

## Appendix 1

### 1.1 Attendance in Flintshire Schools

Pupil attendance is measured at local and national level using a number of different factors. The COVID – 19 pandemic has however resulted in the suspension of the regular Welsh Government statistical updates that would provide contextual information with regards to attendance trends across Wales.

The information below utilises pre-existing WG statistical publications and is supplemented with data from within FCC for 2020/21.

Table 1 below contains information relating to the attendance of pupils within Flintshire’s mainstream and specialist schools. In the years preceding 2020/21, pupil attendance within the primary sector had remained fairly static. Attendance across secondary schools had seen a dip to below the Welsh average after 2016/17. Illness had been the main reason cited for absence in the years preceding 2020/21 and still accounts for the highest percentage of absence in both sectors.

Schools have generally maintained very low levels of unauthorised absence across Flintshire. There was a rise in authorised absence for the monitoring period in 2020/21. The overall picture for the monitoring period suggests a similar pattern of attendance to the previous year.

**Table 1: Levels of attendance and unauthorised absence in Flintshire mainstream and specialist schools.**

	Attendance (%)				Unauthorised Absence (%)			
	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19	2017/18	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19	2017/18
<b>FCC Primary Schools</b>	91.2	93.2	94.6	94.6	0.89	0.85	0.5	0.5
<b>FCC Secondary Schools</b>	88.5	91.6	93.3	93.7	2.56	1.87	1.7	1.6

*\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced*

Table 2 shows the spread of attendance figures across primary and secondary mainstream schools from 2017/18 onwards. This table demonstrates some movement across the range in 2020/21, more so across the primary sector.

**Table 2: Spread of attendance figures**

Attendance %	Primary				Secondary			
	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18
<90	6	4	1	1	7	0	0	0
90.0-90.9	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
91.0-91.9	5	4	1	0	1	1	2	2

92.0-92.9	9	5	4	6	1	3	3	1
93.0-93.9	10	12	9	7	1	3	2	2
94.0-94.9	15	19	21	21	0	3	4	5
95.0-95.9	6	15	20	23	0	1	0	1
96.0-96.9	7	4	7	5	0	0	0	0
97.0-97.9	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
98.0-98.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
99.0-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced

Table 3 provides a breakdown of all of the coding applied to authorise absence within Flintshire schools by percentages.

The data clearly demonstrates that illness has remained the predominant reason for pupil absence from Flintshire schools up to and including the period reported for 2020/21.

**Table 3: Reasons for authorised absence**

Reason for Absence	Primary (%)				Secondary (%)			
	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18
C	39.72	11.8	5.99	5.59	28.43	17.05	15.45	11.38
F	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
H	11.02	15.75	28.53	27.89	1.95	4.81	6.75	7.13
I	42.69	62.02	55.21	57.76	48.07	66.29	65.84	70.35
M	3.77	5.23	6.59	6.72	4.45	7.92	8.68	7.09
S	0.00	0	0.01	0.00	13.66	0.01	0.18	0.40
E	0.25	0.41	0.52	0.53	2.68	3.21	2.91	3.39
R	0.09	0.02	0.12	0.10	0.06	0	0.01	0.00
T	2.47	4.73	3.12	1.38	0.70	0.68	0.10	0.25

\*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced

**Key:** C Other authorised circumstances (not covered by another appropriate code/ description)  
F Agreed extended family holiday  
H Agreed family holiday  
I Illness  
M Medical or dental appointment  
S Study leave  
E Excluded but no alternative provision made  
R Day set aside exclusively for religious observance  
T Traveller absence

## 1.2 Exclusion of pupils from Flintshire schools

Welsh Government normally report annually on the national levels of fixed term and permanent exclusion. This is usually completed a year in arrears with a publication date in the month of October. As previously stated, WG data collection and publications have been suspended and internal data has been used to inform the report. On this occasion therefore, the data provided includes the academic year 2020/21.

