## Children's Services

**Director: Edwina Grant** 

Seasonal = Compared To The Same Time In The Previous Year Qtr on Qtr = Compared To Previous Qtr Annual = Compared To A Fixed Point In Previous Year

Indicators	NfER Statistical Neighbours	Unit	Good is	Outturn 09/10	Quarter 1 Apr -Jun	Quarter 2 Jul - Sept	Quarter 3 Oct - Dec	Quarter 4 Jan - Mar	Trend Comparison	Outturn 10/11	Performance Judgement (Q compared with Q)	Target 10/11	Comments
NI 59 - The percentage of initial assessments within seven working days of referral	59.0%	%	High	86.7%	96.2%	95.0%	95.1%	99.6%	Qtr on Qtr	95.7%	ÛG	85.0%	Initial assessments are an important indicator of how quickly services can respond and assess the circumstances of a child thought to be at risk of serious harm or in need of social care intervention. As the assessments involve a range of local agencies, this indicator also shows how well multi-agency working arrangements are established in local authority areas given the service has seven working days to complete them. Performance remains above target.
NI 62 - The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year	11.7%	%	Low	9.2%	1.1%	2.3%	4.1%	5.7%	Seasonal	5.7%	ÛG	10.0%	Performance is very good. This indicator is an important measure of the stability of care placements that a child or young person has experienced. On the whole stability is associated with better outcomes – for example placement instability can negatively impact upon a child or young persons educational outcomes. Proper assessment of a child's needs and an adequate choice of placements are essential if appropriate stable placements are to be made. The services priority remains the recruitment and retention of carers.
NI 67 - The percentage of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed	94.4%	%	High	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Qtr on Qtr	100%	•G	100%	Reviews are a key element in ensuring that Child Protection Plans and effective interventions are monitored, reviewed and progressed as a means of ensuring children are safe and protected. As a result, delivering timely reviewing is a priority within the Conference and Review Service. The 100% target continues to be achieved.
NI 68 - The percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessments	61.3%	%	High	68.2%	53.1%	67.0%	58.6%	51.5%	Qtr on Qtr	56.2%	₽R	65.0%	This indicator is below target because of changes in recording procedures and systems. A significant increase in the number of referrals made to the service by partner agencies and members of the public has also contributed. 1574 initial assessments were completed this year, this is approximately a 30% increase compared to the year ending March 2010. This demonstrates that there is the capacity and ability to respond effectively to requests for social care intervention. The planned replacement of the Integrated Children's System client database, with improved recording practices should help to resolve these issues in future.

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Published Ofsted school and college classifications (new inspections in period shown in brackets)	-	No.		Total		To	tal			Total			There are 247 current inspection results for schools and colleges in Central Bedfordshire - this includes some schools that have two inspection outcomes, for example lower schools have an inspection outcome for Early Years as well as one for
				248 (57)	248 (22)	247 (9)	247 (13)	247 (18)		247 (62)	New -		
				Outstanding		Outsta	anding			Outstanding			the statutory age group. Inspections published within the reporting period e.g. Quarter 4, are shown in brackets.
				56 (10)	58 (3)	58 (2)	62 (5)	63 (1)	Qtr on Qtr	63 (11)			There have been eighteen reports published by the end of the reporting period. Over the year there has been an increase of schools judged to be outstanding. In this quarter, two schools currently have an Ofsted "Notice to Improve" – Mill Vale Middle School and Ashton Middle School (inspected 09/02/2011).  Mill Vale is showing some signs of improvement and impact in terms of a strengthened Senior Leadership Team and some improvement in teaching and learning. The priority now is to ensure that pupil progress data reflects the improvements in teaching and learning.  Ashton Middle School was given a Notice to Improve on 9th February 2011. In consultation with the Church of
				Good		Go	od			Good			
				140 (32)	145 (17)	145 (4)	137 (4)	132 (10)		132 (35)		-	
				Satisfactory		Satisf	actory			Satisfactory			
				51 (14)	43 (1)	42 (3)	46 (4)	50 (6)		50 (14)			
				Inadequate		Inadequate				Inadequate			England Diocese, a Local Authority Statement of Action and a school action plan have been drawn up identifying
				1 (1)	2 (1)	2 (0)	2 (0)	2 (1)		2 (2)			support from an Outstanding Church of England school and an additional community school.
NI 73 Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	75%	%	High	73%		-	-	-	Yr on Yr	-	●R	82%	Performance at Key Stage 2 remained the same as last year. Action is being taken to target key areas of improvement in Key Stage 2 and to support the transition midway through the Key Stage from lower to middle schools.
NI 75 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (Threshold)	58.6%	%	High	54.2%	-	-	-	-	Yr on Yr	-	ûΑ	56% (Academic Year 09/10)	Final results indicate that 54.2% of students at Key Stage 4 achieved 5A*-C including English and mathematics. This represents an improvement of 4% compared with 2009. These figures place Central Bedfordshire above the national average and improving faster than the national rate of improvement, but 4.4% below that for statistical neighbours (ranked 11 out of 11). Five schools are part of the second year of the national Gaining Ground programme. This gives access to extra support and challenge through additional School Improvement Partner (SIP) time, peer support from another school and some national programme support. Good progress is being made in developing use of data, improving the quality of learning and development of middle leadership.