

# Manchester Children and Education Services - Delivering safe, efficient and effective services

## Planning for Ofsted's 'Proportionate' Inspection of Manchester's Children's Services - April 2020 to April 2021

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## Manchester - A Complex and Diverse City; responding to the challenges and opportunities that exist for our Children and Young People

**We're proud that Manchester is growing as a city and the child population is no exception, growing at an accelerating pace.**

**A diverse and complex school system with a population speaking over 190 languages.**

**But there remain areas of deprivation where outcomes for people are poor and life's a struggle.**

**The combination of size and complexity presents some unique opportunities and challenges for children and young people in the city.**

- **Growth and transience** (c 121k children aged 0 - 17 yrs c2% annual growth - 3159 new arrivals in schools in 2017/18.
- **49% 0-17 year olds are from an ethnic minority background** (source: 2011 Census), inc. 22% Asian/Asian British, 13% Black/African/Caribbean/Black British, 9.8% Mixed or Multiple and 3.1% Arab
- **36.0% of the local authority's children in low income families** 20% nationally (source:HMRC)
- JSNA identifies particular issues for children inc. domestic abuse, substance misuse (parental or child), life expectancy; and mental health (parental/child).
- 183 schools inc - 55 Academies and 11 Free Schools
- 190 languages being spoken in the City's schools; 39.7% with English as an additional language.
  - c. 5,500 (July 2018) children and young people receiving support from social care including;
    - 3,379 Children in Need / currently undergoing assessment
    - 938 children subject to a Child Protection Plan
    - 1,298 Looked After Children inc 69 UASC - an increase from 16 in 14/15
  - Also:
    - 750 Care Leavers aged 18-25
    - c. 3,800 with an Education, Health and Care Plan
    - c. 2,450 children received an Early Help Intervention in 17/18
    - 225 Young people open to the Youth Justice Service

# ILACS - What matters in this framework

- **New Framework Implemented in 2018; no fixed cycle, 'starting point', intelligence led and focused on:**
- **How well we do things and the difference we make – what is the evidence/impact (experience and outcomes) for children and young people.**
- **How social workers and other practitioners work directly with families and manage the risks involved – how good is this work?**
- **The quality of interventions with families, when risk remains or intensifies**
- **The strength of partnerships, joint working, quality of decision making and management oversight**



# What matters in this framework

- **How well you work together to help, protect and care for children in your authority**
- **How much you know about and the services you provide (with partners) for children living in violent homes, where there is drug or alcohol misuse or the mental ill health of a parent/carer**
- **Leadership 'grip' – the line of sight**
- **Clear priorities, seeking and learning from feedback**
- **Accountabilities – particularly the Local Safeguarding Partnership and operational practice**



# The judgements Ofsted will make

- The **overall effectiveness** of services and arrangements for children who need help and protection, children looked after and care leavers.

A cumulative judgement derived from:

- **The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection**
- **The experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence** including graded judgements:
  - Adoption
  - The experiences and progress of care leavers
- **Leadership, management and governance**



# Outline Scope of an ILACS

- Children and young people who are receiving or who need **early help**
- Children and young people who are **referred** to the local authority and are **assessed** (or not)
- Children and young people who become the **subject of a child protection plan** or have been the subject of a plan and need continuing support
- Children who are receiving support through a **child in need** plan
- Children **looked after (with a plan for adoption, to return home, special guardianship or residence order, living with a foster family)** and children **accommodated**
- **Care leavers**
- **Governance, Leadership and Management**

