

Children's Trust

Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012

Summary





Introduction

The Government requires key services in every area to work together as a Children's Trust, to improve children and young people's lives. Poole Children's Trust is a partnership of all the agencies that provide services to children and young people.

Poole Children's Trust is working to support all children, young people, their families and carers to achieve the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes. These outcomes are for all 0 to 19 year olds.

They are:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

What is the main focus of the Children and Young People's Plan?

We asked children and young people, parents and carers, and staff who work with children and young people, what most needs to be done to improve lives in Poole. Most children and young people in Poole have fantastic opportunities and generally achieve well. They are healthy and they achieve good school results; anti-social behaviour rates are low. However, some children and young people do less well, and families sometimes need extra support.

So our main focus is to support vulnerable children and young people, to help them access a full range of opportunities and overcome any difficulties they face.

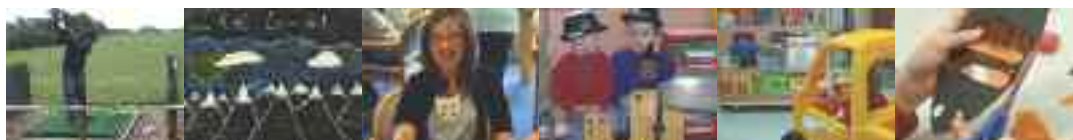
Poole Children's Trust has developed a new Children and Young People's Plan for 2009-12, to show how services will achieve the improvements that are needed most. This document is a summary of the main points in the new Plan.

You can read the whole Plan at www.poolechildrenstrust.org.uk

Which services are part of Poole Children's Trust?

Everyone you would expect to get help or support from if you are a parent or carer, a child or a young person, works as part of the Children's Trust.

Some main examples of the services that are part of Poole Children's Trust are in the list at the side of page 4. Many other services work as part of the Children's Trust.



The vision for children and young people in Poole

The vision outlines what we want for children and young people. It was developed through talking to children and young people, and their families and carers, about what is most important to them.

Children, young people and their families said they want:

- To be listened to, supported and respected, so they and their community, school and town can be proud of each other
- To take responsibility and improve the public image of young people
- To feel safe, with someone they trust to go to if they have concerns
- To have good information on being healthy, and on where to go for advice and activities, with support if they have a disability or long-term health problem
- To enjoy learning and feel they are supported in achieving their ambitions
- To have good friends and a variety of challenging, enjoyable and accessible activities to choose from
- To be able to get a good job with training and take the first steps towards independence

Services will continue to build on the progress made towards working together to meet needs in the best way possible. We will continue to build on the approaches shown below:

- The child or young person will be at the centre of everything we do
- We will have a single system of support that is clear and easy to understand
- We will work in true partnership with parents and children
- All agencies, providers and commissioners will work together in partnership and have a common purpose and common commitment to quality
- We will involve neighbourhoods and the community in the work programmes to achieve the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes for children and young people

This work has already started. It will go on through 2009 to 2012.



Some Children's Trust Services



Borough of Poole



Primary Care Trust NHS Bournemouth and Poole



Dorset Health Care Trust NHS Bournemouth and Poole



Poole Hospital NHS Bournemouth and Poole



Dorset Police

Schools



Youth Offending Team



Voluntary and Community Sector organisations

Faith Groups

After School Clubs

Play Groups

Youth Groups

The principles that underpin every service

We have agreed a set of principles that will guide all services for children and young people. The principles are:

Children and young people's needs are paramount

Their wishes and feelings should be listened to and taken into account



Emotional well being is vital

Children have the right to grow up in a loving, stable environment with supportive relationships they can depend on

The foundations to lifelong health are established early in life

Children and young people should have local access to young people friendly healthcare services and the support they need to maximise lifelong good health

Equality of opportunity and respect for diversity are essential

Every child should have the opportunities and support they need to fulfil their potential

It is essential for children and young people to feel included

Policies and services will support children and young people to have increased opportunities to participate and articulate their needs and aspirations

Children, young people and their families need to be empowered

They must be able to participate at the level they want through consultation and involvement in the design, delivery and evaluation of policies and services



It is essential to safeguard and protect children and young people

Robust systems, skills and resources will be in place to support this

Children and young people need to have high aspirations

They should have standards, expectations and pride in themselves, and be enabled to promote and celebrate their achievements

Children and young people have the right to enjoy childhood

Every child and young person should have opportunities to play, have fun and explore new interests

Children and young people are better supported when they are part of a stable community

Services will work together to involve communities in meeting the needs of children and young people locally and sustainably, in a way which reduces the impact of child poverty

What's in the Children and Young People's Plan for 2009-12?

