

“One Family, One View: Transforming Support Through Data Integration”

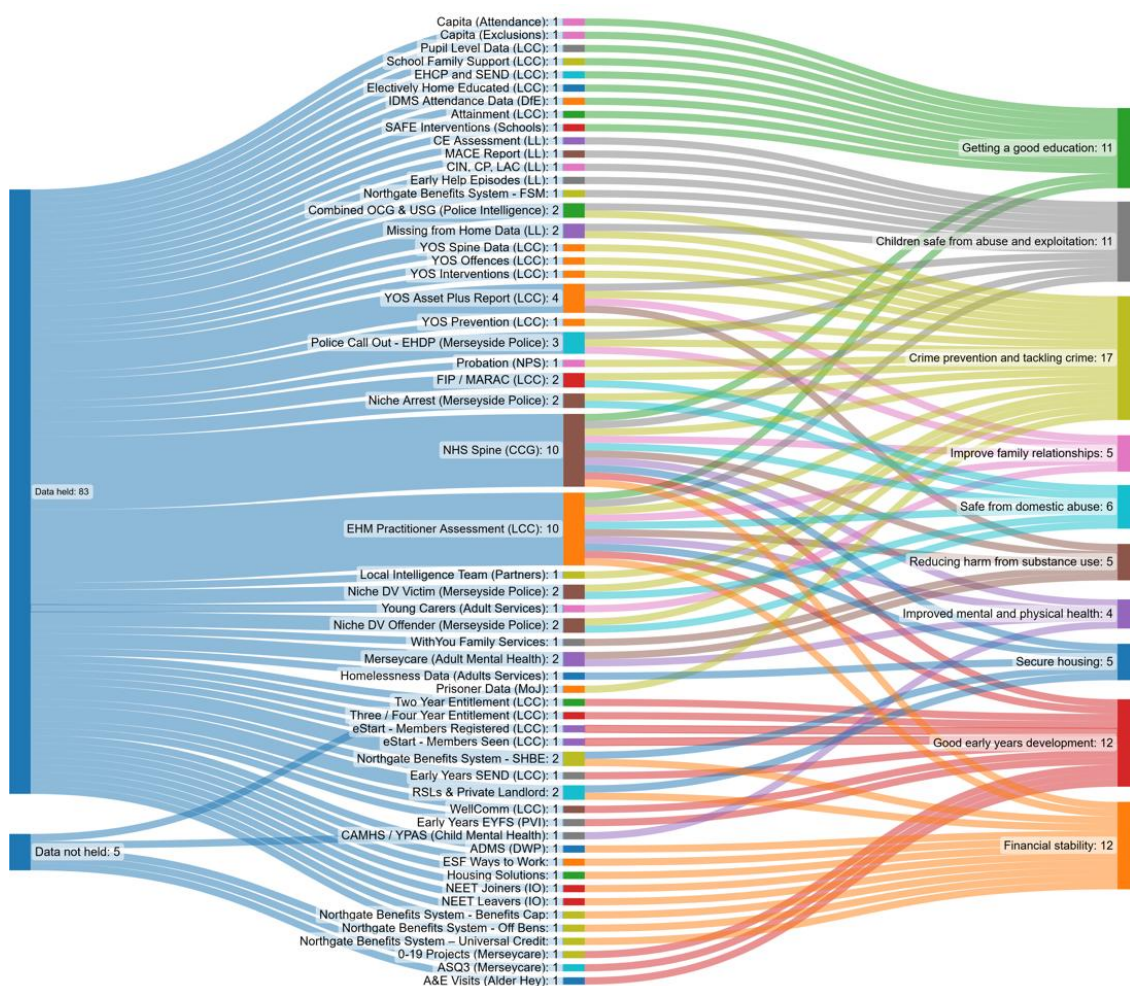
June 2026

John Bowers

**Liverpool Families Programme Data,
Information & Insights Manager**



Family Help Data Solution Sentinel Overview



- There are currently 83 LCC and partnership data feeds in the Sentinel data warehouse with work ongoing to obtain a further five from health partners and the Ministry of Justice.

