Item 3

17th August 2023

Glasgow City Council

Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee

Report by Executive Director of Education Services

Contact: Michele McClung Ext 73556

REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AND EXCLUSIONS 2022/23

Purpose of Report:

To provide Committee with information on attendance and exclusions.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to consider the contents of this report noting that the data for 2019/20 and 2020/21 cannot be directly compared due to the school closures which took place in both years as a result of the pandemic.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

***PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING**:*

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The 2022/23 results have been calculated using information collected in the summer of 2023 from all primary, secondary and ASL schools in Glasgow. For Glasgow City, the information was extracted from SEEMIS management information system.

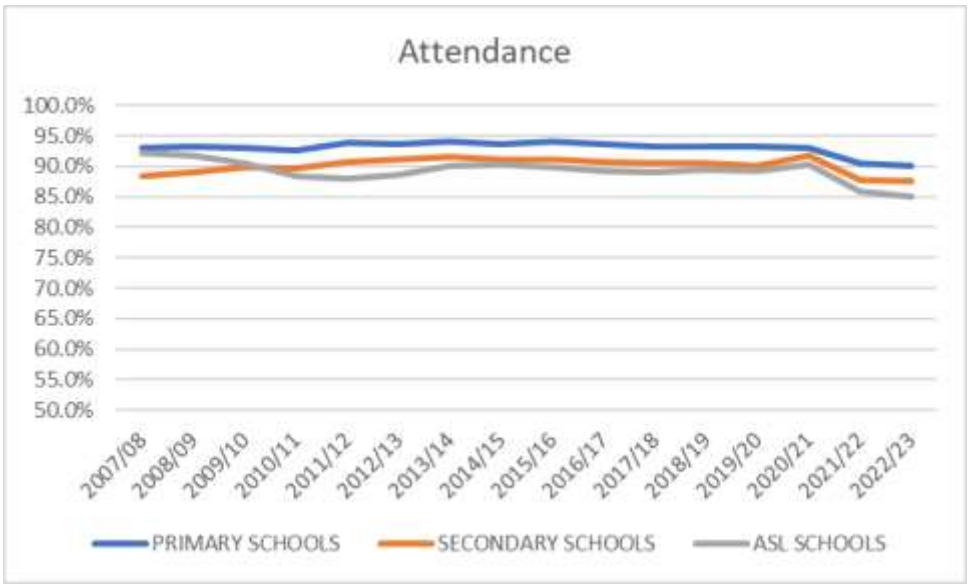
1.2 Scotland's schools closed on 23rd March 2020 due to the global pandemic and did not open again to pupils until 12th August 2020. During the week beginning 16th March, pupil attendance was disrupted due to the understandable uncertainty amongst parents and carers about the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, the data for 2019/20 has been taken up to 16th March 2020.

1.3 Schools were closed again from January 2021. They opened for P1 to P3 from 22nd February and from 15th March for P4 to P7. Secondary pupils were able to attend in small groups from 15th March. Full opening took place following the spring break.

1.4 Schools did not close due to COVID in session 2021/22 or session 2022/23, however, attendance of both pupils and staff continued to be affected.

