

Children and Young People's Plan – You Said, We Did

We heard from nearly 300 children, young people and families who helped to co-produce the Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan. We have listened to the variety of ideas and experiences shared, responding to the most prominent themes through our plan of action.

Here is how we have responded to some of the key engagement messages:

Children, Young People and Families	
You Said	We Did
<i>Children, young people and parents want to know where to look for support, but it isn't always clear what opportunities exist in Lambeth.</i>	The Lambeth Families Information Service and SEND teams have put together a new online portal of information about opportunities for children, young people and families in Lambeth, including the Lambeth Local Offer for SEND.
<i>Listen to children and young people. Treat them with respect and give them the opportunities to make decisions about the support they receive.</i>	<p>We worked with children, young people and parents to develop the Children and Young People's Plan and will continue to do so as we take this plan into action.</p> <p>We are committed to working closely with the community to co-produce and co-deliver support in future, as outlined in the Plan – particularly as we launch a new community campaign.</p>
<i>Children and young people need support, guidance and resources to pursue their ambitions – this means work experience, paid employment, training, mentoring, access to networks in the community.</i>	<p>We are set to launch a new campaign to involve the whole community in making Lambeth the best place for children and young people to grow up.</p> <p>We are working to launch the campaign in 2018 and have already started to build opportunities for young people. For example, we are working with Streatham Business Improvement District and Streatham Youth and Community Trust to develop employment opportunities for young people locally.</p>
<i>Children and young people are more comfortable sharing their worries or problems with friends, relatives and trusted people in their lives than professionals or authority figures.</i>	<p>The Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan focuses on supporting families and the wider Lambeth community to help children and young people. We will encourage the use of technology, including the Chat Health app, to equip children and young people to confidentially ask for help with a range of issues.</p> <p>Our new approach to early help will include peer support initiatives for emotional wellbeing. This will help children and young people to talk to and support each other before problems escalate.</p>
<i>Children and young people learn about health and pick up healthy behaviours from family members. "A healthy family is a happy family"</i>	We will support families to build healthy lifestyles around their children, particularly during the crucial early years up to age 5. By sharing learning from the Lambeth Early Action Partnership (including LEAP work on child nutrition), we will help parents to ensure healthy childhoods for their children.
<i>There are strong links between emotional wellbeing and resilience. Young people</i>	Our second priority delivery programme aims to deliver 'a new approach to early help' to improve emotional wellbeing for young people. The approach aims to build skills and capabilities, and

Children, Young People and Families

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<i>must be supported to manage the challenges of adolescent years.</i>	facilitate strong and positive relationships to help young people to cope with difficulties as early as possible.
<i>It is really important that children and young people with SEND are included in all settings and empowered to participate in their communities.</i>	As outlined in the SEND Strategy, we will work to increase the level of inclusivity across services we commission for children and young people with SEND. We will look to support children with SEND through our community campaign, for example by promoting initiatives such as the Lambeth Liberty Card scheme.
<i>Young people expressed concerns about youth violence and sometimes feeling unsafe in the borough</i>	One of the key ambitions for the Plan is that all children and young people are safe. Our 'new approach to early help' programme aims to reduce youth offending through specific preventative pathways and provision for vulnerable young people, including those at risk of offending.

On Wednesday 12th July 2017, over 75 members of the Lambeth community took part in a co-production event to help shape the vision and outcomes of the Children and Young People's Plan. Here is how we have responded to some of the key messages from this event:

Our Children, Our Future Community Co-Production Event

You Said	We Did
<p><i>Participants voted for three top outcomes for the Children and Young People's Plan to achieve:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Promoting emotional wellbeing and resilience</i> <i>2. Ensuring children get the best start in life</i> <i>3. Improving parenting and family resilience</i> 	<p>These outcomes are central to our priority delivery programmes 2 and 3: Better Start and A New Approach to Early Help.</p> <p>The Better Start programme outlines a new offer for early childhood, which focuses on parenting and family support with the aim of giving children the best start in life. Our early help approach will coordinate a range of services to promote emotional wellbeing and resilience.</p>
<i>Ensure that disaffected and marginalised young people are fully included and supported to experience good outcomes.</i>	<p>Our Plan sets out a focus on groups at risk of experiencing poorer outcomes: children living in poverty, Black African and Caribbean children, children with disabilities and looked after children. We will target improved outcomes for these cohorts in particular across the life course.</p> <p>We are working in close partnership with Black Thrive, who jointly hosted our community event to co-produce the Plan. Together, we will seek to improve outcomes (including those related to mental health) for Black African and Caribbean children and young people.</p>
<i>We need to focus on prevention rather than intervention and build a culture where everyone helps.</i>	<p>This insight has shaped our design principles to ensure 'systematic and proactive identification of vulnerability' and for 'building alliances with the voluntary and community sector'. Learning from innovative research into adverse childhood experiences, we will work to minimise the risk factors that can lead to poor outcomes over the life course.</p> <p>Through a 'child friendly' campaign, we will look to change behaviour by engaging the wider Lambeth community to get involved in helping</p>

Our Children, Our Future Community Co-Production Event

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A wide range of data should be available from all multi-agencies. Having an honest look at real data could lead to important new insights.

children and young people.

This insight has shaped our design principle for 'integrated, evidence-based services, interventions and approaches'. This is about sharing intelligence across the children's system and using evidence to guide our decision making.

Participants identified the top five strengths of the borough as: parks, diversity, youth participation, sports and recreational activities, and schools.

These strengths are acknowledged in the Plan, in setting out the 'Lambeth Context'. In particular, our programme to deliver a community campaign seeks to make the most of the major assets we are lucky enough to have in Lambeth.

Use the best collaborative engagement models to build a culture of support and strength in the community

We will draw on the insights from partners across services, the voluntary community sector and wider community to ensure that we use the most effective engagement models to benefit children and young people.

Support the children's workforce to understand the 'baby brain', early relationship and childhood development.

As part of our Better Start programme, we will draw on excellent practice within the borough and share learning from the Lambeth Early Action Partnership. This includes work by LEAP to support parents with child nutrition and development.

Ensure that families have access to a platform that builds awareness of the services and opportunities they can access.

The Lambeth Families Information Service and SEND teams have put together a new online portal of information about opportunities for children, young people and families in Lambeth, including the Local Offer for children and young people with SEND.

Understand and address environmental pressures that impact on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people

Our priority programme to embed 'a new approach to early help' seeks to improve support for mental health and wellbeing universally, including a focus on emotional resilience in schools.

Through our community campaign, we will aim to use a public health approach to raise awareness and shift attitudes and behaviours across the borough in support of children and young people.