



North Yorkshire  
Children's Trust

# Young and Yorkshire

Happy, healthy, achieving

The plan for all children,  
young people and  
their families living  
in North Yorkshire

Enter



# Contents

	<b><u>Foreword</u></b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1</b>	<b><u>About the plan</u></b>	
	• Who wrote this plan and what it covers	<b>7</b>
	• The plan on a page	<b>8</b>
<b>2</b>	<b><u>What we know</u></b>	
	• Background information about children and young people in North Yorkshire	<b>10</b>
	• The views of children and young people	<b>11</b>
	• Progress since the last plan	<b>12</b>
<b>3</b>	<b><u>Happy, healthy and achieving</u></b>	<b>13</b>
	• Our Vision	
	• Our nine priorities	
	• Key considerations	
	• Our overall approach	
<b>4</b>	<b><u>Our call to action</u></b>	<b>27</b>
	• A commitment from the Children's Trust Board	
	<b><u>Annexes</u></b>	
<b>A</b>	More about the Children's Trust	<b>30</b>
<b>B</b>	The "planning Bookcase"	<b>31</b>
<b>C</b>	More about 'A happy family life'	<b>32</b>
<b>D</b>	More about 'A healthy start to life'	<b>37</b>
<b>E</b>	More about 'Education as our greatest liberator'	<b>42</b>

# Foreword

## Welcome to Young and Yorkshire 2



# Foreword

**This is a plan for all children, young people and their families living in North Yorkshire.**

In this new plan we have retained many features of the first 'Young and Yorkshire' plan. This is not because we are complacent, but because we believe it has already made, and can continue to make, a real difference in the lives of children and young people. The ambitious and aspirational approach of *Young and Yorkshire* was embraced by partners across the county, and this has been critical to its success.

But just as the children whose voice so heavily influenced our first 'Young and Yorkshire' plan have matured, so have our ambitions. We want to make not just step-by-step improvements, but to start to address some of the more difficult challenges that sometimes limit children's life chances - whether it be the school they go to, the community they grow up in, or the earnings of their parents. We do not accept these limits on the opportunities for children and young people in North Yorkshire.

At the same time, the national agenda around children's services has continued to evolve since the first *Young and Yorkshire*. This has brought opportunities as well as challenges, and North Yorkshire is well placed to respond. We benefit from a strong school community and a nationally-acclaimed children's service, both of which are underpinned by a range of dedicated partner agencies including the police, health and voluntary sector.

This plan cannot answer all of the issues which we have identified, especially in areas where we need to do more work to understand the underlying causes. This plan is intended to be a "live" document that provides an overarching framework to stimulate action, encourage debate and support continuous challenge of our collective leadership. It will drive conversations across the partnership and also with children, young people, families and front line professionals to help ensure that whatever we do genuinely makes a difference to their lives.

**Let this plan, like its predecessor, renew our collective energy and enthusiasm for what we do, and our shared ambition to make sure that North Yorkshire really is one of the greatest places in which to grow up.**



**Peter Dwyer**

**Chair**

North Yorkshire Children's Trust

**Corporate Director**

Children and Young People's Service



# How was your day?

A mundane yet powerful question asked from adult to child in the hope of a recounting of a sandpit ruckus or classroom catastrophe. Yet it is these days, months and steadily years that build childhoods of listening and being listened to. This plan is a triumphant recognition that the voice of the young deserves to be heard outside of sandcastle testimonies. Indeed, the progress it outlines as having been already enacted evidences the awesome power in not only the rolling barrage of mutual listening, but the promise of finding individual value in each young person's experience. So as we young people grow into the future of North Yorkshire, 'Young and Yorkshire' represents a county growing with us, ready to face challenges beside us and open to growth because of us. Thus making "**How was your childhood?**" more and more likely to overflow with the joyous response that each child deserves.

**Emily Capstick**

Chair of the North Yorkshire Youth Voice Executive



# About the plan



# About the plan

This plan has been written for all children, young people and their families in North Yorkshire, including families who may only recently have arrived here such as service families, refugees and unaccompanied asylum seeking children. Any references to “child” or “children” should be taken to mean any young person aged 0-19 (ie, the 19th birthday), care leavers up to the age of 25 (ie, the 25th birthday), and young people up to the age of 25 who have special educational needs and disabilities for whom the local authority continues to provide support.

The plan has been written by the North Yorkshire Children’s Trust; a partnership that represents all the agencies working with children and young people across the county.

The Children’s Trust unites all partners providing services for children and young people at both a strategic and local level. References to “we” in this document are intended to refer to the Trust collectively, working in close partnership with children and their families.

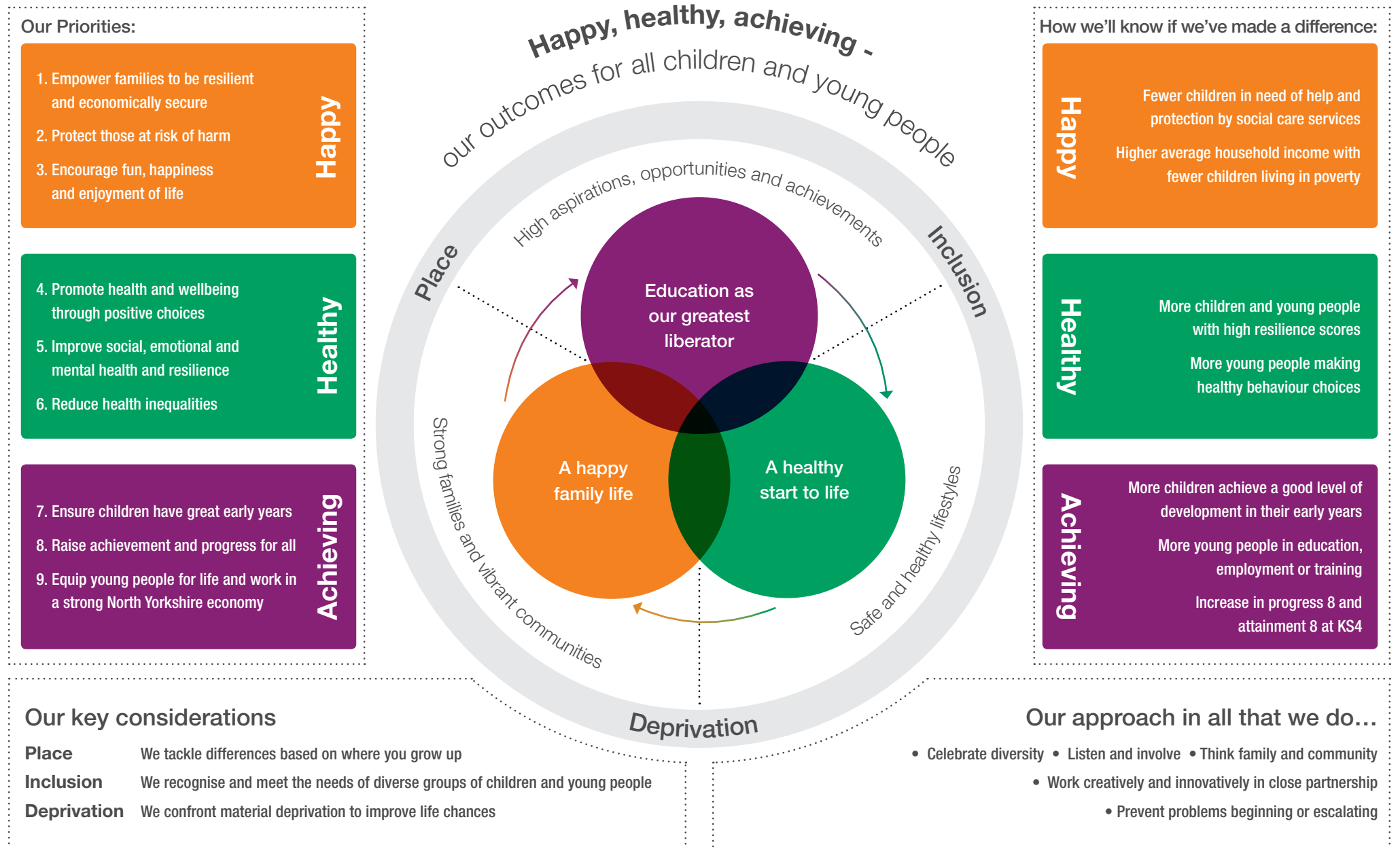
## **The plan is in three broad sections:**

- **some background information, including an assessment of our progress since the first *Young and Yorkshire*, and what young people have told us**
- **our vision, outcomes, priorities and overall approach**
- **our call to action**

The annexes give more detail about the outcomes we want this plan to achieve.