- Liverpool invested in the Sentinel data management solution during the National Supporting Families Programme to extract and analyse information from existing case management systems.
- Sentinel handles large volumes of data to automatically match and identify family vulnerability and strengths; providing family outcome performance data for DfE returns, reports for Family Help data collections and internal analysis.
- The system creates a full intelligence picture for local partners.
- The system is cloud based on Microsoft Azure which allows quick deployment of portals and dashboards to internal and external partners.
- This allows cost effective flexibility for intelligence screen development.
- Sentinel is secure and only allows access to information teams require.
- **Past, current uses and future innovations include;**
 - Achieved 100% outcomes claims during the Supporting Families Programme
 - Utilised during the COVID-19 pandemic to identify vulnerable residents based on economic, social & medical need.
 - Provide intelligence for the national test & trace pilot.
 - Development of a SAFE Taskforce pupil single view – Secondary Schools
 - Single view of a child intelligence portal to identify risk – FH, SC and MASH
 - Early Years 0-4's Intelligence Portal to track children's progress information, health care and interventions.
 - Family Hub data management solution.
 - Virtual school, NEET and Young Futures Prevention P'ship Panel portals
 - Integration of PowerBI dashboards directly into the data hub.

SAFE

(Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed)

Taskforce Background

Youth Victims of Violent Crime and Vulnerability Index

- DfE have provided c.£37 million to fund 10 SAFE Taskforce areas across England for four years until March 2026 – work ongoing to September 2026.
- £3.7 million funding devolved to secondary school consortia in Liverpool, with Local Authority backing, to support vulnerable young people in serious violence hotspots.
- Initiatives have been developed to support young people who are at most risk of being involved in serious violence or gang exploitation and keep them engaged in education.

YOS Violence Pre-AEP 2020	YOS Violence Pre-AEP 2021	YOS Violence Four Year Trend line	Family meet at least two Supporting Families criteria %	Child Exploitation %	Child Protection Status %	Children with Parents Claiming Benefits %	Vulnerability Index
0.29	0.86		6.0	1.1	3	32	15
0.14	0.14		12.0	1.0	3	34	12
0.37	0.12		12.0	0.6	4	32	12
0.19	0.06		23.0	1.0	4	26	11
0.23	0.47		13.0	0.9	4	24	11
0	0.36		3.0	0.7	2	22	11
0.2	0		22.0	0.2	3	27	10
0.35	0.35		9.0	0.7	3	32	10
0.1	0.2		41.0	0.7	4	23	10
0.29	0.15		23.0	0.7	3	26	9
0	0.28		20.0	0.8	2	20	9
0	0		20.0	0.6	3	24	9
0	0		6.0	0.7	3	20	7
0	0.07		14.0	0.2	2	12	7

An education vulnerability index was developed in 2022 based on linked complexity measures to identify schools with the most need to be invited to become part of the SAFE programme.

2007

Reece Jones, 11 died of a gunshot wound

Offender was 16, parents separated, father previous convictions, part of street gang selling drugs, poor school attendance carried weapons

2013

Sean McHugh, 19 died of a stab wound

Five offenders aged between 13 and 15 were convicted of joint enterprise murder. All convicted were part of North Liverpool street gang

2018

Daniel Gee-Jameson, 16 died of a stab wound

Offender was 17, parents separated (no contact with mother), associated with negative peer group, easily led, anxiety

2021

Ava White, 16 died of a stab wound

Offender was 14, previous convictions for violence, witnessed household domestic abuse, criminally exploited, carried weapons, impulsive behaviour

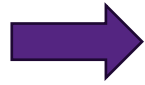
2022

Olivia Pratt-Korbel, 9 died of a gunshot wound

Offender was 34, previous convictions and troubled background. Murder linked to ongoing gang violence and drug distribution in the local area

- Portal is designed using an Ethics Framework; balancing safeguarding risk with data intelligence – DfE approved (only SAFE taskforce to obtain this approval).
- Data processed under Public Task 6(e) Data Protection Act 2018, Digital Economies Act 2017, DPIA in place, and privacy notices published.
- Built on existing Sentinel data hub architecture – quick development, cost effective, partnership data already held in one place and allows access based on a tiered “need to know” basis.
- To be used by safeguarding leads, to identify existing interventions and vulnerabilities, intended to support not replace professional decisions.

