

## Appendix 1

### 1.1 Attendance in Flintshire Schools

Pupil attendance is measured at local and national level using a number of different factors. The COVID – 19 pandemic has however resulted in the suspension of the regular Welsh Government statistical updates that would provide contextual information with regards to attendance trends across Wales. The information below utilises pre-existing WG statistical publications and is supplemented with data from within FCC for 2021/22.

Table 1 below contains information relating to the attendance of pupils within Flintshire’s mainstream and specialist schools. In the years preceding 2021/22, pupil attendance within the primary sector had remained fairly static. Attendance across secondary schools had seen a dip to below the Welsh average after 2017/18. Illness had been the main reason cited for absence in the years preceding 2021/22 and still accounts for the highest percentage of absence in both sectors.

Schools have generally maintained very low levels of unauthorised absence across Flintshire. There was a rise in authorised absence for the monitoring period in 2021/22. The overall picture for the monitoring period suggests that school attendance has not recovered following the Covid pandemic.

**Table 1: Levels of attendance and unauthorised absence in Flintshire mainstream and specialist schools.**

	Attendance (%)				Unauthorised Absence (%)			
	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19
FCC Primary Schools	92.4	91.2	93.2	94.6	0.95	0.89	0.85	0.5
FCC Secondary Schools	87.8	88.5	91.6	93.3	3.19	2.56	1.87	1.7

*\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced*

Table 2 shows the spread of attendance figures across primary and secondary mainstream schools from 2018/19 onwards. Secondary attendance has suffered the most significant impact from COVID. The data reflects the downward trend of attendance across our schools with a notable reduction in the primary sector of schools with regards to attendance levels above 95% and for the majority of secondary schools having attendance levels below 90%.

**Table 2: Spread of attendance figures (Number of schools in each % bracket)**

Attendance %	Primary				Secondary			
	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19
<90	10	6	4	1	9	7	0	0
90.0-90.9	6	6	0	0	0	1	0	0
91.0-91.9	7	5	4	1	2	1	1	2
92.0-92.9	10	9	5	4	0	1	3	3
93.0-93.9	12	10	12	9	0	1	3	2
94.0-94.9	16	15	19	21	0	0	3	4
95.0-95.9	3	6	15	20	0	0	1	0
96.0-96.9	0	7	4	7	0	0	0	0
97.0-97.9	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
98.0-98.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
99.0-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced*

Table 3 provides a breakdown of the coding applied to authorise absence within Flintshire schools by percentages. The data clearly demonstrates that illness has remained the predominant reason for pupil absence from Flintshire schools up to and including the period reported for 2021/22.

**Table 3: Reasons for authorised absence**

Reason for Absence	Primary (%)				Secondary (%)			
	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19
C	10.73	39.72	11.8	5.99	20.8	28.43	17.05	15.45
F	0	0	0.03	0	0	0	0.02	0
H	19.61	11.02	15.75	28.53	3.52	1.95	4.81	6.75
I	61.99	42.69	62.02	55.21	52.39	48.07	66.29	65.84
M	4.5	3.77	5.23	6.59	5.89	4.45	7.92	8.68
S	0	0	0	0.01	13.36	13.66	0.01	0.18
E	0.31	0.25	0.41	0.52	3.39	2.68	3.21	2.91
R	0.05	0.09	0.02	0.12	0.04	0.06	0	0.01
T	2.81	2.47	4.73	3.12	0.61	0.7	0.68	0.1

*\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced*

<b>Key:</b>	C	Other authorised circumstances (not covered by another appropriate code/ description)
	F	Agreed extended family holiday
	H	Agreed family holiday
	I	Illness
	M	Medical or dental appointment
	S	Study leave
	E	Excluded but no alternative provision made
	R	Day set aside exclusively for religious observance
	T	Traveller absence

## 1.2 Exclusion of pupils from Flintshire schools

Welsh Government normally report annually on the national levels of fixed term and permanent exclusion. This is usually completed a year in arrears with a publication date in the month of October. As previously stated, WG data collection and publications have been suspended and internal data has been used to inform the report. On this occasion therefore, the data provided includes the academic year 2021/22.

