

ONESTOCKPORT

Stockport Children and Young People Strategy

2020-2023



Stockport's vision and ambition for children and young people

Our vision is for all children and young people to have the best start in life, be happy, safe, to be able to build and maintain healthy relationships, attend school and learn, be prepared for adulthood and able to achieve their goals. We want families to feel supported, confident, resilient and connected to their community.

Our ambition is for Stockport to be the best place for all children to grow up happily, healthily, with a good education, confidence, ambition and surrounded by love, care and kindness. We seek to support our children and families to thrive through working together to build nurturing and trusting relationships.

Inclusion is at the heart of our work with children and young people. Our practice is founded on the belief that every child and young person matters and matters equally. We will nurture, sustain and further develop connections, relationships and mutual support between ourselves and within our communities in Stockport to build a better future, where all children and young people can thrive and no one is left behind.

Our outcomes for children and young people

We want children and young people to be able to say...

- ✓ I feel safe
- ✓ I feel part of my community
- ✓ My voice is heard
- ✓ I enjoy good health and wellbeing
- ✓ I am happy and have people I can trust
- ✓ I am confident and able to reach my goals
- ✓ The people who love and care for me are enabled to do this

(Adopted from the SEND Outcomes through the voice of young people)

Purpose of the Children and Young People Strategy

Our strategy sets out the principles, ways of working and priorities which will enable us to achieve our vision for children, young people and families in Stockport.

The strategy ensures that all partners and agencies who help, support and educate children and families to achieve their ambitions are clear about their contribution.

The strategy is aligned with and supports the developing One Stockport Borough Plan which sits within our wider One Stockport movement. One Stockport celebrates how we have come together through the crisis of Covid-19 and how we plan to stay together in the future. Our Borough Plan will be informed by insights, data and intelligence and will set our shared priorities for the Borough. At the core of One Stockport are values around collaboration, inclusion and community.



Stockport picture

Stockport is one of the most polarised boroughs nationally, ranging from very affluent areas to the south and east of the borough to significantly deprived areas in the north and centre.

Most children and young people in Stockport: -

- Live in settled families;
- Are healthy
- Benefit from the sufficiency of high quality funded education places
- Attend early years provision that is graded good or outstanding by Ofsted
- Do well at school

However: -

- 13.5% of children and young people in Stockport are living in poverty and there are small areas that rank within the 2% most deprived in England.
- In recent years birth rates have grown most rapidly in the more deprived areas of Stockport. Almost half of all births between 2009 and 2014 were in the most deprived areas. These children are currently in primary education and will soon move into secondary schools.
- Children living in poverty in Stockport do less well in education and have poorer health and life chances than children living in poverty nationally and in some neighbouring boroughs.

- In areas of disadvantage the number of children achieving a good level of development at the end of the early years' foundation stage is declining. (In 2018, 46% of children eligible for free school meals achieved at good level of development, compared to 57% nationally.)
- In addition, 16% of children with special educational needs or disabilities in Stockport achieved a good level of development compared to 29% nationally.
- Outcomes for communication and language have fallen below national levels (80.7% in Stockport compared to 85.7% nationally) – this impacts on children's attainment in literacy and mathematics.





Impact of COVID-19

'All communities and every aspect of children's services have been affected by COVID-19, however the experiences of children and families have varied greatly' (ADCS 2020)

The pandemic has reinforced inequalities with many children living in some of our communities having...

- limited access to technology
- fewer opportunities to learn at home
- lack of safe spaces to play
- lack of food

The pandemic has also placed further pressure on families: -

- with children with special educational needs;
- those effected by domestic abuse;
- People from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities have been disproportionately affected

Our values

Stockport is committed to co-production in all of our work and has agreed a coproduction charter which can be found [here](#)

We are committed to: -

- Open and honest communication
- Actively listening
- Valuing real life experiences
- What matters – tailored approaches to individual needs
- Evaluation and review
- Working together
- Trust and respect

Stockport Co-production Charter

The charter has been co-produced with families, children, young people and health, care and education colleagues.

