

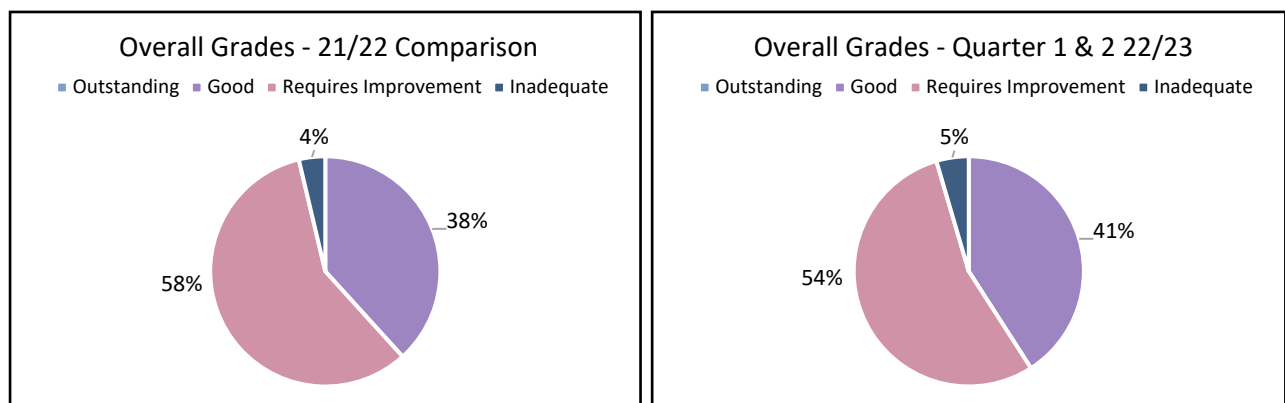
Worcestershire Children First – Social Care & Safeguarding Case File Audits Executive Summary

Social Care & Safeguarding has an embedded Case File Audit Programme for each service area inline with our Quality Assurance Framework; this is an effective system of learning and Ofsted (2021) said *“The quality assurance framework is a strong area of practice, well embedded internally and across the safeguarding partnership. In particular, the audit approach is very effective. Children’s case file audits are well moderated and identified actions followed through to completion, making a real time difference to improving interventions in case work”*.

Across Quarter 1 we undertook a range of targeted audits on specific areas of practice, in total we audited **258 children’s experiences across 14 audits**. This approach meant we did not undertake case file audits as normal each month to enable the capacity for these service wide targeted audits; however, our case file audit programme has so far completed **22 Case File Audits across June & July 2022**. This summary report provides an executive summary of these outcomes.

Overall Audit Grades:

