

# Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12

## 2010 Annual Review



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The full Improvement Plan, providing details of progress against each activity can be downloaded from Hampshire Children's Trust website ([www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-trust](http://www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-trust))

## Foreword

Welcome to the first annual review of Hampshire's Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12.

The Children and Young People's Plan is the single, overarching plan for Hampshire Children's Trust and sets the direction and priorities for services for children, young people and families in Hampshire. This review outlines the progress made in delivering the six priorities of the Plan over the last 12 months.

Progress during the first year of the Plan has been a positive reflection of the strength of partnership working in Hampshire, with new Local Children's Partnerships at the centre of collaborative work at a community level.

Over the last year, a number of national developments have impacted on our work. A tougher financial climate means that families are more in need of our support and we face the challenge of continuing to deliver high quality services with fewer resources. At the same time, the safeguarding of vulnerable children and young people is more high profile than ever. We have strived to make improvements in the quality of these services, whilst managing increased demand.

We also know that with a new government, some of the regulatory framework that surrounds Children's Services may change. Although this may include the regulations concerning the Children's Trust and Children and Young People's Plan, we remain convinced that collaborative working, through effective partnerships, is the best way to secure improved outcomes for children and young people. On that basis, a clear strategic plan to deliver this vision is essential, with proper reviews.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make the Plan a reality over the last year; and for your ongoing commitment to improved partnership working through our strengthened Children's Trust arrangements. We know that these strong relationships will stand us in good stead for the challenges ahead, but in the meantime, let's take a moment to celebrate our successes.

Cllr David Kirk  
Executive Lead Member for  
Children's Services (Education)  
Hampshire County Council

John Coughlan  
Director of Children's Services  
and Deputy Chief Executive  
Hampshire County Council

# Introduction

## One year on:

This annual review provides an update on progress against Hampshire’s Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2009-12.

The Plan sets out the key strategies and priorities for improving outcomes for children, young people and families against all five of the Every Child Matters outcomes. The focus of the CYPP is to address inequalities for those facing the greatest risks and barriers and to strengthen support for individual children, young people and families, where needed.

This review considers the progress made in implementing the activities set out in the Improvement Plan. It also identifies new challenges for the forthcoming year; and outlines the ‘next steps’ to be taken to address these.

## How this review is set out:

The review highlights the key achievements of the last year that have improved outcomes for children, young people and families in Hampshire. It also identifies the areas where progress has not been so good - and sets out how the Children’s Trust will tackle these over the next year. There are four sections:

Section 1:	Key findings
Section 2:	Priorities This section sets out the following for each priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• overall progress against the activities within the Improvement Plan (showing the percentage of activities rated as being on track);</li><li>• key achievements;</li><li>• areas for renewed focus;</li><li>• next steps.</li></ul>
Section 3:	‘Making it happen’ This section highlights progress made in a range of processes for improving the way services for children and young people are planned and delivered, including building strong and inclusive Children’s Trust arrangements and engaging children and young people in the planning, delivery and evaluation of provision.
Section 4:	Update on resources, commissioning and workforce

### Vision

The vision of Hampshire Children’s Trust is to:

Make Hampshire a better place for children and young people, where all of them, including those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged, have the best possible start in life and are supported by the whole community to reach their potential.

In order to ensure that *every child matters*, the Children’s Trust works in partnership to engage, support and challenge all children and young people in Hampshire, providing them with the opportunity to exceed expectations and enjoy life.

### Priorities

The priorities for Hampshire Children’s Trust were identified through a comprehensive needs assessment of outcomes for children and young people across the county. The table below details the priorities, showing links to all five of the Every Child Matters outcomes.

Hampshire priorities		Every Child Matters outcomes
1	Reducing the incidence and impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children and young people	Achieve economic well-being
2	Securing children and young people’s physical, spiritual, social, emotional and mental health, promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequalities	Be healthy
3	Providing opportunities to learn that raise children and young people’s aspirations, encourage excellence and enable them to enjoy and achieve beyond their expectations	Enjoy and achieve
4	Ensuring that children and young people are safe and feel safe, enabling them to build resilience and personal confidence	Stay safe
5	Providing vocational, leisure and recreational activities that provide opportunities for children and young people to experience success and make a positive contribution	Make a positive contribution
6	Removing barriers to access, participation and achievement and not tolerating discrimination and abuse	Applies to all five outcomes

### In the last year, the Children's Trust has achieved:

#### National targets for Sure Start Children's Centres and extended schools

There are now 81 children's centres in the county (see page 8); and 95% of schools provide a core offer of extended services (see page 27).

#### Significant progress in strengthening Children's Trust arrangements

15 new Local Children's Partnerships (LCPs) are responsible for delivering the priorities of the CYPP at a local level (see page 55).

#### Continued improvements in attainment

In summer 2009 exams, the proportion of Hampshire's pupils achieving nationally expected levels increased and also remained higher than the England average – 75% achieved level 4 or above in English and maths at Key Stage 2 and 55.4% achieved five or more A\*-C grades at GCSE, including English and maths (see page 22).

#### Increasing proportions of schools judged as *good* or *outstanding*

Between 1 September 2009 and 31 March 2010, 62% of primary schools; 82% of secondary schools; 87% of special schools and 100% of education centres were found to be *good* or better in Ofsted inspections (see page 23).

#### Positive results in annual inspections of public services and Children's Services

In 2009, the Comprehensive Area Assessment<sup>1</sup> (a report on the effectiveness of public services in an area) found that *most children and young people in Hampshire achieve good results at school and have a good start in life*.

Nine out of 11 District/Borough Councils, the Fire and Rescue Service and Hampshire Police were found to *perform well*. Hampshire Primary Care Trust was rated as *good* for the quality of commissioning and *fair* for the quality of financial management. Hampshire County Council was one of only three county councils to achieve the top rating of *performs excellently*. In addition, prospects for further improvement were recognised as excellent.

The Children's Services Department was rated as *performing well* by Ofsted in 2009, with strengths including:

- performance in social care settings and services is consistently above the national average and above, or in line with, similar areas;
- fostering and adoption services and private fostering arrangements are *good*;
- the large majority of the county's schools are *good* or better;
- performance against the very large majority of National Indicators is above, or in line with, similar areas and the national figures.

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<sup>1</sup> The Comprehensive Area Assessment was ended in 2010 by the new Coalition Government.

## Section 1: Key findings

### Progress in safeguarding

Hampshire County Council has addressed all recommendations from the 2009 Ofsted unannounced inspection of arrangements for contact, referral and assessment (see page 35). All those working to safeguard vulnerable children and young people in the county have endeavoured to maintain or improve the quality of these vital services at the same time as managing increased demand. Successes include a reduction in the numbers of children who are subject to a child protection plan for a second time (see page 36) and the appointment of an Independent Chair for Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board (see page 35).

### Better progress at school for children in care

A range of integrated improvement activities over the last two years have provided the best results to date for Hampshire's children in care at Key Stage 2 and 4 (see page 24).

### National targets as part of Aiming High for Disabled Children

Hampshire continues to successfully deliver the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme in the county and has been awarded 'Change Champion' status for parent, children and young people participation. A range of improved support is available for parents and carers through the programme, including information hubs, parent groups and short breaks (see page 43).

## Emerging challenges

Since the CYPP was published in 2009, a number of challenges have emerged which will have a significant impact on the Children's Trust and all those working with children and young people in Hampshire.

### Supporting an increasing number of vulnerable children and families

In the last two years, a number of factors have combined to increase demand for social care services - particularly the economic downturn and high profile safeguarding cases such as Baby P. Increases in activity bring particular practice and resource pressures.

### Financial climate

All agencies are facing tighter budgets as a result of the recession and budget constraints on the public sector. Trying to do 'more for less' requires a focus on priority services, needs based funding and a shared approach to resource allocation. Moves towards joint commissioning and aligned budgets are important and will continue to be developed in parallel with Hampshire's LCPs.

### Child poverty

New legislation requires local authorities to lead the development of a local child poverty strategy, contributing to the national target to eradicate child poverty by 2010. The Children's Trust and LCPs will play a key role in needs assessment, consultation with

## Section 1: Key findings

communities and the development and delivery of Hampshire's strategy. Draft statutory guidance states that needs assessments must be published by March 2011.




### Progress against the CYPP Improvement Plan

The Improvement Plan identifies a number of success indicators for measuring progress against agreed priorities. These include a range of National Indicators (NIs) and all Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets relating to children and young people.

**NIs:** the key measures used to monitor the performance of local authorities in delivering services.

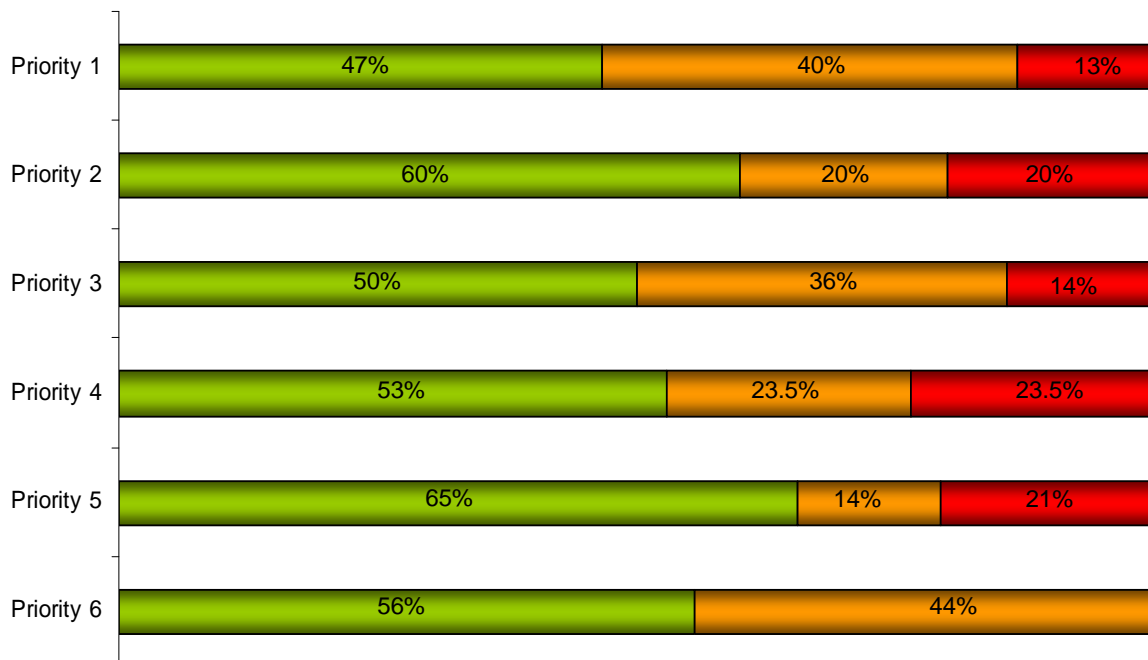
**LAA:** sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between them and central government by setting three year targets for a number of NIs.

Progress against the targets for 2009/10 within the Improvement Plan is shown using a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) rating:

-  Target has not been achieved (red)
-  Target is at risk of not being achieved (amber)
-  Target has been achieved (green)

### Overview of progress against Improvement Plan targets

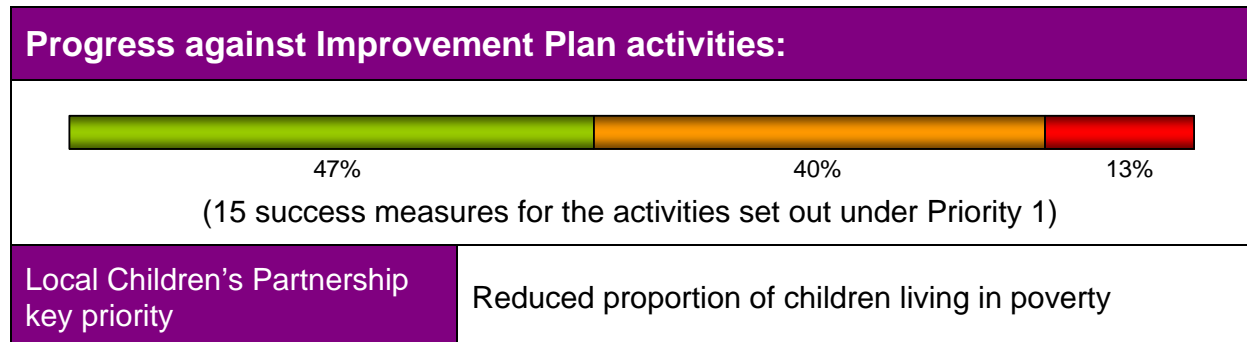
The chart below shows the percentage of targets achieved for each of the six CYPP priorities, using the RAG rating system described above. Overall, significant progress has been made against some challenging targets during 2009/10. A full description of the priorities is provided on page 4. The full Improvement Plan, showing RAG ratings and commentary for each activity is available as a separate appendix on the Children's Trust website ([www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-trust](http://www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-trust)).



The following section sets out progress and next steps in more detail for each of the priorities.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Priority 1: Reducing the incidence and impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children and young people



### Summary

Hampshire Children's Trust has continued to make progress in improving outcomes for children living in poverty, tackling key issues including access to childcare; helping young people to remain in education; and providing support for some of the county's most vulnerable families.

### Key achievements

- Meeting national targets for the development of Sure Start Children's Centres.
- Narrowing the gap between the lowest achievers at Early Years Foundation Stage and their peers for the third year in a row.
- Increasing access to childcare for low income families.
- Improving outcomes for young people from low income homes.

### Sure Start Children's Centres

In March 2010, Hampshire achieved national targets for the designation of children's centres. This means that there are now 81 children's centres in the county – enough to reach all of Hampshire's under fives (73,800 - 2009 mid-year population estimate, Office for National Statistics).

Children's centres aim to give every child the best possible start in life. They provide easy access to a range of different services for families with children under five, including:

- information and advice on family support services;
- drop-in sessions for parents, carers and childminders;
- access to early education and childcare for children under five;
- access to child and family health services;
- links with Jobcentre Plus, further education and training opportunities.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Key facts 2009/10

- 34,834 families registered with Hampshire's children's centres.
- The percentage of under fives reached by the county's children's centres increased month on month (overall increase from 13.9% in 2008/09 to 38.4% in 2009/10).
- 10,579 vulnerable families engaged in children's centre activities (includes teenage parents; families of someone in prison; families suffering from domestic violence etc).
- 2,897 home visits to under fives by Family Support Outreach Workers.
- 3,643 children were brought to baby clinics.
- 6,218 under fives attended 'stay and play' sessions.

Source: eStart reports 30 April 2010

In the summer of 2009, two 'mobile' centres were launched for the rural areas of East Hampshire and the New Forest. The specially designed buses ensure that services offered by children's centres are fully accessible in rural areas; and also target some of the most vulnerable children and families. The East Hampshire bus has been particularly successful in engaging young families living in hostels in the catchment area. Family Support Outreach Workers have encouraged the families to attend the centre's weekly support groups; and have started working with the Housing Association to offer support to individuals on a one-to-one basis. Both units offer a range of services in partnership with Health and the voluntary and community sector, including support for children with disabilities; stop smoking advice and support; anti-natal sessions; Citizens Advice Bureau services; and child development sessions. Timetables for the buses were developed in consultation with families and partners.



