

Somerset Youth Justice Team – Education and Turnaround



Somerset
Council

Aim of the presentation

To give an overview of the Turnaround Project
and the Education Inclusion Youth Justice Team
Manager role

Credentials

2006 – Curatorial Researcher – Empire and Commonwealth Museum Bristol

2007- Learning Coach in English Department

2008 – Teacher training

2009 – QTS

2010 – NQT passed

2011 – Head of Year 8

2013 – Head of Year 8,9,10

2014 – Assistant Head KS3

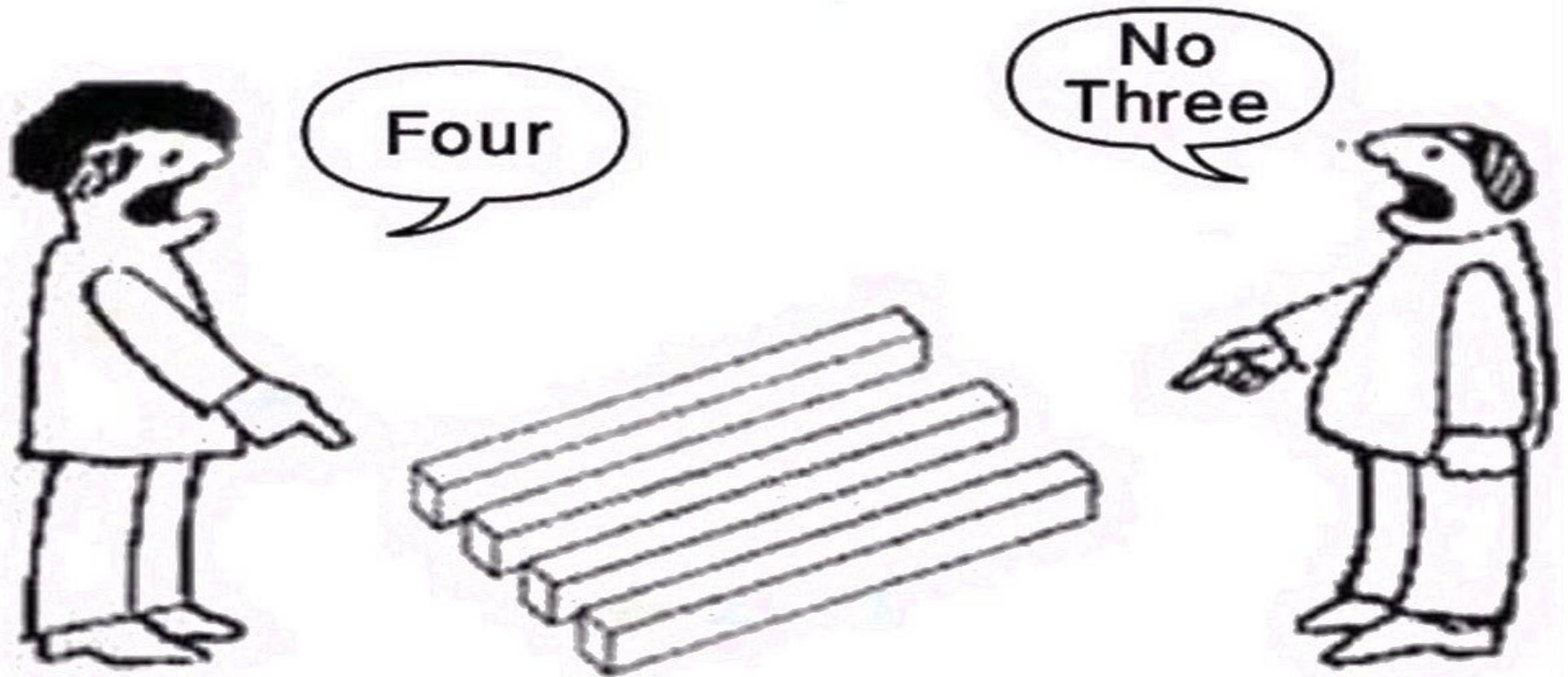
2016 – Assistant Head Behaviour (Secondment)

2017 – Deputy Head Behaviour

2021 – Deputy Head Inclusion, Safeguarding and Behaviour

2022- Joined FIS as Senior Professional Team Leader *Education Thematic Lead

It is really confusing!!!

