

Children with Complex Social and Emotional Needs

Social Care and CAMHS have recognised the importance of working together to meet the needs of children with complex behaviours.

Common factors include : ADHD/ASD, harmful sexual behaviour, self harm, aggressive behaviour, history of neglect, multiple trauma , undiagnosed mental health disorder.

When these children come into care it is a challenge to find an appropriate placement and often they will experience multiple placements moves often out of area. There is a need to find new ways of supporting children to remain in their families and where they do come into care work together with CAMHS to meet their needs locally and jointly manage the risks .

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Examples of What We Are Doing

- ✓ **Support to foster carers-Training in the ARC model**
- ✓ **Mockingbird pilot with in house specialist carers**
- ✓ **New Regional Adoption Support Centre of Excellence (HCC as host authority)**
- ✓ **Complex case panel**
- ✓ **Joint Pathways**
 - We are developing:
 - A joint Complex Case Pathway
 - A Harmful Sexual Behaviour

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Examples where joint working has been successful

Child A: A prolific self-harmer. All professionals were involved in the placement planning and a joint risk assessment was completed.

- Health supported placement staff to provide wrap around support.

This meant child A:

- Stayed in local provision
- Did not escalate to a high cost residential provision
- Was able to access therapeutic support from the same professionals

Child B: Displayed extreme behaviours which resulted in multiple placement breakdowns. Following a psychiatric assessment, Health and Social Care colleagues worked closely to plan for the child's next move. Services were flexible and acted in the best interests of the child, resulting in a planned and stable move when all previous moves had ended in crisis.

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ARC

What is ARC?

Does it Work?

Why Does it Work?

What Do We Provide ?

Families together programme, Short breaks, Harmful Sexual Behaviour work, Outreach, Therapeutic interventions, oversight and expertise, joint work.

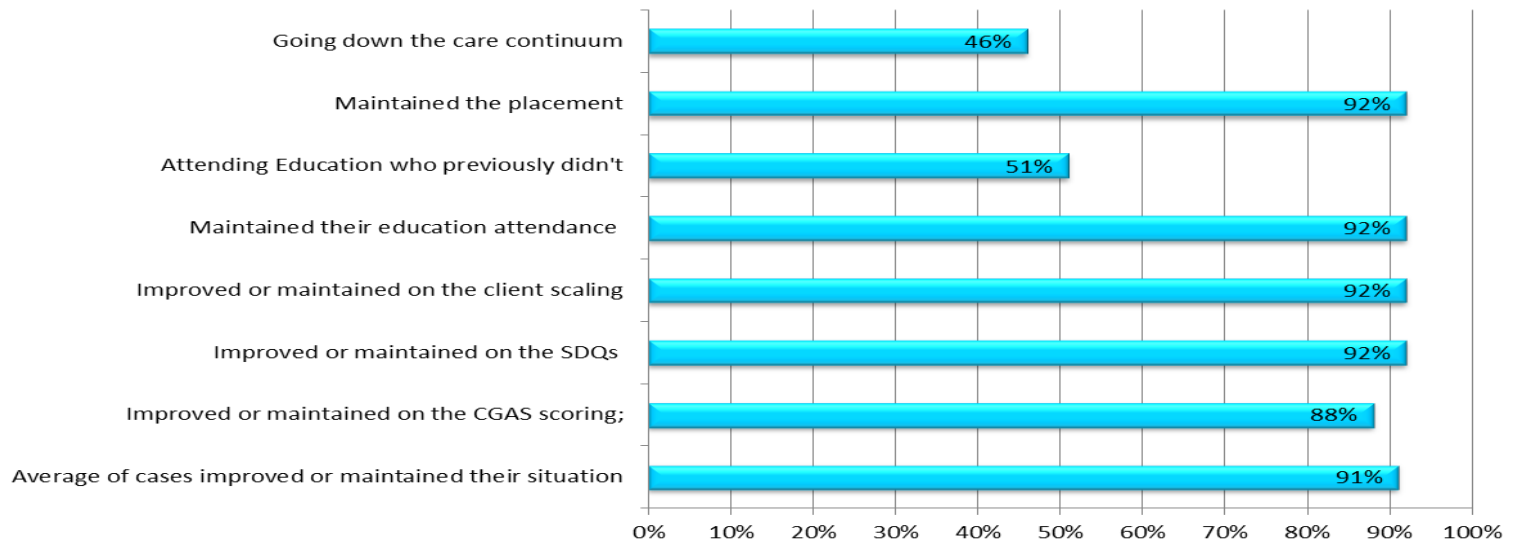
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Key:

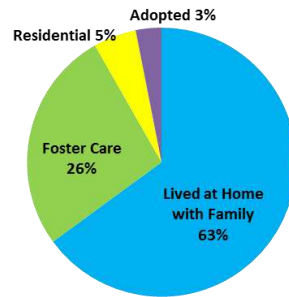
SDQ- *Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire*

CGAS- *Children's Global Assessment Scale*

Client Scaling – *self reporting*



113 days
Average length of work including those supporting the short breaks stays)



Average age 13
66% returned home and **none** went into residential

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What the service users say...