# Young and Yorkshire 2 - The plan on a page

**The vision: A place of opportunity where all children and young people are happy, healthy and achieving**



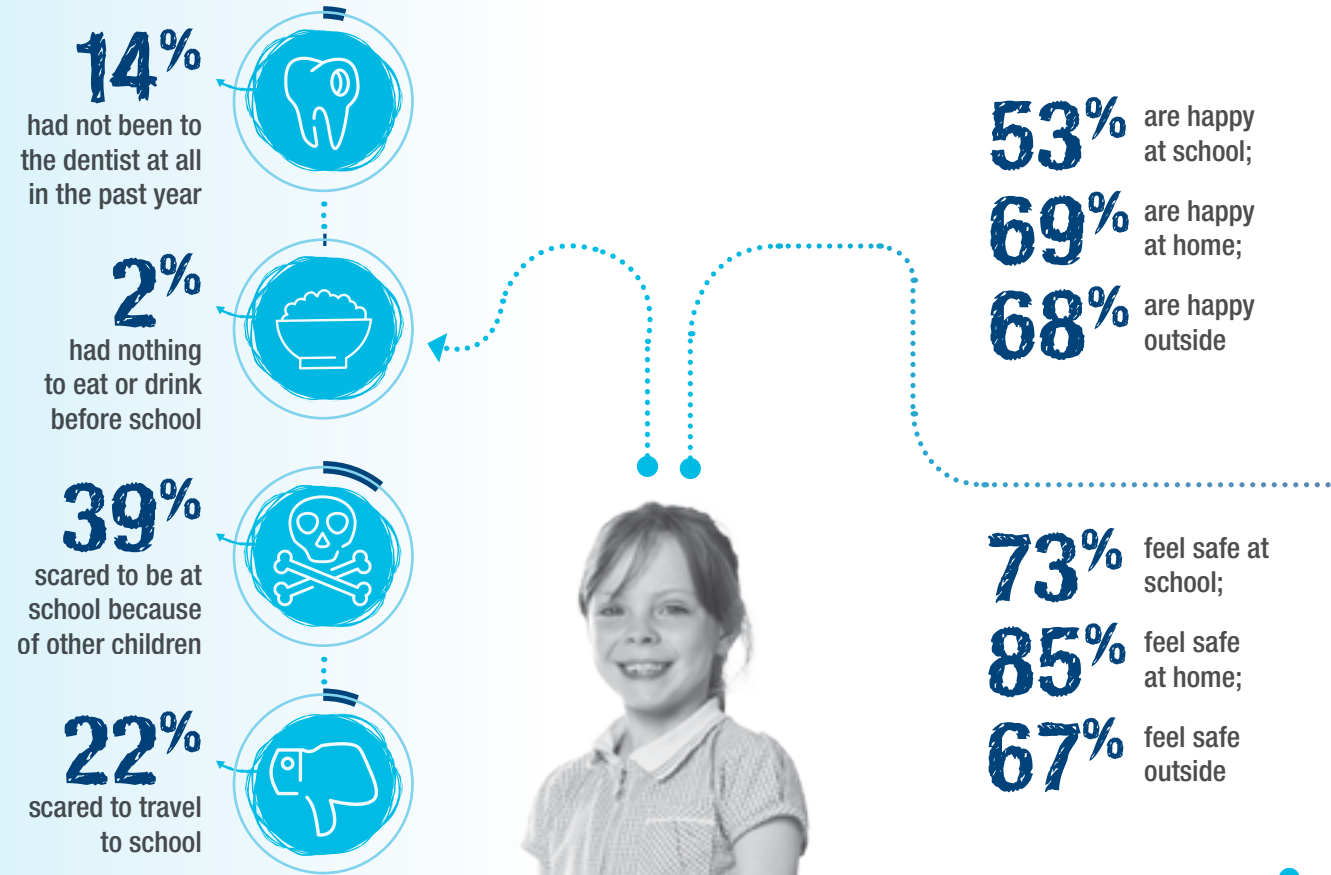


# What we know

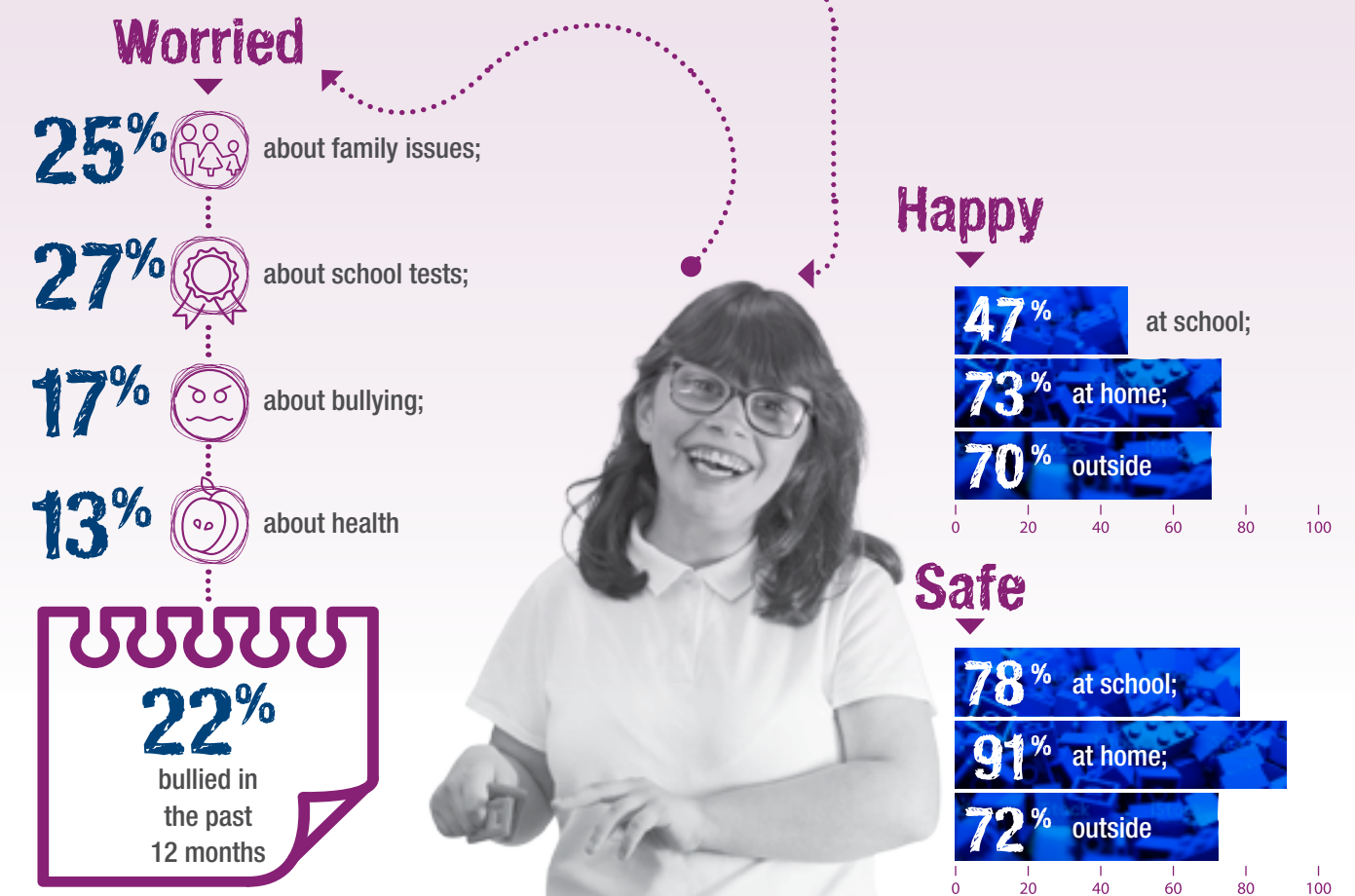


# Growing up in North Yorkshire

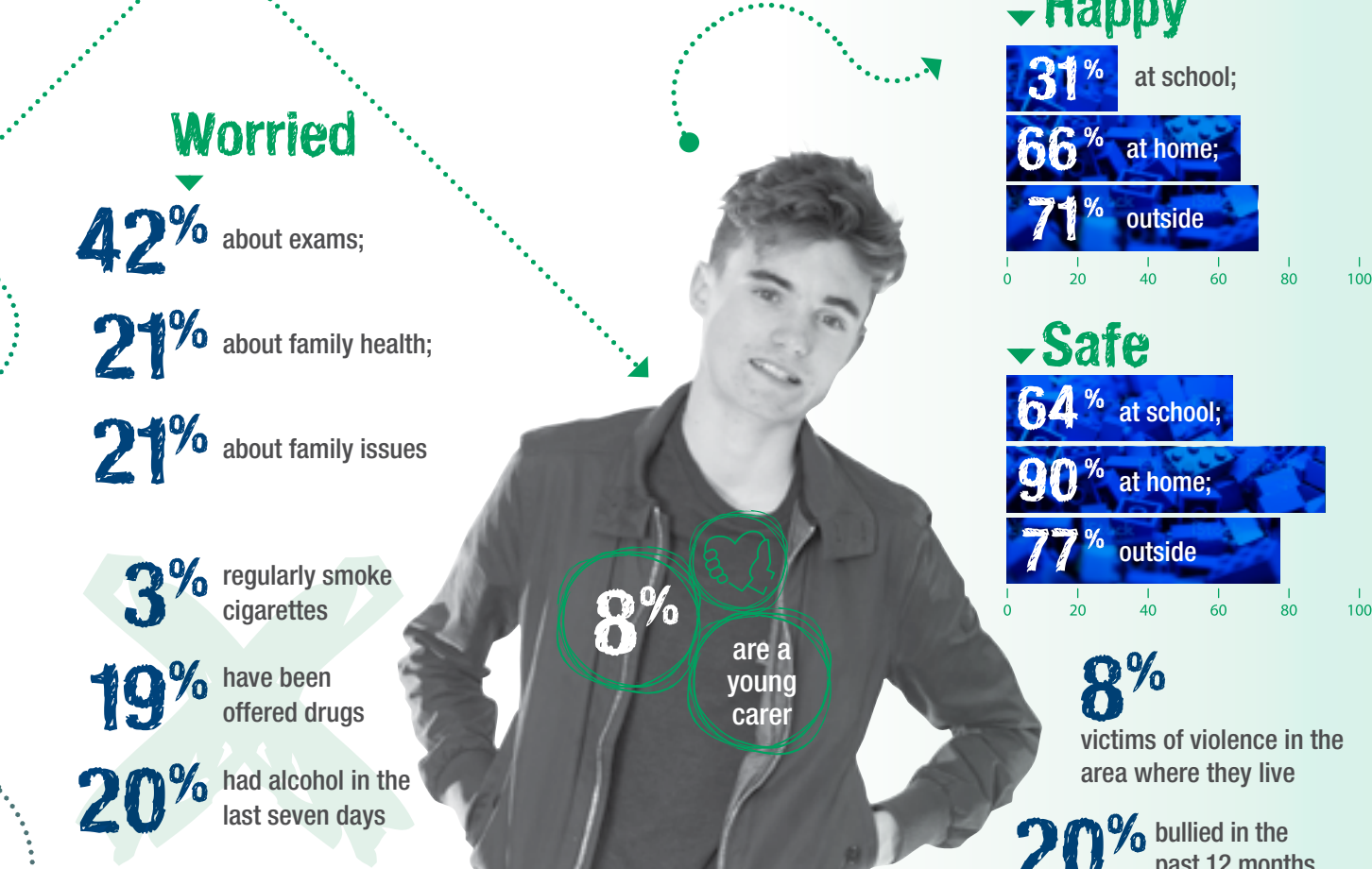
Data is from the 2016 survey



## 6-7 year olds



## 7-10 year olds

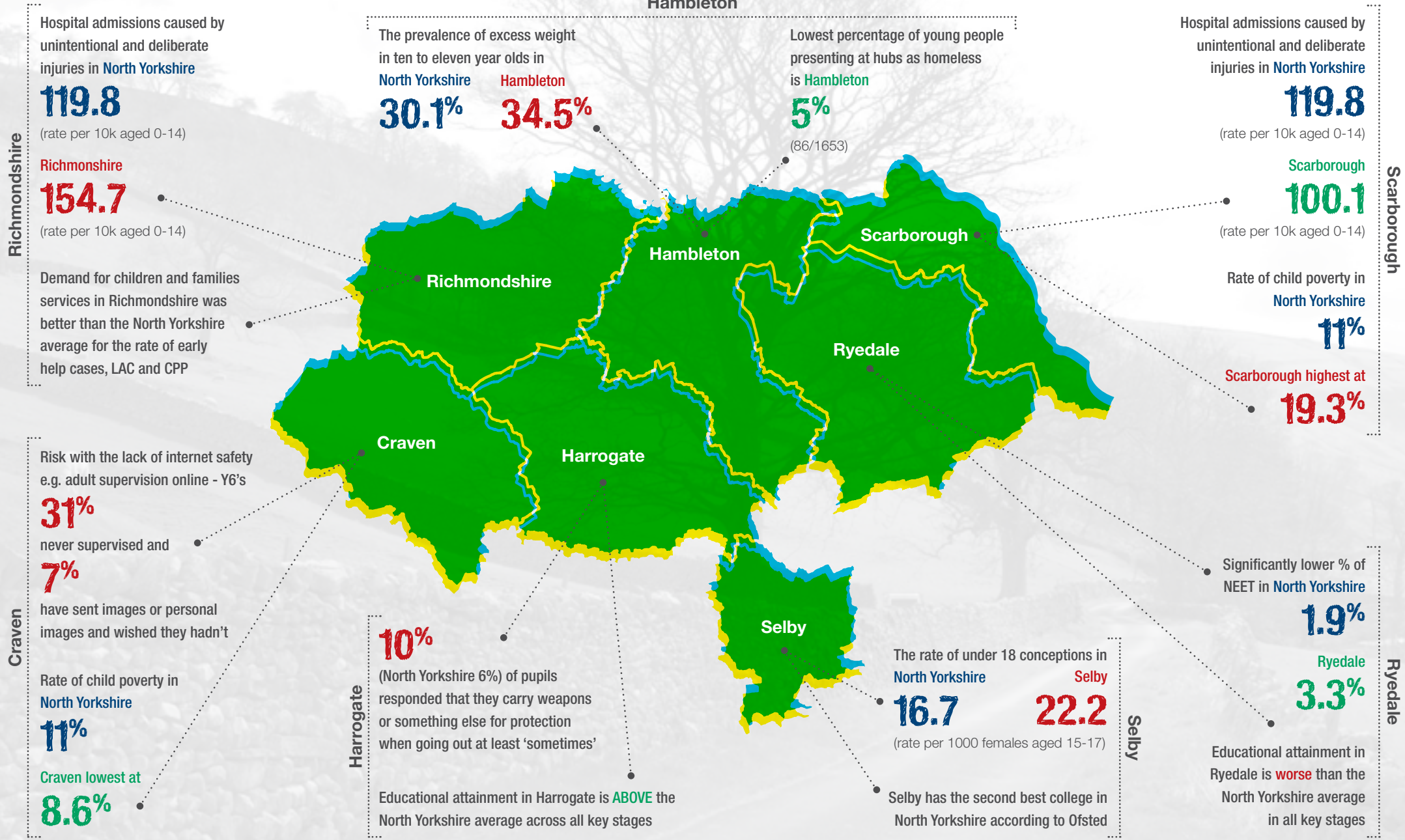


## 11-15 year olds





# Young and Yorkshire in...



# Progress since the last plan

Young and Yorkshire 2014-17 was a focussed improvement plan. It identified three key areas where we could really improve outcomes for children and young people. We believed that by having just three priority areas for action we could drive change further and faster. And we are immensely proud of some of the huge improvements that have been made over the course of the plan.

**Top**

quartile KS4 results in the country

**800**

less days lost in 2016 through primary school exclusions than the previous year

**24.3%**

of young people in care achieved 5 A\*-C at GCSE including english and mathematics - our strongest attainment figures ever

**10,000**

more children go to a good or outstanding school then 2 years ago

**20%**

reduction in the care population since the beginning of the plan which has saved £2M

The really great things we are very proud of

**1500+**

fewer referrals to children's socialcare

**93%**

of social care assessments were completed within the 45 day timescale

**97%**

of social workers would recommend North Yorkshire as a good place work

**Twice**

as many 15 year olds have never tried alcohol than 10 years ago

**26**

fewer children killed or seriously injured in a road traffic accident

**10%**

reduction of bullying in school compared to 10 years ago

**0**

agency social workers are needed or used

**20%**

more 15 year olds have never tried smoking compared to 10 years ago

**53**

Fewer 15-17 year old females becoming pregnant

**£3M**

saving with an integrated prevention service which is working with double the numbers of early intervention cases than previous model

**130**

less children subject to a child protection plan

**10%**

more children enjoy school than ten years ago

**1 in 5**

Education Health and Care plans are not issued within the target of 20 weeks

Where we didn't quite make the difference we wanted to

**3%**

reduction in the number of children with excess weight in reception year and year 6

**30**

more low birth weight babies born in North Yorkshire

**539 days**

the average time for a child to move in with an adoptive family (in line with the national average but above our ambitious target)

**1142**

hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children aged 0 to 14 years

**Almost 1 in 4**

children who had a child protection plan were placed on a plan for a second or subsequent time

**Key Stage 2**

attainment is improving but below the national rate and in the bottom quartile nationally.

**Attainment gap**

between children and young people with additional needs and their peers has widened at key stage 2 and 4

**Exclusions**



# Happy, healthy and achieving

# Happy, healthy and achieving

## Our vision

Our vision has been strongly shaped by young people themselves. We asked them about their hopes for the future and what they would wish to change in North Yorkshire. There is one word which encapsulates the responses of everyone we heard from, and that is 'opportunity'. We therefore want North Yorkshire to be:

*A place of opportunity  
where all children  
and young people  
are happy, healthy  
and achieving*



In other words, we want every child and young person in North Yorkshire to have:

- **A happy family life:** Strong families and vibrant communities
- **A healthy start to life:** Safe and healthy lifestyles
- **Education as our greatest liberator:** High aspirations, opportunities and achievements

We do not view these outcomes in isolation: education, family life and health are inextricably intertwined. By recognising the crucial interaction between these outcomes, we will work together to make the biggest difference in the lives of children and young people. Our ambition is to improve outcomes for all children and young people. We want to break the link between a person's background and where they get to in life. We will do this through actions in nine priority areas.