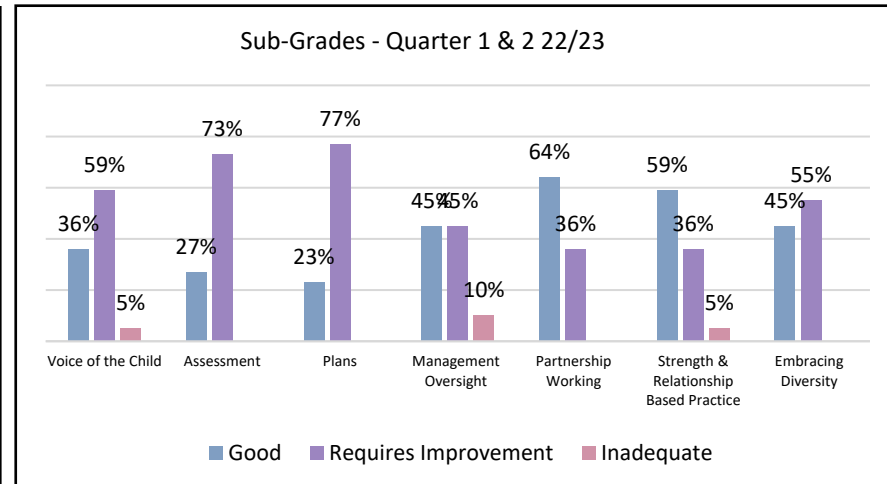
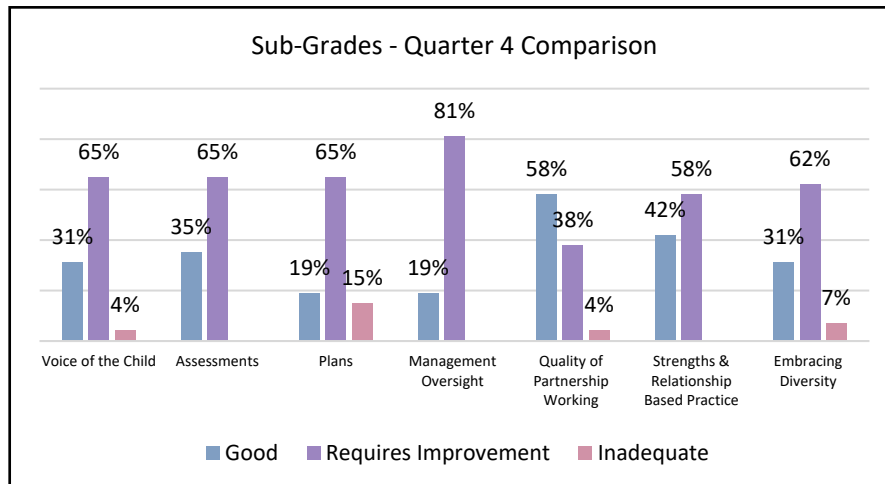
Across Quarter 1/Quarter 2 to date, **22 case file audits** have been completed, using the peer/moderation approach, each case file audit includes 3 pieces of audit activity, in total this equates to **66 individual pieces of Auditing Activity**.



We see the-majority of case work graded Good or Requires Improvement totally at 96%, with 41% judged to be Good - 1 case had an overall Judgement of Inadequate; when we compare end of year audit grades, we see a small reduction in Requires Improvement and an increase in Good as we move into 2022/2023

Sub-Section Grades:

Our audits are broken down into seven key areas of Practice, the following graphs demonstrate the current sub-section outcomes with previous end of year comparison. When we compare Quarter 4 Sub-Grades to our cumulative sub-grades for Quarter 1 & 2; we see an **increase in Good Judgements** in Voice of the Child, Quality of Plans, Management Oversight, Partnership Working, Strengths-base practice and Embracing Diversity; evidencing learning into practice from our Auditing Work.



What have we done this in response to learning to improve practice during the Quarter?

Learning from Quality Assurance forms a key part of our Auditing and Feedback Programmes, over the last few months we have undertaken the following actions and activities to support us to develop our Practice.

Learning Briefings & Newsletters

We have produced and disseminated across the service various briefings and newsletters; they are:

1. Three Principal Social Worker Newsletters
2. Learning from Complaints, Feedback, Disruptions & VoC Briefing
3. QAPP Progress Update (multi-agency practice)
4. Learning from Audits Briefing
5. Assessment & Analysis Briefing
6. CPD & Training Briefing

Presentation

On the 14th of July 2022 we presented to our Social Care & Safeguarding End-to-End Leadership Event a learning from Practice Presentation to include learning from complaints, family feedback, experiences of Care Leavers, Voice of the Child, and Learning from Disruptions.

Developments to Practice Standards, Guidance & Procedures

1. Guidance on managing emails & data breaches
2. Guidance on supporting birth families where a child has been adopted (Connexions)
3. What Good Looks Like for Social Care Contributions to EHCPs/Annual Reviews
4. Link to Adults Position of Trust Policy & Procedure
5. Updated our Transfer Protocol – specifically for Care Leavers and SFF
6. Reviewed & updated our Step-up & Step-Down Procedure

Developments to Liquid Logic/Documents

1. Development of our Strategy Discussion Record to ensure we capture all agencies views on the Voice of the Child
2. Development of our Section 47 Record to ensure we include rational within Management Decision if we are recommending a Repeat CP Plan is put in place
3. Introduced new Case Note Type to evidence we have distributed Strategy Discussion Records

4. Updated our Practitioner Supervision Record to include specific section on learning & reflection from Quality Assurance & Complaints etc.
5. Updated our Case Supervision Record to include review of new information on an open case