

Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan 2014 to 2018



Contents Page

Vision.	3
Welcome.	3
The Buckinghamshire Context.	3 to 8
The Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Partnership.	8 to 9
What is the Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan?	9 to 10
How do we know we are focusing on the right things?	10-11
How we will work together to make a difference?	11
Equalities	11 to 12
Priorities and Objectives.	12 to 13
How we will measure success?	14
Further information and advice for Parents, Carers, Children and Young People.	14
Further information on this Plan.	14
Glossary.	15 to 17
Appendix 1 Key Strategies/Plans/Consultations.	17 to 18
Appendix 2 Partner organisations.	18 to 19

Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Partnership

Vision:

'Children and young people are healthy and safe, feel valued and value others, are treated fairly, have lives filled with learning, achieve their potential and are able to enjoy life and spend quality time with family and friends.'

Welcome

To be developed when rest of Plan finalised

The Buckinghamshire Context

Population

127,043 (25.1%) of the population, of Buckinghamshire is under the age of twenty, a 7% increase since 2001 and generally in line with the South East figure. Based on the Office of National Statistics sub-national population projections this is set to be 135,892 or 25% by 2020.

Just over a third of households have children, with a slightly higher than South East average number of couples with children. 25.9% of school children are from a black or minority ethnic group.

Every child has the best start in life

Evidence shows that the earliest years in a child's life have a significant and long-lasting impact and that early intervention is most effective in at this point. Babies and children who have a secure attachment to their parents or carers are more likely to develop healthily and do well. So to ensure every child has the best start in life, we need to focus on this stage.

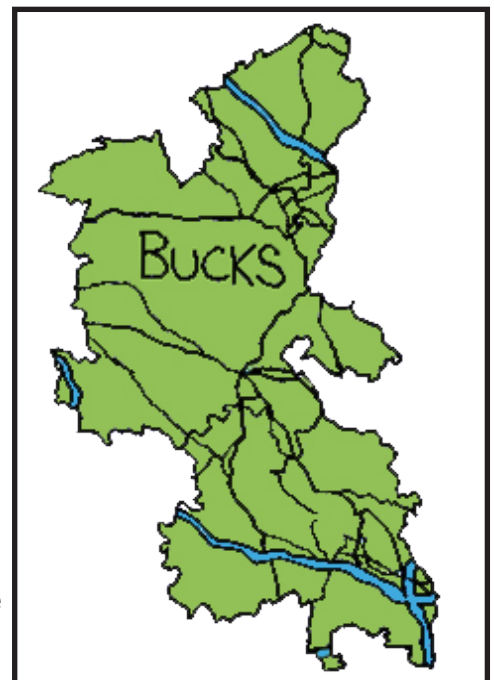
All children should be at a point where they are ready to learn by the time they start school and improving the advice, help and support available to parents in the early years can make a real difference.

Adolescence is another time characterised by huge hormonal and physical changes. Puberty and pre-puberty marks the beginning of a rapid and considerable reorganisation of the brain and in early adolescence the brain starts to become more sensitive to reward while the impulse control and strategic decision-making functions occurs more gradually. In addition to this some social skills, such as the ability to recognise emotions in others and the ability to understand another person's point of view are temporarily compromised.

Buckinghamshire is facing a number of challenges which need addressing if all our children are to lead full and successful lives in adulthood, further details of these are given below. These include the nationally reflected challenge of child sexual exploitation and some local concerns regarding increases in self harm and eating disorders.

Poverty

The level of child poverty is lower than the England average with 12,115 or 10.6% of those aged 0-18 years living in poverty. The rate of family homelessness is lower than the England average.



Research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies indicated that child poverty is projected to rise from 2012/13 with an expected 300,000 more children living in poverty by 2015/16. This upward trend is expected to continue with a projection of 4.2 million children living in poverty by 2020. (M Brewer, J Browne and R Joyce, Child and working age poverty from 2010 – 2020, Institute for Fiscal Studies, October 2011)

Health

The health and well-being of children in Buckinghamshire is generally better than the England average. Birth outcomes are generally good in Buckinghamshire, although outcomes are not as good for those living in more disadvantaged areas. Infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average.

Children in Buckinghamshire have lower than average levels of obesity. 7.9% of children aged 4-5 years and 15.9% of children aged 10-11 years are classified as obese.

'Obesity is a problem in England at the moment, so having sports will help and make people healthier.' (Young person)

54.7% of children attending state schools participate in at least three hours of high quality PE and school sport, within and beyond the curriculum, a week which is lower than the England average.

The hospital admission rate for injury is similar to the England average. The rate at which children were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents is lower than the England average. 45 children were killed or seriously injured on the roads in 2009-2011.