SAFE Intervention Case Study – Child A



- Welfare Concerns identified by School
- Sentinel data solution accessed by Headteacher
- Assessed by YOS School worker
- No services involved
- Part of a complex family

- Risk of Exploitation from lack of personal boundaries
- Limited social skills and outbursts
- Undiagnosed learning difficulties
- Previous Early Help Involvement a few years earlier

- Six-month intensive intervention – 28 sessions including 1:1 and group work
- Additional referral to other supportive services in the community
- ADHD Diagnosis and support provided

- Post intervention there were no reports of ASB
- School attendance improved
- No further suspensions or exclusions
- Continued ADHD support in school

SAFE Project Outcomes



- SAFE intervention groups had higher proportions of families with complex needs than the no Intervention group. This is important to recognise when comparing outcomes as low school attendance and higher suspension rates can be a reflection of wider complex needs within a family.
- Different cohorts of pupils demonstrated improvements in different outcomes.
- From the term before intervention to the term after intervention, attendance for Looked After Children increased by 7.49% on average across all intervention groups.
- For pupils attending special schools, attendance over time remained consistently higher in the YOS Worker and ELSA groups than in the No Intervention group. From Summer 2023 to Autumn 2025, attendance ranged between:
 - ELSA: 75-86%
 - YOS Workers: 67-75%
 - No Intervention: 52-66%
- For pupils with an EHCP attending secondary schools (not Special or AP settings) who received the SAFE Sport intervention, suspension rates decreased from 63% when the intervention was rolled out in Spring 2024, to 39% in Summer 2025.
- For pupils attending AP settings, suspension rates in pupils who received the YOS Workers or ELSA interventions fluctuated at similar rates to the No Intervention group.
- Across all pupils and all SAFE Interventions, the average number of sessions lost to suspensions decreased termly from an average of 4.07 before all interventions were implemented, to 3.59 in Summer 2025.

Families First Partnership Programme Reforms

Data Requirements – 9 Point Data Strategy



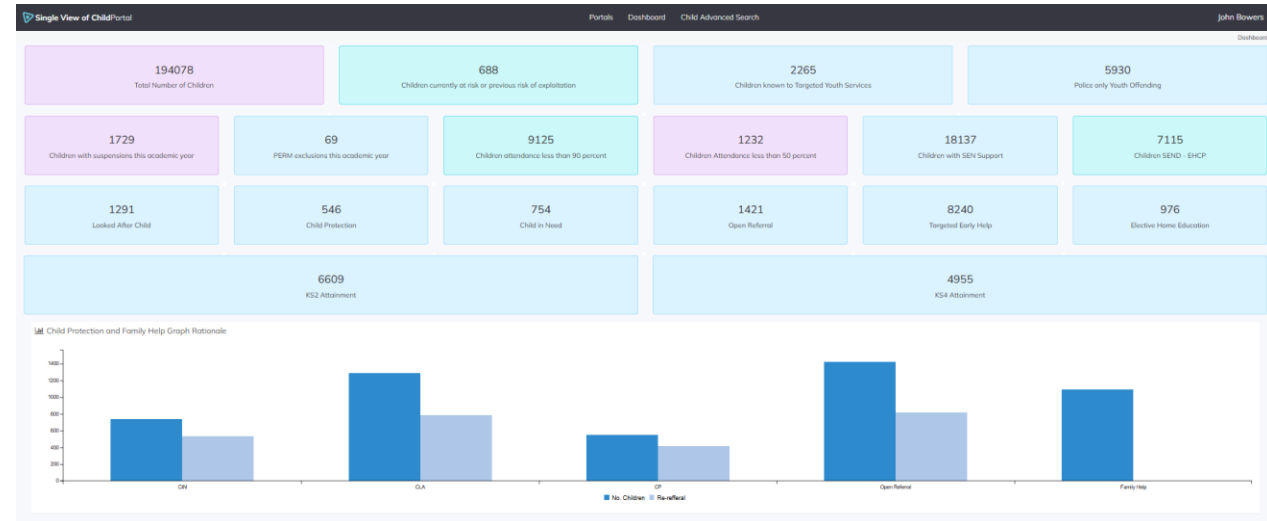
- **A single, joined up system of “Family Help”** Replaces the traditional divide between early help and Child in Need services with one seamless, whole family support offer, coordinated by a **Family Help Lead Practitioner**
- **Multi Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPTs)** bringing together social care, police, health and education to make faster, shared decisions where significant harm is suspected
- **Stronger use of family networks** Families are supported to develop their own solutions and safety plans before formal statutory intervention
- **Earlier, preventative and non stigmatising support** shifts the system away from crisis response toward early, community-based help aimed at reducing escalation and the need for children to enter care
- **One assessment and one evolving plan** introduces a single-family assessment and plan that stays with the family.



