

Brighter Futures: Transforming Children's Services



What will the future look like?

Overall the programme has the following aspirations:

- The wellbeing and life chances for all children and young people are improved and they will have better choices.
- The best outcomes are achieved for vulnerable groups of children and young people.
- The needs of children, young people, their families and communities are well understood and they are able to access services designed to meet their needs.
- Services for children and young people will be proactive and focused on prevention and early intervention.
- There will be better value and/or higher quality service delivery and improved commissioning of services, encompassing partners, including the third sector.
- The provision for children, young people and their families is seen as world class.

The Brighter Futures programme will transform the way in which children's services operate – moving from service-led thinking to planning and delivery based on outcomes, children's needs and evidence-based programmes.

For more information about the CYPF Programme email: brighterfutures@birmingham.gov.uk or visit us as: www.brighterfutures.bham.org.uk



Brighter Futures: Transforming Children's Services



Background

Brighter Futures is transforming children's services. It aims to measurably improve children and young people's:

- Physical health
- Behaviour
- Emotional health (how children and young people feel)
- Literacy and numeracy (English and maths)
- Social literacy (getting on with other people)
- Job skills (being ready for work)

As a result we will have:

- More children ready to learn
- More children prepared for the move to secondary school
- More young people prepared for further education and ready for work
- More young adults prepared to make their full contribution to the community's wellbeing

The strategy behind our transformation is a move from reactive responses to preventative practice, along with a shift from high cost specialist services to early intervention. It is built on four "building blocks":

- Comprehensive and current data on children and young people
- The Logic Model (planning for outcomes, then activities and then investments) applied to the design and delivery of our services
- Evidence-based practice, ie "what works"
- A focus on all children and children in need

Programme Structure

The services in scope for transformation are:

- Early Years Provision
- Schools and Transforming Education
- Disabled Children and Young People
- Children in Care
- Transition
- Leaving Care

Nine pilot programmes are being developed, implemented and evaluated:

- Incredible Years
- Family Nurse Partnership
- Triple P Positive Parenting
- PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)
- Targeted Provision for Two Year Olds
- Restorative Justice

- Subsidised Places for Children at Risk
- Short Breaks – Alternative Provision for Children with Disabilities
- Transforming Provision for Children in Care

In addition there is:

- Organisational Transition and Development – building capacity and skills within the children's workforce
- Modernising Working Practices – the introduction of a new integrated case management system and "Single View of the Child" database

Benefits

The strategic benefits of transformation will be the move from reactive to preventative working and the corresponding shift of resources from high cost specialist services to early intervention. Resources will be distributed more efficiently, with preventative and targeted support addressing additional need earlier and significantly reducing the number of children with complex needs requiring intensive and expensive specialist services.

As a result, there will be improved outcomes and life chances for children and young people. Prevention and early intervention programmes can achieve benefits for individuals, families and wider society that extend many years into the future. For example, early intervention youth justice programmes not only aim to reduce youth offending rates, but also adult criminality.

At the same time, there will be benefits for the organisation, including improved performance and work environments and more efficient services.

There will also be cashable benefits to other agencies, such as health services, police and the criminal justice system.