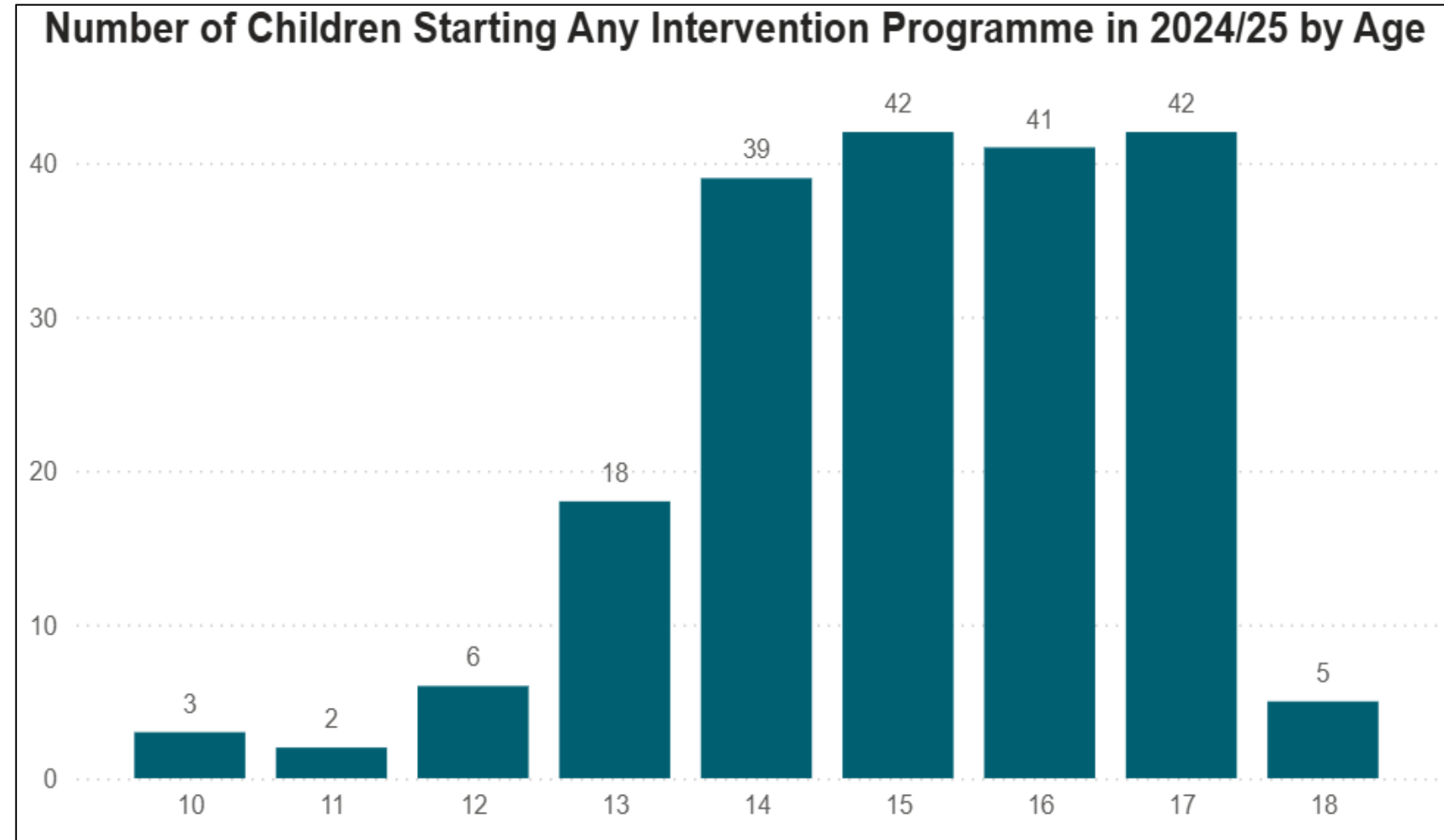


Demographics and disproportionality

- 198 children started an intervention programme with Somerset YJT in 24/25, with 78 starting a statutory programme
- The next slides look at:
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Ethnicity
 - Special education needs & disability (SEND)
 - Children's Risks of child exploitation