In comparison with the 2004-07 period, the rate of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital because they have a condition wholly related to alcohol such as alcohol overdose has decreased in the 2008-11 period. Overall rates of admission in the 2008-11 period are lower than the England average.

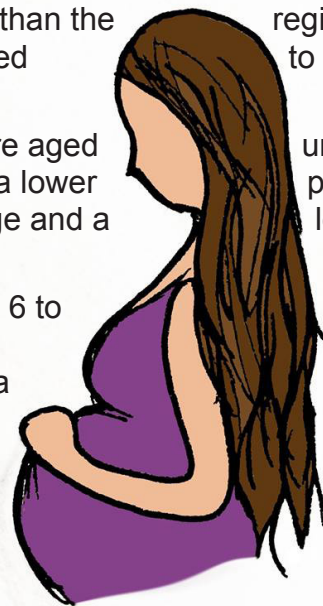
In comparison with the 2006-09 period, the rate of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm has decreased in the 2009-12 period. Overall rates of admission in the 2009-12 period are lower than the England average. Nationally, levels of self-harm are higher among young women than young men.

In 2010, approximately 20 girls aged under 18 conceived for every 1,000 of the female population aged 15-17 years in this area. This is lower than the regional average. The area has a lower teenage conception rate compared to the England average.

In 2011/12, 0.8% of women giving birth in this area were aged under 18 years. This is lower than the regional average. This area has a lower percentage of births to teenage girls compared to the England average and a lower percentage compared to the European average of 1.2%.

In this area, 56.5% of mothers are still breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks. This is higher than the England average. 79.3% of mothers initiate breastfeeding when their baby is born. This area has a lower percentage of babies who have ever been breastfed compared to the European average of 89.1%*.

A higher percentage of children (95.6%) have received their first dose of immunisation by the age of two in this area when compared to the England average. By the age of five, the percentage of children who have received their second dose of MMR is lower compared to the England average. 90.2% of children being immunised. This is higher than the England average. A lower percentage of children in care are up-to-date with their immunisations.



Children in Care

There were 400 children in care at 31st March 2013 which gives a lower rate when compared to the England average. This figure increased from 330 in 2009, 345 in 2010, 390 in 2011, followed by a reduction to 375 in 2012.

'Children feel safe with their mummy and daddy most of all. They like the closeness and I know that I feel loved and cared for. Other children my age should have this as well and if they don't I don't understand why.' (7 year old boy)

At the time of writing this Plan there were significant increases in the number of children in care from the 31 March 2013.

The majority of looked after children are placed in foster care. This represents at any one time 70% of the looked after population. At March 2013 when we had 400 LAC, 280 were in foster care. These were split roughly 50/50 between our own in-house carers and purchased placements from independent fostering agencies.

There is a national and local shortage of available foster carers. In Buckinghamshire the Local Authority is the largest provider of fostering services. The independent sector accounts for 90 fostering households spread amongst 18 fostering agencies.

Buckinghamshire is actively seeking to recruit more carers, both to avoid placing children and young people away from their home area and to reduce the need to use expensive purchased placements.

Adoption reform is also a significant element of the current national agenda. In Buckinghamshire we are on track to approve 30 adopters in 2013-14, a 50% increase on previous years. We are also seeking to speed up the process of adoption in compliance with the stricter Government targets for the gaining of court permission, matching and placing of children and the subsequent granting of Adoption Orders.



Young Carers

Caring can have a significant impact on young people. They face disadvantages which affect their childhood and education as well as their future prospects and they can miss out on a range of opportunities that many other young people take for granted.

Data from the National Census shows us that the number of Young Carers is rising; identifying 178,000 in England and Wales alone, an increase of 20% compared to 2001. Statistics show an 83% jump in the number of Young Carers aged 5-7 and a 55% rise in the number of children caring who are aged 8-9 years. However, research indicates that the figures are likely to be four times the estimated number due to the high volume of 'hidden carers' who do not access support.

Evidence in Buckinghamshire runs very close to the trend indicated in the national data. The number of identified Young Carers has increased to almost 600 with a significant rise in those from the lower age bracket, 68% of those being supported are aged between 6 – 12 years and 32% aged 13 - 19 years.

'You need to have the right support at the right time' (Young Carer)

Young Carers in England will now benefit from support via the Children and Families Act 2014. The Bill states that Young Carers will have stronger rights to assessment and support and when a child is identified as a Young Carer, the needs of everyone in the family will be considered. With the Care Bill also under consideration by Parliament, this is an ideal opportunity to ensure that Young Carers get equal consideration and protection.

