



Working Together with Children,
Young People and Families

**Councillor Keith Myers, Executive
Member for Education, Children and
Young People**

**Report to Full Council - October
2018**



One
Adoption
Agency
NORTH & HUMBER

1. Early Help and Prevention

Local Area Teams

The launch of Local Area Teams (LATs) took place in January 2017. This new way of delivering early help services involves multi-agency partners working across 3 localities. The service operates City wide but the teams are based in areas with the highest identified need. The teams include Department of Work and Pensions, Police, and voluntary and community sector partners.

Every childcare partnership, school, college and GP has a named link worker. There are two main reasons for link arrangements. The first is to help identify families with emerging needs that could benefit from early help. The second is to help those link agencies support children, young people and families.

A new approach to commissioning services has secured mentoring for young people; support for isolated families; support for parents of disabled children, social activities for disabled young people; support for young carers; counselling for young people and structured parenting programmes. In addition, Community Partnership Officers have made strong links supporting community groups to access other forms of support such as access ward funding, resources and make use of facilities.

The national Troubled Families programme is currently in year four of the five and due to end in 2020. The Troubled Families programme is known locally as Family Focus and is lead by Local Area Teams. The national programme is interested in the number of families “attached” to programme, the number of families that have achieved outcomes or “payment by results” and service transformation to whole family working. York has mainstreamed Troubled Families into Local Area Team arrangements following their launch in 2017. The development of Local Area Teams delivers on the Troubled Families programme expectation of service transformation. As the new service was becoming established the pace of improving rates of attachment and payment results has fallen below our desired trajectory. This will be addressed in part by

Local Area Teams becoming more established but also by the council taking a more corporate joined up approach to the Troubled Families programme and more service areas considering the needs of the wider family rather than taking a narrow single service specific focus.

Healthy Child Service

The Healthy Child Service (HCS) is integrated within Local Area Team arrangements and a new HCS Strategy clearly positions the role and function of the HCS within the overall strategic landscape. The service continues to build its offer to children, young people and families in partnership with public health arrangements.

Performance data for mandated contacts with families of under-fives has increased strongly in recent years. Performance against most of these contacts is now near to the national average and represents a significant improvement for the service.



Feedback from families would broadly suggest good satisfaction levels with the service with 75% rating the service as “Very Good” or “Good” and 16% as “Acceptable”.

The Healthy Child Service is now registered with the Care Quality Commission as regulated activity. The service anticipates being inspected by the Care Quality Commission within 12 months of registration.

2. Children’s Social Care

The new CSC structure was implemented in the summer 2016. This structure is now well embedded. The senior leadership team has recently undergone some personnel changes and there is a clear plan in place for achieving permanent senior management arrangements by the end of the calendar year.

Children's Social Care services continue to be highly scrutinised. In September 2018 together with our partners we were inspected under the 'Joint Targeted Area Inspection' (JTAI) arrangements. This included an evaluation of the multi-agency 'front door' services for child protection, when children at risk of harm first become known to local services as well as how agencies respond to children and young people at risk of sexual abuse in the family. The written report will be published on 9 November 2018.

Our number of children in care has remained stable against a regional and national increase. The number of children who are the subject of a child protection plan increased at the end of quarter 1, 2018/19, which is in line with an increase in referrals to Children's Social Care. Timeliness of assessments and reviews across children's social care was consistently high in relation to national in 2017/18 and performance has remained strong into 2018/19.

The Regional Adoption Agency (RAA), One Adoption North and Humber went live in February 2018. York is the host of this agency which comprises of York, North Yorkshire, Hull, East Riding and North East Lincolnshire. Mary Mckelvey, Head of Agency retired in July 2018 and Suzie Grove has been appointed to this post, she starts this role on the 8th November 2018. The RAA is providing adopters for City of York's children who need an adoptive family, assessing and recruiting adopters from the city and providing adoption support to our adoptive families. More information will be available in the report to the Executive on Adoption Services that will be available in November 2018.