2 ATTENDANCE

2.1 The graph below shows the percentage attendance over time.



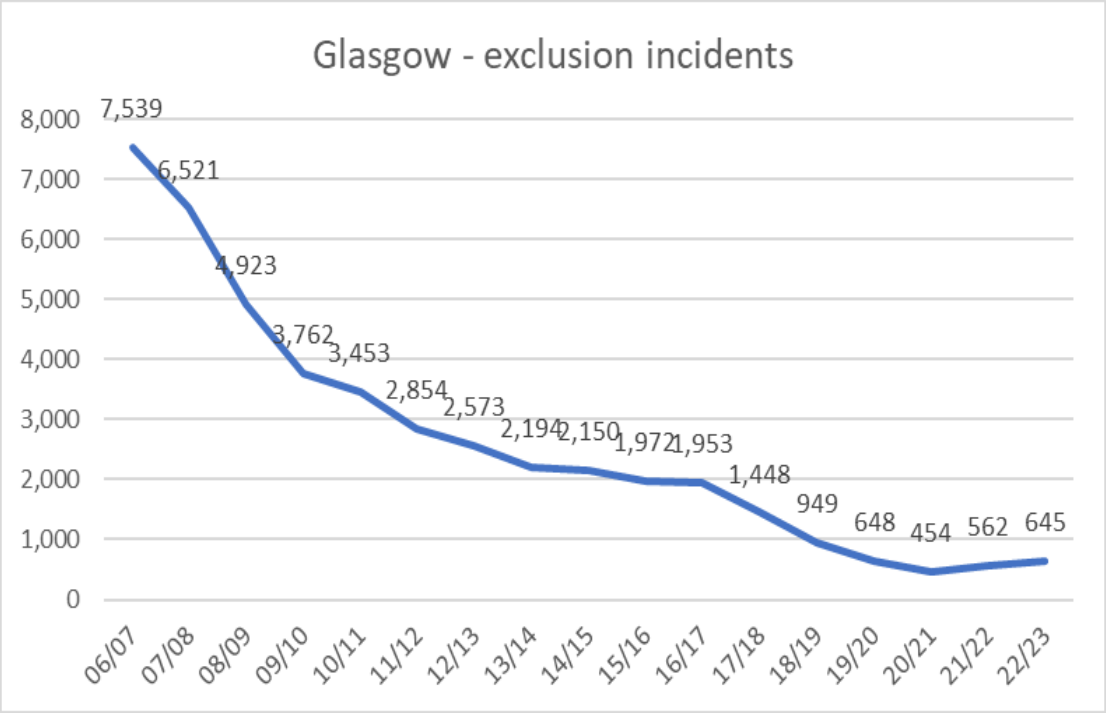
2.2 As noted above, the data for 2019/20 and 2020/21 cannot be used for comparison purposes due to the impact of school closures throughout those two years. In addition, when pupils were absent due to COVID or COVID related reasons then their absence was recorded using new COVID codes on SEEMIS. The COVID codes recorded the pupils as if they were in attendance.

2.3 In session 2021/22, all pupils returned to school. However, it can be seen from the decline in attendance in both 2021/22 and 2022/23 that pupils' attendance continued to be impacted. Headteachers' reported that this is not due to some pupils not returning rather it is an increase in disrupted attendance. This is understandable given that in 2019/20 and 2020/21, pupils were sent home for long periods and when they did return to school they were regulalry sent home for being 'close contacts' or because they were showing signs of a cold.

2.4 All schools across the city have been working hard to improve attendance. They work with third sector partners and families to stress the importance of education and consistent attendance at school. Schools deploy a range of strategies to encourage pupils to attend. Education Services will continue to support schools to maximise attendance and to share best practice.