The co-production charter is about the way we will all work together to create a culture where we will all:

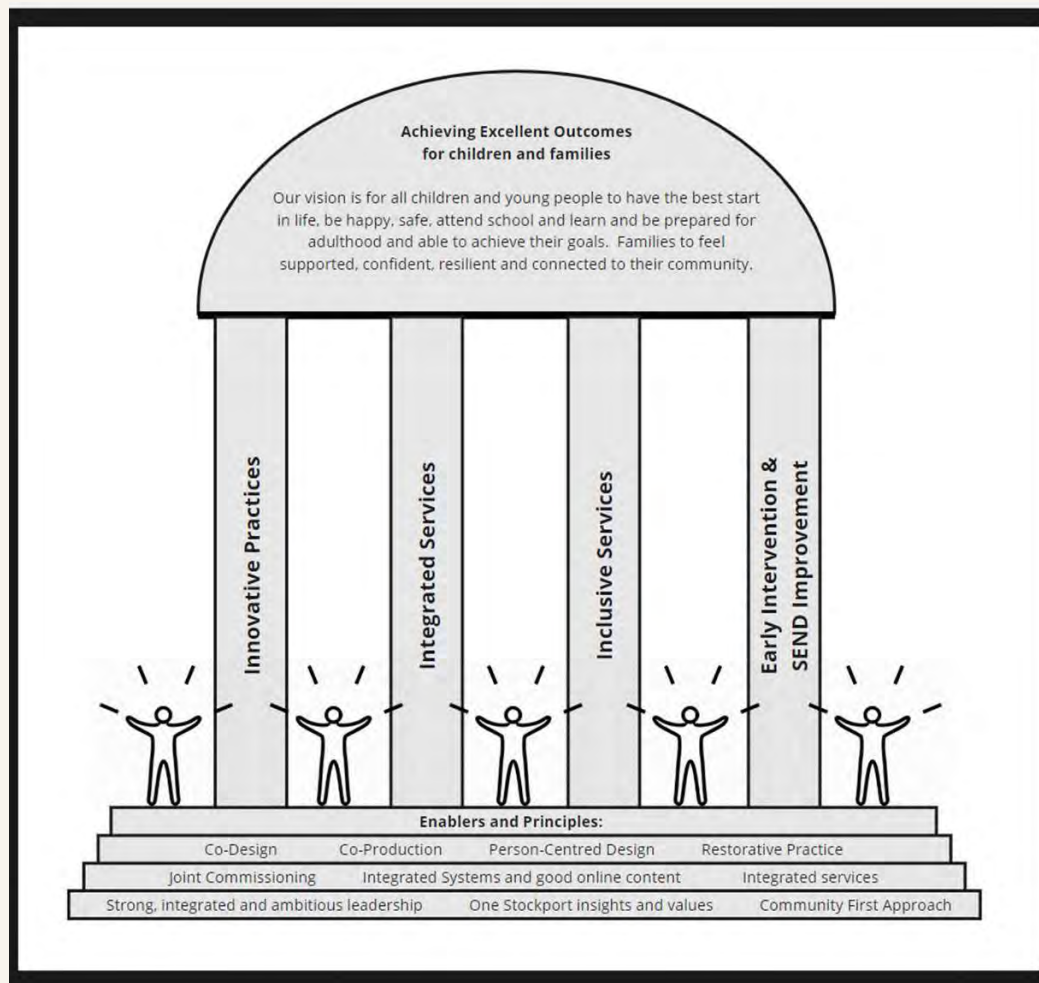


Stockport's way of working – principles and approach

Our approach is based upon: -

- Innovative practice
- Integrated services
- Inclusive services
- Early intervention

This diagram shows our principles and approach to achieving our vision for children and young people



Our priorities 2020-2023 - what we will do

We will focus on ensuring:-

- All babies and children are given the very best start in life by their parents and carers and start school ready to learn
- All children and young people are able to access and engage in education and achieve the best they can
- All children, young people and families have access to a clear and inclusive early help offer
- All children and young people enjoy good emotional health and wellbeing and are able to access co-ordinated robust and timely support pathways based on need
- Children and families with SEND receive the best possible support at the right time to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved
- All children in care and care leavers are equipped with the skills needed to live a fulfilling, successful and rewarding life

Building back from the impact of COVID-19 will run through each of these priorities.

