

Every Child Matters Outcomes

Achieve Economic Well-being An Overview

Achieve Economic Well-being

- The economic well-being of children is linked to that of their parents or carers.
- The future economic well-being of children is linked to their educational attainment and their ability to become successful and independent adults.

Achieve Economic Well-being

National progress between 1997 & 2004

- Reduced child poverty
- Fewer children in workless households
- Increased financial support for families - tax and benefit changes

Every Child Matters: Change for Children 2004

National Outcomes for all Children

Children and young people will:

- Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school
- Be ready for employment
- Live in decent homes and sustainable communities
- Have access to transport and material goods
- Live in households free from low income

Joint Area Review Inspection Criteria

- Childcare is available to enable parents to work
- Young people are helped to prepare for working life
- 14-19 education is planned in a co-ordinated way
- Community re-generation initiatives address the needs of children and young people
- Families and young people have decent homes
- Children and young people with disabilities are helped to achieve economic well-being
- **Children and young people who are looked after are helped to achieve economic well-being**

Situation in Middlesbrough

- 46,900 young people aged 0-24, of whom 18,500 are aged 16-24 (TVJSU mid 2005 population projections)
- In 2004, 38.5% of children aged 0-17 lived in households receiving a means-tested benefit e.g. working families tax credit (TVJSU Ward Data)

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Views of young people (national)

- More money for daily living - food, clothes and bills
- Reduced cost or free transport (bus passes)
- Extra resources in times of need - food, childcare
- Practical support and help for families
- Affordable housing
- Additional help for parents to find work

Every Child Matters: DfES Consultation with Young People 2004

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Views of young people in Middlesbrough Youth Service:

- More money for college
- Free activities
- More part-time jobs
- More jobs in local area
- Future education and career guidance via work experience

Youth Matters: Youth Service Consultation in Middlesbrough, 2005

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Views of young people in West Middlesbrough:

- Expand businesses
- Good transport links – times and prices
- Better/more training opportunities
- More houses
- More self employment
- Mock interviews
- Work experience and make a difference day
- More housing, house decent people
- Increase jobs and increase minimum wage!
- Get good grades – better career opportunities

Children Looked After in Middlesbrough

- Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school
 - In 2004-2005, 40% of young people who were in care at age 17 were in education, training or employment at age 19
 - At 30/9/05, of 11 young people aged 16-17, 7 were in full-time education or training and 3 were in part time education, training or employment
 - The Education of Children Looked After Team is working towards improving educational attainments
- Be ready for employment
 - In 2004-2005, 50% of young people in care achieved at least 1 GCSE A-G or GNVQ
 - Preparation for independence programmes offered to all care leavers
 - Support is provided to care leavers by two Connexions Personal Advisers -will link to Leaving Care Service employability scheme

Children Looked After in Middlesbrough

- **Live in decent homes and sustainable communities**
 - At 31/3/05, 78% of children looked after were living with foster carers or were placed for adoption - standards at home are monitored
 - A further 10% were placed at home with their family
- **Have access to transport and material goods**
 - Most foster carers have their own transport. Transport to school, for contact and other appointments is usually provided by foster carers or CFL staff. All basic needs are met but access to material goods varies according to individual circumstance.
- **Live in households free from low income**
 - The allowances paid to foster carers cover each child's basic needs although this is now falling behind national and local averages.

Views of Children Looked After in Middlesbrough Education Survey 2003

- Six out of ten young people knew what they wanted to do in the future
- Nearly six out of ten had a pathway plan
- 74% would approach their social worker for help with thinking about their future
- Nearly six out of ten knew where to find out about further education, work and training