

Development of an 0 -5 Integrated Early Years / School Ready Strategy

Children's Services Scrutiny Panel



Walsall Council

14th April 2015

Overview

- Why we need an Integrated Strategy
- What the data tells us
- Early Years in Walsall now
- Key Early Years Partners
- The policy direction
- Where we want to be – aims of the Integrated Strategy
- How we will know we're having an impact
- Next steps



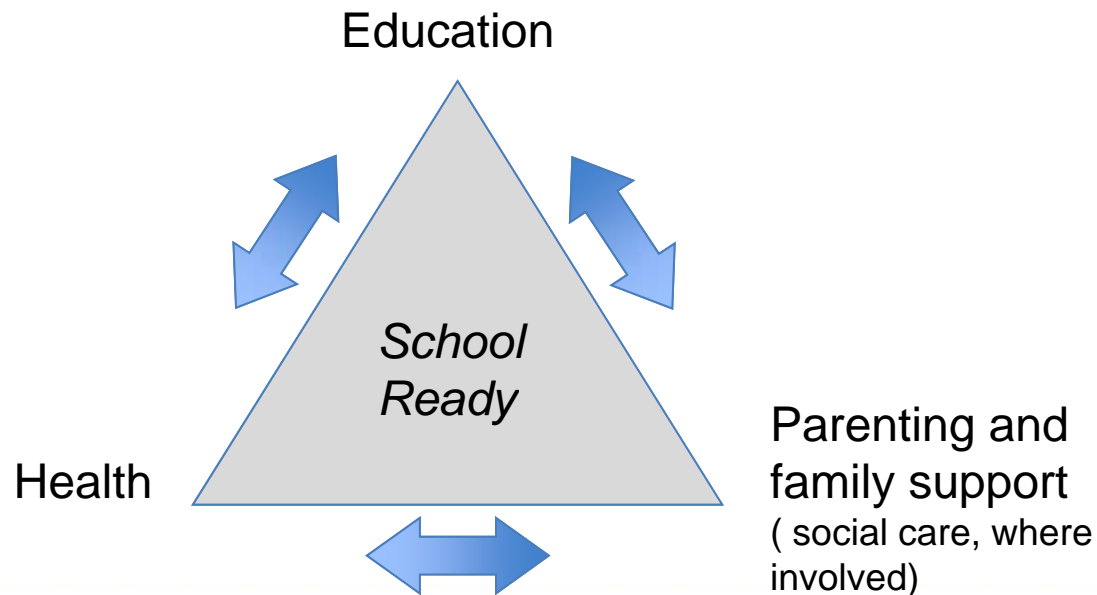
Why we need an Integrated Strategy

- **To improve Health, Education and well being outcomes for children 0-5**
- **To better coordinate what we do – changing landscape**
- **All components equally important and interdependent**
- **Evidence that getting it right in early years can reduce social and health risks... and cost later in life**
- **Everyone's business - Early help, early on at the right time to the right families**
- **Policy drivers promote joined up approach : E.g. 2 year old development check**



School Ready : Everyone's Business

*Early childhood services cover integrated provision from pre-birth to the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage and are referred to as **School Ready** services*



What does the national and local data tell us about Early Years in Walsall - Education

2014 EYFS Good Level Development Data

Pupils	Walsall	National Average	Percentage Gap
All	53%	60%	-7%
EAL	50%	53%	-3%
Non EAL	55%	63%	-8%
FSM	42%	45%	-3%
Non FSM	57%	64%	-7%
Difference	15% (between disadvantaged children and their peers)		



What does the national and local data tell us about Early Years in Walsall - Health

Walsall is better than the national average for:

- Immunisations rates
- A and E attendances for 0 -4's

Walsall is significantly worse than the national average in a number of key health indicators that impact on Early Years and school ready:

- Infant Mortality
- Smoking in Pregnancy
- Breastfeeding
- Low Birth Weight
- Childhood Obesity



Early Years in Walsall now

- 90% of PVI Sector Childcare providers are rated Good or Outstanding
- 80% of Children's Centre are rated Good or Outstanding
- All Nursery schools in Walsall are rated Outstanding
- Improving attainment in Early Years Good Learning Development rising 46% in 2013 → 53% in 2014 (+7) However, National Average Rise 52% → 60% (+8%)
- 251 multiagency practitioners trained in parenting interventions
- Health Visitor workforce expanded and meeting national recruitment targets
- 87% of children access a mainstream school nursery education, 13% access PVI setting
- Approximately 98% of children attend a mainstream school reception class, 2% PVI settings



Key Early Years Partners

- Nursery schools
- Nursery classes
- Schools
- Children's Centre Services
- Private, Voluntary & Independent Sector (PVI)
- Child-minders
- School nurses, Health Visitors, Midwives & CAMHS
- Social Care and family support colleagues
- Early Help, including parenting strategies
- SEND
- Speech and language therapy services



Policy direction

- **Two Year Old** Free Education Entitlement offer
- Provision of more joined up **early help offer** to vulnerable families with concept of **school ready** at core
- Children's centre service focus on local **targeted** support
- Attainment Profile and introduction of **Baseline Assessment**
- New **SEN Code** from September 2014
- **Early Years Pupil Premium** from April 2015
- Development of **School to School Support**
- Role of **Early Years Teaching Schools** in leadership and dissemination of best practice
- **Commissioning responsibility for Health Visiting** including Family Nurse Partnership moves to Local Authority Oct 2015
- Increased Health Visiting workforce offering a universal and targeted service



Where we want to be - aims of the Integrated Strategy

- Close gaps between vulnerable early learners and their peers to ensure all children achieve a good level of development at the end of reception class, in line with national averages
- Integrate service delivery to develop , retain and embed high quality workforce expertise especially around resilient children and resilient families
- Improve early education to ensure all children attend good and outstanding local settings whether provided by school, nursery, PVI or child-minder
- Improve % of disadvantaged children achieving a good level of development at the end of the reception class
- Support resilient parenting and encourage high quality home learning environments
- Develop Children's Centre services as effective local Early Help hubs increasingly used by vulnerable families and recognised as leading practice around early identification, intervention and support
- Improve health outcomes to reduce smoking in pregnancy, low birth weights and obesity



Next Steps

- 4 planning sessions with all partners to scope and develop strategy
- Identify key priorities and develop an action plan to deliver change through partnership working
- Align the overarching strategy with Early Help, Health and Well Being and School Improvement Strategies
- Develop a Communication Strategy & Accountability Framework
- Develop an Integrated Workforce Development Plan



Questions

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