

# GIVING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE A GREAT START IN LIFE

## The Children and Young People's Plan for Herefordshire 2019 - 2024

OUR PLEDGES CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE	WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?	HOW WILL WE DO IT?	HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE?
<p><b>1. Be SAFE FROM HARM</b> <b>Champion - Assistant Director Safeguarding and Family Support</b></p> <p><b>Be safe with others</b> You will live with supportive families and carers and have a better understanding of healthy and positive relationships.</p> <p>We will work together to make clear decisions so you receive the right support at the right time.</p> <p><b>Feel safer</b> You will know how to keep safe where you live so that you are confident when you go out.</p>	Help children and young people to keep themselves safe.	Increase access to education on healthy relationships and online safety. Strengthen our response to any new areas of concern by raising awareness across communities and putting in place multi agency arrangements to support children and young people and their families (e.g. County Lines and Peer on Peer abuse).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More children are having an early help assessment from partners.</li> <li>• The number of children who either become looked after or are on a child protection plans will reduce so that it is in line with our population and with statutory neighbours</li> <li>• Children's services will be rated good by Ofsted</li> <li>• Young people will feed back that they feel safer and families will report that support received has made a positive difference.</li> <li>• Further measures will be established as part of the work to develop a family centred approach</li> </ul>
	Develop our family centred approach by building up Early Help, including targeted services, to provide support to families at the right time.	Develop a new Partnership Early Help Strategy which clearly sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our shared understanding of, and commitment to the local Early Help offer at all levels of our organisations</li> <li>• Individual contributions to supporting families in need of Early Help</li> <li>• How the partnership will work together to strengthen support provided to families, including training.</li> <li>• How we will co-ordinate activities to tackle issues including domestic abuse, parental mental health, substance misuse and neglect.</li> </ul>	
	Improve safeguarding in children's services	Redesign our pathway to support and make sure this is clear and well understood.	
	Develop our family centred approach to reduce the number of children becoming looked after	Provide the right support for the right people at the right time, by giving clearer guidance and training on thresholds of need across the partnership.	
	Improve social work capacity and practice	Develop new services that can work effectively with vulnerable families to prevent children entering care. Bid for a national initiative to link with best practice and develop a suite of services within a unified family centred approach. If this bid is unsuccessful secure funding to develop an approach with a DfE approved partner in practice	
	Improve road safety	Further develop skills in the workforce by using a new model of good practice.	
		Support delivery of the Local Transport Plan, including reducing short distance car journeys by working with local employers and further developing local active travel schemes, developing community transport and rural transport hubs. Deliver our Sustainable Modes of Travel to School Strategy including road safety education programmes, training in schools and consideration of speed limits near schools. Develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.	

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<p><b>2. Be HEALTHY</b></p> <p><b>Champion – Director of Public Health</b></p> <p><b>Lead a healthier lifestyle</b> You will have good information and support to help you keep active and eat healthily, reducing risk of obesity and chronic illness in later life.</p> <p><b>Have healthier teeth</b> You and your family will receive clear advice about the importance of good dental health.</p> <p><b>Be confident to talk about mental health</b> You will have better support to meet your emotional and mental health needs.</p>	<p>Target support for children and families from pre-birth and maternity services through infancy to school readiness</p>	Developing targeted information and advice about healthy eating and exercise for families, and ensuring it is accessible and promoted in local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The percentage of reception age children who are overweight or obese will be below national average</li> <li>• The percentage of children with decayed, missing or filled teeth will be no more than national average.</li> <li>• The percentage of year 6 age children who are overweight or obese will be below the national average.</li> <li>• Increase (or at least maintain) the number of babies breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks, or longer.</li> <li>• Further improve waiting times for treatment</li> <li>• At least 35% of children and young people with a diagnosable mental health condition receive treatment from an NHS funded community mental health service.</li> <li>• Increase in the number of children and young people attending 'Crucial crew' and accessing 'Strong Young Minds' education and awareness sessions.</li> </ul>
		Increasing opportunities to be active in local communities, by finding ways to work alongside communities and local partners (including Sports partnerships and parish councils)	
		Working with schools and communities to support healthy lifestyles and delivering schemes to enhance walking and cycling opportunities in Herefordshire.	
		Increase access to breastfeeding advice and support.	
	<p>Support targeted dental health initiatives, and assess the feasibility of fluoridation of the local water supplies.</p>	Drive forward improvement in parts of the county where dental health issues are greatest.	
		Identify families where good oral health is the greatest challenge and develop specific approaches to overcome barriers.	
	<p>Ensure that there is a co-ordinated and comprehensive offer to support children's social, emotional and mental health</p>	Provide early advice and guidance to parents regarding oral health and encourage greater access to and availability of fluoride varnish.	
		Work alongside children and young people to promote mental health awareness with peers, families and within schools/ other educational settings (such as mental health first aid).	
		We will work together across a broad range of professionals to support early identification and early support (aligned with our Early Help offer)	
		Effectively supporting children and young people with complex mental health conditions locally and within the community wherever possible.	
		Explore together our approaches (such as 5 ways to wellbeing) to supporting emotional resilience, with particular focus on vulnerable groups/ stages in a child's life which may be more challenging.	

