

SECTION 3 – PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

In this section we look at headline progress and what others have said about how well we have done. We show how consultation has driven our work and how the results have shaped future priorities. The key priorities are summarised and then a more detailed evaluation of progress, challenges, and priorities across the five outcomes is set out.

So what progress has been made?

Over the past three years we have delivered many of the promises we made in the first Children and Young People's Plan and established highly effective partnership arrangements through the Children and Young People's Trust. Our success is the result not only of the improvements in services, but also the hard work of children and young people, supported by their parents and carers. Just a small selection of 'good news' for Barnsley is set out below:

Progress Headlines

✓ The rate of take up of **breast feeding has increased significantly** year on year (51.2% 06/07 to 57% 07/08 and 63% in 08/09) closer in line with similar local authorities.

✓ Barnsley has **reduced the number of children with a child protection plan** in that it is closer to the national average; fewer children have needed a second plan and no child deaths have occurred as a result of assault by parents or carers since 2000.

✓ **Fewer young people are entering the youth justice system**, fewer are reoffending and overall rates of recorded crime and anti-social behaviour involving children and young people are down.

✓ **Barnsley experiences slightly lower than the national average infant mortality** despite levels of deprivation and concerns about low birth weight. In addition the immunisation rate is high.

✓ **Standards in educational attainment** at the end of the foundation stage and Key Stages 2, 3, and 4 **have improved** at a faster rate than statistical neighbours and councils nationally.

✓ Young people report that their **general health is better** than in 2006. More know how to contact their school nurse. Almost 60% are spending between one and six hours a week doing physical activity compared to 30% in 2006 and more are eating five portions of fruit and vegetables per day.

✓ **Physical activity has increased** significantly with 87% (NA 90%) of children and young people participating in two hours high quality PE and sports activities each week.

✓ Overall Barnsley has produced **outstanding results in reducing the percentage of young people not in employment, education and training.**

✓ **Fewer young people are regular smokers**; 41.7% males and 43.2% females smoked daily in 2006 compared with 32.5% and 35.65% respectively in 2008.



Progress – the views of others

What our inspectors said

The positive progress has been acknowledged by our external inspectors. Barnsley's children and young people's services have been judged by OfSTED to be **good with outstanding features** (September 2008).

Headline achievements:

- ✓ three independent Annual Performance Assessments of children's services since 2006 have shown **year on year improvements against the five outcomes and how services are managed**. The most recent gave an overall grade of 3 out of a possible 4 with one outstanding area – making a positive contribution.

OfSTED Assessment 2008	Grade
Overall effectiveness of children's services	3
Being healthy	3
Staying safe	3
Enjoying and achieving	3
Making a positive contribution	4
Achieving economic wellbeing	3
Capacity to improve, including the management of services for children and young people	3

Grade 3 = 'good'. Grade 4 = 'outstanding'.

The importance of consultation

Children, young people parents and carers – driving progress

We are proud of our reputation for ensuring that children and young people, parents and carers have their voices heard. The last independent inspection by OfSTED (2008) concluded that **“The council provides excellent opportunities for children and young people to influence service delivery”**.

During the past three years there have been many opportunities for all sectors of the community, including schools, those who work with children and young people, and specific groups such as looked after children, black and ethnic minority children and young people, gypsy travellers, and disabled young people to **voice** their views and **influence** the development of plans, priorities and service development.

Our well established approach to increasing voice and influence for all is driven through the **Voice and Influence Strategic Group**. This group is

responsible to the Children and Young People’s Trust, has strong links into the council’s democratic process and is led by the Lead Elected Member for Children, Young People and Families.

The Children and Young People’s Trust has adopted the Voice and Influence Framework of Standards **‘LISTEN’**, developed through the Children’s Fund, which organisations use to assess and improve their service delivery: **Look, Involve, Support, Trust, Educate, Negotiate**. Most recently a quality assurance process has been developed, which is now being implemented. This is to make sure that **‘LISTEN’** is having real impact. Organisations will be awarded a certificate showing the stage they are at with regard to listening to children, young people and families.

During 2009 we will increase the role of key stakeholders in direction setting, decision-making, accountability and challenge, with a focus on strengthening parent and carer and community voice through the locality wellbeing partnerships.

There is evidence that children, young people, parents and carers are making a real difference through their involvement in service and strategic planning to shape the services we deliver. They directly influenced:

✓ the development of a youth gym, dance studio and internet café in the town centre.

✓ the council’s decision to get more skate parks and multi-use games areas in local parks.

✓ the priorities of the strategy for disability and complex health needs – ‘One Path One Door’.

✓ the commissioning process for the new Connexions Service.

✓ the Council and NHS Barnsley’s decision to provide free swimming.

✓ the development of voice and influence processes in each of the 10 localities, including Community School Councils and Youth Action Groups.

The importance of consultation

Shaping priorities through voice and influence

The 'voice' in 'voice and influence' means the inclusion of children and young people in the planning, delivery and review of all aspects of the services they use.

The 'influence' in 'voice and influence' acknowledges the importance of the views and opinions leading to real change.

The views of children, young people, parents, carers, practitioners and community representatives have shaped the priorities in the plan for the next three years.

Summarised here are just some of their ideas which have been incorporated into our future plans.



Children and young people themes

"Not just listening but action too"

- Do more to tackle bullying.
- Information, advice and support about health.
- More safe places to go and things to do.
- Different activities according to age.
- Less drinking on the streets.
- Good choice of where to live for children in care.
- Clean and well lit streets.
- A more positive image of young people is needed since the majority are great.
- Decision makers should attend Youth Council meetings and interface with School Councils more.
- BME young people are concerned about racial harassment.
- Careers advice should be built into lessons from an earlier age.
- Celebrate achievement and attendance more.
- Young people leaving the care of the local authority need support when they hit barriers to life opportunities.
- Children and young people want to be able to access after school clubs in the local area where they can get help and support with their homework.
- Vocational and practical subjects, more interactive lessons and support when struggling.

and...

"There should be more time put into ensuring that things change rather than putting time into asking young people what they want".

Practitioner themes

“Services must have more flexible opening hours”

- Focus on narrowing the gap between Barnsley and the best in the country.
- Need to ensure that communities are engaged in locality wellbeing partnerships.
- Dads need to be more involved and included.
- Stability and achievement for children in care.
- All services should contribute to health agendas.
- Make services more welcoming.
- Improve communication between practitioners.
- Promote emotional wellbeing.
- Address relationships and sexual health at an early stage.
- More support for parents to strengthen their parenting skills.
- More focus on citizenship and community cohesion.
- Need a focus on school attendance.

and...

the common assessment framework should be used as a matter of course

Community representatives (the voice of elected members)

“We will need parental support to deliver these!”

- Ensuring that young people are protected and safe at home.
- Reduce the impact of child poverty.
- Improve school attendance, behaviour and engagement.
- Educational attainment at all stages.
- Health promotion.
- Reduce alcohol and substance misuse.
- Reduce offending and anti-social behaviour.
- Increase engagement in play, recreation, creative activities, arts and sport.
- Maximise personal development, encourage creativity, enterprise and positive activities.
- Increase access to high quality child care for all.
- Encourage and support all young people to engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school.

and...

it is important to increase voice and influence for young people in neighbourhoods, through the wellbeing agenda and at a corporate level

Parent and carer themes

“Children must come first!”

- Recognition of and support for dads.
- Information, advice and support for parents.
- Safe transport.
- Tackle bullying.
- Safe places for children to play.
- More activities for teenagers.
- Free swimming.
- Information about health for parents of teenagers.
- Personalised support in all schools for parents about their child’s education and health.
- Treat us with equality and respect.
- Use parents to promote good parenting.
- Parent support advisers in every school.
- Parent support should not be judgemental - build on strengths.
- Make buildings useful out of hours.
- Adult education opportunities through the Learning Net.

and...

more events like this to get involved and consult with parents and carers



So what next?

Headline Priorities 2009 - 2012

The facts set out in Section 2 and a wide range of qualitative evidence, including the results of consultation summarised above, shape the evaluation of where we are and what we need to do to narrow the gap between Barnsley and the rest of the country to achieve our ambitions. We cannot do everything and have to prioritise. Our headlines for the future are clear. We need to:

- ✓ sustain our unswerving drive to protect and keep children safe.
- ✓ tackle the causes and symptoms of poverty.
- ✓ narrow inequalities in health and improve health outcomes, including tackling obesity, smoking, alcohol use and reducing teenage conception rates.
- ✓ improve life chances for all.
- ✓ ensure value for money.
- ✓ raise standards of attainment in schools.
- ✓ create a culture of aspiration and enterprise.
- ✓ deliver good quality services, good information about service availability and develop clearer and more accessible service pathways, closer to communities.
- ✓ add value to people's lives in a way that makes a real difference.
- ✓ ensure that the workforce has the right knowledge and skills.

Reaching out

Some barriers faced by children, young people and their families arise from poverty and low income, health inequalities, unemployment, poor housing, environment and local facilities, family breakdown, challenges of parenthood, and particularly a lack of aspiration. We need to narrow the gap in relation to all of these major causes of disadvantage and poorer wellbeing for children and young people.

The commitment to equalities and inclusion is being embedded across all services. Equality priorities have been identified within the council's single equality strategy that are specific to children and young people. These are groups of children and young people who may be at risk of not achieving the outcomes we aspire to for all children, and whom we need to reach out to because they experience particular barriers and inequalities related to:

- ✓ childhood poverty which can have a lifelong impact.
- ✓ health inequalities often arising from poor economic circumstances and unhealthy lifestyles.
- ✓ emotional wellbeing and mental ill-health.
- ✓ children and young people who are looked after by the council so that they enjoy an equal start in life.
- ✓ improving the life chances and achievement of children with disabilities.
- ✓ being a young carer and its potential impact on attainment and life chances.

✓ young parents who may need additional support to raise their family.

✓ meeting the needs of BME young people, including new arrivals to the borough and travelling communities.

✓ improving boys' educational achievement.

✓ challenging all aspects of bullying in schools and the community.

✓ young people at risk of not being in education, employment or training when they leave school.

✓ reducing gender stereotyping in further and higher education which limits the employment choices of both males and females.

Our aim is to prevent or reduce the impact of all inequalities so that children, young people and families have the same life chances. We want all children and young people to know that they can aspire to achieve their hopes and ambitions, regardless of circumstances, and we have established clear and ambitious priorities to focus on vulnerable groups as a key priority, as well as addressing the needs of all of Barnsley's children, young people and families. In the review of our progress and future plans on page 16 we highlight particularly the kind of special work we intend to carry out to help 'narrow the gap'.

