

ONESTOCKPORT

STOCKPORT EARLY HELP 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 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)

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.
- 13.5% of children and young people in Stockport are living in poverty and there are small areas that rank within the 2% most and 2% least 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.





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

WHAT IS EARLY HELP?

Early help is 'the total support that improves a family's resilience and outcomes or reduces the chance of a problem getting worse'.

([MHCLG Early Help System Toolkit, May 2020](#))

This early help can come from a variety of sources (family, community activities, businesses, public services) and will be most effective when it is appropriate, timely and local. Nurturing trusting relationships helps to make a difference locally.

Children, young people and families in Stockport have told us...

- getting help early makes a big difference
- children and families want to see a stronger focus on early intervention and prevention so people don't reach crisis point
- children and families want to see a whole system and whole family approach to early help that builds on strengths and resources and uses restorative practice
- parents have told us that wider family and parenting support is vital.

An effective early help offer is essential to achieving Stockport's vision and ambition for all children, young people and families.



EARLY HELP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY...

- Early help focuses on identifying need and getting the right support at the right time to children and families that are struggling.
- This help might be in relation to a variety of early help needs, from practical to financial support, through to additional special educational needs and emotional wellbeing.
- This diagram shows the range of services that make up the early help offer.



OUR CURRENT EARLY HELP SYSTEM

Start Well Strategy and the Healthy Child Programme – in order to help children be healthy and ready for school, our Start Well Plan and Healthy Child Programme ensures families gain support to give their child the best start in life. This includes early identification of developmental needs and provides the help and support that is needed.

Early Help, Emotional Wellbeing and SEND Hub – provides a pathway for swift allocation to services, where support needs are identified. The hub effectively gathers information from a range of partner agencies and determines the most appropriate service.

Team around the School (TAS) and Team around the Early Years (TAEY) – brings professionals together around a setting with the aim of coordinating services for children and families within the communities they live or are educated in, to identify the right support at the right time.

Children and Education Enhanced Integrated Programme – builds on the TAS model, with the aim of improving responsiveness and locality focus. This programme identifies a core children's workforce across health, education and social care, working together in and with schools and the wider community. This model was trialled in Werneth and Brinnington as a blueprint for further transformation.

Youth Offending Services Partnership - provides a wide range of early help interventions to prevent and reduce offending, including early

intervention, targeted youth support and a focus on restorative approaches

Stockport Homes – offers a wide range of early help measures to support vulnerable families, including housing support, money advice and positive engagement activities for young people with a focus on building resilience

'A strong and well understood early help offer' – Ofsted, February 2019





PURPOSE OF THE EARLY HELP STRATEGY 2020-2023

To build 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 want to identify need and get the right support at the right time to children and families that are struggling.
- We want to ensure that the broad range of needs are seen through the lens of early help including practical and financial support, additional special educational needs, emotional wellbeing, family functioning and the range of environmental and parental factors that impact on children's development.
- We want to build a system that draws on family strengths and resources using restorative practice.
- We want to ensure that all partners and agencies who help, support and educate children and families to achieve their ambitions are clear about their contribution to early help.

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

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:

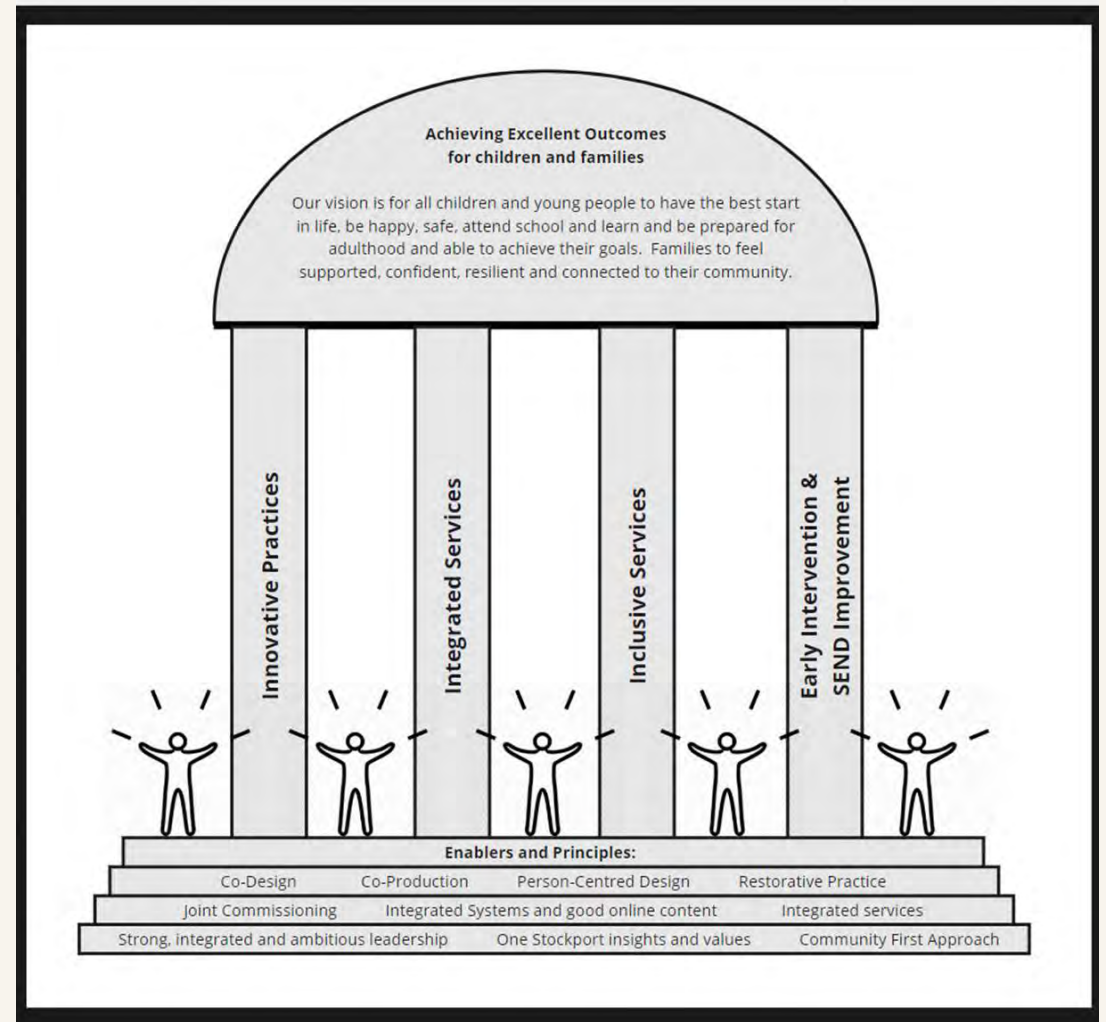


STOCKPORT'S WAY OF WORKING – PRINCIPLES AND APPROACH

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 further develop and deliver a clear early help offer for all children, young people and families.

We will further develop community and school based support focussed on wellbeing

We will focus on ...

- Communities
- Families
- Leadership
- Workforce
- Data, performance and systems

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

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



COMMUNITIES

- We will further integrate staff across the early help system so our early help offer is streamlined and aligned with effective community capacity support.
- We will offer enhanced virtual TAS meetings to all of our schools, including a focus on school attendance, emotional wellbeing and SEN support.
- We will further roll out the Children and Education Enhanced Integration Programme to another cluster and then across the Borough.
- We will work with our communities to develop with them the skills and resources to help themselves and others

FAMILIES

- We will further develop approaches to whole family working, including consideration of how the 'one key worker' / lead professional approach can operate to better co-ordinate whole family support
- We will provide a helpline and navigation point at our front door for professionals and families to understand the support options available to them.
- We will develop effective support for families, including children and young people without a diagnosis who have behavioural difficulties
- We will develop and implement an early help offer that caters for all children, is inclusive and community based and supports children's development and participation in education.
- We will develop access to good information and on line support for children and families.
- We will explore the opportunities to develop and all age early help offer, ensuring adult services are part of this with regard to parents & family needs.

LEADERSHIP

- We will build on our collaborative leadership to make it stronger and to develop a shared commissioning approach to early help. This will include shared outcomes, shared strategic performance framework, underpinned with data.
- We will simplify and re-direct resources to provide more holistic support that is not dependent on a child having a diagnosis.
- We will invest in broader range of programmes which support parents including those which meet the specific needs of children with autism
- We will review our short breaks offer to ensure support is provided at the earliest appropriate point.
- We will build on and learn from lived experience, sharing best practice across leadership and disciplines.

WORKFORCE

- We will develop an explicit shared understanding of early help and whole family working and its core practices across our children's workforce and partners, embedding early help as 'everyone's responsibility'.
- We will ensure that everyone knows their role in early help.
- We will develop a workforce offer for people working with children and families across Stockport, based on clear theoretical foundations and including access and skills in using evidence based tools.
- We will ensure the workforce are skilled and confident with a sound basis in understanding children's development and are able to identify and act on the early signs of neglect.