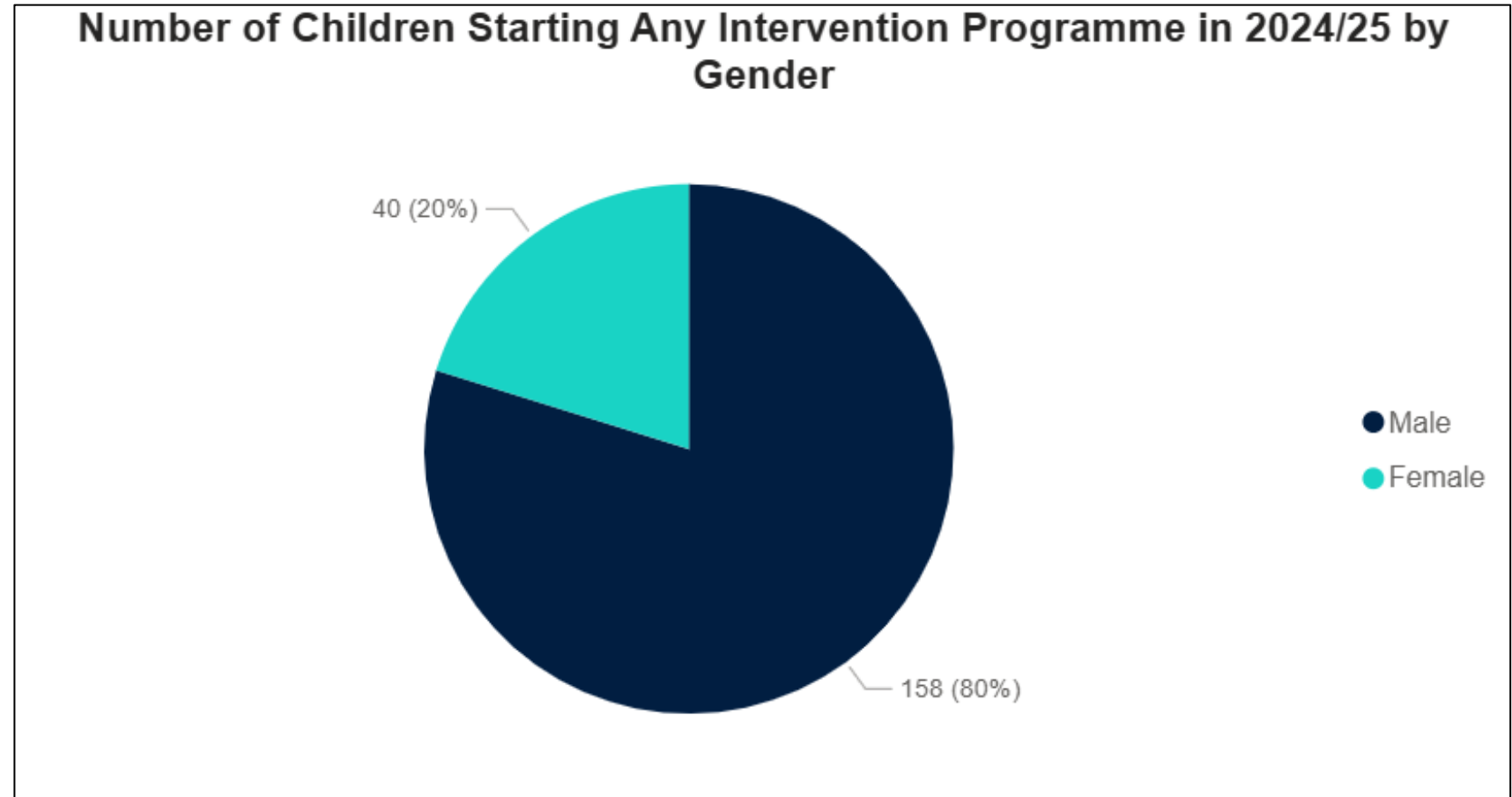
Age

- 34% children starting intervention programmes last year were aged 10-14



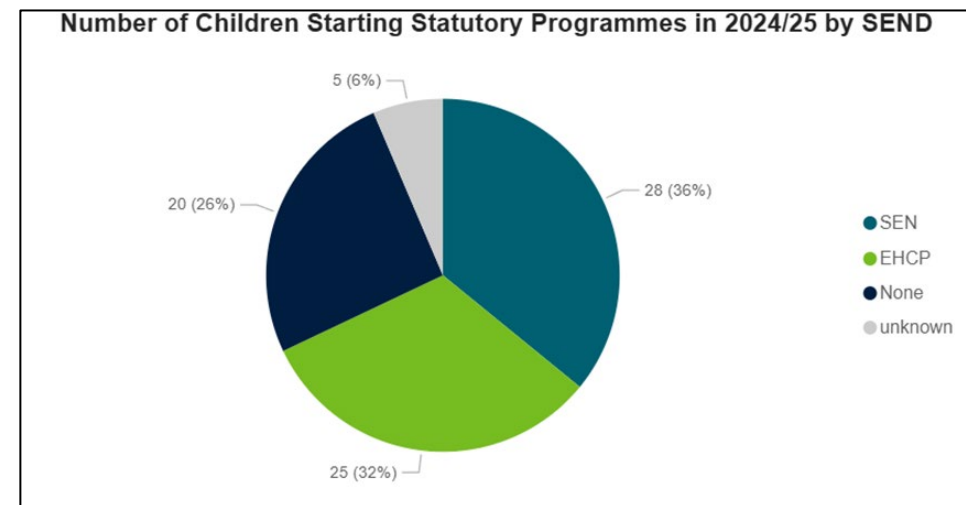
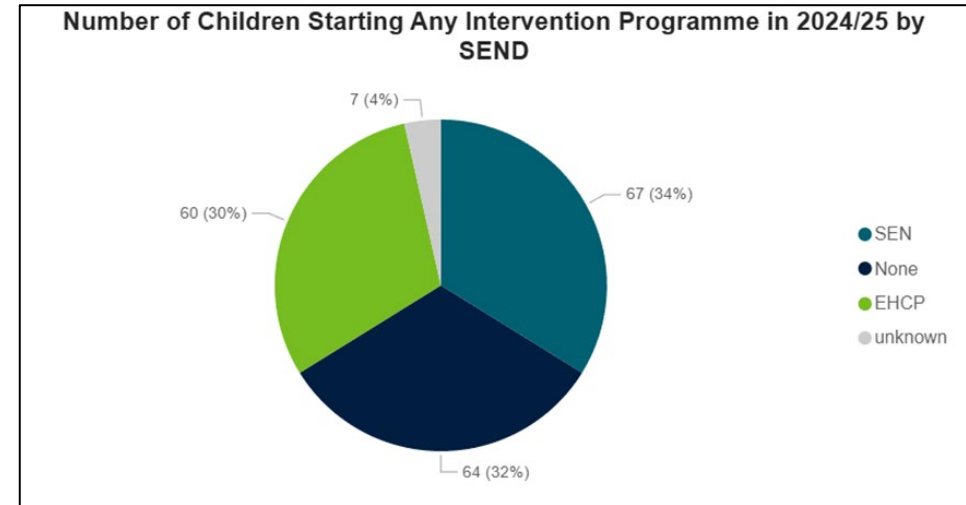
Gender

- 20% of children starting programmes in 24/25 are girls (19% for statutory programmes)
- This is higher than seen nationally



