

Safeguarding Performance Report

Social Services

1st April 2022 to
30th June 2022

Education

Summer Term 2022

Corporate Services

1st April 2022 to
30th June 2022



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol

Blaenau Gwent

County Borough Council

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Purpose of the report

The Council is committed to creating an environment which enables people to maximise their independence, develop solutions and take an active role in their communities whilst feeling safe and protected.

We believe that all children, adults and young people have the right to be safe from harm and it is a corporate objective to put effective safeguarding arrangements in place to protect people from harm.

We recognise our responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk, and this includes the contribution we make to working together with other agencies so that all children and young people reach their full potential and we continue to look after the most vulnerable people in our communities.

The purpose of this report is to provide safeguarding information that is recorded and monitored to ensure that we are indeed delivering this objective.

Monitoring and reporting systems are well-developed to ensure the department is able to track information and evidences that the safeguarding agenda remains a priority for the local authority.

Performance information is collated from Social Services, Organisational Development and Education information systems which identifies activity, demands and trends of data. This includes a number of items that are statutory requirements as part of the Welsh Government Performance Framework.

The report includes information on the following:

- Referrals received and their outcomes
- Children who are being safeguarded and analysis
- Quality assurance arrangements with education settings
- Broader issues within education that impact upon safeguarding
- Corporate progress on recommended proposals for improvement
- DBS Compliance
- Safeguarding Corporate Risk Register

This report will be shared with Senior Management Teams and presented to the Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee for Social Services, Education and Active Living.

00 | Community Profile - Demographics

Community Profile



- 45% of Blaenau Gwent's local areas are amongst the top 20% deprived areas in Wales. (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019)
- The proportion of benefit claimants amongst people of working age was higher in Blaenau Gwent than the proportion across the comparable authorities (working-age client group

– key benefit claimants August 2014 - 23.2% in Blaenau Gwent compared to all Wales level of 16.4%)

- The total rate of Blaenau Gwent's recorded offence levels was higher than comparative areas. For the year ending December 2014 Police recorded crimes - 76.89 crimes per thousand population in Blaenau Gwent compared to its most similar group of areas average (as defined by the Home Office) of 69.03 per thousand population.
- Total Population: **70,020** Number of 0 – 17 year olds: **13,619** (2020 Population Estimates)
- Number of Open cases to Children's Social Services as at 31st December 20: **1,108**
- Number of pupils attending primary schools: **6,123**
- Number of pupils attending secondary schools: **3,245**

01 Children's Social Services Referrals

Fig: 1.1 Number of referrals received by Social Services

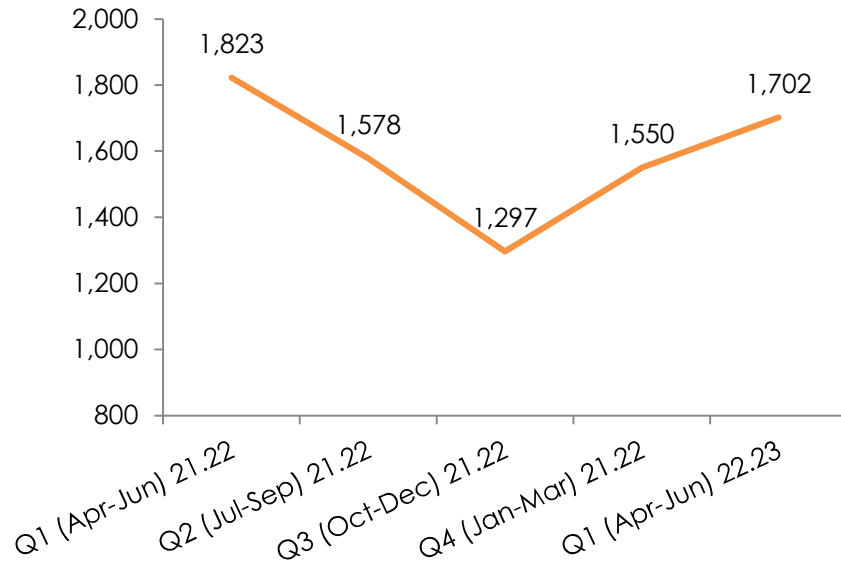


Fig 1.1a Number of individuals linked to referrals

	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Referrals	428	495	329	458	501	591	506	655	464
No of Individuals	386	442	330	410	459	525	444	568	481
2+ Referrals	31	42	32	37	33	58	44	51	41
Highest No. of Referrals for an individual	6	6	7	8	5	3	7	8	6

Fig: 1.2 Number and Percentage of Referrals by Source (Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4)

	Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4		Quarter 1	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Police	702	44%	565	44%	636	41%	698	41%
Education	141	9%	202	16%	260	17%	243	14%
Other Agency	148	9%	104	8%	114	7%	140	8%
Health	241	15%	169	13%	250	16%	230	14%
Social Services	124	8%	96	7%	100	6%	202	12%
Individuals	152	10%	123	9%	141	9%	149	9%
Education - Post 16		0.0%	0	0%	12	1%		0.0%
Education - OOC		0.0%	10	1%		0%	13	0.8%
Housing	9	1%	3	0%	7	0%	1	0%
Other LA	40	3%	11	1%	20	1%	20	1%
Youth Service	11	1%	7	1%	5	0%	6	0.4%
Other								
Departments	7	0.4%	5	0%	4	0%	0	0.0%
YOS	3	0.2%	2	0%	1	0%	0	0.0%
Total	1,578	100%	1,297	100%	1,550	100%	1,702	100%

01 | Children's Social Services Referrals

Graph showing the source of referrals and the percentage

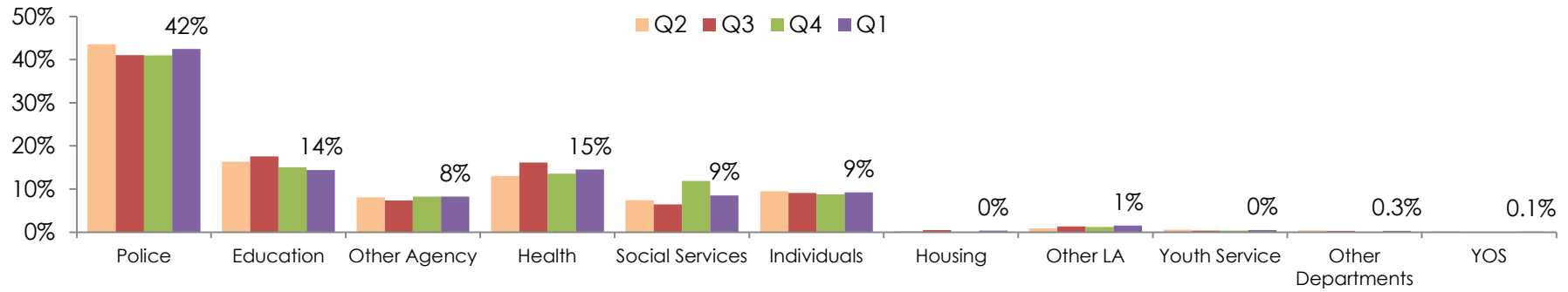
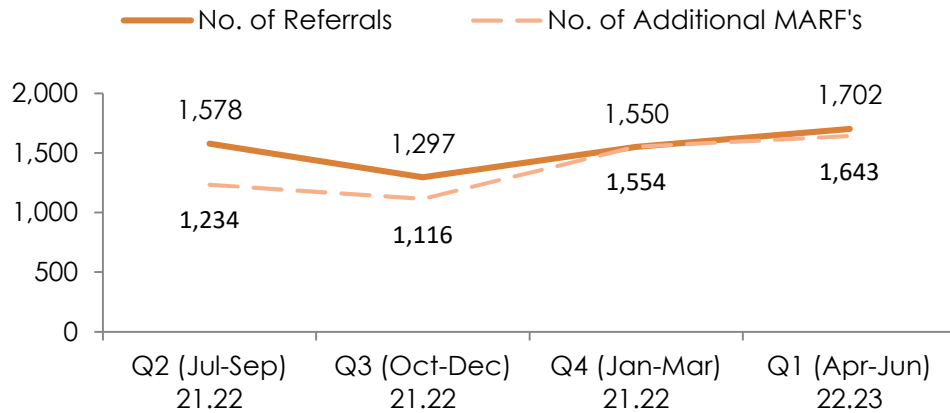