In two new projects, Jobcentre Plus family advisors are now based at 15 children's centres to support low income families in accessing benefits and opportunities for training/work; and children's centre Family Support Outreach Workers are working in partnership with HMP Winchester to provide support to families of prisoners. The support workers will be available for parents during visiting times twice a week. In addition, a parenting programme 'you and your child' will be delivered in the prison from

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

September 2010. A toolkit for practitioners to support their understand of the needs of prisoners families is being developed in partnership with Southampton City Council and Portsmouth City Council. This includes a film about the journey for families and their fathers enter the criminal justice system.

### Narrowing the gap

The gap between the lowest achieving 20% at Early Years Foundation Stage (the 'curriculum' for children aged 0-5) and their peers has fallen for the third year in a row. Performance improved from 33.1% in 2007/08 to 32.5% in 2008/09; and remains better than the England average (NI 92).

Activities bringing about improvement include:

- Improving early years education in areas of deprivation, through qualified teachers, at full core offer children's centres (2008/09 data showed that results for children from approximately half the centres were higher than the county average; and 71% of the centres had better results than the previous year).
- Targeting support to the schools and settings where improvement is needed (seven out of the eight schools who did not have a child reaching the nationally expected level in 2007/08 saw improvements in 2008/09 – some even exceeded the county average).
- Initiatives such as Rights, Respect and Responsibility for early years (see page 49); and the Songs and Rhymes Programme (see below).
- The Communication, Language and Literacy development programme (training for schools designed to improve early reading, writing, speaking and listening skills).
- Making sure providers of early years education in areas of deprivation receive more funding.
- Encouraging providers to improve quality, by linking this to funding.
- Challenging providers on the progress of vulnerable groups.
- Training to help providers support parents in their child's learning.

### Songs and Rhymes

One successful method for improving attainment at Early Years Foundation Stage in areas of deprivation is Hampshire's Songs and Rhymes Programme. The programme was identified as an example of effective practice by the national Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in 2009, for its promotion of community cohesion and positive relationships.

The programme involves children, parents, childcare and school staff sharing songs and rhymes together. It is designed for children who are about to join Reception class and consists of a minimum of eight sessions - of approximately one hour - which take place during the summer term. Typically the sessions take place in areas where there are full core offer children's centres and brings together feeder preschools and schools. Each local Songs and Rhymes Programme is able to be tailored according to local need, although some key quality criteria are set by the County Council.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

The programme was designed to:

- help children make a smooth transition into school;
- support home learning by empowering parents to lead in their child's lifelong learning;
- support families from diverse cultural backgrounds in getting to know and respect each other, including each other's language;
- promote language and social skill development through play;
- increase children's repertoire of poems and rhymes;
- improve the quality of trusting secure relationships between staff and families as their children begin school;
- model and promote learning through play.

Evaluation found that parents feel very included and valued, friendships form and children are more confident about starting school.



### Access to childcare for low income families

Partnership working has been central to efforts to encourage eligible parents and carers to access the childcare element of Working Tax Credits. The most recent data shows a small increase in take up from 16% in 2006/07 to 16.9% in 2007/08 (NI 118). During 2009/10, Children's Services held a joint event with Southampton City Council and Isle of Wight Council for professionals working with families to highlight the schemes available to access affordable childcare. Promotion has also taken place through:

- publications for parents (including a guide to childcare);
- publications for childcare providers;
- Hampshire County Council internal communications (including payslips, online bulletins and induction days) – encouraging staff to find out if they are eligible;
- Hampshire Now and Hantsweb – the Hampshire County Council public magazine and website;
- Hampshire Chamber of Commerce Directory;
- Hampshire GP Healthwatch Guide;
- District newsletters/magazines, targeted at areas of low take up;
- area based outreach workers participating in events at children's centres and extended schools.

**Flexible entitlement:** 90% of Hampshire's childcare settings now deliver the flexible nursery education entitlement, exceeding the target for 2009/10 (60%). This means that three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours a week of free early years education, available over three or more days (the previous entitlement was 12.5 hours per week, offered as one 2.5 hour session per day). All settings are expected to meet the flexible offer by September 2010.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

**Two year old pilot:** Hampshire is taking part in a pilot to provide childcare, parent support and outreach to the most vulnerable two year olds living within areas of Gosport and Havant. As part of the offer, eligible children are entitled to a place of up to 10 hours per week (for 38 weeks per year) in an accredited early years education provision. Family support is also offered, including visits to the home, where ideas and activities are shared with parents to help their child's development. Information is also provided about other services within the community such as children's centres, Jobcentre Plus and health services. Since the start of the pilot in September 2009, a total of 385 children have been funded for places in early years education and 122 families have received family support. The scheme was extended to parts of the New Forest in April 2010.

### Improving outcomes for young people from low income homes

More of Hampshire's young people from low income homes are achieving national standards for attainment by the age of 19. In this case the definition of 'low income' is young people who received free school meals when they were 15. The gap between achievement of a level 3 qualification by age 19 for those who received free school meals and those who did not (NI 81) has narrowed from 35.3% in 2005/06 to 32.9% in 2008/09, meeting the 2009/10 target early. In addition, the percentage of young people from low income homes who achieved a level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (NI 82) increased to from 52.7% in 2007/08 to 54.2% in 2008/09. The most recent figures for the percentage of young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education (NI 106) also show a small improvement, with 25% entering higher education in 2006/07 (from 23.9% in 2005/06).

14-19 diplomas have been successfully rolled out across the county – increasing the number of diplomas on offer in the areas with the highest levels of young people not in education, employment or training.

Responsibility for commissioning 16-19 education transferred to local authorities in April 2010 (previously led by the Learning and Skills Council). Hampshire County Council is currently drafting a strategy for 16-19 provision in the county, which will aim to ensure that sufficient courses are commissioned for those with specific needs/vulnerable groups (see page 40 for further details on education for 14-19 year olds).

### Areas for renewed focus

- The gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers, which increased at Key Stage 2 and 4 in 2008/09 (NI 102). The gap at Key Stage 2 rose from 26% in 2007/08 to 29.4% in 2008/09, while the gap at Key Stage 4 increased from 30.8% in 2007/08 to 31.9% in 2008/09.
- Child poverty – new legislation requires all local authorities to develop a strategy for tackling child poverty in their area (see page 6).

### Next steps

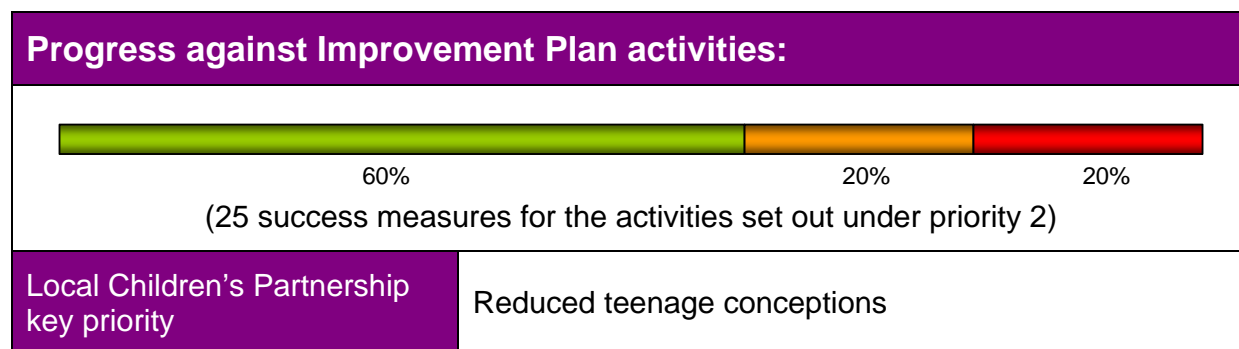
- Establishing a new strategic group to oversee improvement for pupils eligible for free school meals.
- Participating in two pilot programmes focused on improving tracking of performance at two secondary schools and their feeder schools.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- Continuing to provide one to one tuition for pupils not achieving expected standards.
- Placing more emphasis on the progress of vulnerable groups and effectiveness of tracking through termly meetings between Hampshire's School Improvement Partners and Headteachers.
- Undertaking a child poverty needs assessment and consultation, to be published by March 2011 (followed by a strategy in 2011/12).
- Undertaking a new childcare sufficiency assessment (which checks if childcare in an area is sufficient, flexible, sustainable and responsive to parents needs).
- Ensuring that the newest children's centres achieve full designation (meaning that they offer the full range of services required).

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Priority 2: Securing children and young people's physical, spiritual, social, emotional and mental health, promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequalities



### Summary

Strong progress has been made against the key activities needed to deliver this priority. Partnership working has increased information and support for parents and supported Hampshire's children and young people to have healthy lifestyles (both physical and emotional). However, further work is needed to promote healthy outcomes for some of the county's most vulnerable children and young people, including teenage parents and children with substance misuse problems.

### Key achievements

- Increasing information and support for parent/carers, particularly the success of Parent Support Advisers based in schools.
- Exceeding targets for the number of 'Healthy Schools' in the county.
- A fall in obesity among Year 6 school children, in contrast to an expected national increase.
- Development of mental health services for children and young people, with work focusing on providing more consistent services across the county and participation in a national pilot to provide mental health support to school pupils.

### Information and support for parent/carers

There are now 49 Parent Support Advisers (PSAs) across the county, based in school clusters. PSAs help tackle pupil underachievement, remove barriers to learning and provide access to a full range of learning opportunities, by supporting parents and carers of children and young people who might be at risk of failing to reach their potential. PSAs have a vital role to play in the early identification of any difficulties a pupil is experiencing by working with parents. During 2009/10, they received more than 3,000 referrals – over 60 per PSA. One Headteacher stated that the “*appointment has been invaluable for our school. I cannot think of any other single initiative that has made as much difference to our families*” (Vigo Infant School, Andover). PSAs deliver more than half of all 'Triple P' interventions (see over the page), contributing to a 250% increase in delivery of Triple P in 2009/10, in comparison to 2008/09.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Triple P

Triple P, the Positive Parenting Programme, helps parents create a stable family environment; teach their children skills to get along with others; deal positively and consistently with problem behaviour; and encourage positive behaviour.

#### Key facts 2009/10

- 903 parents/carers enrolled on courses;

Of those who completed feedback questionnaires:

- the percentage of children with emotional difficulties fell from 40% to 20%;
- the percentage of children with conduct issues fell from 65% to 35%;
- 94% of parents felt it had helped them to deal more effectively with their child's behaviour;
- 90% of parents thought their child's behaviour had improved.

The PSA role demands a considerable degree of multi-agency working. During 2009/10, they have worked with a wide range of both statutory and non-statutory organisations, often making a contribution to other Hampshire initiatives including Healthy Schools, extended services and teenage pregnancy. As the posts become embedded into their school clusters and communities, PSAs are providing an important strand of early intervention and prevention services in local areas.

### Parent support advisers – case study

A family whose child attended Weyford Infant School was referred to a PSA due to frequent lateness. The child was 'late before registers closed' 21% of the time and sometimes didn't arrive at school until 10.30am. The admin staff at the school had tried frequently to phone the parent in the mornings when the child was not in school, but did not get a response.

The PSA met the parent after school and arranged for a meeting to discuss arrival times the next day. They discussed bedtime and morning routines and the impact of lateness on the child's learning. The PSA made a 'reward chart' for the child and parent to use together. 'Late before registers closed' fell to 4% and 'late after registers closed' fell to 0%.

**Complex needs:** Two project workers are offering intensive family support to families with more complex needs using the Family Intervention Project model. A recently submitted bid to expand the project has been successful and in 2010/11, there will be more projects starting across the county. In addition, new parenting specialists offer targeted support to parents and carers, providing intervention to vulnerable families where:

- parent/carer substance use impacts upon parenting ability;
- parent/carer mental health impacts upon parenting ability;
- there is a child at risk of being placed into local authority care;
- there is a risk of placement breakdown for a child in care;
- there is a child at risk of offending, who is outside the remit of Youth Offending Team and Youth Inclusion Support Panel services.

50% of parenting specialist resource is allocated to preventing children being placed in care and preventing placement breakdown (see page 32).

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Healthy schools

Targets for the proportion of Hampshire schools achieving enhanced Healthy Schools status have been exceeded – 84% of schools had achieved the award by March 2010 (against a target of 75%).

In order to achieve the award, schools have to demonstrate a ‘whole school’ approach to improving:

- leadership and policies;
- curriculum planning, teaching and learning;
- school culture and environment;
- giving pupils a voice;
- provision of pupil support services;
- staff development needs and health;
- partnership with parents and the local community;
- assessing and recording pupils’ achievements.



Healthy School activities must involve pupils, all staff and the wider community. Each school has to demonstrate positive outcomes against each of the four core healthy school areas. Exciting initiatives include starting school councils; providing better accessibility to drinking water; introducing healthier tuck shops; establishing buddy and peer-mentoring schemes; increasing links with local businesses and community groups; and reducing bullying.

The quality of health, personal development and well-being teaching and activities in Hampshire’s schools is reflected in Ofsted inspection judgements. The chart below shows that between 2005 and 2009, the majority of schools were found to be *good* or *outstanding* in personal development and well-being.

**Chart 1: Inspection judgements**



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

In addition, the percentage of Hampshire pupils who report that their school helps them think about staying healthy by eating properly and taking exercise, increased in 2009 for all year groups apart from Year 6 (Hampshire Pupil Attitude Survey 2009).

### Healthy schools – peer listening scheme at John Hanson Community School

This scheme encourages Year 9 students to act as peer listeners for younger children at the school who feel they need someone to talk to for a variety of reasons, including bullying or personal problems.

Peer listeners complete two and a half days of training which involves role playing, listening techniques, considering body language and discussing potential scenarios. Referral processes are outlined and listeners are asked to use their own judgement when dealing with problems, but also recognise when a referral to a member of staff may be required. At the end of training, each young person is awarded a peer listener badge, which makes them instantly recognisable to other pupils.

As well as helping existing students, the initiative also supports Year 6 students due to join the school. Each year, the peer listeners meet the students from feeder schools at the induction evening, along with their parents. The listeners also work with selected Year 6 students prior to their arrival and offer one to one support during their first year at the school.

The initiative has helped the older students to increase their confidence, leadership, pastoral and presentation skills. One consequence of this work has been that they have reached a level of maturity usually seen in older students.

Eleanor Jakeman, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator for the school *“I am amazed by the impact this has had. It is making a real difference to the lives of many of our children and young people and has also had a positive impact on the overall culture of the school.”*

One student said *“I think peer listeners are a big help because if you’re worried and you need to talk to them, you know they are always there and that they won’t shout at you and will try to help you out”.*

### Obesity

Progress in tackling childhood obesity has been good, with an increase in the proportion of children weighed and measured as part of the national measurement programme and achievement of targets for the percentage of children in Reception Year and Year 6. A national rise in obesity had been expected in 2008/09, however Hampshire figures show a fall in obesity among children in Year 6 (NI 56) – from 15.88% in 2007/08 to 15.47% in 2008/09; and a small increase in obesity among children in Reception Year (NI 55) – from 8.29% in 2007/08 to 8.64% in 2008/09.

A new Healthy Weight Strategy and action plan for Hampshire are due to be launched shortly, with activities including:

- implementing healthy eating/physical activity policies in early years settings;
- providing schools with their overall results of the National Child Measurement Programme;
- providing routine feedback to parents of Year 6 children on their child's weight;

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- targeting the Cook and Eat programme to deprived areas and communities with the highest rates of obesity;
- healthy weight co-ordinators working in areas with the highest rates of obesity (Gosport and Havant);
- implementing new care pathway for children and young people with unhealthy weights;
- implementing the national Change4Life programme at a local level.