Young Offenders

During 2013, the Youth Offending Service (YOS) began working on 262 new interventions with young people in Buckinghamshire. Of these, 93 were pre-court programmes and 169 were given by the court. This is in addition to those programmes that had opened in 2013 and were ongoing.

Between September 2012 and September 2013 there was a 40.2% reduction in the number of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time. The overall number of first time entrants is almost half of the national average and is significantly lower than that seen across the South East and in Thames Valley.

The use of custody for young people has also reduced, with the number of Buckinghamshire young people being sentenced to custody less than a third of the national average and less than the numbers seen across the south east and Thames Valley. There was a 61.5% reduction between 2012 (when 13 young people received custodial sentences) to 2013 (where there were 5 young people).



The percentage of young people who go on to reoffend has seen an increase both nationally and within Buckinghamshire, although locally the actual numbers reoffending have reduced: from March 2010 to March 2012, this decreased by 34.7%. However, it is important to recognise that with the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system reducing so significantly, those who remain within the system are the more complex, higher risk cases, providing a challenge for all Youth Offending Teams nationally.

Domestic Violence and Abuse

6,480 incidents of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) were reported to the police in Buckinghamshire in 2012/13, with many of these having children and young people present at the time of the incident. It is anticipated that this will increase further as the extended definition becomes embedded. Including victims aged 16-17 in the definition is particularly important given that intimate partner relationships and even marriages before the age of 18 are not uncommon, and that the British Crime Survey shows 16-19 year olds are the age group most likely to suffer abuse from a partner. The incidents reported to the police do not include the vast number of cases which still go unreported - using the Home Office Ready Reckoner tool it is estimated that that over 16,500 women and girls aged 16-59 in Buckinghamshire will have been a victim of DVA in the past year.

'It doesn't matter if it is the children, parents or people in relationships being hit it's the same effect on children's environment.' (Young person)

Over 75% of cases presented to Children's Social Care have domestic violence as a presenting problem for repeat child protection plans, and the NSPCC identified DVA being present in two-thirds of Child Protection Cases nationally.

It is estimated that at any one time 10% of the adult female population will be experiencing DVA and almost 70% of those will have children who are being adversely affected.

The numbers of victims seeking support is continuing to increase, with the number of clients

supported by the Independent Domestic Violence Advocate service (working with those clients at greatest risk) increasing from 347 in 2012/13 to 412 so far for April – November 2013 and could exceed 600 if it continues at the current referral rate. Increases to Women's Aid outreach services have also increased significantly – in the first six months of 2013/14 Aylesbury Women's Aid had 144 new referrals to their outreach service, in comparison to 80 new referrals in the same period 2012/13.

Early Years and School

The Buckinghamshire education system is highly regarded and well above national average results are achieved at almost all levels.

'Schools should be fun so that you listen to your teacher.' (Child, Coleshill C of E Primary School)

At the age of 5, 55% reached a good level of development in 2013, as against 52% nationally. By the end of primary school, in 2013 80% attained level 4 in all three of reading, writing and mathematics (76% nationally). By the age of 16, 71% attained 5+ GCSEs at levels A*-C including English and Mathematics (59% nationally).

However, a few schools (4 primary and 2 secondary in 2012) are still below the Government's "floor targets".

Also, across the county some groups of pupils achieve less well. These include children from some minority ethnic groups and those who are eligible for Pupil Premium (those known to be eligible for Free School Meals in the last six years or who are in care.) At the age of five, 30% of Buckinghamshire children eligible for Pupil Premium reached a good level of development in 2013 against 33% nationally. By the end of primary school in 2012, 63% of Pupil Premium pupils reached the expected standard compared with the national figure of 68%. By age 16, 35% of Pupil Premium pupils attained 5+ A*-C including English and English and Mathematics against 38% nationally.



The Buckinghamshire attainment gap at age 16 between Pupil Premium pupils and others was the largest in the country (2013 data is not yet available).

GCSE achievement for children in care is similar to the England average for this group of children and attainment remains a challenge due to a high proportion of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). This cohort did not reach national benchmarks, however, achievement particularly at KS2 was above national expected levels with pupils at KS2 = 28.45 % achieving Level 4 in both Reading and Maths, with 88.75% achieving expected progress when compared to prior attainment. At KS4 the achievement was 37.5% making expected progress in English and Mathematics.



'Give children who are gifted and talented extra work so they are still challenged.' (Year 1 Class, Coleshill C of E Primary School)

Significant changes to the education system nationally are reflected locally. For example, most secondary schools and a small number of primary schools are now Academies, free to set their own admission criteria and funded directly from Central Government. The County Council, in its role as champion for children, continues to build on established relationships with schools and other education providers to make sure that as changes happen, all Buckinghamshire children and young people have the opportunity to reach their potential.