Fig: 1.3 Multi-agency referral forms (MARF's) received on open cases



03 | Adults' Social Services

Fig 2.1 Children on the Child Protection Register

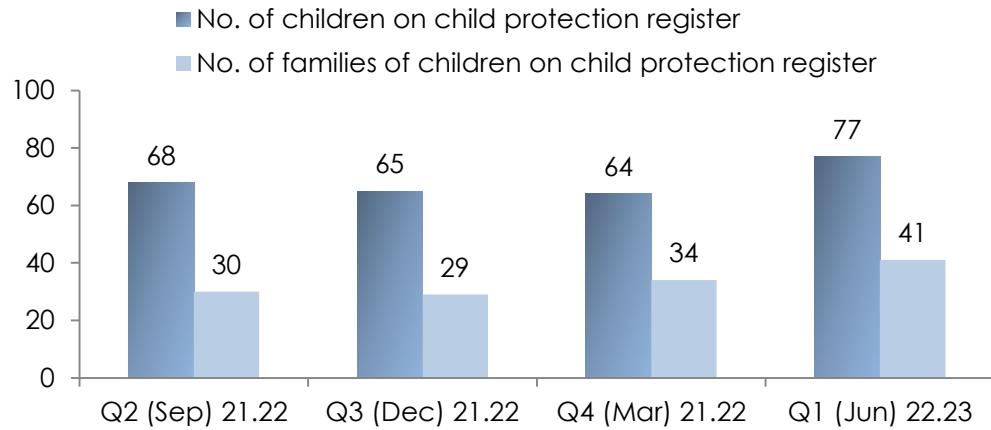


Fig 2.3 Categories of abuse

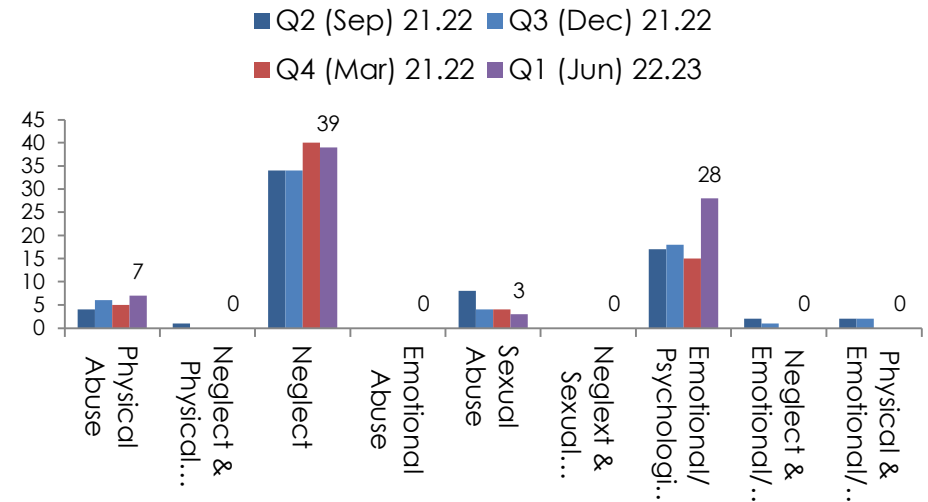


Fig 2.2 Child Protection Register Summary

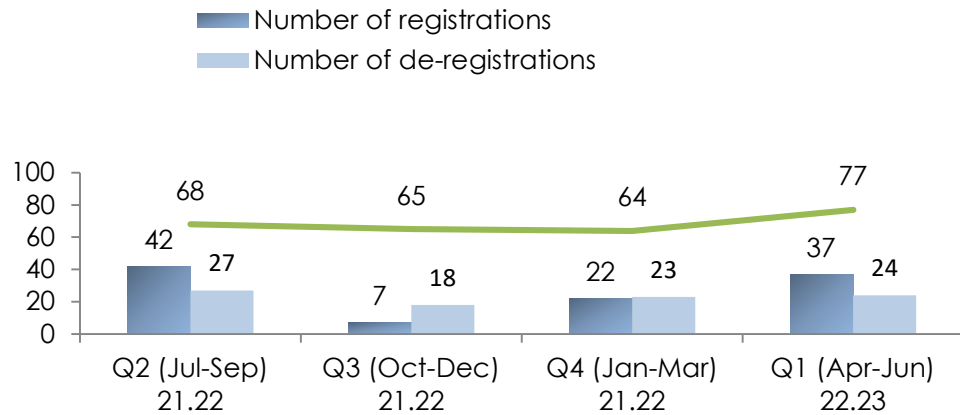
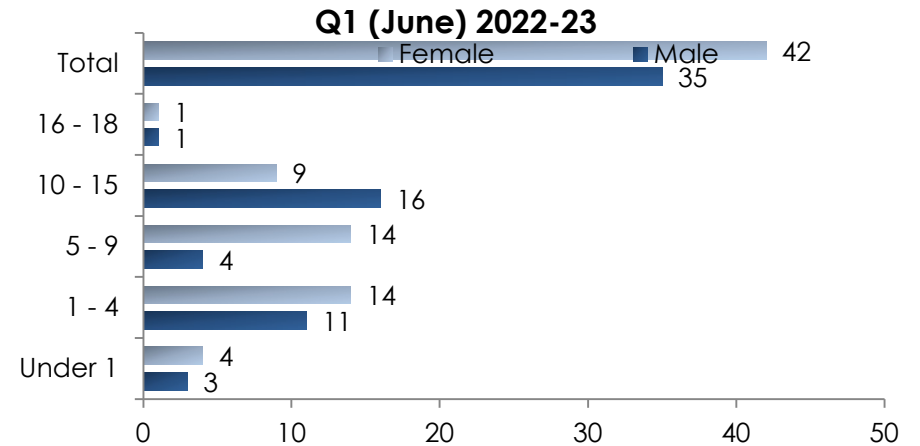


Fig 2.4 Age Breakdown of children on child protection register



03 | Adults' Social Services

Fig 2.1 Adults suspected of being at risk

Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received during the fourth quarter of 2019/2020	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	139
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received during 2019/2020	1/4/21-31/3/22	553

Fig 2.2 Categories of abuse or neglect

Category of Abuse	Gender	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/21-31/3/22	1/4/21-31/3/22
Physical	Male	3	4	19	22
	Female	8	17	37	55
	Transgender	0	0	0	0
Sexual	Male	0	0	5	1
	Female	2	1	19	7
Emotional/Psychological	Male	1	3	24	7
	Female	6	4	53	23
	Transgender	0	0	0	0
Financial	Male	1	3	22	12
	Female	3	6	19	31
Neglect	Male	7	15	27	52
	Female	7	48	22	96
	Transgender	0	0	0	0
Total	Male	12	25	97	94
	Female	26	76	150	212
	Transgender	0	0	0	0
	Total	38	101	247	306

03 | Adults' Social Services

Fig 2.3 Place alleged abuse/neglect took place

Place alleged abuse	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/21-31/3/22
Own Home	48	248
Community	13	59
Care Home Setting	70	219
Health Setting	8	27
Other	0	0
Total	139	553

Fig 2.4 Person alleged responsible

Person alleged responsible	Total	Total
	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/21-31/3/22
A spouse	8	35
A son or daughter	6	33
A family member who is not a child or spouse	10	47
A professional	26	131
A volunteer or unpaid worker	0	0
A friend	1	31
A neighbour	2	2
Another service user	3	49
Other Person	3	32
Not known	80	193
Total	139	553

