

Children and Young People's Plan

2019 - 2022





Devon
Children's
Families
Partners



Our Purpose:

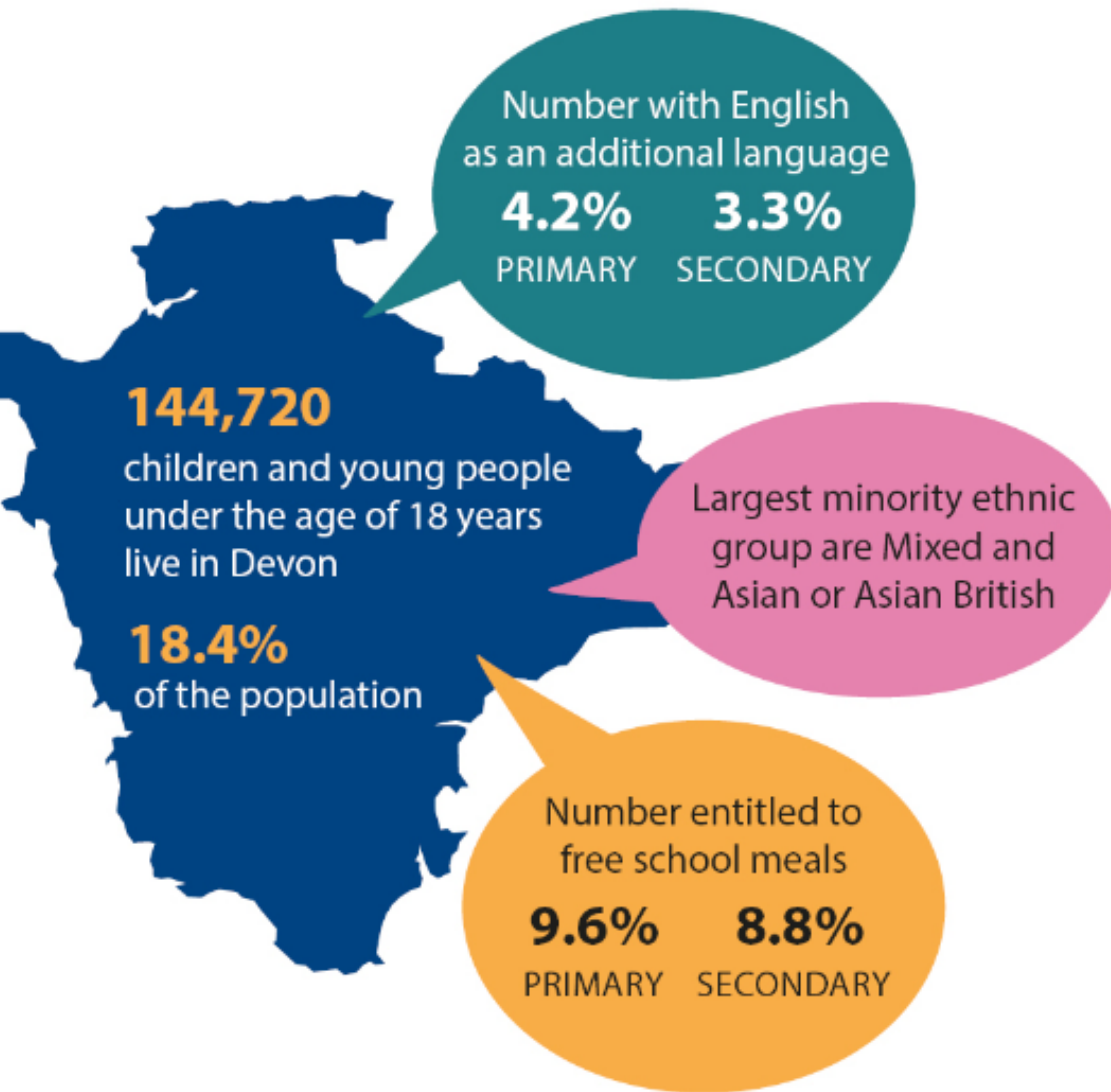
To ensure children and families receive **the right support, at the right time, and in the right place.**