A strong local relationship with schools and other education providers will be increasingly important not just to raise overall levels of achievement but also to ensure a special focus on

those pupils who are underperforming.

Raising of the Participation Age and those not in education, employment and training (NEET)

September 2013 saw the first cohort of learners who are subject to the Raising of the Participation Age legislation, with Year 11 leavers required to stay in education or training until the end of the academic year they turn 17.

Buckinghamshire has large numbers of young people meeting with the requirements of the Raising of the Participation Age legislation. Approximately 95% of Year 11 leavers enter into accredited post 16 employment or training with low numbers of school leavers becoming not in education, employment and training (NEET).

Advice and information

Advice and information is essential for parents and young people to make informed choices throughout their education years. Changes to the participation age, for example, mean that all young people will be expected to stay in some form of learning for longer. The provision of timely and accurate information will be essential for people to understand the options open to them and to make appropriate decisions.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

There are significant changes in this area of work as detailed in The Children and Families Bill which was published on 4 February 2013.

Part 3 of the Children and Families Bill relates to children and young people in England with special education needs or disabilities and implements Government proposals which were first published in the Green Paper Support and Aspiration: a new approach to special educational needs and disability (2011) and the Progress and next steps report (2012).

The Act replaces the existing Special Educational Needs legislation (which will continue to apply in Wales) and includes the Green Paper objectives of bringing together the separate arrangements for children in schools and young people in post-16 institutions and training up to their 25th birthday, and the integrated Education, Health and Care Plan to replace the statement of Special Educational Needs.

The Bill also removes the separate treatment of local authority maintained schools and academies under Special Educational Needs legislation. It also requires Clinical Commissioning Groups to comply with any health service requirements in EHC plans. Regulations and the final Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Code of Practice will be laid before Parliament in March 2014 and will be published May/June. Implementation of the SEND Reforms will take place from September 2014.

The Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Partnership

The Children and Young People's Partnership is the strategic group responsible for bringing a broad range of organisations together so that they communicate effectively, jointly plan, deliver and improve services for children, young people and families in Buckinghamshire.

The Partnership is made up of an Executive supported by three Local Partnership Boards who operate across the District Council boundaries, with Chiltern and South Bucks combined.

The role of the Executive is to be the 'Champions' of Buckinghamshire children, young people,

parents and carers and lead strategic change to improve outcomes for them. The Executive is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The role of the three Local Partnership Boards is to identify local priorities linked to this Plan and establish Task and Finish groups to address the needs identified.

Further information about the Partnership can be found at:

<http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children-and-young-peoples-partnership/about-the-partnership/>

The Partnership Model can be viewed at:

http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/media/1549669/CYP_Partnership_Model_final.pdf

Further information about the Local Partnership Boards can be found at:

<http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children-and-young-peoples-partnership/about-the-partnership/local-partnership-boards/>

What is the Buckinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan?

The Children and Young People's Plan identifies the priorities of the Children and Young People's Partnership which are delivered by a range of partner organisations (see Appendix 2).



It identifies the vision, priorities and objectives of the Partnership and sets out how all those working with families in Buckinghamshire aim to help them improve their lives.

The vision, priorities and objectives will inform and be reflected in the plans of all those working with children, young people and families in the county and steer the commissioning intentions and the resource allocations of appropriate partner organisations.

The Plan covers children and young people aged 0 to 19 years and up to 25 years for those with special educational needs and disabilities or using after care services.

The Plan does not include everything we will be doing, but concentrates on the outcomes, priorities and objectives which will make the biggest difference to children, young people and families in Buckinghamshire.

The Plan will deliver the following outcomes for children, young people and families:

1. Children and young people are safe.
2. Children and young people live fulfilling lives.
3. Children and young people are healthy.
4. Children and young people reach their potential in education and in other aspects of their lives.
5. Children, young people and families are resilient and build their own solutions – this connects with all four of the below priorities.

The priorities which will drive these outcomes are:

1. Keep children and young people safe and in their families wherever possible.
2. Enable and support children, young people, parents and carers to overcome the challenges they may face.

3. Improve children and young people's health and well-being.
4. Provide opportunities for children and young people to realise their full potential.

'We need more known places to go and access as some people don't know about them or can't get there.' (16 year old female)

The Plan is aimed at those working with children, young people and families so they are aware of the priorities that need to drive their work. It aims to be a document that can be easily understood by parents, carers, children and young people.

The United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child forms the basis for all of the work delivered through this Plan.