## Our Priorities

### A happy family life

#### - strong families and vibrant communities

##### Priority 1: Empower families to be resilient and economically secure

A child's life chances are greatly influenced by the family and community into which they are born. Some children face complex, multiple and intergenerational adversities in their family life or their neighbourhood that stack the odds against them, for example long-term poverty, disability or 'the toxic trio' of domestic abuse, mental ill-health and substance misuse. These difficulties all too often result in poor school readiness, poor educational attainment in later life and poorer health and wellbeing. But this adversity does not have to mean adverse outcomes. We want strong, resilient families, and helping parents to improve their economic security and to increase their household income must be part of our solution to enhance children's life chances.

##### Priority 2: Protect those at risk of harm

We want all children and young people to be safe, and to feel safe in the families and communities in which they live. By-and-large, most children who live in North Yorkshire enjoy very happy childhoods living with their parents or family members, and tell us that they are happy. But this is not the case for every one of them. We must work relentlessly to identify the risks of harm to the welfare of our children and young people and tackle those factors which risk harming their life chances, including bullying, domestic violence, mental health issues, substance misuse, youth crime, family and youth homelessness, and road casualties.

##### Priority 3: Encourage fun, happiness, and enjoyment of life

We must always remember that not everything that is important to children and young people is tangible. When we ask children and young people about how they want their lives to be different, they tell us that they want to have more things to do, to feel safe, and to enjoy themselves. Our overriding aim is that they feel happy in a childhood that is full of fun, laughter and love, in vibrant and aspirational communities that they can be proud of, in which their dreams are realised. So that they have a childhood that is full of life, laughter and love and supports their dreams to be realised.

**“My hope for the future is that young people’s mental health becomes a priority. Schools need to focus more on mental health and life skills and less about exams so that I learn to manage my finances and emotions to live a happy life”**



### The actions we will take

- Work with our partners to develop and deliver innovative services that will improve lives
- Enable parents and carers to improve their material circumstances through access to support, training and employment opportunities
- Influence the affordability of housing and opportunities for home ownership for families with children to support the economic security and future prosperity of children and young people, particularly in their transition to adulthood
- Support community based approaches to tackle childhood poverty
- Support improved parenting skills through evidence based programmes that help build resilience and promote self-help
- Support peers, family members and professionals to be better equipped to identify need early and enable access to the right intervention
- Work seamlessly across organisations to provide the right support at the right time and by the right agency to support ensure lifelong impact at the earliest opportunity
- Provide effective and innovative child protection services that support children to live safely at home wherever possible, and provide safe and stable permanence arrangements where this is no longer an option
- Hold high aspirations for our looked after children, meeting their needs through high quality innovative support and protection that has lifelong impact
- Extend *No Wrong Door* to improve outcomes for care leavers and vulnerable young people with social, emotional and mental health issues in residential schools and pupil referral units
- Target resources in areas of the highest need through strengthened services for complex families and children and young people with multiple vulnerabilities
- Address the underlying causes of youth crime earlier to prevent and reduce youth crime
- Transform short breaks provision for families with disabled children and young people ensuring parents/ carers have choice and flexibility in how their needs can be met.
- Build tolerant communities that value all children and young people as members and ensure positive opportunities for them to contribute
- Work with the voluntary and community sector to develop vibrant communities that take responsibility for the aspirations, opportunities and achievements of their children and young people
- Develop the Stronger Communities programme so that there is a clearer offer for children, young people and their families
- Improve access to play, leisure, sport and cultural opportunities for children and young people
- Support development of facilities to ensure a range of positive activities for children, young people and families
- Influence the improvement of transport connectivity and availability of travel options for young people including independent travel training, and the ease-of-use and affordability of public transport, particularly in rural areas.