Devon
Children
Families
Partners

We believe
that every child in
Devon should have
the **best possible**
start in life and the
opportunity to
thrive

A Snapshot of Children in Devon



14% of the local authority's children are living in poverty



Number of children and young people from minority ethnic groups living in:

Devon
7.6%

UK
32%



Impact of Poverty on Children in Devon



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Strong Foundations



Devon Parent Carers' Voice

We know:

- Our population
- What children and families value
- What has worked already and what still needs to be done or accelerated
- The national policy landscape



Equality

Many things in life impact on people's access to opportunities whether this is through poverty, where you live, your readiness for education or the health of your family.

We want to narrow the gap in health outcomes and life chances between those who live in the most and least disadvantaged areas in Devon and believe every child has a right to routes out of poverty and disadvantage. All our priorities in this plan aim to help in achieving this.



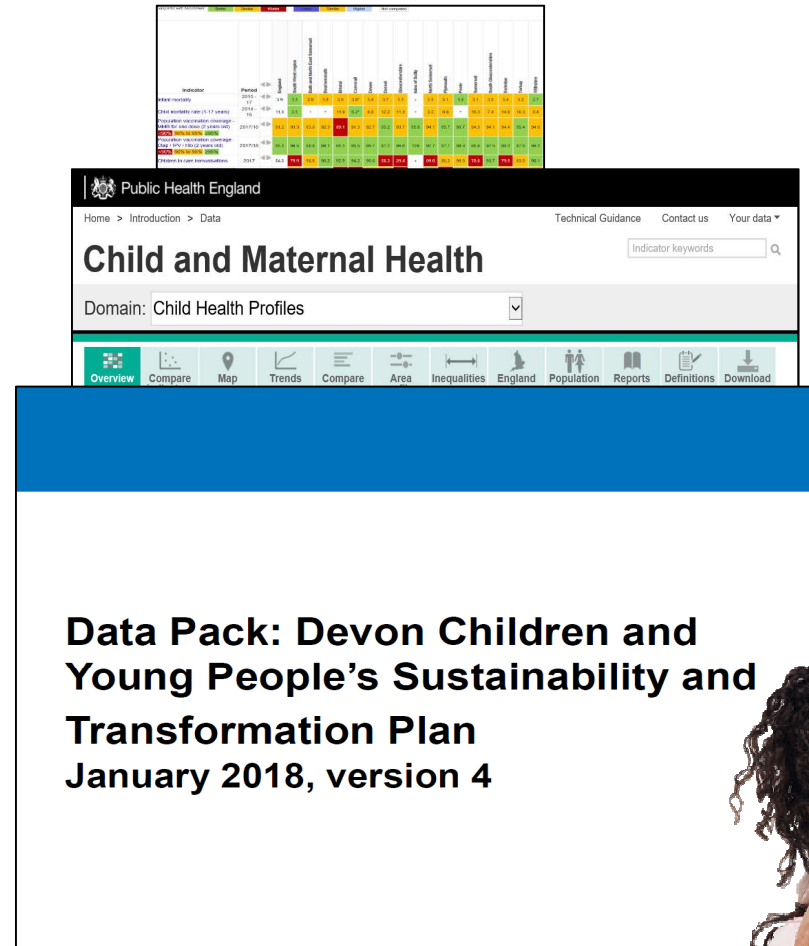
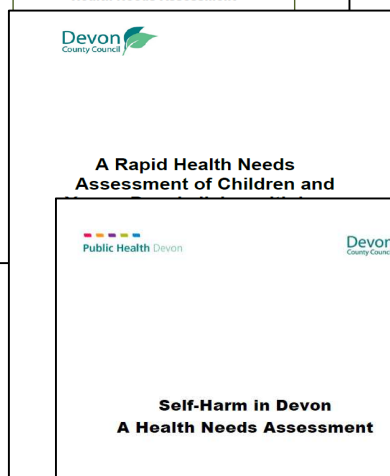
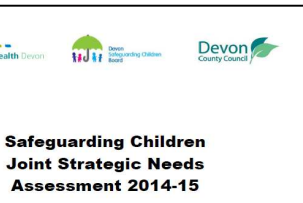
Valuing Diversity