The Convention says that every child has:

- The right to a **childhood**.
- The right to be **educated**.
- The right to be **healthy**.
- The right to be treated **fairly**.
- The right to be **heard**.

It is the most complete statement of children's rights ever produced. The United Kingdom signed it on 19 April 1990 and it came into force in the UK on 15 January 1992.

In December 2011, legislation was passed to ensure the Children's Commissioner for England is influenced by the Convention when determining what constitutes the interests of children and young people.

In April 2013, the Department for Education published statutory guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services. The guidance states that the two appointments should have regard to the general principles of the Convention and ensure that children and young people are involved in the development and delivery of local services.

Read a summary of the UN Convention (PDF)

Download the full text of the UN Convention (PDF)

Further details on the Children and Young People's Plan can be found at:

<http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children-and-young-peoples-partnership/strategies-and-policies/children-and-young-peoples-plan/>

How do we know we are focusing on the right things?

The priorities and objectives of the Plan are evidence based and have been informed by a range of factors. These are:

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2013.
- Buckinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-16.
- A range of local and national data sources.
- Key consultations such as the Children and Young People's Residents Survey, 2013.
- Outcome Reports - feedback on services from children, young people, parents, carers and staff.
- Development work with over 800 children, young people, parents, carers and staff in

Buckinghamshire to develop the Plan. This work used a number of methods including workshops, focus groups, surveys and meetings.

- A formal on line consultation open to those living in the county and staff.

The result is a concise document that identifies the priorities and objectives for Buckinghamshire.

How we will work together to make a difference?

Work together to an agreed set of principles and a shared moral commitment to improve the life chances of children and young people in Buckinghamshire, holding all partners to account on delivering on this ambition.

Safeguarding children and young people is paramount to all we do. Information and data will be shared and used appropriately and a high quality workforce will be in place, trained and managed.

Review our approach to how services are delivered and accessed, looking for and acting on opportunities for better joined up services.

Take a holistic approach to working with families, for example Children and Adult Services working together where appropriate and bringing together teams such as Children and Young People's Disabilities.

Working with communities, we will respond to the changing needs of children, young people and families; strive to meet the needs of those who are more vulnerable than others; be accessible to all and work together to plan, deliver and evaluate impact.

Children, young people, parents and carers will be involved in decision making so their needs are understood and inform the planning and delivery of services.

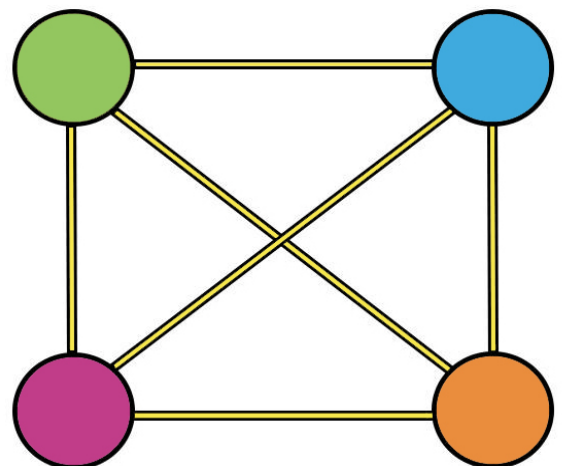
Share good practice and lessons learnt not only within Buckinghamshire but also from national leaders in particular fields.

Equalities

We seek to deliver all of our services and statutory duties without discrimination. Our Equality Statement demonstrates our ongoing commitment to ensuring children and young people and their families/ carers are treated with dignity and respect, promoting equality of opportunity and ensuring discrimination is not present in either our service delivery or employment practices.

We work to make our services available and accessible to all especially those in need by removing barriers that may prevent certain individuals and groups from getting the services they need. We recognise and accept that everyone's needs are different and will work to make our services as flexible and responsive as we can.

'It's difficult to find the right person to talk to over the phone so I think having someone to talk to online - like bbn or msn chat for an instant or quick response would be helpful to families. Having someone to talk to online 24/7 would be the best.' (9 year old female)



We recognise that we have a particular responsibility to ensure that equality is central to the development of our policies and practices in respect of all the protected characteristics enshrined in the Equality Act 2010 as well as those with low socio economic circumstances. This means we will tackle discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between all, within our community.

Priorities and Objectives

Under each of the four priorities sit a number of objectives. It is recognised that some of the objectives will impact on more than one of the priorities.

Priority 1

Keep children and young people safe and in their families wherever possible.

