



Children Who
Go Missing
From Home
or Care

Service Improvement and Progress since 2019

Data – Partnership Definition and criteria

Appointment of a Partnership Data Analyst (Police)

Appointment of a LA Missing from Home
Co-ordinator

Daily Dynamic Meeting

Children in our Care – Independent Return to Home
Interview (all)

Sharing of intelligence - risk information gathering

DSCP – Strategic Child Exploitation Group - Governance

Membership includes Senior
Managers from across the Partnership

Expanded to include LGBTQ, SEND,
YOS etc

Task and Finish Sub-groups

Insight and Analysis

Contextualised Safeguarding

Performance

| | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Number of missing episodes (total) | 435 | 757 |
| Number of individual missing young people (total) | 156 | 312 |
| Number of missing episodes of Durham children looked after | 211 | 290 |
| Number of children who went missing who are our Durham children looked after | 51 | 73 |
| Offered RTHI (% of all episodes) | 385 (89%) | 743 (98%) |
| Accepted RTHI (% of all episodes) | 336 (77%) | 635 (84%) |
| Completed RTHI (% of those accepted) | 306 (79%) | 629 (99%) |

Covid Response

Minimal disruption in our service to children and families/carers

Creative ways of working – virtual – “talk and walk sessions”

Reduced drop out, promoted positive relationships and engagement

ERASE weekly dynamic meetings – all team members

Children of Concern – targeted work

2 x additional posts - covid money till March 2022

Learning from Audits and Inspections

ICCSA – Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

DSCP – Multi-agency audit – Return home interviews

Consistent use of the “Philomena protocol” for children looked after – at risk of going missing.

Increased completion of RTHI shared with Police

Clearer understanding and definition of when strategy meetings should be implemented for children who are missing.

Consistent use of language to describe risk and vulnerabilities of children who go missing from home or care.