Children, young people and families across the outcomes

In Barnsley we acknowledge the different ages and life stages in respect of early childhood and youth and we have developed strategies to account for these specific series of needs in our Early Childhood Strategy and our Integrated Youth Support Strategy. More details are set out in Section 4 (page73). However, we remain committed to the **Every Child Matters Outcome Framework and the five priority outcomes.**

The next part of the plan looks across the whole landscape of children, young people and families in respect of the five outcomes. We address the following points across each outcome:

- key messages
- looking back 2006-09
- action taken 2006-09
- continuing challenges:
 - what people tell us
 - what our data and information tells us
- priorities and next steps
- commissioning plans
- measuring impact
- where to go for more details.

We also highlight the connections to the respective strategic action plans relating to the ages and stages of life and areas where the priorities relate to parents, carers and family support, children with disabilities and complex needs and, importantly where we focus on those reaching out to children and young people to narrow the gap.



The Every Child Matters Outcomes

Being healthy

Staying safe

Enjoying and achieving

Making a positive contribution

Achieving economic wellbeing

Each of the outcomes is addressed in a separate colour coded section as indicated above.

Connections are made in each section between the outcome priorities, our key strategic plans, and current activity to commission services.

BEING HEALTHY

Being and staying healthy throughout life is a key outcome for all children and young people and relates to physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. This is a major challenge for Barnsley when, for example, one in five of our 11 year olds is obese.

To 'Be Healthy' children, young people, parents and carers are entitled to have:

- healthy lifestyles.
- protection from risks that lead to physical or mental ill health and disability.
- services and treatment that are timely, accessible, age appropriate and high quality.
- information from pre-conception through to adulthood to make informed choices about healthy lifestyles and to prevent ill health.
- swift and easy access to specialist services, where necessary, so that they can receive high quality treatment.
- locally based accessible services.

Good health includes being able to do all the things we need to do and cope with what is going on around us. All children and young people are entitled, with support from parents and carers, to make informed choices to live healthy lifestyles and to receive high quality treatment and preventive services. The priorities identified in this outcome secure a strong focus on tackling health inequalities, which is a major shared agenda for the health services, the council and partners, and the future of Barnsley's people.



Being healthy - looking back at the 2006-2009 Children and Young People's Plan – a brief summary

What children, young people and families wanted us to do

- Young people and their parents were in agreement in asking us to provide more information on health matters for all ages.
- Young people, including those with disabilities, wanted to be able to access young people-friendly health services and have their confidentiality respected, especially in relation to sexual health matters. Girls in particular wanted to see the introduction of female only sessions.
- Young people were concerned about mental health and emotional health problems and wanted easier access to a range of services.
- Parents with disabled children wanted more joined up assessments and quicker access to specialist services.
- Parents wanted access to GP appointments to be improved and more contact with health visitors.
- Parents would welcome the extension of Sure Start children's centres to all areas of Barnsley – not just the deprived ones.

What we set out to do in 2006

Maternal health

Give children the best possible chance of living long and healthy lives by supporting and educating parents pre-conception, through initiatives targeting smoking in pregnancy, breastfeeding, immunisation and teenage pregnancy.

Healthy lifestyle

Develop and implement strategies to support, educate and encourage families to pursue a healthy lifestyle through healthy eating, play, and engagement in sport and active recreation.

Drug and alcohol misuse

Through the Young People's Substance Misuse Plan, improve alcohol and drugs education for children and young people, redesign treatment services and strengthen those for vulnerable young people, such as young offenders, looked after children and truant.

Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual health

Implement the Barnsley Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Strategy to improve the sexual health of young people through education and access to friendly, effective sexual health and contraceptive advice services.

Access to services

Ensure families, including children and young people with complex health care needs and those with special educational needs, have increased access at a local level to services that meet their needs.

What action has been taken and what have we achieved 2006-2009

Maternal Health

- Breastfeeding peer support workers are now embedded across the borough.
- Barnsley has been awarded the Certificate of Commitment for improved breastfeeding initiative rate at 57% in 2007/08 and further improvements have been made in 2009.
- There has been a 1.6 % point reduction of smoking in pregnancy.

Healthy lifestyles

- Improved healthy lifestyles promotion from antenatal through to adulthood.
- Dedicated stop smoking programme now permanently funded and supporting all secondary schools in tackling this issue.
- 99% of schools engaged in Healthy School Status with 65% reaching the minimum standards. Many schools are now striving for the national standard gold award.
- From 2002-2008 there has been an increase from 30% to 82% of children involved in two hours or more of PE and school sport per week
- MZone has new affordable gym facilities specifically for young people.
- MiCard gives under 18s access to free swimming.
- Take-up of school meals is higher than the national average with 41.3% in secondary schools and 47.04% in primary schools.
- 89.5% of Year 10 students reported their health to be good, very good or excellent.

Drug and Alcohol Misuse

- A comprehensive treatment and targeted youth support strategy has been established and delivered.
- Outreach support has been delivered to those young people most at risk of being involved in risk taking behaviour, including the misuse of alcohol and drugs.

Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health

- Sexual health and contraceptive services have been developed and redesigned to meet the needs of the local population.
- The GUM service has been relocated and expanded. 100% of patients contacting the service are now offered an appointment within 48 hours; the annual Chlamydia screening target of 104 per week is on course to be met.
- 1,010 young people attended sexual health clinics in 2008-9, an increase of 36.3% with 3,371 attendances, 78% increase, including 468 with school nurses.
- Teenage conception rate decreased from 54.1 per 1000 girls aged 15-17 in 2006 to 50.4 in 2008. This is an overall drop of 16.3% since the 1998 baseline; this overall decline is higher than the England overall decline of 13.3%.
- Implemented the Family Nurse Partnership pilot in 2007 in order to support teenage parents and to prevent unplanned second pregnancies.

Access to Services

- Universal health visiting service for all 0-5 year olds and their families.
- Service provided (Hidden Harm) for young people directly affected by parental substance misuse.
- Secured investment from NHS Barnsley to increase service provision for CAMHS and Disability and Therapy Services.
- Barnsley is a pilot area for both Multi-Systemic Therapies and Family Nurse Partnership, key contributors to improving services for vulnerable young people.
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service has reduced their waiting times and improved choice throughout the service.
- Improved health for looked after children through annual health checks.
- Review of speech and language therapy services has been undertaken with a view to improving access to the service. There has been a 31% decrease in the waiting list, dropping from 220 in February 2007 to 150 currently.
- A separate Paediatric Accident and Emergency Department is being established.
- There is improved dental care and access to NHS dentists is good.
- More children with long term conditions are being seen in the community.
- Access to free swimming has had a significant impact and high uptake.

Being healthy - continuing challenges – 2009 to 2012

What children, young people, families and carers say we need to do to stay focused on helping them to be healthy

- Young people want more information about sex and relationships, specifically at the age of 11 – 12 (Year 7), delivered in a school setting through PSHE. They also want more information about safer sex, contraception and relationships.
- Alcohol remains a major concern for young people. They want alcohol free venues in the town centre to avoid contact with adults under the influence of drink and better information, support and advice in their locality about the implications of alcohol use.
- Parents and many adults are still worried about groups of teenagers using alcohol and this leading them into ill-health and inappropriate behaviour.
- Young people are very concerned about drug use and the impact of peer pressure. They want more accessible information and non-judgemental advice to help them to make informed choices and take responsibility for themselves and their wellbeing.
- Parents want safe affordable transport so that their youngsters can travel independently to and from school and to other venues.
- Young people recognise the importance of healthy weight and they want access to affordable healthy eating options.
- Children, their families and carers said they wanted better access to safe play facilities.
- Young people recognise that from time to time they need support with emotional wellbeing and feelings and want to be able to access support when they need it.
- Parents and carers want personalised support with their child's education and health in all schools.
- Parents of disabled children want access to universal services and mainstream activities to be improved, to provide equal access for their children and young people.

Being healthy – what our data and information tells us about continuing challenges for 2009 to 2012

Services will be situated locally, where children, young people and families live, learn and play, and to be available in their hours and on their terms. Locality wellbeing teams will continue to develop and strengthen their role within localities to ensure good **joined-up, accessible services** that are fit for purpose and ensure health promotion really is everyone's business.

Barnsley has been ranked as the eighth worst place in the country for risk of **obesity**. Childhood obesity is continually rising in Barnsley; 21.2% of year 6 children are obese, putting children's health at serious long-term risk. The Children's Healthy Weight Strategy is being implemented to address this multifaceted problem.

The price and perceived value for money of **school meals** appears to be a barrier for lower income groups and families with more than one child.

Better access to **Speech and Language Therapy** services is required. A full review has been undertaken and investment from NHS Barnsley has been secured, which will improve access to the service.

Although fewer smoke regularly, **smoking** remains a real issue for young people in Barnsley. The TellUs3 survey indicates a 3% rise in children trying smoking to 33% when the NA is 25%. 48.8% of 14 – 15 year old young women and 41% of young males are regular smokers and of these 44% live with adults who smoke. Young people want more information and support to stop smoking.

Smoking in pregnancy remains a concern because, although there has been a reduction overall, there has been an increase of almost 1% between March 2008 and March 2009.

The Barn had 144 new presentations for 'treatment' for **drug and alcohol** use in 2007/2008 compared to 129 in 2006/2007 (NDTMS). Alcohol remains the greatest cause for young people presenting to the service, with 106 alcohol related cases in 2007/2008 compared to 85 in 2006/2007.

There is a need to increase **health promotion** material and advice in settings where children, young people and their families go. Development of the school nurse role will significantly support health promotion in schools.

Under 18s' conception rate for 2007 stands at 50.4 conceptions per 1000 (provisional). A Local Area Agreement target has been negotiated for teenage conceptions for 2008 of 46.5 per 1000 (a 22.7% drop) and for 2009 of 43 per 1000 (a 28.6% drop from 1998). These represent considerable challenge.

Sexually transmitted diseases are continuing to increase at a rapid rate.

2007/2008 saw an increase in the number of young people referred for **mental health** support. Accelerated development of the mental health service is a priority in order to meet the rising demands for Mental Health Services.

Our strategy for **disability and complex needs** called 'One Path One Door' has identified the need to develop a number of services to support children and young people with complex health needs, including palliative care; care pathways; short breaks; specialist equipment and transitions.

Young people need access to 'young people -friendly' and **accessible health services**. There needs to be further planning around the provision of acute and community health services for the 14-19 age group.

We need to work in close collaboration with partners in the third sector in order to tackle **health inequalities** effectively.