Fig 2.5 Source of Referral

Source of Referral	Total	Total
	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/21-31/3/22
Self-reported	2	19
Relative / friend	5	32
Local authority	11	13
Police	3	23
Local health board	14	89
Independent hospital	2	0
Ambulance service	3	14
Care regulator	0	9
Provider agency	57	220
Probation	0	2
Third sector	4	35
Advocate	0	0
Education	2	4
Housing	4	11
Internal (Social Worker, Other Team)	17	60
Other	15	22
Total	139	553

Fig 2.6 Domestic abuse referrals

	Age 18-64	Age – 65 and over	Age 18-64	Age – 65 and over
	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/22-30/6/22 (Q1)	1/4/21-31/3/22	1/4/21-31/3/22
Male	0	1	2	4
Female	5	0	22	8

04 | Referrals from Education

Fig 3.1 Contacts by Source – Primary School

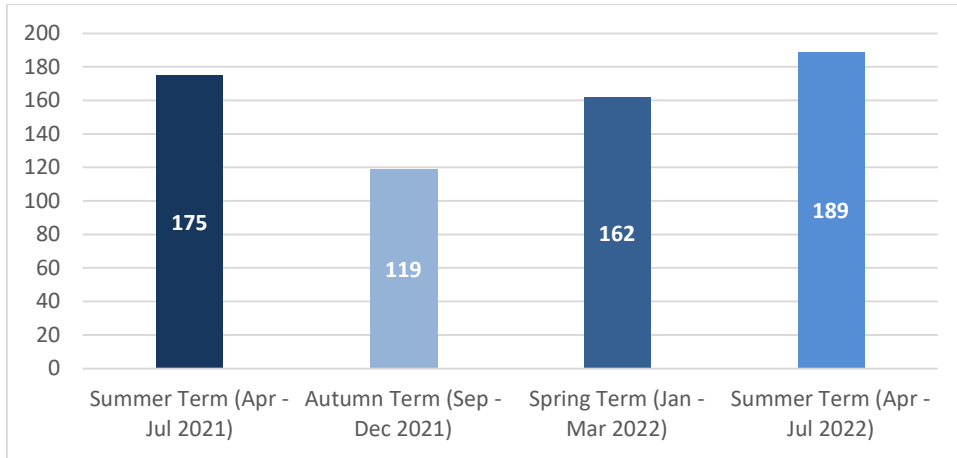


Fig 3.2 Contacts by Source – Secondary School

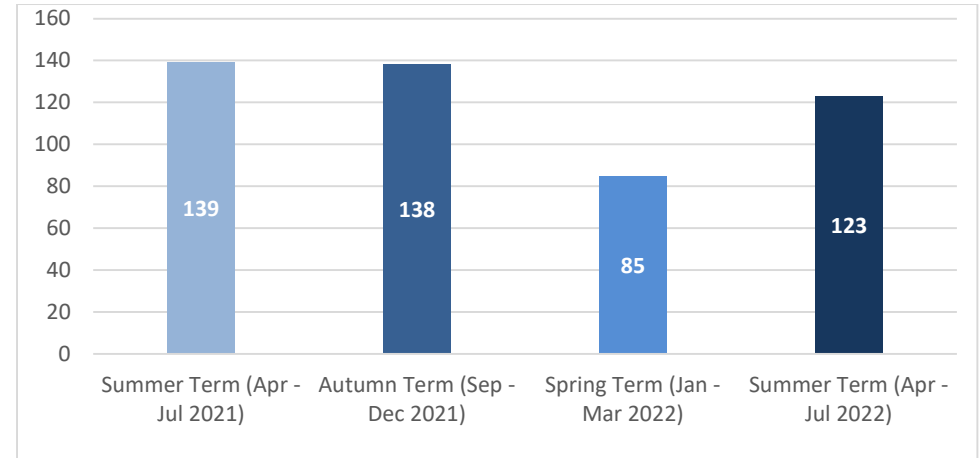


Fig 3.3 Contacts by Source - Other

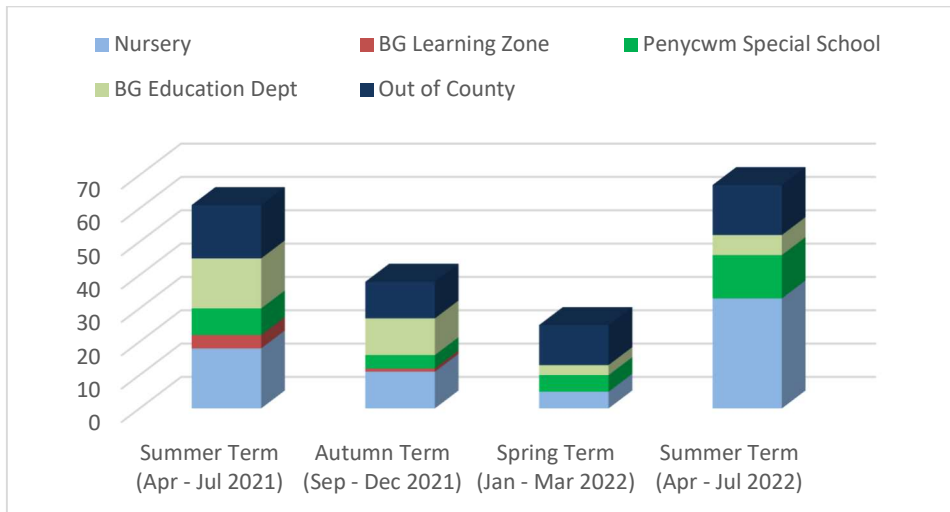
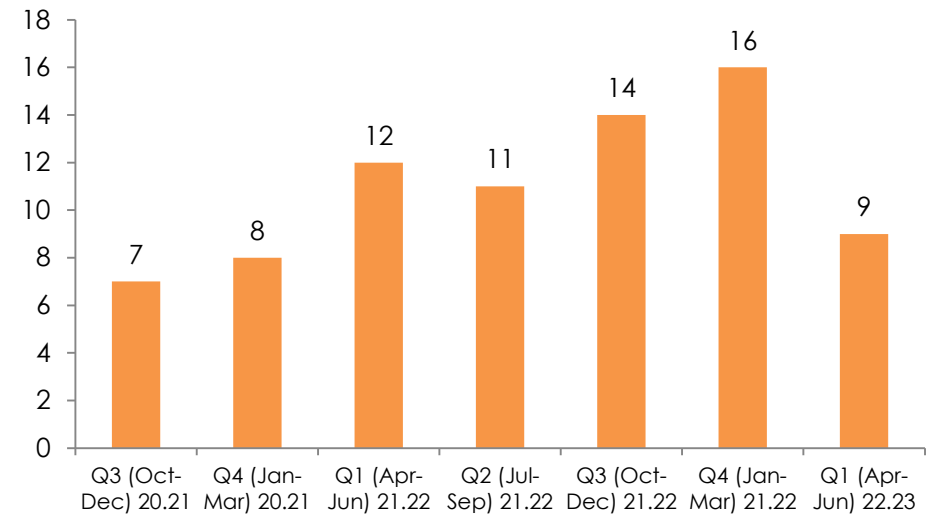


