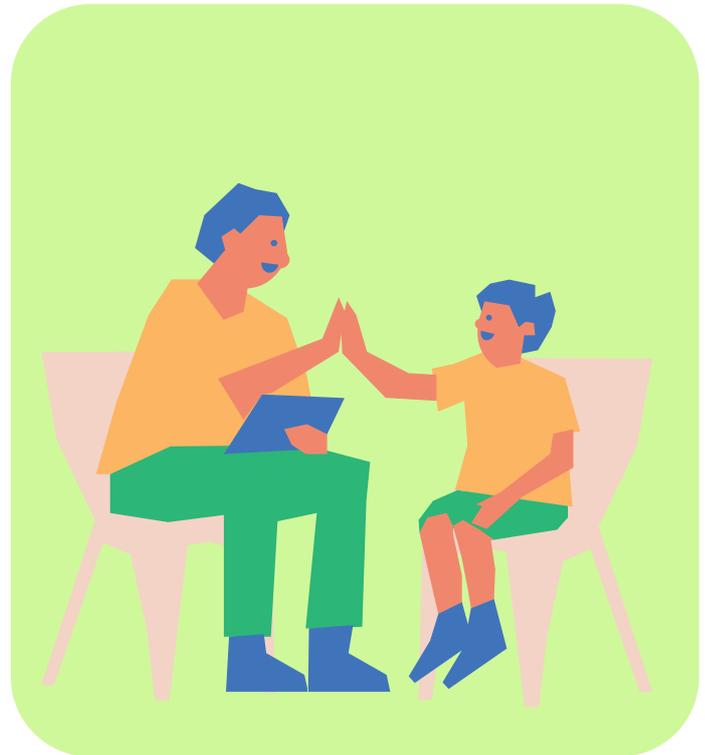


Virtual school support for children and young people with a social worker

The Virtual School has a strategic leadership role to improve educational outcomes for all children with a social worker, including those with CP and CiN plans.

There are currently 1038 children with an active plan in Sandwell, and of those 59% have attendance which is below 95% and 5% of this group have had at least one suspension.

We are therefore focusing particularly on improving attendance and reducing exclusions for this group of children.



Poverty Proofing

We are pleased to continue to offer fully funded poverty proofing audits to all schools in Sandwell in partnership with Children North East. Twenty-two schools have already taken up this offer and been part of the audit process which enables schools to identify where poverty is a barrier to engagement with school life and utilise practical strategies to overcome them.

For more information and details on how to sign up, please email Emily or Scott:

emily_morgan@sandwell.gov.uk
scott_johnson@sandwell.gov.uk

Services from Sandwell Virtual School



Practitioners drop in sessions

We continue to offer advice, sign posting and support to school staff and social workers related to individual children or wider whole school issues around policy and procedure.

We have worked with a range of practitioners in social care and education to facilitate improved outcomes for children.

Please email Rachael or Scott to arrange a time and receive a Teams link:

rachael_wolfel@sandwell.gov.uk
scott_johnson@sandwell.gov.uk

Training and Development

During the spring term we have run a number of training sessions which have been very well attended and we have had some very good feedback:

- 100% of delegates agreed that our training was informative
- 95% of delegates said training would impact on their work with children
- 100% of delegates would recommend our training to a colleague

Some of the comments we have received:

"All of it, I will be able to use what I have learned in my role but also at home with my own children."

"Reassures me that the interventions and strategies we use with our children are correct and meaningful"

Our training offer for summer term:

Engaging with Parents:

5.5.23: 10 AM - 11 AM
10.5.23: 4 PM - 5 PM

Improving Attendance of Vulnerable Learners:

22.5.23: 10 AM - 11 AM & 4 PM – 5 PM

Learning Behaviours:

7.6.23: 10 AM - 11 AM

Impact of Stress on Pupils:

21.6.23: 1 PM - 2 PM

Good practice guidance – exclusion and vulnerable children:

30.6.23 – 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

To sign up and receive a Teams link please email:

rachael_wolfel@sandwell.gov.uk



As part of our emphasis on trauma informed practice, we are looking to begin working with a number of schools in the autumn term to engage with the Attachment Research Community (ARC) standards.

This will enable schools to gain a gold, silver or bronze accreditation for their work in this area. We will be contacting schools with more details over the summer term.



We very much look forward to continuing to work with schools and social workers to achieve the very best outcomes for all of the children in our care.

Scott Johnson

Lead Advisory Teacher for Children
with a Social Worker
Scott_johnson@sandwell.gov.uk

Rachael Wolffel

Education Development Worker for Children
with a Social Worker
rachael_wolffel@sandwell.gov.uk

· LEARN · ACHIEVE · TOGETHER ·

Children and Education Directorate

LACE Virtual School
Hollies STEPS Centre
Coopers Lane
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 7DW

Telephone: 0121 569 2770
Email: LACE_team@Sandwell.gov.uk
Web: Sandwell.gov.uk