

KENT CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008-2011

PRIORITIES

Priority 1

To reduce the impact of poverty (generational and situational) on children's lives by tackling the underlying causes and mitigating the effects.

Priority 2

To draw on and improve resilience in children and young people to help them make informed and healthy/safe choices and develop coping strategies.

To include a focus on children and young people with emotional and/or mental health problems.

Priority 3

To improve parenting by implementing Every Parent Matters and developing more effective multi-agency support and early intervention for families experiencing problems. To include:

- Taking action to increase fathers' involvement in their children's upbringing.
- Reducing the incidence and impact of domestic violence and substance misuse on children and families.
- Improving the communication and interaction development of younger children.

Priority 4

To improve the quality and stability of housing for vulnerable children and young people through to early adulthood.

Priority 5

Supporting vulnerable children to improve their life choices including improving the achievement and quality of life for young carers by implementing the Kent Young Carers' Strategy.

Priority 6

To ensure more young people have things to do and safe places to go in their leisure time and improve outcomes for adolescents at risk to themselves and potentially others through, for example, implementation of the Integrated Youth Support Services Strategy.

Priority 7

To increase engagement and participation by young people in education, employment and society in order to prevent disaffection and improve security.

Priority 8

Children and young people are safe and feel safe in the communities where they live, go to school, play and work – with a focus on taking action to reduce the incidence and impact of bullying in school and the community.