

# SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND LEARNING

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST PRIORITY CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEMES IDENTIFIED IN 2006/07

### Key Achievements 2006/07

#### 1. Be healthy - Ensure good physical, mental, emotional and sexual health of children and young people

Ensured good health of children and young people by:

- Reducing the number of conceptions to females aged 15-17 by 13% against the 1998 baseline, which was better than the reductions achieved regionally and nationally
- Making the C-Card scheme available in all youth centres to support safe sex and pregnancy education
- Increasing the proportion of looked-after children getting annual dental care and health assessments to **85%**.
- Developing a resource pack to support practitioners working with vulnerable young people in delivering 'brief interventions' around alcohol and cannabis use.
- Commissioning a new integrated specialist alcohol and drug service to start work in Middlesbrough from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007
- Helping schools meet the Healthy Schools Standard (HSS)
  - 50% of schools achieve the standard
  - Ten non-schools settings, including all of the youth centres and an outdoor education centre, are working towards a new healthy standard based on the HSS
  - A "Food in Schools" toolkit is now in place for catering unit supervisors and healthy school co-ordinators
  - Increased spending on school meal ingredients has helped to increase the consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables in schools
- Meeting the mental health and emotional needs of children and young people by employing three full-time equivalent social workers in CAMHS

#### 2. Stay safe - Ensure that children and young people are kept safe from deliberate, neglectful or accidental harm

Ensured that the service provides a high-quality, timely and appropriate response by:

- Increasing placement stability: reducing the proportion of children looked after by the authority with three or more placements from 11% to 8.82%
- Improving the percentage of initial assessments completed within 7 working days of referral from 79% to 87%

## Key Achievements 2006/07

Supported parents and carers in ensuring the safety of children in their care by:

- Running parenting programmes for new teenage parents in partnership with Connexions, social work teams and the Adult Education service
- Providing activities targeted at dads, which has increased the number of fathers involved in Sure Start activities by 16%
- Developing and offering a town-wide safety scheme service through 7 of the 8 local children's centres.

Revised the annual young people's survey to establish a robust baseline figure for bullying, which indicated that 26% of secondary age pupils felt that had been bullied in the last year

Ensured children and young people feel safe from bullying and discrimination by

- Supporting 22 schools in gaining the national Healthy School Standard for 'emotional health and wellbeing', which includes having an approved anti-bullying policy in place.

## 3. Enjoy and achieve – Enable children and young people to enjoy and fully participate in a wide variety of learning opportunities

Ensured that young people are given the best start in their learning by:

- Increasing the number of families involved in family learning to 1200
- Embedding joint planning in all local children's centres
- Establishing Durham Flying Start2 as a common basis for all schools and early years settings to assess and share details of young children's progress in key areas of their development
- Supporting approximately 90 children with special needs to access mainstream early years education services

Improved the educational outcomes for pupils in all schools, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable groups, by:

- Reducing the gap between boys' and girls' achievement at Key Stage 2 in English from 13% to 10%
- Running a project with Middlesbrough Football Club for Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils who were at risk of underachieving due to weaknesses in their basic skills
- Increasing the percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C grades at GCSE to 48.8%
- Increasing the percentage of minority ethnic pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSEs to 47.2%
- Securing £30,000 under the national "What Makes the Difference" pilot project to provide individual education interventions for looked after children

Developed the local authority's strategy on extended schools by:

- Assisting 33 schools (63%) to complete the extended schools remodelling programme
- Developing a code of practice for external agencies wishing to work in schools

Raised the profile and importance of enjoyment in learning by

- Providing opportunities for 5,000 pupils to participate in out-of-hours learning activities.