We recognise and value diversity in all its forms and know that:

- Families come in many different shapes and sizes and that these unique relationships are the fundamental building block of people's lives
- Communities across Devon are often very different and diverse in nature and can play a vital role in helping to give children and families the support they need



What data is available?





**Children and Young
People's Plan 2019-2022**
Engagement activity



**Devon
Children
Families
Partners**

**1,140
Views
represented**

Campaign outputs



Tweets



Likes and
Retweets



Views of DCFP
web page



People engaged via
Early Help Roadshows

Feedback by type

53%
Professionals
/practitioners



34%
Parents/carers
and families



5%
Children and
young people



8%
Other



Delivery Plan 2016-2018 Our Values



Five Key Shifts:

- Strengths based practice
- Strengthening Early Help
- Locality model
- Integration of systems and services
- Bespoke and personalised



Delivery Plan 2016-2018 Our Values

Four Principles:

- Children are best brought up in families
- We will support families to find their own solutions
- We will listen to each other and work together with services shaped by all
- Children and families will always know where they stand with us



What kind of Plan now?

- Something to **communicate our priorities** to children and families clearly
- That gives a **strong identity** to be proud of
- That **challenges** - keeps us on our toes, agile and ready for the future
- That is **aspirational and ambitious** and talks to the heart and mind
- That is human, with a **focus on purpose, impact and outcomes** for our children and their families
- That helps to **create the conditions for good practice to flourish**, both restorative and trauma informed
- And is fit for a **digital world** - is adaptable, flexible and connects things up



Our Core Values

What you have been saying....



At our multi-agency events we have asked staff to set out the personal values they bring to work every day and the values that bind us together as a partnership.


How we work

We will always aim to help children and families be more resilient, strengthen relationships and build social connections and are committed to working together to:

- **Listen, hear and understand**
- **Get under the surface** to understand what is driving your problems
- Help you help yourself through information, advice and **support as early as possible**
- Support your **whole family & build on your strengths** where needed
- Be **flexible, adaptable and personalised**
- **Work in ways that are right for you** with support that is **integrated and community-based**



Devon
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We believe children are best brought up in families with the right support that wraps around them when needed

Life Chances

Healthy and Well

Feel Safe

Protect from Harm

We have set clear **priorities for action** in each main area of our activity

Backed by specific plans and strategies

 Working together for children and families

A photograph of two children, a girl with curly hair and a boy, smiling. The girl is in the foreground, wearing a pink shirt, and the boy is behind her, wearing a grey polo shirt. The text "Our Priorities" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Our
Priorities

Our Priorities

We believe all children and young people in Devon have the right to:

| Life Chances | Be Healthy and Well | Feel Safe | Be Protected from Harm |
|--|--|---|--|
| <i>achieve their potential with the opportunities to thrive.</i> | <i>have the best start in life, stay well and thrive. With good information and specialist help when they need it.</i> | <i>be protected from neglect and supported when vulnerable.</i> | <i>be protected from harm, abuse and exploitation.</i> |



Our Priorities



Life Chances

We are ambitious for all our children and young people and have **high expectations of our schools**, colleges, settings and partnership support services.

We want all children in Devon to have the **best start in life** and, as they grow into young adults, to have **access to opportunities** for training, education, employment and apprenticeships to help them gain the skills they need to **become independent and thrive**.

We have a strong **focus on disadvantage** and want to help everyone to access their right to an education, be included and **achieve their full potential**.



