

# BRIEFING

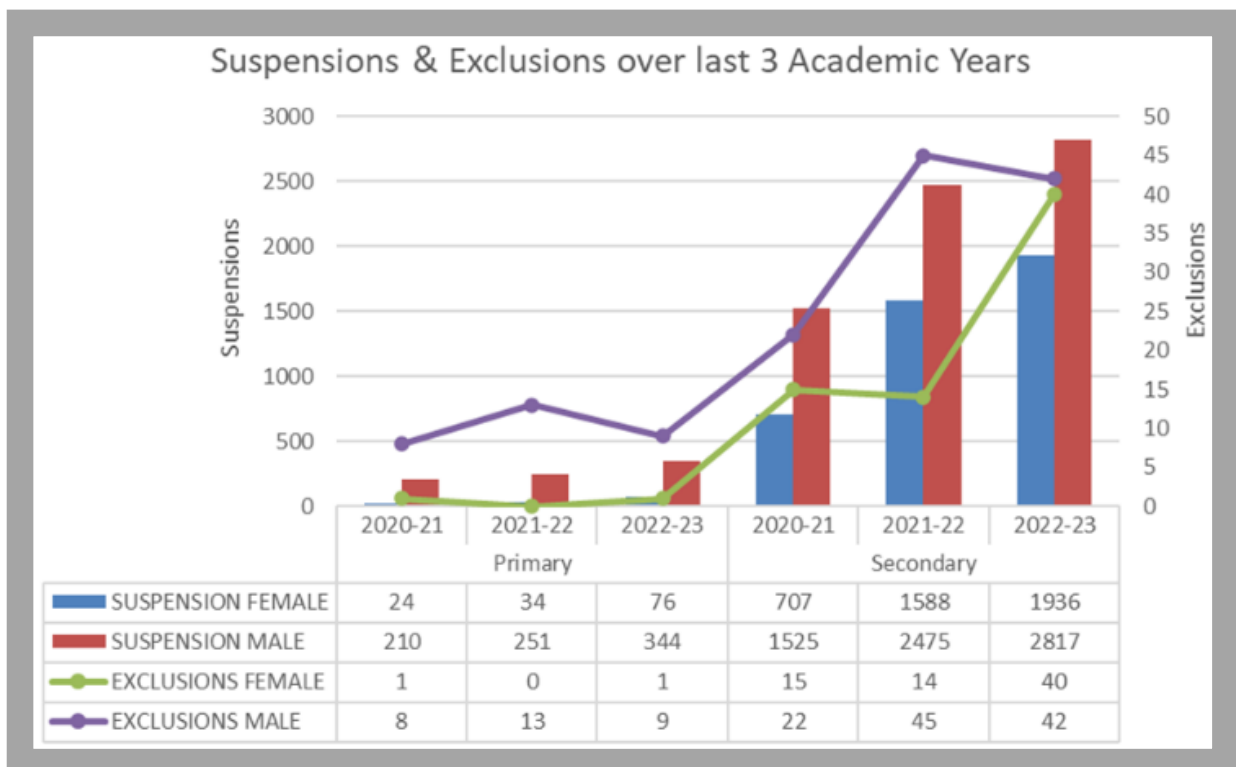
<b>TO:</b>	Schools' Forum
<b>DATE:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	Kelly Crompton CYPS
<b>TITLE:</b>	Exclusions, Suspensions and PRU data

## 1. Background

- 1.1** This paper has been prepared following a request from Schools' Forum to provide;
- Data for permanent exclusions and suspensions in area for secondary and primary;
  - PRU Numbers, including children transitioning in and out.
- 1.2** This data is key to understanding the context and needs of our most vulnerable pupils in borough and the current support available for them as well as ensuring capacity to meet future needs.

## 2. Key Issues

- 2.1** 3-year data shows a rise in permanent exclusions and suspensions across Rotherham's secondary phase and a rise in suspensions in the primary phase.



- 2.2** The rise in permanent exclusions and suspensions has continued into 2023-24, with data for the Autumn and Spring terms indicating an increase for both. Permanent exclusions at KS3 in particular have led to a swift rise in class sizes within the PRU and

consequently eradicated capacity to support proactive and preventative placements. (data taken on 8/4/24 and subject to increase in the event of late notifications from schools)

Term	School Phase	2023/24							2022/23						
		All Exclusions		Fixed Exclusions			Permanent Exclusions		All Exclusions		Fixed Exclusions			Permanent Exclusions	
		No. of Exclusions	No. of Pupils	No. of Exclusions	No. of Days	No. of Pupils	No. of Exclusions	No. of Pupils	No. of Exclusions	No. of Pupils	No. of Exclusions	No. of Days	No. of Pupils	No. of Exclusions	No. of Pupils
AUT	Primary	159	89	153	350.0	87	6	6	143	82	142	293.5	82	1	1
	Secondary	2236	1082	2191	4602.0	1066	45	45	1650	815	1618	3761.5	805	32	32
	Term Total	2395	1171	2344	4952.0	1153	51	51	1793	897	1760	4055.0	887	33	33
SPR	Primary	107	77	102	215.5	74	5	5	132	84	127	230.0	83	5	5
	Secondary	1571	869	1542	3101.0	854	29	29	1677	844	1649	3737.5	838	28	28
	Term Total	1678	946	1644	3316.5	928	34	34	1809	928	1776	3967.5	921	33	33
SUM	Primary	0	0			0		0	156	94	152	282.5	92	4	4
	Secondary	0	0			0		0	1536	836	1514	3152.5	825	22	22
	Term Total	0	0			0		0	1692	930	1666	3435.0	917	26	26
Totals		4073	1588	3988	8268.5	1566	85	85	5294	1755	5202	11457.5	1738	92	91

