



16 May 2023

Agenda Item 11

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND
INCLUSION**

**DESTINATIONS OF YEAR 12-13 LOOKED AFTER YOUNG PEOPLE COHORT
2022 – 2023**

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides information on the education destinations of Nottinghamshire looked after young people who left statutory education at the end of the academic year 2021-2022 and went into Year 12, and those in Year 13 of post-16 education for academic year 2022-23. The Panel is asked to consider whether there are any further actions it requires arising from this information.

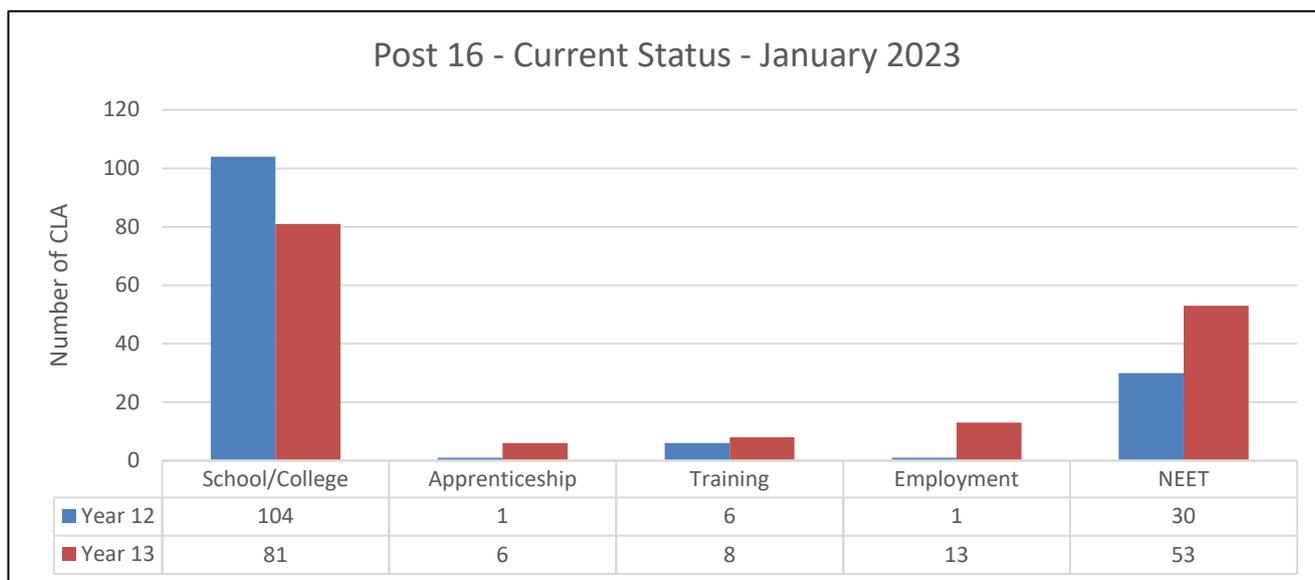
Information

2. Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel act as corporate parents to the children and young people looked after by the Council, referred to as 'our children and young people', and therefore receives regular reports on the academic successes of our children and young people.
3. Despite changes to education legislation regarding the age of participation (Education Acts 2008/2011, introduced the raising of the participation age), statutory school age has not been changed; a child must start statutory schooling the term after they turn five years old and remain in education until their 16th birthday (finishing on the last Friday in June of that year). However, all pupils leaving statutory schooling are required to participate in education, employment or training until 18 years of age. Should a young person not secure GCSE grade 4 or above in English and/or mathematics at the end of statutory schooling, the young person is also required to continue studying these subjects until they are 18 years of age or until the required grade is obtained.
4. The law for post-16 education requires young people to undertake one of the following until they are 18 years old:
 - stay in full-time education, for example at a college
 - start an apprenticeship or traineeship
 - spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training.

5. All looked after pupils throughout their statutory schooling and post-16 education are supported at every stage through the Personal Education Planning process until they are 18 years old. Nottinghamshire Personal Education Plans are held on an online platform (ASSET) to enable data analysis for the whole cohort. Personal Education Plans are reviewed on a termly basis and it is a statutory part of the care planning for that young person. Social workers, designated teachers, other education staff, foster carers and the young person are all part of the meeting to review the Personal Education Plan. This meeting reviews the achievements to date and areas that will need extra support to ensure the young person reaches their full potential. As part of these meetings, preparation for adulthood is a key focus. In line with a strengths-based approach, this includes asking questions around skills and strengths of the young person and how these may be encouraged and built upon to meet the goals they may have for their future.
6. At these meetings, during the secondary phase, pupils are encouraged and supported to consider their post-16 education choices as soon as Year 7. Schools must provide careers information, advice and guidance to inform these decisions. Schools are also required to ensure pupils achieve the most appropriate qualifications for their post-16 studies.
7. There is a joint responsibility and established collaborative working relationship between the Achievement Service and the Virtual School to support the 16-18 year old cohort across all social care teams. The support to settings and young people includes termly meetings with the designated person for looked after students, termly network meetings for colleges, advice and guidance to individual students and attendance at Personal Education Plans where needed.