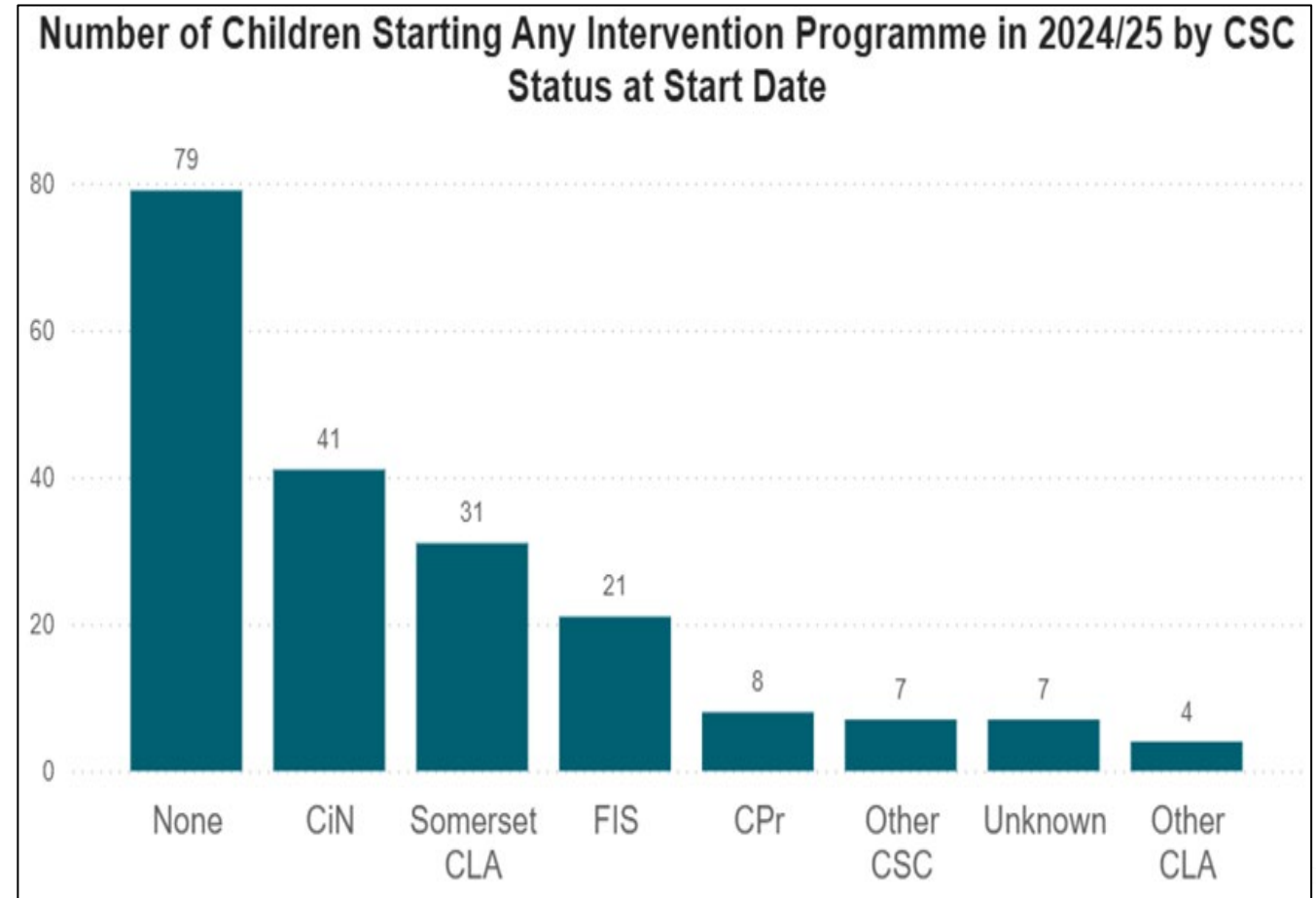
SEND

- The majority of children working with Somerset YJT have identified SEND, and a third have an EHCP in place
- Children with SEND are over-represented in the national Youth Justice System.



CSC involvement

- 57% children were involved with CSC or Early Help at the start of their most recent programme in 24/25
- This increases to 59% for children starting statutory programmes