**2.3** Vulnerable children are disproportionately affected by exclusion and suspension in Rotherham.

- Free School Meals- 61% of suspensions and 66% of permanent exclusions are for FSM eligible children (29.1% across whole Borough)
- 57% of suspensions and 56% of permanent exclusions issued are for children with SEND- EHCP or SEN K (21.6% SEND population in Borough schools)

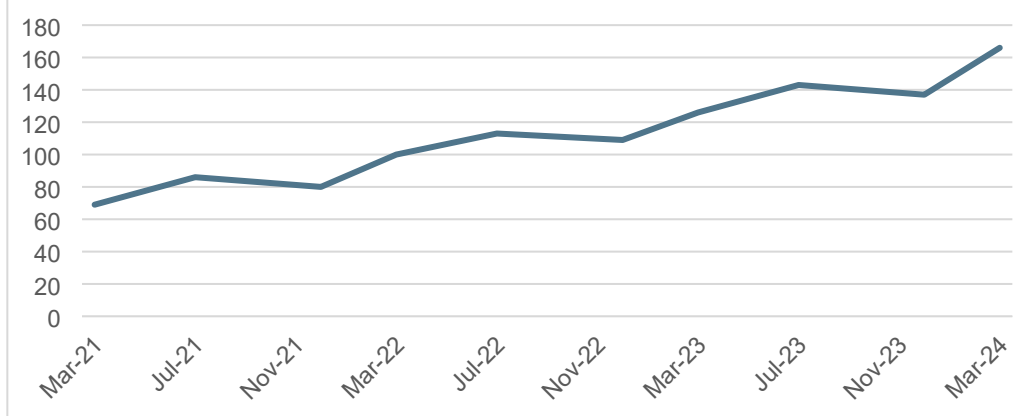
**2.4** The majority of pupils placed at Aspire are following a permanent exclusion. A smaller number are placed through Fair Access when they move into the Borough having had a previous permanent exclusion in another area, or with a profile of need indicating risks that are not manageable within a mainstream setting.

**Pupil routes into Aspire PRU January 2024**

	Route into Aspire			Total
	Catcliffe	Hutton Park	Rawmarsh	
PX Partnership	27	57	31	115
Partnership	1	0	5	6
FAP	1	2	4	7
PX Primary	0	1	14	15
Primary	0	0	0	0
Commission Sec	0	0	0	0
OOA	1	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>145</b>

**2.5** Placements in Aspire are always anticipated to increase over the course of an academic year in line with exclusions, however there is a year on year increase in the number of children placed within the PRU.

Aspire pupil numbers



2.6

There is not a strong pattern of children returning to school following a permanent exclusion and the presumption for children remaining in Aspire means that they are not appropriately placed long term. Realignment of the work of the exclusions workers, defining the process for return to mainstream and the review underway of the Fair Access Protocol will address this systems issue. 15 placements have been allocated through Fair Access thus far (data taken on 8/4/24) in the academic year 2023-24.

**Pupils transitioning from Aspire 2022 - 2023**

21 pupils  
38% to mainstream

**Pupils transitioning from Aspire 2023 – 2024**

30 pupils  
23% to mainstream

**3. Key Actions and Timelines**

- 3.1 LEAF Centre, Primary and Secondary Outreach have strong accountability to ensure the service meets the needs of the pupils and schools they are supporting, through a termly collective review including leaders from each setting, commissioning, procurement and education inclusion. Termly review led by Kelly Crompton, Strategic Lead Inclusion and Alternative Provision.
- 3.2 Inclusion panels established to review and make recommendation for children at risk of Permanent Exclusion.
- 3.3 ASD outreach from Wales established September 2023, continuing to share awareness of support available and measure the impact of this.
- 3.4 Ongoing SEND Sufficiency programme to ensure sufficiency of specialist provision for children who require this.
- 3.5 Inclusion Events are held on a termly basis with keynote speakers from Ofsted, DfE and nationally recognised bodies of excellence, to share annual data, effective practice, national, regional and local updates and collaboration. Termly events facilitated by Kelly Crompton.
- 3.6 Realignment of work of the Exclusions workers, located in Access to Education, to promote schools seeking alternatives to exclusion. Implemented September 2023.

<p><b>3.7</b></p> <p><b>3.8</b></p> <p><b>3.9</b></p> <p><b>3.10</b></p> <p><b>3.11</b></p> <p><b>3.12</b></p> <p><b>3.13</b></p>	<p>Review of Inclusion Panels to ensure that all children permanently excluded from school have a collective onward placement agreed to support a timely return to mainstream education. Implemented September 2023.</p> <p>Establishment of monthly review with PRU to identify children requiring return to mainstream or specialist provision and agreed the appropriate route for this to happen through determined pathways.</p> <p>Pilot programme with Youth Justice Service to mentor KS3 females with identified online risk factors 2024 roll out, Kelly Crompton and Zulfiqar Shaffi to lead.</p> <p>Pilot programme with CAMHS Virtual Reality counselling for pupils aged 13 onwards 2023 – 2024. Kelly Crompton and Leana Gater to lead</p> <p>Inclusion of Emotional Readiness for Learning programme from Specialist Inclusion Team (12 week support) following successful learning taken from Team Around School project 2022. Kelly Parkin to lead</p> <p>Review of the Fair Access Protocol to ensure vulnerable children, including those permanently excluded and requiring reintegration from the PRU, are effectively served through this route. February- June 2024.</p> <p>Further refinement of Schools Inclusion Scorecard in order to share key metrics with schools, alongside establishment of Education Assurance Board via Education SMT. April 2024.</p>
<p><b>4. Recommendations</b></p>	
<p><b>4.1</b></p>	<p>Schools' Forum to note the content of this briefing.</p>