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and Narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
1BH	Continue to develop and implement the Healthy Child Programme 0-5 and 5-19 and deliver this through health visiting and school nursing services co-ordinated through locality working.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2BH	Work to achieve the targets of the Healthy Schools Programme whilst supporting schools to implement and embed the National Enhanced Model.	✓	✓		✓		
3BH	Support teenage parents by continuing to develop the Family Nurse Partnership programme.	✓	✓		✓		Commissioning FNP, testing pilot projects, learning from evidence based programmes.
4BH	Continue to develop Multi-Systemic Therapy project to provide support to young people 11- 17 who may be at risk of custody or entering care system as result of mental health issues.		✓				Commissioning MST, testing pilot projects, learning from evidence based programmes.
5BH	Reduce health inequalities and promote healthy lifestyles through implementing healthy weight, breast feeding and other related strategies and through locality based health improvement action. This will be aimed at empowering children, young people and families to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Commission new services to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities.
6BH	Continue to promote the development of disability services, improve support to families through access to short breaks, improve transitions to adult services, increase access to play and leisure facilities for disabled children and provide good quality information to parents of disabled children so that they can access services at an early stage.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Investment and development of Disability Services to implement the One Path One Door Strategy for children with complex health needs by using AHDC resources.
7BH	Implement further improvements to speech and language therapy services.	✓		✓	✓		Investment and development of SALTS
8BH	Implement planned improvements to Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing pathways for young people with learning disabilities and mental ill-health; extending the CAMHS services up to the age of 18 yrs; making an accessible service out of hours and in emergencies; improving early intervention and mental health promotion; targeted Mental Health in Schools project to improve training for school staff and access to services within school; potential for a fast track CAMHS service for children in care. 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Investment in a fully Comprehensive CAMH Service and to achieve CAMHS vital signs targets.
9BH	Work with schools, including enhancing role of school nurses, to raise awareness of the risks of under age drinking, smoking and substance misuse.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Reconfigure alcohol and substance misuse treatment and specialist support services.
10BH	Continue to implement the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Strategies with a focus on 'at risk' groups, improved access to user-friendly services and sex and relationships education.	✓	✓			✓	
11BH	Ensure that all vulnerable groups are able to access appropriate health care.	✓	✓	✓	✓		Implement 'You're Welcome'.
12BH	Continue to develop the Parenting Early Intervention Project and to build upon the parenting support that is being offered through Webster Stratton and Strengthening Families Groups.	✓	✓	✓		✓	
13BH	Continue to increase the take-up of school meals, focusing on the schools with the lowest take-up, working with schools, pupils, parents and carers to encourage greater participation.	✓	✓	✓			Commission independent consultation with pupils, parents and carers.
14BH	Ensure close working between maternity services and stop smoking services so that more pregnant women receive support for smoking cessation.	✓	✓	✓		✓	Negotiate reduction in smoking in pregnancy targets.

Being healthy - measuring impact – key indicators

KPI No	Definition	Current Results 2008-09	Targets		
			2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
NI 50	Emotional health of children.	65.3%	66%	68%	70%
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services.	12	14	16	16
NI 52	Take up of school meals primary	47.04%	48%	55%	56%
NI 52	Take up of school meals secondary	41.3%	44%	50%	55%
NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at six to eight weeks from birth.	29.5%	32%	34%	tbc
NI 54	Services for disabled children.	61%	63%	67%	tbc
NI 55	Obesity among primary school age children in Reception year.	10.4%	9.8%	9.6%	tbc
NI 56	Obesity primary school age children in Year 6.	21.2%	20.2%	19.9%	tbc
NI 57	Children and young people's participation in high quality physical education and sport.	75%	Measures being revised		
NI 58	Emotional and behavioural health of children in care.	14.4%	tbc following benchmarking		
NI 112	Under-18 conception rate per 1000. [*as per LAA trajectory]	50.4 [2007]	43* [2009]	40* [2010]	tbc
NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25-year-olds.	19.8%	25%	tbc	tbc
NI 115	Substance misuse by young people.	16%	15%	14%	13%

Where to go for more detail

Documents

- Fit for the Future
- Maternity Strategy
- Breastfeeding Strategy
- Healthy Weight Barnsley
- One Path, One Door Strategy (strategy for children with disability and complex needs)
- Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment 2008 and Treatment Plan 2009/10
- CAMHS Review
- Interim CAMHS Commissioning Strategy
- Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan

Websites

- Fit for the Future website <http://www.barnsleyfit4thefuture.co.uk/>
- Change4life www.nhs.uk/Change4Life



STAYING SAFE

Keeping children safe is our top priority and we are working hard in Barnsley to make sure our children are safe wherever they go and whatever activities they are involved in. Our young people are curious and energetic and this means there needs to be a strong safeguarding aspect to **all** our services. First and foremost, we are creating a vigilant community so that when a child needs protection we know about it straight away and take action.

Our ability to keep children safe has been rated 'good' for the past three years and we are determined to improve this by making sure we implement the recommendations Lord Laming made in his progress report on protecting children. We are absolutely committed to prevention, and are constantly searching for better ways of supporting children, young people and their families.

We ask our children and young people regularly about what makes them feel safe and we use their views to measure our success.

In line with their views, we have five key aims. Children and young people should be:

- safe from maltreatment, neglect and sexual exploitation
- safe from accidental injury
- safe from bullying and discrimination
- safe from crime and anti-social behaviour
- secure, stable and well cared for.

Staying safe - looking back at the 2006-2009 Children and Young People's Plan – a brief summary

What children, young people and families wanted us to do

- Children, young people and their parents asked us to create safer environments and more public places for them to go.
- Young people wanted us to eliminate racial abuse and harassment and create more support for victims of crime.
- They were also concerned about teenage drinking and drug misuse and asked us to tackle both these issues.
- Young children were mainly concerned about being bullied at school, so they asked us to 'get rid of bullying'. Their sentiments were echoed by young people and their parents.
- Young people making the transition from primary to secondary school felt they needed more support.

What we set out to do in 2006

Child protection

Work with partners to keep children and young people safe from harm and neglect and provide high quality child protection services to support the most vulnerable children, young people and families in Barnsley.

Children in care

Help children to achieve their full potential by supporting them to remain with their families. Where this is not possible, provide children entering the care system with a variety of placement options to make sure they have a positive, stable experience that meets their needs.

Safe environments

Continue work to safeguard children and young people at home, in school and the wider community from accidental injury and death.

Bullying and harassment

Develop and implement a borough-wide anti-bullying strategy to eradicate all forms of bullying and harassment within schools, the care setting and wider community.

Victims of crime

Support children who were the 'hidden victims' of crime, develop initiatives to reduce domestic abuse, youth offending, and anti-social behaviour to ensure children thrive in safe environments.

What we achieved 2006 - 2009

Child protection

- Barnsley Children and Young People's Services have maintained a 'good' rating for the past three years for keeping children and young people safe.
- We continue to have a robust and well regarded Local Safeguarding Children Board and the relationship with the Children's Trust is strong. The council and partners recognise that safeguarding is everybody's business and is their top priority.
- Barnsley has successfully reduced the number of children with a Child Protection Plan to be in line with the national average. Fewer children have needed a child protection plan for a second time and we have had no child deaths resulting from assault by parents/carers since 2000.
- We have a highly stable and well qualified social care workforce resulting in more timely assessments, and all children with a child protection plan having an allocated worker.
- We have a very strong commitment to locality and partnership working which we are continuing to develop to ensure that families, children and young people at risk are identified and receive co-ordinated and timely support.
- A new social care family support service is in place to focus on high need prevention and early intervention programmes as part of an integrated approach.
- We have very robust child protection procedures consistent with Working Together (2006). All adults working with children in the major agencies are subject to rigorous vetting checks, including enhanced CRB checks.
- We have implemented the Common Assessment Framework and all schools and agencies are using this tool to understand the needs of children and families to find good solutions.
- Our partnership response to children missing from home or care is robust.

Children in care

- We continue to build more long term stability into the lives of children in care, with fewer children experiencing placement disruptions compared to the national average, through high quality services, fostering, residential care and adoption.
- The percentage of children adopted from care is high and has increased from 7.9% in 2006/07 to 12.7% in 2008/09.
- Barnsley's adoption service was judged to be good at safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Residential services for children in care were judged to be good for safeguarding when inspected. The children's unit providing care for children with a learning difficulty was judged outstanding for this outcome.
- Barnsley's foster care arrangements, including private fostering, were judged to be good at safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- The number of looked after children cases reviewed on time has significantly improved and is now better than national averages and similar authorities.
- The development of Barnsley's pledge to children in care has been led by children and young people in care who will also monitor its implementation.

Safe environments

- Maintaining health and safety of children in schools and other settings continues to be a high priority. All secondary schools and most primary schools are achieving the highest grade of 'A' for this area of their work.

Bullying and harassment

- Compared with the national picture, fewer children and young people stated, in the 2008 Tellus Survey, that bullying was a problem in their schools.

Staying safe - continuing challenges - 2009 to 2012

What children, young people, families and carers told us we should do to stay focused on ensuring that they are safe at home, at school and in the community

- The majority of our children and young people said that they feel safe in Barnsley, especially at school. However, bullying remains a concern for children and young people who want zero tolerance, a stronger bullying policy and a better system for dealing with bullies.
- The young people said that they would like more information and support for individuals about how to handle bullying and the emotional effects.
- Young people said they needed good information about where to go and who to talk to if they have concerns about domestic violence, abuse and sexual exploitation and general personal safety.
- They want different parks and places for children of different ages to go to; more youth nights like *battle of the bands* to give young people something to do; inter-school competitions and joint performances; and activities with different start and finish times.
- Parents want support that is non-judgmental, not necessarily from professionals, and builds on their strengths.
- Young people said that they would feel safer when they are out and about if there was a greater police presence, more youth workers on the streets, more CCTV cameras and better lighting on streets, football pitches, skate parks and play areas.
- Children in care want a good choice of placements so that they are more likely to be happy in their new home. They also want the Safeguarding Children website to be more interesting and easy to use for young people.
- Children, young people, families and carers would like to see action on reducing dog fouling, including more bins and enforcement.
- Children, young people and families want derelict buildings to be knocked down and to have more open spaces.

Staying safe – what our data and information tells us about continuing challenges for 2009 to 2012

Child protection: We need to continue to focus on:

- ensuring that all key indicators for safeguarding are rated at least good and become excellent.
- improving safeguarding arrangements for children and young people placed out of area in mental health facilities.
- providing access to suitable accommodation for children in care so that they can move into adulthood when they are ready from a supportive, safe and stable base.
- continuing to improve the quality of serious case reviews and the learning that arises from them so that communication channels are always effective and the evaluation of risk is thorough.
- ensuring that safer recruitment practices and safeguarding training for all frontline and other relevant employees is consistent.
- securing even more robust risk assessments and child protection reports.
- supporting vulnerable families following the completion of child protection plans.
- supporting the growing numbers of children and young people who are unaccompanied asylum seekers.
- supporting families suffering domestic abuse and ensuring a trained workforce.
- ensuring that children and young people who are placed out of authority for health reasons have their needs and interests fully met.

Runaways: implementing supportive prevention and intervention agendas for young runaways.

Sexual exploitation: combating sexual exploitation based on our up- to-date local and national information.

