

Section 12: Outlining Darlington Children's Trust Children and Young People Priorities 2011-2014

The commissioning priorities for Darlington Children's Trust have been agreed after undertaking stakeholder consultation, consultation with parents and consultation with over 300 children and young people. The commissioning priorities for 2011-2014 are outlined below:

Cross-cutting Priorities across all of the Every Child Matter Outcomes:

- Ensure that early intervention and prevention work is embedded across all partner services
- Improve outcomes and provide best value for money and provide opportunities for efficiencies across the partnership
- Provision of high quality, accessible information advice and guidance
- Designing schemes that specifically improve outcomes for vulnerable groups
- Supporting and strengthening parenting to improve outcomes for children.
- Improve provision for disabled children and children with complex and acute needs, their families and carers

Every Child Matters Outcome - Be Healthy

Priority 1 - Promote positive health and wellbeing.

Areas for action:

- Promote healthy settings for children and young people
- Reduce obesity in children and young people
- Reduce health inequalities including targeting alcohol misuse including binge drinking and reduce drug use and smoking
- Improve oral health
- Reduce Under 18 conceptions and promote positive sexual health
- Promote positive mental health and emotional well-being
- Ensure appropriate ante natal and post natal services are available for women and their families

Every Child Matters Outcome - Stay Safe

Priority 2 - Ensure the safety of children and young people.

Areas for action:

- Ensure the stability and safety of looked after children and improve the quality of provision of looked after children
- Help children, young people and adults to develop positive relationships and not to bully
- Reduce the exposure of children and young people to the prevalence of domestic abuse and repeat abuse
- Reassure young people and improve perceptions of positive social behaviour
- Continue the monitoring of and referrals of social care and the adequacy of resources, systems and processes to manage demand.

Every Child Matters Outcome - Enjoy and Achieve

Priority 3 - Enable children and young people to have fun and maximise their full potential through learning.

Areas for action:

- Ensure all children and young people including all vulnerable groups receive high quality teaching and learning, improving academic progress and narrowing the gap in performance between settings, schools and phases
- Improve the support for behaviour and attendance to ensure vulnerable young people can achieve
- Improve transition across all settings, phases and services especially for vulnerable groups
- Monitor the quality of all provision and support settings to ensure the sufficiency of high quality child care and to ensure that more settings are considered Good or Outstanding
- Maximise inclusive leisure opportunities for children and young people with additional needs

Every Child Matters Outcome - Make a Positive Contribution

Priority 4 - Enable children and young people to contribute to their local communities.

Areas for action:

- Improve and promote opportunities for volunteering
- Enhance communication, consultation and participation of children, young people, their families and carers in design and delivery of services
- Work with young people vulnerable and 'at risk' of offending to prevent them entering and re entering the criminal justice system

Every Child Matters Outcome - Achieve Economic Well-being

Priority 5 -Ensure children and young people are prepared for adult life.

Areas for action:

- To reduce the causes and mitigate the impact of child poverty
- Enhance people's skills in relation to the job market, by tackling the disparities in employment prospects and economic opportunities across Darlington
- Support aspirations through adult and family learning and skills and opportunities for personal development
- Support young people to remain in education, employment and training and prepare them for adult life



PEACE
by Chloe aged 10