

# SOUTHWARK'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

2013-2016

A summary of our priorities for  
children, young people and families

**BEST  
START**

**SAFETY  
AND  
STABILITY**

**CHOICE  
AND  
CONTROL**

# OUR VISION FOR SOUTHWARK

“Every child, young person and family in Southwark thrives and is empowered to lead a safe and healthy life. We will work together to deliver high-quality services that make a measurable difference in helping to overcome inequality and disadvantage, and strengthen families’ abilities to raise their children successfully and independently.”

**Southwark’s Children and Families’ Trust developed the Children and Young People’s Plan to set out how we will improve services for children and families in the borough over the next three years to 2016.**

We began developing the plan in June 2012 when we went out into our communities and workforce and asked about their stories and journeys. More than 1,000 children, young people, parents, carers, staff and practitioners responded. These journeys have shaped our plan for local services.

We also looked at the demand and performance of local services and talked to senior decision-makers about what services they felt were working well and what needed to change.

We then took all of this information and developed three transformation areas in the Children and Young People’s Plan:

## **Best start**

Children, young people and families access the right services at the right time, from early years to adolescence

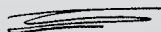
## **Safety and stability**

Support for our most vulnerable children, young people and families to bring safe, positive and lasting change

## **Choice and control**

Seamless, personalised support for children and young people with a special educational need or disability

This leaflet sets out what changes you can expect to see, and each year we will publish how well we are doing in achieving these promises.



# BEST START

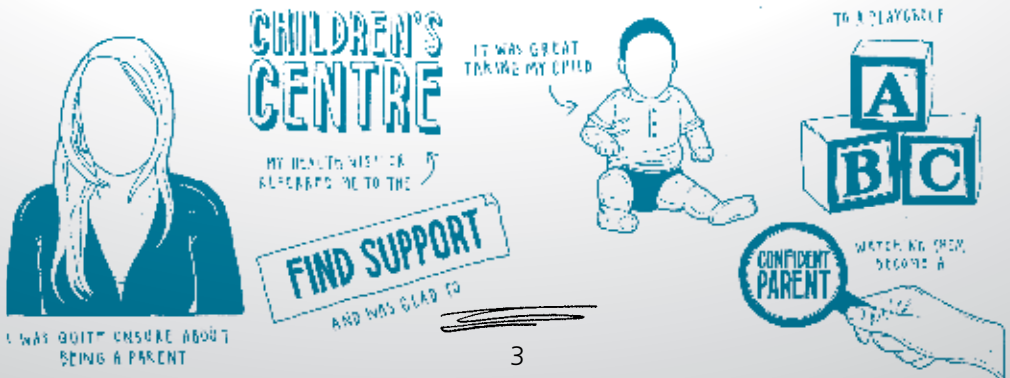
We promise to make sure that children, young people and families can access the right support at the right time – from early years to adolescence – giving them the best start on their journeys.

## What does this priority mean?

We all need a little help at some point in our life – maybe when we are a new parent with a new baby, when we are starting school or when we are recovering from a difficult situation in family life. So we are committed to making sure that you can access the services you need when and how you need them, to help you on to the path to success.

## What can you expect to change through this priority?

- To find it easier to use local services such as antenatal services, childcare or services in children's centres
- More children having their health and education checks and immunisations, and more having better health and taking up free early education places
- Fewer young people missing school or being involved in crime
- More families achieving permanent positive changes more quickly following support from specialist services



# SAFETY AND STABILITY

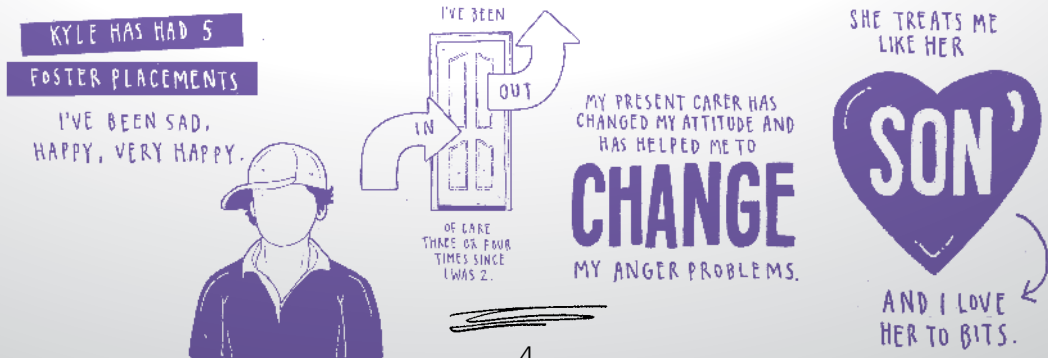
We promise to make sure that our most vulnerable children, young people and families receive timely, purposeful support that brings safe, lasting and positive change – providing safety and stability which might be otherwise missing.

## What does this priority mean?

Every child and young person should grow up in a safe, loving and stable home – and it is everyone's responsibility to make sure they do. So we are committed to working to support families and communities to keep children safe, and help them lead happy, healthy and safe lives.

## What you can expect to change through this priority?

- More effective help for parents struggling to care for their children
- More children and young people living in a permanent and stable home
- More foster carers and children being adopted
- Vulnerable children and young people succeeding better at school



# CHOICE AND CONTROL

We promise that children and young people with a special educational need or disability and their families will be able to access a local offer of seamless, personalised support from childhood to adulthood.

## What does this priority mean?

Every child and young person deserves to live a full, happy and independent life – and a special educational need or disability should not prevent this. So we are committed to making sure that these children and young people are able to choose the services they need – regardless of whether they need health, education or social care support – in order to live life to the fullest.

## What can you expect to change through this priority?

- More children and young people who need it being offered integrated support spanning health, education and social care services
- More services of the kind you need and want to be available, and to find it easier to find out about them
- Eligible children and young people to have the right to a personal budget – which means they have the freedom to buy the services they need
- More young people supported right into adulthood – up to the age of 25 – helping them to be independent and successful



**Southwark's Children and Families' Trust is the partnership of local agencies which safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children, young people and families in Southwark.**

The partnership consists of representatives from key agencies with responsibilities for children and young people including: Southwark Council, Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group, Southwark Police, and representatives from local health providers, schools and the voluntary and community sector.

**For more information, or to get a copy of the plan,**  
call: **020 7525 3674**  
email: **childrenandfamiliestrust@southwark.gov.uk**  
visit: **www.southwark.gov.uk**

Write to us at:

**Southwark's Children and Families' Trust,**  
Children's and Adults' Services,  
Southwark Council,  
PO Box 64529,  
London SE1 5LX

If you would like a copy of this brochure in large print, please call **020 7525 3674**.

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**My Southwark customer service point**

11 Market Place,  
Southwark Park Road, SE16

**Peckham one stop shop**

Ground Floor, Library,  
122 Peckham Hill Street, SE15