Bullying or harassment: 53.3% of children in the 2008 Tellus survey reported that they had been bullied in school or elsewhere compared to 48% nationally. Tackling bullying remains a key concern.

Emergency hospital admissions and attendance at A&E are still too high: 19,657 young people aged 0-19 went to A&E at Barnsley Hospital during 2007/08, the highest proportion children were under five years (31.2%) and 15 to 19 years (30.6%). The vast majority of incidents occurred in the home (40.4%).

Road safety: The numbers of children killed or seriously injured in road accidents has reduced overall but is quite variable. It dropped from 24 in 2006 to 14 in 2007 but increased to 21 in 2008. This indicates the need to focus on addressing this issue.

Safety in the community: too many children and young people said they felt a bit unsafe or very unsafe in the area where they lived, going to or from school and to a lesser extent in school.

E-safety: having put tight procedures in place we are maintaining a good working relationship with young people who continue to alert us to the safeguarding challenges electronic media pose for them.

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
1SS	Strengthening families: provide family support for the most vulnerable so that children and young people can live with their families safely and the requirement for children to have a child protection plan or to be in care does not escalate.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Enable increased access to parenting support through: parenting and early intervention programme; parenting advisers; family support in social care.
2SS	Early intervention: ensure action to guarantee the safety of children and young people is consistently implemented through the development of shared processes, and that appropriate and timely interventions take place when there is evidence that a child may be abused or mistreated.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Develop the first specification for an integrated safeguarding service.
3SS	Implementing the recommendations of the Laming Report: ensure that our arrangements to protect children from harm are working in accordance with best practice.	✓	✓		✓	✓	
4SS	Sexual exploitation: ensure that inter-agency arrangements are in place to protect young people who are at risk of sexual exploitation and that services are provided to promote their welfare.	✓	✓			✓	
5SS	Ethnic minorities: ensure that children and young people from ethnic minority groups, including separated / unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people, are safeguarded and their particular needs are met.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Explore potential for UK border agency contract for separated / unaccompanied asylum seeking young people.
6SS	Disability: ensure all disabled children are safeguarded from emotional, physical and sexual abuse and neglect, and the specific needs of disabled children are addressed in safeguarding children protocols.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7SS	Children in care: secure the welfare and wellbeing of children in care through placement arrangements providing further choice, stability and sustainability, which meets their needs. This involves recruiting more local foster carers.	✓	✓	✓	✓		Increase the numbers of foster placements. Review contracting arrangements with independent fostering providers.
8SS	Transitions: improve needs assessment and co-ordination of services for 17-25 year olds via improving joined up working with Adult Services.		✓		✓		

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 - 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
9SS	Domestic violence: reduce the impact of domestic violence on children and young people's emotional wellbeing through raising awareness, guidance and training on early recognition and response to young people who experience a home life affected by domestic violence, including in schools.	✓	✓			✓	Scope the extent of services required to support children and young people at risk of harm through domestic violence.
10SS	Runaways: continue to improve preventative and support services for children missing from home and care, strengthening further the collection and analysis of data and needs assessment - and improving the NI 71 score from 10 to 15 (the maximum).	✓	✓				
11SS	Young people's accommodation: increase the quantity and quality of accommodation for vulnerable young people, including care leavers, building on the work of strategic housing and engaging with partners to develop and promote preventative measures to ensure young people can remain at home, if it is safe to do so, and can leave home fully prepared and able to manage.		✓			✓	
12SS	Bullying: continue to work with children and young people to reduce bullying and fear of bullying in schools and in communities and provide support for victims.	✓	✓		✓	✓	
13SS	Community safety: improve the general safety of children and young people by raising awareness about safety, providing advice about how to minimise risk, and by promoting road safety and safety in the home, school or setting, and community. Action on dog fouling to ensure safe play areas, and more open spaces. Initiatives relating to knife crime, alcohol education and safety in the community, building on good practice such as the 'Safe in Barnsley' scheme.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
14SS	Road traffic accidents: The incidents of road traffic accidents are too high. Work will be undertaken across the partnerships to develop community based initiatives, raising awareness about road safety.	✓	✓	✓			Develop local strategies to improve the use of highways and road safety.
15SS	Work on e-safety will be taken forward in connection with the above priorities, including work on bullying, sexual exploitation, and runaways. A key aspect of this work is ensuring professionals, parents and carers, and children and young people have good quality information and guidance regarding safe use of the internet. We shall be implementing our training strategy to achieve this.	✓	✓		✓		

Staying safe - measuring impact – key indicators

KPI No.	Definition	Current Results 2008-09	Targets		
			2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
	Children subject to a child protection plan [198 in 2005-6].	169	To be broadly in line with national proportions		
NI 48	Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents [3 year rolling average].	19.7 [06-08]	22 [07-09]	21 [08-10]	tbc [09-11]
NI 59	Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within seven working days of referral.	68.6%	>75%	>75%	>75%
NI 60	Core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.	87.7%	>85%	>85%	>85%
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision.	68.8%	>80%	>80%	>80%
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves.	11.7%	<11%	<11%	<11%
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement.	71.7%	>70%	>73%	>75%
NI 64	Child protection plans lasting two years or more.	6.8%	<10%	<10%	<10%
NI 65	Children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time.	14.2%	10-15%	10-15%	10-15%
NI 66	Looked after children cases that were reviewed within required timescales.	92%	>95%	>95%	>95%
NI 67	Child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales.	99.6%	100%	100%	100%
NI 68	Referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment.	73.9%	75%	75%	75%
NI 69	Children who have experienced bullying.	53.3%	<51.0%	<48.7%	<46.4%
NI 70	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people.	142.66	tbc following benchmarking		
NI 71	Children who have run away from home/care overnight [self assessment, scored out of 15].	10/15	11/15	13/15	15/15

Where to go for more detail

Documents

- Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan
- Barnsley Child Protection Procedures
- Antibullying Strategy
- Barnsley's Safe Parenting Handbook
- Missing Children Protocol

Websites

- Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board website
<http://www.safeguardingchildrenbarnsley.com>
- Barnsley's Safe Parenting Handbook
www.barnsley.gov.uk/cypf
- Adoption
www.barnsley.gov.uk/adoption
- Fostering
www.barnsley.gov.uk/fostering
- Private Fostering
www.barnsley.gov.uk/privatefostering



ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING

In Barnsley we are committed to ensuring that children and young people enjoy success, have high aspirations, a sense of purpose and enterprise, a positive destination and become responsible, active citizens. Only in this way can we continue to narrow the gap in performance and tackle inequalities.

We continue to focus our energies on:

- building on what we already do well
- targeting improvement where it will make a real difference
- tackling inequality wherever it exists
- making sure that children and young people play a central part in their learning
- securing excellence in teaching and learning, leadership and management.

We are pleased with our achievements so far and standards continue to rise; the OfSTED overall judgement on more than half of our schools is good or better and the quality of teaching and learning, leadership and management continues to improve. We have no permanent exclusions and attendance continues to rise. We have also worked hard to improve recreational, play and sports activities and Barnsley's children and young people are benefiting from extended sport and recreational programmes.

However, we still have a distance to travel. In some key areas we need to accelerate our progress. Standards of achievement are a continuing challenge and need to improve. We want to be at least in line with national averages at every stage. We are targeting the early years, English and mathematics at every key stage, and making sure that children who need help make stronger progress. We are determined that every child and young person will enjoy learning and achieve.

Enjoying and achieving - looking back at the 2006-2009 Children and Young People Plan – a brief summary

What children, young people and families wanted us to do

- Young people would like to celebrate and be rewarded more for what they achieve.
- They would also like more active ways to learn in school, such as small group work and practical lessons, and more opportunities for work placements.
- They would like to take a more active role in planning their learning.
- Young people experiencing difficulties would like teachers to be more understanding of them.
- Parents, including those with disabled children, want to know more about teaching approaches so that they can be more involved in their children's education and be more supportive to them.
- Those with disabled children would prefer them to be educated closer to other children from a young age and feel there should also be more fun and leisure activities for their children.
- Children and young people want more activities after school, especially for disabled, looked after, or black and ethnic minority youngsters.

What we set out to do in 2006

Early years/childcare

Continue to improve the wellbeing and development of children in their early years by further developing accessible, integrated early childhood services offered through children's centres and extended services in and around schools.

School attendance

Give all children access to enriched and engaging learning experiences at every life stage and promote attendance at school to ensure that education has the maximum positive impact on their future life chances.

Achievement - primary

Continue the current trend of improvement in educational standards of all primary school pupils, including the results of vulnerable groups, to further reduce the gap between Barnsley and the national average.

Achievement - secondary

Provide targeted support to schools to help them raise educational standards to bring Barnsley into line with similar authorities and closer to the national average by increasing the numbers of pupils achieving 5A*-C.

Recreation/enjoyment

Further promote the development of accessible recreational, play, sports, arts and voluntary learning opportunities to improve and enrich children and young people's life chances.

What we achieved 2006 to 2009

Early childhood: 20 children centres have now been established across the borough in areas of greatest need. This has resulted in families with young children being able to access services designed for them within their local area.

The first 19 children centres have been accredited as providing the full core offer to parents, carers and children; the remaining centre is accredited as delivering basic core offer and is scheduled to be fully accredited by March 2010.

Parents and carers have benefited from increased access to childcare places, with 15.2 childcare places per 100 children in April 2009 compared to 9 per 100 children in 2006. Since 2001 childcare provision in Barnsley has more than doubled. There is a diverse mix of childcare available allowing choice to meet needs of local families.

66% of private, voluntary and independent settings were judged good or better in Ofsted nursery education inspections between 2005 and 2008, almost in line with the national position (67.5%). None were judged inadequate.

Of the 46 day care providers registered with a Quality Assurance Scheme, 93% achieved a good Ofsted grade.

In 2008 there was an improvement of 6% in children achieving national expectations at the end of Foundation Stage. The gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest decreased by 43%. The improvement from 2007 to 2008 was at twice the rate of national improvement and the results were the highest ever achieved.

Development of joint working between health visiting and midwifery services and children's centres.

Attending school: Over 90% of children and young people gain their first choice of school place in both primary and in secondary schools.

Implemented proactive promotion of attendance at school, together with the issue of fixed penalty notices to resolve entrenched cases of absence. Schools are encouraged to only authorise absence in special circumstances.

Overall absence in Barnsley schools has fallen year on year, with the best ever school attendance figures across both primary and secondary schools. Barnsley was ranked in the top 25% of local authorities in 2007-08 for lowest levels of absence in primary schools. Although they did not quite reach the national position, secondary schools were better than the regional average.

Persistent absence has also fallen in both primary and secondary schools, bringing the rate in primary schools in line with the national figure of 1.7%.

