



**Central Bedfordshire
Children's Trust**

Children and Young People's Plan

June 2013 – March 2015



Welcome to the Children and Young People's Plan for Central Bedfordshire

(June 2013 – March 2015)

Our vision for children and young people growing up in Central Bedfordshire is:

We want every child in Central Bedfordshire to enjoy their childhood and have the best possible start in life. We want every child to do well in education, make friends and build strong relationships with their family. By the age of 19, as young adults, we want every young person to have the knowledge, skills and qualifications that will give them the best chance of success, so that they are prepared to take their full place in society as a healthy, contributing and confident citizen.

This plan sets out our shared vision for children, young people and their families and shows how we plan to achieve it. We know that most children and young people in Central Bedfordshire enjoy their childhood and go on to be confident and successful young adults – we want to make sure that we maintain this and improve the outcomes for those vulnerable children and young people who are not doing as well.

This Plan sets out those issues we want to work on together with our partners and which we think are critical to achieving our vision. There are more detailed strategies and plans which support the priorities in this plan. There is further information available at www.centralbedfordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk

Our thanks to all those that have helped in the development of the plan. In particular the young people who told us what they think is important. Their ideas and priorities have helped to shape this plan. We look forward to working with children, young people and their families.

Cllr Mark Versallion

Chairman - Central Bedfordshire Children and Young People's Trust

June 2013

Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue

Bedfordshire Police

Bedfordshire Probation

Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service

Catholic Diocese of Northampton

Central Bedfordshire College

Central Bedfordshire Council

Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Board

Diocese of St Albans

Lower, middle, upper and special schools

Voluntary Organisations for children, young people and families (VOCyfp)

Youth Parliament

Improved educational attainment

Outcomes

Improved achievement and progress

The right skills to be work ready

Excellent behaviour

Well led and managed schools

Outstanding teaching and learning

Cross Cutting: Early help for all who need it
Put children at the centre of everything we do
Multi-agency learning and shadowing opportunities to promote shared understanding of work

The way we will do this

Partners will work together to:

- achieve top key stage results and GCSE (or equivalent) results including English and Maths
- give every child a good start in communication, language and literacy skills
- provide early high quality independent career advice and work experience opportunities so that young people understand what their career options and choices are
- give young people the right opportunities to continue in education or training until they are 18, including apprenticeships, so that employers feel young people have the skills they need for work
- improve the achievement of vulnerable and disadvantaged children – especially those receiving Free School Meals and those who are looked after – so they do not underachieve
- help those aged 14-16 at risk of NEET and those aged 16-19 who have become NEET to get the training and employment they need
- commission school to school improvement to raise standards, build capacity and develop world class governance
- spend £103m building new schools with inspirational learning environments and spaces for community use
- make sure the education workforce is robust in identifying and responding to safeguarding issues and that successful leadership development and support is provided where it is needed

Measuring our success	Targets
• % of children achieving a good level of development at the Early Years Foundation Stage	65% (SN Ave 2012)
• % achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	In top 25% of local authorities
• % disadvantaged pupils achieving 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (those eligible for free school meals at any time in the last 6 years or children looked after continuously for more than 6 months)	At or above the national average
• % of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	In top 25% of local authorities
• % of schools and colleges judged by Ofsted to be Outstanding/Good	Improving trajectory – every school a good school
Children and families' voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young inspectors survey 	Baseline year

Protecting vulnerable children

Outcomes

Children are happier and safer as a result of help received

Children in care have safe and stable homes

Young people are diverted from offending and anti-social behaviour

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The way we will do this

Partners will work together to:

- put children at the centre of everything we do
- make sure children get the right help at the right time and that key early help and safeguarding services are working well together
- make sure that social workers have the skills and knowledge to achieve the best possible outcomes for children in line with social work reforms
- focus on tackling the issues of domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and children who go missing
- provide safe and stable homes for children and young people when parents are unable to look after them and where appropriate help children to be adopted as quickly as possible
- reduce youth offending and help young people to get back on track
- co-ordinate, monitor and challenge safeguarding work through the Safeguarding Children Board
- develop the children's workforce and ensure it is confident in, and alert to, identifying and responding to safeguarding issues
- learn from the outcomes of serious case reviews and change our practice as necessary
- target our resources on effective outcomes at the earliest possible stage of the child's process through the child protection system

Measuring our success	Targets
• Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted	2013/14: 533 days 2014/15: 479 days
• % of assessments completed according to timescales (currently 10 working days)	85%
• % of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed	100%
• % of referrals of children in need that led to assessments	75%
• % of cases where children became subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time where domestic violence was a factor	Year on year reduction from 64%
• Reduction in the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17	-5%
• % of young people receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	5%
• Re-offending rates amongst young people	To be confirmed
• Percentage of young offenders in employment, education or training	80%
• Difference between the rate (per 10,000 population) of emergency hospital admissions caused by injuries in children from the 20% most deprived and the 80% least deprived areas	Year on year reduction from baseline in 2010/11: 28