Looked After Children

We know that most children are best cared for and achieve the best outcomes living at home. We work hard to keep children at home and support that arrangement wherever possible and safe to do so. Our strengthened children's social care services and the constant updating of our social workers skills and tools for intervention has contributed to a stable population of those young people who need to be looked after.

York's looked after children population trend over the past four years

	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19 Q1
York number of CYPIC	221	193	191	204	197	207
York number per 10k	61	53	53	55	53	56
National Number per 10k	60	60	60	62	n/a	n/a
Regional number per 10k	65	64	63	67	n/a	n/a

City of York Council utilises many placement options in order to look after children and young people who are not able to live within their immediate birth family. The recruitment of new foster carers and retention of the current fostering workforce, alongside increasing the options and flexibility of other placement provisions including residential, are our priorities if we are to deliver on our commitment to the Making York Home vision and the aims of the Child in Care Strategy. As such a Placement Review is being undertaken guided by the following principles:

- A diverse and flexible range of high quality placements are available to meet the current and future needs of Children in Care in York.
- Children in foster care have a normal experience through delegated authority
- Foster carer fees and allowances are clear and transparent
- Foster Carers are trained and supported and their commitment and loyalty is recognized
- Foster Carers have a clear understanding of what is expected in their role
- Alternative high quality resources are available for children and young people for whom a placement within a family is not appropriate.
- All services and provision are provided within the agreed budget

There are 2 phases to this review. The first focusing on foster carers and the second on other options. We are currently agreeing our draft proposals for phase 1.



Voice and Inclusion

Central to all of the work of this service is voice of the child / young people.

Our Children's Rights and Advocacy Service (known as Speak Up) promotes children's rights and provides advocacy for children and young people who are in care or leaving care, on a child protection plan or want to make a complaint against the council. The service provides issue-based advocacy and only exists for the time it takes to resolve the specific issue. A review of the activity of this service over the past year gives confidence that where children and young people are worried or concerned about a service they receive they are able to say so and to get help.

Show Me That I Matter is the name of York's Children in Care Council (CiCC). The CiCC is made up of three groups: the Show Me That I Matter panel, Speak Up Youth and the I Still Matter Care Leavers Forum. Young people meet at the different groups to raise and discuss issues that are important to them. Their overall aim of the CiCC is to provide an opportunity for care experiencing children and young people to help shape and improve services.

York Youth Council is a group of passionate young people aged 11-19 with aspirations to make positive changes to their local community and the lives of children and young people in York. York Youth Council consists of young people from a variety of backgrounds with a range of knowledge and experiences. It is led by young people and any work carried out is directed and agreed by the young people, supported and facilitated by the Local Area Teams. They meet and discuss issues that are important to them and children and young people in York and help to

organise and support events to capture the views of young people in York.

3. Education and Skills

Ofsted

The percentage of pupils in good and outstanding early years settings and schools in York remains high against both national and regional averages.

% of pupils in good or outstanding schools	York	Yorkshire and Humber	England
All schools	97%	81%	86%
Primary Schools	96%	84%	89%
Secondary Schools	100%	82%	77%

***NB Data source is Watchsted. Schools which converted to academy status in 2017-18 do not have a current Ofsted judgement.**

This means that the vast majority of children in York have access to good or outstanding early years settings and schools and are able to then move on to provision which is 100% good or outstanding in our sixth forms and at York College and Askham Bryan.

2018 has seen further changes in the assessment systems in secondary schools with changes taking place in both Key Stages 4 and 5. The standards required at the end of key stages are now higher than in previous years and new performance measures have been introduced for both attainment and progress in Key Stage 4 with 20 subjects moving to the 9-1 grading system.

