

Darlington Children & Young People's Plan Summary 2008 - 2011



First heartbeat



First breath



First steps



First birthday



First day



First triumph



First challenge



First real test



First day of the
rest of my life

Purpose

The Children and Young People's Plan describes what we will do over the next three years to improve the lives of all children and young people in Darlington. It shows how the council and all its local partners, who provide services for you and your family, are working together to deliver better services.

Our Vision

"Darlington's Children are its future. We want to help children achieve their potential and enjoy life. We will achieve this by delivering effective, high quality joined up services. "

The following support our vision

- Giving everyone the best start in life
- Having someone there to help and support you when you and your family need it
- Making sure there are fun things to do and that everyone enjoys, and does well at school
- On leaving school there will be a place in training, further education or a job for everyone

Our Priorities

The Plan has 5 main priorities and explains how they will be delivered.

We decided our priorities after listening to children, young people, their families and carers and understanding that there are good as well as bad things about living in Darlington.

These are the things we are committed to working together to achieve:

Priority – to make sure everyone stays healthy by eating good food, taking plenty of exercise and not drinking too much alcohol, smoking or taking drugs

We will:

- Make every school a 'Healthy School'
- Promote healthy eating and more exercise
- Work with children, young people and families to help them make healthy choices such as not drinking, smoking or taking drugs
- Make sure that children's and young people's teeth are healthy
- Improve sexual health and relationship information

Priority – to make sure everyone is safe at home, at school, outside, on the streets and is not bullied

We will:

- Make our roads safer places and reduce the number of road traffic accidents
- Help children to stay with their families and protect them when they are in danger
- Help all children, their families and people who work with children to understand bullying and stop it happening
- Reassure young people and reduce anti social behaviour

Priority – to make sure everyone is able to play and have fun and is supported to do as well as they can at school

We will:

- Improve opportunities for play for all children and young people
- Help children to learn, focusing on those we know have particular difficulties, for example disabled children
- Make school fun and interesting and encourage everyone to attend
- Improve school buildings and playgrounds

Priority – to encourage everyone to be helpful to friends, family and neighbours and contribute to their community and environment

We will:

- Encourage more young people to volunteer
- Create ways for children, young people and their families to have a say in the way we provide our services to you
- Reduce anti-social behaviour and crime
- Support the work of the Darlington UK Youth Parliament Member who listens to and speaks on behalf of children and young people

Priority - to make sure everyone has a job, somewhere safe to live, continue in education and training when they leave school and is able to enjoy adult life.

We will:

- Reduce the number of children living in poverty
- Make sure that all young people have access to education, training and work that meets their needs
- Improve peoples skills so they are ready to get a job
- Support aspirations

The Plan will be reviewed every year when we will look at the progress we have made towards our priorities.

Want to know more?

You can find a fuller version of this Plan and details of the actions we are going to take to deliver our priorities on our website: www.darlington.gov.uk/cypp along with other supporting documents or contact the Policy and Performance Team at:

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Darlington Children's Trust

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