Our Priorities

Life Chances

1. A good education for all

We will:

- Work together with schools, colleges and others to **raise overall educational outcomes** and to **narrow the attainment gap** for boys and disadvantaged pupils
- Maintain our **focus on inclusion** and ensuring all children get their right to a full education
- Continue to **develop local opportunities for training, education, employment and apprenticeships** with particular support for young people with additional needs or from disadvantaged backgrounds.



 Championing all our Children

Our Priorities

Life Chances

2. Better support for children in care and care leavers

We want all our children in care and those leaving care to be set up for life to **aspire and achieve**.

We will do what it takes to keep children in care in **good, local, family based placements** so that their education, friendships and community connections can be sustained.



 [Virtual Schools website](#)

Our Priorities

Life Chances

3. Improving our Special Educational Needs (SEND) offer

We will have a major review and redesign in order to:

- Improve access to advice, support and guidance
- Ensure lead practitioners help families navigate the system and remove barriers
- Ensure everyone that needs one gets a timely and comprehensive Education Health and Care Plan
- Improve the multi-agency response to Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Integrate services and wrap support around children and families
- Ensure more support to improve the transition into adulthood



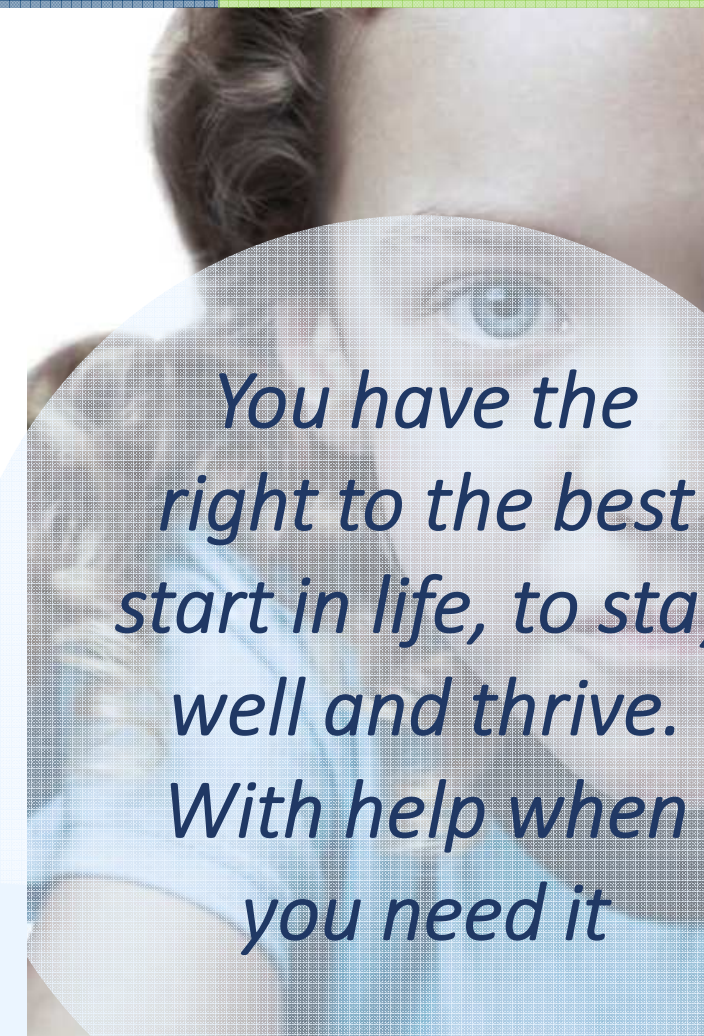
Our Priorities

Healthy and Well

For most children, the **family and community** ensure their health and wellbeing.

Families need access to good **information and advice**, and our Ante-natal, Maternity, Public Health Nursing Services and Children's Centres will all work together to ensure that **no infant, child or family slips through the net**, with support tailored to their needs.