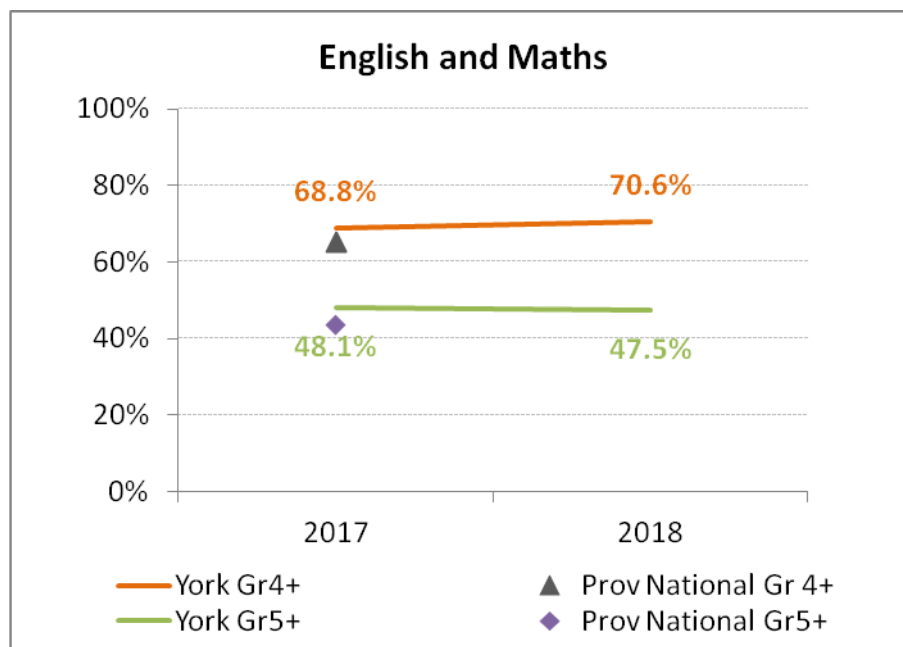
Performance at KS5 has remained significantly above the national average in all our school sixth forms and York College. Provisional value added data for York indicates that all school sixth forms are performing in the top quartile nationally for A level outcomes.

Participation

York has fantastic participation rates with 98% of young people in employment, education or training in the November after Year 11.

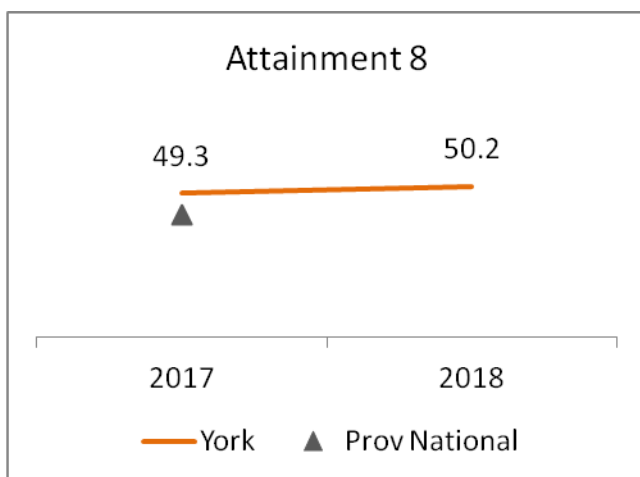
KS4

In Key Stage 4, York's secondary schools saw an improving trend for the percentage of pupils achieving grades 4+ in English and Maths, with 70.6% achieving this benchmark, an increase of 1.8 percentage points on the previous year. Provisional national and regional data indicates that York's performance remains above both national and regional averages.