### **Cook and Eat**

To date, 105 of the county's schools have taken part in Cook and Eat, which was developed in partnership between NHS Hampshire, the County Council's Catering Service and Eastleigh Borough Council. The programme is targeted to areas of the county with the highest rates of obesity. Schools in these areas that are not currently participating receive information on the programme, often followed up by a visit from a public health worker. All equipment and paperwork is provided for schools to make the delivery of the programme as simple as possible.

The programme consists of six weekly sessions for children and their parents (each lasting one and a half hours). The aim of the programme is that parents and children learn:

- practical cooking skills;
- healthy eating tips;
- food hygiene and safety;
- how to budget and reduce food bills;
- how to create menus for the family.

Hampshire Health and Well-being Partnership's first strategy 'Healthier Hampshire' was launched in January 2010. The strategy was developed following a three month consultation process to find out what needs and expectations the local community have for the future. Over 1,000 consultation documents were distributed and also made available on NHS Hampshire, County Council, voluntary sector and provider websites. In addition, 47 consultation events were attended by over 1,000 people. The Health and Well-being Partnership consists of Hampshire County Council, NHS Hampshire, district councils and the voluntary sector.

The three overarching priorities for 2010-15 are:

- promoting healthy lifestyles;
- focusing on people at risk through early intervention;
- healthier communities.

### **Mental health services**

Progress has been made in developing consistent Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), particularly transition to Adult Mental Health Services. In the last two years, the self-assessed score for the effectiveness of CAMHS in Hampshire has increased from 12 out of 16 to 15 out of 16, exceeding the 2009/10 target (13 out of 15).

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Although Hampshire has some good services, arrangements for CAMHS have been complex and, in some places, inconsistent (with 10 specialist teams and services across five NHS organisations). In order to address this, the CAMHS Commissioning Partnership is currently carrying out a tender exercise to commission an integrated, countywide Specialist Tier 2 and 3 CAMHS. The service specification was developed in consultation with service users and stakeholders. The aim is to award the new contract in autumn 2010, with the new service starting in April 2011. Young people will be involved in all remaining stages of the process. A summary of feedback received to date from stakeholders, young people and families is available on the CAMHS website ([www.hants.gov.uk/camhs](http://www.hants.gov.uk/camhs)).

In addition, Hampshire is participating in the national Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TaMHS) pathfinder. The pilot began in April 2009 and involves schools in the Gosport area. The aim is to develop innovative models of therapeutic and holistic mental health support in schools for children aged between five and 13 at risk of and/or experiencing mental health problems; and their families. In the first year of the programme in the county:

- universal provision has been strengthened through social and emotional aspects of learning and enhanced Healthy Schools;
- a comprehensive training model has evolved to enhance the skills of school staff, building on Hampshire's successful Emotional Literacy Support Assistant role and including Emotional First Aid and therapeutic story writing;
- a multi-agency Primary Schools Mental Health Forum has been developed;
- 20 children are being supported through the 'Making a Lifelong Difference' project, which aims to support vulnerable pupils through the transition from primary to secondary school – the first group are due to move to Year 7 this September;
- targeted group work with children has taken place, focused on raising self-belief;
- a TaMHS Primary Mental Health worker has been recruited.

### Areas for renewed focus:

- Reducing teenage conceptions: recently published provisional figures for teenage conceptions in 2008 indicate that Hampshire is unlikely to meet future targets for the percentage change in conceptions from the 1998 baseline (NI 112), as shown by the table below.

**Table 1: NI 112 direction of travel from 2007-2008 and targets for 2008-2010**

	Performance			Targets		
	2007	2008 (provisional)	Direction	2008	2009	2010
Hampshire	-11.8%	-5.4%	▼	-28%	-36%	-45%

The provisional rolling three year rate for 2006-08 shows a mixed picture for the 11 districts, with eight experiencing an increase in conception rates from 2005-07. In addition, seven districts now have higher rates than their 1998-00 baseline data.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- Reducing substance misuse (both drugs and alcohol), which increased from 9.5% of 10-15 year olds in 2008/09 to 10.2% in 2009/10 according to a pupil survey (Tellus4 2009, NI 115).
- Improving joint working and data sharing between Children's Services and NHS Hampshire, with the aim of increasing access to maternity services and breastfeeding support.

### Next steps

#### Teenage conceptions and sexual health:

- Engaging with children, young people and their families to tailor sex and relationship support and advice to their needs (52% of Hampshire pupils who participated in the 2009 Tellus4 survey feel that the information and advice they receive on sex and relationships is helpful, slightly below the national average).
- Offering focused support for those who are most vulnerable and at risk of becoming teenage parents and offering a full range of sex and relationship education courses for agencies working with vulnerable young people.
- Ensuring all new mothers under the age of 18 are referred to, and followed up by, a contraception and sexual health service to reduce second conceptions.
- All contraception and sexual health services working towards achieving 'You're Welcome' quality criteria, with services used most by under 18s processed first.
- Monitoring young people's use of local emergency hormonal contraception services provided by pharmacies and ensuring that services are well publicised (nearly 70% of pharmacists in Hampshire offer emergency contraception).
- Encouraging GPs to undertake opportunistic screening for Chlamydia among 17 and 18 year olds - NHS Hampshire incentivising GP practices to screen at least 10% of their registered 15-24 population in 2010/11.
- Recruitment of pharmacies to offer free home testing kits for Chlamydia and follow up treatment for all 15–24 year olds.

#### Breastfeeding:

- Implementation of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative across maternity units, health visiting services, children's centres and early years settings across Hampshire (mothers delivering in a Baby Friendly accredited maternity unit are 10% more likely to initiate and sustain breastfeeding).
- Delivery of three models of breastfeeding support in areas with low rates and young parents (service starting May 2010, with an evaluation report due after one year).
- Improving data collection through establishing a single Child Health Information System for Hampshire and regular performance monitoring.

#### Substance misuse:

- Strengthening universal substance misuse services including education, information, advice and drop ins.
- Increasing the capacity of the PRISM network to support pupils who may be at risk of dropping out of school and engaged in drug and/or alcohol misuse.

## **Section 2 - Progress against priorities**

- Providing outreach to ensure that drug treatment services meet the needs of those living in rural areas.
- Increasing the number of drug co-ordinators in secondary schools (currently 80% - to increase to 100%).
- Assigning members of the specialist substance misuse treatment team to each of the 11 districts, so that Children's Services teams and other agencies have a named contact for the service.
- Ensuring that all children in care are screened for substance misuse within the context of their annual health assessment.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Priority 3: Providing opportunities to learn that raise children and young people's aspirations, encourage excellence and enable them to enjoy and achieve beyond their expectations

#### Progress against Improvement Plan activities:



Local Children's Partnership key priority

Improved educational attainment of vulnerable groups

### Summary

Hampshire continues to be strong in delivering a good education to the county's children and young people. Exam results consistently exceed the national average, with improvements seen year on year. The significant achievement of the last year has been increasing the numbers of children in care reaching nationally expected levels at Key Stage 2 and 4.

### Key achievements

- Continuing the trend of year on year improvements in results for Hampshire pupils in national tests at Early Years Foundation Stage (age five), Key Stage 2 (age 11) and Key Stage 4 (age 16).
- Increasing the numbers of schools judged as *good* or *outstanding* in Ofsted inspections.
- Achieving the best results to date for Hampshire's children in care in Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 tests.
- Improving results for pupils with Special Educational Needs at Key Stage 2.
- Successfully reducing persistent absence at secondary school to levels below the target for 2009/10.
- Exceeding targets for the roll out of extended services in the county's schools.



### Attainment at Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4

Hampshire pupils continue to excel in national tests. Overall in 2008/09 (the exams taken in summer 2009), the county's children and young people achieved higher standards than in previous years and better than the national average. Improvements have been demonstrated in Early Years Foundation Stage (age five), whilst Key Stage 2

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

(age 11) and Key Stage 4 (age 16) show solid improvement from 2007/08. Results for 2007/08 and 2008/09 are shown in the following table.

**Table 2: Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 achievement, 2007/08 and 2008/09**

National Indicator	2007/08		2008/09	
	Hampshire	England average	Hampshire	England average
<b>NI 72:</b> Achievement at Early Years Foundation Stage	50%	49%	51%	52%
<b>NI 73:</b> Achievement of Level 4 in English and maths at Key Stage 2	74%	73%	75%	72%
<b>NI 75:</b> Achievement of five or more GCSEs grade A*-C including English and maths	53.8%	47.6%	55.4%	49.8%

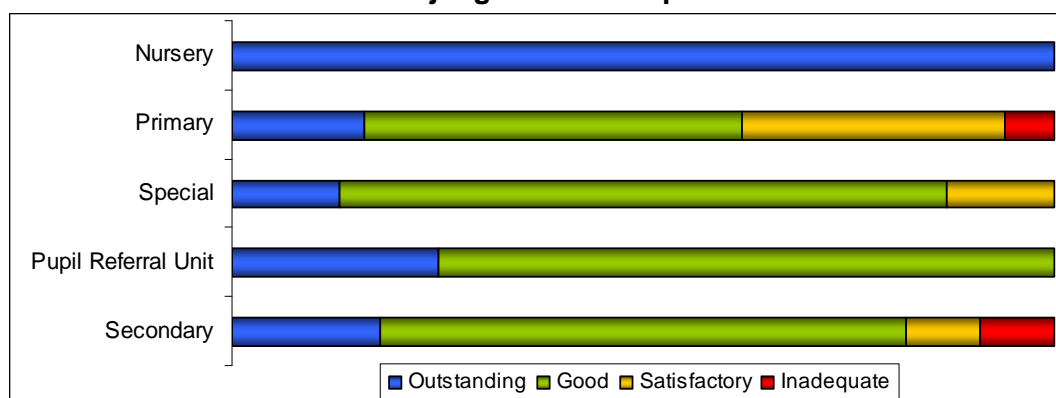
### Inspection judgements

Hampshire's schools and childcare settings continue to provide a good start for children and young people, with an increasing number judged *good* or better by Ofsted. In addition, the percentage judged *good* or better is higher than the national average across all settings. Improvements can be seen in the below graphs, which compare judgements from the period 2005-09 to those received between September 2009 and March 2010.

**Chart 2: Overall effectiveness judgements 2005-09**



**Chart 3: Overall effectiveness judgements 1 September 2009 – 31 March 2010**



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Improving inspection judgements, particularly the proportion of primary schools judged as *good* or better, is an area of increasing focus. Key activities include:

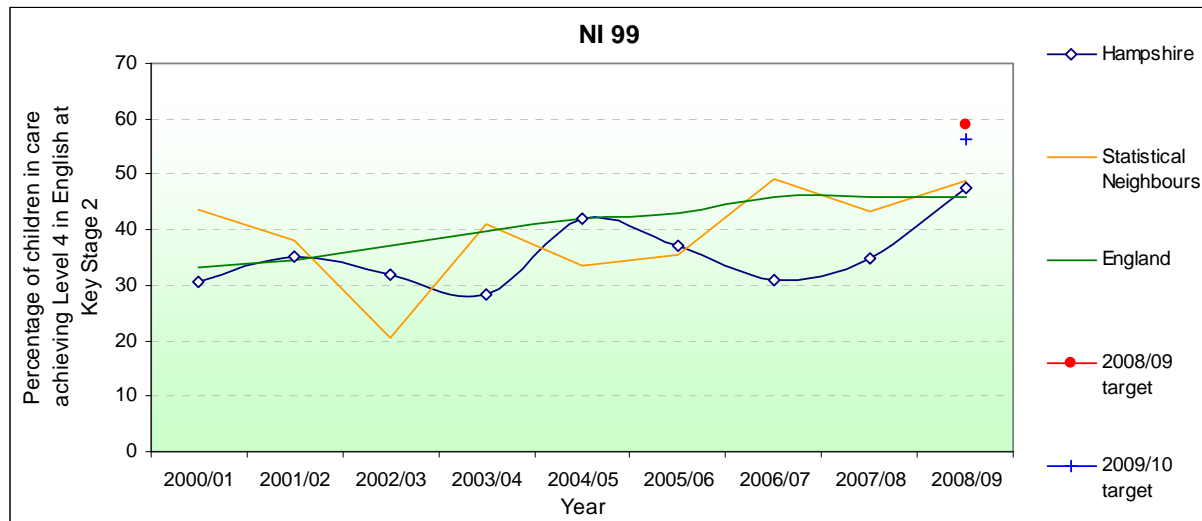
- more focused support and challenge for targeted schools through School Improvement Partners;
- providing support to early years settings through Early Education and Childcare Senior Development Officers;
- implementation of a robust self-evaluation process for early years providers;
- intervention in schools at risk of *inadequate* judgements – developing, implementing and monitoring appropriate action plans.

### Attainment of children in care

Significant improvements have been made in attainment for Hampshire's children in care, particularly at Key Stage 2. A range of integrated improvement activities have been implemented over the last two years, with a positive impact now being evidenced.

The most recent results are the best to date for the county's children in care at Key Stage 2. The proportion of children in care achieving Level 4 in English at Key Stage 2 (NI 99) has improved, from 35% in 2007/08 to 47.6% in 2008/09. The trend from 2000/01 to 2008/09 is shown in the chart below.

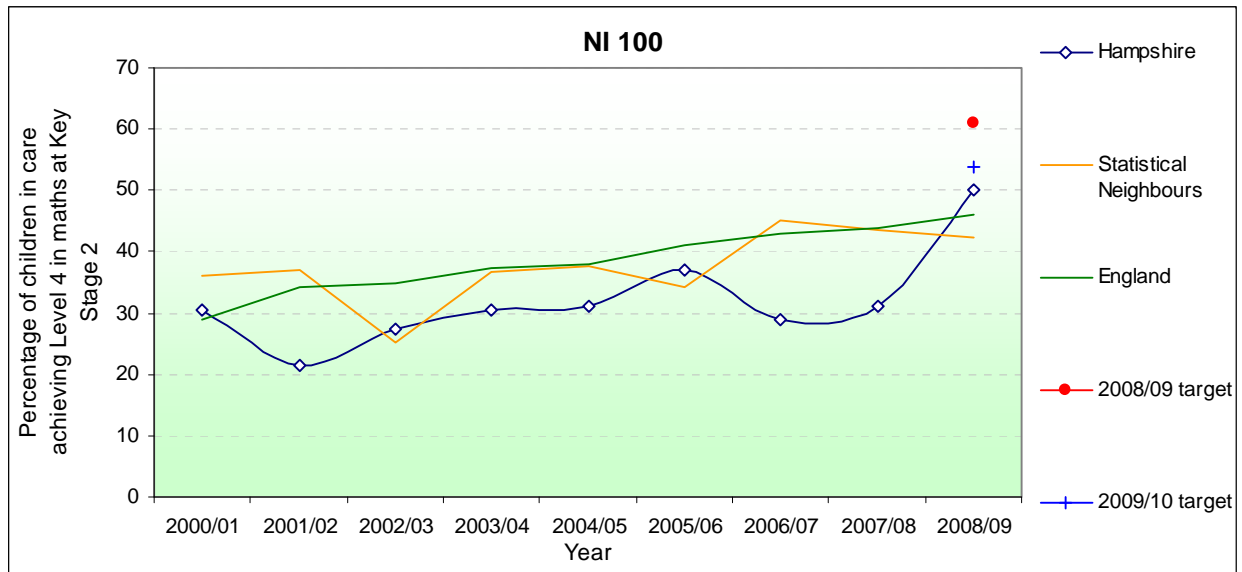
**Chart 4: Percentage of children in care achieving level 4 in English at Key Stage 2, 2000/01-2008/09**



Furthermore, there has been significant improvement in the proportion of children in care achieving Level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2 (NI 100), from 31% in 2007/08 to 50% in 2008/09. The trend from 2000/01 to 2008/09 is shown in the chart over the page.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

**Chart 5: Percentage of children in care achieving level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2, 2000/01-2008/09**



Steady improvement has been evidenced in GCSE attainment for children in care, including the proportion achieving five or more GCSEs grade A\*-C; and the proportion achieving five or more GCSEs grade A\*-C including English and maths (NI 101). The percentage achieving five or more GCSEs including English and maths increased from 4.9% in 2007/08 to 7.6% in 2008/09.