Single View of the Child – Families First Partnership Programme



- Working with Sentinel to develop a single view of a child portal – to be completed by June 2026.
- This design will be built upon learning from the SAFE portal with additional data added based on user role.
- Linked partnership data to be used as the basis of a MASH portal, placing multiple intelligence sources in one portal.
- Data architecture Sentinel data Hub will be brought together to provide an intelligence overview of a child and their family, highlighting key vulnerability risk, strengths and where there is professional involvement.
- Portal will be open to front line Family Help workers as well as MASH teams – cloud-based logins will provide seamless access to the system.
- Full professional consultation will be required to ensure data required is captured by the data solution.
- Work with data governance team to ensure planned developments are GDPR compliant & utilise new gateways.
- Integration of a risk of NEET tool and children who are vulnerable to becoming involved in criminality that are based on government indicators to be included in the portal.



The detailed view shows the following information:

- Child Overview:** View details about this child
- Address:** Current and previous addresses
- School:** School details
- SAFE Intervention:** Details of any SAFE funded intervention
- Safeguarding:** Safeguarding Data
- Attendance, Exclusions and Current NEET:** Check attendance, exclusions and NEET information
- Early Years Assessments:** View Child EY Assessments
- Children's Centre (Family Hub):** Children's Centre (Family Hub) details
- SEND Data:** SEND information
- Exploitation Risk:** Check Exploitation Risk Data
- Youth Offending:**

Sentinel Key: 9097764 • Name: [REDACTED] • Date of birth: [REDACTED]

No data available in table
Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries

Historic Exclusions

Sentinel Key	Forename	Surname	Date of Birth	UPN	Academic Year	Category	Start Date	Sessions	SEN provision
No data available in table									

No data available in table
Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries

Attendance Summary

Sentinel Key	Academic Year	Year To Date Attendance	Year Authorised Absence	Year Unauthorised Absence	School Name
9097764	2025/26	97.10%	2.90%	0.00%	Springwood Heath Primary School
9097764	2024/25	90.77%	5.90%	3.43%	Springwood Heath Primary School
9097764	2023/24	98.39%	0.00%	1.61%	Garston Church of England Primary School