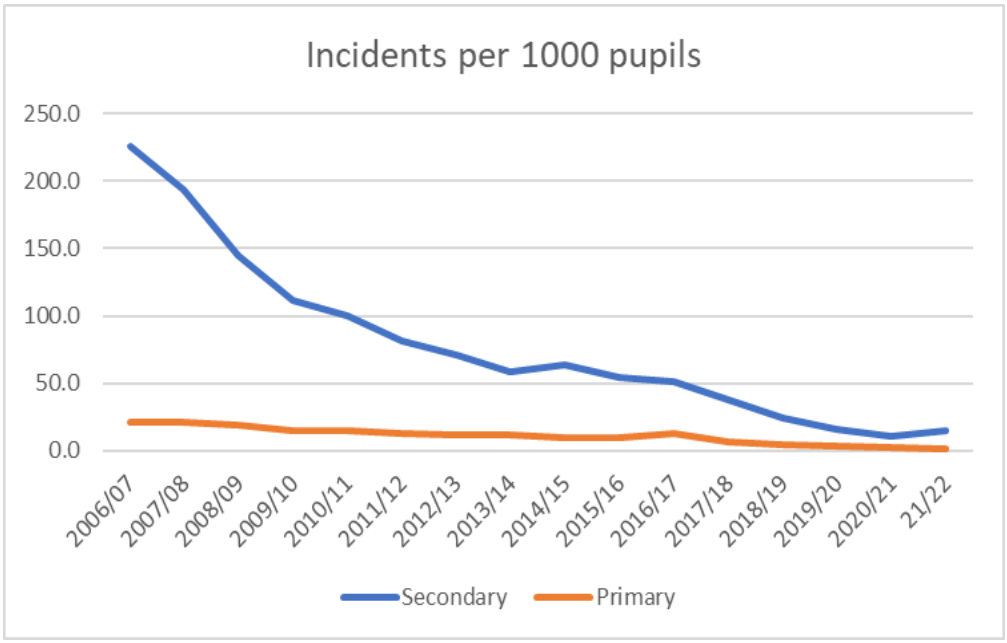
3 EXCLUSIONS

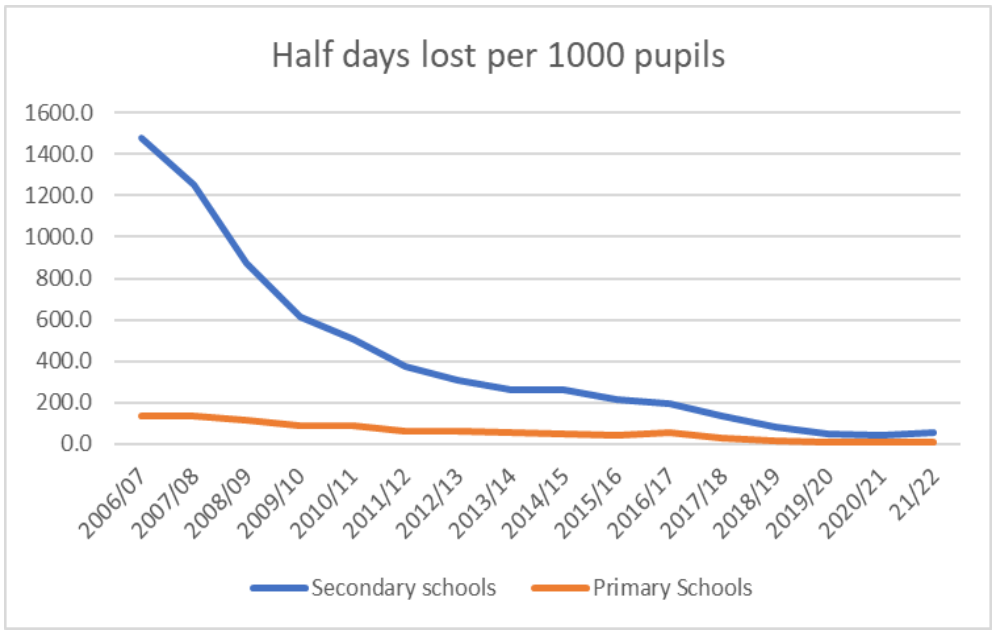
3.1 There has been another small increase in the number of exclusion incidents in session 2022/23. With the caveat, that we cannot draw direct comparisons for two years of the data, it is noteworthy that the number of incidents is broadly equivalent to session 2019/20.



3.2 Exclusions are measured both in terms of the number of incidents which resulted in an exclusion and also in the number of half days lost to exclusion. It is also easier to compare through considering the rate per 1000 pupils for both exclusion incidents and half days lost.

3.3 The graphs show exclusion incidents and openings lost to exclusion per 1000 pupils for primary and secondary pupils. The graphs show the dramatic decline in exclusions in secondary schools with small increases in the last two years.





