

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)	Date of Meeting:	Tuesday 12 March 2024
Subject:	Education Scorecard		
Report of:	Interim Assistant Director of Children's Services (Education)	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Education		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To present the Education Scorecard.

Recommendation(s):

Note the data contained in the scorecard.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding) provide scrutiny in relation to educational progress and data.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

Not applicable

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

Not applicable

(B) Capital Costs

Not applicable

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):

Not applicable

Legal Implications:

Local authority has a statutory duty to provide support and challenge to educational providers. Measurement of success in this duty is related to educational attainment, attendance, exclusions, etc.

Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.	
Impact on Children and Young People: Yes The report outlines data on the schools indicated in the report.	
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	No
Have a neutral impact	Yes
Have a negative impact	No
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Supports the Education Excellence team to consider the data and how they can best support vulnerable children and their families in education settings.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.7578/24) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.5678/24) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

No external consultations were sought.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer:	Lynda Poole
Telephone Number:	
Email Address:	lynda.poole@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

The following appendix is attached to this report:

Appendix A – Education Scorecard

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Committee have requested scorecard to be presented on regular basis – this edition provides an update on the 2023/24 Autumn term and the first half of the Spring term.
- 1.2 The absence table has been updated due to a change in the attendance system used to collate this information. The Identity and Access Management System (IDAMS) has improved the accuracy of the attendance data, but it does restrict us from viewing attendance over specific periods of time as the system only calculates attendance from the start of the academic year up to the latest update.
- 1.3 Exclusion data has been temporarily removed due to inaccuracies in our Capita system.
- 1.4 All progress data below is provisional for 2023.

2. Overview

- 2.1 Absence: The overall absence figures for the academic years 2022/23 and 2021/22 are close. Absence for all students across Sefton for 2022/23 lies at 8.2% which is slightly higher the average absence in 2021/22 by 0.2%. Primary schools saw an improvement of 0.3% in that time while secondary schools had an increase of 0.7% from the previous academic year. Special schools saw a 0.2% drop in their absence rate overall from 2021/22 to 2022/23. The persistent absence figures showed improvement across all areas when comparing to the previous full year's totals with a significant improvement being seen in secondary schools who recorded a 7.2% drop in this statistic. Overall, pupils with persistent absences out of the entire cohort dropped by 3.1%. We can also see the attendance for the first term of 2023/24 in the below table.

- 2.2 EHCP & EHCP NEET: There was a steady increase in the percentages of young people with an EHCP who are maintained by Sefton schools attending mainstream provision over the last three terms of the last academic year. The 28.9% Spring 1st half term figure stands at the highest as it has been over the last 3 to 4 years as does the actual number of 940 young people. The latest figure for percentage of young people with an EHCP maintained by Sefton special schools has dropped slightly compared to the start of this academic year from 26.3% to 24.6% EHCP NEET figures fluctuate from period to period. The additional table showing EHCP requests illustrates the steady increase of requests over the last 3 years as requests seem to average over 100 per half term. However, during the Spring half term, we see the number drop below 100 for the first time in the last 3 academic terms at 96 requests with only 61 agreed which almost half when compared to the previous half term.
- 2.3 National and Sefton Language Data: There has been a continuous year on year increase in the percentage of pupils in Sefton that can speak a language other than English. The latest Sefton average for this figure lies at 6.9% in 2022/23 which was 1.4% lower than the North West local authority average and 13.3% lower than the National average.
- 2.4 Out of our 102 Sefton schools, we currently have 13 rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and 79 rated as 'Good'. This leaves 9% of our schools that are rated as 'Requires Improvement' (5 schools) or 'Inadequate' (4 schools).