1. Work with families so they take appropriate action to prevent children and young people coming into care.
2. When required, place children and young people in care to protect them from harm and fulfil the role of Corporate Parents.
3. Support carers to provide safe and loving homes for children and young people.
4. Strive to reduce the Sexual Exploitation of children and young people, help those affected and protect against it happening to others.
5. Seek to prevent Domestic Violence and help those affected.
6. Help children and young people keep themselves safe in their everyday lives.
7. Work with families, children and young people to prevent accidents and keep themselves safe.



Priority 2

Enable and support children, young people, parents and carers to overcome the challenges they may face.

1. Support families to develop the skills they need to thrive and flourish.
2. Ensure children, young people, parents and carers are able to find information, advice and guidance in one place.
3. Provide children and young people with someone or somewhere safe to be able to talk.
4. Work with young offenders to help them stop committing crime.
5. Help parents and carers find appropriate childcare when they have not been able to do so themselves.
6. Help parents and carers prepare children for nursery, pre-school and school.



7. Support children, young people, parents and carers, including young carers, with unexpected life changing events.
8. Provide Short Breaks for eligible families with disabled children.
9. Work with young people so they successfully move into Further Education, training, apprenticeships or work and adulthood.

Priority 3

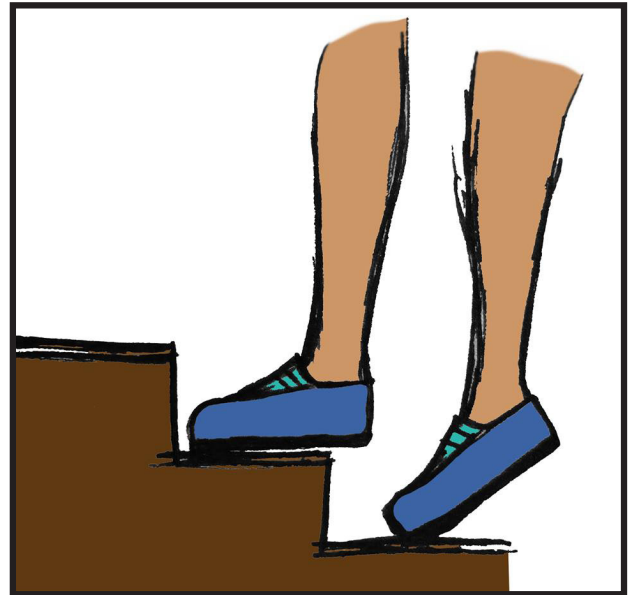
Improve children and young people's health and well-being.

1. Educate parents, carers and staff to better understand child and adolescent development.
2. Ensure access to high quality health services when planning a family, becoming pregnant and being new parents.
3. Work with children, young people and their families to enable them to make healthy life choices.
4. Help children, young people and their families tackle and address issues around Mental Health and Bullying.
5. Provide opportunities for children and young people to access physical activities and green/open spaces.
6. Provide recreational and cultural opportunities for children, young people and families.

Priority 4

Provide opportunities for children and young people to realise their full potential.

1. Promote the benefits of children learning through play.
2. Raise the educational achievement of all children and young people in early years' settings and schools, with a particular focus on those who are underperforming.
3. Support children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities to achieve their full potential through education, social activities, volunteering and paid employment.
4. Encourage and support communities to play an active role in their local schools and early years' settings.
5. Provide efficient and open access to School Admissions.
6. Work with schools and early years' settings to further develop good practice in the use of the pupil premium and other approaches to narrowing the gap in educational achievement.
7. Further develop opportunities for children and young people who are 'gifted and talented'.
8. Equip young people with the skills and knowledge they need to become independent.
9. Provide children and young people with opportunities to be a valued contributor to their community.



'Volunteering is very important because you can try new things and you will feel scared and proud and it will give you a good feeling.' (Year 1, Coleshill C of E Primary)

How we will measure success?

We have set four priorities to drive our work over the next four years to improve the lives of Buckinghamshire's children, young people and families.

The difference the Plan is making will be monitored by:

- A detailed Action Plan with clear and measurable performance indicators for the objectives.
- A report to the Executive every three months to monitor performance, highlight areas of concern and learn from things that are going well.
- Measuring the outcomes being delivered by the three Local Children and Young People's Partnership Boards.
- A tool to measure the progress of families on priorities they agree e.g. Family Outcome Star.
- Measuring the social and economic benefits of programmes.
- Monthly Outcome Reports to capture real life examples of how the work of organisations is making a difference to the lives of families.
- Scrutiny will be provided by the County Council's Education, Skills and Children's Select Committee.

