

Leeds Sufficiency Strategy



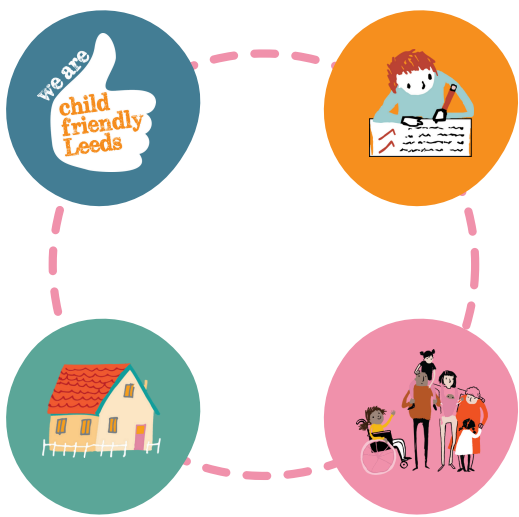
2024-2027

1 What we know

The number of children looked after is increasing in a time of austerity and pressure on public sector finances.

Children and young people's needs are complex and we don't always have enough of the right homes and support at the right time for them.

Our children looked after need good quality care, close to their communities, but we don't currently have the right mix of care available for our children.



2 What we want to achieve

We want Leeds to be a Child Friendly City, the best city for children, young people and families and we are obsessed with reducing the number of children looked after because we know the best place for a child to be brought up is with family. We are also obsessed with increasing children and young people's educational attainment, health and wellbeing.

We want children and young people to be in family based, stable homes, built on love, close to their local communities and networks of support.

We want to provide care for our children looked after in Leeds, through our own homes and carers or in partnership with local providers.

3 How will we work

We will put children, young people and families at the centre of all we do and ensure their voice influences what we do and how we do it.

Social care, education, health and third sector will work in partnership to ensure there is a focus on family led decision making, evidence-based family support, early intervention and the behaviours set out in CYP Plan.



4 What we will do

We will invest in early help, family-based solutions, permanency planning, fostering and local children's homes.

We will help young people to transition into adulthood and independence by providing a range of options and close proximity of support from trusted relationships.

We will use learning, best practice and local authority investment to ensure there is greater control of the cost, quality and outcomes for children and families.



5 How we will know we have succeeded

We will know we have succeeded if less children are looked after, more children live in stable, long-term family-based settings and less children see an unplanned end to their care.

We will know if more of our children and young people live in local homes that are high quality, meet their needs and are good value.

We will also know if children and young people tell us that we are delivering on the promises we made to them as corporate parents.



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL