

# Southampton Children and Young People Strategy 2017-2020

Our vision is that Southampton is a city where children and young people get a good start in life, are able to fulfil their potential and become successful adults who are engaged in their communities.

This strategy sets out how organisations in Southampton will work with parents, families, carers and communities, ensuring services work together to improve outcomes for children in the city by focusing on prevention and early help and by providing the right help, at the right time.

## OUR PRIORITIES



## OUR CHALLENGES

- Between 2008/9 and 2012/13, Southampton became relatively more deprived – of the 326 Local Authorities in England, Southampton is now ranked 54th (previously 72nd) most deprived, and nearly a quarter of the children in the city live in relative poverty.
- Southampton has poor levels of educational attainment with only 50% of young people achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C including English and Maths in 2016.
- Southampton has high numbers of Looked After Children in comparison to many other cities.
- Southampton has high levels of domestic violence and abuse, with 77% of Child Protection Plan cases involving domestic violence.
- The demand for adolescent mental health services is increasing and there are high levels of childhood obesity and dental decay amongst the city's children.
- Southampton has high levels of hospital admissions for minor illnesses and injuries amongst children, and double the national average of under 18 hospital admissions for alcohol specific conditions.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**57,600**  
children and young people live in Southampton and this is expected to rise by **5.4%** by **2022**

**32%** of school children are from a Black and Minority Ethnic background and **172** languages are spoken in our schools

There are **75** schools in the city. **85%** of primary schools and **75%** of secondary schools are rated good or outstanding by Ofsted

**15,000+** children under 5 use the city's Children's Centres – all of which are rated good or excellent by Ofsted, as are **90%** of day nurseries and preschool provision

**7,000** children with special educational needs or disabilities are supported by the council in the city

**18-24** year olds represent the largest group of volunteers in the city at **45%**

Southampton has achieved a **62%** reduction in the teenage pregnancy rate since 2006

The % of young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) is lower than the England average

## What does an average classroom in Southampton look like?

We took the statistical data for Southampton and applied it to a 'model primary school classroom' of 30 children in the city:

**15** would be girls and **15** would be boys

**10** would be classed as overweight or obese (at year 6)

**4** would be registered as having special education needs or disabilities

**9** would have already experienced tooth decay

And by the age of 15\*: (\*what about YOUTH Survey)

**17** young people would have been bullied in the last two months

**3** would be regular smokers

**4** would be physically active for at least an hour a day

**19** would have tried an alcoholic drink with 1.3 drinking alcohol regularly

**4** would have tried cannabis

## THE VOICE OF THE CHILD IN SOUTHAMPTON

We want children and young people to work with us to help make Southampton a better place for children and young people and their families.

**Opportunities for children and young people to get involved include:**

- Youth Forum Southampton
- Southampton Young Carers Project hosted by Southampton Volunteer Services
- Southampton Children in Care Council – hosted by Youth Options
- Saints Foundation
- Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Short Breaks
- Junior Neighbourhood Wardens
- No Limits – Young Ambassadors
- Local Safeguarding Children Board Work including Safeguarding Week

**What young people have told us:**





The Children in Care Council has made me feel like what I think about being in care matters and gives me confidence to say what I think.  
*Children in Care Council*

The youth forum sounds like a well good idea and I'd loved to be a part of something like this.  
*Young person Itchen College*

Volunteering as a Young Ambassador at No Limits has been brilliant! I've had training and helped recruit and train staff and been involved in consultations about how things run.  
*No Limits, Young Ambassador*

**You said, we did:**

Young people have told us they are keen to see what action has been taken as a result of what they have told us. Every term we will produce a 'you said, we did' report to show what has been done based on the feedback that children and young people have given us.