In addition to improved exam results, a high proportion of children taking part in a new children in care survey feel that they are doing well at school (74% of those participating in the 2009/10 Hampshire Children in Care Survey).

### Laptop project

During autumn 2009, 820 laptops were distributed to young people in foster care, and those who have left care but are still in education. This includes young people with care orders placed in their own homes and young people from Hampshire placed with Independent Fostering Agencies.

The laptops were purchased using Home Access to Targeted Groups funding, as part of a Government programme to enable young people to use IT to enhance their learning and social inclusion. Most children, particularly those of secondary school age, rely on computers for homework research and to access e-learning 'portals' for revision. In addition, the social networking possibilities of sites including MSN, Facebook and Bebo may be particularly important to children in care who have had to move away from their family and friends.

Ongoing support, both in relation to the hardware and safety and security issues, is provided by a dedicated website for those receiving a laptop and their carers.

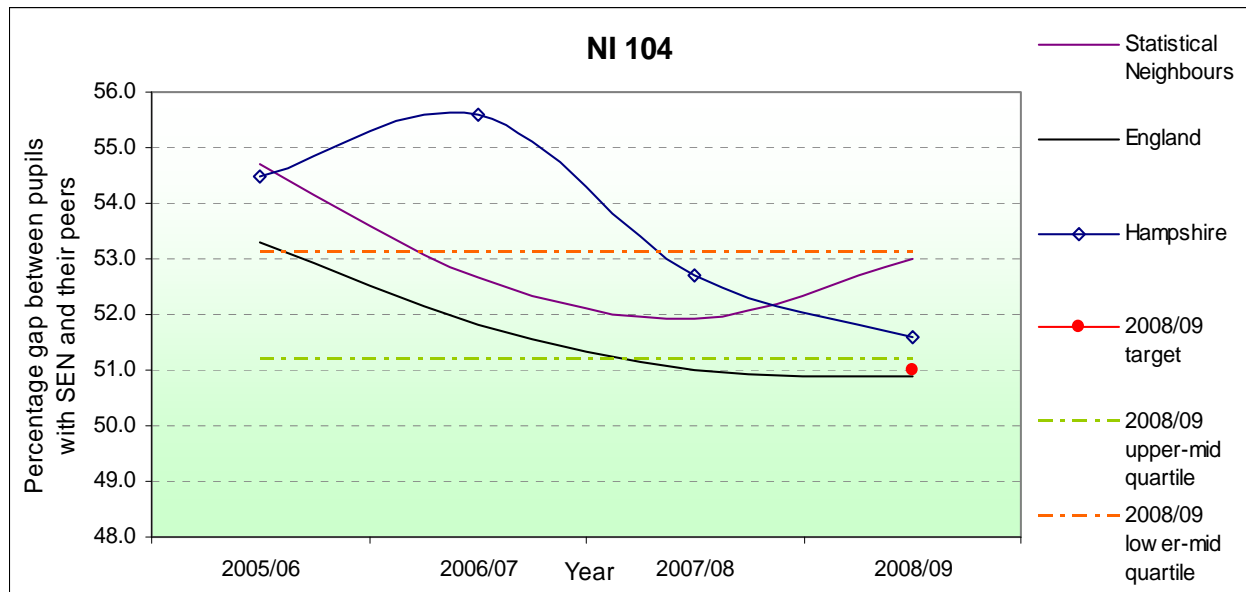
Further information on improving outcomes for children in care is provided on pages 31-34.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Special Educational Needs

The gap between the achievement of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and their peers at Key Stage 2 (NI 104) has continued to narrow in Hampshire. In two years, the gap has fallen from 55.6% to 51.6%, bucking the national trend (which has seen little change since 2007/08). The trend from 2005/06 to 2008/09 is shown in the below chart.

**Chart 6: Percentage gap between pupils with SEN and their peers at Key Stage 2, 2005/06 – 2008/09**



Special school data has been used to monitor individual pupil performance since 2000. Target setting is now rigorous and schools are setting challenging end of Key Stage targets.

### Behaviour and attendance

The most recent data shows a fall in levels of persistent absence in Hampshire's secondary schools (NI 87), from 6.09% in 2007/08 to 5.2% in 2008/09, exceeding the 2009/10 target of 5.5%. All secondary schools have been offered additional support and advice through network meetings and on an individual basis. In addition, during 2009/10 Children's Services produced a new Attendance Strategy and guidance for schools on pupil attendance, registration and absence.

Behaviour of students continues to improve, with the proportion of secondary schools judged as having *good* or *outstanding* standards of behaviour increasing from 80% in 2007/08 to 85.9% in 2008/09 (as judged by Ofsted inspections, NI 86).

#### Praise for New Forest Behaviour Support Centre

*"This place is brilliant! The best thing is the support the teachers give the children, they listen to them and they give them the confidence to go back to their schools. It's amazing the difference it's made for my son Matthew. But it's not just the help they've given him, it's also the support they gave me and my husband – they involved all of us."*

Janice Pounder from Eling gave her testimony on the innovative work of the Clifford Centre when it was re-opened by the former Children's Commissioner for England, Sir

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Al Aynsley-Green, in February 2010.

The centre in Calmore supports children who find it difficult to settle in school and who would otherwise be in danger of being permanently excluded. The multi-agency work carried out through the centre has helped ensure there have been no permanent primary exclusions in the New Forest Primary Schools for more than seven years.

Sir Al Aynsley-Green said *“There is some groundbreaking work going on in Hampshire which is making a positive contribution to children’s welfare... Having a hub of multi-agency support will provide a valuable co-ordinated service and help these children to make a positive contribution to their communities as they grow up.”*

The Clifford Centre was relocated from its former site at the Abbotswood School campus as part of an investment into Special Educational Needs provision in the New Forest.

### Extended schools

Hampshire has exceeded targets for the percentage of schools offering extended services, with 95% of schools meeting the ‘core offer’ by March 2010. 100% of schools will offer services by September 2010.



Extended schools provide a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of children, their families, and the wider community. The ‘core offer’ of services are:

- high quality 8am-6pm childcare provided on the school-site or through other local providers;
- a varied menu of activities, including study support - such as homework clubs, sports, music, tuition, arts and crafts, visits to museums, business and enterprise activities;
- parenting support - including information sessions and family learning activities;
- wider activities helping to re-engage pupils in school and learning;
- swift and easy access to a wide range of targeted and specialist services.

In 2009/10, £146,000 of extended services funding was awarded to 17 voluntary and community organisation projects supporting the extended services core offer in collaboration with schools. Projects included:

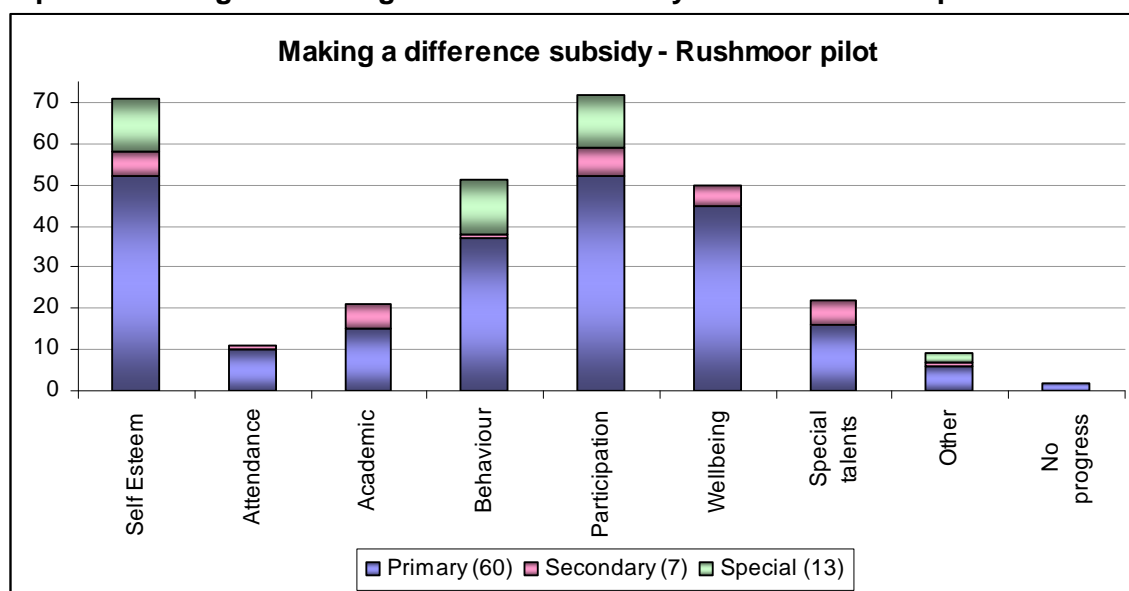
- family counselling;
- activities and workshops to raise awareness of diverse cultures;
- drama and music clubs;
- holiday play schemes;
- museum outreach.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Furthermore, approximately £40,000 was allocated to 20 small intergenerational projects, in liaison with Hampshire's Older Persons Unit. These projects provide opportunities for children, young people and older people to learn something new together and share stories and experience. Activities include developing allotments and growing vegetables; computer training sessions; traditional games; and meals/afternoon tea.

In a new initiative in 2009/10, the 'making a difference subsidy' was allocated to extended schools partnerships on the basis of the numbers of children receiving free school meals and children in care. The aim is to offer opportunities for these children to engage in out of school activities where economic disadvantage has been a barrier to participation. The scheme was piloted in Andover, Gosport and Rushmoor and is being rolled out across the county in 2010/11.

**Chart 7: the numbers of children in receipt of free school meals showing a positive impact following the making a difference subsidy in the Rushmoor pilot**



### Building Schools for the Future

In 2009, the County Council joined the Government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, which may provide substantial investment in the county's secondary schools. Schools in Havant and Horndean would be the first to benefit from the programme.

BSF aims to transform teaching and learning; and place schools at the heart of their communities to increase school diversity, enhance parental choice and offer a broader range of local services.

In the first phase, if funding is secured, nine schools and one education centre in Havant and Horndean will be rebuilt, refurbished or remodelled. Designs for the schools are expected to take shape in 2011 and building is expected to start in 2012. The first phase includes the creation of an academy - an all-ability, state-maintained independent school supported by public sector sponsors, set to open in September 2010.

A further nine phases of the BSF programme are proposed, with schools in Gosport and Havant West next in line to receive funding.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Consultation with young people, schools and communities has been key to informing Hampshire's strategy (see page 54), which was submitted to the Government in early 2010.

### Areas for renewed focus

- Reducing the number of schools in need of improvement – in March 2010, five primary schools were in special measures and four had notice to improve.
- Narrowing the gap between pupils with SEN and their peers at Key Stage 4 (NI 105), following a widening of the gap in 2008/09 (from 50.6% in 2007/08 to 51.2% in 2008/09). Year on year increases in attainment at Key Stage 4 for all pupils means that this gap is slow to reduce.
- Improving the school attendance of children in care. 18.8% of children in care missed 25 days or more of school in 2008/09 (a slight increase from 18.4% in 2007/08).

### Next steps

#### Early Years Foundation Stage (also see page 10):

- Sharing best practice from improving schools and children's centres.
- Aligning Early Years Foundation Stage with the parenting strategy so that early years practitioners work alongside parenting services to support parents in most need.
- Implementing a new self-evaluation toolkit for Reception classes, helping schools develop reflective practice through evaluating the quality of their Early Years Foundation Stage provision.
- Implementing the new single funding formula, which will incentivise qualification levels as an indicator of quality.
- Continuing area specific initiatives: focusing on the parents/carers' role in promoting boys' writing and supporting transition to Year 1 in the West area; parental aspirations in the South East; and outdoor learning in the North East.

#### Key Stage 2 and 4:

- Establishing a pilot 'community of readers' in one LCP (a school and community project to increase reading for pleasure as well as improving literacy), running alongside further development of initiatives already operating in schools, libraries and communities.
- Ensuring that children who are below expectations in English and/or maths, at the age of seven, receive one to one tuition.
- Engaging schools in developing the revised National Curriculum.



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- Continuing to develop and embed effective assessment strategies, including raising confidence in teacher assessment through local authority moderation.
- Continuing to improve teachers subject knowledge and expertise and support them in closing the attainment gap between some groups of vulnerable children and their peers, through a range of strategies.
- Ensuring there are no schools where less than 30% of pupils achieve five A\*-C grades at GCSE, including English and maths by 2011.
- Ensuring pupils entering secondary school, below expectations in English and/or maths, receive one-to-one tuition.

### Children in care:

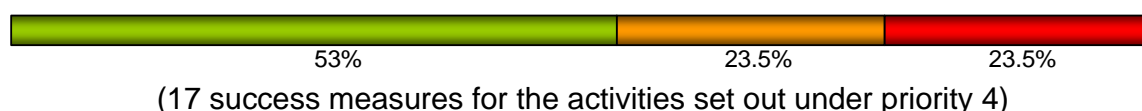
- Implementing the second phase of the project to increase regular access to data on outcomes for children in care – to include children and young people in care from 0-19.
- Establishing a new solution for monitoring attendance of children in care, in order to provide same-day data, for action by Education Welfare Officers.
- Developing evidence based guidance and protocols to ensure that children in care attend school and have provision that meets their needs.
- Expanding upon guidance, training and support for Designated Teachers, including identifying 'Lead' Designated Teachers in each cluster, who are able to provide peer support to schools with less experience of working with children in care.

### Pupils with SEN:

- Working with schools to develop intervention strategies to improve progress of all pupils with SEN.
- Ensuring that pupils are correctly identified.
- Promoting the use of intervention and progress guidance by Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (the member of staff within a school who has the day to day responsibility for the provision made for pupils with SEN).
- Information sharing, including Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator conferences, focusing on successful interventions.
- Increasing challenge and support through School Improvement Partners.

### Priority 4: Ensuring that children and young people are safe and feel safe, enabling them to build resilience and personal confidence

#### Progress against Improvement Plan activities:



### Summary

The last year has seen additional pressure on services supporting some of the county's most vulnerable children and young people, as the numbers of children in care and children with child protection plans increased (see page 6). At the same time, all those working to safeguard children and young people have striven to maintain, or improve, the quality of these services. A significant range of improvement activities have resulted in better outcomes for children in care (with a reduction in the percentage moving placements three or more times in a year) and children with child protection plans (with a notable reduction in the number subject to a plan for a second time). However, improving the timeliness of assessments for children's social care will be a focus over the next year.

### Key achievements

- Improving outcomes for children in care, including considerable progress against the 'Pledge' (the six areas children in care want to see improved).
- Strengthening safeguarding (including appointing an Independent Chair for Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board); promptly addressing recommendations from inspection; and maintaining high quality services during a period of increased demand.
- Significantly reducing the percentage of school pupils who report being bullied, exceeding the target set in the CYPP.
- Building support mechanisms for young carers.
- Developing a new Children's Trust Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy (see Section 3).