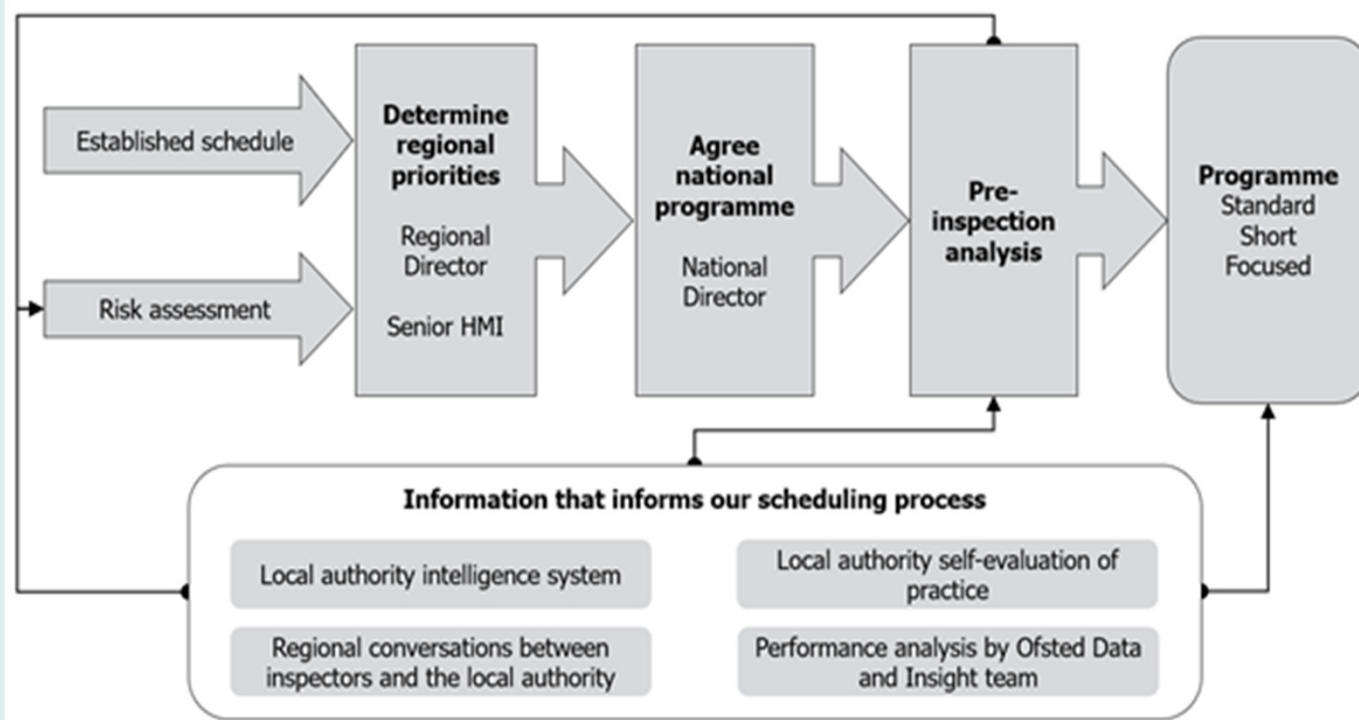


## Specific areas of focus....

- **Children and young people missing from care and risks of sexual exploitation**
- **Children and young people missing from education**
- **The promotion of education and schooling for children who are looked after (reduced timetables and exclusions)**
- **Children living out of the area**
- **The early help offer and assessment**
- **The quality of child protection planning**
- **Whether assessments are events or an engagement with families**
- **The quality of work with families where the plan is for children to return home**
- **The quality of care planning for children looked after**
- **The quality of housing and support for care leavers (inc health offer, EET and opportunities/experiences)**