The measures that will tell us if we are making a difference

Measure

**The number of involvements with the children and families service:**

The number of open early help cases

The number of Children in need

The number of children subject to a child protection plan

The number of Looked After Children

First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17 (per 100,000 population)

The number of violent and sexual offences against children

The number of North Yorkshire Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) that are within the 20% most deprived nationally

The percentage of children and young people who 'always' feel safe at home

The number of youth clubs operating across North Yorkshire

The percentage of children and young people with a high wellbeing score

## A healthy start to life

### - safe and healthy lifestyles

#### Priority 4: Promote health and wellbeing through positive choices from conception to adulthood

We know that if a child suffers from poor health when they are young, this can leave a legacy which lasts their entire lifetime and this is why it is so important that they have a healthy start to life. Even before a child's life starts, the choices their parents make and the actions they take will influence outcomes for their child far beyond their birth into later life. Children and young people also have considerable power over their own health and wellbeing through the behaviour, choices and actions that they make. Preventing poor health and intervening early to promote good health behaviours is critical because so many of the lifestyle factors that lead to early illness and death, such as smoking, poor diet and low levels of physical activity, start before adulthood. We must create an environment of health promotion which enables children, young people and their families to be "change agents", successfully navigating the many challenges that they face throughout their life course.

#### Priority 5: Improve social, emotional and mental health and resilience

Social, emotional and mental health issues cause considerable distress for the individuals who experience them and the people who care for them. We need to do all we can to identify problems early as we know that the vast majority of mental health problems experienced in adult life emerge before young people reach adulthood. We must ensure seamless transitions to high quality specialist services for those who need them. We will also build resilience and improve the social, emotional and mental health of all our children and young people. In doing so, we will create confident communities and brighter futures for all.

#### Priority 6: Reduce health inequalities

The health of our children and young people is being compromised by stubborn and worsening variations depending on where they live. This inequality can be felt in almost every aspect of a child's life, their education outcomes, housing quality, employment opportunities, environmental conditions, all of which shape their health and wellbeing. These health inequalities can be associated with the social, economic and environmental circumstances which directly affect day-to-day life and standards of living. To make a positive and life lasting impact on the health and wellbeing of children, young people, their families and communities we must address socio-economic inequality, material deprivation and child poverty, as these wider determinants are the major risk factors for worsening health inequalities that affect health and wellbeing and limit life chances. To do this we must develop stronger communities and system-wide solutions that create the right structural conditions to give all children and young people a healthy start to life.



**“My family to me are the dream team, I feel so safe when I’m in this place. If I’m in the space it feels ace. We stick together always and forever. When I’m feeling sad they make me feel glad”**

**The action we will take**

- Promote positive health choices by parents, especially during pregnancy
- Ensure good public health outcomes in maternity services
- Develop innovative ways to empower children to make informed and healthy choices in all of aspects of their lives, from nutrition and exercise to oral health
- Undertake targeted and intelligence led activity to improve health related behaviour in schools
- Reduce a range of risk taking behaviour including substance misuse and sexual health
- Identify risk and intervene early to prevent poor health outcomes, in particular obesity
- Strengthen the ‘protective factors’ of mental health and wellbeing by enabling children and young people to develop skills around building friendships, self-esteem and resilience
- Improve confidence skills and knowledge across the Children and Young People’s workforce around social and emotional mental health at a universal and targeted level, in particular support early identification of mental health problems
- Improve individual outcomes for CYP with Social, Emotional and mental health needs
- Ensure that the continuum of provision for social emotional and mental health needs across health, education and social care is co-ordinated and that services commissioned meet the needs identified locally
- Ensure timely access to specialist mental health services for children, young people and their families when required
- Support delivery of the road safety strategy and ensure that evidence based interventions are reducing the number of child casualties
- Ensure positive activities and opportunities for young people that prevent the need for more acute interventions
- Promote healthy places through influencing spatial planning decisions to create environments that enhance health and wellbeing
- Address the wider social, economic and environmental determinants which influence health inequalities and compromise the health, well-being and life chances of children and young people

The measures that will tell us if we are making a difference

Measure
Life expectancy at birth
Smoking at the time of delivery
Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children under 15 years per 100,000
Breastfeeding initiation rate
<b>The percentage of children who have excess weight:</b>
Aged 4 or 5 (reception)
Aged 10 or 11 (Year 6)
The percentage of children with a high measure of resilience
The rate of children and young people admitted to hospital for mental health conditions per 100,000
The rate of children and young people admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm per 100,000





## Education as our greatest liberator

### - high aspiration, opportunities and achievements

#### Priority 7: Ensure children have great early years

There is overwhelming evidence that children's life chances can be predicted by their development in the first five years of life. In this critical development window we want all children, regardless of their background, to have all the opportunities they need to develop their health, skills and knowledge so that they are not only ready for school but have the best possible start in life. A great start will shape their lifelong health and well-being.

#### Priority 8: Raise achievement and progress for all

High quality education releases talent, ignites enterprise and endeavour, and transforms lives. It truly is the greatest liberator. The vast majority of pupils in North Yorkshire receive a good education, taught by good teachers, in good schools, with the support of their family. We want all children and young people to make progress and achieve to the fullest of their ability at every stage of their lives, from their early years through to adulthood. We want this for them because we know that educational attainment has a strong and direct impact on improving their social mobility in life and their consequent health and wellbeing.

#### Priority 9: Equip young people for life and work in a strong North Yorkshire economy

Our ambition for young people is more than simply seeing them leave school with good qualifications. We want to ensure that they have a passion for learning in its widest sense, and are able to succeed in a career of their choosing. We must prepare our young people for life and work and ensure that they have the resilience to face the inevitable challenges in their journey of moving on, moving up and for some, moving out of North Yorkshire. We must equip our young people to learn and adapt as the world of work continues to change so that they have the right skills at the right time to help North Yorkshire's economy thrive.

**“Education is good, education is great, it can take you where you want, help you graduate. We want the education we deserve, don't hold anything in reserve”**



### The action we will take

- Increase the uptake of high quality early education, in particular for targeted two year olds
- Encourage parental engagement and enable families to provide strong support for their child's learning to support their development
- Ensure that children and young people's learning needs are identified early through high quality assessment and are met through intervention and support, in particular those children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Strengthen the concept of preparation for adulthood for children and young people with SEND through SEN support and Education Health and Care plans and improve the range of post-19 opportunities so they can continue their journey to adulthood
- Enhance joint commissioning of support and services between education, health and care agencies for children with special educational needs and disabilities
- Provide strategic direction and oversight for the wider education and skills sector
- Deliver focused adult learning programs that allow parents to develop a greater sense of purpose, achievement and self-esteem and promotes a flexible workforce that can thrive
- Enable a strong sustainable sector led system so all children go to an outstanding school or setting
- Ensure that educational provision reflects changing need and trends so children can have their needs met locally across mainstream, special and alternative provision
- Promote a culture of inclusion within schools
- Provide sustainable education in remote communities
- Improve the quality of teaching and address pockets within the county where it is hard to recruit
- Support areas of poor educational outcomes to develop the capacity to improve through localised approaches and prioritisation of resources
- Provide more apprenticeships with clear progression to higher and degree level
- Ensure through great careers guidance, education and training opportunities, children are equipped to successfully take advantage of careers opportunities on offer to them
- Increase the success of young people in the labour market by connecting every learner to business and employers and provide skills training, employability support and holistic interventions to remove barriers to employment, particularly for our most vulnerable young people
- Ensure that children and young people have a safe roof over their head
- Recognise young people as a valuable asset and create opportunities beyond the school gates that build their skills and knowledge and broaden their horizons
- Deliver an inspiring broad and balanced 'whole child' curriculum which values the contribution of sport, cultural, social and health education in preparing young people for their future
- Improve social mobility for young people through inclusive programs of support, access to good quality employment and affordable housing, particularly in the Scarborough opportunity area



The measures that will tell us if we are making a difference

Measure
Percentage of children reaching a good level of development in the early years foundation stage profile
The percentage of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) in academic year 12 and year 13
Percentage of pupils working at the expected standard at key stage 2 (reading, writing and mathematics)
Progress 8 score at key stage 4
Average attainment 8 score at key stage 4
Percentage of young people with a level 2 and level 3 qualification by age 19
Overall attendance
Progress made by those on free school meals and those within particular communities



## Our key considerations

In pursuing these nine priorities we have introduced three key considerations which underpin all of them: **place**, **inclusion** and **deprivation**. These will allow us to develop a more sophisticated understanding of the needs of our diverse communities and different groups of children and young people. We will also use these key considerations to continuously challenge ourselves so that we can be confident that all children reach their full potential without the artificial limits that may be imposed by the place they live or their individual or material circumstances.



