

Where does the CiC information go?

Since 2009, an initiative to increase the attainment and achievement of the corporately Looked after Children in Hampshire has been in operation.

A termly return of academic progress is collected and used to populate the Virtual School. Children in Care form a very small percentage of any school and it was for this reason that the Virtual School model was created.

The Local Authority views all CiC, educated within it, as one school, with a Virtual Headteacher. In order to operate effectively in this model, data on attendance and attainment is required.

Research completed by the Social Exclusion Unit cited children not having sufficient help with their education if they fall behind as one of the five reasons why CiC do not achieve in line with their peers.

It is for this reason that Hampshire's Virtual School asks all schools with CiC to submit data at set times. Attainment data is requested each term, this enables the Virtual School to track pupils' progress and, where necessary, ensure that they do receive sufficient help if they fall behind. Like any school, without this data the virtual school cannot operate effectively.

Schools have a vital role to play in this; by submitting the correct data at the required time, the Virtual School can operate much more effectively. For this academic year 2010/2011 the collections will be on the following dates:

Friday 5th November 2010,
Friday 4th March 2011
Friday 8th July 2011

If everyone works together to enable the virtual school to operate effectively then we are one step closer to achieving the vision: Making Hampshire a better place for children and young people, where all of them, including those who are vulnerable (CiC) or disadvantaged, have the best possible start in life and are supported by the whole community to reach their potential.