Breakdown of education destinations – correct as of January 2023

8. The graph below gives a breakdown of Year 12 and Year 13 looked after young people's current status with regards to education, employment and training (EET). It also indicates those not in education, employment or training (NEET).



9. 73% of Year 12/13 young people are in EET (220/303; this compares with 212/284 in January 2021). 84% of the young people in EET are currently attending further education colleges, school 6th forms or an education setting. 27% of our young people are NEET (83/303), which has increased by 2% when compared with January 2022. The cohort of looked after children and care leavers in this age group has also increased when compared with 2022. 25% of young people who have NEET status came into care during 2022.

English and mathematics Key Stage 4 grade 4 results for current Year 12, 2022

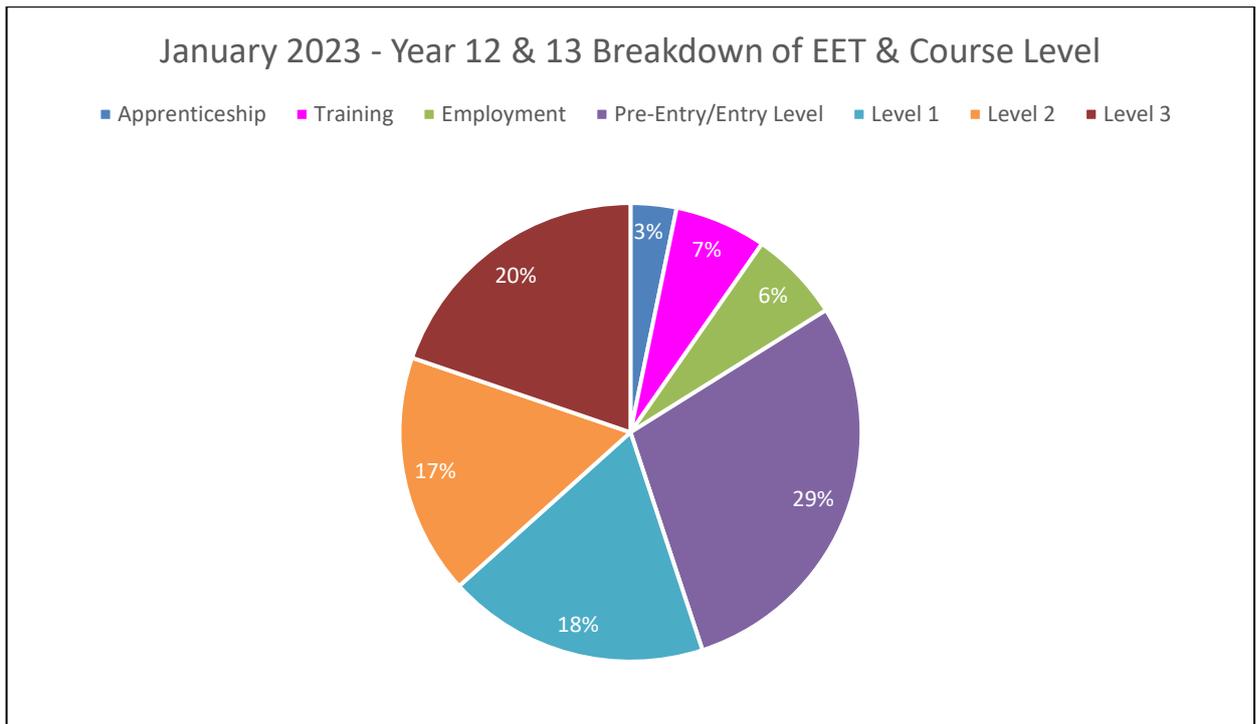
	English 4+	Maths 4+	English & Maths 4+
All	29%	24%	20%
903 Cohort	32%	28%	22%

	English 5+	Maths 5+	English & Maths 5+
All	19%	17%	12%
903 Cohort	20%	18%	12%

10. 29% (34/117) of the current Year 12 cohort achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE English at the end of Year 11 and 24% (28/117) of the current Year 12 cohort achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE mathematics at the end of Year 11. 20% of the cohort (23/117) achieved both English and mathematics.
11. All our young people who are in EET and have not achieved the required GCSE grade 4 mathematics and English qualification are following courses at the appropriate level (ranging from Entry Level 1 to GCSE retakes) to work towards the required standard.