	Exclusion Openings Lost (Half days) Per 1000 Pupils					Exclusion Incidents Per 1000 Pupils				
Glasgow	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**2020/21**	**2021/22**	**2022/23**	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**2020/21**	**2021/22**	**2022/23**
Secondary schools	81.4	50.5	40.5	54.2	57.0	24.6	15.5	11.2	15.2	16.9
Primary schools	17.2	11.9	7.0	6.2	7.4	4.7	3.2	1.9	1.8	1.9

3.4 The last full year of attendance was 2018/19. Therefore, although any increase in exclusions is disappointing the figure for 2022/23 remains notably below the figure for 2018/19.

3.5 Nationally, data on exclusions is published every two years. Exclusions nationally have also reduced significantly. It is only exclusion incidents per 1000 pupils that is available to allow us to compare and only up 2020/21. In 2020/21, Glasgow's exclusions were below the national figure. The Appendix shows the rate per 1000 for every local authority from 2007/08 to 2020/21.

National	**Exclusion Incidents per 1000 pupils**			
	2014/15	**2016/17**	**2018/19**	**2020/21**
Primary schools	9.0	11.0	8.1	3.6
Secondary schools	49.5	47.6	39.6	22.1
All schools	27.2	26.8	21.6	11.9

4 CHILDREN AFFECTED BY EXCLUSION

4.1 Overall, in 2022/23 only 0.60% of all pupils in the city have been excluded. This is the same figure as 2021/22. The table below shows the percentage affected by exclusion in primary and secondary schools along with the number affected by exclusion

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Primary	Total	Number affected by exclusion	Percentage
2017/18	41272	195	0.47%
2018/19	41470	145	0.35%
2019/20	41725	99	0.24%
2020/21	41118	61	0.15%
2021/22	40763	64	0.16%
2022/23	40576	56	0.14%

Secondary	Total	Number affected by exclusion	Percentage
2017/18	25358	647	2.55%
2018/19	26069	473	1.81%
2019/20	26839	314	1.17%
2020/21	27939	256	0.92%
2021/22	28568	275	1.17%
2022/23	29215	373	1.28%

4.2 This table shows the numbers and percentages of children who are excluded only once.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	135	114	71	48	54	40
Secondary	471	364	246	216	275	301
Primary (% of all those excluded)	69.2%	78.6%	71.7%	78.7%	84.4%	71.4%
Secondary (% of all those excluded)	72.8%	77.0%	78.3%	84.4%	82.3%	80.7%

4.3 Overall, 78% of all pupils affected by exclusion were excluded only once.

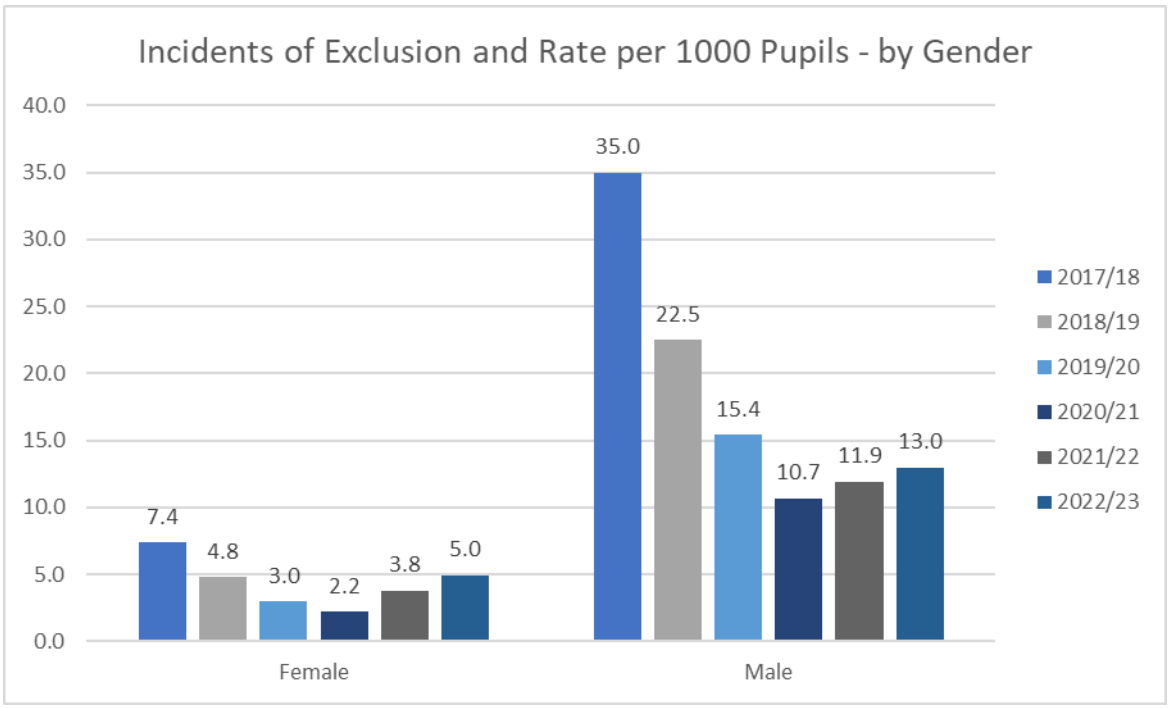
4.4 All schools are provided annually with individual school statistics for the last three years. This more detailed analysis forms part of each school's quality assurance procedures.

