

11 Inclusion

Inclusion aims to identify and remove barriers to learning, supporting all children and young people to aspire to and reach their full potential.

Advocacy

Advocacy represents the interests of children and families who may experience barriers to accessing learning because they have special educational needs and/or disabilities and/or are from a minority ethnic community. Within Advocacy are:

- **Parent Partnership Service (PPS)**
PPS is an arms length service which is funded to support families to navigate systems linked to SEND which may include support regarding exclusion, bullying, etc though advice and casework. They operate a helpline.
- **Portage Service**
Portage workers support families who have children with severe and complex needs from birth to statutory school age.
- **Children Missing Education**
The team fulfil the Local Authority's statutory duty to monitor and ensure suitable education is found for pupils who are referred from a variety of agencies as without a school place.
- **Minority Ethnic Achievement**
MCAS is a fully traded service operating within EduKent. They support schools with all areas of raising minority ethnic achievement along with other inclusion support.
- **Virtual School for Gypsy Roma Traveller Pupils**
This is a DfE funded pilot project. Teachers and Outreach Officers work with targeted schools to raise attainment and support community cohesion.
- **Coordination of services for young parents**
This roles ensures that young parents are signposted to suitable support and is involved in developing capacity in schools.

Attendance

The Attendance Service acts on behalf of the Local Authority to ensure parents and Education providers comply with their legal responsibilities in relation to children and young people's regular school attendance. In addition, by issuing work permits, performance and chaperone licences, the Attendance Service safeguards the welfare of children who work or are involved in entertainment and media activities.

Inclusion

Inclusion incorporates three key functions that support children and young people's placement and engagement in a full time, suitable education, being:

- Working towards decreasing numbers of pupils being permanently excluded from school, but where this does happen, ensuring that an alternative place is identified within required timescales
- Offering advice and support to families and young people educated at home

- Ensuring that young people who demonstrate anti-social or offending behaviour are suitably engaged in full time education, vocational training or work with learning.

Monitoring & Quality Assurance

The Monitoring and Quality Assurance function provides data analysis, quality assurance and monitoring across Inclusion and also ensures compliance with procurement procedures and contract management where services are outsourced.

Business Support

Business Support is responsible for providing executive, administrative, budgetary and other business support across Inclusion.

Key Contacts

Interim Head of Inclusion – Louise Simpson Email – louise.simpson@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 696689	Interim Inclusion Manager – Margot Clarkson Email - margot.clarkson-bennett@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 6696683
Advocacy Manager – Heather Goodacre Email – heather.goodacre@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 696689	Monitoring & Quality Assurance – Rob Comber Email – rob.comber@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 696690
Attendance Manager – Lindy Whitfield Email – lindy.whitfield@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 696688	Business Support – Deborah Standen Email – deborah.standen@kent.gov.uk Telephone – 01622 694525