

Key Priority 1: To develop partnerships to promote better outcomes for all children and their families 0 – 5 (links to CASL Plan Priority Area 1)

- 1a) Increase GLD to be in line with national in 2018
- 1b) Diminish the difference between GLD for Cumbria's disadvantaged pupils, and their non-disadvantaged peers nationally from a baseline of 28% in 2016
- 1c) Implement multi-agency speech and language pathways of support which promote earlier identification and support for young children's communication
- 1d) County wide co-location of Health Visitors within Children's Centres, leading to integrated working and referrals
- 1e) Promote high quality early years teaching in mathematics through building capacity and peer support opportunities within the system
- 1f) Promote high quality writing opportunities through integration into the English Strategic Group

Additional Strategic School Improvement outcomes (if successful):

- 1g) Diminish the disadvantage gap in targeted SSIF schools
- 1h) Increase SLC skills in SSIF schools which will also improve writing

Key Priority 3: To ensure smooth transitions for children across the early years (links to CASL Plan Priority Area 1)

- 3a) Analyse feedback and impact of Transition document pilot
- 3b) Embed transition process with all providers across the county and review impact
- 3c) Embed support from Children's Centres – one footprint per district
- 3d) Development of Vulnerable Learner Clusters and support programme (Strategic School Improvement Fund)

**Cumbria Early
Years Strategy
2017 - 2019**

Vision

By working together, we will lay firm foundations to enable every child and family to have opportunities to progress and raise their aspirations

Key Priority 2: To improve outcomes for disadvantaged children, including those that are looked after, and previously looked after children (links to CASL Plan Priority Area 1)

- 2a) Apply to SSIF for an early years disadvantage project and support delivery if successful
- 2b) Develop wider partnerships with other local authorities in closing gaps in achievement of all children aged 0 – 5 years
- 2c) Develop accessible good practice guidance for all early years practitioners to maximise impact of Early Years Pupil Premium
- 2d) Develop good practice guidance for looked after children (CLA) and implement system to ensure early years settings provide targeted support
- 2e) Implement effective use of the Early Years PEP to ensure CLA make at least expected progress
- 2f) Develop close joint working with Virtual School to improve outcomes for CLA
- 2g) Link to Dismantling Disadvantage Development group to target support in high priority schools
- 2h) Gather evidence of impact of 2 year old funding in Cumbria
- 2i) Provide support to refugee children arriving in Cumbria through the Government Resettlement Programme
- 2j) Support aims of Children's Trust Child Poverty work stream to impact on outcomes for children in poverty

Key Priority 4: To develop sufficient high quality provision for children aged 0 – 5

- 4a) Full implementation of 30 hours childcare
- 4b) Map out existing Early Years Continuing Professional Development opportunities across Cumbria
- 4c) Liaise with partners to provide elements of CPD
- 4d) Development of Early Years website with accessible tools and resources
- 4e) Benchmark and link with other local authorities
- 4f) Quality Assurance of Healthy Child Programme
- 4g) Review system leadership across the early years in Cumbria, utilising key partners
- 4h) Improve environments of Children's Centres further to provide increased learning opportunities

Key Priority 5: To support the emotional health and well-being of our youngest children

- 5a) Refresh Emotional Health and Well-being principles with Early Years settings
- 5b) Embed well-being tools and resources for 0 – 4s
- 5c) Improve contact space experiences for looked after children
- 5d) Develop toolkit of support for Parental Mental Health and Attachment

Key Priority 6: To embed services for children requiring additional SEND support, and their families

- 6a) To increase the number of early years children with SEND achieving GLD to diminish the difference between children with SEND and their peers (Linked to Priority 1 including targeted areas identified particularly Carlisle and Copeland).
- 6b) To strengthen the knowledge, skills and understanding of SENCO's to further their expertise and ensure inclusive practice is implemented and children with SEND are identified at the earliest point.
- 6c) To reduce and close the word gap in early years to ensure more disadvantaged children are able to experience a rich language environment in order that they can begin school ready to thrive (Linked to Priority 2 Cumbria's SSIF project).
- 6d) Improve the availability and take up of high quality early years provision for children with SEND.
- 6e) To embed the 2YO integrated review to support early identification and intervention for early years children (Linked to Priority 7d).

Key Priority 7: To support integrated working and early identification of need for children 0 – 2 years

- 7a) Support aspirations of the Maternity Strategy
- 7b) Develop signs of safety practice with 0 – 2s
- 7c) Children's Centres to strengthen partnership working to support disadvantaged 2 year olds, and develop effective practice
- 7d) Review the 2 year old integrated review process
- 7e) Develop agreed pathway of information distribution with families between Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Midwifery and Children's Centres
- 7f) To support the delivery of key messages about early intervention by Midwives and Health Visitors during antenatal/perinatal visits.
- 7g) Strengthen delivery of child health clinics

Key Priority 8: To support children in Cumbria to have and maintain a healthy weight

- 8a) Implementation of Baby Friendly Initiative in Children's Centres and Cumbria Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust
- 8b) Ensure sufficient numbers of breastfeeding support groups across Cumbria
- 8c) Establish National Child Measurement Programme screening process via Children's Centres, and offers of support
- 8d) Develop a healthy weight pathway for the early years
- 8e) Encourage a culture of active, healthy environments
- 8f) Increase family healthy activity via Healthy Movers
- 8g) Promote and embed nutritional guidelines across the sector
- 8h) Smile for Life refresh in Children's Centres