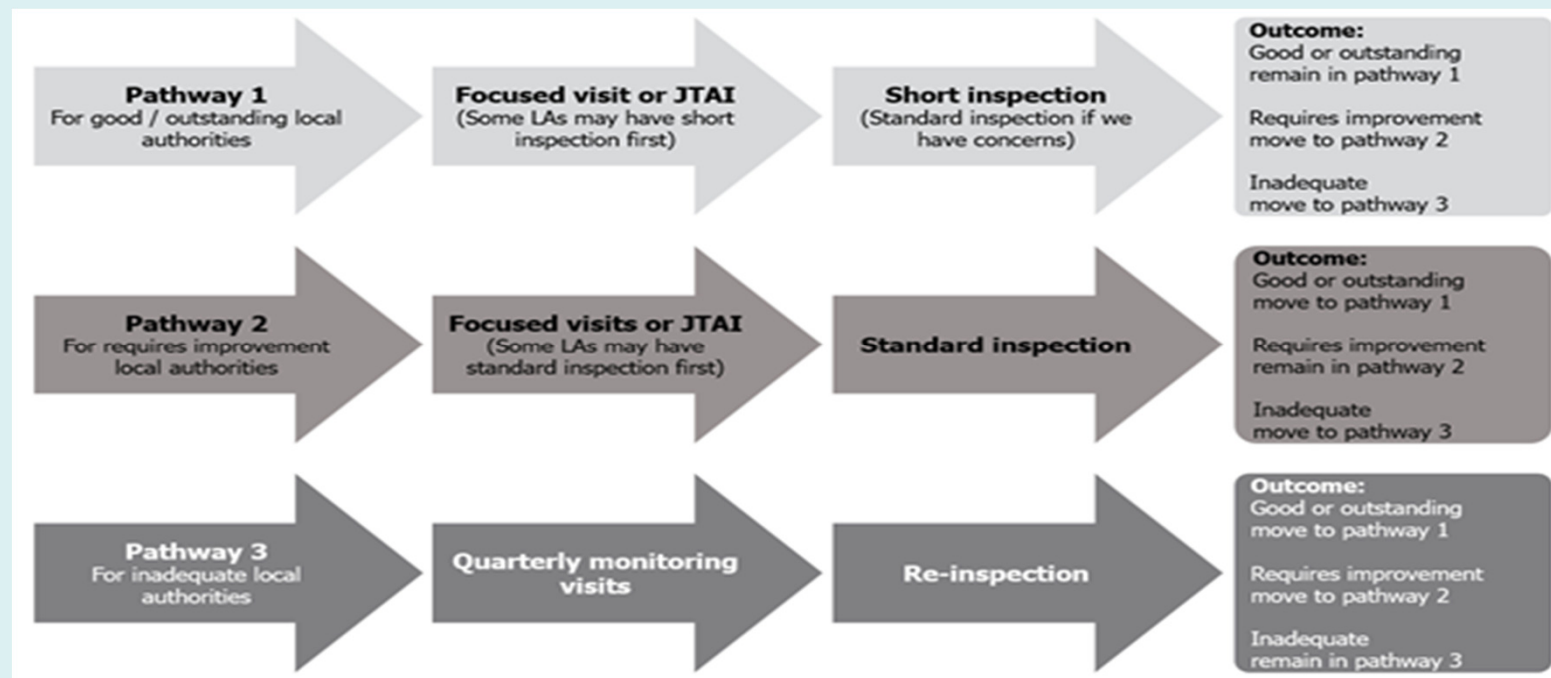


# Steps to informing an ILACS





# A proportionate pathway to an ILACS - A standard or short Inspection will usually be 6 months before or after the 3 year anniversary



# Planned Activity during 2020/21

## Manchester Safeguarding Partnership

- Embed changes, accountabilities and governance (multi agency performance/assurance)
- Update and implement 'threshold' documents, ensuring understood and embedded and website
- Effectiveness of multi-agency training - impact on practice inc attendance and contribution to s47 enquiries and planning for children
- Strengthen and undertake multi-agency auditing and improvements
- S11 audit findings and implementation
- Establish and embed Locality Practice Forums - Learning for SCR and Serious Incidents

## Children's Services

- Continue to build a stable, confident and talented workforce
- Sustain progress, evidencing impact and embedding Quality Assurance Framework
- Quality of Planning
- Consistency in application of practice standards/6 'golden threads'
- Securing timely plans of permanence
- Access to and learning from reflective supervision

## Locality and Partnership Working

- Refresh and coherence to strategic plans
- Further strengthen locality partnership and collaborative working ie inc.
  - Initiatives ie are we effective Corporate Parents, understand and apply 'thresholds', Early Help/Years, AGS, effective contributions planning and interventions with children and their families.