### Children in care

There were 1,104 children in care on 31 March 2010 (an increase of 6% from October 2008). A co-ordinated approach to improving outcomes for children in care across the five Every Child Matters outcomes has been led by the multi-agency Care Matters Implementation Board. The Board is responsible for managing performance against the Implementation Plan and achieving the Children in Care Pledge.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

<b>Key improvement activities implemented in 2009/10:</b>	
Improved 'corporate parenting' (the collective responsibility of the County Council to provide the best possible care and protection for children in care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of a new Children and Families Advisory Panel, chaired by Assistant to Executive Lead Member for Children's Services, to improve communication between children and young people in care and Elected Members. The Panel also has a support and challenge role, with regular reports presented on progress in improving outcomes for children in care, including a new annual report.</li> <li>Recruitment of five Care Ambassadors – a new paid role for young people who are/have been in care. They are the key link between the Care Council and Children's Services/Children and Families Advisory Panel. In addition, they will work to improve participation of children and young people in care on an area basis.</li> </ul>
Improved care planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved auditing procedure for Children's Services.</li> <li>Increased monitoring of the quality of care plans by the Independent Reviewing Service.</li> <li>Training for social work staff to improve care planning.</li> <li>Updating of Children's Services Department procedures to reflect new legislation and statutory guidance on care planning.</li> </ul>
Increased placement stability and choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of a placement stability improvement plan, including parenting programmes for foster carers.</li> </ul>
Expansion of the Intensive Support Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service has been established in the North and East and Western areas of the county (already in place in South East). It works with children and families to prevent them entering care; or prevent placement breakdown.</li> </ul>
Increased integrated approach to education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See priority 3 (page 24).</li> </ul>

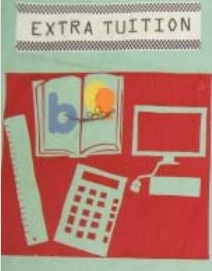
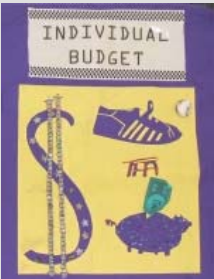

### Impact of improvement activities

The proportion of children in care experiencing three or more placement moves in one year has steadily fallen during 2009/10 (NI 62), from 16.4% in 2008/09 to 13.9% in 2009/10 (provisional data). Plans are in place to support further improvement in 2010/11, outlined under 'next steps', below.



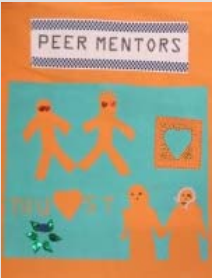
## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Children in Care Pledge

Significant progress has been demonstrated against the Pledge, as shown below.

Children and young people in care want:	Children's Services have:
 <p>EXTRA TUITION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensured that each school has a Designated Teacher who can actively support children in care. To-date, approximately 300 Designated Teachers have attended training on identifying the needs of children in care.</li> <li>• Provided £500 a year to Hampshire schools for each child in care and worked with them to decide how the money is best spent to meet each child's educational needs. Findings indicate that schools mainly use the funding for extra tuition; educational trips; and study materials such as revision guides.</li> <li>• Provided laptops, mobile broadband and a printer for 820 children in care and care leavers (over the age of eight).</li> <li>• Provided Personal Education Allowances for children educated outside of Hampshire – applications have ranged from laptops and personal tuition to sports equipment.</li> <li>• Given children in care priority for school places.</li> </ul>
 <p>INDIVIDUAL BUDGET</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Made sure that decisions about requests for money are made quickly for children and young people living in foster or residential care, so that they do not lose out on things like school trips.</li> <li>• Provided free access to Hampshire County Council parks and attractions for foster carers (through the Culture All passport) and free entry to Intech science centre and Marwell Zoo for children in care.</li> <li>• Begun discussions to access free, or reduced rate entry, to sports and leisure centres for children and young people in care.</li> <li>• Provided free music tuition through Hampshire Music Service.</li> </ul>
 <p>CARE COUNCIL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed a website which enables children in care to have their say.</li> <li>• Recruited five Care Ambassadors, assigned to local teams, to promote more local engagement of children and young people in care. They are also the key link between the children in care and the new Children and Families Advisory Panel (Hampshire's corporate parenting group).</li> </ul>

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Children and young people in care want:	Children's Services have:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restructured local social work teams, forming dedicated Children in Care Teams, so that children and young people in care can have a consistent social worker wherever possible.</li> <li>Recruited additional Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs), to ensure that all children in care have a named IRO.</li> <li>Developed the advocacy service, staffed by Hampshire County Council volunteers, providing support to help young people voice their views at meetings and influence the decisions that affect them.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enabled young people to choose to stay in residential or foster care until 18.</li> <li>Reduced the number of placement moves children and young people in care experience.</li> <li>Recruited additional foster carers (55 additional carers recruited since 2008) and provided more support for carers.</li> <li>Developed foster carer 'profiles' so that children and young people have information about the family they are going to live with, before they arrive.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to provide opportunities for 'buddying' as part of the Summer School scheme at the University of Winchester.</li> <li>Recruited five Care Ambassadors – young people who are/have been in care to act as representatives of children in care.</li> </ul>

### Safeguarding

Improvements have been demonstrated in safeguarding, during a period of increased demand for services. Between October 2008 and September 2009 referrals increased by 70%; the number of open social work cases increased by 10%; and the number of children subject to a child protection plan increased by 37%. The number of children subject to a child protection plan stood at 636 on 31 March 2010.

Key improvement activities implemented during 2009/10:	
Increased capacity for direct work with children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hampshire County Council allocated an additional £1.2 million to safeguarding in order to recruit additional support staff, releasing qualified social worker time to spend working directly with children and young people. 28 additional social care admin support staff and family support workers were recruited as a result (a 10% increase).</li> <li>A recent survey of Hampshire's social work teams found that,</li> </ul>

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

<b>Key improvement activities implemented during 2009/10:</b>	
	on average, the support staff deliver savings per social worker hour of £3.99 (admin staff) and £5.34 (family support workers).
Improved performance management and scrutiny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of the Children and Families Advisory Panel, offering support and challenge by Elected Members. The Panel is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Children's Services Department in safeguarding children.</li> </ul>
Improved quality of child protection plans and recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of revised Safeguarding Policy for Children's Services Department, supporting consistency in the quality of assessment, planning and recording across the county.</li> <li>Implementation of new case file auditing procedure, to drive continuous improvement in the quality of child protection plans.</li> </ul>
Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance has been strengthened through the appointment of an Independent Chair. In addition, all statutory partners now have a Board member (including representation from schools and colleges).</li> <li>A training strategy and standards have been developed, with inter-agency training reaching 1,544 staff in 2009/10.</li> <li>A basic safeguarding awareness 'e-learning' course has been developed and made available to the entire children's workforce in Hampshire.</li> <li>Three Serious Case Reviews were completed in 2009/10 – Ofsted judged that two were <i>satisfactory</i> and one was <i>good</i> (the grade is based on whether the review has succeeded in identifying lessons to be learned and the action that needs to be taken to improve the protection of children in the future).</li> </ul>
Addressed areas for improvement from Ofsted unannounced inspection of arrangements for contact, referral and assessment (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caseloads have been reduced in the children in need team.</li> <li>Monthly workload data is now collated and monitored, with caseload discussions regularly taking place in area management meetings.</li> <li>Senior managers undertake quarterly scrutiny to ensure that there is a consistent approach to caseload management across the county and re-align resources where necessary.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New inter-agency thresholds for services for children in need, have now been implemented.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements have been put in place for screening referrals, including the recruitment of a social work team within the Hantsdirect contact centre.</li> </ul>

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Key improvement activities implemented during 2009/10:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referral and Assessment Teams have new processes in place to ensure that referring agencies receive written receipt of referral and that feedback on the outcome of initial assessments is provided to families and referrers.</li> <li>Improvement has been evidenced in the proportion of referrals going on to initial assessment, which has remained steady throughout the year, showing consistency in the referrals passed through Hantsdirect to referral and assessment teams.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three courses for social workers and team managers on the quality of initial and core assessments were delivered to 184 members of staff in March 2010.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision of social work staff has been strengthened through the revision of the relevant policy and implementation of a new supervision audit tool, which aims to monitor the quality of supervision processes. The refreshed policy will ensure that management decisions are captured in records.</li> <li>A new Quality Improvement Framework for Safeguarding has introduced a new cycle of audit and self-assessment in the Children's Services Department, providing a quarterly snapshot of the quality of case planning and recording (including management decisions).</li> </ul>

**Impact of improvement activities:** There has been significant reduction in the proportion of children who are subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time (NI 65), which fell from 17% in 2008/09 to 10.9% for the 12 months to the end of March 2010 (monitoring data). This performance exceeds the target for 2009/10 (13%).

### Bullying

The proportion of children who report being bullied (NI 69) has fallen from 52.3% in 2008/09 to 31.7% in 2009/10 (according to the Tellus4 pupil survey).

Hampshire's multi-agency Children and Young People's Anti-Bullying Strategy Group has been highlighted nationally as an example of promising practice (*Research in practice: performance pointers*, October 2009). During 2009/10, a new anti-bullying strategy has been successfully implemented, including guidance to schools, a directory of good practice and training courses to school governors and PSAs. In addition, new anti-bullying information and a leaflet are available on the Hampshire County Council website for young people 'YouthTube' (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/bullying-yp.htm>).

### Anti-bullying conference

87 school staff attended Hampshire's 2009 anti-bullying conference, held as part of national anti-bullying week.

Young people were a key element of the day, showcasing their work including

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

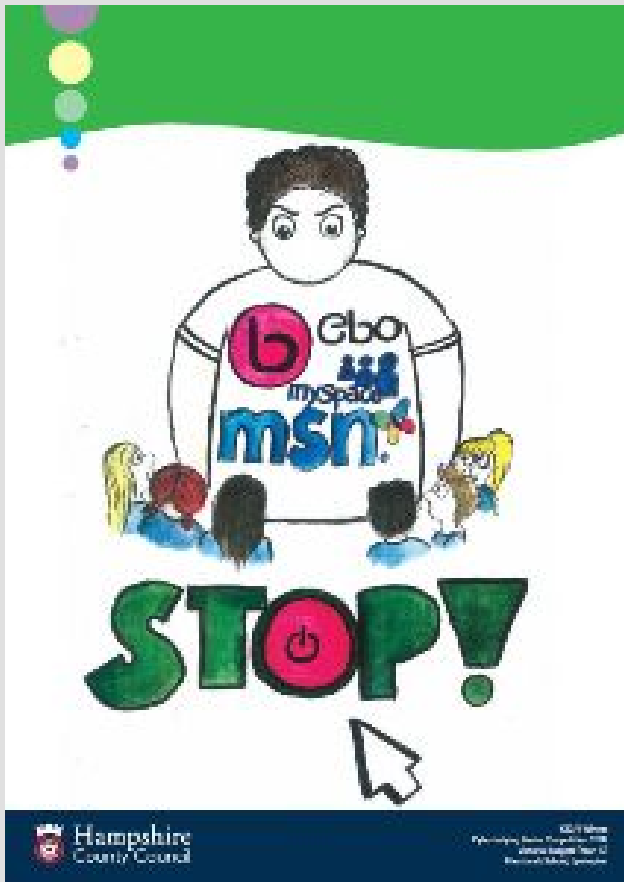
monologues, anti-bullying posters (based on the theme of cyber-bullying) and a moving dance/drama. The monologues and posters were the winning entries from two competitions run in conjunction with the conference.

Comments on the conference included:

*"A good day with lots of empowering information."*

*"Brilliant monologues by pupils, brilliant to have young people's work."*

The 2010 conference will be for young people, by young people – to be co-ordinated by Hampshire County Youth Council (HCYC).



The winning anti-bullying poster for Key Stage 3/4 (2009)

### Young carers

The Children's Society is working with Hampshire County Council to develop the role and work of 'school leads' in Hampshire. The aims of the programme include:

- raising awareness and informing practice so that young carers will have the same access to education and career choices as their peers;
- promoting, training and supporting Designated School Leads for young carers in all schools in Hampshire;
- ensuring the inclusion of the needs of young carers and their family within all school policies across Hampshire;
- enabling Hampshire schools to identify external support for pupils who have caring responsibilities.

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### Young carers group

In 2009, Aldworth Science College in Basingstoke employed a new home school link worker to work with young carers and school staff, as part of their extended services offer (see page 27). They provide support to pupils who are young carers in various ways, including setting up support groups; following up on absences; and resolving homework issues.

The school runs the only young carers group in the town. 27 young carers from the school meet on a weekly basis during and after school. Meetings include discussion about the week so far and taking part in a chosen activity. A grief and loss group was also created following the death of two parents. This group, which is also for pupils whose parents have separated, meets weekly to explore and express their feelings and concerns without the fear of upsetting close family members.

The students have bonded very well and support each other in times of difficulty. They have learnt to compromise and share their ideas in an appropriate manner.

One pupil said *"It feels good to come to school knowing that people do listen to you and feel safe as well."*

### Areas for renewed focus

- Timeliness of assessments for children in need of safeguarding, which has worsened during 2009/10 due to increased demand for services.

**Table 3: Key National Indicators for the timeliness of assessments, 2008/09 and 2009/10 (provisional)**

National Indicator	2008/09	2009/10 (provisional)
NI 59: percentage of initial assessments completed within seven working days of referral	65%	56.5%
Percentage of initial assessments completed within 10 working days of referral	76.1%	68.4%
NI 60: percentage of core assessments completed within 35 working days of commencement	83%	77.7%

- Continued improvements in placement stability in order to meet the 2010/11 target of 11%.
- Development of integrated domestic abuse services, which include prevention, education and support for children and young people.

### Next steps

- Recruiting additional foster carers to meet rising numbers of children in care and support the needs of particular groups, including teenagers.
- Increasing access to specialist training and support for foster carers.
- Improving the quality of care planning in line with new regulations and guidance.
- Embedding the new Quality Improvement Framework for Safeguarding and Services for Children in Care/Care Leavers, including annual self-assessment,

## **Section 2 - Progress against priorities**

regular monitoring of quality through local performance action groups, and new case file auditing procedure.

- Continuing to improve the quality of child protection plans and consistency of assessments through regular audit and training.
- Developing a multi-agency Hampshire Domestic Abuse Strategy (led by Hampshire Domestic Abuse Forum).



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

regional approaches). Consortia are engaged in developing strategies for information, advice and guidance; virtual learning environments; and diplomas.

### Key facts 2009/10:

- The local area prospectus (including Portsmouth) now contains over 4,500 entries.
- Four consortia now use a common application process.
- 100% of Hampshire's further education colleges, sixth form schools and sixth form colleges inspected between 1 September 2009 and 31 March 2010 were found to be *good* or *outstanding*.
- The most recent figures show an increase in the percentage of young people achieving a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (NI 79) – from 75.8% in 2006/07 to 79.7% in 2008/09.
- The percentage of young people achieving a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19 (NI 80) increased slightly between 2007/08 and 2008/09 (from 54.1% to 54.9%), remaining higher than the national average (49.4% in 2008/09).



- Eight types of 14-19 diploma were available from September 2009.
- 99.97% of Year 11s had a guaranteed place for post-16 education in September 2009 (an increase from 91.3% in the previous year).
- 99.93% of Year 12s had a guaranteed place for post-16 education in September 2009 (a significant increase from 84.1% in the previous year).

Responsibility for commissioning 16-19 education transferred to local authorities in April 2010 (previously led by the Learning and Skills Council). Hampshire County Council is currently drafting a strategy for 16-19 provision in the county, which will aim to ensure that sufficient courses are commissioned for those with specific needs/vulnerable groups.