Children and families' voices

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's and families views about the difference that key professionals have made, how well they have been treated, and how this has been fed into the development of the service | Surveys and audits and case studies of children's journeys |
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Early help and improving life chances

Outcomes

High quality early years and child care

Positive, confident parents and carers

Young carers identified and supported

High aspirations for young people and their families

Children and young people with disabilities are supported to achieve their aspirations

More families in work and fewer children living in poverty

Troubled families are supported

**Cross Cutting: Early help for all who need it
Put children at the centre of everything we do
Multi-agency learning and shadowing opportunities to promote shared understanding of work**

The way we will do this

Partners will work together to:

- make sure that from September 2014, 40% of disadvantaged 2 year olds have a free child place in early education
- ensure that there are a sufficient number of early years childcare providers to offer the 15 hour free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds to meet the needs of working parents
- assist Gypsy and Traveller parents with their children's' school readiness through outreach work in Children's Centres
- support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and disabilities with a range of local opportunities and make sure they have the help they need as they move into adulthood
- identify and prevent inappropriate and excessive use of young people as carers
- know our vulnerable local communities and families and work through Children's centres to reach them and deliver services that have a positive impact
- deliver parenting support programmes to improve parents' skills, confidence and family relationships
- work with the 305 families identified as part of the Troubled Families programme and tackle their antisocial behaviour, absence from school and worklessness
- deliver the 'Aspire' programme to raise the self esteem and aspirations of young people at risk of disengaging from education
- provide more joined up support for children in need through the improved use of the Common Assessment Framework
- reduce the numbers of children living in low income households by continuing to implement Central Bedfordshire's 'From Poverty to Prosperity' strategy
- improve the use of the Common Assessment Framework through training and address the key training priorities arising out of our focus on the child's voice and journey

Measuring our success	Targets
The number of disadvantaged 2 year olds placed in early education / childcare	449 by March 2014
% of identified young carers supported	New measure
% of children with identified disabilities supported	New measure
Proportion of Children who live in relative low income	10% by 2020
The number of people in employment (Aged 16 to 64)	5% above national average
% of under 5 year olds from most deprived areas registered with Children's Centres	65%
Troubled Families Programme is achieving annual payment by results targets	60% of families worked with
% of early years and childcare settings judged by Ofsted to be Outstanding and Good	Improving trajectory – every setting a good setting
% of participants reporting improved aspirations and self esteem	New measure
Children and families' voices	
% of parents reporting improved parenting skills	75%
Young carers feel supported (annual survey)	New measure
Children with disabilities views about the support they have received	New measure

Being healthy and positive

Outcomes

Children have the best start in life

Improved mental health for children and their parents

Better health outcomes for looked after children

Fewer young people engaging in risky behaviours

Children and families developing lifelong healthy lifestyles

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The way we will do this

Partners will work together to:

- ensure a healthy start to life by: improving early access to antenatal care; promoting and supporting breastfeeding; reducing smoking and obesity in pregnancy and assessing children's development at age 2
- review and enhance the services to ensure effective support for mothers experiencing ante-natal and post natal depression
- reduce children and young people's smoking, alcohol and substance misuse by increasing knowledge of the harmful effects and ensuring accessible, effective interventions are in place
- reduce teenage pregnancy by continuing to increase access to sexual health services and high quality sex and relationships education
- deliver prompt and timely support for children and families with emerging mental health problems
- enhance local specialist services for children and young people with eating disorders
- make sure that health services meet the needs of looked after children and care leavers
- reduce childhood obesity through targeted, family-based intervention programmes and supporting schools to provide high quality physical activity, healthy eating guidance and implement school travel plans
- increase the capacity of the 5-19 service to deliver the full Healthy Child Programme
- ensure adequate numbers of Health Visitors are recruited and retained and that awareness of 'emotional wellbeing' is raised through learning opportunities across the workforce

Measuring our success	Targets
% Mothers smoking at the time of delivery	15%
% Mothers initiating breastfeeding	80%
% Mothers still breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks	48%
Year R (Ages 4- 5) /Year 6 (Ages 10-11) to achieve a % year-on-year reduction in obesity prevalence	7.3% / 15.6% (For Acad Year 2012/13)
Reduction in the number of conceptions per 1,000 teenage girls (aged 15-17 years)	2013 – 30.5 against 2009 baseline (reported Jan 2015)
% children and young people reporting a reduction in alcohol and drugs usage 3 months following the end of an intervention	New measure
Improved mental health early intervention services measured by the Strengths & Difficulties (SDQ) scores for children and young receiving a direct intervention by the CHUMS Service	To be confirmed
% Looked After Children (LAC) who have been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and who have had an annual Health Assessment during the previous 12 months	100%
% LAC up to date on immunisations/vaccinations	100%
Children and young people who are Looked After (LAC) have better mental health, as measured by the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) score	13
Children and families' voices Looked after children say that the health services they receive are meeting their needs Balding Survey – health and wellbeing	New measures



Central Bedfordshire Children's Trust

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