Implemented a proactive and effective 'managed moves' process, together with interim provision at a PRU, to reduce the impact of permanent exclusions. Permanent exclusions are almost eliminated from both primary and secondary schools. Fixed term exclusions at secondary school are 3% lower than national averages. Fixed term exclusions in primary schools show a downward trend.

A new special school has been established for pupils with emotional and behaviour difficulties, together with support in individual schools (SEAL).

Achievement – primary: Children and young people's results in schools in 2008 at Key Stage 2 were the highest ever achieved in Barnsley and continued the gains made in previous years. The gap between Barnsley and the national average has been closed year on year. Barnsley is in the top 25% for improvement in performance from 2006 to 2008. However, attainment remains below the national average in all subjects at both Key Stages 1 and 2.

The gap between attainment of vulnerable children and the rest is narrowing.

54% of schools were judged good or better for overall effectiveness in Ofsted inspections; 60% of schools were judged to have good or better leadership and management, 56% of schools were judged good or better for teaching and learning.

Achievement – secondary: Children and young people's results in schools in 2008 were the highest ever achieved in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 and continued the gains made in previous years. Barnsley was in the top 25% for improvement in five GCSEs A*-C from 2006 to 2007.

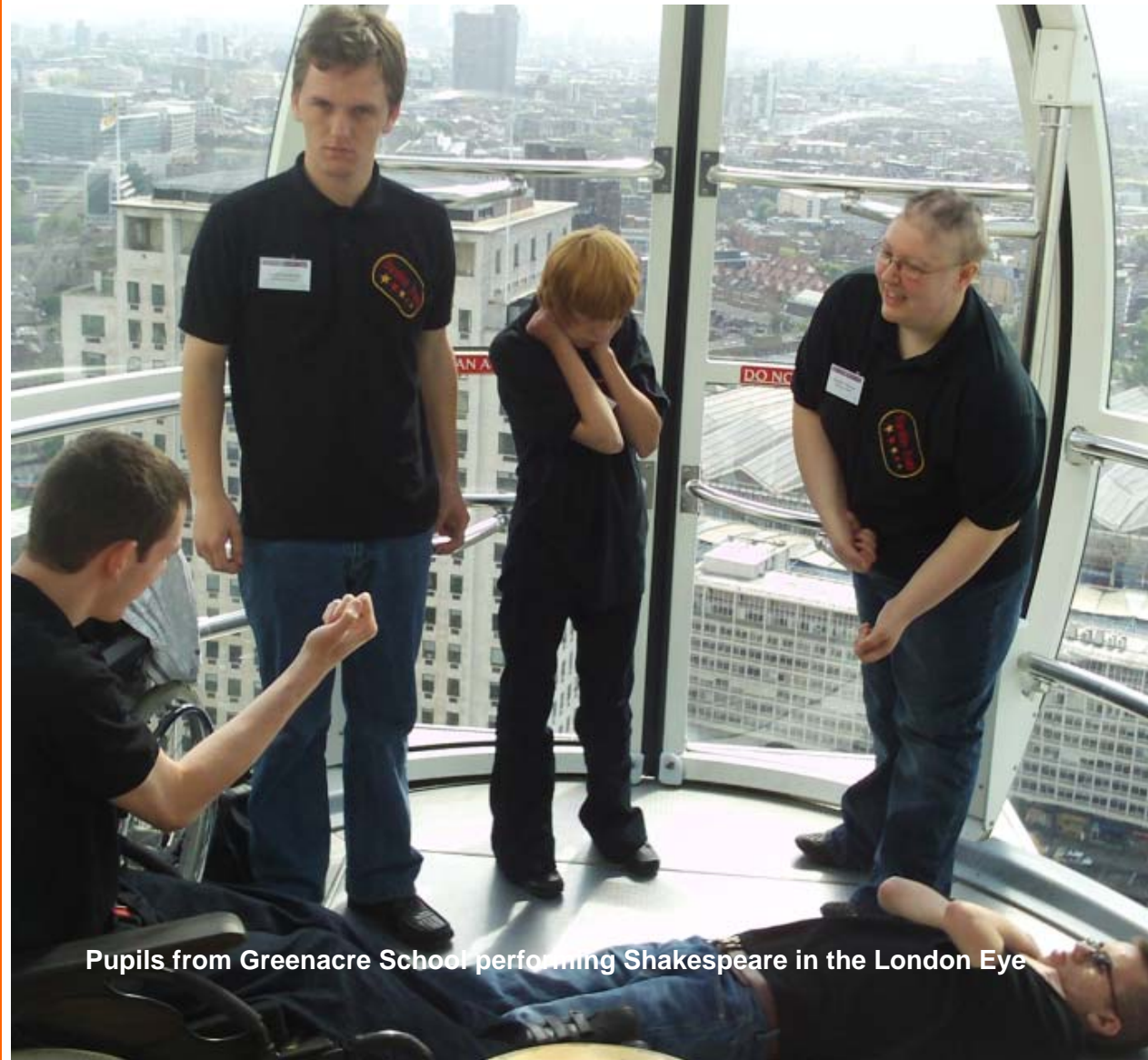
Recreation/enjoyment: The APA 2008 recognised the diverse programme of recreational/extended learning provision available and accessible to all children and young people, with over 200 provider organisations, including the Out of Hours Network, the Youth Service, schools and the third sector.

Improved range of recreational, play and sports activities through Barnsley Sport and Activity Forum, Priory and Holgate School Sports Partnerships etc. The percentage of children and young people participating with PE and sport is increasing. Most schools within Barnsley are now members of at least one School Sport Partnership.

Developed a Play Strategy and made a successful bid for BIG Lottery funding and utilised this and other funding to support its implementation.

78% of schools now provide the full service offer, which is above both regional and national targets.

Major new play facilities for the borough have been provided in Locke Park.



Pupils from Greenacre School performing Shakespeare in the London Eye

Enjoying and achieving - continuing challenges – 2009 to 2012

What Barnsley's children, young people, families and carers told us we should do to stay focused on helping them to enjoy life and achieve their best

- Many of our children and young people said that learning and achievement are important. They want a curriculum that emphasises vocational and practical subjects and where lessons are more interactive.
- Year 6 and 7 children said that the transition from primary to secondary school could be made a lot easier with more preparation leading up to the change and opportunity for plenty of time spent in the new school before moving on.
- Young people want feedback on their learning; support and direction in working at home; and better support when they find work difficult.
- Parents and carers want more adult education opportunities through the Learning Net.
- Children in care want access to a good school where their status as a child in care is confidential.
- Children and young people want good discipline in classrooms.
- Parents want more school based parent support advisors.
- Young people think achievement and attendance should be celebrated more frequently and in a variety of ways.
- Dads wanted stronger recognition of their parenting role, especially when they are single parents or when they are the parent taking their child to nursery or school.
- We need to improve the quality of childcare provision, together with support for early years, and have committed resources to this end.
- Barnsley has challenging Early Years (EY) Outcomes Duty targets and needs to realign services to better focus on improving attainment by the end of reception. Currently Barnsley has the lowest results in England.
- Results at Key Stage 1 remained the same as in 2007, the same trend as found nationally.
- There have been fewer good or outstanding grades following inspections of out of school childcare than for most other local authorities. 52.9% of all childcare inspections between April 2005 and August 2008 were good or better compared to 60.6% nationally.
- Results at all key stages are still below national averages even though the gap has generally been reduced over the last three years.
- The number of primary schools judged good or better in Ofsted inspections is not high enough to be rated performing well in the Ofsted profile. 25% of schools require high levels of support from the LA.
- One primary school is currently in special measures.
- Only 46% of secondary schools are judged by Ofsted to be good for overall effectiveness; leadership is judged 'good' in 53% of schools and teaching is judged 'good' in 46% of schools.

Enjoying and achieving – what our data and information tells us about continuing challenges for 2009 to 2012

- Six schools (including The Barnsley Academy) were below the 30% 5GCSEs A*-C including English and maths 30% floor target in 2008. Eight schools are part of the National Challenge with a focus on rapidly increasing the number of pupils gaining 5A*-C including English and maths.
- The gap at KS2 for English and maths at level 4 or above is still 5 % points, although this is the smallest it has been.
- Five GCSEs A*-C improved by 2.2% to 55.7% from 2007 to 2008. There is still a gap of 8.8% with national results.
- Five GCSEs A*-C including English and maths improved by 1.7% to 33.1% from 2007 to 2008. There remains a gap of 15.2 % points with national results.
- Persistent absence in secondary schools has fallen from 2005-06 but not as much as nationally. In 2007-08 it was 6.2% compared to 5.6% nationally.
- There were no permanent exclusions in LA maintained schools in the last two years. Keeping exclusions to a minimum and reducing the need for managed moves remains a priority.
- In the Tellus3 survey 47% said that they enjoyed school always or most of the time compared to 58% nationally. Engaging children in learning is a priority.
- At the foundation stage and all key stages, girls performed at much higher levels compared to boys, with the exception of maths.
- Support parents, carers and those who support them, to ensure that children engage in and enjoy reading from an early age.
- Children eligible for free school meals, those from certain ethnic minorities, and those in care, obtained results below the LA's averages.
- There is a clear relationship between the levels of deprivation in Barnsley wards and the number of pupils gaining 5 A*-C including English and maths in GCSEs. This means that progress needs to be accelerated in these areas.
- An increasing number of children and young people, whose first language is not English, need help to become confident in their second language. New arrivals have also told us that they would like the process of accessing early years settings and schools to be faster.
- Those children needing to be in the care of the council also need additional support for their learning. The numbers in each year group are small and challenging targets need to be dealt with on an individual basis.
- We need to continue to improve achievement at the end of each key stage and to narrow the gap between the local authority average and vulnerable groups. We need to continue working with parents, carers and families to raise aspirations.
- We are told that more information needs to be available on the recreational and extended learning provision than is available. Although provision is already extensive, increasing participation in positive activities is necessary and we have still to see the full impact of the implementation of the Play Strategy and other associated strategies.