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries

Attendance Notes

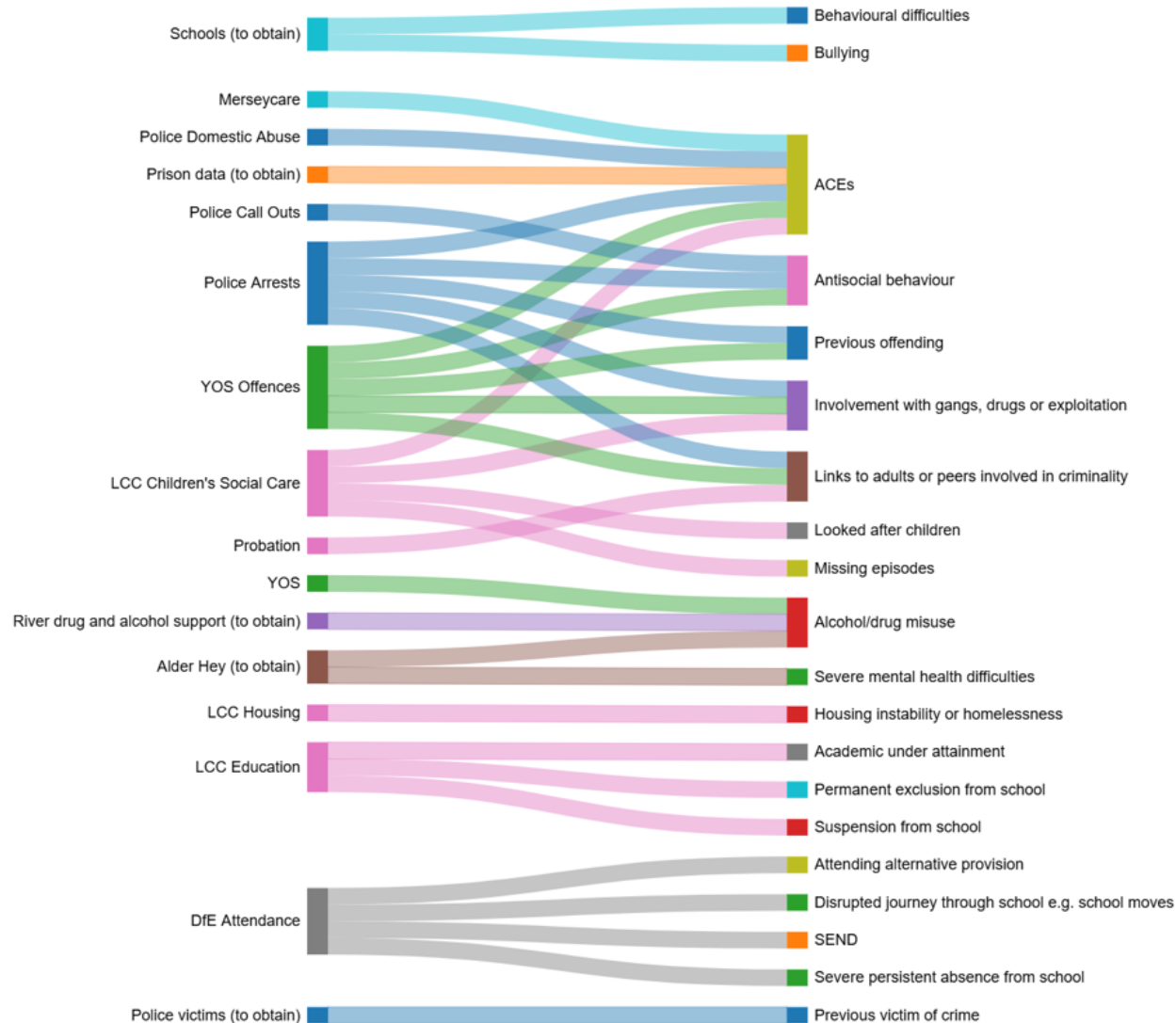
Edit	Sentinel key	Type	Attendance on Note	Non-attendance Reason	Non-attendance Plan	Note	Date Last Seen	End Date	Created	Created By
No data available in table										

No data available in table
Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries

Attendance Summary

Sentinel Key	9097764
School Name	Springwood Heath Primary School
Registration	01/09/2024
Autumn Attendance	94.59%
Summer Attendance	100.00%

Young Futures Prevention Partnership Panel Intelligence Portal



- Solution is a joint Local Authority and Violence Reduction Partnership investment.
- Young Futures Prevention Partnership Panels to be established by April 2026.
- Each panel will be responsible for the identification, assessment, and referral of CYP who are displaying early indications of vulnerability to being drawn into crime.
- Efficient sharing of personal data will be vital to that identification.
- Section 115 of The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 and the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill 2026 provide a legal foundation for agencies to share data to tackle crime and violence.
- Unique child identifier will be an essential tool for linking multiple partner datasets.
- Single View portals would be able to include relevant data for the identification of vulnerable children for targeted interventions – SAFE Taskforce proof of concept.

Final Thoughts



- Government Programmes such as the Family First Partnership Programme allow local authorities and partners to use data in a different ways to improve local decision making.
- View Legislation as an “enabler” to share information; utilise existing gateways and new data sharing duties to better understand child and family vulnerability.
- Utilise linked data to improve Early Help intelligence for family intervention.
- Linking data has allowed Liverpool to develop a better understanding their residents, complexities, needs and strengths.
- Government programmes have driven data innovation and improved data maturity.
- Large linkage projects have developed the skills of Data Analysts and Data Managers.

Any Questions???

John.bowers@liverpool.gov.uk