The possible reasons for exclusion are recorded as follows:

- Physical assault against a pupil
- Physical assault against an adult
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil

- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult
- Bullying
- Racist abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Drug and alcohol related
- Damage
- Theft
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Other

The level of exclusion across Flintshire schools started to rise noticeably from 2016 and mirrored a national trend across Wales. A reduction in the level of both permanent and fixed-term exclusion remains a priority for schools and the Education and Youth Portfolio and a number of strategic actions have been identified to support a reduction. These include awareness raising across the school sector of the impact of exclusion, investment in the training of school staff on the National Nurturing Schools Programme and a shift to a nurture/wellbeing emphasis for central services, e.g. Behaviour Support Team.

**Table 4: Number of Permanent Exclusions from Flintshire Schools**

	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
<b>Primary</b>	0	1	3	5
<b>Secondary</b>	10	19	24	23

Table 5 shows the levels of fixed-term exclusion across primary and secondary schools. The figure within the brackets indicates the number of pupils who received one or more exclusion.

**Table 5: Fixed-Term Exclusions**

Type of Exclusion	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)
<b>Primary 5 Days or Less</b>	95 (55)	144 (70)	251 (102)	172 (80)
<b>Primary Over 5 days</b>	13 (12)	1 (1)	12 (10)	10 (7)
<b>Secondary 5 Days or Less</b>	902 (490)	879 (405)	1188 (533)	1059 (515)
<b>Secondary Over 5 days</b>	22 (20)	19 (18)	22 (19)	39 (34)
	<b>Rate of exclusion per 1000 pupils (Primary &amp; Secondary combined)</b>			
<b>5 Days or Less</b>	54.5	43.4	61.2	52.2
<b>Over 5 days</b>	3.2	0.8	1.4	2.1

**Reasons for exclusion.**

The primary reasons for exclusion are documented in Table 6. As can be seen, the main reasons for exclusion remain Physical assault against a pupil, Verbal/threatening behaviour against an adult, Persistent disruptive behaviour and Other.

**Table 6: Reasons for exclusion (number of incidents)**

Reason for Exclusion	2020/21							2019/20							2018/19							2017/18						
	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Perm		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Perm		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Perm		T	Fixed ≤ 5 days		Fixed > 5 days		Perm		T
	P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S		P	S	P	S	P	S	
Physical assault against a pupil	22	197	5	8	0	5	237	31	121	0	3	0	4	159	39	247	1	3	0	4	294	42	194	1	4	0	4	245
Physical assault against an adult	12	6	3	0	0	0	21	28	17	0	1	0	1	47	34	18	1	0	1	0	54	43	20	4	1	5	1	74
Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil	3	52	1	2	0	0	58	9	38	0	1	0	0	48	11	50	0	0	0	1	62	9	42	0	3	0	0	54
Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult	15	167	0	1	0	2	185	23	166	0	4	0	1	194	34	243	1	4	2	1	285	15	244	0	9	0	3	271
Bullying	0	13	0	0	0	0	13	1	6	0	0	0	0	7	2	15	0	1	0	0	18	2	11	0	0	0	0	13
Racist abuse	1	10	1	0	0	0	12	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	3	13	0	0	0	0	16	1	10	0	0	0	0	11
Sexual misconduct	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Drug & alcohol related	0	12	0	1	0	1	14	0	8	0	1	0	5	14	0	14	0	1	0	8	23	0	26	0	2	0	3	31
Damage	3	32	0	1	0	0	36	2	12	0	0	0	0	14	4	28	0	0	0	0	32	2	41	0	0	0	1	44
Theft	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	2	13	0	0	0	0	15	1	12	0	0	0	0	13
Persistent disruptive behaviour	36	225	1	6	0	0	268	49	284	0	5	1	1	340	111	200	4	3	0	3	321	47	157	4	6	0	1	215
Other	3	181	2	3	0	1	190	2	203	1	4	0	7	217	11	345	5	10	0	7	378	10	299	1	14	0	10	334

**Key:** Fixed ≤5 days – Fixed term exclusion, 5 days or less  
Fixed >5 days – Fixed term Exclusion, over 5 days  
Perm – Permanent exclusion  
P – Primary  
S – Secondary  
T – Total of primary and secondary