

Aim: To ensure that all young children, supported by their families, are able to reach their potential by having the best possible start in life through the provision of high quality, integrated early childhood services that prepare them as lifelong learners.

What are the issues?

Despite 89% of all providers delivering early education places rated as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, and a year on year growth of all children achieving a good level of development (GLD) when they reach school age – the gap between some of the most vulnerable children and their peers is widening.

Our overall position with our statistical neighbours too has slipped last year from 4th (GLD) and 7th (GAP) position to 9th and 10th position respectively, last year (2015).

Who is involved?

Early years Specialist teachers have led work in each district.

Cross sector involvement in 7 districts through early years workforce (Private, Voluntary and independent sector) schools, health children's centres and parents e.g. 400 parents in Rushcliffe, 50 practitioners at transition information sharing event in one district, 98% attendance at transition event across schools and settings.

What is our response?

The service contributes to the council's strategic priority of raising educational attainment particularly for the most vulnerable young children, through the commissioning of early childhood services, i.e. Children Centres and Healthy Child Programme; direct support to the early years sector by the EY Advisory service, and via the coordination of partnership activity at a county and local through the Early Years Attainment Group, and Locality Management groups, and District Enjoy and Achieve Groups.

What are our priorities?

- Common understanding and definition of school readiness cross sector agreed in all districts
- School readiness work on bases of Child ready, parents' ready, school ready and community ready (American and UNESCO).
- Transition reviewed.
- Gold/silver and bronze audit for quality of transition arrangement devised.
- Transition documentation reviewed and revised cross sectors.
- Support materials and leaflets devised including child development leaflets for parents.
- School readiness and Together for Worksop shared with headteachers.

What do we need to do next?

- Revise the Early Years Improvement Plan to reflect the findings from the latest Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) data, paying particular attention to our priority groups of children, i.e. those looked after, (LAC);
- Review information sharing and documentation across Nottinghamshire
- Share district work across Nottinghamshire for definition and vision.
- Child development leaflets for parents disseminated.
- Further share Worksop model in areas of low attainment/high gap in attainment
- Ensure extended offer of childcare based on quality provision.
- Protocols for information sharing between multiple providers firmly embedded.
- Procedures for ensuring the progress of LAC embedded between Virtual head teacher and Quality Advisory Team.

For further information:

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