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
1EA	<p>Early Years Foundation Stage, primary schools (Key Stage 1 and 2), and secondary schools (Key Stage 3 and 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop language / oracy and reading skills in young children. ■ Improve children's achievement at the end of Foundation Stage. ■ Improve the rate of progress across all key stages. ■ Raise standards of attainment in all key stages. ■ Raise attainment for all children at risk of underachievement, reduce inequalities and narrow the gap. ■ Ensure high quality provision is offered, improving the proportion of settings or schools judged good or outstanding in Ofsted inspections. ■ Continue developing skills for lifelong learning in children and young people. 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	To be identified in line with government policy throughout the period of this plan.
2EA	Develop a culture of high aspiration and enterprise.	✓	✓	✓			
3EA	Extend the work on engaging children, young people and families in assessment of their progress and identification of next steps.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4EA	Further develop strategies to engage parents with children and young people's learning, extending the support available for them.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5EA	Continue to make a diverse programme of recreational and extended learning provision and opportunities available and accessible to all children and young people. Develop Barnsley's core offer as part of the extended services agenda.	✓	✓		✓	✓	Increase access to extended learning and recreational opportunities.
6EA	Increase participation in positive activities; including the development and implementation of the Play Strategy and the Positive Activities Strategy.	✓	✓		✓	✓	Big lottery, My Place and Playbuilder.
7EA	Enhance the take up of sporting opportunities for children and young people.	✓	✓		✓		

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Young People 11 – 19+	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
8EA	<p>Although results at all key stages are still below national averages, targeted areas of particular challenge include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Early Years Foundation Stage. ■ attainment at Key Stage 4: 5 GCSEs grade A*-C including GCSE English and maths (National Challenge). 	✓	✓	✓			
9EA	<p>Groups that will be a particular focus for support include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ all vulnerable groups including the most disadvantaged and those at risk of exclusion. ■ free school meals. ■ boys in all areas of attainment except for maths. ■ children in care. ■ children with learning difficulties and disabilities. ■ Gypsy, Roma Traveller and minority ethnic groups; those with English as a second language 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Enjoying and achieving - measuring impact – key indicators

KPI No.	Definition	Current Results 2008-09	Targets		
			2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least six in each of the scales in personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and literacy.	27.5%	30%	52%	tbc
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in English and maths at Key Stage 2 (threshold).	67%	78%	78%	tbc
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent, including English and maths.	33.1%	46%	46%	tbc
NI 76	Reduction in the number of schools, where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in English and maths at Key Stage 2 (floor).	16 20.3%	14 17.8%	11 13.9%	tbc
NI 78	Reduction in the number of schools, where fewer than 30% achieve five or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths (threshold).	7 schools	4 schools	none	none
NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour.	53.8%	57%	72%	78%
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate.	7.1%	5.8%	5.2%	
NI 89	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category.	1 school	None	None	None
		Any school removed from special measures within 12 months			
NI 93	Progression by two levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.	79%	93%	94%	tbc
NI 94	Progression by two levels in mathematics between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.	76%	90%	92%	tbc
NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school.	None	None	None	None

Where to go for more detail

Documents

- Early Childhood Strategy
- Integrated Youth Support Strategy
- 14-19 Education Plan

Websites

- BMBC website:
[www.barnsley.gov.uk/education - schools](http://www.barnsley.gov.uk/education-schools)

Note:
Further national indicators and other indicators are tracked, and where appropriate targets set, for enjoying and achieving. These include indicators relating to the achievements of boys and girls, children with SEN, ethnic minority groups and children in care, as well as indicators focused on narrowing the gap for these groups

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

We believe that 'Making a Positive Contribution' is an important outcome for all children and young people. Barnsley has been judged 'outstanding' in the JAR and successive APAs for its engagement with children and young people to support them in voice and influence activity, help to shape decision making in the borough and influence the quality of service delivery. We know that our children and young people are more likely to understand respect and show improvement in behaviour if they are themselves respected and are able to see change through having their voice heard. Given encouragement and having opportunities to be involved in decisions affecting their lives now and in the future, will support them in valuing the places they live, and in gaining an appreciation through active citizenship for the people around them.

Barnsley's children and young people of all ages and backgrounds have a positive contribution to make. With support from parents, carers and the community they can develop an understanding of their rights and responsibilities, develop positive behaviours and views of themselves and others, and have the confidence and opportunities to actively participate in decisions which affect them personally and the community where they live, play, learn, work and grow up

To 'make a positive contribution', children and young people are entitled and expected to:

- engage in decision making and support the community and environment
- engage in law abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school
- develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate
- develop self confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges which will facilitate enterprising behaviour.



Making a positive contribution – looking back at the 2006-2009 Children and Young People’s Plan – a brief summary

What children, young people and families wanted us to do

- Young people wanted to see links between all school councils and the youth council so that they could be involved in addressing ‘real issues’.
- They would also like to see more black and ethnic minority young people on school councils.
- Young people wanted Area Forums to be held in schools so that they could contribute to the agenda and parents agreed that they would have a better ‘say’ if regular meetings were held in schools and communities.
- Where their English is not very good, young people would like to be able to access after school support to improve it in order to ‘give them a voice’.
- Young people would welcome support to enable them to access decision making forums.

What we set out to do in 2006

Decision making and community engagement

Enhance and further develop existing opportunities for children, young people and their families to have their say, not only about issues and services affecting their own wellbeing and development, but also those affecting their communities and the wider borough.

Positive behaviour

Help children and young people to grow into law-abiding citizens through a balanced approach of education, prevention, enforcement and rehabilitation to tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce offending by young people.

Positive relationships

Improve mechanisms for recording, reporting and responding to racist incidents and bullying and through the development and implementation of a borough-wide anti-bullying strategy, find effective ways of dealing with bullies.

Dealing with challenge and change

Provide targeted support to children and young people, including those from vulnerable groups, to equip them with the appropriate skills to deal with significant life changes, such as pregnancy, moving into work, bereavement, being fostered or adopted.

What we achieved 2006 – 2009

- Barnsley has been judged 'outstanding' in the JAR and successive APAs for its engagement with young people to support them in voice and influence activity and in helping to shape decision making in the borough.
- The council and its partners provide excellent opportunities for children and young people to influence service delivery, for example the provision of youth services has been significantly reconfigured following young people's participation in decision making.
- The *Voice and Influence Framework of Standards* 'LISTEN', created by children and young people in Barnsley, has been implemented in 75 services.
- LISTEN has been promoted through training programmes for teachers and other practitioners around the borough.
- It is now being used as a basis for a similar approach to developing the skills of practitioners to listen to, and act on, the views of parents and carers.
- We achieved our target of eligible young people taking part in the 2009 Youth Council election. 11,656 young people voted (a 50% turnout) electing 33 Youth Councillors to represent young people aged 11 to 19 years of age across the borough.
- Targeted work is undertaken to ensure that all young people have a voice and are supported in influencing and shaping service delivery.
- Gypsy, Roma Traveller young people, black and minority ethnic (BME) young people, young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and young people in care, are all represented on the Youth Council.
- We worked with BME young people including Gypsy Travellers to explore specific issues and as a result 55 BME young people attended a BME Youth Summit in March 2009 to identify issues that are important to them. This was followed by a residential in May 2009 where 33 BME young people attended.
- The positive contribution of children and young people living in foster care was judged to be 'outstanding' in the last inspection of fostering services and the Children First Group for children in care has influenced a number of policy issues such as body piercing, overnight stays and computer access.
- Work has started on creating a Young People in Care Council and a Youth Parliament has been established for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- A wide range of surveys with children and young people have been undertaken to inform priorities within the wellbeing localities and Children Trusts strategies.
- Young People's Area Action Groups and Community School Councils for younger children have been set up in each locality to influence the development of wellbeing teams.
- Approximately 13,000 children and young people aged 0-13 years have engaged in activities through Primary School Council training, Common Assessment Framework awareness raising workshops and influencing services through local neighbourhood action groups.
- We have increased take up in Primary School Council training from 25% up to more than 85% over the last two years.
- NHS Barnsley has actively engaged young people as service users resulting in the reshaping of services.
- 1,300 young people have made applications to the Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund (2008/ 09) with over 4,500 beneficiaries from all activities and projects. A youth gym, dance studio and internet café have been developed in the town centre, based on what young people said they wanted.
- Barnsley Youth Service has exceeded its entire national and local targets for the second year in succession with 5,090 young people engaged and attending over 66,939 times, achieving a high number of recorded and accredited outcomes and a user satisfaction of 96.1%.

What we achieved 2006 – 2009

- Young people were fully engaged in commissioning the new Connexions contract.
- There is a good level of volunteering. In 2008, Barnsley was successful in securing funding from 'v', the new national volunteering placements for young people in children's services.
- We have employed and trained 40 young people (aged 13 to 16) over the last three years as Voice and Influence Ambassadors, increasing their life chances and those of young people aged 0 to 13 years.
- We have developed and implemented a borough-wide anti-bullying strategy.
- We have strengthened our work with partner agencies to prevent and reduce offending and anti-social behaviour by children and young people, by addressing key risk factors such as alcohol and drug misuse, disengagement from education, training or employment, homelessness, and mental health.
- Good progress is being made to reduce involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour and there are impressive reductions in first-time entrants to the youth justice system and in re-offending rates.
- There is an excellent range of targeted prevention activities, including Youth Inclusion Support Programme, Parenting Work and Safer Schools Partnerships involving police presence in schools, delivered through the Youth Offending Team (YOT).
- This has reduced re-offending rates from 41.8% to 36.5%, which is below the national average.
- Though higher than the Yorkshire and Humber rate substantial progress has been made in reducing the number of first time entrants (NI 111) to the youth justice system from the 2004-05 baseline of 520 to 367 in 2008-09.
- In September 2008, the YOT was assessed for its capacity and capability by the Youth Justice Board and was rated on a scale of 1 – 4 as 3 'performs well' and has performed well across all indicators.
- Custody rates for young people have reduced from 7.2% in 2006 to 6.1% in 2008/09.
- There has been a significant increase in the number of young people, previously known to the YOT, who are now in education, employment or training. The percentage has increased from 66.3% in 2006 to 67.4% in 2008/09 which is closer to the local target of 75% and national target of 90%.
- Alternative programmes for young people at risk of permanent exclusion, and for those with offending records, are successful and young people attend well, with good progression rates to constructive outcomes post-16.

