




# Five Rivers

## Working in Partnership with Middlesbrough Council

Providing a Service to the Young People of  
Middlesbrough

Annual Report  
September 2007





How we measured our selves  
on how  
we achieve the five outcomes

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- Young Peoples views
- Every Child Matters Documentation
- Statement of Purpose for each home
- Leaving Care Act
- Children Act 2004
- Five Rivers Policies and Procedures
- Feedback from Parents, Professionals, Regulation 33 Reports and Ofsted Inspections



# Every Child Matters

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- Five Outcomes are:
  - Be Healthy
  - Stay Safe
  - Enjoy and Achieve
  - Make a Positive Contribution
  - Achieve Economic Well Being



# How We Have Achieved Young People Staying Healthy by:

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- ❑ Promoting self care by encouraging young people to bathe and take care of their personal Hygiene.
- ❑ We recently supported a young person in getting dental treatment who had a phobia about attending the dentist.
- ❑ We have supported a young person who was diagnosed with diabetes.
- ❑ We have supported a young person through the early stages of pregnancy and will continue to support.
- ❑ We have worked with Teenage Pregnancy.
- ❑ We have supported young people in attending MAC to help them deal with issues around alcohol, drugs, smoking.
- ❑ We have worked with SECOS around raising sexual awareness with young people.



## How We Have Achieved Young People Staying Healthy by:

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- Have worked closely with the CLA Nurse around Health Living issues and other medical organisations
- Attend Health Facilitators meetings.
- We have supported young people in attending CAHMS appointments.
- We have supported young people in attending physical exercise such as swimming, walking and going to the gym.
- The majority of our staff are trained in 4 day First Aid
- We have supported young people attending DISC



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have achieved keeping them Healthy:

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- “Teach us about what drugs can do.”
- “Give us healthy food and not too much sweet stuff.”
- “Arrange exercise, where we go walking, gym, football, swimming and bike rides.”
- “Try to encourage us not to smoke and drink”.
- “Taking me to the Doctors when I’m ill”.
- “Cook Healthy food or at least they try to”.
- “ Encourage us to walk to places”.



# We have ensured the young people have Stayed Safe by:

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- ❑ All staff have an enhanced CRB Check before working with young people.
- ❑ Work closely with YOS and SECOS.
- ❑ Ensured we identify any risks at the pre placement meetings, and have continually updated these as necessary.
- ❑ Followed Child Protection Procedures.
- ❑ Followed Missing from Placement Protocol.
- ❑ Made ourselves aware of the recommendations from Government reports.
- ❑ Promoted safety by utilising the young persons spare time and involvement in clubs and activities.
- ❑ Ofsted Inspections.
- ❑ Ensured we have tackled Bullying.
- ❑ Ensured we have a consistent approach to any risk.



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have achieved keeping them Safe

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- “Make sure we do not put ourselves in danger”.
- “Looking after my security by locking doors”.
- “By giving me advice and reporting me to the police when I don’t come home”.
- “Tell me to keep my mobile on if I go out”.
- “Remove things I might hurt myself with ”.
- “Giving me boundaries”.
- “Telling us about keeping safe”.
- “Making sure we are not bullied”.
- “That’s why we have to come in on time”.
- “Learn us to respect people”.
- “They teach us right from wrong”.





# We have ensured the young people Enjoy and Achieve by:

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- ❑ Attended parents evenings.
- ❑ Encouraged and support external education.
- ❑ Encouraged individual interests.
- ❑ Promoted friendships and relationships.
- ❑ Promoted friendships and social skills.
- ❑ We work in Partnership with Social Services, Education, Leaving Care, YOS.,RAP, Health, SECOS, Police, Barnados, MAC, Connexions.
- ❑ Promoted a "Happy Home Ethos".
- ❑ Promoted education through incentives and rewards.
- ❑ Computer and Internet access.
- ❑ Tackled exclusions and unauthorised absences from school.
- ❑ Act as a mentor for young people in school.
- ❑ Supported the young person as they make the transition from school to employment or training.