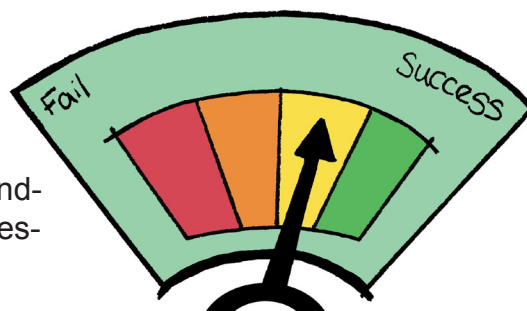
The Action Plan, Performance and Outcome Reports will be published on the internet so that residents and other interested parties are aware of progress. These are available at:

Action Plan [Link to be added](#)

Performance Reports [Link to be added](#)

Outcome Reports:

<http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children-and-young-peoples-partnership/about-the-partnership/outcomes-for-children-and-young-people-in-buckinghamshire/>



Further information and advice for Parents, Carers, Children and Young People

If you would like advice on accessing any of the services that relate to the Priorities and Objectives detailed in this Plan please contact the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service:

www.bucksfamilyinfo.org

0845 688 4944 or familyinfo@buckscc.gov.uk

Further information on this Plan

Please contact the Children's Partnerships Team: 01296 387657 or cyppartnership@buckscc.gov.uk

Glossary

Buckinghamshire Association of Secondary Headteachers.

An independent strategic, decision making body for the secondary sector, comprising of all the secondary Headteachers in Buckinghamshire.

Children in Care

Buckinghamshire County Council has a duty to make sure children are safe and doing well; they try and do this by supporting families while the children are at home. Sometimes this does not work and the decision is made to ask the courts to decide that the child should live somewhere else. This could be with another parent, a relative, someone they know, in a foster home or maybe in a children's home. The local authority will try to agree this with the family but if there is no agreement they can make the decision by themselves. Sometimes being in care is a short term situation but it could continue until the young person is 18. There are steps that are taken before a child is taken into care, discussions about the placement, decisions on visiting and a Pathway Plan. At every step the child and the parents/carers should know what is happening.

Child Protection Plan

This is a plan that is put in place if a child is suffering or likely to suffer considerable harm. It could be because they are being physically, sexually or emotionally abused or because they are being neglected. These definitions are found in the Children Act 1989. The plan involves the child and family and professionals involved with them such as a school or a GP. The family will have a social worker and a group will meet to make a plan that will protect the child, decide on short and long term aims, decide who will take responsibility for each part of the plan and how everyone can see if the plan is working and there is progress towards making the child permanently safe. If the plan is not working then there may have to be another course of action.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves situations and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive something (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and / or others performing on them, sexual activities.

Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the internet / mobile phone without immediate payment or gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child / young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and / or economic or other resources.

Violence, coercion and intimidations are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by the child's or young person's limited availability of choice, resulting from their social / economic and / or emotional vulnerability. (DCSF 2009)

Any child can be targeted by sexual exploitation however, there are some groups which have been identified as particularly vulnerable.

These include:

- Looked After Children.
- Children / Young People with Disabilities or Learning Disabilities.
- Children Leaving Care.

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGB&T).

CSE often starts when the child is around 10 years old. Both girls and boys can be targeted and CSE can happen within any community or economic background.

Corporate Parenting

Corporate parenting is when the local authority takes on the role of a good parent to a child in its care.

“Corporate parenting cannot replace or replicate the selfless character of parental love; but it does imply a warmth and personal concern which goes beyond the traditional expectations of institutions.” (The Utting report, 1991)

We have a duty to act as a good parent to children and young people in our care and those in the process of leaving care. We want these children to have the outcomes that every effective parent would want for their own children. Sometimes we will share parental responsibility with the child's parents.

Corporate parenting is not only a responsibility but also a real opportunity to improve the futures of looked after children and young people.

Domestic Violence and Abuse

Domestic violence and abuse is a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour which can be experienced regardless of ethnicity, religion, class, age, gender, sexuality, disability or lifestyle, and can be experienced in a range of relationships, and may involve other family members (including children).

Whilst DVA can be experienced by anybody, research has repeatedly concluded that the vast majority of victims are women and children, women are more likely to experience repeated and severe and/or life-threatening forms of violence and the abuse against women is more likely to carry on post-separation. It can also include issues such as female genital mutilation, honour-based violence and forced marriage.

Education, Skills and Children's Select Committee

The Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee looks at everything within the Children's Services and Education and Skills portfolios and partner agencies, including schools, The Bucks Learning Trust and voluntary sector organisations. The aim of the committee is to provide constructive challenge to providers of these services and to put forward recommendations and reports for improvement. The Committee details page sets out the purpose of the committee, its membership and links to meeting papers and agendas.

Family Outcome Star

A tool used by Children's Centres and the Family Resilience Unit in Buckinghamshire to identify the needs of families and monitor the progress made by those requiring support.

