



Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)

Updated January 2008

Executive Summary

positive contribution stay safe enjoy and achieve economic well-being be healthy
it's in our hands





Derek Pickup,
Executive Member
for Children

The 2008 update of the Bristol Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) sets out the difference we have made for Bristol's children and young people in the past year, and our revised priorities for improvement in the year ahead.

This booklet summarises the key areas for improvement for 2008-09 set out in the updated plan. Those that are highlighted in bold are the top priorities jointly agreed with the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).

As a Children and Young People's Partnership, we are proud of our achievements. We also know that there is much more to do, and the updated plan provides a powerful focus for our work together.

All services for children and young people in Bristol, including schools and settings, are required to take account of the CYPP in their own improvement plans.

We are confident that the updated plan will not only keep us moving in the right direction, but it will also help us to accelerate our pace of travel.

The full document, including implementation plans and performance targets, can be accessed via www.bristol-cyps.org.uk



Nick Gurney, Chief
Executive, Bristol City
Council and Chair,
Bristol Children and
Young People's
Partnership Executive
Board



Heather Tomlinson,
Director, Children and
Young People's
Services

Our vision for Bristol is the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families through the best possible partnership arrangements.

That means:

- High achievement for all, especially in the basics
- Everyone valued and included
- Confident parents, carers and families
- Inspirational schools, settings and resources for learning
- Safe neighbourhoods where people get on well together
- Excellent services, tailored to meet the needs of the individual.

Our ambition is for every child and young person to:

- Enjoy their childhood and their teenage years
- Feel secure, cared for and protected from harm
- Have high self-esteem and aspirations for the future
- Live an active and healthy lifestyle with fun things to do
- Be a confident and resilient learner
- Grow up to have the skills and qualifications needed to achieve great things in life.



Our PROMISE to the children and young people of Bristol is that WE WILL PUT YOU FIRST

WE WILL:

- Have high expectations of everyone
- Act quickly to protect you
- Listen to your views and involve you in the decisions that affect your life
- Support you in your learning so that you achieve your very best
- Work together to help you and your family to prevent and overcome difficulties
- Use our collective resources wisely to make the greatest difference to you and your family.

Priority 1**Raise attainment in all key stages and in relation to under performing groups**

Children and young people said that they would like more before and after school activities on school sites.

Schools said that more needs to be done to improve support for pupils with special educational needs and pupils with English as an additional language.

What we are doing: We are developing extended school provision in all schools to provide a varied programme of activities before and after school.

We have reviewed our policies and procedures in relation to special education needs, and agreed some major changes in city-wide practice and provision.

We are re-focusing the Local Authority's support to schools to raise the attainment of pupils with English as an additional language and pupils newly arrived to this country.

**Key areas for improvement in 2008-09**

- Raise standards in Early Years (schools and settings)
- Raise standards of attainment at Key Stages 1 and 2 in primary schools
- Raise standards of attainment at Key Stages 3 and 4 in secondary schools
- Raise standards of attainment at 14-19
- Secure improvement in the performance of under-achieving and vulnerable groups, including BME pupils and groups
- Improve outcomes for children with special educational needs, and ensure that statements of educational need are issued within recommended timescales
- Improve the quality of teaching and pupil tracking
- Improve attendance in primary and secondary schools
- Maximise inclusion, reducing the number of permanent and fixed term exclusions
- Strengthen leadership & governance in schools & settings
- Develop strategic partnerships with outside bodies and agencies to accelerate progress in raising attainment and transform Bristol's school facilities and learning environments.

Priority 2

Safeguard children in all schools and settings

Children and young people said that they are concerned about bullying. 22% of children and young people surveyed said that they had been bullied at school in the last twelve months. 12% said they had bullied someone else in the last year.

What we are doing: We are further developing anti-bullying campaigns and re-focusing how we support the improvement of behaviour in schools.

Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and improve the equity of responses to cases where emotional abuse and neglect are suspected.
- Improve outcomes for safeguarding children and young people by successful implementation of Working Together arrangements
- **Improve outcomes for vulnerable children and children in need by strengthening prevention and early intervention arrangements**
- Improve outcomes for young carers and their families by developing effective early intervention
- Improve outcomes for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Minimise bullying and the impact of bullying.



Priority 3

Improve the positive engagement of children, young people and their families



Children and young people said that they do not always know what's available. In some areas there is little to do. Public transport around the city can make it difficult to get to some activities, and 64% of young people surveyed said that they were concerned about their safety travelling at night. Young people would like to see youth clubs improved and open longer, including at weekends and during the holidays.

What we are doing: We are developing a young people's website called 'Go Places Do Things' which will provide information about things to do in all areas of the city. We are developing our services to meet the standards that have been identified by young people. We are finding out what transport children and young people want, and are working with transport providers to bring about the changes they need.

Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Improve outcomes for teenagers through integrated youth support
- Improve recreational facilities for children and young people in more disadvantaged areas of the city
- Raise aspirations and engagement in learning, by providing a diverse range of places to go and things to do for young people
- Ensure that all children, young people and families have access to the extended school core offer
- Engage service users in decision-making, including the design and delivery of services to meet their needs
- **Reduce youth offending and re-offending**
- Extend the flexibility of Early Years education and care
- Improve inter-agency support for parenting and family learning
- Ensure childcare sufficiency
- Improve access to safe, affordable and sustainable transport for children and young people
- Improve outcomes for young people by promoting and supporting social cohesion in targeted areas.