Suspensions/Exclusions

Permanent Exclusions
This Academic Year

118

Students with a
Permanent Exclusion
This Academic Year

115

Suspensions This
Academic Year

6713

Students with a
Suspension This
Academic Year

2146

Rolling 12 Month
Permanent Exclusions

142

Rolling 12 Month
Students Permanently
Excluded

139

Rolling 12 Month
Suspensions

8466

Rolling 12 Month
Students Suspended

2551

Permanent Exclusions
2023/24

148

Students with a
Permanent Exclusion
2023/24

144

Suspensions 2023/24

12411

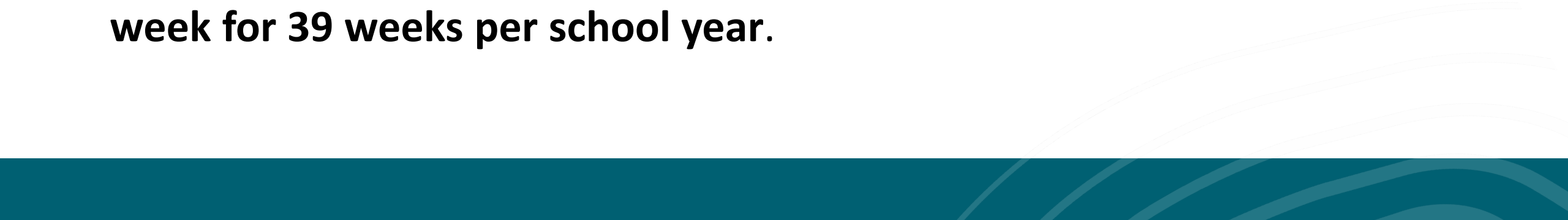
Students with a
Suspension 2023/24

3548

Education as part of SYJS

Under United Nations legislation, all children are entitled to an education; under Section 7 of the 1996 Education Act, it is the legal responsibility of parents to ensure that their children receive provision **suitable to their age and aptitude** (through enrolment at a school or by elective home education).

In England, **full-time education is generally defined as 25 hours per week for 39 weeks per school year.**




Education as part of SYJS

There are established links between low educational engagement and attainment and the risk of childhood offending.

Children and young people who are not engaged in education, training or employment are much more likely to offend or reoffend than those who are.

There is a legal obligation for local authorities to ensure that young people of statutory school age are in either school or another full-time education placement.



Education as part of SYJS

My role:

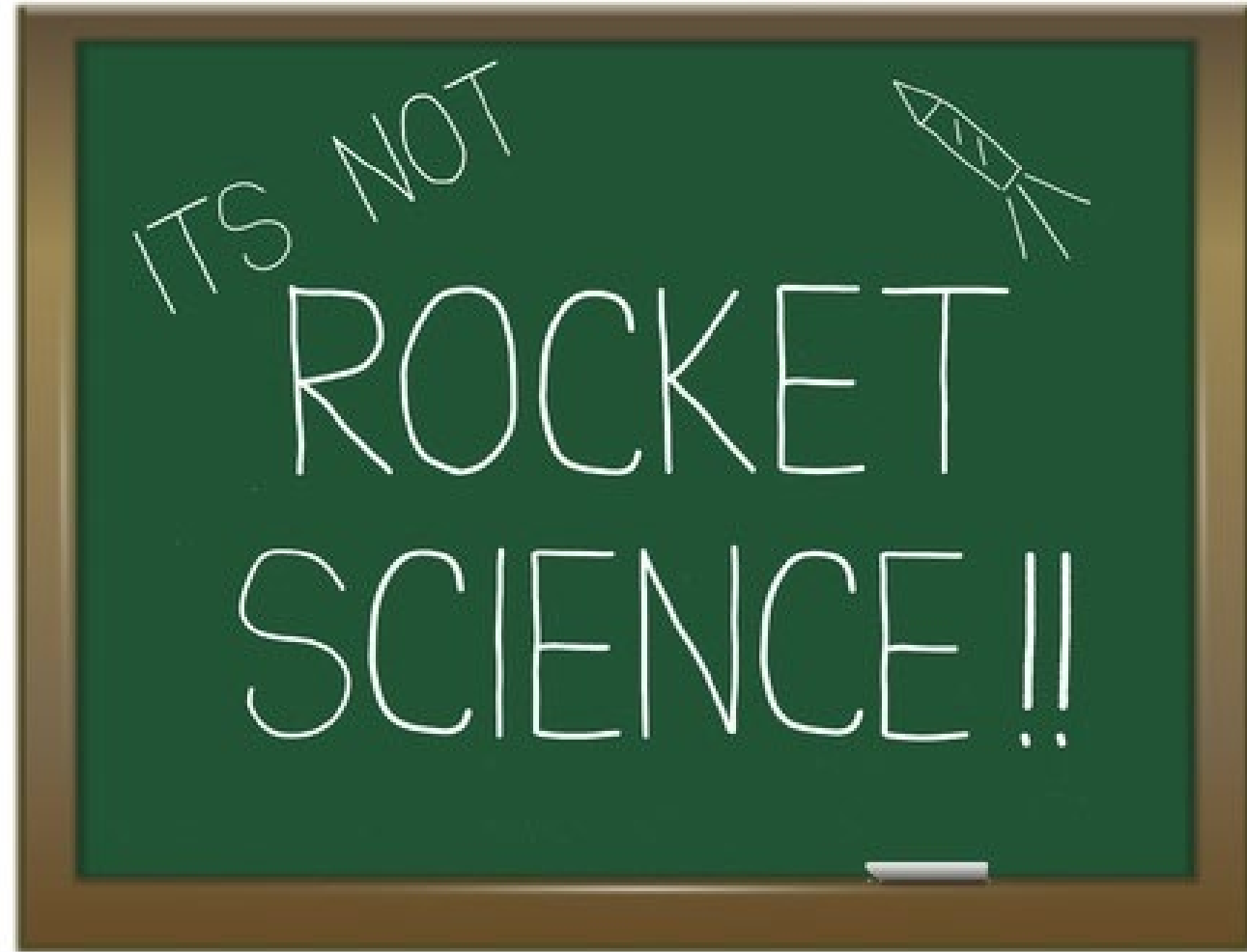
- To ensure that all young people of statutory school age known to the Youth Offending Team (and wider Prevention Service as necessary) are accessing appropriate, inclusive educational provisions.
- Challenge inappropriate educational arrangements with relevant education providers and represent the needs of individual young people with their educational establishment with a view to obtaining a more suitable education package. This may relate to attendance and suspension via other LA departments
- Provide education advice, support and training to professionals on issues relating to education, including Youth Justice Service staff, Prevention (FIS and PeXT) staff, Children's Social Care staff and anyone else....