Floor targets

Targets set by the Department for Education. All secondary schools are set the target of at least 40% of their pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade A* - C or equivalent. Primary schools are not to be below the average school scores for the % of pupils making expected progress between Key Stage 1 and key Stage 2 in English and Maths.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) systematically reviews the health and wellbeing needs of a population. It provides an assessment of current and future needs and is the

starting point for strategy development and commissioning decisions that aim to improve health and wellbeing locally. Producing a JSNA has been a statutory requirement for the NHS and upper-tier local authorities (Buckinghamshire County Council) since 2007. From April 2013 local authorities and clinical commissioning groups will have a shared duty to prepare a JSNA, working through the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Primary Executive Board

The strategic, decision making body for the primary sector. There are currently 20 Liaison groups in Buckinghamshire, made up of primary, secondary and special Headteachers. Each Liaison group sends one primary representative to the Board.

Pupil Premium.

Extra funding provided to schools to raise the achievement of disadvantaged pupils or pupils with parents in the Armed Forces. Funding is given to support pupils who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years or children who have been in care for 6 months or longer.

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

A child or young person has SEN if they

'Have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them'.

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age; or
- Have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post 16 institutions.

Social Value

Often the most valued outcomes are ones that cannot be measured. However it is possible to agree their Social Value (value to society) by relating them to something relevant that already has an established cost. So, for example, 'improved security' could be measured in terms of reduced Police time.

Appendix 1 Key Strategies/Plans/Consultations

- Armed Forces Community Covenant. <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/community/armed-forces-in-buckinghamshire/armed-forces-covenant/>
- Aylesbury Vale District Council Corporate Plan 2011/2015. <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/about/council-performance/corporate-plan/>
- Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Board Business Plan 2013/2015. <http://www.bucksiscb.org.uk/sites/default/files/BSCB/%281%29%20BSCB%20Business%20Plan%202013%20-%202015.pdf>
- Buckinghamshire Shared Principles of Education.
- Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Plan 2014/18. http://www.bucksccbchures.co.uk/strategic_plan/
- Buckinghamshire Tobacco Free Strategy, 2012/2015. Link not yet available.
- Child and Family Poverty Strategy. <http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children->

and-young-peoples-partnership/strategies-and-policies/key-partnership-strategies/child-and-family-poverty-strategy/

- Children and Young People's Residents Survey. <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/community/research/surveys/>
- Chiltern District Council Key Objectives 2012/2014. <http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1750&p=0>
- Chiltern and South Bucks Districts Sustainable Community Strategy 2013/2026. <http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=3250&p=0>
- Clinical Commissioning Plans.
- Families First.
- Healthy Child Programme. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthy-child-programme-pregnancy-and-the-first-5-years-of-life>
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy. <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/healthy-living/buckinghamshire-health-and-wellbeing-board/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy/>
- Joint Commissioning Plan.
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/community/knowning-bucks/joint-strategic-needs-assessment/>
- Library Plan.
- National pledge to improve children's health and reduce child deaths. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pledge-to-improve-children-s-health-and-reduce-child-deaths>
- NHS Buckinghamshire Sexual Health and HIV Strategy 2009 – 2014 www.sexualhealthbucks.nhs.uk
- Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy. <http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.gov.uk/children-and-young-peoples-partnership/strategies-and-policies/key-partnership-strategies/prevention-and-early-intervention/>
- Serious Case Reviews. <http://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/serious-case-reviews>
- South Bucks District Council Corporate Plan 2011/2015. www.southbucks.gov.uk/prioritiesandperformance
- Special Educational Needs Action Plan and Strategy.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children. <http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-safeguard-children>
- Wycombe District Council Corporate Plan 2011/2015. <http://www.wycombe.gov.uk/council-services/council-and-democracy/policies-and-plans/our-corporate-plan.aspx>

Appendix 2 Partner Organisations

Action4Youth (representing the youth Voluntary Sector and Faith Groups).

Adviza.

Amersham and Wycombe College.

Aylesbury College.

Aylesbury Vale District Council.

Buckinghamshire Association of Secondary Headteachers (representing Secondary Schools).

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board.

Buckinghamshire Association of School Governors Headteachers (representing School

Governors).

Buckinghamshire County Council.

Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust.

Buckinghamshire Learning Trust.

Bucks Sport.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS).

Children's Centres.

Chiltern District Council.

Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Connexions Buckinghamshire.

Job Centre Plus.

Primary Executive Board (representing Primary Schools).

South Bucks District Council.

Thames Valley Police.

Thames Valley Probation.

Wycombe District Council.