Our priorities will be delivered through delivery plans, which set out actions and timescales



1

Start well and school readiness

Why

Children starting school ready to learn is fundamental to supporting good outcomes later in life. To be 'school ready' means a child enters primary school ready to engage in and benefit from all learning experiences available, enabling him or her to become a lifelong learner.

The journey to school readiness starts from pre-birth and continues to the age of five. It is developed through relationships and interactions in the home with parents and family members and in the learning environment. We recognise that all children have different needs and abilities which will be embraced on their school readiness journey to ensure they achieve their full development potential, giving families the confidence they need.

What

We will focus on ensuring children get the best start in life and reach their full potential, closing the gap in health, education and social inequality, through the provision of high quality services (both universal and targeted) and by building capacity, resilience and independence within families and communities.

How

Start Well and School Readiness Strategy 2020-2023

2

Education, engagement and attainment

Why

We will ensure that inclusion is at the heart of everything we do and we will work together to ensure all schools, as part of an integrated community-based response, provide inclusive and 'poverty proofed' services, which support all children and young people to attend and achieve their potential, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds and those disproportionately effected by the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

What

We will work with schools and partners to: -
Develop and implement an Inclusion Strategy which will ensure all schools provide inclusive and 'poverty proofed' services as part of an integrated community response. The strategy will include measures to address the on-going impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on inequality of educational outcomes;
Further develop a holistic approach to supporting effective transition at key stages of education, with a particular focus on targeted support for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people and preparation for adulthood.

How

Inclusion Strategy (in development), School Improvement

3

Early help and inclusion

Why

An effective early help offer is essential to improving children, young people and families' life chances. Early help ensures need is identified at the earliest opportunity and children, young people and families are supported holistically as soon as an issue is identified. An effective early help approach prevents problems from escalating and reaching crisis point, whilst reducing demand for cost intensive specialist services. Children and young people have told us getting help early makes a big difference; they want to see a stronger focus on early intervention and prevention so people don't reach crisis; and they want to see a whole system and whole family approach to early help

What

We are committed to building on our existing early help offer to develop a total system of support that empowers our families, improving their levels of resilience and problem solving skills, reducing the chance of a problem getting worse and enabling enhanced outcomes. We are committed to the development of a whole family strengths based early help approach, with specialist teams linked to community based providers

How

Early Help Strategy 2020-2023, SEND Strategy 2020-2023

3

Emotional wellbeing

Why

Emotional and mental health disorders in childhood have high levels of persistence and continuity through adolescence and sometimes into adult life. The consequences of untreated emotional health issues are life long and have a huge health and socio-economic impact within society.

What

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How

Early Help Strategy 2020-2023, SEND Joint Commissioning Plan 2020-2023, SEND Strategy 2020-2023

5

Special educational needs and disabilities

Why

In September 2018, Ofsted inspected the arrangements for special educational needs and disability in Stockport. Whilst many areas of good practice were identified, the inspectors did have some areas of concern, and as a result requested a Written Statement of Action.

What

Through a strategic and co-ordinated approach, including jointly commissioned services, we will provide the best possible support for children and families with SEND, at the right time and with sufficient specialist and high quality provision to ensure that the best possible outcomes are achieved.

How

Written Statement of Action, SEND Strategy 2020-2023 and SEND Joint Commissioning Plan 2020-2023, Start Well Strategy 2020-2023, Early Help Strategy 2020-2023

5

Children in care and care leavers

Why

Stockport is committed to being an effective, caring and ambitious corporate parent. We will do everything we can to equip the children in our care and care leavers with the skills needed to live a fulfilling, successful and rewarding life.