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<p><b>3. Be AMAZING</b></p> <p><b>Champion - Assistant Director Education Development and Skills</b></p> <p><b>Have a great start in life</b> We will support you to have a great start in life and to overcome barriers to your achievement.</p> <p><b>Be better prepared for adulthood</b> You will receive quality guidance on careers to help you make informed choices.</p> <p><b>Have better chances of success</b> You will have more opportunities to develop the skills you will need for the world of work.</p>	<p>Add value to the education, development and skills strategy through collaborative partnership working</p>	<p>Learn from the best practice nationally and get the most out of national initiatives for Herefordshire schools and colleges.</p> <p>Develop close working between health and early years' settings so that children get the best possible start to their education.</p> <p>Develop a strategy to improve provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.</p> <p>Support children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs to remain in mainstream education.</p> <p>Improve existing partnership working between schools and the range of multi-agencies so that there is a joined up approach to supporting children and young people, particularly around their mental health and on issues such as county lines.</p> <p>Improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people through the development of innovative curriculum approaches which meet their needs and interests.</p> <p>Increase the range of career opportunities available for young people in Herefordshire, from apprenticeships to higher education through the development of a county careers strategy.</p> <p>Develop children and young people's initiative, creativity and resilience through supporting links between schools and employers on projects such as work experience, work-based learning and enterprise.</p> <p>Provide better support and guidance for 16-19 year olds who are at risk of being out of education, employment or training.</p> <p>Create exciting innovative learning spaces through the schools' capital investment strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Results in Herefordshire will be in the top 25% of all local authorities at the end of the primary and secondary phases of education, and in Year R, for all groups of pupils</li> <li>The proportion of young people who are either going to university or who are in education and training will be above national average</li> </ul>

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<p><b>4. FEEL PART OF THE COMMUNITY</b></p> <p><b>Champion – Assistant Director Communities</b></p> <p><b>Live in a happier community</b> With your help, we will tackle discrimination and ensure everyone feels valued in our community.</p> <p><b>Be more influential</b> We will work with you so that you are involved both in decision making in our community and in delivering this Children and Young People's Plan.</p>	Engage children with young people on topical issues in our community and encourage inclusion	<p>Support local communities to improve their local area for children and young people, including leisure activities and safe places to spend time with peers.</p> <p>Promote and encourage the development of local volunteering opportunities for children and young people.</p> <p>Identify and develop opportunities for children and young people to be more involved in their local communities (such as local planning incl. transport and supporting the local environment).</p> <p>This will include developing opportunities with partner agencies, including Parish Councils and the new University (New Model Institute for Technology &amp; Engineering).</p> <p>Enable children and young people to be involved in decisions about the way they are supported.</p> <p>Share good practice from across the county to encourage local partners to listen and respond to children and young people's views.</p> <p>Ensure actions above recognise and respond to areas where there are potential gaps/ identified issues (e.g. opportunities for adolescents to be involved in local communities/ being listened to).</p>	Surveys of children and young people's views across all ages will demonstrate that they feel engaged and positive about their ability to make a difference to their communities.