Fig 3.4 Referrals received from Youth Services



1. Regulatory

1.1 Education Directorate Risk

1.1.1 Education Risk Register

Ref No.	Description of Risk	Triggers	Consequences	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Current Controls	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Proposed further controls to mitigate / reduce risk	Progress Update
				3	4			C	1			
Directorate Risk EDDRR3 Corporate Risk Register CRR4	Safeguarding - Failure to ensure adequate. Safeguarding arrangements are in place for children & young adults in Blaenau Gwent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate assessments and monitoring Lack of documentation Increasing demand for services Lack of appropriate guidance and training Poor communication between all parties (internal / external) High turnover of staff Varying capacity as a result of the pandemic so routine activities do not take place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential significant harm / loss of life Long term reputational damage and confidence in the Council undermined Increase in complaints / Potential litigation / prosecution External intervention Increased pressure on budgets Low staff morale 	3	4	Critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Social Services and Education Scrutiny established Education Designated Lead and Deputy Officer nominated Education Safeguarding Officer established and in post Gwent Adult Safeguarding Board SE Wales Safeguarding Children's Board Safeguarding is a standing item on CMT agenda Lead Executive Member has been identified for having responsibility for safeguarding Senior leadership have received Level 1 training. Programme of training for schools underway. Corporate leads established for each directorate who have been requested to identify staff for Level 1 training (3 dates have already been set) Safeguarding in Education matrix regularly updated *Use of MyConcern software in schools will be used to gather data, monitor positive cases and create consistency across the school estate. The roll-out project team is fully established. 	1	4	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved reporting systems and databases in place Inclusion protocol in place Education Safeguarding Manager close working with School Improvement and Inclusion Close working relationships with Social Services Directorate Youth Services safeguarding arrangements are effective and monitoring is through the corporate arrangements. Half termly meetings to be diarised * DMT receive regular QA reports from Safeguarding in Education Manager 	<p>Quarter 3 and 4 Progress Update October 2021 to March 2022</p> <p>As part of the forthcoming LALI meeting there is a focus on safeguarding and this area will also be considered as part of the WAO review. Within the Spring term the safeguarding matrix the following areas are identified to be continued to be progressed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The take up of safeguarding training by governors; and, DBS compliance to be improved at a governing body level <p>The self-evaluation for 2021/22 is nearing completion and this has highlighted areas for development and these were verbally reported to DMT in May 2022. Arising from this it has been agreed that a paper of safeguarding priorities and fwp of activities to be brought to a future DMT to make the most effective use of the resources available. Analysis of the schools' self-evaluation returns is ongoing and will inform a report to DMT and ultimately to Safeguarding Scrutiny.</p> <p>Moving forward, it is proposed that this Directorate risk will be included in the performance report. The data set for which has been extended to better mirror the Estyn framework.</p> <p>There is only one school that has to date not taken up the opportunity to use MyConcern and a meeting is arranged to discuss this further with the individual school.</p> <p>All schools are now using the 360 degree tool.</p> <p>The Safeguarding in Education Manager is leading on the action plan to respond to Estyns Sexual abuse report and this has three main work streams which are in train.</p> <p>There is a need to update the Directorate's prevent action plan and the Directorate has agreed to establish a Safer School Strategic Board and this first meeting is presently being arranged.</p> <p>The risk has increased from its present level and plans are in place to mitigate this but there is invariably a link to the risks identified in Social Services. In terms of capacity</p> <p>DMT 12th May 2022</p>

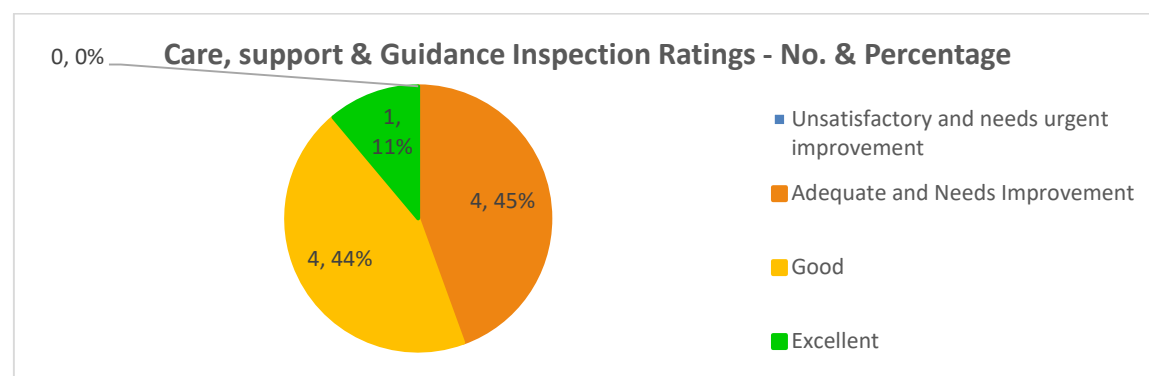
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1.2 Estyn

1.2.1 The table below provides an overview of the Estyn judgements for schools inspected under the new arrangements from September 2017 up until **Error! Reference source not found.**

Phase	School#	School	Date report published	Follow-up Activity	Monitoring Visit 1	Standards	Wellbeing and Attitudes to Learning	Teaching and Learning Experiences	Care, Support and Guidance	Leadership and Management	Out of Follow-up Activity
Primary	6772074	Georgetown C.P. School	Jun-22	Action Plan							
Secondary	6775401	Brynmawr Foundation School	Dec-19	SM		Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Unsatisfactory	
Primary	6773309	St Mary's CIW Primary School	Mar-19			Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	
Primary	6772310	Rhos y Fedwen Primary**	Feb-17	Estyn Review		Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Jul-18
Primary	6772306	Blaenycwm Primary	May-18			Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good	
Secondary	6774074	Abertillery Learning Community	01/02/2018 (revisit Jun-19)	SI	SI	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Unsatisfactory	
Primary	6773316	St Joseph's RC Primary	Jan-18			Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	
Primary	6772312	St Illtyd's Primary	01/10/2017 (revisit Mar-19)	Estyn Review		Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Mar-19
Primary	6772309	Glyncoed Primary*	Nov-17			Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	
Primary	6772070	Glanhowy Primary*	Feb-18			Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	

1.2.2 Care, Support and Guidance Inspection Ratings



1.3 Policy

1.3.1 Compliance Statements

Partner Agency Safeguarding Policies in Place	Ac Year 21-22
No of Partner Agencies	4
Policies in Place	4
% Compliance	100%

1.3.2 Safeguarding Policies released and Governing Body Compliance

Safeguarding Policy Compliance	21-22
No of Schools in BG	25
Governing Body Compliance	25
% Compliance	100%

2. Systems/Quality Assurance

2.1 My Concern

2.1.1 My Concern Safeguarding Systems in Use

Safeguarding System	No. of Schools Using	% of Schools Using
My Concern	22	81%

2.2 Keeping Learners Safe audit tool

2.2.1 School Returns

	21-22
No of Schools in BG	25
No of Schools who have used the KLS Safeguarding Toolkit to review procedures in the last 12 months?	25
% of Schools who have Reviewed	100%

3. Independent Settings

3.1 Pupils in Out of County Placements - LA and Independent Settings

3.1.1 – Out of County Placements

	Spring 2021	Summer 2021	Autumn 2022	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
LA	15	15	9	9	9
Independent	18	18	10	11	11

3.1.2 Overview of Safeguarding arrangements.

Summer term 2022	No of Pupils	Of which are CLA	No of Settings	Green	Amber	Red
Independent	11	5	4	1	2	1
Other LA Maintained Schools	9	4	7	7	0	0

Green – SG QA gives no cause for concern

Amber – SG QA identifies actions required/further clarification

Red – SG QA gives cause for concern

3.2 Education Workforce Council (EWC) Registrations

3.2.1 EWC Registrations on Appointment

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Incomplete EWC Registrations	5	0	0

