

CITY OF LONDON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2022-25



OUR VISION

The City of London is a place where children and young people feel safe, have good mental health and wellbeing, fulfil their potential and are ready for adulthood whilst growing up with a sense of belonging.

A PICTURE OF THE

CITY OF LONDON

THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE CITY OF LONDON

2940 children and young people (0-25) live in City of London



81% dental checks were up to date for looked after children



709 children from ethnic minority backgrounds



19 children with an Educational Health and Care Plan (Jan 2022)

55 Care Leavers (Jan 2022)



11 children in need (Jan 2022)



100% of annual health checks were up to date for looked after children



10 looked after children (Jan 2022)

WHAT WOULD AN AVERAGE YEAR GROUP LOOK LIKE?

If all school-aged City of London children attended one school, what would the average year group of 281 children look like?



5% would require Special Education Needs or Disability Support (SEND)



41% would be from ethnic minority backgrounds



11% would receive free school meals

47% female
53% male



59% would speak a first language other than English



Our Challenges

- Many of our young people attend school and access services outside of the local authority boundary and must travel to reach them
- Some of our children and young people live in more deprived households where issues such as poverty and overcrowding impact on their wellbeing
- The majority of our Looked After Children are Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children who can have specific complex needs
- The small size of our resident population presents a challenge to our strategic planning
- The Covid-19 pandemic has increased demand for child and adolescent mental health and speech and language services, as well as impacting on children's personal, social, and emotional development

Our Strengths

- Fifth least deprived area in Greater London, but also with pockets of deprivation
- Children's Services and one maintained state school were rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in 2020
- An extensive Early Years offer provided by the City Child and Family Centre and COLTALE programme, as well as other local early years providers
- Embedded within a mature health and care system locally and well connected to neighbouring London Boroughs
- Children and young people have access to local sporting facilities, opportunities for learning and an excellent cultural offer through the City Corporation's Cultural Plan



THE VOICE OF THE CHILD

We want children and young people to work with us to help make the City of London a better place for children, young people, and their families.

City of London children and young people can have their say and participate in the service they receive. This includes the following:

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED

- City of London Youth Forum
- City of London Children in Care Council and activities
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Short Breaks
- City of London Talks and Listens Enthusiastically (COLTALE) programme
- City of London Member and Deputy Member of Youth Parliament (MYP)
- City Parent Carers Forum
- City of London Corporation Focus Groups

WHAT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE TOLD US

- They would like to see more psychological and therapeutic support for parents and children
- They would like to see more local Short Breaks for carers
- They prefer face to face meetings with their social worker and at Children in Care Council meetings, rather than being held virtually.
- Many young people have ambitions to attend university or college or take up an apprenticeship
- Young people rank having safe and secure accommodation as being a top priority
- Young people want to be protected against serious violence, knife crime and gangs

YOU SAID, WE DID

Young people and their families have made it clear to us that they would like to see what action has been taken as result of what they have told us. We will continue to produce a 'you said, we did' update to show what has been done based on the feedback that children, young people, and their families have given us.

WHERE THE PLAN SITS

City of London
Corporate Plan 2018-23

Children and Young People's Plan 2022-25

Linked with Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Carers Strategy and Safer City Partnership Strategic Plan

Corporate Parenting Strategy

SEND Strategy

Early Help Strategy

Sufficiency Strategy

Early Years Strategy

Threshold of Needs

OUTCOME	OUR FOCUS IS	HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS	HOW WE WILL MEASURE THIS
Children and young people are and feel safe	To protect children and young people from all types of abuse and neglect		
	To prevent an increase in youth offending		
	To secure policies and services that deliver excellent outcomes for our children and young people leaving care		
	To safeguard children and young people from gangs, serious violence, drug abuse and exploitation		
Children and young people are happy, healthy and enjoy good mental health and wellbeing	Improve our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities offer		
	Improve Emotional Health and Wellbeing as we recover from the pandemic		
	To make sure children and young people grow up healthy and have the best start in life by promoting healthy choices		
	Encourage children and young people to be physically active		
Children and young people have the resources to develop independence and empowerment over their services	Support children and young people to thrive and contribute to society in a positive way		
	Promote excellent participation, co-production and engagement with our children and young people		
	Improve children and young people's access information in a way that suits them best		
	Prepare young people for adulthood		
Children and young people have the tools to fulfil their potential and are prepared for success in adulthood	Improve youth services, education, and work experience for all		
	Support children, young people, and their families to make sure they are prepared for school		
	Encourage families with early years children to make the right decisions		
	Helping children and their families become more resilient through prevention and Early Help		
Children and young people grow up with a sense of belonging	Make the most out of our fantastic community assets		
	Use the Neighbourhoods model to improve local services for children and young people		
	Insist that children and young people are at the heart of everything we do		
	Promote opportunities for young people to volunteer within their local communities		

We want to hear from you!

Complete the survey now!
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/childrensplan