### Place: We will tackle differences based on where young people grow up

North Yorkshire is a vast and varied county. However, two children born in North Yorkshire today might well experience totally different health trajectories based on where they are born. A child born in Scarborough will have a life expectancy of at least three years less than that of a child born in Northallerton, a considerable difference when a distance of just 50 miles separates them. For many of our children and young people their upbringing will essentially be a rural. For some this may sometimes bring a sense of isolation with long distances to amenities and opportunities that many of their contemporaries in our market towns take for granted. For some there may sometimes be a sense of isolation, with long distances to the amenities and opportunities that many of their contemporaries take for granted. We recognise these differences, and we intend to address them. This plan promotes a more differentiated response: one which acknowledges where priorities are different across areas, and which supports development of varying approaches to ensure that we can drive real improvement in those areas which present the greatest challenges.

### Inclusion: We will meet needs of diverse groups of children and young people

Most of the children and young people in North Yorkshire experience a fantastic upbringing. And yet some will experience circumstances in their day to day lives which make growing up and reaching their full potential more challenging. For example, due to their circumstances children who have parents in the armed services, who are looked after children, or who are travellers, are more likely to move school more frequently, and we know that this in turn can affect their educational outcomes. It is important that we identify the differences between groups, particularly where it brings additional needs so that we target help and support. In particular, we will take account of the needs of: children with special educational needs and disabilities, looked after children, children of service families, young carers, unaccompanied asylum seeking children and the children of refugees, and the many other characteristics which shape the identity and experience of children and young people including their gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

### Deprivation: We will confront material deprivation to improve life chances

As England's largest county, North Yorkshire is a place of contrasts. For most of our children and young people their upbringing will be one of relative advantage, characterised by enjoyable childhoods at school and at home, with opportunities that allow them to achieve their dreams. However, children and young people in certain families and communities, particularly those locked into intergenerational deprivation, still suffer from low subjective wellbeing, general unhappiness and a poor quality family life, with poor long-term prospects. All too often these problems are linked to structural factors like household poverty and material deprivation. As this is such a significant determinant of the life chances for our children and young people, it must be at the forefront of our collective consciousness. More importantly, we recognise we may need to provide our services differently responding to the actual barriers children and families face if we want to deliver serious, significant, and system wide change which makes a material difference in their lives.



## Our overall approach

Finally, we have identified five key principles that underpin everything we do, all of the time, working with children and families:

- **Celebrate diversity**

We know that our children and young people have a wide and diverse range of needs which if unmet, can pose particular challenges and limit life chances. We not only recognise these differences, we embrace and celebrate them. We are inspired by the diversity of our children and young people and endeavour to always develop a better understanding of their needs. We promote a culture of inclusion and tolerance, and in all that we do we seek to put our inclusive values into action. We will work relentlessly to ensure that no child, young person, family or community experiences discrimination or is at relative disadvantage, and is instead supported to overcome difficulties or barriers to their learning, participation and opportunities.

- **Listen and involve**

We have made **'The Promise'** to children, young people and their parents and carers that they will always be central to decisions we make about them, and that their journeys will be shaped by their voice and experience. We will facilitate conversations to ensure that children and young people are placed at the core of decision making and that we truly listen, and act upon what they tell us. We are committed to working collectively as equal partners with children, young people and families to identify priorities for change and to co-produce plans that deliver the change that they want to see. This approach is founded on proper respect for children's rights as enshrined in the United Nations Convention.

- **Think family and community**

We will always consider the wider context of family and community in working with a child or young person. We do this because families have primary responsibility for, and are the main influence on, their children and young people. We will support families and communities to provide safe and secure places for children and young people. We will help them build their capacity so that they can overcome obstacles which limit opportunity and we will work with them to build on their strengths so that all children and young people live in an environment where they can flourish and are able to live life to its fullest.



- **Work creatively and innovatively in close partnership**

We have been nationally recognised for our many creative approaches which have been designed around the needs of children, not our service structures. We will retain what works locally, but will continue to challenge ourselves by looking to national and international best practice to identify imaginative and new ways to improve outcomes. At all times we will ensure that we spend public money wisely, always questioning of the impact and effectiveness of our work. As partners we will work collaboratively to meet the needs of children and young people and ensure seamless transitions through a focus on their outcomes, not our organisational boundaries. Our strong working relationships must remain positive and creative at all times. Where we can, we will share information and infrastructure, pool budgets and jointly commission to meet local need. The contribution of the “third sector” and the strength of local communities are vitally important in supporting provision and choice in services for children, young people and their families.

- **Prevent problems beginning or escalating**

We advocate the benefits of providing help early so that problems experienced by families do not escalate to crisis. This not only helps to ensure that children are growing up in a secure and loving space, but also helps to prevent costly and more intrusive later interventions. We believe in the importance of children’s experiences in the first few years of their lives; this lays the foundation for their future development and can be predictive of future outcomes. We are determined to work in an integrated and collaborative way to make sure that children have the best possible start on which to build their future lives.



# Our call to action



# Our call to action

The North Yorkshire Children's Trust is a strong, well-established partnership body whose participants share a common goal to work together to improve the wellbeing and life chances of every child in North Yorkshire.

We want this plan to make a difference, not just to the services we deliver but to children's lives. We realise the outcomes in this plan cannot be achieved by any single organisation. To really make change happen, we need all parts of the system to work together - from families to children's services, schools and other statutory services, to communities and voluntary organisations. It will require collective action supported by strong system leadership and strong strategic alignment with a wide range of strategies and plans. This plan presents a huge opportunity, as well as a great responsibility. It is a responsibility which the Children's Trust Board is privileged to hold and an opportunity it is determined to seize.

This plan provides an overarching framework to stimulate action and support continuous challenge of our collective leadership. It is a "live" document designed to be flexible enough to allow for and recognise change. We will keep this plan under continual review, and on an annual basis complete a formal review to ensure it remains relevant, dynamic and aligned with shifting local and national priorities.

We have identified a short set of indicators where we want to see real positive change. Some of these we are able to deliver through the services we directly provide, and others require us to exert our combined effort to influence wider changes that may have previously felt beyond our reach. We have identified ambitious targets against these indicators, and we are determined to meet the challenge we have set ourselves. The trust board will regularly review progress against these indicators. Where it is clear that we need to take action in order to ensure progress is maintained and improved, the board will ensure that this happens.

However, this list of indicators does not represent the vast range of information which we will continue to review to ensure that this plan is having the impact we would want it to. We will take a flexible approach, making careful use of a range of objective performance information so that we can respond to emerging issues. Importantly, we will always look at the story behind the data through the eyes and voice of children, young people and families.

As a partnership we have an ambitious culture which seeks to empower change. To achieve our ambitions within the very significant financial pressures and constraints faced by all partners we will continue to transform the delivery arrangements for local services. We will explore opportunities to find efficiencies in the way we deliver services, and where it is in the best interests of children and their families, we will accelerate arrangements for services to be jointly commissioned by partners from across the Children's Trust.

We have a large and diverse workforce who display great dedication and professionalism in the work they do every day for the children and young people of North Yorkshire. We will support our workforce to do the job that they love through valuing, respecting and investing in them so that they are confident, competent and have the skills, abilities, knowledge and motivation to provide the very best outcomes.