Hampshire County Council launched a one-year Corporate Apprenticeship Scheme pilot in 2009. 20 apprentices, aged between 16 and 24, started work in December 2009. The aim is to develop the skills of young residents in the county, to provide them with the very best opportunities to develop their careers and contribute to the Hampshire economy. Apprentices work for a year in County Council departments, including: Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs; Property, Business and Regulatory Services; Chief Executives; and Adult Services. They spend five days a week in the work place with regular visits from a training provider, where they will work on numeracy and literacy skills, a technical certificate and a Level 2 NVQ.

Jenny Damerell, 19, from Eastleigh has been working within the Adult Services Department at Malmesbury Lawn care home, in Havant, for around six months.

*Jenny said "All the people are lovely and I find the work interesting, sometimes challenging, but always rewarding. When I was a little girl, I knew I needed to be helping people...In the future I am looking to be a social worker, ultimately in Children's Services, so I am pleased I have gathered experience from Adult Services first. I think the more experience I can get, the better."*

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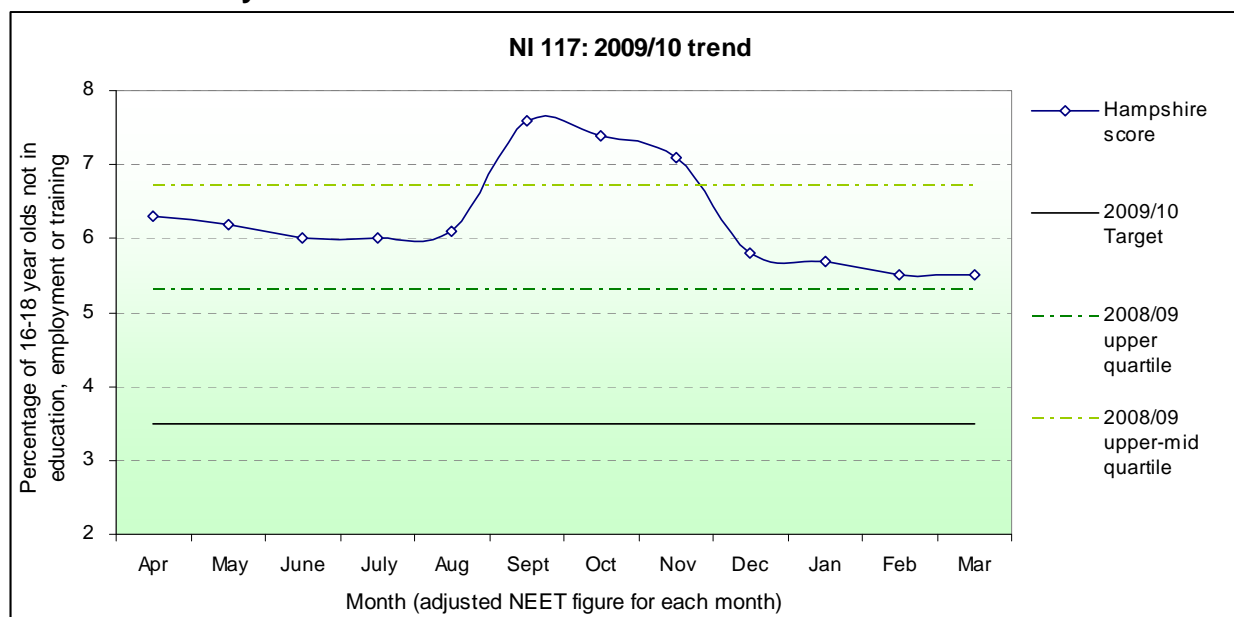
### 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training

Targeted activities have successfully reduced the percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) during the continued economic downturn. A new NEET strategy is being developed in partnership with Jobcentre Plus; providers of 14-19 education; children's centres; and the voluntary and community sector.

Key improvement activities:	
<b>Specific/ targeted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging young people to undertake Entry to Employment courses.</li> <li>• Holding job fairs and special events.</li> <li>• Encouraging local businesses to take part in initiatives.</li> <li>• Key Stage 4 summer programme for those who have just left school but do not have a place in education or employment.</li> <li>• District based projects to engage hard to reach NEET, including sports and activities programmes.</li> </ul>
<b>Preventative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CV writing and interview skills.</li> <li>• Personal development programmes.</li> <li>• Key Stage 4 engagement programme to support Year 11 pupils who are struggling to stay in school (in Eastleigh, 96% of those who completed the programme in 2009 have gone on to further education, employment or training).</li> <li>• Community based drop in provision.</li> </ul>

**Impact:** The proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET (NI 117) reduced from 6.3% in 2008/09 to 5.6% in 2009/10 (provisional figures), almost reaching pre-recession figures. With the exception of the normal increase in NEET around the autumn term, the percentage of NEET young people in Hampshire has fallen month on month, shown in the chart below.

**Chart 8: Monthly NEET data 2009/10**



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Connexions summer 'on track' project

Hampshire's 'on track' project is designed to help Year 11 pupils likely to lose interest in education during the summer holidays between school and college. It has an emphasis on children in care, minority ethnic groups and those without a guaranteed place for education in the following September.

In summer 2009, 14-19 consortia allocated funding for the scheme. A total of 82 young people took part, achieving a range of Level 1 qualifications, including first aid; volunteering; food hygiene; residential and adventure short course award (British Army); Royal Yachting Association competent crew certificate and Level 1 power boating.

In one consortium, eight out of 10 participants are now pursuing courses in college, while one received ongoing support and another secured a part time job and was exploring apprenticeships. In a second consortium, seven out of 10 participants are now enrolled in college; two are receiving ongoing support and two are on Entry to Employment courses.

### Aiming High for Disabled Children

Hampshire continues to successfully deliver the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme in the county, with strong participation of parents, children and young people (awarded Change Champion status). To date, all targets within the programme have been achieved.

#### Progress in 2009/10:

##### Information hubs – Parent Voice

Parent Voice includes three new information hubs opened during 2009 – covering North and East Hampshire; Western Hampshire; and South East Hampshire. This is a specialist information and participation service for all parents and carers of children with disabilities and/or additional needs in Hampshire. The aim is to provide families with the right information at the right time, according to need, and to enable families to have their say about local services. This includes helping parents and carers to influence the way existing services are developed and to identify where services are needed but do not currently exist.

The hubs are run by children's charities Barnardos and the Rose Road Association, with parents and carers heavily involved in governance and monitoring. Each hub includes staff who are parents of disabled children.

The service offers families:

- a website dedicated to services and resources for families of children with disabilities living in Hampshire - [www.parentvoice.info](http://www.parentvoice.info);
- a monthly newsletter, keeping parents up to date with the latest news;
- coffee mornings and other events where parents can meet the Parent Voice team and other parents;
- opportunities to take part in consultations and decision

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Progress in 2009/10:	
	<p>making processes regarding local services;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>information and advice, about any aspect of bringing up a child with a disability.</li> </ul>
<b>Transition</b>	<p>A co-ordinated approach to transition between Hampshire County Council's Children's Services and Adult Services has improved planning for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>developing a single transition process that statutory plans can feed into;</li> <li>appointment of a transition team manager and development of a 'virtual team' across Children's and Adult Services;</li> <li>establishment of an Elected Member led Transition Board to oversee improvements;</li> <li>introducing a lead professional to work with a young person through transition.</li> </ul> <p>100% of eligible young people aged 14+ have a transition plan (Hampshire County Council data for April 2009-January 2010).</p>
<b>Short breaks</b>	<p>1,104 children accessed short breaks through extended services, in and around schools, during 2009/10. Full details of the short break offer were publicised in new leaflets for families and providers (<a href="http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/specialneeds/aiminghigh.htm">http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/specialneeds/aiminghigh.htm</a>).</p>

### Aiming High for Disabled Children – participation

The views of disabled children and young people are vital to developing services as part of Aiming High for Disabled Children. These processes are well established in Hampshire, with examples including:

- A DVD and training programme devised by young people. The aim is to help specialists understand their issues around transition from Children's Services to Adult Services.
- Increasing the number of disabled young people who are 'CAT Mark' assessors. CAT Mark is a young person's charter mark, in which services are evaluated from a young person's point of view.
- Integration of disabled young people into the mainstream participation agenda, including membership of the youth parliament and youth groups.
- A 'Youth Action' group, engaging young people in plans for provision.



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### Young offenders

All of the 11 district council areas in Hampshire have shown a reduction in first time entrants to the youth justice system (NI 111). The level of first-time offending in the county fell by 11% between 2007/08 and 2008/09 (from 1,520 per 100,000 young people aged 10-17 to 1,340). Youth Inclusion Support Panels are available throughout Hampshire, offering a range of preventative activities including arts, sports and environmental projects e.g. Rushmoor in Bloom and Rubbish Canoeing (where young people collect rubbish from waterways using canoes). There are strong links with the Hampshire Community Safety Strategic Partnership and close working with parenting support services.

In the last two years, the number of young people receiving a custodial sentence has fallen from 109 to 88 in 2009 in Hampshire, a 19.3% reduction (NI 43). Over the same period, the numbers of children in care receiving a custodial sentence has fallen by 57% (from 14 to 6). The significant decrease in the use of custodial sentences has been largely due to innovative 'custody panels', which review each case and lesson learnt each time a young person goes into custody.

#### Reducing use of custody for young offenders

The pilot initiative in North Hampshire reduced the rate of custodial sentences by 42% in one year (2008/09) and is now being used in other authorities.

Children's Services, the Youth Offending Team, Action for Children and the Howard League for Penal Reform, formed an expert panel to review all custodial sentences of 12 months or less, to see if action could have been taken to avoid custody. The aim was to reduce the use of short custodial sentences, where a stringent community penalty would have been just as successful, but cause less disruption to the child/young person's home life, education and emotional well-being.

As a result of the pilot, staff have developed an enthusiasm for critical appraisal and a real team ethos and determination to improve professional practice. Inter-agency communication and an understanding of each other's roles has also been gained.

Custody panels now operate in all areas of Hampshire.

In 2009, Wessex Youth Offending Team established an Integrated Resettlement Scheme. This has included the appointment of resettlement workers in each of the four operational teams in Hampshire, as well as the secondment of a Housing Manager from ROCC (the Resettlement of Offenders Co-ordinating Committee), a voluntary sector organisation who provide support and advice on accommodation issues for young people leaving custody. The Youth Offending Team also has a dedicated Connexions manager leading on education, training and employment issues. The percentage of young offenders engaged in education, employment or training is expected to have increased slightly during 2009/10 (data not yet available).

### Playbuilder

Over the last year, 16 new or refurbished play areas have been opened in Hampshire as part of the 'Playbuilder' project. The new play areas aim to provide opportunities for children aged between eight and 13 years old and their families, with a particular focus on increasing the inclusion of girls, ethnic minorities and children with disabilities into

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

outdoor play. All sites meet the 'three frees' principles: free access; free from cost; and freedom to choose. Work has been led by district councils, in consultation with parents, children and young people, schools, play settings and community groups. Another 9 play areas are due to be completed as part of the programme.

### Completed play areas:

Basingstoke	Bernstein Road Play Area; Strokins Road Play Area (Kingsclere); Eastrop Park*
Test Valley	Longstock Village Play Area
Eastleigh	Leigh Road Recreation Ground; St Johns Recreation Ground
East Hants	Hollybrook Park*
Havant	Longwood Park
Gosport	Alver Valley
New Forest	Damerham Recreation Ground; Fawley and Blackfield Recreation Ground
Rushmoor	King George V Recreation Ground; Aldershot Park*
Test Valley	East Tytherley Play Area; Wherwell Recreation Ground
Winchester	Soberton Village Play Area

\* these three sites also received enhanced capital funding through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme.

The percentage of children and young people in the county who report being happy with parks and play areas increased from 45.1% in 2008 to 53.2% in 2009 (according to the Tellus4 pupil survey).

### Musical and cultural activities

An increasing proportion of Hampshire's children and young people are involved in musical and cultural activities. In 2009/10, the number of schools taking part in 'Listen2Me' increased to 266 – almost 100 more than the target. The programme provides Key Stage 2 children with the opportunity to learn an instrument through whole class teaching. Hampshire Music Service offers tuition and provides equipment and



necessary resources on a choice of three different instruments, with one term spent on each. This unique approach enables children to make an informed choice about going on to learn an instrument at a higher level. Instrument choices include brass, voice, strings, keyboard, clarinet, samba, African percussion, recorder and ukulele.

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Hampshire County Council is responsible for a huge and diverse range of collections on show in 19 museums and historic sites spread throughout the county. The Museums Service use real museum objects to provide relevant and memorable learning opportunities for children and young people. This includes SEARCH (the hands on centre for history and natural sciences in Gosport) and Milestones (the living history museum in Basingstoke). In addition, outreach is provided to schools in rural areas.

### Key facts 2009/10:

- 38,561 pupils took part in group visits to Hampshire's museums;
- 24,700 pupils participated in group visits to the county's countryside;
- 3,764 pupils took part in museum outreach sessions;
- 360 young volunteers worked in museums as part of the EDGE Young Volunteers Project (a Hampshire Museums and Galleries Trust initiative to engage young people in cultural activity and volunteering).

### Areas for renewed focus

- Increasing the proportion of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in education, employment or training. The most recent data (March 2010) shows that:
  - 16% of young people whose ethnicity was unknown were NEETs;
  - 4% of young people whose ethnicity was other than White were NEET;
  - 9.3% of young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities were NEET.
- Increasing the numbers of care leavers in education, employment or training (NI 148). The recession appears to have had a significant impact on the number of care leavers in education, employment or training, which has fallen during 2009/10 (from 64.1% in 2008/09 to 47.7% in 2009/10 – provisional data).
- Reducing the number of children in care who offend. Monitoring figures for 2009/10 suggest a slight increase from 2008/09 (end of year data not yet available), however this is partly due to some temporary problems with exchanging data in February 2010.

### Next steps

- Further developing apprenticeships and work experience opportunities within the County Council.
- Working with employers and district councils economic development units.
- Increasing choice and providing more flexible pathways from 16-19 (to be developed as the Local Authority assumes responsibility for commissioning).
- Undertaking a consultation on transport for accessing 14-19 education (in 2009 a consultant was appointed lead on this work with the County Council's Environment Department).
- Improving the provision of careers and education information, advice and guidance directly to young people.

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- Working with charity *Catch 22* to identify and address any gaps in opportunities for care leavers.
- Ensuring that every care leaver has access to individual one to one support through local care leaver teams and Connexions Personal Advisers.
- Improving the quality and consistency of pathway plans (which establish the support to be provided to prepare young people for leaving care, including housing and education).
- Establishing a joint working group between Children's Services and Adult Services to ensure continuity of support for care leavers, where required.
- Inviting Connexions Personal Advisers to reviews of care plans so that they are involved in joint working to identify the needs of children in care at an early stage.
- Participating in the 'U R Boss' scheme, a ground breaking youth justice project that provides an enhanced legal service shaped by and for young people in custody and those recently released into the community (co-ordinated by the Howard League for Penal Reform).



## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

Schools participating in RRR have reported that:

- lessons have become more creative and relevant to the children;
- the children find it easier to express their ideas and demonstrate empathy;
- class charters help teamwork and make the school a better place;
- it has brought everyone together more as a school;
- children feel they have a real voice in the school and are always included;
- a reduction in the number of exclusions;
- fewer incidents of inappropriate behaviour in class and at break times;
- increased peer responsibility for the well-being of others within the community, with the use of peer mentoring to support some of the more challenging pupils.