4.5 The process for exclusions is governed by Management Circular 8 (http://www.goglasgow.org.uk/Link/ManagementCircular/). This was comprehensively reviewed after a year-long period of consultation and engagement led by one of the City Principal Psychologists. The circular is child-centred and in line with our aspiration to be a Nurturing City. It also links better to our staged intervention process as part of our police 'Every Child is Included and Supported' http://www.goglasgow.org.uk/Pages/Show/521 or https://glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18941

4.6 On a school by school basis, we need to continue to work with staff, parents and young people to explore the causes of exclusion and the ways in which we can avoid using exclusion. There are no right or wrong rules for exclusions. There will always be times when for the safety of the child themselves or for the safety of others that an exclusion needs to happen. However, exclusion should only be used when there are no other options and, wherever possible, nurturing approaches should be used to allow children to understand why exclusion is being considered. Staff also need to be able to reflect on the causes of exclusion and consider if there was anything that could have been done to avoid exclusion being considered.

5 PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

5.1 The analysis by gender shows that boys are consistently excluded significantly more than girls.

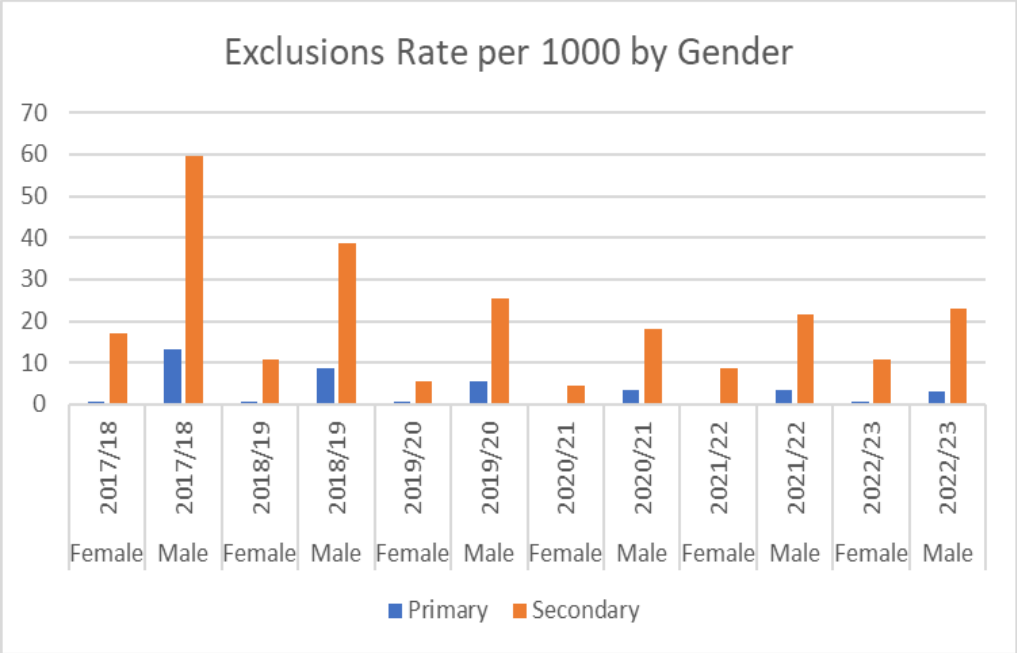


5.2 The table below shows the raw numbers of exclusion incidents. In 2022/23, there were 20,106 girls and 20,470 boys in primary schools and 14,570 girls and 14,645 boys in secondary schools.

	Numbers					
Female	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	17	12	16	7	4	13
Secondary	220	139	74	61	126	159

	Numbers					
Male	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	273	183	117	72	70	66
Secondary	748	503	341	251	308	336

5.3 The graph below compares the rate per 1000 for exclusion incidents for both primary and secondary.



5.4 The table below shows the numbers and percentages of pupils by ethnicity affected by exclusion. The numbers are important because they are low.

	Rate per 1000					
BME	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	1.9	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6
Secondary	26.5	17.6	9.9	8.7	9.2	10.5
	Numbers					
BME	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	18	18	12	8	8	7
Secondary	132	95	58	55	63	77

	Rate per 1000					
White - other	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0	0
Secondary	2.9	2.1	8.8	1.8	1.7	6.1
	Numbers					
White - other	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	0	1	5	0	0	0
Secondary	4	3	13	3	3	11

	Rate per 1000					
White - Scottish/Other British	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	9.5	6.4	4.6	2.7	2.5	2.8
