



# One minute guide

## Children and Young People's Plan

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

The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the shared vision for everyone working with children and young people in Leeds. It has been developed following citywide consultation on how we can best work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families and communities. All partners and practitioners are encouraged to use the plan as a focus for their work to improve outcomes.

The idea of a shared plan was first introduced in the Children Act 2004, and in Leeds the first plan was developed in 2006. The current plan covers the period 2015-19, and progress against the plan is overseen by the Children and Families Trust Board ([guide](#)).

The Plan sets out our vision for Leeds to be the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in, and to be a Child Friendly city ([guide](#)); this is part of Leeds' ambition to be the [best city](#) in the UK. All of our work with children and young people starts with a simple question: what is it like to be a child or young person growing up in Leeds, and how can we make it better? This is how we place the child and family at the centre of everything we do.

In order to achieve this, the CYPP sets out our: three **obsessions**; five **outcomes**; fourteen **priorities**; and three key **behaviours** we expect of practitioners across the city who work with children, young people and families. The plan also identifies the performance indicators we will use to make sure we are delivering what we have outlined in the plan.

### What are our obsessions?

In Leeds, we have identified three 'obsessions' which we focus on, in line with our work on outcomes based accountability ([OBA; guide](#)).

Our obsessions are:

- Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after;
- Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET); and
- Improve school attendance.

Our focus on these areas has seen significant results - our looked after numbers have reduced by over 10% since March 2011 while other local authorities have seen [increases in care entrants](#), the number of NEET young people reduced by 31% between June 2011 and December 2014, and there were an additional 400,000 school days attended in 2013-14 compared to 2010-11.

We know that by making a real impact on these areas, we will see positive knock-on effects right across our work, as well as reducing negative social, financial and individual consequences of poorer outcomes.

## What are our five outcomes and fourteen priorities?

There are five **outcomes**, or conditions of wellbeing, that we want for all children and young people in Leeds. We want children to:

1. Be 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. Be active citizens with voice and influence.

We have identified fourteen **priorities**, which together help children and young people in Leeds to achieve the five outcomes. They are:

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 CYP 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 and develop positive behaviour
8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating
9. Promote sexual health
10. Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol & tobacco
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.

## What are our three key behaviours?

The work we do to improve outcomes for children and young people is underpinned by three behaviours set out in the CYPP. These help us to put the child and family at the centre of everything we do. The behaviours are:

Use of **Outcomes Based Accountability (guide)**, which provides a clear planning and reviewing framework. OBA keeps a relentless focus on outcomes through three questions - how much did we do, how well did we do it, and is anyone better off?

**Restorative practice (guide)** puts the emphasis on working *with* children and families, rather than doing things *to* or *for* them. By providing high support and high challenge we help children and families find their own sustainable solutions to the challenges they face, and we equip them with the resilience to move forward successfully.

**Listening to and responding to the voice of the child (guide)** We view the child as the client in all our work, practice and behaviour. We put the child and family at the centre of everything we do. We seek to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

## Where can I find the plan?

You can find the 2015-19 CYPP, available in a number of formats including: full version; leaflet; children's version and children's activity sheet, on the documents section of the [Best City for Children](#) webpage. For further information about the development of the Plan, please contact [CHS.Performance.and.intelligence@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:CHS.Performance.and.intelligence@leeds.gov.uk).