What

We want Stockport Council and partners to be an excellent corporate parent; this means: -
 All children in care and care leavers will know about our corporate parenting commitment and strategy. This information will be made available in ways they can understand and use;
 All Stockport Council services will know about their corporate parenting responsibility and will acknowledge this in their business planning and delivery;
 All elected members will have opportunities to understand their corporate parenting responsibility and to meet with children in care and leaving care professionals
 All commissioning partner agencies will recognise Stockport Council's corporate parenting commitment, understand the strategy and will support its aims and objectives

How

Corporate Parenting Strategy 2020-2023

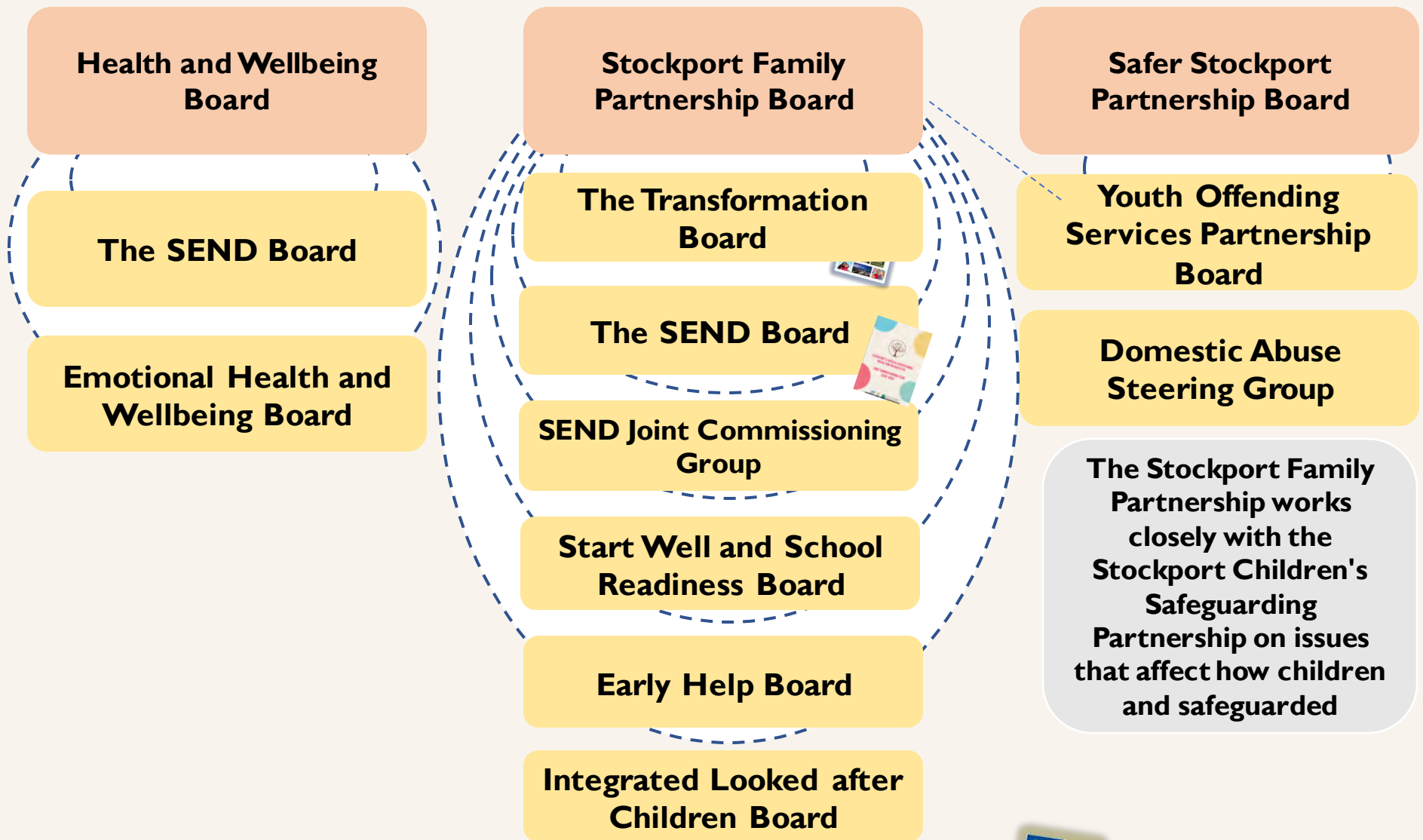


Governance and review

This strategy is a working document and will be reviewed each year with partners.

The strategy is overseen by the Stockport Family Partnership Board

Please see the diagram below for our governance routes and ownership of our delivery plans.



Co-Production Charter



All of our work is co produced with parents/carers and children.

Working with other Strategic Boards in Stockport