Outcome	We will focus on	We will achieve this by	We will measure success by
 <p><b>Children and young people in Southampton are safe and secure</b></p>	Supporting Children in Need and being a good parent to children in care.	Supporting our Children in Need, Looked After Children, care leavers, foster carers and adopters in the city through the Looked After Children Strategy. Monitoring and reviewing the quality and effectiveness of services for children and young people in care through our multi-agency Corporate Parenting Committee. Supporting young people leaving care through the Leaving Care Policy, ensuring they are receiving the advice and guidance they need to live independently. Reducing the number of Looked After Children by seeking permanent placement in a timely manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Looked after Children (rate per 10,000 children under 18)</li> <li>• Number of children with active social care involvement</li> <li>• % care leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation</li> <li>• Average number of days between registration and approval for new prospective adopters</li> <li>• Number of hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (aged 0-14 years old, 14-24 years old)</li> <li>• Number of actions delivered as a result of the Thematic Review of Online Safety by LSCB</li> <li>• Number of young people who had stated they had been bullied in the 'What about YOUth survey'</li> <li>• Number of repeat referrals to Children and Families Services where Domestic Abuse is a factor</li> <li>• Number of first time entrants into Youth Justice system (10-17 year olds)</li> </ul>
	Protecting vulnerable children and young people	Delivering the Local Safeguarding Children Board Missing, Exploited and Trafficked plan to improve outcomes for vulnerable children.. Delivering actions from a Thematic Review of Online Safety / Prevention of Self Harm in children which is underway by the LSCB. Developing and delivering a 'preventable injuries action plan' for children and young people. Developing a citywide Anti-Bullying Policy. Delivering the Southampton Against Domestic Violence and Abuse Plan which aims to put Children and Young People at the heart of multi-agency response to Domestic Violence and Abuse.	
	Reducing Youth Offending	Delivering the Youth Offending Strategy which aims to reduce the numbers of children involved in crime and antisocial behaviour and help young offenders to rehabilitate. Delivering the Hampshire Constabulary Strategy for Children and Young People to respond to the needs of young people who are at risk of becoming victims or offenders.	
 <p><b>Children and young people in Southampton achieve and aspire</b></p>	Increasing educational attainment for all	Supporting our schools and pupils to continue to develop through the School Improvement Plan and the Attendance Action Plan. Delivering the Education and Early Help Strategy 2016-2019, making sure Children and Young People have good levels of education attainment, fulfil their potential and go on to have successful opportunities in adulthood. Closing the attainment gap for vulnerable children through a new Looked After Children Action Plan. Supporting children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities to achieve their potential in all aspects of their lives through the SEND strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % pupils at Key Stage 2 attaining Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths</li> <li>• GCSE Progress 8 and GCSE attainment levels</li> <li>• % SEND assessments/plans</li> <li>• % 16-17 year olds in education and training</li> <li>• % pupils in Early Years Foundation phase achieving good level of development</li> <li>• % young people who go onto higher education</li> <li>• Number of apprenticeships</li> </ul>
	Increasing school readiness	Supporting Early Years providers to ensure children can reach their potential.	
	Giving children and young people the skills they need to aspire to fulfil their potential	Developing an Employment, Skills and Learning Partnership Action Plan that raises awareness of opportunities for young people post 16 years old and encourages them to achieve their potential.	
 <p><b>Children and young people in Southampton live happy and healthy lives</b></p>	Getting children and young people active and healthy	Delivering the Children and Young People's Healthy Weight Plan which aims to create a culture and environment that champions healthy food choices and active lifestyles and offers targeted prevention and early intervention. Working with NHS England to maintain a high level of immunisation uptake. Increasing breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks through delivering the breastfeeding action plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in % of children with excess weight</li> <li>• Vaccination rates for the pre-school booster and MMR vaccinations</li> <li>• Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth</li> <li>• Hospital admissions for mental health conditions</li> <li>• Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm (10-24 years)</li> <li>• Rates of teenage pregnancies</li> <li>• Hospital admissions due to alcohol specific conditions</li> <li>• Hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years)</li> </ul>
	Improving mental health and wellbeing	Delivering the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Transformation Plan (CAMHS) to improve wellbeing and reduce other outcome gaps for children and young people with low levels of mental health, emotional wellbeing and increase resilience.	
	Reducing risky behaviours	Delivering the Southampton Sexual Health Improvement Plan and the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan. Delivering the Alcohol Strategy 2017-20 which includes actions to protect children and families from the effects of harmful drinking and ensure alcohol harm messages are available to all young people in the city. Raising awareness of risks associated with substance misuse through delivery of key messages and education, such as BUZZ educational workshops.	
 <p><b>Children and young people in Southampton are resilient and engaged</b></p>	Helping children and their families become more resilient through prevention and early help	Delivering the Parenting Support Action Plan to help parents address unhealthy behaviours pre and post birth of their child. Delivering phase two of the Families Matter programme. Establishing integrated, targeted, local prevention and early help services for 0-19 year olds across health and social care. Delivering the Adult Education Programme in partnership with our Sure Start Centres to help local residents gain life skills such as 'cooking on a budget' as well as employability skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of early help assessments undertaken</li> <li>• % pupils achieving good levels of development at the end of reception</li> <li>• % of families 'turned around' through the Families Matter phase two programme</li> <li>• % of learners on the Adult Education Programme living in Southampton</li> <li>• The number of actions completed on the multi-agency action plan associated with the Southampton Speak Up Strategy</li> </ul>
	Preparing for adulthood	Improving the way we support children and their families to prepare for adulthood and the transition to adult services, including the Ready, Steady, Go programme for young people with long-term medical conditions.	
	Promoting participation and engagement	Delivering the Southampton Speak Up - Participation Strategy 2016-2020 to encourage children and young people to get involved in the decisions that affect them.	

**This vision for children and young people in Southampton will be championed by a number of partnership boards, which include our partners across the city:**

- Southampton Connect
- Safe City Partnership
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Employment Skills and Learning Partnership
- Local Safeguarding Children's Board
- Southampton Education Leadership Forum
- Southampton Integration Board
- Youth Forum Southampton