

Children's Scrutiny Panel

Ref	Suggested Scrutiny Investigation Topic	Source	Council Plan 2026-29, Ambition and Aim
1	Out of School Activities How they are run	Councillor	A Healthy Place - The impact of school holiday hunger and inactivity will reduce
2.	Examine how the council works with academies to achieve our shared goals (attendance, behaviour, SEN, etc)	Councillor	A Successful & Ambitious Town - Attainment levels for children in the town will increase. Not only that, attainment levels for children that have had poorer education outcomes in recent years will improve. We will make sure children get this help. There will be a reduction in the number of children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are excluded from schools.
3.	Mental health and support for young people in our care and schools	Councillor	A Healthy Place - Health outcomes for those with multiple vulnerabilities will improve.
4.	What work are schools doing to tackle child poverty and how are we sharing best practice.	Councillor	A Healthy Place - The impact of school holiday hunger and inactivity will reduce. More children from low-income families will benefit from our 10 x 10 programme, which offers positive life-changing experiences. People will be able to access essential items when they are in financial crisis.
5.	Review of Children's Services Improvement Plan	Member of Public	
6.	Ofsted – Inspection of Children's Services – outcome	Councillor	
	Horizon Scanning		
1.	Child Sexual Exploitation (retention of documents)		
2.	SEND High Needs Deficit Write Off		
3.	Children's Wellbeing & Schools Act		
4.	Every Child Achieving & Thriving White Paper		
5.	Children's Social Care Reforms		
6.	Maximising Value for Pupils		
7.	Best Start in Life Strategy		