### Portchester Community School

In March 2010, Portchester Community School became the first secondary school in the UK to reach Level 2 of the RRSA. UNICEF accreditors judged it to be a *benchmark* for all other schools.

RRR students lead their school classmates in work on Fair Trade; assemblies in local junior schools; collecting names for a petition for better facilities on a local recreation ground; changing the perception of local leaders about the needs of young people; and working with the County Council on developing safeguarding policies for the school.

The school's commitment to international partnership is exemplary. Not only have students visited a South African school to work on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, but a different group have worked in the same school on developing their own Caribbean-based steel band.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Maggie Atkinson, visited Portchester in May 2010. After the visit, which also included Harrison Primary School, she wrote enthusiastically on her blog about RRR in Hampshire, saying "*...as I heard how students had engaged with business people, politicians and older people in their community, I thought these are people making things happen!...These children and young people will be community leaders when adults!*"

([http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/blog/content\\_336](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/blog/content_336)).

### Child friendly communities

Hampshire Children's Trust is one of 12 pilot local authorities or Children's Trusts participating in a new UNICEF pilot to develop Child Friendly Communities. Like RRR, the project is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Hampshire's pilot is based in the Andover area, which already had strong commitment to becoming a Rights, Respecting Town. The seven elements of the framework are:

- a child rights charter;
- professional development on rights-respecting behaviour for the children's workforce;
- independent advocacy and championing of all children through a local commissioner or ombudsman;

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

- changing the public's perception of children and their rights;
- all settings that work with children and young people putting rights-respecting behaviour at the heart of the values and ethos of their work;
- strategic planning for the development of the Children's Trust that has children's rights at its heart;
- an assessment of the impact of all work within the trust on children's rights.

The success of the project will be monitored on a regular basis by the Children's Trust and UNICEF UK.

### Areas for renewed focus

- Raising attainment of underachieving BME groups. The most recent data (2008/09) shows a mixed picture depending on ethnicity, with notable improvements at Key Stage 2 for Black African and White/Black African; and White and Asian. In addition, improvements were evidenced at Key Stage 4 for White and Asian; any other mixed; and Indian. However, there was a fall in attainment for most other ethnicities, as shown in the table below.

**Table 4: Percentage of BME pupils achieving national standards at Key Stage 2 and 4, 2007/08 and 2008/09**

Ethnicity	Percentage achieving Level 4 in English and maths at Key Stage 2		Percentage achieving five or more A*-C grades at GCSE, including English and maths (Key Stage 4)	
	2007/08	2008/09	2007/08	2008/09
Hampshire – all pupils	74.0%	75.0%	53.8%	55.4%
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller	34.6	30.8%	0.0	0.0%
Any other White background	72.2	76.8%	69.1	56.0%
Black Caribbean	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*
White/Black Caribbean	81.4	69.1%	51.1	N/A*
Black African and White/Black African	62.0	76.1%	56.9	51.5%
Any other Black background	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*
Pakistani	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*
White British	75.0	74.8%	53.9	55.5%
Irish	N/A*	90.3%	N/A*	N/A*
White and Asian	79.3	94.2%	70.7	76.3%
Any other mixed	78.2	80.7%	55.2	58.0%
Indian	87.0	81.9%	72.7	77.8%
Bangladeshi	N/A*	69.2%	N/A*	N/A*
Other Asian background	68.8	60.3%	44.9	39.9%
Chinese	85.3	77.1%	83.3	77.8%
Any other ethnic group	80.6	69.6%	N/A*	46.7%

\* Data is not published where the cohort of pupils is less than 30

## Section 2 - Progress against priorities

### Next steps

- Implementing a pilot programme to support potentially vulnerable Traveller pupils through transition from primary to secondary school (evaluation to be completed by May 2011).
- Continuing the award winning Community Language Taster and Young Interpreters schemes, co-ordinated by Hampshire Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS).
- Completing the final phase of the National Strategies Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement Programme, which aims to improve rates of attendance, reduce exclusions and raise attainment. A small number of targeted schools in the Swanmore cluster have been identified to take part. The programme will also involve pre-schools and the local children's centre.
- Increasing recording of pupils ethnicity by providing guidance and support to school staff who handle admissions, as well as parents.

### **Community Language Tasters and Young Interpreters**

In June 2010, Hampshire's EMTAS won a joint award for these two innovative projects in community languages.

Community Language Tasters is a project that helps raise awareness of, and celebrates, the 124 different languages spoken across Hampshire. Bilingual tutors visit primary schools to deliver a series of taster language sessions, with the aim of inspiring young pupils to welcome the world during the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The Young Interpreter scheme trains pupils to become interpreters to support fellow students who are learning English as an Additional Language. The benefits to both sets of children are evident - new learners feel supported and young interpreters take on a key role in the school community, enabling them to develop both their communication and interpersonal skills.

## Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’

### Improvement processes

The CYPP recognises that further improvements are needed in the way services for children and young people are planned and delivered. The guiding principle is putting the needs of children, young people and families first and ensuring provision is both seamless and of the highest quality. This section provides an update on progress against improvement processes.

#### (a) Rigorous and robust local safeguarding arrangements

All agencies that work with children share a commitment to safeguard and promote their welfare. Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB - [www.4lsbc.org.uk](http://www.4lsbc.org.uk)) co-ordinates the work of all partners with responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

HSCB has been strengthened during 2009/10, reflecting the revised statutory guidance *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (2010). The Board now has an Independent Chair and full representation from all statutory partners. Consultation with young people informed a new Business Plan for 2010-12, with priorities including:

- updating policies and procedures in line with *Working Together to Safeguard Children*;
- participating in the planning of services, including undertaking an inter-agency training needs analysis and completing an annual report to inform local planning and commissioning of services;
- communicating the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- monitoring the effectiveness of safeguarding in Hampshire, including case file audits and reviews of data.

Three Serious Case Reviews were completed in 2009/10 – Ofsted judged that two were *satisfactory* and one was *good* (based on whether the review has succeeded in identifying lessons to be learned and the action that needs to be taken to improve the protection of children in the future).

The first annual report of the Safeguarding Children Board will be presented to the Children’s Trust Board in September 2010.

#### (b) The engagement of children and young people in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services and provision

In Hampshire, all children and young people have the opportunity to participate in decisions which affect their lives. They will have access to the services they need, when they need them and shape how these services are planned and delivered.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child underpins Hampshire’s participation strategy for listening and responding to the voices and ideas of children and young people and engaging them fully in the development of service provision, providing opportunities for personal growth and achievement.

## Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’

Hampshire’s participation strategy has been refreshed over the last year, providing an approach for engaging children and young people across the Children’s Trust. The strategy includes new activities to embed regular and meaningful participation for users of social care services (including children in care, care leavers, children with child protection plans and children with disabilities).

In 2009, the Audit Commission reported that “*children and young people’s views have changed the way services have developed. A Participation Team works with young people across all services. Youth Councils have been established across Hampshire. This approach has resulted, for example, in young carers being able to help design services to meet their needs.*” (Comprehensive Area Assessment)

LCPs are responsible for ensuring the participation of children and young people in service design, delivery and evaluation and are required to demonstrate this through their local delivery plans. Hampshire County Council’s Participation Team deliver a range of support across the Children’s Trust and LCPs, including:

- advice and guidance on the principles and benefits of participation;
- support to ensure that structures are in place to provide opportunities for all children and young people, including those most vulnerable, to participate meaningfully and effectively and affect changes in service delivery at a local level;
- high quality resources for use by LCP members;
- training, in conjunction with partners;
- opportunities for partners to engage in Hampshire’s Rights, Respect and Responsibilities programme;
- identification and sharing of good practice.

The Team also support Hampshire County Youth Council and the Care Ambassadors (see page 33).

### **Pupils with designs on their school**

In January 2010, 70 pupils and 30 teachers from secondary schools in Havant and Horndean attended a special workshop to design a school of the future.

The design workshop was held as part of Hampshire County Council’s ambitious BSF plans to transform secondary education.

Pupils and teachers worked with architects on a series of four practical, creative and fun activities aimed at teasing out ideas and inspiration. They explored the use of space to develop an awareness of good and bad design features using a variety of large-scale materials and equipment.

There was also a *Big Brother* style video diary room for pupils to record their views on BSF; what they hoped to gain from it and how they thought it would benefit their community.

The work will form the basis of design blueprints for the remodelling and refurbishment of schools. It will be taken back to schools to share with others and inspire further design work as the project progresses.

## Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’

### (c) Working in partnership with parents and carers and providing information, advice and support when needed

Supporting and engaging with parents and carers will ensure that services are accessible, inclusive and responsive to local needs. Progress over the last year includes:

- Launch of the Hampshire Family Information Directory ([www.familyinformationdirectory.hants.gov.uk](http://www.familyinformationdirectory.hants.gov.uk)), a new online directory offering parents and practitioners the ability to search for information about childcare and family services in their local community, in other neighbouring authority areas and nationally. The directory was developed in consultation with stakeholders and provides detailed search results, including maps.
- Expansion of parenting support services, accessible on a local basis dependent on need (see page 14)
- Development of a Children’s Trust Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy (see page 56)
- Parent/carers and community engagement in developing strategies for BSF (see page 54).
- Parents and carers as key partners in the development, delivery and governance of children’s centres (see page 8).



### (d) Building strong and inclusive Children’s Trust arrangements and pooling budgets for joint commissioning

The success of the Trust is dependent on a whole system approach to children’s services – recognising that no one individual, service or organisation can work alone to improve outcomes for all children and young people.

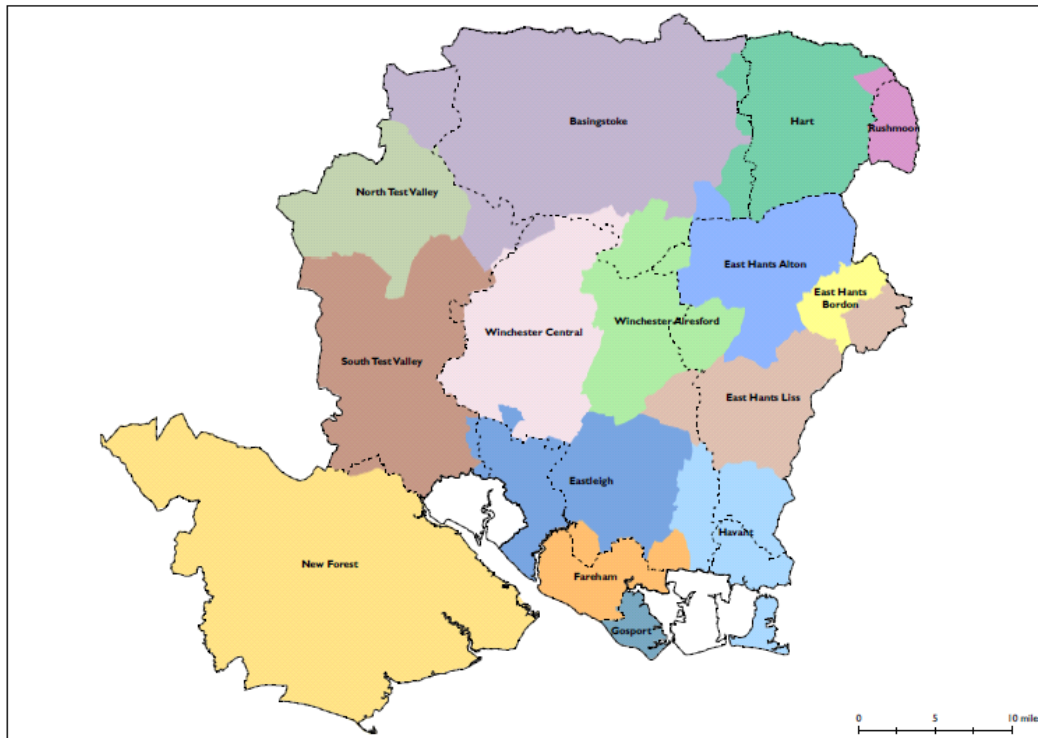
Significant progress has been made in strengthening Children’s Trust arrangements in the county during the last 12 months. New LCPs have been developed to deliver the CYP priorities at a local level and improve partnership working (meeting the extended statutory duty to co-operate). Partnerships began operation in April 2010 and are based upon direct involvement from all schools and partners in an area. LCPs are responsible for improving a wide range of outcomes (both educational and social) for children and young people. The core functions are:

- ensuring educational inclusion;
- strengthening and developing local networks;
- developing a detailed understanding of local needs and outcomes;
- co-ordinating local delivery of priorities defined at Children’s Trust Board level;
- influencing improvement in outcomes for all children and young people;

## Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’

- co-ordinating prevention and early intervention activities.

### LCP boundaries (based on secondary school catchment areas)



As LCPs develop, opportunities will exist for partners to consider pooling budgets for the delegation of management of services and devolution of some resources. A robust Performance Management Framework enables partnerships to focus on the most important issues locally and the action needed to realise improved outcomes for children and young people. Progress against local delivery plans will be reported to the Children's Trust Board on a six monthly basis.

### **(e) The strengthening of early intervention and prevention strategies through integrated working**

An integrated Children's Trust Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy has been developed during the last year. The vision states that:

Hampshire Children's Trust is committed to offering the right help at the right time so it is has more benefit and lasting impact. By taking this approach we are likely to be more successful in improving outcomes for children young people and their families.

The Strategy identifies a series of key aims for 2010-12, based on the following principles:

- prevention is preferable;
- interventions should be timely, with a focus on appropriate outcomes;
- services should start as early as possible to create the best environment for the child to thrive and be available across a broad spectrum of need e.g. children at risk of coming into care;

## Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’

- services should identify risks to children and young people as quickly and as early as possible and ensure that these are addressed;
- inequalities for children and their families should be reduced;
- there should be an integrated approach to services and support;
- services should be flexible and tailored to individual need (this could also be presented as ‘the personalisation of services’);
- services should be bold to tackle the issues that are most difficult and complex e.g. children in care;
- true partnership working is instrumental and fundamental to our vision;
- good quality information is vital;
- professionals and services have to work closely with parents and carers to build parenting and family capacity (pre and post birth).

In addition, a new Children’s Trust Thresholds Chart was recently published. In the coming year, LCPs will be central to delivering a partnership approach based on identified need.

### **(f) Closer working between early years settings, children’s centres, schools, colleges and partner organisations**

LCPs are the mechanism for strengthening collaborative working based on community need (see page 55).

### **(g) The provision of professional development opportunities to build the skills, expertise and capacity of all those working with children and young people in Hampshire**

Unlocking the potential and securing the well-being of every child and young person can only be delivered by skilled and motivated staff who achieve excellence in their specialism and work with each other and with parents and carers to improve outcomes.

Hampshire Children’s Trust continues to provide opportunities for joint training and professional development, sharing knowledge and learning from each other to develop the skills and understanding necessary in an integrated workforce. The Children and Young People’s Voluntary Alliance (‘The Alliance’) has worked closely with the Children’s Services Department to launch ‘Learn Together Work Together’, a programme designed to open up Children’s Services training to the voluntary sector. The initiative contributes to voluntary sector capacity-building through integrated training and adds significantly to the achievement of a unified local children’s workforce.

### **(h) The provision of effective support resources (including IT systems and business support processes)**

In order to support all professionals in the delivery of services, the provision of an underlying infrastructure of IT systems and efficient business processes is essential. In the last year, projects have included:

### **Section 3 – Progress against ‘making it happen’**

- improvements to the electronic records management system for children’s social care;
- establishment of processes for regular collection and analysis of attainment and attendance data for children in care;
- systems to enable BSF partners and stakeholders to share information.

