Our plan brings together the outcomes and priorities that will guide our work, the way we will measure our progress and how we will work to realise our ambitions. It is based on data, evidence and consultation across the city, including the views of children and young people.
Leeds Children and Young People’s Plan 2015-2019

Plan on a page

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 a compassionate city with a strong economy.

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

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

Fourteen priorities
1. Help children to live in safe and supportive families
2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
3. Improve achievement and close achievement gaps
4. Increase numbers participating and engaging
5. Improve outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability
6. Support children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning
7. Support schools and settings to improve attendance
8. Develop the wider context such as play, leisure, culture and sporting opportunities.
9. Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol and tobacco
10. Promote sexual health
11. Provide play, leisure, culture and sporting opportunities.
12. Improve social, emotional and mental health and well being
13. Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
14. Increase participation, voice and influence

Three obsessions
1. Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children who are looked after
2. Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
3. Improve school attendance

What we’ll do

How we’ll do it

A city-wide breakthrough on tackling domestic violence
Leeds will not tolerate domestic violence and will work restoratively with victims, perpetrators and family relations to address the causes and consequences.

Think Family
When working with a child or young person we will consider their family relationships, the role of adult behaviour and the wider context such as their friends and the local community.

Think Family
Work Family
Outstanding social work and support for vulnerable children and young people
Building a whole child approach to social work and support for vulnerable children and young people, working with families and children to help them achieve the best outcomes.

A stronger offer to improve social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) and well-being
We will redesign the whole system of SEMH to support children, young people and families with clear points of entry to integrated, high-quality social care services which are responsive to individual needs.

Outcomes based accountability: is anyone better off?

Listening and responding to the voice of the child
Restorative Practice: doing with, not for or to

Three behaviours that underpin everything

A clear budget strategy that priorities spending public money wisely and becoming smaller in size, bigger in influence

How we’ll know if we’ve made a difference

1. Number of children who need to be looked after
2. Number of children and young people with child protection plans
3. Percentage with good achievement at the end of primary school
4. Percentage gaining 5 good GCSEs including English and maths
5. Level 3 qualifications at 19
6. Achievement gaps at 5, 11, 16 and 19
7. Primary and secondary school attendance
8. Percentage of young people NEET not known
9. Percentage of new school places in good and outstanding schools
10. Destinations of children and young people with special education needs and disabilities
11. Percentage with good level of development in Early Years
12. Number of exclusions from school
13. Obesity levels at age 11
14. Free school meal uptake in primary/secondary schools
15. Teenage pregnancy rates
16. Rates of under 18s alcohol related hospital admissions
17. Surveys of children and young people’s views: are they having fun growing up?
18. Children and young people and parent satisfaction with mental health services
19. Proportion of 10–17 year olds offering
20. Percentage of children and young people who report positive influence in a) school b) the community
About Leeds
The second largest local authority in the country outside London
Total population: 756,000
Including 183,000 children and young people aged 0-19 (253,000 aged 0-25)
272 schools
185 different languages spoken in Leeds schools

Working together
We want Leeds to be the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in. The Child Friendly Leeds initiative is for everyone who shares this ambition, whether you are an enthusiastic individual or a large organisation, every contribution counts and we all have a part to play in making a difference.

To help us make this happen we have a Children and Families Trust Board and a Leeds Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). They bring senior people together from the main organisations working with children and young people to make sure we are doing what we should to follow our Children and Young People’s Plan and keep children safe.

We also have 25 clusters in Leeds, usually organised around schools in a local area. These bring services together to focus on local issues and challenges, and support for the most vulnerable families in their area. Clusters include children’s social work service, schools, governors, police, Leeds City Council youth service, Youth Offending Service, children’s centres, housing services, third sector, health, and local elected members.

Find out more
To find out more about our work and lots of helpful information for children, young people and families including the Family Information Service, Youth Information Hub, Leeds Pathways and Breeze visit www.childfriendlyleeds.co.uk and follow us on Twitter @Child_Leeds
For information about how we work together to keep children and young people safe, visit the Leeds Safeguarding Children website: www.leedslscb.org.uk
To see our One Minute Guides on all aspects of children’s services, please visit www.leeds.gov.uk and search for One Minute Guides.
If you would like to help by being a Child friendly Leeds supporter, ambassador or partner, please email childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk for more information.