

LEARN

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February 2017
Issue 8



Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

Hello and welcome to the February half term bulletin which is devoted to the introduction of a refreshed procedure for gathering progress and attainment data about our looked after pupils from the many schools they attend across Northumberland and out of the county.

Keeping track of progress

Like all other schools in the County and country, last year we introduced a system for tracking pupil progress in a world without national curriculum levels. We continued to ask you for termly progress and attainment data on each of your looked after pupils and with a best fit approach were able to capture whether a pupil was *emerging*, *developing*, *secure* or *mastered* against their age-related expectations in the new curriculum.

The system had some success and we were able to use the assessments to support you when setting targets in each PEP and objectives in the Pupil Premium Plus agreement. As a Virtual School we are also able to monitor progress against age-related expectations of individuals and each looked after child cohort, even though the pupils are all in different 'real' schools.

We have reviewed the effectiveness of this approach now that we have used it for a complete academic year and are making some changes to the way we track individual pupil progress. The changes are intended to align better with Ofsted monitoring requirements and will enable us to intervene earlier if progress is not good enough, for whatever reason that might be. Interventions might include giving additional support to a school in the form of Pupil Premium Plus funding, alternative provision, revising objectives for individual pupils or providing inclusion support services.

From Monday 27th February we will therefore begin implementation of our refreshed process which will involve Designated Teachers submitting a **half termly progress report** – an A4 version of the pro forma overleaf – for each Northumberland looked after pupil on roll, to the Virtual School.

The report was designed with our school improvement partner and is already in use with the providers on Northumberland's alternative provision framework.

The report summarises the progress and achievements of each pupil during that half term period. As well as the usual assessment of **progress against age-related expectations** - *emerging*, *developing*, *secure* or *mastered* – there is now a grade of 1-4 for **attitude to learning**, with additional but brief information about the **curriculum covered** and a review of **strengths** and **areas for further development**. The report captures key information which is crucial to support and meet the needs of looked after learners, focussing on the core subjects of **English and maths/reading and writing**, as well as feedback about **personal, social and emotional development**.

NORTHUMBERLAND VIRTUAL SCHOOL FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

[NAME OF SCHOOL/PROVIDER]: HALF TERMLY PROGRESS REVIEW

Name:

School (if pupil in alternative provision):

Start date – half term beginning:

Report date:

Please find below an outline of [name of pupil]'s progress during this half term.

Attendance & Punctuality	Days	%	Reasons	Action taken where needed
Attendance (the number of days attended by the student)	/x	%		
Punctuality (the number of days the student has attended on time)	/x	%		

Personal, social and emotional development					
Subject	Attitude to Learning 1 – Outstanding 2 – Good 3 – Requires Improvement 4 – Of concern	Weekly Focus/Topic (What areas of the curriculum were covered in this half term's lessons?)	Progress Review		Assessment Emerging Developing Secure Mastered
			Strengths (What did the student do well this half term?)	Area for further focus/development (What is the focus for improvement for next half term?)	
Personal Development					
[Other]					

Academic achievement					
Subject	Attitude to Learning 1 – Outstanding 2 – Good 3 – Requires Improvement 4 – Of concern	Weekly Focus/Topic (What areas of the curriculum were covered in this half term's lessons?)	Progress Review		Assessment Emerging Developing Secure Mastered
			Strengths (What did the student do well this half term?)	Area for further focus/development (What is the focus for improvement for next half term?)	
English					
Maths					
[other]					

[staff feedback eg teacher, Designated teacher, mentor, director of provision]

Key dates for implementation:

Monday 27th February Pro forma sent to Designated Teachers

Friday 31st March Reminder sent to Designated Teachers that report is due

Monday 24th April Reports submitted Virtual School by Designated Teachers for half term 27th February – 7th April 2017

If you have any queries then please get in touch on **01670 622779**

Jane Walker, Virtual School Headteacher (Northumberland)