The possible reasons for exclusion are recorded as follows:

- Physical assault against a pupil
- Physical assault against an adult
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult
- Bullying
- Racist abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Drug and alcohol related
- Damage
- Theft
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Other

The level of exclusion across Flintshire schools continues to rise. Schools are responding positively to the investment in Nurture and Trauma informed approaches and practices. A range of training opportunities have been offered to upskill staff to deliver targeted interventions and also raise awareness and understanding around the reasons for challenging behaviours and also the impact of exclusion. Despite this, the data indicates that there are still a number of learners who are struggling to re-engage and respond to the requirements across our schools.

**Table 4: Number of Permanent Exclusions from Flintshire Schools**

No of permanent Exclusions				
	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Primary	0	0	1	3
Secondary	27	10	19	24

Table 5 shows the levels of fixed-term exclusion across primary and secondary schools. The figure within the brackets indicates the number of pupils who received one or more exclusion.

**Table 5: Fixed-Term Exclusions**

Fixed Term Exclusions				
	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
	Number of incidents (Number of Pupils)			
Primary 5 Days or Less	158 (18)	99 (55)	144 (70)	251 (102)
Primary Over 5 days	7 (7)	13 (12)	1 (1)	12 (10)
Secondary 5 Days or Less	1446 (716)	902 (490)	879 (405)	1188 (533)
Secondary Over 5 days	66 (53)	22 (20)	19 (18)	22 (19)
Rate of exclusion per 1000 pupils (Primary & Secondary Combined)	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
5 days or Less	73.4	54.5	43.4	61.2
Over 5 days	6	3.2	0.8	1.4

### Reasons for exclusion.

The primary reasons for exclusion are documented in Table 6. As can be seen, the main reasons for exclusion remain Physical assault against a pupil, Verbal/threatening behaviour against an adult, Persistent disruptive behaviour and Other. The data suggests there is an increasing level of verbal/threatening behaviour against adults with a higher percentage of exclusion attributed to this. There is also a notable increase in the percentage of permanent exclusion attributed to substance misuse within the secondary sector.

**Table 6: Reasons for exclusion (%)**

Reason	2021/22							2020/21							2019/20							2018/19						
	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Permanent		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Permanent		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Permanent		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Permanent		T
	P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S	
Physical Assault against a Pupil	23	21	0	32	0	24	22	23	22	38	36	0	50	23	21	14	0	16	0	21	15	16	21	8	14	0	17	20
Physical Assault against an Adult	26	1	57	7	0	4	4	13	1	23	0	0	0	2	19	2	0	5	0	5	4	14	2	8	0	33	0	4
Verbal Abuse/Threatening Behaviour against a Pupil	3	5	0	5	0	8	5	3	6	8	9	0	0	6	6	4	0	5	0	0	5	4	4	0	0	0	4	4
Verbal Abuse/Threatening Behaviour against an Adult	15	24	0	16	0	4	23	16	19	0	5	0	20	18	16	19	0	21	0	5	18	14	20	8	18	67	4	19
Bullying	1	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	5	0	0	1
Racist Abuse	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sexual Misconduct	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug & Alcohol Related	0	2	0	12	0	28	3	0	1	0	5	0	10	1	0	1	0	5	0	26	1	0	1	0	5	0	33	2
Damage	3	3	0	1	0	0	2	3	4	0	5	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Theft	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Persistent Disruptive Behaviour	24	31	29	14	0	24	29	38	25	8	27	0	0	26	34	32	0	26	100	5	32	44	17	33	14	0	13	21
Other	3	10	14	8	0	8	9	3	20	15	14	0	10	18	1	23	100	21	0	37	20	4	29	42	45	0	29	25

Key: Fixed ≤5 days – Fixed term exclusion, 5 days or less  
 Fixed >5 days – Fixed term Exclusion, over 5 days  
 Perm – Permanent exclusion  
 P – Primary  
 S – Secondary  
 T – Total of primary and secondary