Priority 4**Improve the economic well-being of children and young people**

45% of **children and young people surveyed** said they want career advice to start earlier at around 13 to 14 years old. 8% of 15-16 year olds said that they skip school once a week.

What we are doing: We are extending careers advice and guidance into the lower years of secondary school. We are also working with schools, colleges and employers to broaden the curriculum offer for 14-16 year olds, to make it more relevant and work-related for young people.

Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Develop successful learners
- Improve pathways for learning, including access to work-related learning 14-19 through improved collaboration with FE colleges, employers and training providers
- Create first class learning environments for delivery of 14-19 programmes across the city; anytime, anywhere
- Develop strategic partnerships with outside bodies and agencies to accelerate improvement in outcomes 14-19
- **Increase the percentage of 16-18 year olds engaged in education, employment and training (EET)**
- Improve housing provision for children and young people and reduce the proportion of families with children living in unsuitable homes
- Raise the aspirations of all children, young people, parents and carers and ensure they are well informed about the education, training and employment opportunities available.



Priority 5 Reduce health inequalities

Young people said that they are not aware of the sexual health services that exist for them, including where to get free condoms and free emergency after sex contraception.

Parents of drug using children said that they needed to know more about drugs and the legal system, and about drugs and their effects. They said they would like to be able to speak to others in similar situations.

What we are doing: In consultation with young people we are establishing an identity for Young People's Sexual Health Services (4YP), which will raise the profile of services for young people and will ensure that the services perform to an accepted standard. Sexual health drop-ins have been established in 14 secondary schools run by the Brook Clinic. A family intervention group has been set up by the Young People's Drug Treatment Service in the evening to provide the support that parents have said that they need.



Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Improve the quality of healthcare for children and young people
- **Develop comprehensive services (both specialist and universal) to improve prevention of and early intervention in emotional and mental health problems**
- Improve access to services and information to improve healthy lifestyles and public health
- Retain and improve the Beacon status of Healthy Schools
- **Reduce substance misuse and increase treatment rates**
- **Reduce teenage pregnancy rates**
- Improve access to specialist services and support for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

Transform the way we work

Children and young people said that they want us to ask them what services they want.

Parents and carers said that they get asked the same questions by different people and that it would be better if the agencies worked together more.

Schools said that they need to provide earlier parenting support for the children and families in the most challenging circumstances, especially young carers, children in care, children with disabilities and those children experiencing emotional and domestic abuse.

What we are doing: We are changing the way we work to ensure that young people's views are listened to and acted upon in the planning and design of services.

We are bringing schools and agencies together to provide earlier inter-agency support than has been previously possible, including parenting support. We are training staff across the agencies to carry out one single assessment of need rather than many, to share important information, and to coordinate inter-agency support to children and families.



Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Consolidate and develop strategic partnerships with outside bodies and agencies to develop new forms of governance and accountability
- **Jointly commission services to improve outcomes for children and young people**
- Engage with service users in the design and delivery of services to meet their needs
- **Integrate early childhood services**
- Ensure swift and easy referrals and access to preventative services at local level
- Ensure that all children, young people and families have access to extended school opportunities and support.

Priority 7 Improve corporate parenting



Children in Care said that they want their views to be heard and to be acted upon.

Foster carers said that they want to be respected as professionals and able to positively contribute to care planning and reviews.

What we are doing: We are setting clear standards across the agencies to ensure that children in care and foster carers are enabled to fully participate in reviews. Senior officers, elected members and members of the Corporate Parenting Panel meet regularly with the 'Kids in Care and Social Services' group to find out how services can be improved for children in care. This has resulted in specific issues being addressed including raising pocket money levels, clarifying the sleepover policy and involving children in care and care leavers in the appointment of managers.

Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Improve the health of children in care and care leavers
- Keep children in care and care leavers safe
- **Improve the standards of educational attainment achieved by children in care and care leavers**
- Improve positive participation in the community of children in care
- Improve the economic well-being of children in care and care leavers
- Strengthen family support, particularly for children most at risk of becoming children in care, and support for foster carers
- **Reduce the number of children in care by improving permanency planning and increase the number of children adopted, also ensuring that provision is cost effective.**

Priority 8 Improve organisational effectiveness

Schools said that there needs to be more HR support for performance management in schools, data needs to be more accurate and reliable and systems for managing information more effective.

What we are doing: We have expanded HR support to schools, and consulted schools and trade unions to review the authority's performance management in schools policy. We have commissioned an external partner to review our information management systems and are implementing the recommendations for action from the review.

Key areas for improvement in 2008-09

- Improve human resources support, and workforce planning and development, integrating front-line services and inter-agency working practices
- Improve the quality of performance management
- Improve the understanding of the respective roles and responsibilities of the council and its partners in improving children's services
- Ensure that the management information systems of the local authority and all partners are compatible and that a formalised system for passing and sharing operational information is developed
- Improve the monitoring and evaluation of services and projects, focusing specifically on outcomes for children and young people and value for money
- Manage school place provision in a cost-effective way
- Improve internal and external communications
- Develop a five year vision for Children and Young People's Services.



If you would like this information in a different format, for example braille, audiotape, large print or computer disk, or community languages, please contact Lucia Dorrington, Strategic Planning and Performance on 0117 92 22028.

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2005-2006
Promoting Racial Equality
 2006-2007
*Transforming the Delivery of
 Services Through Partnerships*
 2007-2008
Healthy Schools
 2007-2008
*Preventing and Tackling
 Anti-social Behaviour*