The Plan sets out how services will work to improve the lives of children and young people in Poole. We aim to give children and young people the best possible start in life.

There are 6 main priorities, with actions to support children and young people for each priority.

The priorities are:

- Ensure children and young people are safeguarded
- Ensure all children, young people, their families and carers are treated with respect, their views influence services and diversity is valued
- Promote improved outcomes through excellent integrated universal services
- Promote the health and well-being of vulnerable children and their families, reduce inequalities and reduce the gap between outcomes for people who are not achieving their expected potential and others who are
- Transform the lives of children in care
- Improve outcomes for children with complex needs



Why is the Children and Young People's Plan important to me as a parent or carer?

The Plan shows how all the services in Poole will work together to provide the support that children and young people need most.

This includes support to parents and carers, to help them give their children the best possible start.



What are the main things in the Children and Young People's Plan?

The Plan focuses on the areas that will make the most difference to children, young people and families. The full Children and Young People's Plan document lists the actions we will take. Here are some examples from that list.

How we will organise services

- We will give most support to our most vulnerable children and young people, as well as raising standards for all children and young people in Poole
- We will focus on areas of the town where families have the most disadvantages
- All services will work with whole families, and help them to support their children and young people
- We will provide local services where they are needed most
- We will listen to what service users say about services, and give feedback
- Services will work more closely together to get the best outcomes for children and young people. This includes schools, health services, council services, the police and local voluntary and community services

A focus on helping parents and carers

- Services will support parents and carers and help them when they are under extra pressure. This may be because of a long term need such as a family member having a disability, or because of a short term crisis that makes it harder to cope
- We will develop and publicise information for parents and carers about the support they can get when they are under pressure, and how to access the help that is available
- We will develop and publicise information about the leisure activities available for children and young people of all ages





A focus on the things families have told us are important

- We will work with schools to develop systems to support children who are bullied and help them to feel safe
 - We will involve children, young people, parents and carers in developing exciting learning programmes
 - We will help children understand how to make healthy choices in all areas of their lives, such as what they eat and how much exercise they take
 - We will increase the play and leisure facilities for children and young people
 - We will improve the information and services for children, young people, parents and carers to get help with problems on drugs and alcohol
 - We will continue to develop sexual health and teenage pregnancy prevention services for young people
- We will improve the choices of leisure activities and short breaks for children and young people with disabilities, together with support to access these services
 - We will improve the health and education support for children in care
 - We will support young people to develop the skills they need to get a job they want, to develop successful relationships, to contribute to their community and to cope well with changes in their lives
 - We will involve children, young people, parents and carers in decision making about things that are important to them





What happens now?

The Children and Young People's Plan promises to improve services and the way they are provided, across many areas. The changes will take place over the next three years. The Children's Trust Governance Board will check that services continue to improve; it is made up of elected Councillors and the most senior staff from key services. The Children's Trust Governance Board gets advice from the Children and Young People's Shadow Board, parents and other groups.

You can find out about the progress that services are making on the plan in these ways:

- You can come to Board meetings. These are public meetings, often held at Poole Civic Centre. You can find out the dates and times at www.poolechildrenstrust.org.uk
- You can check progress updates at www.poolechildrenstrust.org.uk

Where can I get more information?

You can get a copy of the full Children and Young People's Plan from your local library or Children's Centre. Or you can download it at www.poolechildrenstrust.org.uk

If you have any comments on the Plan, or if you would like to get involved in the work of the Children's Trust, please contact the Children's Trust Team on **01202 262723** or email us at childrenstrust@poole.gov.uk



We can give you help to read or understand this information



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