4. Safe Workforce

4.1 DBS Position Statement:

4.1.1 New Starter/Rolling Programme DBS Checks Schools

Criteria	Total
Staff requiring a DBS	1263
Staff with a valid DBS	1262

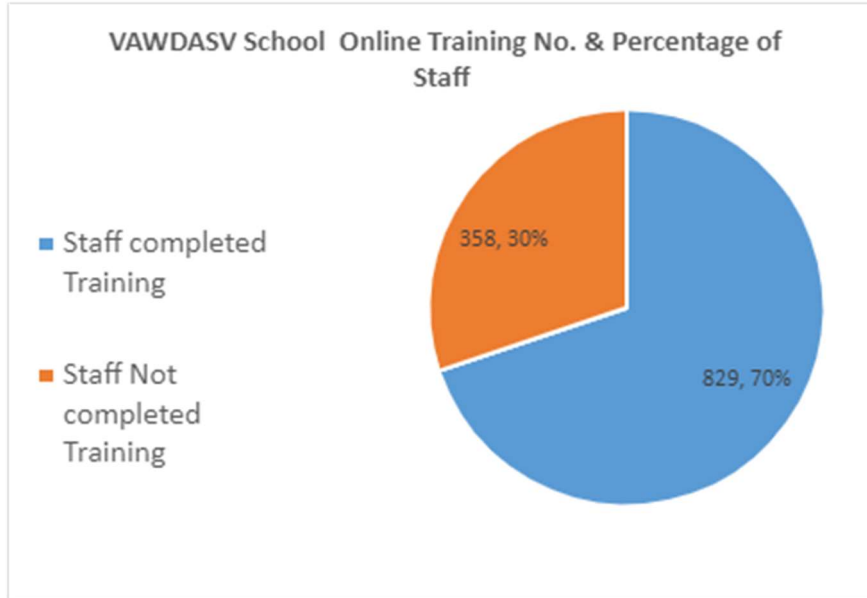
Out of Compliance	Less than 4 weeks		More than 3 months	Total
New Starters currently out of compliance	0		0	0
Rolling Programme currently out of compliance	0		1	1
Totals	0		1	1

Appt Comments	Awaiting Certificate		Total	Escalation	
				Chased with Employee	Escalation to Operational Team
Awaiting ID documents	0		1	0	1
	0		1	0	1

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4.2 Training

4.2.1 Basic/Enhanced VAWDA SV



4.2.2 Designated Safeguarding Persons (DSP) Meetings

DSP Meetings	Aut 21	Spr 22	Sum 22
No of Schools Represented	16	17	16
% of School represented	64%	68%	64%

4.3 Professional Concerns

4.3.1 Professional Concerns Review

Professional Strat Meetings	Autumn 21	Spring 22	Summer 22
Total Number of PSMs	5	1	3
Number of Substantiated Concerns	2	1	1
% of Substantiated Concerns	40%	100%	33.33%

5. Vulnerable Children and Specific Incidents

5.1 Pregnant Schoolchildren

5.1.1 Numbers by Academic Year

No. by Academic Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
No. of Pregnant Schoolchildren*	1	1	2

*As numbers are so small, there are too few to report termly.

5.2 Electively Home Educated Pupils

5.2.1 Total Number of EHE Pupils

	PLASC January 2022 No.	PLASC January 2021	PLASC January 2020 No.
Children electively home educated in BG	132	89	70
Children electively home educated in Wales (mean average)	197	180	132

5.2.2 The table below sets out the number of secondary age pupils who have become EHE or who have returned to school from being EHE during the summer, autumn, spring and summer terms.

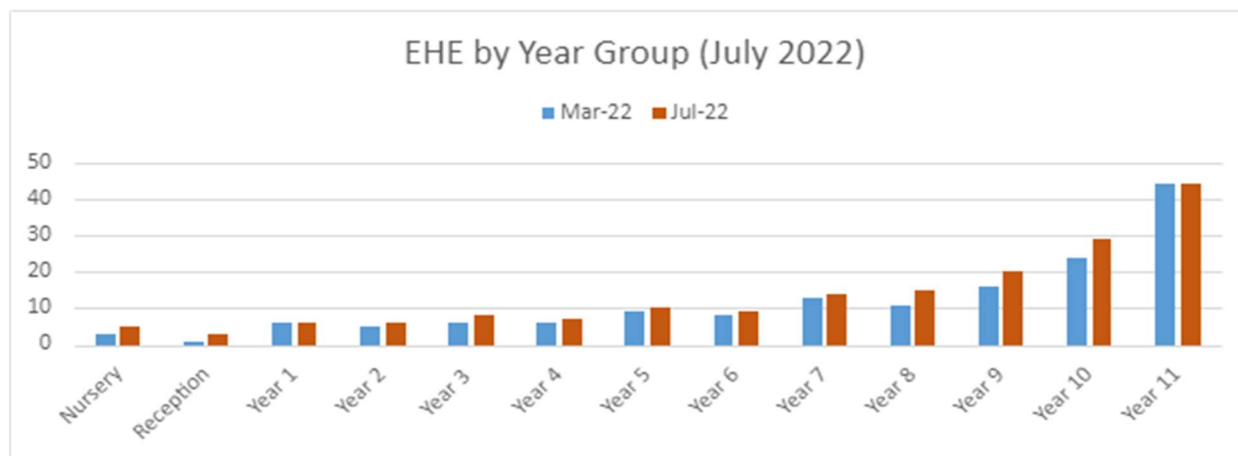
Month	School 1		School 2		School 3		School 4	
	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In
Apl – Jul 2021	3	0	1	0	3	2	3	0
Sept - Dec 2021	4		5	1	6		3	
Jan - Mar 2022	7	2	1		4		0	
Apr - Jul 2022	2	0	5	0	3	0	2	0
Total	16	2	12	1	16	2	8	0

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5.2.3 The table below sets out the number of additional pupils who have become EHE or who have returned to school from being EHE during the summer, autumn, spring and summer terms.

Month	Primary		College		Did not transition		Moved into/out of Borough (including BG pupils that were in OOC schools)		School place unavailable		Special School	
	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In
Apl – Jul 2021	7	1			1		6					
Sept - Dec 2021	5	9			1		11				1	
Jan - Mar 2022	2	2					7				1	
Apr - Jul 2022	7	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Total	21	12	0	0	2	0	31	0	0	0	2	

5.2.4 EHE Breakdown per year group



*Please note that all year 11 pupils are removed on the last Friday of June when they end compulsory school education.

5.3 Children Missing in Education

5.3.1 Referrals

No. of CMIE Referrals	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
CMIE in to BG	3	3	5
CMIE out of BG	11	10	12

5.3.2 Number of Children Missing

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Children Missing	14	13	17

5.4 Youth Offending Referrals

5.4.1 Number of children accessing the Service

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No of Schoolchildren accessing YOS	23	34	32

5.4.2 YOS pupil Placement by Setting and Access

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Access			
FT	14	34	30
PT	3	0	3
Setting			
EHE	0	0	0
Special Schools	5	9	5
Mainstream - Primary	1	4	4
Mainstream - Secondary	11	21	23
Employed	3	0	0
NEET	3	0	0

5.4.3 REACH Interventions

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Prevention Programme	5	16	19
Community Resolution	12	13	10
Youth Caution	0	1	0
Youth Conditional Caution	1	2	1
Referral Order	2	2	2
Youth Rehabilitation Order	2	0	0
Remanded in Custody	1	0	0
Detained	0	0	0

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5.5 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Data recorded in Quarters due to the team working through the summer.