We will continue to improve care for children with **long term conditions** such as asthma and diabetes, and focus on **prevention** to tackle issues like child obesity and tooth decay.



*You have the
right to the best
start in life, to sta
well and thrive.
With help when
you need it*

 [Devon Sustainability & Transformation Plan](#)

Our Priorities

Healthy and Well

1. Emotional wellbeing, mental health and self-harm

Supporting the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people with their families continues to be a priority. We will continue to embed preventative strategies and support across schools, public health nursing and wider support services.

 [CAMHS Transformation Plan](#)

 Working together for children and families



Our Priorities

Healthy and Well

2. Early support for Autism

We will continue to work together to develop our local offer to autistic children by working with parents and children to make sure we make an impact and improve life chances.

We will:

- **Not wait for a diagnosis** before giving support to children who display behaviours linked to autism
- **Support the emotional health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families** who may be living with autism
- Provide **more self-help information** for parents

Community Health & Wellbeing Service Strategy



Our Priorities



Healthy and Well

3. Improving Speech and Language services

Speech, language and communication needs must not prevent a child in Devon achieving in school and will be better understood and responded to by all professionals and practitioners.

We will:

- **Intervene early** and offer ongoing support for the communication needs of children.
- **Adapt school and community environments** to ensure communication barriers are removed
- Continue to **develop and provide training** for schools and settings to support early communication, speech and language development

Community Health & Wellbeing Service Strategy

Working together for children and families



Our Priorities



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Feel Safe

Every child and young person has the right to feel safe, be protected from neglect, and free from the exploitation of others.

Preventing **neglect** continues to be a top priority and we want to ensure the right support is always available for children and families where drugs, alcohol and other multiple issues significantly impact on children.

The **exploitation of children by adults** such as that relating to drugs and other criminal activity is a growing concern. We will continue to work together to ensure information and training is in place.

We will also work together to **improve the way we reach out** to vulnerable young people, including those missing education, and to intervene where there is a risk of crime, radicalisation, gangs, knife crime or anti-social behaviour.

*You have the right
to be protected
from neglect and
supported when
vulnerable*

Our Priorities



Help to feel safe

1. Better identification and prevention of neglect

Where the needs and actions of parents may impact on the care of children leading to neglect, we will work together more effectively to identify it, prevent it or intervene early.

[Neglect Strategy and Toolkit](#)

Working together for children and families



Our Priorities



Help to feel safe

2. Support for vulnerable young people at risk

We will:

- Work together to prevent children missing education, particularly those from disadvantaged and vulnerable backgrounds
- Work with the community and youth services to support young people at risk of becoming part of gangs or involved in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Support families and carers if a young person is missing and after they return home
- Identify and support vulnerable young people at risk of radicalisation or of exploitation by adults



PREVENT Strategy

Working together for children and families

Our Priorities



Help to feel safe

3. Helping children stay out of care

We want to help more children and young people to stay out of care by supporting them in their own families and communities. This means ensuring help and support is available earlier and managing often high levels of risk, need and complexity in a different way. We will:

- Develop a **multi-agency team** to support children and young people in crisis where there is **a risk of family breakdown**
- Develop a **crisis response for children in care** to help them off the roller coaster of placement crisis/breakdown



Our Priorities

Protect from Harm

We have a statutory responsibility to intervene in families to protect children at risk of harm. In a few cases this can mean removing children from families and making alternative arrangements for their long term care.

We want to improve the way this system works, and to strengthen our partnership with schools, health, the police and others to ensure no child at risk slips through the net.

Protecting children from domestic violence and sexual abuse remains our top priority. The harmful impact of child exploitation is becoming an ever growing concern as is the impact of self-harm, with increasing numbers of children being admitted to hospital.