Secondary	43.1	27.8	18.3	12.8	18.4	20.4
	Numbers					
White - Scottish/Other British	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	249	162	112	64	57	63
Secondary	785	510	338	241	347	379

5.5 The tables show that the position continues to be that you are more likely to be excluded if you are White – Scottish/Other British.

5.6 The legal definition of additional support needs is taken from the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004.

Additional support needs

A child or young person has additional support needs for the purposes of this Act where, for whatever reason, the child or young person is, or is likely to be, unable without the provision of additional support to benefit from school education provided or to be provided for the child or young person.

5.7 The definition is purposefully broad and all encompassing. The need for a child to receive additional support could be temporary or long lasting. Examples can be quite wide-ranging, for example, their additional support could be because of neglect, bereavement, acquiring English or a cognitive impairment, hearing or visual impairment or physical disability, as well as a range of other reasons.

5.8 The table below shows the rate per 1000 for exclusion incidents for pupils in primary and secondary schools recorded as having additional support needs compared to those recorded as not having additional support needs. In 2022/23, there were 11,105 children in primary schools recorded as having additional support needs with 29,471 not having additional support needs. In secondary schools, there were 13,961 young people recorded as having additional support needs and 15,254 recorded as not having additional support needs.

	Rate per 1000					
No Additional Support Needs	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	2.3	2.5	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.5
Secondary	16.9	13.2	5.5	5.0	8.0	8.9
	Numbers					
Primary	71	70	47	36	26	44
Secondary	260	197	81	73	120	136

	Rate per 1000					
Additional Support Needs	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Primary	22.1	9.5	6.8	3.5	4.5	3.2
Secondary	71.2	39.9	27.8	18.0	23.1	25.7
	Numbers					
Primary	219	125	86	43	48	35
Secondary	708	445	334	239	314	359

6 POLICY AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Resource Implications:

Financial: Within existing resources.

Legal: In line with the appropriate legislation

Personnel: Not applicable

Procurement: Not applicable

Council Strategic Plan: GC 2, M 3 – Raise attainment amongst Glasgow's children and young people

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify. Yes – Outcome 14, improve outcomes for targeted groups of children and young people

What are the potential equality impacts as a result As set out in section 4.

of this report? Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.	

