

## Education Scrutiny Committee – 03 December 2015

### Permanent Exclusions in Oxfordshire Schools 2014-15

#### Background

This report sets out in summary the data on permanent exclusions for 2014/5 in schools in Oxfordshire. It indicates that actions are set out both in the Education Plan 2015-18 and in more detail the Equity and Excellence in Education strategy, to be discussed on the same agenda.

#### Summary

- Permanent exclusions increased in 2014/15 to 53 from a recent declining trend
- Permanent exclusions for secondary school aged students increased from 20 in 2013/14 to 45 in 2014/15, for primary aged pupils they declined from 10 to 8
- There were indications that there may be a trend towards younger aged pupils being permanently excluded
- Schools who have exhibited high permanent exclusion rates have been asked to account for their decisions by the DCS
- Reducing permanent exclusions is a high priority in the education plan 2015-18.

#### Provision for those permanently excluded

The School Admissions Code requires every local authority to have in place a Fair Access Protocol. The Fair Access Protocol for Oxfordshire applies to all state funded mainstream schools.

There are four area-based In Year Fair Access Panels (IYFAP) in Oxfordshire which operate under an agreed protocol. The purpose of the Fair Access Protocol is to ensure that outside the normal admissions round unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are found and offered a place quickly, so that the amount of time any child is out of school is kept to the minimum.

#### Data for 2014-15

Of the 53 Permanent Exclusions:

- 11 were female, 42 male
- 74% had some identified special educational need
  - 3 had a statement of special education need
- 85% were excluded when secondary aged
  - All the females were in years 8, 9 or 10
- 44 were of white British heritage, including all the females.
- Permanent exclusion occurred most commonly in the two summer terms,
  - Autumn 13, Spring 16, Summer 24

#### The reasons for exclusion were:

Drug and alcohol related	5
Persistent disruptive behaviour	16

Physical assault against adult	8
Physical assault against pupil	7
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour to an adult	13
Verbal abuse or threatening behaviour to a pupil	4

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