

# MANCHESTER CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SERVICES - TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

2024-2028

## Our mission

We believe Manchester is a place where children matter, are heard, listened to, and can shape - as well as benefit from - the opportunities a successful and dynamic city offers. It is place that inspires ideas, confidence, creativity and innovation. A place where good practice flourishes and people are truly valued for their role in helping all children and young people to thrive, to be:

SAFE

HAPPY

HEALTHY

SUCCESSFUL

## What we do every day to achieve our mission

In addition to the education system in 'place' to ensure there are sufficient high quality education provision available including education other than at school (EHE/Section 19 and EOTAS provision) and responding to needs of children with additional needs and those who are 'vulnerable'; promoting the attendance of all children.

We are committed to upholding children's rights and are relentlessly focussed on protecting and promoting the welfare of children in Manchester. We want children to be brought up within their own families and community where possible and to improve their wellbeing and reduce inequalities.

The performance and impact of children and education services are regularly monitored and reported against a comprehensive performance and assurance framework.

We are committed to helping children and families earlier to avoid the unnecessary escalation of need to crisis point. When there is a need for the council to be involved in children's lives, we do this with focus, purpose and in partnership with parents, carers and other agencies such as police, health, and schools.

A full list of the services we provide can be found on our pages of the Council website, and our delivery plans for these are refreshed annually to ensure we continue to take our services to the next level.

## Priorities for the next three years

We are proud of the services and support that we provide to the children and families in Manchester. We know there are some areas that we can improve to be even better. We have therefore identified six priority areas which we will focus on whilst continuing to delivering our core business well. Service delivery plans and an outcomes framework provide the detail of how we will achieve these.

**PRIORITY 1:** We will help children to **live well in their families and communities and feel they belong**; providing timely and effective support so that their parents/carers enable them to be safe, happy, healthy and successful.

**PRIORITY 3:** We will work to ensure children are **safe from harm outside the home** and work with parents, carers and other professionals to mitigate vulnerability, disrupt and prevent them being exploited, harmed or involved in offending.

**PRIORITY 5:** We will work with schools and settings to enable **appropriate, inclusive and high-quality education for every child** to develop and be successful.



**PRIORITY 2:** . We will; **succeed in our roles as corporate parents** so that children in our care achieve outcomes that are equal or better to all children.

**PRIORITY 4:** We will develop, deliver and influence effective **commissioning of the best services** which are equitable and responsive to children and family's needs and which are informed by them.

**PRIORITY 6:** We will help children and families to be **confident, independent and resilient, and to prepare for transitions** in their lives, including into adulthood.

## Working smarter, together

The Children's Directorate of Manchester City Council cannot achieve these alone, and we draw on people and organisations from across the city, the region and nationally to work together, with children and families themselves.

To help us achieve our priorities we will:

- ▶ Ensure everything we do is informed by Our Manchester behaviours and adopting a Children's Rights approach.
- ▶ Listen to children, young people, parents and our workforce. We will understand their individual and diverse viewpoints and lived experiences.
- ▶ Challenge inequality and promote equity.
- ▶ Ensure children and families experiences of our services are engaging, respectful, transparent, proportionate and responsive to their individual strengths and support needs.
- ▶ Work well with others to provide a joined up team around the child and family, sharing information, skills and support appropriately.
- ▶ Continue to maximise the use of additional funding opportunities, to develop our staff, and make best use of the resources we have.

## Contact:

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