

Children & Young People Block Overview for end of year 2006/07

Key successes and achievements during 2006/07

- 80% of Best Value Performance Indicators showed improvement from 2005/06.
- Number of schools in special measures has been reduced.
- Standards of attainment for 11 year olds at Key Stage 2 are in line with national average for the first time.
- Narrowed the gap in educational attainment for 14 and 16 year olds at Key Stage 3 & 4 between disadvantaged and all pupils.
- Increased the number of hours of education for children excluded from school.
- New build facilities at Fairfield and Castle Hill Special Schools opened during the year.
- Strong performance in meeting the health needs of looked after children.
- Increased the percentage of looked after children sitting examinations.
- Government target that 80% of schools meeting the Healthy Schools Programme has been met.
- Latest OFSTED reports: 13 schools inspected, 5 = satisfactory, 5 = good 3 = very good/outstanding.
- LPSB priorities have been agreed and 'champions' identified.

Areas for further development

- Arrangements for the governance of localities need to be established.
- The number of schools that are underperforming at one or more key stages needs to be reduced.
- Strategies are in place to address gaps in educational attainment between disadvantaged and all pupils at foundation stage and 11 year olds at Key Stage 2.
- The number of fixed term exclusions need to be reduced.
- Initiatives to address bullying in schools will continue.
- Improve school attendance and educational attainment of looked after children and reduce cautions or convictions.
- Continue implementing the Accommodation Strategy for children who need residential or foster care.
- Extend Healthy School Programme to all schools including early years settings.

Key challenges and priorities

- Capital investment through the Building Schools for the Future and integrating this with wider locality work.
- Successful transfer of existing Public Private Partnership to the new service provider.
- Review of Special Educational Needs service .
- Further develop and deliver wider curriculum choice for 14 – 19 yr olds.
- Establish a corporate parenting panel and review specialist support provided to families.
- Develop an integrated Youth Support Service.
- Ensure adult learning is integrated and extended.
- Successful transfer of the Connexions Service to the local authority.

