one future

Children and Young People Plan 2008 – 2011
one vision...

Children, young people and families in Oldham will be safe, successful, healthy and happy.
Things are looking up...

There are many positive things happening for children and young people in Oldham.

Children and young people are the future of Oldham and we all, as parents, carers and the people who work with you, want to do the best we can to help you be what you want to be and have a safe, successful, healthy and happy life.

This Children and Young People Plan has been produced by Oldham Children’s Trust, which is a partnership of everybody in Oldham who works closely with children and young people.

The Plan tells you what our priorities are and what we hope to improve for you and all children and young people from birth to age 19 (or 25 for young people with disabilities) over the next three years.
Every child matters...

Every Child Matters is the name given to the Government’s agenda to improve the lives of all children and young people.

Oldham Children’s Trust is committed to making sure that all of its partners and services play their part in achieving this.

Our Children and Young People Plan sets out our ideas to help make things better in five key areas – these are called the Every Child Matters outcomes. The aim is for every single Oldham child and young person, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- Be healthy;
- Stay safe;
- Enjoy and achieve;
- Make a positive contribution; and
- Achieve economic well-being.

To achieve these outcomes, all of the organisations that provide services to children and young people from hospitals and schools, to police and voluntary groups – are teaming up in new ways, sharing information and working together, to protect children and young people from harm and help them to achieve what they want in life.

Oldham Children’s Trust wants to find what works best for children and young people and to do it. To help us make sure we do this we have involved children and young people in planning our services.
Listening to...

Children, young people, families and communities.

“We have listened to your concerns, priorities and interests to help us write this Plan, and we continue to encourage children and young people to be involved in the planning and management of services and activities using a wide range of approaches and methods, so that everyone can join in.

“Weing a member of the Children in Care Council makes me feel like I have a voice and I can make a positive change and contribution to young people. It also gives me, as a person, something back.”

Neil (aged 17) member of the Children in Care Council.

“The Youth Council has meant that the voices of young people in Oldham have been listened to and acted upon. As Chair of the Youth Council I have had so many great opportunities, learnt so much and had so much fun. I can honestly say that young people in Oldham have influenced important decisions and we have a really good relationship with some of the top decision-makers in Oldham – including the Chief Executive of the Council! It shows that young people in Oldham can and do make a positive difference.”

Mohammed Adil (aged 18) Chair of Oldham Youth Council.

“Giving young people genuine influence over local services is the most effective way of ensuring better access and increasing participation. All young people should feel able to make a positive contribution in their communities and to have their achievements celebrated, sending a strong signal about their rightful place in society.”

What we are going to do...

**Be healthy**
- Make sure that children have better teeth.
- Encourage all children to be healthy and well and not overweight.
- Ensure that every child and young person can have someone to support them with emotional issues.

**Staying safe**
- Make sure that children and young people and their families know about dangers and how to keep themselves safe.
- Improve how we deal with bullying to prevent it happening, especially racist bullying.

**Enjoy and achieve**
- Improve the achievement of children under five.
- Give all children and young people more choices about how and what they learn.
- Make sure the children and young people who need extra help get it.

**Make a positive contribution**
- Enable children and young people to take part in positive activities that will help them to be healthier and get on with others from different areas.

**Achieve economic well-being**
- Increase the number of young people aged 16-19 who continue with their education, get a job or access training opportunities.
Find out more about how you can get involved with the Children and Young People Stakeholder Board by calling Jodie Barber on 0161 770 3116 or email jodie.barber@oldham.gov.uk.

You can also find out more about Oldham Children’s Trust and the Children and Young People Plan on the Council’s website at www.oldham.gov.uk/oldham_childrens_trust, by calling Anne Nikolaou on 0161 770 4202, or by emailing anne.nikolaou@oldham.gov.uk.

Don’t forget that you can also find out more about what is happening for young people in Oldham on the youth website OYweb at www.oyweb.info and on Our Oldham at www.ouroldham.info.

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