## Key Achievements 2006/07

Whilst absence rates increased in 2006/07, significant progress has been made in developing a better understanding of the reasons for and patterns of absence and, therefore, in targeting responses by

- Engaging Welfare Call to provide daily attendance information for all looked after children, enabling a rapid, targeted response to school absence.
- Establishing automatic data exchange with schools to collate absence data for all pupils, providing Education Welfare Officers with quicker and easier access to pupil level data and enabling a quicker response to pupil absences.
- Appointing a data analyst to support Educational Welfare teams in identifying and targeting worsening absence patterns.

Progressed Middlesbrough's proposals for the improvement of secondary schools by producing and submitting a Strategic Business Case and Outline Business Case for the Building Schools for the Future project.

## 4. Make a positive contribution – Enable children and young people to contribute positively to their local community

Increased young people's involvement in the Children, Families and Learning department decision-making processes by:

- Developing and consulting on a draft engagement policy framework, strategy and guidance on engagement activity
- Developing and consulting on a programme of engagement activities

Supported young people as they leave care by:

- Increasing the proportion of children looked after who communicated their views at a statutory review from 90% to **92.3%**
- Reducing the level of final warnings and convictions for children looked after to **1.5** times the local rate for all young people

Increased the involvement of parents in local service delivery by:

- Training **57** additional parents in voluntary work
- Increasing the number of fathers involved in Sure Start activities by 16%

## 5. Achieve Economic Well-Being

Maximised the life chances of children in need by:

- Increasing the proportion of care leavers in employment, education or training relative to the general population from 0.67 to 0.71
- Increasing the proportion of care leavers who are living in suitable accommodation from 92% to **95%**
- Providing additional targeted Connexions support for looked after children to ensure transition plans are developed for all Year 11 pupils.

## Key Achievements 2006/07

Whilst the percentage of school leavers achieving at least one recognised qualification has fallen by 0.5% to 92.4%, progress was made in improving the support for school leavers by:

- Integrating the Connexions service into the Children, Families & Learning department's service provision for young people
- Increasing the percentage of young people leaving care with at least one recognised qualification from 56.5% to 58.8%
- Increasing the proportion of E2E learners with positive progressions to 67%.

## PLANNED ACTIONS IN 2007/08 TO ADDRESS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<b>1. Be Healthy</b>		
<p>Reduce health inequalities across neighbourhoods by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditing the health assessments completed for children looked after</li> <li>• Ensuring the families of all children under 5 in childcare settings are provided with information about healthy lifestyles</li> </ul>		<p>Audit completed by March 2008</p> <p>Information circulated to all families via childcare settings by March 2008</p>
<p>Tackle childhood obesity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisting more schools to achieve the National Healthy School Standard by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Embedding the healthier menu cycle introduced into schools in 2006/7</li> <li>➢ Ensuring that the catering facilities proposals included in the BSF programme support the healthy eating priorities</li> <li>➢ Embedding and monitoring the use of the 'food in schools' toolkit</li> <li>➢ Completing the rolling programme of introducing salad bars in all primary and secondary schools</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Providing programmes of indoor and outdoor physical activity through the Youth Service.</li> <li>• Deliver holiday play schemes with a range of physical and health activity for children during the summer holidays</li> </ul>		<p>Percentage of schools achieving the National Healthy School Standard increased to 85% by 2009</p> <p>Activity programmes delivered by March 2008.</p> <p>Playschemes delivered by September 2007.</p>
<p>Improve mental health by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting the roll-out of the SPARC materials by providing families with babies with "Baby Sparc" material</li> <li>• Developing a support package for early intervention for Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) for children across the needs continuum</li> <li>• Providing training on pupils' mental and emotional well-being with external agencies</li> </ul>		<p>SPARC materials rolled out by March 2008</p> <p>Support package pilot developed by February 2008. Materials published by April 2008</p> <p>Programmes established by September 2007</p>

Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining the number of full time equivalent social workers employed in, or working closely with, the CAMHS teams</li> </ul>		<p>Number of full time equivalent social workers maintained at 3.</p>
<p>Reduce teenage pregnancies by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing the Middlesbrough Teenage Pregnancy Strategy</li> <li>Providing training for Youth Service staff on health issues including sex and relationships</li> </ul>		<p>30% reduction (against 998 baseline) in the number of conceptions amongst 15-17 year olds by March 2008.</p> <p>Training completed by March 2008</p>
<p>Reduce alcohol and drug misuse by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the participation of young problem drug and alcohol users (aged under 18) in treatment programmes</li> <li>Rolling out the School Drug Referral Scheme to all schools</li> <li>Appointing a dedicated curriculum worker for alcohol and drug education</li> <li>Auditing current alcohol and drug education in schools and addressing identified gaps</li> </ul>		<p>Number of young problem drug and alcohol users in treatment programmes increased by 50% by 2008</p> <p>Scheme rolled out to all schools by March 2008</p> <p>Curriculum worker appointed by April 2007</p> <p>Audit carried out by April 2008</p>
<p>Improve services and opportunities for children with disabilities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing the transition strategy for children with disabilities to ensure that all young people with a disability are offered a person-centred review at age 14</li> <li>Increasing the proportion of all carers of disabled children living in private households receiving direct payments</li> </ul>		<p>Transition strategy implemented by March 2008</p> <p>The number of carers receiving direct payments increased to 27 by March 2008.</p>

Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<b>2. Stay Safe</b>		
<p>Tackle hidden harm by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing an integrated Hidden Harm Strategy for families affected by problematic alcohol and drug use</li> </ul>		<p>Hidden Harm Strategy developed by March 2008</p>
<p>Reduce youth offending by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the proportion of young offenders supervised by the service who are in full time education, employment or training</li> <li>Encouraging reparation to the victims of youth crime through restorative justice processes.</li> </ul>		<p>90% of young offenders in full time education, employment or training by March 2008</p> <p>75% of victims referred to YOS are offered a restorative process.</p>
<p>Improve information sharing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivering a training programme to support the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework to all agencies working with children.</li> <li>Reviewing the information sharing and joint working protocol between Children, Families &amp; Learning and the Youth Offending Service</li> <li>Preparing for the implementation of Contact Point (formerly the Information Sharing Index) through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The creation of a Contact Point data support post, and</li> <li>The completion of a workforce audit</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Training programme delivered by March 2008</p> <p>Review completed by February 2008</p> <p>Post established by May 2007</p> <p>Audit completed by March 2008</p>
<p>Reduce bullying by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring safe and monitored use of internet and electronic communication in all schools.</li> <li>Review the bullying policy or children looked after.</li> </ul>		<p>School system checks in place by September 2007</p> <p>Policy revised March 2008</p>
<p>Safeguard children by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing agreed procedures to identify pupils considered at risk of going missing from education with a focus on multi-agency participation.</li> </ul>		<p>Monitoring system linked to core education management information system in place by September 2007</p>

Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a policy and procedures for children looked after missing from their placement</li> </ul>		Policy and monitoring procedures in place by March 2008
<p>Tackle the impact of domestic violence by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Actions to be identified following review of CYPP for 2006/07</b></li> </ul>		
<b>3. Enjoy and Achieve</b>		
<p>Invest in early years by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing the 'Make the Difference' programme to support children's transition into school nursery classes</li> <li>Ensuring that achievement in the foundation stage is good in communication, language and literacy, personal, social and emotional development.</li> <li>Establishing four new children's centres</li> </ul>		<p>'Make the Difference' programme implemented by September 2007</p> <p>24.7% of pupils achieve 6 or more scale points across all strands of the early learning goals by March 2008</p> <p>4 new centres established by March 2008</p>
<p>Tackle school absences by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producing an attendance strategy for Middlesbrough.</li> <li>Targeting support for the "priority" primary schools identified in the DfES' framework.</li> <li>Providing targeted improvement work with the five secondary schools identified by the DfES as having high levels of persistent absence</li> </ul>	<p>BV 46</p> <p>BV 45</p>	<p>Attendance strategy produced by August 2007</p> <p>Percentage of half-days missed reduced to 5.85% (with LPSA) by August 2007</p> <p>Percentage of half-days missed reduced to 8.76% (with LPSA) by August 2007</p>
<p>Improve educational attainment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting schools in raising boys' attainment in literacy by identifying the barriers to progress and targeting support for teaching reading and writing skills</li> <li>Supporting schools in raising attainment in science with a particular focus on girls where there is a gender gap</li> </ul>	<p>BV181c</p>	<p>The difference between boys and girls attainment at Level 4 in Key Stage 2 English is reduced to 9% by July 2007</p> <p>71% of pupils achieve Level 5+ in Key Stage 3 science tests by July 2007.</p>



Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting schools in raising attainment at Key Stage 4, with an additional 5% increase in the level 2 threshold.</li> <li>Improving the overall achievement of targeted underachieving groups.</li> </ul>	BV39	87% of pupils achieving 5+ A*-G grade GCSEs (including English and maths) or equivalent by July 2007.
	BV50	<p>45% of minority ethnic pupils to achieving 5+ A*-C grade GCSEs or equivalent by July 2007.</p> <p>60% of young people leaving care at 16+ have achieved 1+ GCSE grade A*-G or equivalent by July 2007.</p>
<b>4. Make a positive contribution</b>		
<p>Provide a strong and equal voice by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a programme of activities for engaging with children, young people and other key stakeholders</li> <li>Ensuring Children Looked After have an opportunity to communicate their views to a statutory review.</li> <li>Establishing a framework for locality based Youth Forums linked to a Middlesbrough-wide Forum</li> </ul>		<p>Programme of engagement activities developed by May 2007</p> <p>100% of Children Looked After communicated their views to a statutory review by March 2008.</p> <p>Framework for locality based Youth Forums established by March 2008</p>
<p>Encourage contributions to local community by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the involvement of parents in the running of Children's Centres</li> <li>Encouraging the service element of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme to develop volunteering in local neighbourhoods</li> </ul>		<p>40% of the representatives on the governing bodies of Children's Centres to be local parents by March 2008.</p> <p>10% increase in young people's local neighbourhood volunteering by 2008</p>

Action	Milestone/Key Target 2007/08	
<b>5. Achieve Economic Well-Being</b>		
<p>Prepare for employment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting ICT as a core skill by implementing functional skills in ICT for Key Stage 4 pupils and rolling out the Computers for Pupils initiative</li> <li>• Increasing the proportion of pupils leaving KS4 with a nationally accredited ICT qualification by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Identifying and sharing good practice.</li> <li>➤ Providing clear data for target setting to track, monitor and benchmark pupil performance.</li> <li>➤ Developing video conferencing and video streaming to provide access to additional teaching and learning resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ensuring all learning and training programmes for 14-19 year olds lead to recognised qualifications and progression routes</li> <li>• Establishing a work based learning and/or careers role within PSHE teams</li> <li>• Delivering year 11 school-leaver programmes through the Youth Service</li> </ul>		<p>Functional skills in ICT implemented by March 2008. Computers for Pupils initiative rolled out by August 2008</p> <p>Proportion of pupils leaving KS4 with an ICT qualification increased to 47% by 2008</p> <p>4.6% of Year 11 pupils achieve no GCSE or equivalent passes by July 2007.</p> <p>The number of young people age 16-18 not in education, employment or training is reduced to 11.2%</p> <p>Role established in all schools by March 2008</p> <p>Year 11 school leaver programmes delivered by August 2007</p>
<p>Meet employers' needs by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding the E2E pre-apprenticeship programme</li> <li>• Increasing the apprenticeship opportunities within the council across a range of vocational areas and in partnership with other work based learning providers</li> </ul>		<p>E2E expanded by 7% by March 2008</p> <p>30 new apprenticeship places created by March 2008</p>