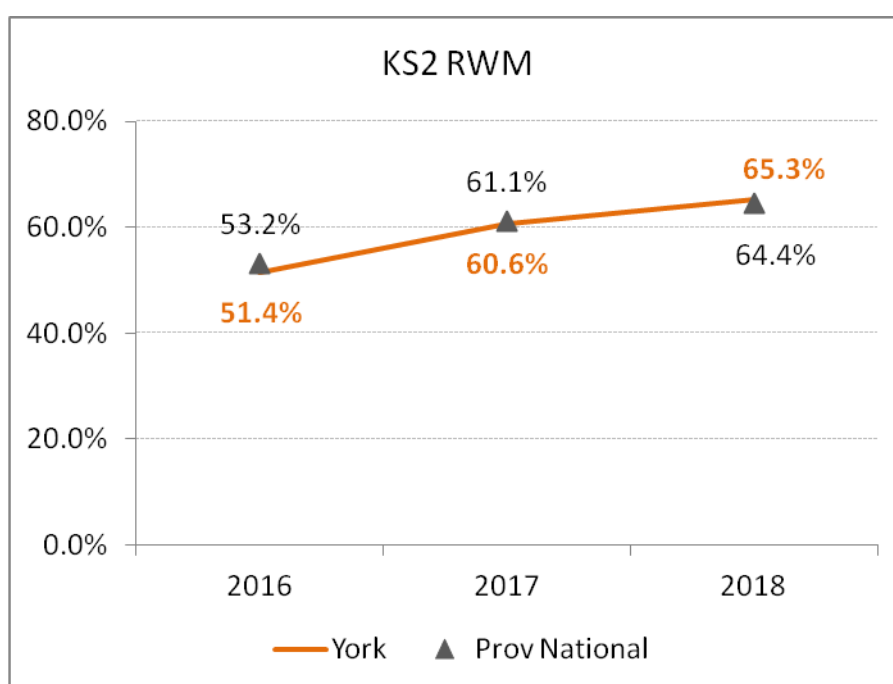
Attainment 8

Attainment 8 measures students' average performance in their best eight subjects including English and maths. In 2018 the Attainment 8 score in York was 50.2, an improvement on 2017 performance of 49.3. Provisional national and regional data indicates that York's performance remains above both national and regional averages.



KS2

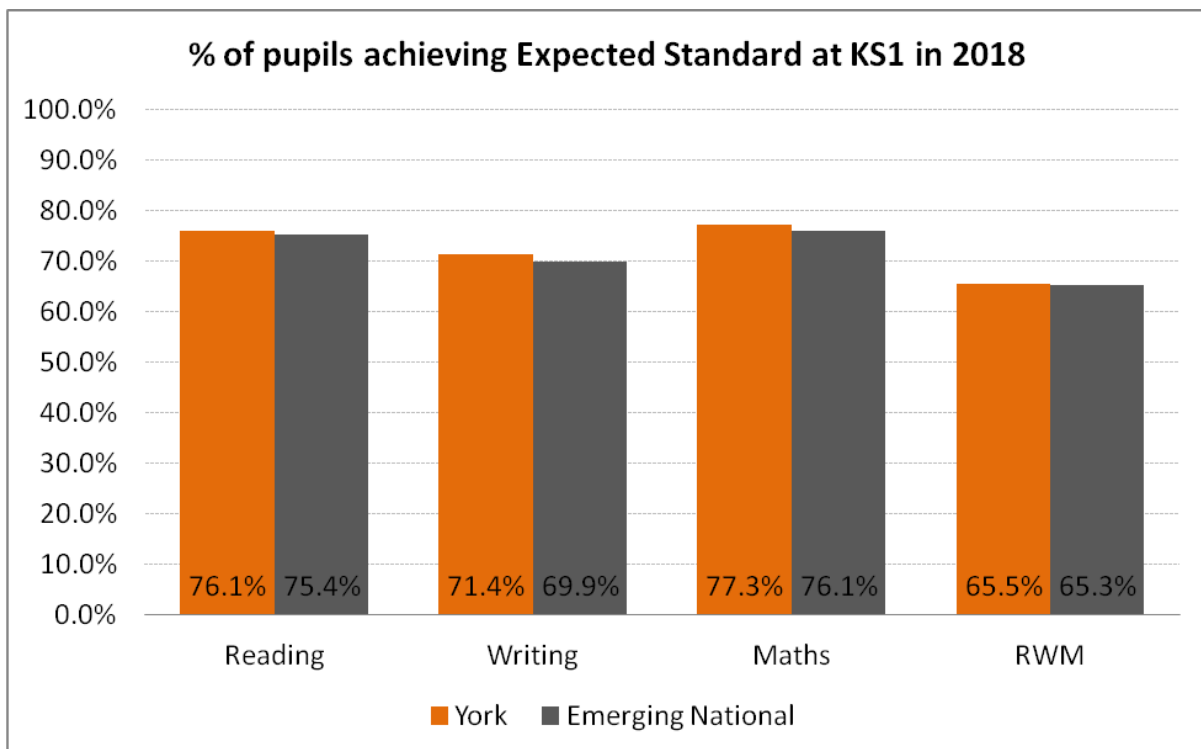
KS2 performance in the main national performance indicator of the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined has shown an improving trend since 2016, with York's performance improving to be above the emerging national average in 2018.