Rocket science

Education is the **most powerful tool** for **diverting** individuals away from the criminal justice system.

This is because education can **improve cognitive and non-cognitive skills**, leading to **better outcomes** for children and young people, such as **reduced reoffending rates** and **increased educational attainment**.

Furthermore, providing educational opportunities and support can help prevent children from becoming entangled in the criminal justice system in the first place.



Turnaround

Turnaround is a youth early intervention programme led by the Ministry of Justice which enables the Somerset Youth Justice team to intervene earlier and improve outcomes for children on the cusp of entering the youth justice system.

Turnaround takes referrals from police and other partners for children aged 10-17 who are:

- **Noticed by agencies with enforcement powers for repeated involvement in anti-social behaviour (ASB);**
- Are involved in anti-social behaviour who have received:
 - **Community Protection Warning/Notice (CPW/N);**
 - **Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC);**
 - **Civil Order for ASB;**
- In receipt of Community Protection Orders (CPO), Civil Order and/or Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) for anti-social behaviour;
- Interviewed under caution following arrest, or subject to a criminal investigation attending a voluntary interview;
- **subject to a No Further Action (NFA) decision (including Outcome 22); Subject to a Community Resolution (Outcome 8);**
- receiving a first-time youth caution, not including a conditional caution; released under investigation (RUI) or subject to pre-charge bail (PCB);
- discharged by a court; acquitted at court; and/or fined by a court.

Turnaround

Although there is no single path to youth offending, there are certain needs and vulnerabilities associated with a child having an increased likelihood of being in contact with the youth justice system or becoming involved in offending behaviour. These include:

- Mental health concerns
- Substance misuse
- Having experience of the care system
- Being a victim of crime/ abuse
- Unstable family setting
- School absence and exclusions**
- Undiagnosed educational needs

Turnaround

Interventions aiming to prevent the child from future offending should match services to the child's assessed level of need.

They should be strengths based and address the range of needs holistically, rather than in isolation. Consideration should be given to the wider context which could create vulnerabilities including physical and social/emotional/mental health needs, family, school, peer, and community issues. Taking a whole family approach, interventions could meet the needs of siblings and parents/ carers as identified through assessment.

We use:

- SASP
 - ActionTrack
 - Our own intervention worker
- 

Turnaround

RISK H M	Service Reference Number LC - Lisa Childs. Yellow = Live new, Amber = current action, Grey = closed. (RR - Rahel Rooke, NR - Natalie Roberts,)		Display Name	Date of Birth	Age (Current at point of referral)	Sex	Ethnicity	Date of Referral	Offence	Referral Eligibility Criteria by Dis
Q12025	Referral from YJ OCP Natasha Dzioba referred advised by Lara to contact for Turnarond			#####	14 - 15 years old	Male	White	07/04/2025	Anti social behaviour	No Further Action (including Out

Tracking and Monitoring – for every child, every outcome.

Reporting the Ministry of Justice – quarterly

Financial Tracking – quarterly to the MOJ

Next Steps:

- 2025-2026

Time for Questions

