support.
  - To respond effectively to the changing education landscape and ensure that Southwark Children have the best opportunities to achieve.
  - Support the development of attachment aware and trauma informed schools in Southwark by delivering a flexible and diverse virtual training programme for Designated Teachers and school leaders.