The Virtual School Tutor Team

The Virtual School has three full-time tutors who are able to work alongside our most vulnerable children who are not accessing their entitlement to education

Reasons for Tutor intervention:

- Most commonly, tutors support students when there has been a breakdown in their living situation and they have moved away from their current education setting;

- The tutors also see a number of students who have been permanently excluded and are all experienced in working with students with a range of social, emotional and t behavioural problems;

- The tutors work closely with UASC (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children) who have recently come into the country and therefore have either not yet gained a school place or are being age assessed before an appropriate education setting can be identified;

- While younger students (primary and secondary) are typically given time off during the school holidays; work with the UASC students as well as with post-16 year olds who are not in education, employment or training continues. Tutors work alongside local training providers and colleges as well as transitions advisers to signpost post-16 students back into education or employment.

What is offered:

- The majority of the work undertaken is providing 1:1 education for each child that is temporarily out of education. The predominant focus is on Maths, English and Science but will also look at other subjects that each student likes in order to engage them as well as possible. The majority of work is with secondary age students but the tutors work across the age ranges including post-16, primary and EYFS;

- Before a tutoring programme commences, specifically designed, age-appropriate, initial-assessments are administered in order to ascertain working levels of each student and therefore enable the implementation of a student specific intervention that will best suit their needs;

- The desired outcome of the tutor’s work is always reintegration into education so we focus heavily on preparing students for their return to school and will then support each student closely during the transition process, this may include going into the education setting for a short-period of time and supporting in class;

- During the summer holidays enrichment support is offered, previous programmes have included a group specifically for UASC students in Cambridge and Peterborough which offered days out to experience places of interest in their local areas (such as museums, Peterborough Football Club and a Thoroughbred training yard in Newmarket).

If you have any queries about the role of the Virtual School Tutor team, please contact virtualschool@cambridgeshire.gov.uk