5.5.1 Number, Age and Gender of Children Identified and Managed through Community Safety Team

	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q1
	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	22-23	22-23	22-23
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
No. of Schoolchildren Identified and Managed through CS Team	16	10	26	9	6	15	10	4	14

Age of Schoolchildren Identified and Managed through the CS Team	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q1
	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	21-22	22-23	22-23	22-23
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Primary Aged Pupils	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Secondary Pupils Aged 11-14	10	9	19	4	2	6	3	4	7
Secondary Pupils Aged 14-16	4	1	5	5	4	9	7	0	7
Total	16	10	26	9	6	15	10	4	14

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5.5.2 Types of ASB Incidents

Incident	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Q4 21-22	Q1 22-23
Nuisance behaviour – part of a group	15	28	24	4	3
Setting fires – part of a group	2	7	0	6	4
Swearing	2	1	0	0	0
Possession of alcohol	1	0	0	0	0
Inappropriate use of an electric scooter	0	1	0	0	0
Trespass in a derelict building	0	4	0	0	0
Verbally abusive	0	4	0	3	0
No. of Individuals	20	45	24	13	6

NB Arson is treated as criminal not ASB

5.5.3 Warning Letters Issued

	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Q4 21-22	Q1 22-23
No of Warning Letters Issued					
1st Strike	19	43	24	13	6
2nd Strike	1	2	0	0	1
Strike 3 (multi-agency ASB Case Management Group)	4	3	2	2	7
Strike 4 (multi-agency ASB Case Management Group)	0	0	0	0	0

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5.5.4 Cases by Agency to demonstrate Co-ordinated Intervention

Cases by Agency (involved in cases discussed at Strike 3 (multi-agency meeting))	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Q4 21-22	Q1 22-23
Youth Offending Service	1	2	1	1	4
Social Services	0	2	1	1	6
Families First	0	2	0	1	1
CAMHS	0	1	1	0	0
Youth Services	0	0	1	2	3
Registered Social Landlord	0	5	0	2	3
NxtGen Project	0	0	1	0	0
Fire Intervention Service	2	0	0	0	0

5.6 Child Employment

5.6.1 Number of Permits Issued

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Permits Issued	4	0	2

5.6.2 Number of Investigations relating to Illegal Child Employment Activities

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Illegal Child Employment Activities	0	1	2

5.7 Child Performances

5.7.1 Number of Licences Issued to Children and Chaperones

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Licences Issues to Children and Chaperones	4	20	56
No of licences for chaperones	20	18	5
Body of persons approvals - group licences	10	6	7

5.7.2 Number of Chaperones attending Training

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Chaperones	20	18	5
No of Chaperones attending Training	29	24	15

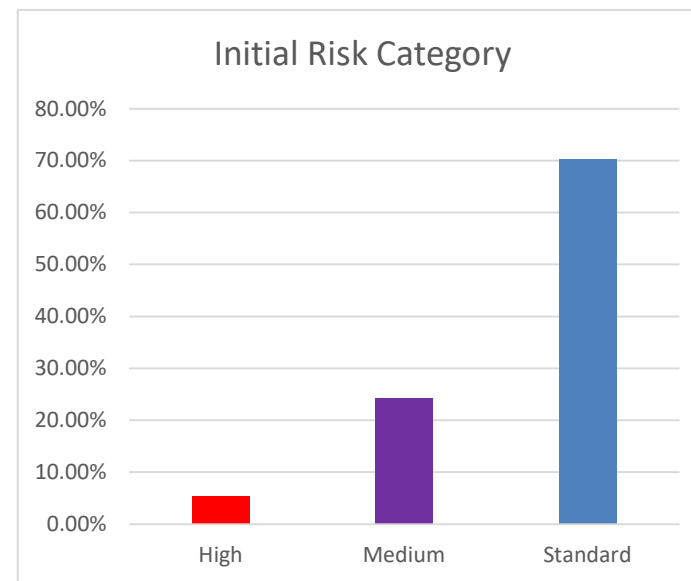
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5.8 Operation Encompass

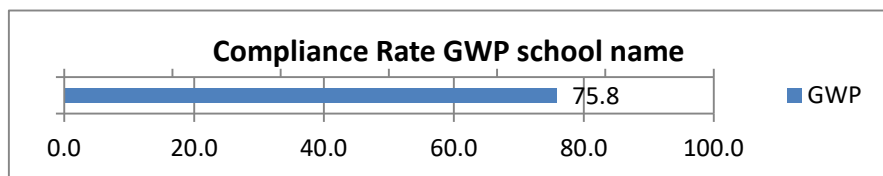
5.8.1 Number of Incidents in Period and Repeat Incidents

Term	Occurrences	CYP	Repeat Incidents
Autumn 2021	265	330	22.40%
Spring 2022	211	266	24.10%
Summer 2022	246	333	21%

5.8.2 Risk Level



5.8.3 % Compliance by Police



5.8.4 Comparative Data

	Spring 2021	Summer 2021	Autumn 2022	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
No. of Occurrences	296	141	265	211	246
No. of Children and Young People Involved	371	185	330	266	333
Average No. of CYP per Occurrence	1.25	1.31	1.25	1.26	1.35

5.9 Attendance

5.9.1 Primary and Secondary Attendance

	Autumn 2020	Spring 2021	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Primary Attendance	88.4	89.6	89.9	89.3	89.3	89.0
Secondary Attendance	84.3	83.0	84.8	85.3	85.3	84.8

5.9.2 Low Attendance and Implementation of Neglect Policy

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Fixed penalties	0	0	2
Single Justice Process	5	0	6
Court Notices	0	3	0

5.10 Exclusions

5.10.1 Exclusions by Setting and Type

	Autumn 21			Spring 22			Summer 22		
	No. Fixed	Average No. of Days	Permanent	Fixed	Average No. of Days	Permanent	Fixed	Average No. of Days	Permanent
Primary	32	1.8		30	2.1		25	2.4	
Secondary	228	1.6	3	323	1.8	3	193	1.4	
Special	23	2.0		5	1		12	1.1	
Total	283	1.5		358	1.8		230	1.5	

5.10.2 Exclusions Linked to Bullying

	Autumn 21		Spring 22		Summer 22	
	Fixed	Permanent	Fixed	Permanent	Fixed	Permanent
Primary	0		0		0	
Secondary	0		2		1	
Special	0		0		0	

5.10.3 Pupils with Multiple Exclusions

No of Exclusions	Autumn 21			Spring 22			Summer 22		
	No. Pupils	No of Exclusions	Average No. of Days	No. Pupils	No of Exclusions	Average No. of Days	No. Pupils	No of Exclusions	Average No. of Days
1	95	95	1.9	137	137	1.8	91	91	1.3
2	30	59	1.3	42	84	1.4	13	26	2.9
3	10	30	1.3	15	45	1.8	8	24	5.5
4	9	36	1.7	11	44	2.7	6	24	4.9
5	2	10	1.0	7	35	1.2	8	40	8.1
6+	8	53	1.8	2	13	2.5	4	25	10.4
Total	154	283	1.6	214	358	1.8	130	230	1.5

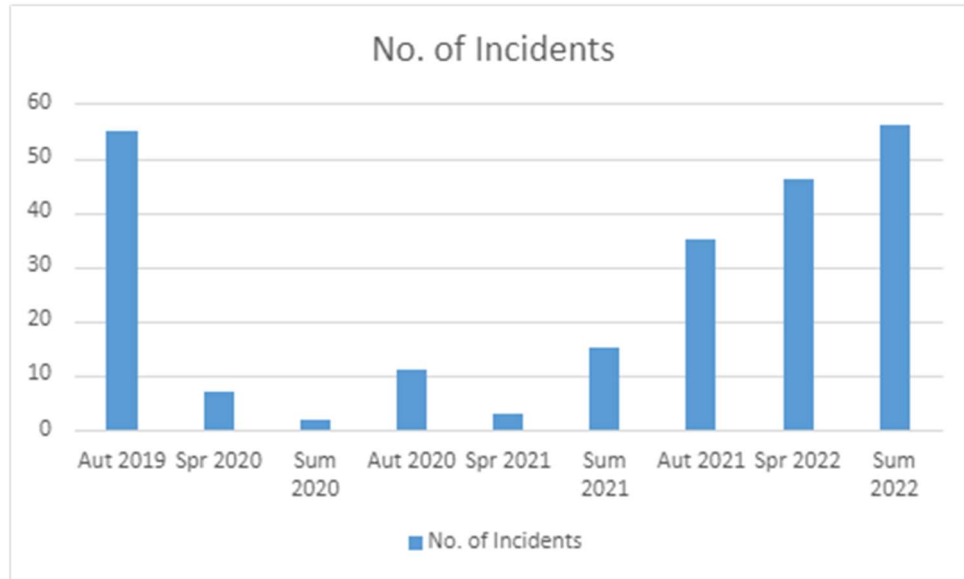
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5.11 RPI Incidents