Making a positive contribution – continuing challenges – 2009 to 2012

What children, young people, families and carers told us we should do to stay focused on helping them to make a positive contribution

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Children and young people want a more positive image in communities and in the media so that the focus is on the positive contribution the majority of young people make and not on the irresponsible minority.■ Young people want more to do. They identified outdoor and indoor skate parks, a cycle track, youth shelters, games areas, internet café, community events and youth clubs as solutions to address the 'lack of things to do' as helping to prevent young people from committing crime and anti-social behaviour.■ Young people are proud of their Youth Council and have a strong commitment to engaging in democratic processes.■ Young people said that School Councils need to be offered more support so that they can become more 'active' and tackle the key issues that affect young people.■ Young people felt that decision-makers should attend School and College Council meetings and the Youth Council should interface with these councils more.■ Young people want Barnsley to be more diverse and to engage different cultures and for adults to be more understanding of young people's trends and cultures and to accept that everyone is different. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Young people want all of the community to work together and for community relations to improve.■ There should be more energy focused on ensuring that things change and less on evaluating the changes.■ BME young people are concerned about racial harassment (in the 2006 Youth Crime Survey 50% of young BME men have experienced racial bullying).■ Though there are more children and young people from different ethnic minority backgrounds in Barnsley, the numbers of reported incidents has not gone up, but this may be due to under-reporting.■ Children and young people told us they wanted more anti-bullying programmes in school with older students to support / mentor new students.■ Children, young people and parents / carers said that they would like there to be more information about how to handle bullying and mental abuse and somewhere to go to talk to someone about being bullied.■ They wanted us to make communities safer by increasing police presence, having more CCTV cameras, and more and better lighting. |
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Making a positive contribution – what our data and information tells us about continuing challenges for 2009 to 2012

- Although there has been a large increase in numbers of children and young people consulted, the answers to the questions in the TellUs3 survey did not show clearly that this had made a difference in their local area.
- Opportunities to influence decision makers, including for minority groups, need improving.
- Schools Councils need to be offered more support so that they can become more 'active' and tackle the key issues that affect young people. The same is true of community school councils and youth area action groups.
- The number of young people responding to the TellUs3 survey during 2008 (55%) was slightly less than that nationally reported.
- The TellUs3 survey of children and young people suggests that bullying remains a concern to young people in both the school environment and the community. Although more young people than nationally said that bullying was not a problem in their school, and more also said that their school dealt with bullying badly.
- There are more children and young people from different ethnic backgrounds in Barnsley. The numbers of reported incidents has not gone up but this may be due to under-reporting.
- The numbers of young people engaged in positive activities, as recorded in the Tellus survey of Year 10 pupils needs to rise significantly, particularly on a locality basis. In 2008 it was less than the national position. A Local Area Agreement target has been set.

- There is the need to:
 - accelerate improvements in the number of NEET young offenders who are in education, employment and training.
 - extend prevention initiatives, particularly the YISP and Safer Schools initiatives, more widely.
 - introduce a more individualised approach to sentencing and interventions. This is possible through implementing the YJB's 'Scaled Approach' and the new Youth Rehabilitation Order.
- Work with partners to address substance misuse issues (especially alcohol use) amongst young people in general, and young offenders in particular, needs to be consolidated and embedded.

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
In line with the Early Childhood and Integrated Youth Support Strategies, and responding to feedback from children and young people, we will:							
Decision making and community engagement							
1PC	Continue to support and deliver a high quality programme of voice and influence activities, ensuring all children and young people in Barnsley are enabled and empowered to participate fully in decision making processes, have more say and make more of a difference in their communities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	To be identified in line with the planned programme of activities
2PC	Ensure the views and opinions of disengaged or marginalised children and young people influence change, demonstrating to them that the positive contribution they make is recognised, and that their views will make a difference.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3PC	Ensure all of our children and young people are able to take up, with confidence and enthusiasm, opportunities for volunteering and for contributing to life in their community, demonstrating pride and respect in their neighbourhoods, gaining respect for their valued contributions and becoming active citizens.	✓	✓				
Positive Activities							
4PC	Enable every child and young person in Barnsley to participate in positive learning and leisure activities that are accessible, affordable and offered in high quality venues borough wide and beyond, strengthening their personal development and promoting positive behaviour.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5PC	Work with all our partners and wellbeing teams to publicise opportunities for children and young people, and generate demand for them.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
6PC	Combat the often negative images of children and young people in Barnsley by publicly celebrating their achievement and positive contribution, promoting greater inter-generational understanding and by identifying and promoting young role models.	✓	✓				

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 - 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Young People 11 – 19+	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
Positive behaviour							
7PC	Consolidate and further strengthen school, community and service partnerships to improve behaviour, attendance and engagement, reduce first time offending and re-offending rates among children and young people, bringing them into line with national/regional averages.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8PC	Reduce bullying, harassment or discrimination by children and young people, in and out of school.	✓	✓	✓			
9PC	Ensure that arrangements are in place in Barnsley for the implementation of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act and delivery of the Youth Rehabilitation Order, and implement the new 'Scaled Approach' practice guidance and national standards from the Youth Justice Board.		✓				
Dealing with challenge and change							
10PC	Enable children and young people in Barnsley to be aspirational, enterprising and creative in their personal development and progress towards further learning, readiness for work and for a rewarding life.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
11PC	Ensure the provision of support and timely information, advice and guidance, delivered by appropriately skilled adults, to all children and young people so that they make well informed life choices and successful transitions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Positive contribution - measuring impact – key indicators

KPI No.	Definition	Current Results 2008-09	Targets		
			2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by youth offenders	1.14 (tbc)	1.65	1.5	1.35
NI 43	Young people within the youth justice system receiving a conviction in court, sentenced to custody	6.1%	5.7%	5.3%	5.0%
NI 45	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, employment or training	67.4%	68.5%	70%	72.5%
NI 46	Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation	91.2%	93.6%	95.9%	97%
NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities	63%	68%	76%	80%
NI 111	First-time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 -17 (per 100,000)	2760* 1562**	2670*	2560*	2400

Targets subject to revision.* Baseline and targets set with YJB in 2007/8. ** 2008/9 actual.

Where to go for more detail

Documents

- Integrated Youth Support Strategy
- Youth Offending Team Business Plan
- BSCB Anti Bullying Strategy
- Integrated Youth Support Service Plans
- Connexions Specification and Plans
- Voice and Influence Strategy and Plan
- Sport and Active Lifestyle Strategy

Websites

- Youth Service:
www.barnsley.gov.uk/youthservice
- Barnardo's Voice and Influence Ambassador Service: www.barnsley-childrens-fund.com/
- Barnardo's: www.barnardos.org.uk/
- Things to do in Barnsley:
www.thingstodoin.org.uk/



ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING

This section looks ahead to the point where young people move on and out into the world of work. We want them to be happy, confident individuals, with the skills they need to cope with the challenges of the modern world. In fact the seeds of future employability are sown in our children's centres and primary schools - through the self confidence and spirit of enterprise we hope to instil from the earliest age. We want all our young people to have this opportunity irrespective of their background, gender or race.

In 2010 the local authority will take over responsibility from the Learning and Skills Council for ensuring that the right type of provision for 16-19 year olds (and up to 25 years of age for those with learning difficulties or disabilities) is available. Key local partnerships involving schools, colleges, employers and work-based learning providers are working well together to ensure that the needs of young learners drive this development. We are working on a regional and sub-regional basis to ensure that wider opportunities for our learners and institutions are not missed.

We want all our young people to be able to access the right progression route for them, within and beyond the borough. We also need to raise the profile of enterprise within our primary and secondary schools and post-16 provision and work closely with employers to ensure that our young people have the right skills and attitudes for the workplace.

We also need to do more to help vulnerable young people, particularly those who are disabled, are care leavers, or have in the past been excluded from mainstream education, to ensure they find the right pathway for them. Impartial information, advice and guidance and provision will therefore be targeted to meet the needs of these groups.

We still have a significant number of children and young people living in low income households. Our recent conference on tackling child poverty highlighted the need for all agencies to come together to address this significant challenge.

We need to ensure that all families have access to decent housing and that there are no barriers for accessing education, work, leisure, health and other services.

We are committed to working closely together so that we can help all our young people move on through education and training into the world of work so that they have a future in which they avoid poverty.



Economic wellbeing - looking back at the 2006-2009 Children and Young People's Plan – a brief summary

What children, young people and families wanted us to do

- Young people wanted access to careers advisers all through secondary school.
- They would also like workers to come to schools to talk about their jobs.
- Parents expressed a need for more adult literacy courses.
- As well as more interesting courses, young people also wanted to see a wider range of job opportunities and apprenticeships open to them.
- More affordable housing and more police patrolling the streets were high on parents' wish list.
- Parents felt there should be more affordable, accessible childcare and Sure Start children's centres available to all.

What we set out to do in 2006

14-19 education and training

Further develop the 11-19 partnership and Barnsley Learning Alliances to ensure all 14-19 year olds have access to a relevant curriculum with well matched vocational options and a wide range of work placements responsive to their needs.

Staying in education

Raise aspirations by improving the participation of young people, including the most vulnerable groups, in education, employment or training at 16, so that they can contribute to the community and economy in adulthood.

Preparing a workforce for the future

Place learning at the heart of regeneration and link young people's learning with employability: commit to improving their level of skills, knowledge and motivation so that they become part of the town's workforce and contribute to the economic growth of the area. Working with the local chamber we have identified the life skills required for the world of work.

Decent homes and environments

Continue to ensure that families in Barnsley have access to decent housing and cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and to implement the Homeless Strategy to reduce incidences of homelessness.

Transport

Ensure that travel does not become a barrier to accessing education, work, leisure facilities, and public services for children and young people, including those with disabilities.

Low income

Support parents in low income families by creating more job opportunities for those out of work and childcare places to meet the needs of those in work, and by encouraging families who are eligible to take up available benefits and tax credits.

What we have achieved

- An extensive range of curriculum opportunities for young people is being delivered collaboratively across the borough by schools, colleges and work based learning providers.
- The agreed Barnsley Learner Entitlement has strengthened self-evaluation by all 14-19 providers. It was updated in May 2008 to form the basis of commissioning priorities for the 14-19 age range.
- The 11-19 Executive Group gives a clear steer to the co-ordination and delivery of 14-19 learning and for 14-19 Reform.
- Secondary schools, further education, work-based learning, higher education providers, and employers have all signed up to the strategic approach for 14-19 Reform and to the 14-19 Education Plan.
- A good basis has been established alongside sub-regional partners for the transfer of responsibilities for 16-19 learning to the council.
- A 14-19 Workforce Development Strategy has been developed and distributed to all partners.
- Successful submissions to deliver 14 Diploma lines have been made to the DCSF in Gateways 1 to 3. Two Diploma lines started delivery in 2008. A further eight Diploma lines have been also offered from September 2009. The Ofsted Inspection in October 2008 noted outstanding progress on the Diploma programme.
- Space at the Kendray Youth Enterprise Centre has been used to house a Skills Centre for Diplomas. Further developments are planned in the refurbished 'Civic' Centre and at Moorland Plastics.
- Apprenticeships have been expanded with 870 in 2007-08. College apprenticeships increased by 28% from July to December 2008.
- Partners have been proactive in engaging employers and securing strong support for programmes such as Young Apprenticeships and Diplomas.
- The provision of careers advice and Connexions support has been strengthened through revised specifications. Connexions providers have been appointed to deliver a universal service and offer specific support for the most vulnerable groups or those facing personal barriers to learning.
- The area-wide prospectus and common application process, the primary method by which young people apply for collaborative provision and Diplomas pre-16 and all provision post-16, are now well embedded.
- Participation of 16-18 year old young people in education, employment and training has been improved through working with under 16 year olds, work at transition points and interventions with those not participating.
- The proportion of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) has been reduced from 13.8% in November 2005 to 7.7% in November 2007, achieving the LPSA target.
- The 2008 September Guarantee was achieved with 96.8% of Y11s and 91.9% of 17 year olds offered learning places.
- Achievement of Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 has improved from 52.8% in 2005 to 63.5% in 2008; and of Level 3 from 26.5% in 2005 to 34.4% in 2008.
- 'A level' average point scores have improved from 664.7 in 2006 to 680.1 in 2008 per student and from 200.5 in 2006 to 204.5 in 2008 per entry.
- Barnsley College has continued to improve overall success rates, and rates are now above 2006/07 national averages.
- Free travel on local buses has been introduced between 9am and 9pm for young people, together with free swimming.
- 95% of council homes meet the decent homes standards and it is envisaged that 100% will be achieved by the target date of 2010. A programme of new build affordable homes is underway.
- 94% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation at age 19.