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have helped them Enjoy and Achieve

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- “Staff make me smile”.
- “ Help me with my homework”.
- “Staying at a hotel for the first time”.
- “Learn us how to be independent and mature”.
- “They supported me to go to college”.
- “I have been give the opportunity to try new interests”.
- “They reward our achievements”.
- “They teach us what makes the world go round”.
- “They encourage us to stay as long as possible”.



# We ensured the young people have made Positive Contribution by:

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- Giving them the opportunity to talk to Ofsted and Regulation 33 Inspectors.
- Involving them in the planning and review process.
- Ensuring there is the opportunity to attend young peoples meetings.
- Access to the compliments and complaints procedure.
- Ensure we act as good role models.
- Ensure we work towards reducing the criminal activities of young people by working with Restorative Justice.
- Facilitated contact with families, where appropriate.
- Ensure we feed back to the Partnership Board any issues or concerns, and highlight the positive outcomes for young people.
- We have facilitated one to one sessions with young people to ensure they have the opportunity to discuss any concerns.
- Involve young people in choice for decoration of the home.



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have helped them Make a Positive Contribution

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- “ Staff Listen to us”.
- “ There is always someone around”.
- “ By telling staff my needs or writing them down”.
- “ They are there for you and support you in meetings and asking my views”.
- “ Helping with DIY jobs in the house”.
- “ We can get points for prizes and buy what we want, this gives us chance to save up for what we want”.
- “ Staff encourage us to do new things”.
- “ Help us to look to the future”.
- “ They have given me lots of life skills”.
- “ We should be involved in who comes to live in our home”
- “ Staff make us smile”.



We ensured the young people  
have Enjoy and Achieve Economic and Well Being BY:

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- ❑ We have promoted Education, Health, Social Skills.
- ❑ Encouraged family contact.
- ❑ Provision of allowances, supporting and promoting budgeting skills.
- ❑ Encourage good self care.
- ❑ Allowing young people to make choices.
- ❑ Supported into Independent Living.
- ❑ Empowered young people.
- ❑ Supported the transition into adulthood .

# Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have helped them to Achieve Economic and Well Being

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- "I get weekly pocket money to spend how I like".
- "I save up my weekly clothing money so that I can buy clothes like my mates".
- "We get money for haircuts and our toiletries too".
- " They teach us right from wrong".
- " Help me with my home work".
- " This is the first time I have felt settled in a home" .
- "The staff are good at Rosecroft".
- "This is like a normal house people, don't expect it to look like that".



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have helped them to Achieve Economic and Well Being

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- "Its alright".
- "The outings are good".
- " I'm happy about being here, yes I'm away from my family arguing, but can still see them, but its like a new life for me, I get along with the staff and children and its fun here, and better than being stressed at my Mum's house".



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have achieved keeping them Safe

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- By teaching me that even though I may feel safe it doesn't mean I am I should be aware of my surroundings and any changes. I would not have done this before.
- By teaching me that the clothing we wear could have a big influence on what happens to me.





## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have achieved keeping them Healthy:

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- “By helping me become more hygienic and clean”. “ That although my problem may be small, it has a big impact on my health I should always tell a member of staff and get it seen to”.“ I would have just left it to get worse before coming into Holly Lodge”.



## Quotes from Young People on how they feel we have helped them Enjoy and Achieve

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- “By showing me how to budget e.g. ascertain amount of money for clothing. I always make the most of what I have got because I now get the support I need in doing this” “By helping me spread my money during the week this is because we are taught we might need things when I have not got any money”. 2By helping me achieve my full potential in school by putting a 100% in I will get 100% out. They showed me how to be confident but most importantly they have showed me how to put trust and faith in others and myself”



# Summary

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- The National framework for childrens services suggests The Children's Act 2004 together with Every Child Matters: Change for Children, sets out the governments direction for local programmes of change to be led by Local Authorities and their Key Partners.

This brings together Local Authority Health, Education, Criminal Justice Services, Voluntary and Community organisations with other local Partners to deliver improved services for Children.



# Summary

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We at Five Rivers believe we have made positive steps in aiming to achieve within our current Partnership.

Five Rivers believes it will continue to grow and learn as we progress into developing the service further via the Partnership with Middlesbrough Council.

Our aim is to continue to provide an excellent service to the young people of Middlesbrough.