

February 2012

Dear Colleagues

As many of you will be aware that following swiftly on the tails of our Peer Review in November 2011, in December we were subject to a 2 day Unannounced Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding services. I am pleased to say this was also a very positive report which reflects the hard work everybody has contributed as part of our improvement journey. I am delighted that Ofsted have recognised our efforts but more to the point that they believe that children are better safeguarded in Cornwall. Of course, we have much more to do in order to make all of our services outstanding but this is the first time in many years that progress in Cornwall in safeguarding has had a positive endorsement. [Follow this link to view the full report.](#)

This week we have had our Ofsted Fostering Inspection – the report will be available to us in a few weeks time and I will of course share this with you as soon as I can.

Whilst I am on the subject of inspections many of you will be aware Ofsted has announced a new framework for inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children – in brief from now on all inspections will be unannounced and will take two weeks. [Follow this link for more details](#) - as we gain clarity as to the details of the new arrangements we will share them with you.

Good News

I am also pleased to report that the Cornwall Bursary Scheme received the unanimous support from the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on January 6th 2012. The scheme which has been designed to complement the existing arrangements for the national 16-19 Bursary and will see the Council providing a further £700,000 to support those young people facing the greatest financial barriers to learning who are not eligible to receive any other sources of funding.

Primary school performance tables recently published showed that [Cornwall's primary school](#) pupils are, once again, achieving well.

There has been an increase in the percentage of children achieving Level 4+ in English and Maths – with 73.1% achieving the combined measure in Cornwall compared with 74% nationally. This closes the gap with the national average from previous years. Cornwall has also maintained its position in the

Cornwall Children's Trust

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Chair Trevor Doughty

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number of children making 2 Levels of (expected) progress in English and maths over the last few years and is still in line with national averages.

School Messenger

School Messenger, the secure area of the Council website designed specifically for schools, now has 100% of schools signed up to use it. This means that communications to all schools are sent via School Messenger and there is no longer a need for any service to send global or group emails to schools.

If you have a communication to send to all schools please email schoolmessenger@cornwall.gov.uk or contact Tamsin Dower on 01872 323924

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Doughty".

Trevor Doughty
Chair of Cornwall Children's Trust

Cornwall Children's Trust

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Chair **Trevor Doughty**

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