Economic wellbeing – continuing challenges – 2009 – 2012

What Barnsley's children, young people, families and carers told us we should do to stay focused on helping them to achieve economic wellbeing

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Young people want more information about jobs. They requested that careers advice and advice about choices be built into lessons from an earlier age.■ An information website is well established but some young people would still like face-to-face advice and information on a one-to-one basis. Some would like information through a text messaging system.■ Young people want more frequent work experience and from an earlier age. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Parents of young people with disabilities want dedicated transition services for young people up to 25 years.■ Young people leaving the care of the local authority want continued support, especially someone to advocate for them when they hit barriers to life opportunities.■ Children and young people want to be able to access after school clubs in the local area where they can get help and support with their homework. |
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Economic wellbeing – what our data and information tells us about continuing challenges for 2009 to 2012

- Significant increases are planned for the uptake of Apprenticeships and Diplomas and other aspects of the national programme of 14-19 Reform, which Barnsley will roll out on an ambitious timescale.
- The transfer of responsibility for commissioning a place in learning for every young person aged 16-19 to the local authority from the LSC is due to take place in 2010. Gaps and any over-supply in provision, linked to sector skills growth areas and employer demand, will need to be addressed.
- Maintaining our current success in the September Guarantee of a place for each school leaver will be an ongoing challenge.
- Although participation in work based learning for 16 year olds is high compared to national figures, participation in full-time learning continues to be lower than nationally – as is overall participation in learning. The same pattern is true for 17 year olds.
- Although there has been considerable success in reducing the proportions of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET), an ambitious LAA target that reduces the numbers still further has been set for 2010/11.
- Meeting the particular needs of young people leaving the care of the authority and of disabled young people in relation to access to education, employment or training and their overall economic wellbeing, will be a continuing challenge.
- Raising aspirations and widening young people's participation in further and higher education is a particular focus through the Aimhigher programme. The Neighbourhood Learning Net and other providers seek to engage families and communities in learning and overturn a culture which does not value learning sufficiently.

- We need to continue improving achievement for 16-18 year olds. It remains a considerable challenge to raise achievement levels at level 2 and level 3 of the whole population of young people at age 19.
- We need to develop skills for certain groups of young people below level 2, for example travellers and young offenders, and close the inequality gaps for level 2 and 3 qualifications at age 19.
- The establishment of new contracts for universal Connexions and targeted provision will help ensure that all 14-19 year olds have access to relevant information, appropriate guidance and support to aid their progression.
- We aim to secure 'good' or better inspection judgments for all 11-18 provision.
- The 14-19 Workforce Development Strategy will enable professional development needs to be supported.
- We aim to pursue even more active employer involvement in curriculum development and delivery, including work experience and enterprise activity from an early age.
- Transport routes and costs are still perceived as a barrier to accessing education, training and employment as well as leisure opportunities.
- Ensuring that all vulnerable young people have suitable accommodation.
- Child poverty and its effects have been identified as an important issue for Barnsley in the LAA. (There are 10,375 children living in child poverty in Barnsley, which is 23.9% of the under 16 population (England average 19.7%). Of specific concern are the one in four (26.4%) of children aged 0 to 4 years living in poverty (England average 21.3%).

Priorities and next steps from 2009 – 2012		STRATEGIES					Commissioning Plans for 2009 – 2012
		Early Childhood Pre birth to 11 years	Integrated Youth Support Strategy	Reaching out and narrowing the gap	Disability and complex needs	Family support	
1EW	Implement the national 14-19 Reform to give all 14-19 year olds, and 14-25 year olds for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, the best possible choice of personalised learning and progression pathways, including the development of the Foundation Learning Tier, Diplomas and Apprenticeships.		✓				Commissioning of a learning place for each 16 to 19 year old, and for up to 25 year old for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.
2EW	Work towards the raising of the 'participation age'. Revise the Increasing Participation Action Plan and further reduce the numbers of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), including those with disabilities and those in care.		✓				Commissioning plans for Connexions targeted services and for provision to tackle NEETs.
3EW	Implement 'machinery of government' changes: develop and implement a commissioning framework to ensure every young person aged 16 – 19 has a learning place.		✓				Commissioning of a learning place for each 16 to 19 year old.
4EW	Raise aspirations, widen young people's participation in further and higher education and engage families and communities in learning (and volunteering) through Aimhigher and the Neighbourhood Learning Net and other providers.		✓				Aimhigher, Neighbourhood Learning Net, national youth volunteering initiative "V" & other plans.
5EW	Work in a family context to promote the value of education and financial literacy.		✓			✓	
6EW	Continue to raise attainment levels of young people at level 2 and level 3 at 19. Provide innovative programmes for vulnerable groups, for example travellers and young offenders, to develop their skills below Level 2.		✓				
7EW	Ensure that all 14-19 year olds, and their parents and carers, have access to relevant information and appropriate guidance and support to inform their choices and support their achievement and progression through every learning stage.		✓				Connexions universal and targeted services.
8EW	Provide teaching and training of the highest quality for 14 – 19 year olds by implementing the 14-19 Workforce Development Strategy and securing workforce training funding to do this.		✓				
9EW	Promote active employer involvement in curriculum development and delivery to ensure that all learners are fully equipped to become the workforce of the future and contribute to the economic growth of the area, including those young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.	✓	✓				Development and implementation of Employer Engagement strategy.
10EW	Continue to work with South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to strengthen transport routes and reduce costs to remove barriers to education and employment.		✓				
11EW	Reduce the effects of child poverty and help families on low incomes across the borough move out of the poverty trap by creating more job opportunities, childcare facilities, information and advice, and by ensuring that eligible families can access appropriate benefits.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12EW	Improve accommodation for vulnerable young people.		✓	✓			26 additional bed spaces for Gypsy Travellers. Re-model care leavers accommodation to create 6 units and pilot new prevention service. Provide support to families at risk of losing their tenancy through Family Intervention Project.

Achieving economic wellbeing - measuring impact – key indicators

KPI No.	Definition	Current Results 2008-09	Targets		
			2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
NI 79	Achievement of a level 2 qualification by the age of 19	57.2% [2007]	69.9%	72.6%	tbc
NI 80	Achievement of a level 3 qualification by the age of 19	30% [2007]	35.8%	36.5%	tbc
NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a level 3 qualification by the age of 19	24.9% [2006]	tbc following benchmarking		
NI 82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a level 2 qualification by the age of 19	28.9% [2006]	tbc following benchmarking		
NI 91	Participation of 17-year-olds in education or training	69.2% [2007]	73.5%	tbc	tbc
NI 106	Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education	21.6% [2007]	tbc following benchmarking		
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty	23.9% 2006/7	21.9%	20.9%	tbc
NI 117	16–18-year-olds who are not in education, training or employment	7.9%	7.5%	7.1%	tbc
NI 118	Take-up of formal childcare by low-income working families	17.9%	18.9%	20.0%	tbc
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	94.1%	>90%	>90%	>90%
NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	23.5%	50%	60%	70%

Where to go for more detail

Documents

- 14-19 Education Plan 2008-2010
- Integrated Youth Support Strategy
- Connexions Service Specification and Business Plan
- Increasing Participation Action Plan
- Aimhigher Strategy
- Child Poverty Strategy

Websites

- Logon 2 Careers Barnsley
<http://www.logon2careersbarnsley.co.uk/>

LEAD OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES - ENSURING KEY PRIORITIES ARE ACHIEVED

BEING HEALTHY (BH)		STAYING SAFE (SS)		ENJOYING & ACHIEVING (EA)		MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION (PC)		ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING (EW)	
1BH	Head of Health Improvements and Disability Services Professional Lead Health Visiting	1SS	Head of Children's Social Care	1EA	Head of School Improvement and Support Service	1PC	Head of Extended Services and Support	1EW	Director 11-19 Project
2BH	Head of Extended Services and Support	2SS	Head of Joint Commissioning Policy and Governance and Head of Safeguarding and Welfare	2EA		2PC	Head of Extended Services and Support	2EW	AED Lifelong Learning, Achievement and Enterprise
3BH	Strategy and Service Manager Joint Commissioning and Head of Health Improvements and Disability Services	3SS	Head of Safeguarding and Welfare	3EA		3PC	Head of Extended Services and Support	3EW	
4BH		4SS		4EA	4PC	Head of Extended Services and Support	4EW	Head of Extended Services and Support	
5BH	Strategy and Service Manager Joint Commissioning	5SS	Head of Children's Social Care	5EA	Head of Extended Services and Support	5PC	Positive Activities Strategy and Service Manager	5EW	AED Lifelong Learning, Achievement and Enterprise
6BH	Strategy and Service Manager Joint Commissioning and Head of Health Improvements and Disability Services	6SS	Head of Safeguarding and Welfare and Head of Health Improvements and Disability Services	6EA		6PC	Positive Activities Strategy and Service Manager	6EW	CEIAG Strategy Manager
7BH		7SS	Children in Care Services Manager and Family Placement Manager	7EA	7PC	Integrated Youth Strategy and Service Manager	7EW	14 – 19 Curriculum Senior Manager	
8BH	Strategy and Service Manager Joint Commissioning	8SS	Head of Health Improvements and Disability Services	8EA	Head of School Improvement and Support Service	8PC	Education Psychology Service Manager	8EW	Head of Extended Services and Support
9BH	Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Co-ordinator	9SS	AED Safeguarding, Health and Social care	9EA		9PC	Integrated Youth Strategy and Service manager	9EW	Assistant Head of Infrastructure for Learning and Care (Access)
10BH	AED Safeguarding, Health and Social care	10SS	Head of Safeguarding and Welfare	10EA	Head of School Improvement and Support Service	10PC	Head of Youth Offending Team	10EW	Head of Family Wellbeing, Organisation and Development
11BH	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Manager	11SS	Education Psychology Service Manager	11EA		11PC	Head of Extended Services and Support	11EW	Supporting People Manager
12BH	Service Manager School Meals	12SS	Head of Safeguarding and Welfare with Neighbourhood Services	12EA					
13BH	Public Health Specialist and NHS Barnsley Commissioners	13SS	Assistant Director Highways and Engineering						
14BH		14SS	Head of Safeguarding and Welfare						
		15SS							