

Executive summary

Wiltshire Children and Young People's Trust Plan 2016-19 outlines our vision and high level outcomes for improving the life chances of our children and young people across three key themes. More detailed plans and measurement of our progress are included in a range of commissioning strategies on our website www.wiltshirepathways.org. The diagram below provides an overview of outcomes we want to achieve and key actions we will take to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Vision: To improve outcomes for children and young people in Wiltshire; promote safeguarding; reduce, prevent and mitigate the effects of child poverty; and enable resilient individuals, families and communities.

What we want to achieve – high level outcomes:

- All children and young people make the best possible start in life.
- All children and young people are safeguarded from abuse or neglect.
- All children and young people are equipped with skills, knowledge, opportunities and attitudes to make a successful transition to adulthood.
- More children and young people are able to remain with their families when safe to do so.
- More children and young people live above the poverty line and actions are taken to improve the life chances of children living in poverty.
- More children and young people benefit from a healthy lifestyle.
- More vulnerable children and young people are able to achieve outcomes and progress in line with their peers.
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Prevention and early intervention

Prevention and early intervention activities are important to reduce risks and improve outcomes. In early years this creates strong foundations for good health and wellbeing later on in life. Whatever age, it is important to identify additional needs at the earliest possible stage in order to provide support before difficulties become entrenched.

Examples of key actions

- Continue to develop more integrated early years services so that midwives, health visitors, children's centre services, early years settings and primary schools work together effectively.
- Ensure our Early Help Offer contains the services and interventions required to meet the needs of our vulnerable children and young people - through effective commissioning and service specifications.
- Continue development of multi-agency local Early Help Hubs – creating locally responsive and proactive teams that work effectively with early years settings, schools and other partners to support children and families.
- Equip the children's services workforce with the skills, knowledge and tools they need to deliver effective early intervention, track progress and measure impact and outcomes.

Raising aspirations and narrowing the gap

Raising aspirations and narrowing gaps in achievement between vulnerable groups and their peers are central goals of government education policy. Tackling this gap is a key building block to ensure that poverty in childhood, or having a special educational need or disability, does not translate to poor experiences and outcomes in later life.

- Take more rapid and bold action to raise aspirations for the participation, achievement and progression of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups at every key stage to narrow the achievement gap. We will continue to work with all schools to ensure the effective use of pupil premium funding in tackling inequalities in educational achievement.
- Continue to increase take up of Better2gether funding for free entitlement to early years provision so those children who need it have access to good quality early education and the chance of improved outcomes in later life.
- Continue to develop support for children and young people with SEN to improve their educational progress and attainment.
- Work with education providers and local employers to ensure all young people have access to a high quality 14-19 education and training offer which meets the needs of young people and employers, providing training and employment opportunities (including apprenticeships and traineeships).

Promoting healthy lifestyles

The goal of promoting health is informed by the World Health Organisation who defines health as 'a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'. Promoting healthy lifestyles during pregnancy, through childhood and adolescence is essential to ensuring children have the best possible health and wellbeing outcomes.

- Provide a universal and targeted school nursing service, in addition to the health visiting service, that delivers all aspects of the Healthy Child Programme.
- Implement the Child Health Improvement Strategy and the Obesity Strategy, particularly ensuring a joined up approach to supporting children to achieve and maintain a healthy weight and be physically active.
- Promote the Wiltshire Healthy Schools programme as a key local driver to support Wiltshire schools to understand the health needs of their children and young people and implement evidence-based interventions to improve and protect their health.
- Work with schools and families to promote the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people. This includes supporting anti-bullying initiatives and the provision of counselling services, and access to more specialist mental health support when needed.