5.11.1 Number of RPI Incidents by Setting

<u>School</u>	<u>Number of incidents</u>
Special schools	55
Mainstream schools	0

5.11.2 RPI Trends



5.12 Racial Incidents and Bullying

5.12.1 Bullying Incidents (Rights Respect Equality returns)

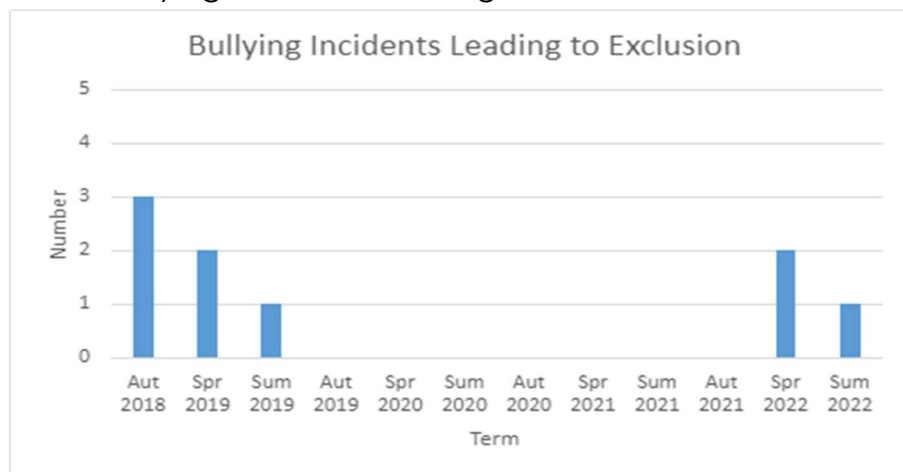
Spring Term 2022	
No of Schools submitting	22
No of schools submitting positive returns	5
No of incidents	27
No of Pupils involved	30

5.12.2 Bullying incidents by Setting

Spring Term 2022	
Top categories of reasons for bullying	
	Total
Verbal	8
Appearance	6
Physical	5
Homophobic	4

5.13 Bullying

5.13.1 Bullying incidents leading to exclusion



5.14 Sexual Harassment

5.14.1 Progress of the Peer on Peer Sexual Harassment Action Plan

This is a Data Development Item – please see report item 6.5.24

5.15 Safer Schools

5.15.1 Number of Safer Schools Tactical Meetings called under the Crime & Disorder Act

	Summer 22
No of Issues	1

5.15.2 Issues that hit the trigger for Safer Schools e.g. Criminal Exploitation, Violence, Threat to kill/of serious harm, Use of weapons

	Summer 22
No of Issues that hit the trigger for Safer Schools	1

5.16 Trips and Visits

5.16.1 Overview of Trips and Levels of Compliance

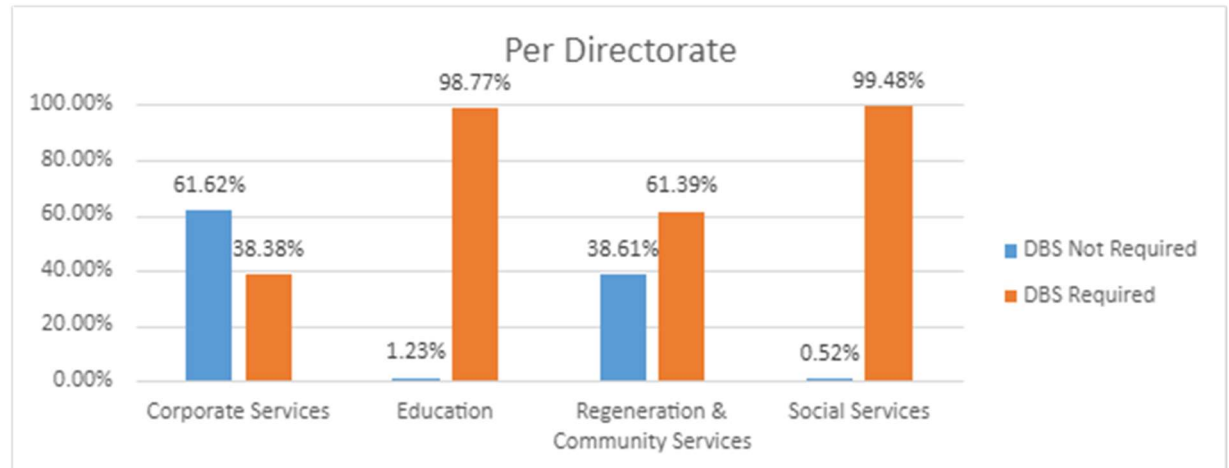
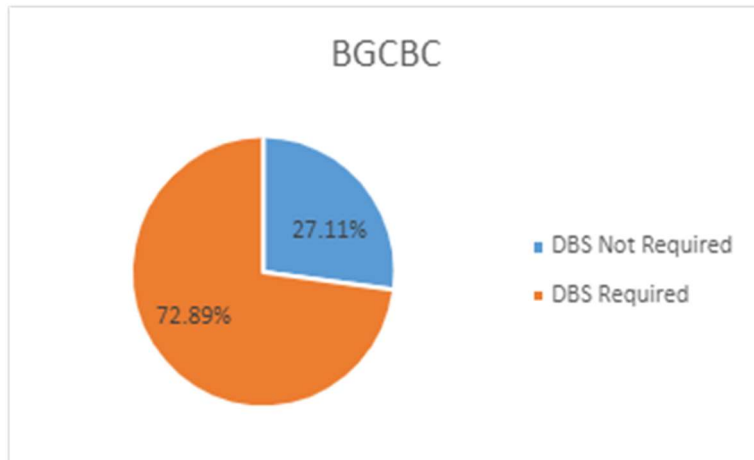
No. of Compliant Trips	Aut 21	Spr 22	Summ 22
All Schools	880	719	1105
% Compliance to policy	100%	100%	100%

6.1 DBS Compliance

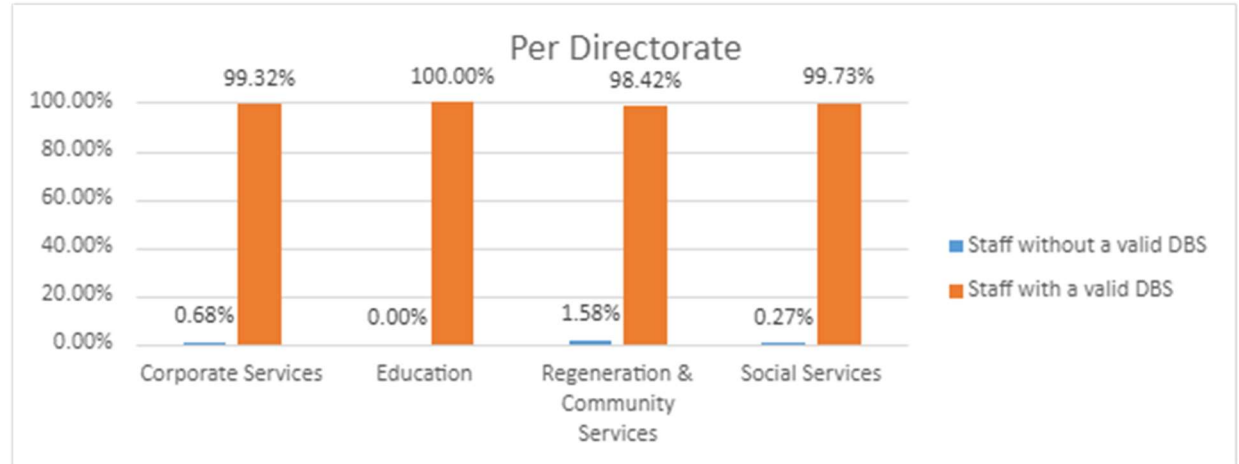
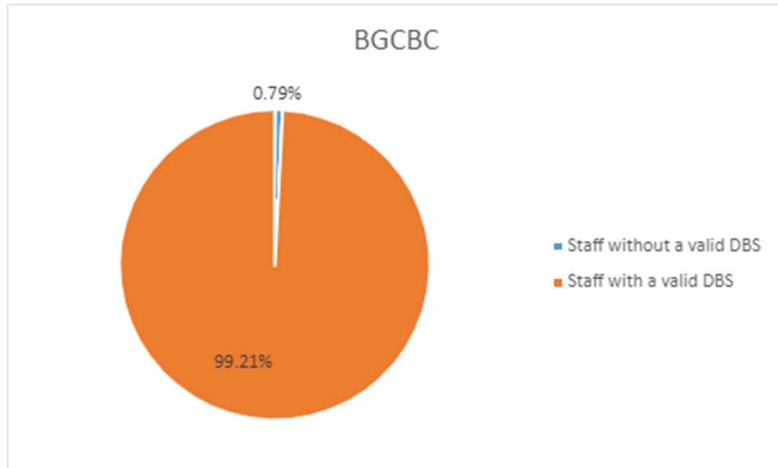
Managers are required to identify the requirement of a DBS check utilising the eligibility criteria, all DBS checks are renewed on a 3 yearly basis. Organisational Development co-ordinates this DBS process for new starters and 3 yearly rolling programme along with monitoring the compliance of these checks and we have formal escalation processes in place. The updates on the compliance with DBS are provided annually to Corporate Leadership Team but monitoring and escalation continues on a regular basis.

