

# Education and Partnerships

## Children's Scrutiny Panel 24 June 2025

**Caroline Cannon**

Interim Director for Education and Partnerships



# Education and Partnerships

<b>Service Areas within the Directorate</b>	<b>Brief description</b>
<p><b>Access to Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual School</li> <li>• School Planning</li> <li>• Attendance</li> <li>• Admissions</li> <li>• Elective Home Education</li> <li>• Children Missing in Education</li> </ul>	<p>Provides a range of services to schools and families to enable the education system in the town to operate smoothly and effectively.</p>
<p><b>Inclusion and Specialist Support Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion and Outreach</li> <li>• SEND Assessment and Review</li> <li>• Education Psychologists</li> <li>• Sensory Teaching and Advisory Service</li> <li>• High Needs Funding</li> </ul>	<p>The service provides statutory and specialist early intervention, prevention and support services for children with special educational needs or those at risk of exclusion.</p>
<p><b>Achievement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years and Family Hubs</li> <li>• Ethnic Minority</li> <li>• Literacy Advisor</li> </ul>	<p>Working together to ensure that every child and young person in Middlesbrough has equal access to high quality education that increases and improves life chances, through achievement of the best possible outcomes at every stage of their learning journey and beyond.</p>
<p><b>Youth Justice Team</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Justice Team</li> <li>• SHiFT</li> </ul>	<p>South Tees Youth Justice Service (STYJS) delivers Youth Justice Services within the local authority areas of Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland.</p>

# Priorities

- Reduce the number of permanent exclusions and suspensions across the town
- Ensure sufficiency of school places for all children and young people
- Improve attendance for all children and young people
- Monitor the number of children choosing Elective Home Education
- Increase inclusion within mainstream settings for children with an EHCP
- Ensure EHCA are completed within the 20 weeks statutory process
- Support schools and settings to have a skilled workforce
- Reduce the number of children and young people accessing out of area specialist provision
- Reduce the deficit on the High Needs Budget
- Improve outcomes for all children and young people

# Current Projects

- SHiFT
- Adopting a digital support system that embraces, Education, Early Help and Social Care
- Improving Attendance
- Introduction of a new Resource Allocation System to support children with an EHCP
- Review of specialist provision
- Family Hubs

# Challenges

- Exclusions and suspensions
- Funding
- Sufficiency of Alternative Provision placements
- Sufficiency of Specialist Placements
- Attendance
- Increasing number of children who are Electively Home Educated

# Corporate Performance Measures

- Permanent exclusions : Currently 88, slightly lower than previous year
- Suspensions: Reduction in the days lost per pupil, suspensions rates are slowing
- Attendance: 92.5%
- Elective Home Education currently: 321
- Completion of an EHCP within 20 weeks: 97%
- Inclusion within mainstream settings for children with an EHCP: 39.2%
- Children currently accessing Alternative Provision: 377



# Questions?

