

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

5 JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE MISSING EDUCATION

1. Purpose of Report

For Cabinet to consider and agree revised guidance for Schools and other partner agencies linked with children and young people missing education.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

This report relates to the Corporate Improvement Plan priorities:-

- Supporting a successful economy
- Helping people to become more self-reliant
- Smarter use of resources

3. Background

Section 4 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on all Local Education Authorities requiring that they make arrangements to enable them to establish (so far as it is possible to do so) the 'identities of children in their area who are not registered at school and are not receiving a suitable education'.

This statutory guidance sets key principles to enable local authorities in Wales to implement their legal duty to identify, as far as it is possible to do so, children missing education (CME) and get them back into education. The School and other Partner Agencies must have robust procedures and policies in place to enable them to meet their duty in relation to these children.

The purpose of the guidance is to provide advice and make recommendations as to how to meet the standards. It sets out arrangements for local authorities that will enable them to establish the identities of children residing in their area who are not receiving a suitable education. It intends to promote equality of access to education, and reduce the risk of learners going missing from the education system, by identifying and supporting vulnerable groups of children and young people and ensuring effective interventions at an early stage. To identify them was only part of the task - to secure placement in appropriate provision was and is an equally important element.

4. Current situation / proposal

Bridgend has reviewed its guidance and has attached revised guidance (see Appendix 1) for Cabinet approval.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

None

6. Equality Impact Assessment

An initial screening has been undertaken and it identifies that no equality group will be adversely affected.

7. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications regarding this report as the guidance will be implemented within existing resources.

8. Recommendation

That Cabinet agree the revised guidance.

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Background documents

Children Missing Education Policy