



# Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2018 - 2023



The priorities that guide our work have been developed through consultation across the city, including the views of children and young people.

# The way we work

## Making connections

Developing quality connections, conversations, and relationships with children, families, and professionals is how we work in Leeds



## Valuing families

Children live in families  
Families create communities  
Communities create cities

## Three mindsets

Always remember...  
Do the simple things better  
The child is the client  
Safeguard and promote the welfare of children



## Four behaviours

Listening to the voice of the child  
Working restoratively: doing things with families instead of to them, for them or doing nothing  
Using outcome based accountability to measure our progress and challenge whether anyone is better off  
We support and prioritise children and young people to have fun growing up

## And a relentless focus on the question...

What is it like to be a child or young person growing up in Leeds and how do we make it better?



# Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023



## What we'll do

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### One vision

Our vision is for Leeds to be the best city in the UK and the best city for children and young people to grow up in. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city. Through our vision and obsessions we invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city. We aim to improve outcomes for all our children whilst recognising the need for outcomes to improve faster for children and young people from vulnerable and deprived backgrounds.

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### Five outcomes

Conditions of well-being we want for all our children and young people

- All children and young people:
1. are safe from harm
  2. do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life
  3. enjoy healthy lifestyles
  4. have fun growing up
  5. are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence

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### Eleven priorities

1. Help children and parents to live in safe, supportive and loving families
2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
3. Support families to give children the best start in life
4. Increase the number of children and young people participating and engaging in learning
5. Improve achievement and attainment for all
6. Improve at a faster rate educational progress for children and young people
7. Improve social, emotional, and mental health and wellbeing
8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating
9. Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours
10. Help young people into adulthood, to develop life skills, and be ready for work
11. Improve access to affordable, safe, and reliable connected transport for young people
12. Destinations of young people with special educational needs and/or a disability when they leave school
13. Progress against measures in the Future in Mind dashboard
14. Children that are a healthy weight at age 11
15. Young offenders that re-offend
16. Under-18 conception rates
17. Under-18 alcohol-related hospital admissions
18. Students achieving a level 3 qualification at age 19
19. Young people not in employment, education, or training, or whose employment status is 'not known'
20. Transport for young people indicator to be developed after further discussions with young people

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### Three obsessions

1. Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after
2. Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
3. Improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school

Helping deliver the Best Council Plan and our Best City ambition of a strong economy in a compassionate city

## How we'll do it



### The best start in life for all children

Before and after birth, we will support parents and babies to create the conditions where stress is reduced, positive bonds and attachments can form, and language and communications skills develop.

### Think Family Work Family

We will consider family relationships, the role of adult behaviour, and the wider context such as friends and the local community, and how these impact on outcomes for children and young people.

### Attaining and Achieving

Learning underpins wellbeing; we will place a disproportionate focus on learning, and readiness for learning, so we narrow the gap, and enable all children and young people - particularly those learners who are vulnerable to poor outcomes to realise their potential.

### Challenging Child Poverty

In acknowledging the scale and impact of poverty on families, we will work with communities and families to mitigate the impact of poverty on children's outcomes and support children's journeys into secure adulthood in a prosperous city

### Outstanding social work and support

Continuing our journey to outstanding following the 2015 Ofsted inspection, our Families First programme, and our investment in social work, we will ensure consistent quality across all our work with vulnerable children and young people.

### Early help - the right conversations in the right place at the right time

Building on what works well, and reorganising more of our services around the Restorative Early Start (RES) approach, we will focus help to where it is needed earlier.

### A stronger offer to improve social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) and well-being

We will redesign the whole system of SEMH and wellbeing support, and create simple pathways with clear points of entry to an integrated offer from education, health and social care services, which is personalised to individual needs.



## How we'll know if we've made a difference

1. Number of children looked after
2. Number of children subject to a child protection plan
3. Number of parents that have had more than one child enter care at different times
4. Number of children in need
5. Pupils achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (end of reception year)
6. Infant mortality rates
7. Newly created school places in good and outstanding schools
8. School attendance
9. Fixed-term exclusions from schools
10. Pupils reaching the expected standard at the end of Key Stage 2 (end of year six)
11. Progress 8 score for Leeds at the end of Key Stage 4 (end of year 11)
12. Destinations of young people with special educational needs and/or a disability when they leave school
13. Progress against measures in the Future in Mind dashboard
14. Children that are a healthy weight at age 11
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## Behaviours that underpin everything we do

**Use Outcome Based Accountability, and ask the question: is anyone better off?**

**Use restorative practice to work with people, not do to or for them**

**We listen and respond to the voice of the child**

**We support and prioritise children and young people to have fun growing up**



# Our city

## About Leeds

Total population: **781,700**

Including **189,600**  
children and young  
people aged up to 19  
(269,500 aged under 25)

**270** state-funded schools

**195**  
different languages  
spoken in Leeds  
schools



## Working together

The Child Friendly Leeds initiative's ambition is to make Leeds the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in.

To help us make this happen we have a Children and Families Trust Board, and a Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership. They bring senior people together from the main organisations working with children and young people to make sure the work we do keeps children safe, and has a positive impact on improving outcomes.

We work with schools, governors, police, the youth service, the youth offending service, children's centres, housing services, third sector, health, and local councillors, amongst others, to help make a difference to the lives of children and young people who live in Leeds.



## Find out more

Visit [www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds) for more information about our work

Follow us on Twitter: [@Child\\_Leeds](https://twitter.com/Child_Leeds)

For information about how we work together to keep children and young people safe, visit [www.leedsscp.org.uk](http://www.leedsscp.org.uk)

To see our one minute guides on all aspects of children's services, please visit [www.leeds.gov.uk](http://www.leeds.gov.uk) and search for one minute guides.

To help by being a Child Friendly Leeds supporter, ambassador or partner, email [childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk)