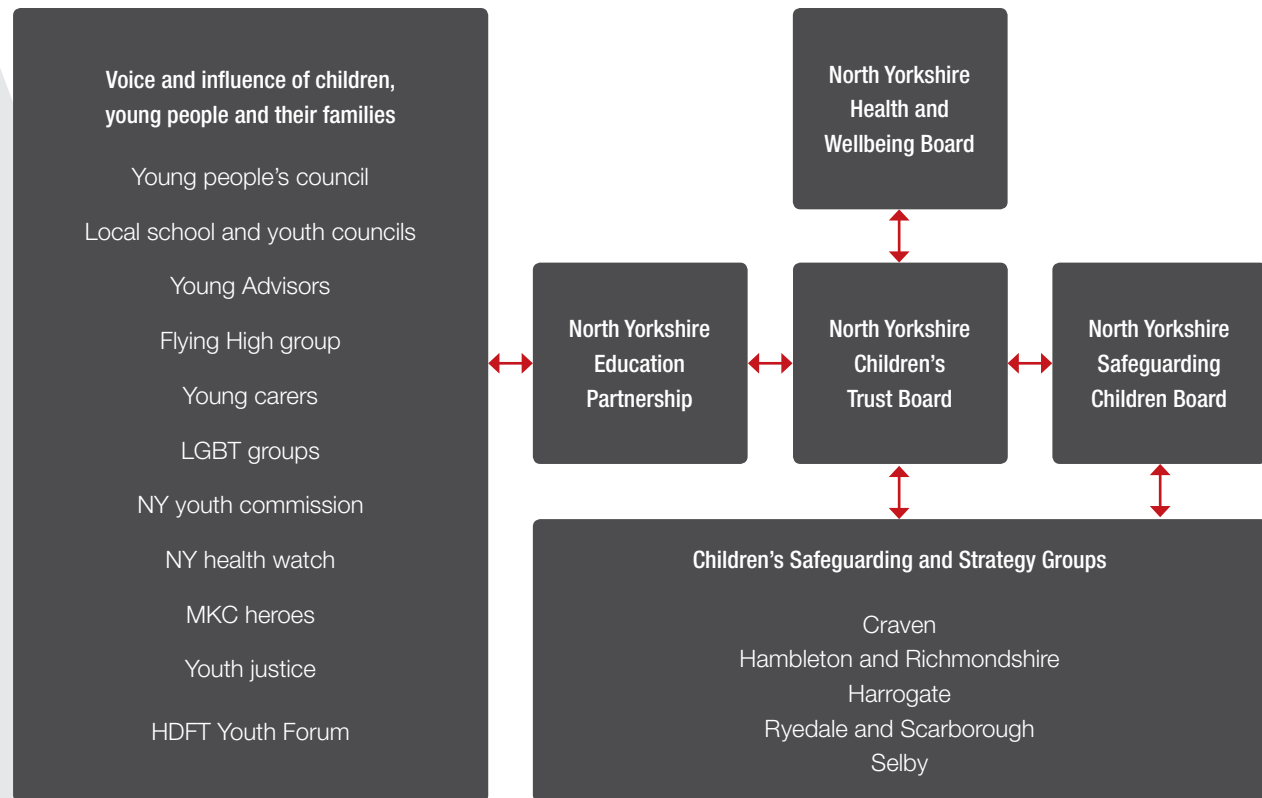


# Annexes

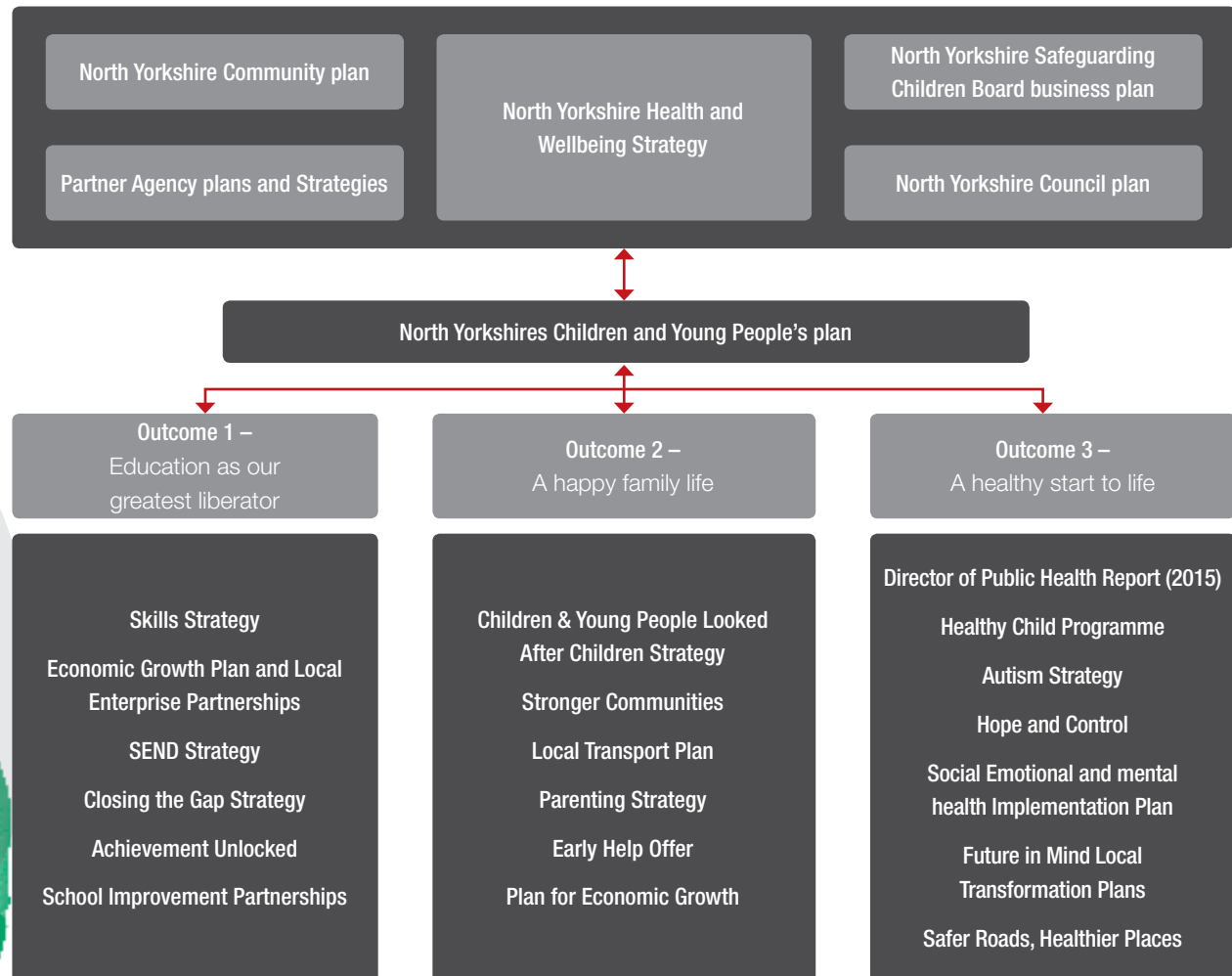
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# Annex A: More about The Children's Trust

This diagram illustrates some of the relationships with other key partnership bodies



# Annex B: The “planning Bookcase”



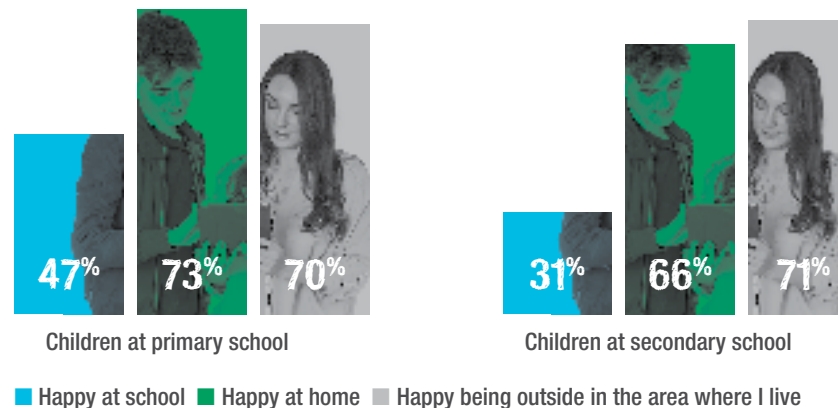
# Annex C: More about a happy family life

- **1 in 10 children living in poverty, up to 5,000 cases of food poverty and over 33,000 households (1 in 8) living in fuel poverty**
- **Double the number of children and families being supported by early help services, alongside a 20% reduction in the number of looked after children**

The Growing Up in North Yorkshire survey results paint us a picture of happiness which is characterised by enjoyable childhoods at school, at home and when children are out and about in the local neighbourhoods and communities where they live. For both primary and secondary school aged children there are generally high levels of happiness in the family home irrespective of their age and social background.

## Levels of childhood happiness in North Yorkshire (various settings)

Percentage of children reporting that they 'always feel happy'



Nationally, the Good Childhood Index has shown the children’s subjective wellbeing to be strongly linked to their perception of the area in which they live, for example due to the perceived quality of local amenities, feeling safe in the community, and experience of local problems. This is reflected in North Yorkshire where we can observe a marked difference in the level of felt happiness dependent on the area where children live. For example, for older children at secondary school, more than three-quarters of participants from North Yorkshire’s most affluent places (76%) stated they always feel happy being outside in the area where they live compared with less than two-thirds of children from the most deprived neighbourhoods (60%). Likewise, the percentage of children at secondary school who stated that they were not happy being outside in the area where they live was four times higher in those from poorer communities (8%).



Variations in happiness with local neighbourhood between children from different socio-economic groupings	Most deprived Children living in 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in North Yorkshire	Least deprived Children living in 20% least deprived neighbourhoods in North Yorkshire
Always feel happy being outside where you live	60%	76%
Never feel happy being outside where you live	8%	2%

North Yorkshire overall is a county of relative prosperity, yet 11% of children aged under 16 in North Yorkshire are living in poverty (defined as the percentage of children aged under 16 living in families receiving out-of-work benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% of the UK median income). This is below the England average of 19.2% which is tremendously positive, but we must not forget this means that 1 in 10 children are living in poverty. New data shows the large number of families now accessing food-banks and hardship funds resulting from chronic family hardship and new types of family poverty including fuel poverty and food poverty which are increasingly common and widespread. In North Yorkshire in 2014, 12.8% of households were fuel poor, the equivalent of 33,353 households. This has left many with the choice of ‘heat or eat’ which will inevitably compromise children’s health, especially those with respiratory illnesses and asthma, which are exacerbated by cold weather conditions because families simply cannot afford to heat their homes properly.

Children and young people are best cared for with their natural or extended family wherever possible; that is what young people tell us they want. Evidence shows that generally children and young people who spend periods in care tend to do less well in terms of education, health, transition to adulthood and life chances generally. We work hard to support children to stay with their families where this is in their best interests. An average of 2,500 children and young people at any one time receive early help to prevent problems escalating, and we support and safeguard around a further 1,500 children in need or children with a protection plan. However, there will always be some children in certain circumstances for whom a period in care is the best way to keep them safe. In North Yorkshire we admit relatively low numbers of children to care, and in contrast to the national trend, we have safely reduced the number of looked after children by over 20%. The looked after child cohort in North Yorkshire is now around 420, and this includes around 20 unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have very different support needs.



We want children to be safe, and feel safe. An experience of violence can lead to lasting physical, mental and emotional harm whether the child is a direct victim or a witness. Children who are exposed to violence are more likely to suffer attachment problems, anxiety and other health related problems as well as academic and cognitive problems, and involvement in the child welfare and youth justice systems. North Yorkshire data shows us an increasing exposure to violence for your young people, both as victims or witnesses of both domestic violent incidents and sexual violence. The criminalisation of our young people is also a concern, North Yorkshire has a higher rates of first time entrants into the youth justice system than both the regional and national average; at 403 per 100,000 (this equates to 217 young people).

**Violent offences against children**

2013/14	2016/17	increase
<b>630</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>86%</b>

**Sexual offences against children**

2013/14	2016/17	increase
<b>275</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>129%</b>

Our key considerations	
<b>Place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is wide variation in the number of children living in poverty across North Yorkshire, with 19.3% of children in Scarborough compared with 8.6% of children in Craven.</li> <li>• The proportion of households experiencing fuel poverty ranges from 15.9% of households in Ryedale to 9.4% in Selby.</li> <li>• There are pockets of income inequality across North Yorkshire, all those lower super output areas which fall within the 20% most deprived areas in England are located in Scarborough, Selby and Harrogate Districts.</li> </ul>
<b>Deprivation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a marked difference in the level of felt happiness in the area where children live between socio-economic groupings. More than three-quarters of older children at secondary school from North Yorkshire's most affluent places (76%) stated they always feel happy being outside in the area where they live compared with less than two-thirds of children from the most deprived neighbourhoods (60%) – these rates were very similar for young children at primary school. The percentage of children at secondary school who were not happy being outside in the area where they live was four times higher for participants from poorer communities (8%) compared with those from wealthier parts of the county (2%).</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of children who enter the care system varies across the county, with over a third (35.2%) of the total number of looked after children coming from Scarborough and one in five (20%) coming from Harrogate.</li> <li>• Young people with special educational needs and disabilities often face additional barriers including a lack of suitable opportunities and realistic options for supported employment and apprenticeships, a lack of clear outcomes and very little personalisation, and low expectations by some key professionals.</li> </ul>

## What do children and young people think?

Having more things to do, and the means to travel to them are consistently identified as the biggest priorities for our young people. Transport, particularly in rural areas, is important in gaining independence, and has an impact on social isolation and employment. As young people move into adulthood, opportunities for independent travel become increasingly important for employment, independent socialising, and for allowing young adults to fully engage in their local communities.

