

## Education and Young People CAC - Outcomes

The main outputs / outcomes from the Education and Young People CAC have been as follows: -

- 1) Early intervention with pupils covering the following areas.
  - a) The CAC looked at how schools use the NEET statistics and SIMS and how can this be expanded and better utilised, including current examples of good practice within Swansea and in other Welsh local authorities; how schools can reduce NEETS; questionnaire sent to all schools asking the following: -
    1. How do you use the VAP data that you receive?
    2. What strategies or interventions do you put in place as a result of knowing which pupils are most vulnerable?
    3. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of these?
    4. For secondary schools, what is your rate of NEET school leavers for the past five years?
    5. Do you consider how to address this, using the VAP data as a method of predicting who might become NEET and targeting them, to reduce the numbers leaving and becoming NEET?
    6. What do schools use the NEET statistics and SIMS for and how can this be expanded and better utilised?
    7. Could schools list and share any current examples of good practice within Swansea or in other Welsh local authorities that they are aware of/involved in?
    8. Ask schools if they have any ideas how can NEET'S be reduced?

Unfortunately, there was a very poor response from Schools to the survey, despite reminders

b) Investigation into the process of Schools allocating Vulnerability Assessment Profile (VAP) Data scores and the supply of this information to Colleges

Schools had identified the following six key areas where the VAP data proved particularly useful for them: Target Setting; Intervention Strategies; Safeguarding; Parent Liaison; Multi Agency Partnerships; Transition Support. Areas where Schools had identified as of beneficial use to them: Benefits of moving young people from level five to two; Ability to track performance backwards; Ability for teachers to group pupils of different abilities into separate streams of learning

The following amendments had been outlined by schools as areas which could prove useful, and as such the following amendments to the VAP Data from next term would be made: SEN Input & Indicators – will now be expanded from 2 to 4; Free School Meals Measure – will be extended to include Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation; Introduction of Formal Training Sessions for Schools on VAP Data

Need to encourage all schools to further utilise and embrace the revised VAP data.

Improved VAP data links with Colleges established.

c) EOTAS Pupils – additional support required to reduce the trend of becoming NEETS during the academic year, need for replacement premises with outside play areas, the need to build on the success of the Step Ahead

scheme and current “in house” schemes developed by schools, the need to always consider the very difficult personal circumstances of individual young people

2) Pentrehafod Alternative Curriculum and Education (PACE) Scheme.  
Excellent success of the project in re-engaging disaffected young people and the need to “roll out” the good practice across schools in the City that do not already operate a similar scheme

3) Current Engagement with Young People.

- Listening and Participation Scheme with Children and Young People.
- Services provided by the Tier 1 Outreach Team and the Youth Offending Team’s involvement with young people
- Big Conversation and keys topics identified by CYP going forward relating to both the school learning environment and post 16 employment & training opportunities
- Pupil Forum Voice
- Links with Careers Wales and their staff and the Year 10 Career Check Survey

4) Future Issues.

- Review of current EOTAS provision and proposals for the future operation of the service.
- Need for ongoing and continued Improvement of Literacy Performance in Schools.
- Sustainability of the current Post 16 provision and the current suitability and outcomes of courses particularly for NEET pupils
- There needs to be strong links between home and school and the possible use of "Learning Logs" which provide parents with information on what their children will be undertaking each week, this could include home tasks etc
- Level of current job readiness and skills of young people entering employment for the first time needs improving – issues such as interview techniques, research self-promotion, parental guidance/advice etc
- Importance and availability of alternative curriculum/non academic Qualifications, and the promotion and support needed for young people who don’t want to go to University
- Need to change parent/pupil perceptions regarding post 16 options for young people, in particular support and promotion for non-vocational courses and trades/apprenticeships
- Development and future impact of both the Cynydd & Cam Nesa Projects
- Potential impact of new Pioneer Schools Project
- Potential for amendments to current Work Experience programme for school children to make it more meaningful and beneficial to both children and employers
- Involvement of Corporate Building Services in future Careers days and events in particular the use of the Trade Bus to encourage young people into the trade via the pre apprentice scheme
- Opportunity for Corporate Building Services to further develop and enhance their current apprentice scheme
- Encourage companies who are awarded contracts as part of the City Deal/Tidal Lagoon to utilise the local workforce particularly apprentices

## **Conclusions**

Attention/resources/support should be focused on those with the most need, at an early age.

Effective use of data should be a sub-theme arising from all strategies, methods, actions, e.g. Leadership / Teaching / Parental Engagement.

Need to further develop and encourage the alternative curriculum.