

## Appendix 1

### 1.1 Attendance in Flintshire Schools

Pupil attendance is measured at local and national level using a number of different factors. The data provided following the COVID 19 pandemic and including the last academic year 2022/23 which populates this report was taken from PLASC (Pupil Level Annual School Census) which is provided directly from schools each year.

Table 1 below contains information relating to the attendance of pupils within Flintshire's mainstream and specialist schools. In 2022/23 and the years preceding, pupil attendance within the primary sector has remained consistent with a notable reduction taking place during the pandemic in 2020/21. Attendance across secondary schools had reduced noticeably during the pandemic and is starting to show some slow signs of improvement. Illness had been the main reason cited for absence in the years preceding 2022/23 and still accounts for the highest percentage of absence in both sectors.

Schools have generally maintained very low levels of unauthorised absence across Flintshire. The overall picture for the monitoring period suggests that school attendance has not fully recovered following the COVID 19 pandemic.

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

	Attendance (%)				Unauthorised Absence (%)			
	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20*	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20*
FCC Primary Schools	92.1	92.4	91.2	93.2	0.94	0.95	0.89	0.85
FCC Secondary Schools	89.0	87.8	88.5	91.6	3.05	3.19	2.56	1.87

\*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 2019/20 onwards. Secondary attendance has suffered the most significant impact following COVID. The data reflects the downward trend of attendance across our schools. For the majority of secondary schools overall attendance levels below 90%.

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

Attendance %	Primary				Secondary			
	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*
<90	16	10	6	4	7	9	7	0
90.0-90.9	7	6	6	0	4	0	1	0
91.0-91.9	4	7	5	4	0	2	1	1
92.0-92.9	8	10	9	5	0	0	1	3
93.0-93.9	11	12	10	12	0	0	1	3
94.0-94.9	9	16	15	19	0	0	0	3
95.0-95.9	6	3	6	15	0	0	0	1
96.0-96.9	3	0	7	4	0	0	0	0
97.0-97.9	0	0	0	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 authorised 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 2022/23.

**Table 3: Reasons for authorised absence**

Reason for Absence	Primary (%)				Secondary (%)			
	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20*
C	10.35	10.73	39.72	11.8	19.60	20.8	28.43	17.05
F	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0	0.02
H	16.86	19.61	11.02	15.75	3.99	3.52	1.95	4.81
I	64.73	61.99	42.69	62.02	64.33	52.39	48.07	66.29
M	4.76	4.5	3.77	5.23	6.26	5.89	4.45	7.92
S	0.01	0	0	0	1.08	13.36	13.66	0.01
E	0.25	0.31	0.25	0.41	4.33	3.39	2.68	3.21
R	0.10	0.05	0.09	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.06	0
T	2.97	2.81	2.47	4.73	0.34	0.61	0.7	0.68

*\*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 had normally reported annually on the national levels of fixed term and permanent exclusion. This was 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 2022/23.

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				
	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Primary	1	0	0	1
Secondary	30	27	10	19

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				
	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
	Number of incidents (Number of Pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of Pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of Pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of Pupils)
Primary 5 Days or Less	123 (58)	158 (18)	99 (55)	144 (70)
Primary Over 5 days	8 (6)	7 (7)	13 (12)	1 (1)
Secondary 5 Days or Less	1885 (807)	1446 (716)	902 (490)	879 (405)
Secondary Over 5 days	80 (70)	66 (53)	22 (20)	19 (18)
Rate of exclusion per 1000 pupils (Primary & Secondary Combined)	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
5 days or Less	86.5	73.4	54.5	43.4
Over 5 days	7.6	6	3.2	0.8

### 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 exclusions 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	2022/23							2021/22							2020/21							2019/20						
	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	26	16	25	28	0	17	17	23	21	0	32	0	24	22	23	22	38	36	0	50	23	21	14	0	16	0	21	15
Physical Assault against an Adult	29	1	25	0	0	10	3	26	1	57	7	0	4	4	13	1	23	0	0	0	2	19	2	0	5	0	5	4
Verbal Abuse/Threatening Behaviour against a Pupil	6	4	13	5	0	0	4	3	5	0	5	0	8	5	3	6	8	9	0	0	6	6	4	0	5	0	0	5
Verbal Abuse/Threatening Behaviour against an Adult	7	25	13	19	0	20	23	15	24	0	16	0	4	23	16	19	0	5	0	20	18	16	19	0	21	0	5	18
Bullying	2	1	13	4	0	0	2	1	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Racist Abuse	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sexual Misconduct	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Drug & Alcohol Related	0	4	0	11	0	27	5	0	2	0	12	0	28	3	0	1	0	5	0	10	1	0	1	0	5	0	26	1
Damage	2	2	13	8	0	0	3	3	3	0	1	0	0	2	3	4	0	5	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Theft	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Persistent Disruptive Behaviour	16	27	0	16	10	13	26	24	31	29	14	0	24	29	38	25	8	27	0	0	26	34	32	0	26	10	5	32
Other	10	16	0	10	0	13	15	3	10	14	8	0	8	9	3	20	15	14	0	10	18	1	23	10	21	0	37	20

: 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