KS1

The unvalidated 2018 Key Stage 1 outcomes in attainment continue to be broadly in line with, above or well above national averages in all subjects at both the expected standard or higher standard.

There continues to be an improving three year trend at the expected standard in all subjects, however reading fell by -0.6% from 2017, and the national average also fell against the 2017 average. Writing at the expected standard has been the most improved subject at Key Stage 1 for City of York, up 8.0% points over the last three years, which is now 1.5% above the national average.



Performance in the Early Years and Phonics remained strong in 2018. In the Early Years Foundation Stage 74.8% of pupils achieved the good level of development, a 0.5% improvement from 2017 and 3 percentage points above the emerging national data. In 2018, 84.5% of pupils achieved the required standard in Year 1 phonics an improvement of 0.8 points from 2017.

Gap

The closing gap attainment between disadvantaged pupils and their peers remains the City's main priority for improvement. The Social Mobility conference in July was successful in raising awareness; consulting with schools, local authority teams and partners across the city; and garnering commitment for the change needed ahead. In 2018 Schools and partner agencies across York have signed up to a city-wide

pledge to help disadvantaged pupils achieve at school. Work taking place during 2018-19 will prioritise actions to improve the outcomes of disadvantaged children in the early years in order to address issues early and attainment close the gap more sustainably.

The York Schools and Academies Board

The pace of change in education continues to be rapid and York is continuing to see the development of a diverse school system which includes maintained schools, academies and multi-academy trusts. Despite these changes there remains a strong commitment to partnership working with the local authority. The development of the York Schools and Academies Board has strengthened our school improvement arrangements. The board has brought together the key partners in the city's school system into a coherent and effective strategic partnership. The partnership's main aims are to maximise outcomes and improve life chances for children and young people in York, promote inclusion and reduce inequalities. Critically, the members are committed to using collaborative resources to ensure that no school and no child or young person will be left behind.

The Inclusion Review

The number of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, particularly those with complex autism and those with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) conditions, is growing. This has led to a need to review current provision and identify areas where provision needs to be developed to meet need. As a result the LA has started an Inclusion Review which is working with school leaders, council officers and other stakeholders to review and develop strategy, processes and provision to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

In 2018 capital works have taken place at Hob Moor Oaks Primary Special School to develop provision to meet the needs of children with complex autism. During 2018 there have been important developments in the delivery of the post 19 local offer. The development of the Minster Provision in partnership with Applefields Secondary Special School and Askham Bryan College is an exciting development which is helping to ensure that more provision for High Needs learners is available in York. Another important development has been the extension to the supported employment pathways provided by Blueberry Academy. These

developments are helping to ensure that children with SEND are being supported to make strong transitions in to adult life.



Ensuring a sufficient supply of school places is an increasingly important focus within the portfolio. Work continues to take place to add additional school places at existing schools. During the academic year 2017 -18 improvements have been made in the forecasting of school places through the development of planning area reports by the business intelligence hub. In order to maintain a strategic approach to school place planning in York the local authority continues to work closely with school leaders, academy trusts and governing bodies to review existing school buildings to look for opportunities to add additional school places by ensuring that all possible space is being used to its optimum. There also an annual capital maintenance programme of the existing estate to ensure that best value in the delivery of school places is being achieved.

Councillor Keith Myers 16 October 2018