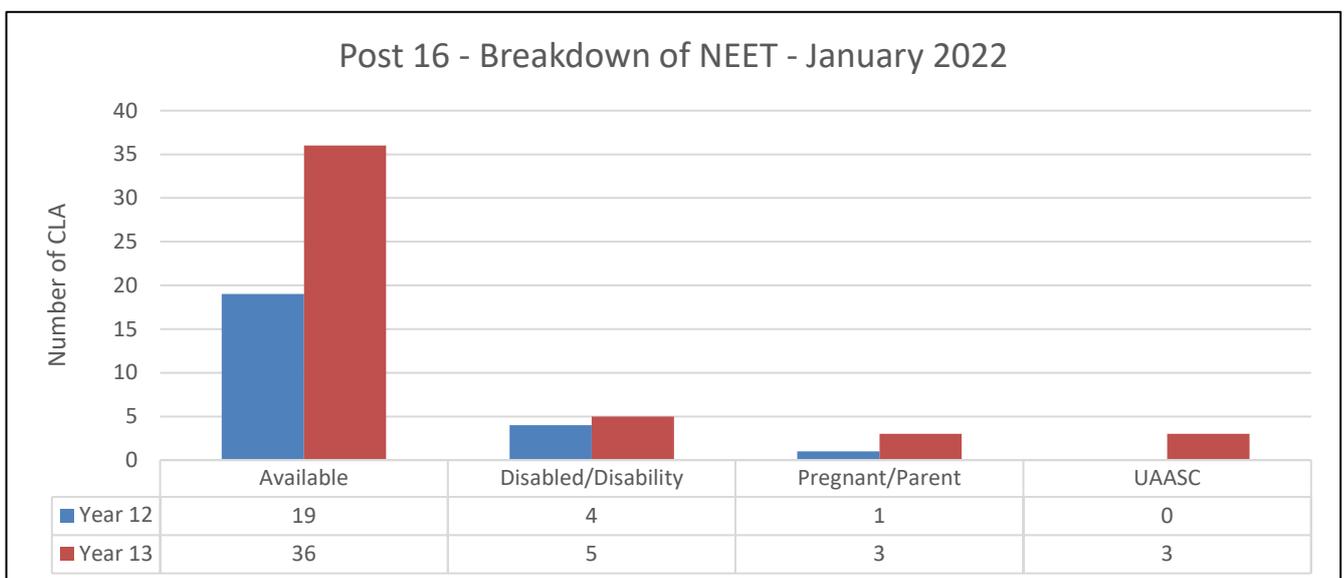
Breakdown of courses – correct as of January 2023

12. The chart below shows the level of course at which our young people are studying, or whether they are employed or in an apprenticeship. Level 1 qualifications are the equivalent of grade 1-3 at GCSE, Level 2 equates to GCSE grades 4-9 and Level 3 are A Level or equivalent qualifications.



Not in education, employment or training (NEET) – correct as of January 2023

13. The graph below indicates those young people who are NEET. 'Available' status indicates that the young person is able to seek EET but has not secured this at the point of producing this data.
14. Our young people who are NEET are allocated an Achievement Adviser from the Achievement Service or an Achievement Officer from the Virtual School who is able to offer support in securing EET status working alongside a range of other teams and services, including the social worker, personal adviser or transitional personal adviser.



University

15. 18 of our young people secured first year university places in September 2022 and three deferred places for September 2023. There are 22 young people continuing to undertake their undergraduate degrees this academic year and four post-graduate students. This academic year there are 11 more students at university when compared with last year.
16. It is recognised by a number of universities including Nottingham, Nottingham Trent and De Montford (Leicester) that the Council has one of the best packages to support young people accessing university. The Leaving Care Team remains involved with those young people who require any additional support throughout their studies. Students in Year 12 and 13 planning to go to university are allocated an Achievement Adviser to support them from their application process, student finance, moving in, and to support them during their studies.
17. To encourage aspiration to attend university, young people are offered visits either on an individual basis or as a group to any of the local universities; the Virtual School and Leaving Care team maintain close links with local universities. Opportunities are shared with Designated Teachers in schools and colleges regularly to promote visits to university for our young people. and questions in Personal Education Plans now include prompts from Year 7 about going to university. Should a young person wish to attend a university further afield then visits can be arranged with these establishments through the participation teams all universities are required to have.
18. Nottingham Trent University also offers student mentoring for pupils from Year 12 upwards which provides support with academic studies, aspiration of university and general support through Year 12 and Year 13. The Virtual School and Achievement Service have links with local universities who offer opportunities to visit and online sessions about going to university from Year 8 onwards.

Future actions to support the Post 16 cohort of looked after young people

19. In order to further develop the effectiveness of smooth transition for young people over the Year 11 to post-16 period, the Virtual School and Children's Social Care teams will work together to implement good practice. This will include:
 - Further development of transition processes with Further Education settings
 - Further development of post-16 pupil premium+ funded interventions
 - More effectively monitor progress, attainment and attendance of the post-16 cohort through the new Personal Education Plan platform.

Other Options Considered

20. To not bring this report to the Panel: this option is discounted because this report provides information that forms an important part of the Panel's remit in assisting the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties and acting as an effective corporate parent.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

21. The report provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider whether there are any further actions it requires.

Statutory and Policy Implications

22. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

23. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Corporate Parenting Panel considers whether there are any further actions it requires arising from the information contained in the report.

Peter McConnochie
Service Director, Education, Learning and Inclusion

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Steph McGill
Assistant Head of the Virtual School
T: 0115 8040644
E: stephanie.mcgill@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (GMG 12/04/23)

24. This report falls within the remit of the Corporate Parenting Panel under Section 7, Part 2, paragraph 36 of the Council's Constitution (see p.123).

Financial Comments (MDN 12/04/23)

25. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

CF0063