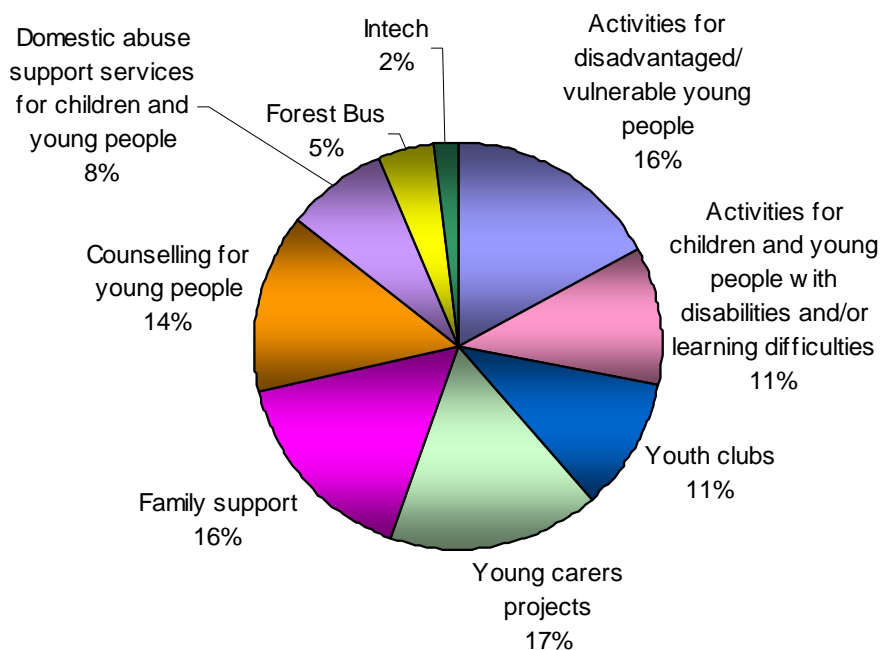
## Section 4 – Resources, commissioning and workforce

### Resources and commissioning

Effective, co-ordinated use of resources is vital for improving outcomes. Hampshire Children's Trust is working towards aligned budgets as part of Children's Trust and LCP developments. During the next year, the Trust will map the use of all partner resources in delivering the CYPP, ensuring that resources are directed to priorities.

In March 2010, Hampshire County Council approved £1.1 million of funding for voluntary, community and not for profit organisations to deliver services for children, young people and families. The Children's Services Integrated Grant Budget is an amalgamation of previously separate funding streams. 2010/11 is the second year that the new integrated system to grant and other funding for the voluntary and community sector has been used to provide a more transparent and accessible approach. The major proportion of the available funding is devolved to a district level, based on deprivation. All successful projects meet strict eligibility criteria, ensuring that the funding is aligned with CYPP priorities. The allocation of funding in March 2010 is shown by theme in the chart below.

**Chart 9: Children's Services Integrated Grant 2010/11 – round one (grants awarded over £5,000)**

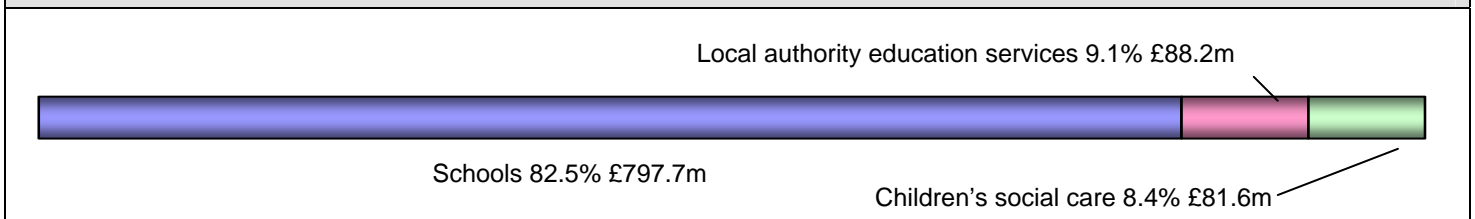


The Children's Services Department's spend in 2009/10 was £957.5 million (against an original budget of £970.2 million). Increases in the number of children and young people supported by the Department led to significant financial pressures (see pages 6, 31 and 34), which were successfully managed by reviewing support services expenditure and closely scrutinising staff recruitment. Spend was higher than forecast for out of county placements for children with SEN (due to an above inflation increase in costs); home to school transport (due to an increase in the number of children supported and rising fuel prices); and children in care.

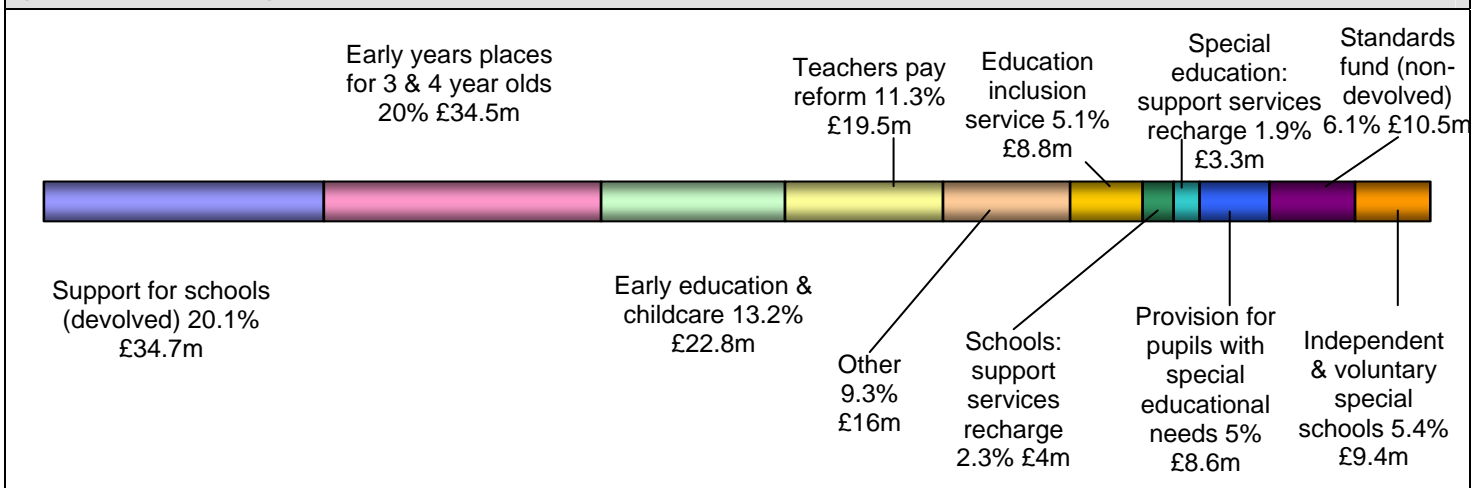
Actual spend for 2009/10 is detailed in charts 10-13, over the page.

## Section 4 – Resources, commissioning and workforce

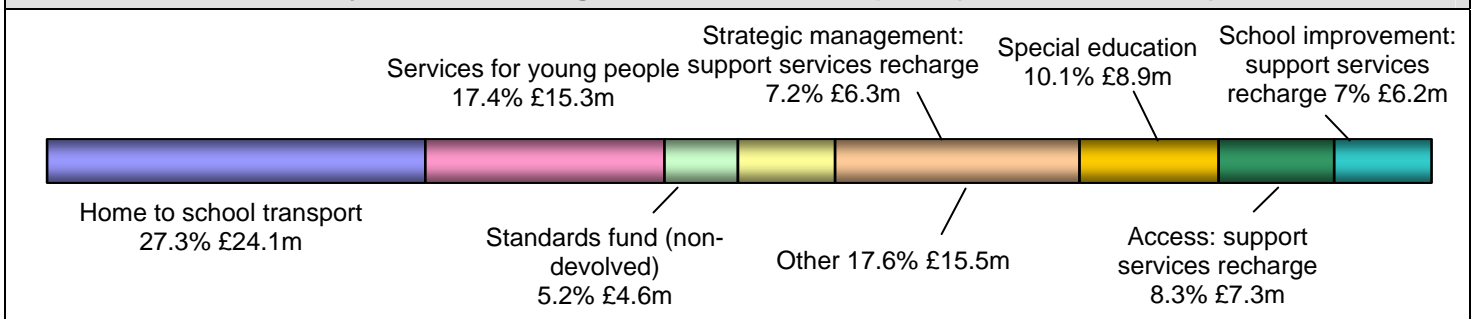
**Chart 10: Children’s Services Department budget – actual spend 2009/10 (total £967.5 million)**



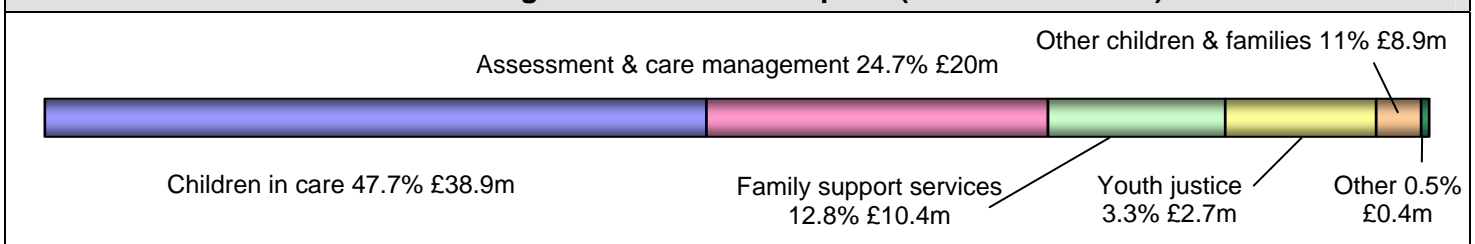
**Chart 11: Schools cash limited budgets (excluding individual school budgets) – actual spend 2009/10 (total £172 million)**



**Chart 12: Local authority education budget – 2009/10 actual spend (total £88.2 million)**



**Chart 13: Children’s social care budget – 2009/10 actual spend (total £81.6 million)**



The gross cash limited budget for 2010/11 is £1,002.6 million (agreed in January 2010, prior to the funding reductions announced by the Coalition Government). The Department is taking steps to reduce potential budget pressures by implementing strategies to reduce the need to bring children into care; and reviewing existing services to ensure they effectively meets the needs of children and young people whilst achieving value for money.

## Section 4 – Resources, commissioning and workforce

Hampshire County Council and NHS Hampshire are further developing the work of the Joint Child Health Commissioning Board (created in 2010 to enable a more focused approach to commissioning). A staged approach to strengthening arrangements was agreed in May 2010, to include:

- Formalising the structure to support joint commissioning – over the next two years, the Joint Child Health Commissioning Board will become the Child Health Joint Commissioning Board, which will make recommendations on priorities for service redesign and investment for overlapping health and social care services for children.
- Identification of key programme areas, delivered through agreed projects – four initial programme areas have been agreed: children in care; CAMHS; children with complex needs; and staying healthy – a joint commissioning strategy will be developed across these areas.
- Testing new ways of working and bringing together commissioning expertise from across the two organisations – the Child Health Joint Commissioning Board will be supported by a Joint Commissioning Unit. This will initially be a virtual team, which will over time become a formal team and bring commissioning functions together.

Key benefits will include strengthening relationships with providers and stakeholders; a shared vision; better use of resources; and improving quality and outcomes.

### Workforce

Children's Trust partners are jointly developing the children's workforce, across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors, in order to meet the needs of children and young people and work more effectively together.

Development of a Children's Trust Workforce Strategy over the next year will be in three phases:

- agreement by the Children's Trust for formation of a Workforce Development Partnership or Forum, comprising key stakeholders from across the children's workforce (summer 2010);
- engagement with Trust partners and key stakeholders to identify workforce challenges arising from the delivery of CYPP priorities. Development of a vision, followed by a strategy for the achievement of an integrated workforce in Hampshire (December 2010);
- drafting and agreeing the strategy and associated action/implementation plan (April 2011).

## Glossary

14-19 Consortia	Partnerships of schools, colleges, training providers, voluntary sector and higher education, working together within travel to learn areas, to provide 14-19 education.
Aiming High for Disabled Children	Government programme to improve services for disabled children and young people
BME	Black and minority ethnic
BSF	Building Schools for the Future: a national programme to refurbish or rebuild every secondary school in the country.
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
Child protection plan	Children who have a child protection plan are considered to be in need of protection. This includes protection from physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect. The plan details the main areas of concern, what action will be taken to reduce those concerns, how the child will be kept safe and how progress will be measured.
Children in care	Children in public care, who are placed with foster carers, in residential homes or with parents or other relatives.
Children's Trust	The local partnership which brings together the organisations responsible for services for children, young people and families in a shared commitment to improving children's lives.
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment	An assessment of the demand and supply of childcare places in an area.
Comprehensive Area Assessment	The Audit Commission assessment of the effectiveness of public services in an area. The Comprehensive Area Assessment was ended in 2010 by the new Coalition Government.
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
EMTAS	Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service: supports schools and families across Hampshire in raising ethnic minority achievement, through bilingual assistance, projects, training, family learning and advisory support.
Every Child Matters	The national approach for improving the well-being of children and young people from birth to 19. The aim is for every child, whatever their background or

	<p>circumstances, to have the support they need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be healthy</li> <li>• Stay safe</li> <li>• Enjoy and achieve</li> <li>• Make a positive contribution</li> <li>• Achieve economic well-being</li> </ul>
Extended school	A school that provides a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community.
HCYC	Hampshire County Youth Council: a group of 22 elected children and young people, representing the 11 district councils in Hampshire, acting as the voice of 11-25 year olds in the county and influencing decision making.
LAA	Local Area Agreement: sets out the priorities for a local area, agreed between them and central government, by setting three year targets for a number of NIs.
LCP	Local Children's Partnership: the 'delivery arm' of Hampshire Children's Trust, responsible for delivering the CYPP at a local level.
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board: responsible for co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of local agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Members include the local authority, health bodies and police.
NI	National Indicators: a set of indicators used by local authorities and central Government to measure progress against targets.
NEET	Not in education, employment or training: term used to describe young people who are not studying or working.
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills: inspects and regulates providers of services for children and young people, including local authorities and schools.
Participation	The active involvement of children, young people and families in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of services.
Prevention and early intervention	Focusing services so that children and young people get the support they need at an earlier stage.

PRISM	Processing Referrals Involving Substance Misuse
PSA	Parent Support Adviser
Rights, Respect and Responsibilities	A programme in Hampshire schools, based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Aims to help children achieve their potential and become responsible citizens.
Safeguarding	Protecting all children and young people from abuse or neglect. The Government guidance, <i>Working Together to Safeguard Children</i> (2010), defines this as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting children from maltreatment</li> <li>• Preventing impairment of children’s health or development</li> <li>• Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care</li> <li>• Enabling those children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.</li> </ul>
SEN	Special Educational Needs: children and young people who have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn or access education than most children of the same age.
Sure Start Children’s Centres	Children’s centres aim to deliver better outcomes for young children and families, by bringing together local services within the community. They are aimed at children under five and their families.
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child	An international human rights treaty that grants all children and young people (aged 17 and under) a comprehensive set of rights, including the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special protection measures and assistance</li> <li>• Access to health services such as education and health care</li> <li>• Develop their personalities, abilities and talents to the fullest potential</li> <li>• Grow up in an environment of happiness, love and understanding</li> <li>• Be informed about and participate in achieving their rights in an accessible and active manner</li> </ul> <p>All of the rights in the convention apply to all children and young people without discrimination.</p>
YOT	Youth Offending Team: multi-agency team co-ordinating the work of youth justice services.