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	n/a
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	n/a
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	n/a

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report	**No**
If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out	

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Committee is asked to consider the contents of this report noting that the data for 2019/20 and 2020/21 cannot be directly compared to previous years due to the school closures which took place in both years as a result of the pandemic.

Appendix

Table 2.1b: Rate of exclusion per 1,000 pupils by local authority, 2007/08 to 2020/21

Local Authority	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2012/13	2014/15	2016/17 [note 1]	2018/19	2020/21
Aberdeen City	74.0	61.3	67.0	61.9	53.7	40.6	47.6	52.9	17.2
Aberdeenshire	32.6	27.7	26.6	23.4	22.8	20.9	23.8	25.9	14.2
Angus	56.6	49.6	46.0	28.3	17.9	15.6	22.6	26.6	11.6
Argyll and Bute	61.0	51.0	33.3	34.0	27.5	20.6	15.8	19.9	14.3
City of Edinburgh	43.3	36.2	40.7	35.4	25.8	23.3	21.7	16.5	11.1
Clackmannanshire	77.2	77.8	63.2	32.5	21.9	48.0	29.9	1.2	c
Dumfries and Galloway	53.4	48.9	33.2	33.4	22.0	24.0	21.0	23.1	15.9
Dundee City	112.1	102.7	112.9	106.9	95.6	70.9	40.6	25.5	12.6
East Ayrshire	50.6	51.8	46.2	44.2	45.6	40.7	43.4	17.5	10.5
East Dunbartonshire	46.4	42.9	34.0	32.3	21.6	11.4	9.8	9.0	6.8
East Lothian	55.9	51.5	55.0	48.2	35.4	35.8	34.1	16.8	9.7
East Renfrewshire	9.7	9.9	10.3	6.6	2.9	1.1	3.2	3.1	1.2
Falkirk	32.7	31.5	29.1	26.4	27.1	24.0	20.8	16.5	8.8
Fife	55.7	46.5	41.4	37.9	31.8	24.8	24.2	19.3	12.7
Glasgow City	96.6	74.5	57.6	53.2	39.7	32.7	29.1	13.8	6.5
Highland	24.1	28.2	23.8	22.4	22.7	20.4	22.7	20.6	12.7
Inverclyde	86.4	72.8	71.0	56.8	37.1	19.7	17.3	21.0	13.3
Midlothian	58.9	55.2	45.8	52.1	37.0	40.2	44.4	30.6	9.5
Moray	39.2	28.2	33.0	37.3	37.6	35.7	33.1	22.7	14.2
Na h-Eileanan Siar	30.2	27.9	20.4	27.4	24.0	5.7	5.1	11.9	23.7
North Ayrshire	91.3	68.1	51.2	43.3	32.2	22.7	19.7	13.2	9.6
North Lanarkshire	61.3	62.2	57.5	46.6	40.5	32.2	35.0	35.0	15.3
Orkney Islands	9.5	14.3	14.8	8.0	3.8	1.9	5.2	6.1	c
Perth and Kinross	43.6	36.9	36.2	32.7	28.8	27.0	24.5	27.3	13.1
Renfrewshire	56.3	53.0	47.2	42.1	30.4	17.6	21.7	27.5	20.9

Scottish Borders	44.0	40.1	43.1	36.4	43.9	19.5	21.5	20.0	4.5
Shetland Islands	13.9	13.3	10.7	7.0	5.6	2.8	6.5	4.6	4.6
South Ayrshire	59.9	45.1	31.2	26.3	19.6	19.1	17.9	17.4	14.9
South Lanarkshire	59.3	46.3	45.3	39.2	33.4	25.6	27.9	21.2	12.6
Stirling	20.6	18.6	17.7	15.7	15.5	15.6	16.4	17.6	7.0
West Dunbartonshire	72.1	64.9	47.3	52.9	34.6	30.0	44.3	30.2	17.9
West Lothian	67.2	62.3	51.6	46.0	36.3	43.5	43.4	27.3	17.4

Taken from School exclusion statistics - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) 2020-21