

23 June 2005

Dear Colleagues,

At the recent head teacher meetings you will have heard me talking about our vision for children and young people in Norfolk and the outcomes we want to achieve for them. I'm really pleased that we have now been able to put these together in a way that can be shared with everyone who works with children and young people. I hope that you can share my enthusiasm for communicating the vision and outcomes to everyone and make available to all your staff a copy of the leaflet we've produced.

To this end, I will be sending a bundle of leaflets entitled 'Working Together - Every Child Matters' in the courier to every school in the county. There should be enough for you to distribute a copy to each teacher and classroom assistant in your school.

The leaflet is the culmination of an extensive consultation process to ensure these outcomes reflect the needs of Norfolk as well as incorporating the national outcomes.

Over the next few weeks I aim to distribute this to everyone in the county who works with children including health, children's services, the Youth Offending Team, Connexions and the voluntary sector.

My hope is that it will give people a better idea of the vision and that it will encourage everyone to share in it.

Thanks for your help,

Lisa Christensen



working together every **child** matters

a **brighter** future for Norfolk's young people



a **vision** for young people in Norfolk

On the basis of what children and young people have told us:

We believe that all children and young people have the right to be **healthy, happy and safe**; to be **loved, valued and respected**; and to have **high aspirations** for their **future**.

Many people and organisations will contribute to the achievement of the vision – families and other carers, communities and organisations providing services for children and young people, as well as children and young people themselves.

The vision is what we want for all children and young people in Norfolk.

We know that we will need to create opportunities and encourage and support children and young people in taking up these opportunities. We will aim to give them the best possible chances in life.

working together

Working together is vital if we are going to make this vision and these outcomes a reality. We hope this leaflet has given you a better idea of our vision for every child and young person and that you will share in our vision.

This leaflet has been prepared on behalf of Norfolk's Every Child Matters Advisory Board and is aimed at everyone who works with children and young people in Norfolk.

For more information contact Children's Services
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You can also visit:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/council/everychildmatters

Or for national news:

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

Library photographs, courtesy www.johnbirdsall.co.uk



every **child** matters

Every Child Matters is a national programme of change to implement the Children Act 2004.

At the heart of this is the focus on achieving good outcomes for children and young people.

The Government expects that, over time, local areas will develop children's trust arrangements. The key aims of these arrangements will be:

- To integrate services around the needs of children and young people to maximise opportunity and minimise risk
- To shift the focus from dealing with the consequences of difficulties in children's lives to preventing things from going wrong in the first place.





outcomes

We will be working to the five national outcomes that are key to well-being in childhood and later life – being healthy; staying safe; enjoying and achieving; making a positive contribution; and achieving economic well-being – but we wanted to ensure our outcomes reflected the situation here. After extensive consultation we produced a Norfolk set of outcomes that have a different expression at each age or stage as children grow and develop.

For children by the time they start in the **reception class** at school, we want them to:

- Be loved and happy at home with the confidence to make relationships with others
- Be eager, excited, curious, creative and engaged in learning
- Have the best possible health and development
- Be safe and have a growing awareness of risk.



For children by the time they go to **high school**, we want them to:

- Be confident, happy and able to cope with the ups and downs of life and able to relate positively to others
- Be learning, achieving and contributing to their world, recognising their own achievements and aspiring to success
- Have the best possible health and development and be able to start making choices about a healthy lifestyle
- Be and feel safe and be increasingly able to make decisions about risk.

For young people as they reach **adulthood**, we want them to:

- Be and feel loved by their families and valued and respected by their communities; have a sense of belonging; and have an ability to develop and sustain positive relationships
- Be and feel equipped to make life choices and to take responsibility for themselves; have a sense of achievement; and have positive

expectations for their future and the contribution they can make to the well-being of others

- Have the best possible health and development and behave in a way that enhances their health and well-being
- Be and feel safe and equipped to make informed decisions about risks.

These reflect the following four outcomes that run through all age groups.

- Being emotionally secure and able to make relationships
- Being engaged, achieving and contributing
- Having the best possible health and development
- Being safe.



activities to deliver the **vision** and **outcomes**

In order to achieve these outcomes partner agencies in Norfolk intend to:

- Develop the capacity of schools to support the broad spectrum of children's development and so make schools the focus of their communities
- Develop other Children's Services so that Norfolk has a range of services proven to meet the needs of children whose development is impaired or is likely to be impaired
- Boost options for children in their early years so that there is universal 0-4 provision for those families that want it
- Improve support to parents and carers to help them successfully bring up their children
- Boost support for children from the communities in which they live, at the local, district and county level.