DATA PERFORMANCE SYSTEMS

- We will focus on measuring outcomes and impact of intervention and support.
- We will develop systems to bring together multiple data sources into one view.
- We will develop systems to measure progress and impact based on the lived experience of the child / family.
- We will present and analyse data at the Early Help Board in order to understand the contribution of all partners to the early help system.
- We will ensure data is used to inform workforce development and practice through a stronger focus at the Early Help Board.

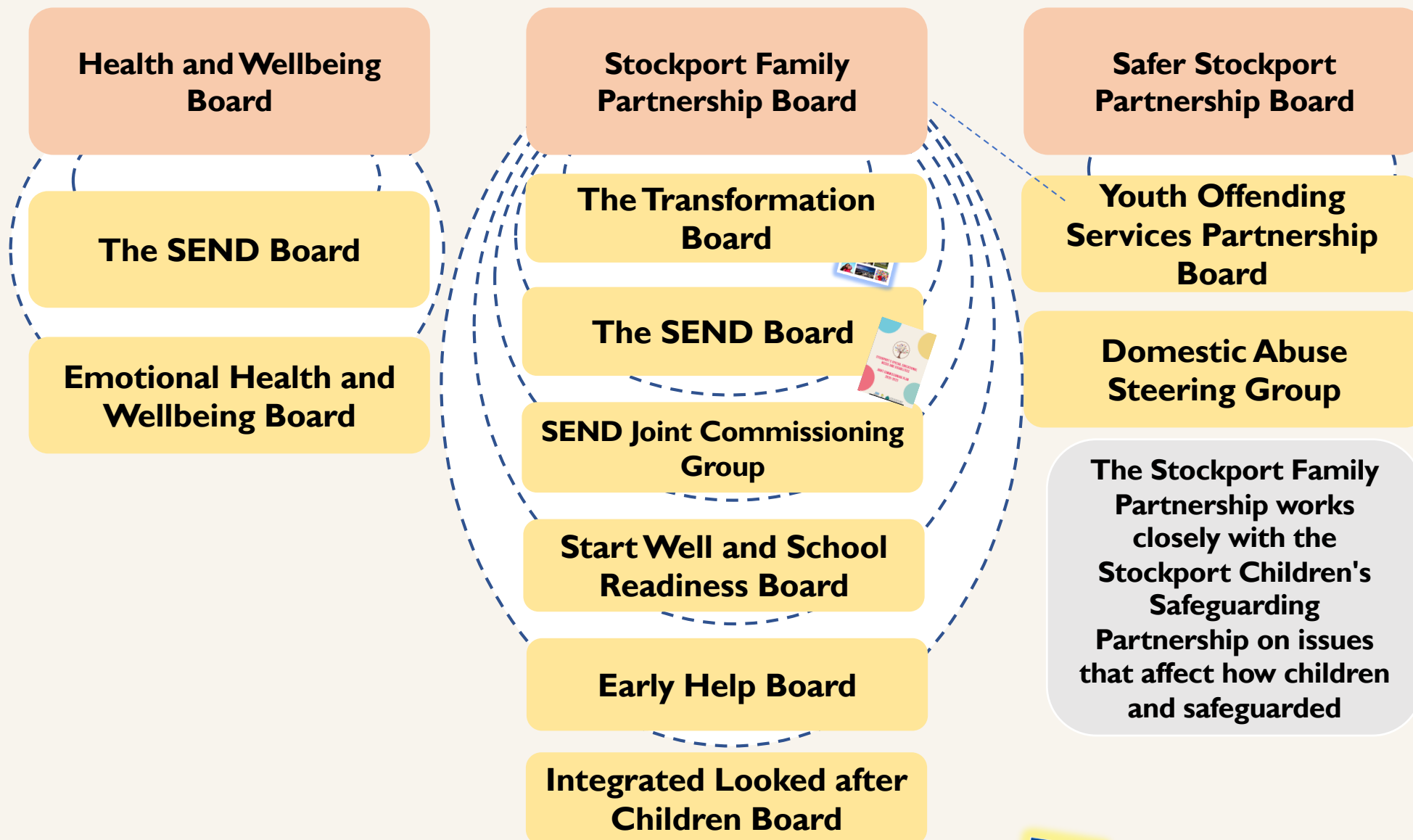
GOVERNANCE AND REVIEW

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

The strategy is overseen by the Early Help Board, reporting to 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.