

Quality and Impact Report Overview

January - December 2021





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Please scan the QR code to find out more about our impact.

Quality and impact are at the heart of what we do.

As the UK's leading specialist provider of education, therapeutic care and fostering services, quality and impact are at the heart of what we do. We are an organisation that believes in transforming lives for the better, embracing communities and working together to help vulnerable children, young people and adults dream big and achieve more.

We're passionate about making a difference to those we support, educate and care for.

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Using our online tool,
My Youth Voice, we ask
for feedback from our
children and young people
to understand how they
think and feel. 99

This report is a summary and celebration of our impact against our vision to build incredible futures for vulnerable children, young people, and adults in the UK by empowering them to be happy and make their way in the world.

I'm hugely proud of the ways in which our entire team has responded to the challenges over the last year. We've all learned to adapt to the ever-changing conditions, and we've continued to grow and welcome new services into our Outcomes First Group family.

A sense of security is always important, with **97%** feeling safe, and **95%** saying they have someone to talk to when they feel upset, worried or angry.

Numbers like these are a tribute to our entire team, and while we always aim to innovate and improve, they're a welcome manifestation of the vision and values that always drive us forward.

David Leatherbarrow

Chief Executive

Our Impact In Numbers



We offered a home to over

400

children, young people and

150

adults



Our fostering agencies created over

4,000

homes for children and young people



Our schools supported the education of over

2,000

children and young people

Therapeutic parenting

We're proud that our therapeutic parenting programme is now accredited by the British Psychological Society.



Over **7,000** of our colleagues and foster carers have completed the Introduction to Therapeutic Parenting.

We're UK leaders

We're **OFSTED's** highest performing large provider.



91%

of our services are rated good or outstanding.

Rated good or better...

100% of our fostering agencies

83% of our children's homes

93% of our schools

96% of our adult settings

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Over 100 young people were working towards a Duke of Edinburgh's Award during 2021.

30 achieved an award at bronze or silver level.







National Fostering Group is our nationwide network of local fostering agencies.

By supporting foster parents to create safe, secure, nurturing environments, we give vulnerable children and young people the great start in life they deserve.

examination pass rate across all qualifications entered at age 16



The children and young people in our fostering network faced another year of educational disruption due to the pandemic, but they worked really hard and achieved a wonderful set of outcomes.

The pass rate for all English qualifications entered was 98%

Across all Mathematics qualifications entered, the pass rate was 100%

85% of young people in Year 11 achieved an English GCSE

85% of young people in Year 11 achieved a Mathematics GCSE

69% of young people achieved a GCSE in English, Mathematics and Science



Acorn Education And Care

Acorn Education and Care is our group of specialist SEMH and complex needs schools.

Through schools, residential homes and other services, we tailor our care to each individual, empowering them, their families and communities to enjoy fulfilling, rewarding lives.





It was a year of amazing educational attainment across all our schools - both within Acorn Education and Care, and Options Autism.

20 students achieved Scottish Nationals in our Scottish schools

Pass rates for Grade 4+ and Grade 5+ increased in our English schools

93% of students passed both English and Mathematics

Over **600** qualifications were achieved overall

545 GCSE Passes

including the top grades of 9, 8 and 7, in a variety of subjects.

OptionsAutism

Options Autism manages our specialist nurseries, schools, colleges and adult services for autistic individuals.

Options Autism supports children, young people and adults to achieve their own personal success. From the moment we meet them, everything we do is tailored to them. We empower them to flourish and live happy lives with all the support and encouragement they need.



Smooth transitions for incredible futures

All the children and young people we work with are individuals with their own unique needs. As these needs evolve and their circumstances change, so do the services they require – one reason why our Evolving Futures initiative is so important.

Run by our Transitions team, Evolving Futures helps each individual transition into the right services for them at the right time. Because our Outcomes First Group family works as one integrated team across our three brands, it's a smooth and seamless process that helps children and young people through each stage of their journey.

97%

of children, young people and adults in our care are served by a good or outstanding service.

Looking Forwards

Taking our next steps together

Incredible futures are at the heart of our Outcomes First Group vision, so celebrating last year's achievements also means building on them over the coming year... and beyond.

We have plans in place for new schools and colleges along with a specialist nursery – places where children, young people and adults will take their own next steps on an exciting and rewarding journey into tomorrow.



For the third year running we have achieved a great place to work status.

83%

of our employees agreed they were made to feel welcome when they joined the company and **83%** felt their contributions were listened to.

Some of our top performing areas include:

94% of our employees are treated fairly regardless of their race

89% of people here are treated fairly regardless of their gender

85% of people said my work has special meaning this is not "just a job"

Placement Stability

Residential 73% of children have lived with us for 12 months or more and 50% for two years or more.

Fostering 68% of children have lived with us for 12 months or more and 50% for two years or more.

Adult 92% of adults have been cared for by us for two years or more.