Our Priorities



Protect from Harm

1. Protecting and supporting children where there is domestic or sexual violence and abuse

We will:

- Protect children from the harm of domestic abuse
- Support children and young people who live in families where there is domestic abuse
- Ensure adult and children's services work together with the whole family
- Ensure all services support parenting in addition to dealing with any immediate need

DVSA Strategy and Action Plan

 Working together for children and families



Our Priorities



Devon
Children's
Families
Partners

Protect from Harm

2. Helping children experiencing emotional distress and reducing the impact of self harm

We will:

- Ensure children and families have the right information and support to help if experiencing a crisis
- Make sure people know how to ask for help
- Help individuals and families develop alternative strategies for dealing with emotional distress
- Provide good information so children can keep themselves safe, particularly from the risks online

 [CAMHS Transformation Plan](#)



Our Priorities



Protect from Harm

3. Preventing exploitation

We will:

- Be there to help young people break free from exploitation
- Work together to disrupt all exploitation
- Better understand the impact of young people as perpetrators of exploitation and develop an offer to intervene



 [Exploitation of Children Strategy and Toolkit](#)

Workforce development and improvement



To deliver on our commitments, we will further develop our workforce to help children and families be more resilient, strengthen relationships and build social connections and are committed to working together to:

- **Listen, hear and understand**
- **Get under the surface** to understand what is driving your problems
- Help you help yourself through information, advice and **support as early as possible**
- Support your **whole family & build on your strengths** where needed
- Be **flexible, adaptable and personalised**
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Workforce development and improvement

| Life Chances | Healthy and Well | Feel Safe | Protected from Harm |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Partnership approach (with Schools, Regional Schools Commissioner, Devon Schools Alliance, Teaching Schools Alliance, One Devon Team South West and Ofsted) to skills development, peer mentoring, on-line learning and good practice.</p> <p>Strengthened, focused and integrated leadership across health, education and social care for children in care and care leavers leading to more targeted workforce development initiatives.</p> | <p>Autism and communication training to all schools</p> <p>Different conversations training focused on developing choice and control for families of disabled children.</p> <p>Graduated response tool training to support children with SEND</p> <p>Psychological therapies training for staff (IAPT)</p> | <p>Multi-agency safeguarding training</p> <p>Neglect toolkit and graded care profile training</p> <p>Exploitation toolkit</p> | <p>Developing strength's based practice</p> <p>Multi agency training on Domestic Violence and Abuse.</p> <p>Roll out of training for restorative approaches including supervision</p> <p>Development of appreciative inquiry</p> |

n increasing number of children benefit from coordinated multi-agency early help. More will be done to further develop the Early Help Offer and to increase the number of impactful early help interventions with Lead Practitioners

Measuring Our Success

| Life Chances | Healthy and Well | Feel Safe | Protected from Harm |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>FS & education outcomes</p> <p>Effective early help, reducing rate of statutory intervention</p> <p>Higher levels of inclusion and EET for vulnerable groups</p> <p>Timeliness of EHCP's & SEND re-specification</p> <p>Children in care placement moves, school moves, and changes in social worker.</p> <p>Leavers in suitable accommodation, EET, emotional well being & mental health</p> | <p>Rate of children with communication needs achieving expected progress in school</p> <p>Number of CYP receiving support from CAMHS</p> <p>Number and wait times for children's autism diagnosis</p> <p>Number of children accessing speech, language and communication services</p> <p>Reduce the number of CYP admitted to Tier 4 inpatient units</p> | <p>Increase reporting of exploitation</p> <p>Intelligence about interventions with children involved in all forms of exploitation</p> <p>Effective interventions Neglect and/or Child Sexual Abuse</p> <p>Outcomes and impact of audit, Local Child Safeguarding Reviews and practice learning events</p> | <p>Rate of care entry of older children</p> <p>Rate of children in care placed in local in-house foster care</p> <p>Reduce the number of children admitted to hospital for self harm</p> <p>Reduce the number of domestic abuse incidents with children present and increase the number of children victims or witnesses to be supported.</p> <p>ILACS (Annual Conversation, Focused Visit, JTAI, and ILACS Inspection)</p> |