The latest submission to CLT was in April 2022 and is shown below:

6.1.1 Position Statement: Breakdown of Positions that require a DBS Check as at 31st March 2022



6.1.2 Breakdown of those employees in compliance with DBS requirements as at 31st March 2022



Escalation Process

Employees and Managers receive automated e-mails from the DBS system reminding that the process has not been completed.

Operational Teams receive fortnightly reports of all DBS applications currently in progress to enable Safeguarding escalation where required

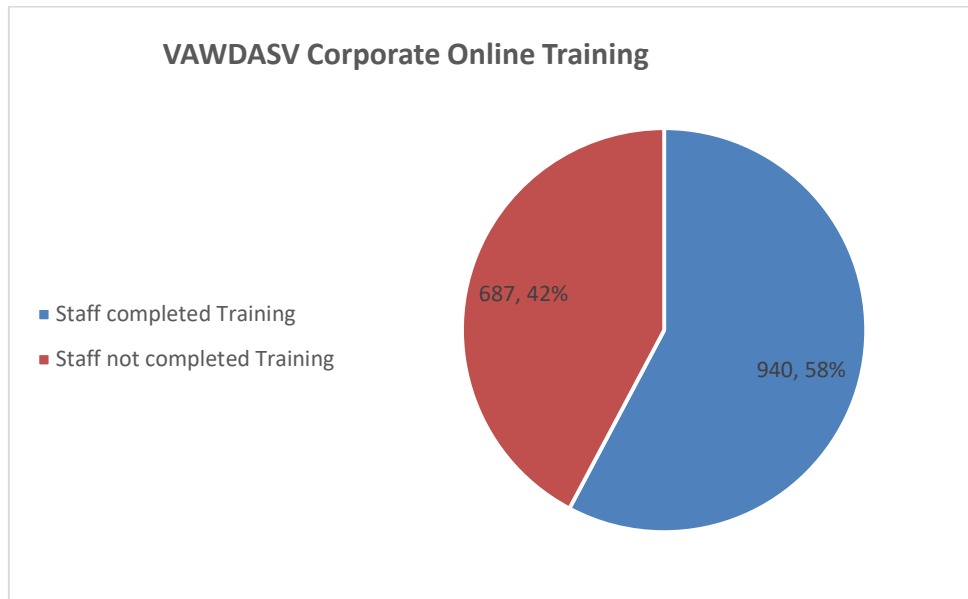
6.2 VAWDASV Corporate Training Online

Corporate Training

Domestic abuse Training

Corporate training has been provided to staff in respect of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence with **58%** of staff having **completed** the **VAWDAS online training**.

6.2.1 VAWDASV Corporate



All Wales Safeguarding Training on line for staff

Online Safeguarding training was included in the online corporate induction module in 2019.

In terms of the wider workforce a suitable module is currently being evaluated by the corporate Safeguarding group which has been delayed due to the impact of the pandemic.

6.3 Risk Register

Ref No.	Description of Risk	Triggers	Consequences	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Current Controls	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Proposed further controls to mitigate / reduce risk	Risk Owner
CRR4	Safeguarding - Failure to ensure adequate safeguarding arrangements are in place for vulnerable people in Blaenau Gwent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is inadequate assessments and monitoring • If there is a lack of documentation • If there are increasing referrals for services • If there is a lack of appropriate guidance and training • If there is poor communication between all parties (internal / external) • If there is a high turnover of staff and difficulties in recruiting staff. *If there are increased levels of sickness in key areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential significant harm / loss of life • Long term reputational damage and confidence in the Council undermined • Increase in complaints / Potential litigation / prosecution • External intervention • Increased pressure on budgets • Low staff morale 	3	4	Critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwent Adult Safeguarding Board • SE Wales Safeguarding Children's Board • Standing item on CMT agenda • Safeguarding Network • Director of Social Services has a corporate responsibility for safeguarding • Lead Executive Member identified for safeguarding • Adult protection co-ordinator and process in place in line with All Wales process. • Manager's report consistently on safeguarding to elected Members and the Corporate Leadership Team • Joint Education and Social Services Safeguarding Team • Joint Social Services and Education Safeguarding scrutiny meeting held 3 times a year • Joint Business unit and subgroups for adults and children • Quality assurance processes embedded in adult safeguarding • Corporate Safeguarding Leads established for each directorate. • Staff induction contains safeguarding training • Corporate Safeguarding Training Programme in place. • Corporate Safeguarding Policy updated 	2	4	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Plans will further embed risk assessment tools • Training for all staff on Domestic Abuse Corporately in progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of Social Services Director of Education Councillor Haydn Trollope

Progress Update as at Quarter 1 (April – June 2022)

Social Services - Vacancy rates are improving which was anticipated. Staff turnover is still an issue, this has affected the number of experienced staff in post. There is a robust induction programme for newly qualified staff and for staff that started during COVID. Induction programme covers basic training on all aspects of social work tasks.

Education – During the period there was a critical incident in one of the schools involving an alleged racist incident that continues to be investigated by the police. An overview of schools’ self-evaluation returns identified one school with significant areas to be addressed which is presently a SCC. implementation of MyConcern has continued to progress and work is ongoing with schools with one school yet to sign up to using this software.

There remains an invariable link to the risks identified in Social Services. The risk level remains unchanged.

6.4 Regulatory Proposals

88	WAO	Follow-up review of Corporate Arrangements for the Safeguarding of Children Document Reference: 1521A2019-20	01/10/2019	<p>1. Corporate Safeguarding Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Policy • Update the structure • Include updated information from the All Wales Policy • When adopted in April 2020, include information from the All Wales Safeguarding Procedures <p>Completion Date April 2020</p>	Alison Ramshaw (Corporate Safeguarding Group) T1 Families First, IAA 14+ and Safeguarding	Social Services	The Corporate Safeguarding Leads mtg were on hold during the first stage of the pandemic but reconvened during the latter part of the year. The chair of the CSL group wrote a report to CLT and the Audit Committee seeking approval to extend the completion dates of the WAO Safeguarding Review recommendations as the pandemic meant that no progress could be made. Extended dates were agreed and a further 12 months was approved. Work was completed on the updating of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy and a Corporate Safeguarding Training Framework has been developed. Both pieces of work are currently awaiting CLT approval prior to implementation. The Wales Safeguarding App is available to all those staff who have a works mobile and communications have gone out to alert those staff without a works mobile of the App which is available to all via Google search engine. Lead officers with responsibility for safeguarding are still to be identified
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