

Title of report: Virtual School Head Annual Report 2024–2025

Who wrote the report: The Virtual School Headteacher and their team.

Date written: November 2025

Summary of what the report is about:

This report looks at how children in care, care leavers, and children with a social worker did in school during the last year. It talks about what went well, what changed, and what still needs to improve.

What are the key messages of this report

- We worked hard to make sure children feel they belong and are included.
- Fewer children were suspended or excluded from school this year.
- Attendance has gone up for most children.
- More young people aged 16+ are in education, training, or work.
- We gave extra help to children in care and those living with relatives (kinship care).
- We listened to children's voices and added more extracurricular activities.

Important facts and figures

- Suspensions for children in care dropped from 15% to 10%.
- Only 1 child in care was permanently excluded.
- Attendance: 88% (children in care), 77% (child protection), 80% (child in need).
- 72% of care leavers aged 16+ are in education, training, or work.
- 95% of Personal Education Plans were rated good or outstanding.
- 165 children were celebrated for doing well in school or overcoming challenges.

Actions or recommendations

- Help children who miss a lot of school (50% or less attendance).
- Give more support to children living with relatives.
- Make sure children's voices are part of all decisions.
- Work with schools to reduce suspensions, especially for children with special needs.
- Create new programmes for older children to prepare for jobs or further education.
- Keep improving support for all children with a social worker.