

Closing the gap in educational attainment – Action Plan

<p>Why is this a priority area?</p>	<p>Educational attainment gives young people greater opportunities for employment or further or higher education. It enables them to participate in society, achieving their full potential and contributing to their community and to the economy. Some children and young people may need more support to enable them to achieve. Both nationally and in Nottinghamshire, there is a gap between the achievements of disadvantaged children and young people and their peers. For all age groups, those pupils who are eligible for free school meals have lower attainment than their peers, on average. Others who may be disadvantaged include children and young people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have special education needs or disabilities • Have social or behaviour issues, including low attendance at school • Have physical or mental health issues • Are looked after by the local authority <p>These issues can be inter-linked, with many children and young people facing difficulties in several areas of their lives.</p>
<p>What works?</p>	<p>Nottinghamshire County Council works in partnership with schools and other providers and agencies to close the gap in attainment and to raise the standard of achievement for all children and young people. In Nottinghamshire, overall educational attainment continues to improve each year at a higher rate than nationally. Attainment by those from disadvantaged groups is also increasing, but there is still a significant gap between these learners' attainment and that of their peers. Although the "Together for Newark" project is at an early stage, the data on attainment for the 2012/13 academic year suggests that it is improving outcomes for learners who are eligible for free school meals</p>
<p>How will we know if we've been successful?</p>	<p>1. Reduce the attainment gap between children who are eligible for free school meals and their peers at all ages. Performance indicators for this outcome will include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attainment gap for those with a good level of development in the Early

	<p>Years Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attainment gap age 11 for Level 4 in reading, writing and mathematics between pupils for whom the Pupil Premium provides support, and the rest • Attainment gap at age 16 for 5 A*-C at GCSE (including English and mathematics) between pupils for whom the Pupil Premium provides support, and the rest <p>2. Continued improvement in the total number of Nottinghamshire learners who achieve 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent (including English & maths). The performance measure will be the achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades or equivalent, including English and mathematics</p> <p>3. Maintain and improve on the relatively high levels of participation in education, employment and training of young people aged 16-18. The performance measures will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of young people aged 16-18 in education, employment and training of young people aged 16-18 • Percentage of young people aged 16-18 not in education, employment or training (NEET) • Percentage of young people aged 16-18 whose education, employment or training • destination is not known <p>4. Increase the proportion of our young people who achieve a full level 3 qualification by the age of 19. The performance measure will be the percentage of young people who have attained a full Level 3 qualification by 19.</p>
What is the Health and Wellbeing Board's involvement?	The Health and Wellbeing Board will form part of the governance arrangements for the action plan.

Actions:

Action	Lead	Related plans
We will deliver on the commitment to devolve funding for the support of pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties to local School Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships.	Nottinghamshire Children's Trust	Children, Young people and Families Plan 2014 to 2016
We will work in partnership with schools and other organisations to close the gap in educational attainment	Nottinghamshire Children's Trust	Children, Young people and Families Plan 2014 to 2016

between disadvantaged children and young people and their peers, delivering actions within our Closing the Strategy for closing the educational gaps.		
We will identify how partner organisations can contribute to closing the gap in educational attainment, by improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people so that they are able to fulfil their educational potential.	Nottinghamshire Children's Trust	Children, Young people and Families Plan 2014 to 2016
We will raise the educational achievements and aspirations of looked after children and young people, by providing support and monitoring to the schools that they attend.	Nottinghamshire Children's Trust	Children, Young people and Families Plan 2014 to 2016
We will raise the educational achievements of children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs, by developing more coordinated support and early help services.	Nottinghamshire Children's Trust	Children, Young people and Families Plan 2014 to 2016