### A happy family life means...

- Having a nice home
- Security
- Having good heating
- A bed, food and drink
- Hugs, kisses and love
- Looking out for each other, doing things for one another
- Days out, going for walks
- Communication, comfort, compassion and company
- Trust

**These ideas are gathered from young people attending the Children's Voice Conference in November 2016**

### A safe and happy community means...

- Staying together
- Being able to contact people when you don't feel safe
- Fields, green spaces, parks and village halls
- Police and CCTV cameras

**These ideas are gathered from young people attending the Children's Voice Conference in November 2016**



## Did you know?

North Yorkshire has one of the highest performing child protection systems in England. Agencies work in partnership, pioneering new and innovative services for children in need of additional help and protection. As a national leader, North Yorkshire's children's services have been recognised as an exemplar through the award of *Partners in Practice* status, one of only a handful of such authorities. This brings with it a remit to support improvement in other areas of the country, but most importantly additional funding which is being used to enhance local services. For example the extension of the highly successful *No Wrong Door* innovation for care leavers and young people with social, emotional and mental health difficulties, supports practice that is sharper, more focused and responsive to children's and families needs.

*North Yorkshire youth* provides a wide range of positive activities in locations all across the county for young people including:

- Help and support for youth club volunteers, mainly in rurally isolated areas, to provide positive activities.
- Youth clubs all across the county giving young people a safe, fun place to meet friends and socialise.
- Training and support to provide befriending services for young people needing that little extra help from volunteer buddies.
- Giving over 5,000 young people the opportunity to experience the outdoors at *Carlton Lodge Activity Centre*.

This is all done in partnership with Children and Young People's Services to create a fully integrated service for young people to realise their potential.

## What is the link between happy, healthy, and achieving?

Child health and wellbeing are dependent on supportive and safe homes; studies repeatedly show the importance of having at least one supportive caring adult to establishing childhood resilience. And this is critical so that children are able to bounce back when difficulty threatens that happiness. Through access to play, leisure, sport, cultural activities and positive interaction in families that spend time together, there are opportunities for happy memories to be made and resilient capacities to be built, all of which greatly enhance the foundation for happiness and lifelong health and wellbeing.

The household conditions in which children and young people live has a significant impact on their health and general wellbeing. Living in an overcrowded household can cause stress in children and young people, can impact negatively on a child's educational and emotional development, and is associated with poor sleep patterns in children all of which affects their ability to thrive in school. In North Yorkshire in 2011, 2.2% of households were overcrowded which was below the national average of 4.8%. This equates to 5,540 households.

Statutory homelessness can also be linked with poor health, education and social outcomes, particularly for children. In North Yorkshire in 2014/15, the rate of statutory homelessness was 1.4 per 1,000 which was similar to the Yorkshire and Humber average and lower than the England average of 2.4 per 1,000.

## What the research tells us

Fairness for Children, a recent report from UNICEF (2016) set out the serious challenges faced by children from low-income families, including in the UK, which highlighted the poor life chances and future prospects of children that result from poor educational attainment and low incomes. Further analysis from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF, 2016) showed significant geographical variations in early-years development across the country leading to a national life-chances post code lottery.

A new report by the Social Mobility Commission (2016) showed that large parts of the UK, including North Yorkshire, do not do well for their poor children and most districts in the County do not perform well against the new national Social Mobility Index. Analysis of the County's weak performance on social mobility shows five districts in North Yorkshire with scores which are below the national average.

The Good Childhood Report (2016) showed children's subjective wellbeing to be strongly linked to their perception of the local area where they lived (e.g. perceived quality of local amenities, feeling safe in the community, notions of freedom in the local neighbourhood and experience of local problems) – the top two local issues with the strongest links to childhood happiness in England overall were 'noisy neighbours' and 'people drinking or taking drugs' in the place where children lived.

## Celebrating our successes

The LGC awards are one of the most coveted awards available to local authorities and North Yorkshire was shortlisted for five categories in this year's awards, including the Council of the Year award.

Against very stiff competition we were delighted to win Partnership of the Year for our Children and Young People's Multi-Agency Screening Team. We were also very pleased to be given 'highly commended' - effectively second place - for both Council of the Year and Children's Services of the year.

# Annex D: More about A healthy start to life

- **1 in 8 mothers were smokers at the time of delivery**
- **1 in 5 children start school with excess weight, increasing to 1 in 3 by Year 6**
- **1 in 3 report a low measure of resilience**
- **Fewer young people are taking up smoking**
- **Decreasing teenage pregnancy rates**

Public Health England identify six early years and six school aged 'high impact areas.' Evidence shows us that it is in these areas which there are opportunities to have a significant impact on health and wellbeing and improving outcomes for children, families and communities. We have already seen the importance of some of these, such as being ready for school, maximising learning and achievement and transition to adulthood, in both the 'happy family life' and 'education is our greatest liberator' sections.

When we focus on child health indicators that relate to these high impact areas we can be reassured that they show the overall health and wellbeing of children and young people living in North Yorkshire is generally good, however, they are not exempt from some of the big national health problems and we must not be complacent.

Development begins before birth, and the health of a baby is significantly affected by the choices their parents make, and their mother's health and wellbeing. As well as causing an increased risk of premature birth, miscarriage and perinatal birth, smoking in pregnancy can have detrimental effects for the growth and development of the baby and the health of the mother. In North Yorkshire in 2014/15, the percentage of mothers smoking during pregnancy was 12.6%, this is a major concern especially in Scarborough, and is higher than the England average of 11.4%.



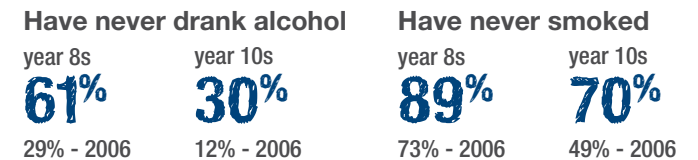
Smoking at the time of delivery is a known risk factor for low birth weight babies, and the rate of low birth-weight babies born in North Yorkshire is also classified as significantly worse than the England average. Breastfeeding is widely recognised as protective factor for child health, babies who are breast fed have been shown to acquire developmental and cognitive advantages, and be stronger than children who are not breastfed. The percentage of mothers initiating breastfeeding in North Yorkshire is 74% and by six to eight weeks 38% of mothers in North Yorkshire continue to breastfeed - which is lower than the national average of 46%.

Childhood obesity is one of the most serious public health challenges for the 21st century. We know that obese children are more likely to be absent from school, have lower self-esteem, suffer from bullying and require more medical care than healthy weight children. In North Yorkshire in 2014/15, 8.1% of children in reception year were measured as obese and by year 6, this had increased to 15.3% of children. Although these levels are much higher than we would wish to see, they do compare well with national rates which are 9.1% and 19.1% respectively.

Childhood injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation and represent a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people. They are also a source of long-term health issues, including mental health related experiences and are a major cause of acquired disability among children under five. The overall rate of unintentional injuries in children and young people in North Yorkshire is an area of concern with a rate that is significantly worse than the average for England. For children aged 0 to 14, the rate of admissions in North Yorkshire was 119.8 per 10,000 and 143.9 per 10,000 in children aged 15 to 24.

Nationally, mental health problems affect about one in ten children and young people. In North Yorkshire in 2014, estimates suggest that 8.6% of the population aged 5 to 16 years had a mental health disorder, and 3.3% (or 2,624 children) of children aged 5 to 16 were estimated to have an emotional disorder such as anxiety or depression.

Adolescence is a period of rapid physical and psychological change. Some of the most difficult challenges to their health that young people face at this stage in their lives relate to risk-taking behaviour. Risky sexual behaviour can have a number of unintended consequences including pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) which may have a range of long-term consequences. The main STI diagnosed in young people is chlamydia and whilst screening uptake across North Yorkshire has increased over the last few years, rates of chlamydia detection in North Yorkshire at district level and as a whole are below the national average. Alcohol misuse is linked to violent behaviour, and can affect an individual's physical, mental and emotional health. There are persistent and concerning trends of young adults consuming large amounts of alcohol within their homes and/or in a single sitting. Alcohol misuse can also be seen in alcohol related hospital admissions which is higher in males in Scarborough than the national average. And while we are not complacent and still have a number of challenges to face, we can be pleased by the positive reductions in the levels of risk taking behaviour across North Yorkshire, in particular around alcohol and smoking:



Our key considerations	
<b>Place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Male life expectancy at birth for males born between 2012 and 2014 was highest in Richmondshire (81.4 years) and lowest in Scarborough (78.2 years). Life expectancy for females was highest in Hambleton (85.2 years) and lowest in Scarborough (83 years).</li> <li>• Richmondshire has the highest proportion (10.4%) of obese reception year children in comparison with Ryedale (6.2%). In fact, both Richmondshire and Selby are the only two districts where the average proportion of obese children was above the England average.</li> <li>• The neonatal mortality and stillbirth rate varies quite significantly from 2.5 per 1,000 in Hambleton to 17.4 in Richmondshire- this is the highest rate across the whole of England.</li> <li>• Across North Yorkshire, Scarborough (24.9 per 1,000 or 43 conceptions) had the highest rate of under 18 conceptions and Craven had the lowest rate (9.7 per 1,000 or 10 conceptions).</li> <li>• Variations at district level show that Scarborough (19.6%) had the highest proportion of mothers smoking at the time of delivery and Harrogate (8.1%) had the lowest.</li> </ul>
<b>Deprivation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a close association between childhood obesity and socioeconomic deprivation. Nationally, obesity levels in children living in the 10% most deprived areas of the country is more than double that of children living in the least deprived 10% of areas. North Yorkshire mirrors this trend.</li> <li>• There is a strong correlation between child poverty rates and geographical variations in life expectancy.</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looked after children (LAC) are approximately four times more likely to have a mental health disorder than all children generally. A <i>Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire</i> (SDQ) is used to assess the emotional wellbeing of looked after children. In North Yorkshire, the proportion of looked after children with an SSDQ score that is considered to be of concern has steadily increased in recent years.</li> <li>• Children and young people with a learning disability are more likely to experience poor mental health than the general population.</li> <li>• Nationally, hospital admissions for self-harm have increased in recent years to 383.4 per 100,000 of young people aged 10-24 years in North Yorkshire overall. Admission rates for young women are higher than admissions for young men.</li> </ul>

## What do children and young people think?

### Being healthy means...

- Eating healthy, hydration
- Exercising, keeping fit
- Being safe online
- Friendships and relationships
- Positivity and confidence
- Community clubs
- Going to new places
- Resilience
- Self-respect
- Always thinking about other people
- Grow your mindset – never give up

### Young people tell us that:

- They are increasingly concerned about mental health and emotional wellbeing, and that there are issues around access and some bad experiences with specialist support services
- Drugs are readily available and cheap, and there are concerns about their unknown long term psychological effects.

## What is the link between happy, healthy, and achieving?

Health plays a powerful role in allowing children and young people to meet their academic potential, and that academic achievement helps, in turn, to improve health.

Development begins before birth, and the health of a child is significantly affected by their mother's health and wellbeing. Supporting women to make healthy choices during pregnancy is key to giving every child the best start in life.

## Leading research

Working in partnership, North Yorkshire County Council, Harrogate and District, South Tees and Airedale NHS Foundation Trusts commissioned researchers from Newcastle and Durham Universities to explore the needs and experiences of women living in rural communities during pregnancy and early motherhood. Researchers looked at alternative ways of providing support to mothers who have perinatal mental health issues through better use of modern telecommunications, particularly those mothers living in rural areas where there are difficulties accessing services. The study is an example of North Yorkshire being a leader in research, and research findings will ensure the design and commissioning of evidence based health care services that address identified needs.

## Young parenting programme

North Yorkshire offers a young parenting Programme for young parents during pregnancy, birth and their child's first year. This model has been jointly developed and is co-delivered by the Harrogate District Foundation Trust Health Visiting Service and North Yorkshire County Council's Prevention Service to meet the specific needs of young parents and to prevent poor outcomes for their children. The programme offers a plan of regular home visits matched to the needs of the young parent with the emphasis on building trusting relationships. It is delivered in an entertaining and accessible way to engage young parents, and uses evidence based approaches and extensive locally developed resource packs. Activities are used to promote purposeful conversation, provide an opportunity to increase knowledge, challenge thinking and increase self-awareness. We have seen very good uptake and engagement of young parents with the programme and materials, and this has enhanced knowledge and understanding of child development and improved responsiveness and interactions between young parents with their child.

## Future in mind

When it was published, Future in mind made 49 recommendations for improving children and young people's emotional and mental health. It has brought additional funding to support the improvement work. Locally, this has brought a commitment led by the Clinical Commissioning Groups to introduce an enhanced community eating disorders team, school wellbeing project and a pilot of the 'Thrive' approach in 11 schools. Alongside these initiatives, the local system is mobilising to maximise available resources and ensure improved outcomes for children and young people through joint approaches to tackling the Social, emotional and mental health across education, health and social care.

## Early years high impact areas

- Transition to parenthood and the early weeks
- Maternal mental health
- Breastfeeding (initiation and duration)
- Healthy weight, healthy nutrition (including physical activity)
- Managing minor illnesses and reducing hospital attendance/ admissions
- Health, wellbeing and development of the child aged 2 and support to be 'ready for school'

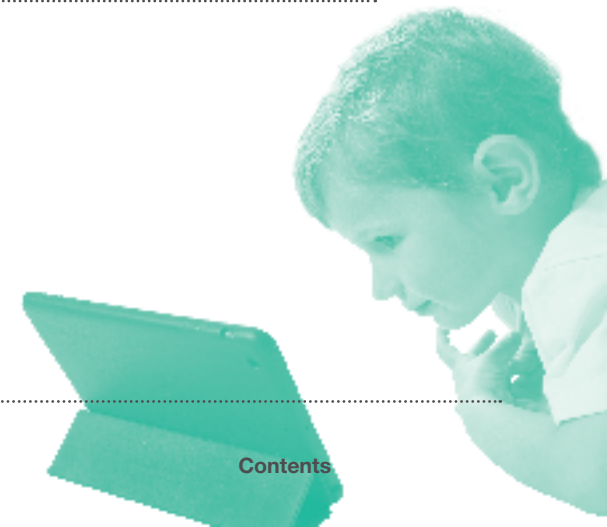
## School aged years high impact areas

- Resilience and emotional wellbeing
- Keeping safe: managing risk and reducing harm
- Improving lifestyles
- Maximising learning and achievement
- Supporting complex and additional health and wellbeing needs
- Seamless transition and preparation for adulthood

## What the academic research tells us

Pioneering research published by Wilkinson and Pickett (2009) argued that 'more equal societies almost always do better' and unequal societies tend to have worse outcomes for health. The authors argue that most social problems, especially health, have worse outcomes where income inequality is greatest, whilst fairer societies, with less income inequality, lead to significantly better health outcomes in most cases. Drawing on independent evidence from around the world, Wilkinson and Pickett provide compelling scientific evidence about the negative effects of economic inequality and social disadvantage on public health and other social problems such as child well-being and social mobility. Analysis of objective statistics for 23 of the world's richest countries shows that societies that do worse, including the UK, have the widest inequalities in income distribution, and those that do best such as the Nordic countries, will tend to be more equal societies, where variations in income are narrowest.

Drawing on a range of national and international evidence, The Health Gap: The Challenge of an Unequal World, Marmot's (2015) latest research shows that social disadvantage is the biggest threat to public health today and the main cause of variations or inequalities in health around the world. Marmot argues that dramatic differences in health outcomes do not always boil down to differences between rich and poor but they are all linked to social disadvantage. Conventional approaches to public health have typically prioritised the importance of personal behaviour and individual lifestyle approaches to improve health outcomes and reduce inequalities but Marmot's evidence shows how this can only go so far. The recent compelling evidence presented by Marmot shows that reducing inequalities in health can only be achieved by creating the right social conditions so that everyone in the community can lead flourishing lives.



# Annex E: More about education as our greatest liberator

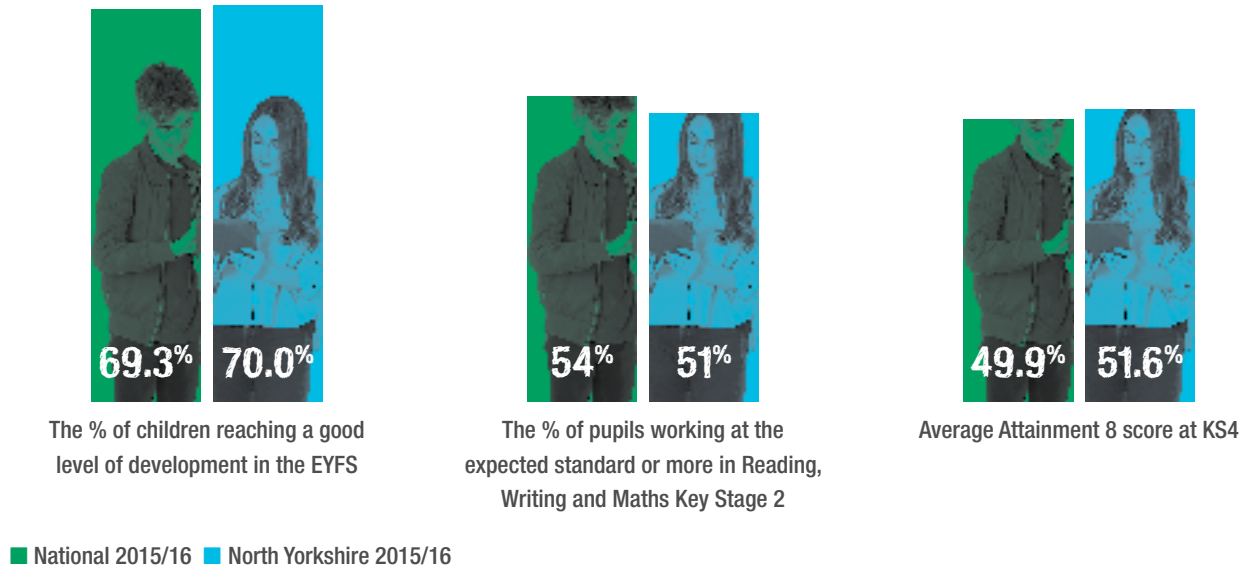
- **3 in 5 children in the county end their early years ready for school**
- **3 in 4 leave school achieving 5 or more GCSEs or equivalent qualification including English and Maths**
- **North Yorkshire has a confident economy which is growing faster than the national average.**

We can proudly say that the vast majority of children and young people in North Yorkshire receive an excellent education in high quality schools and settings across the county. Almost all schools are independently and objectively rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. As a result of the generally high quality provision, overall children and young people in North Yorkshire perform better than their peers nationally in all stages of their learning journey.

Indicator	North Yorkshire	National
Early years settings graded good or outstanding	99%	95%
Childminders graded good or outstanding	84%	91%
Primary schools graded good or outstanding	91%	91%
Secondary schools graded good or outstanding	85%	80%
Special schools graded good or outstanding	92%	94%
Pupil Referral Service graded good or outstanding	60%	89%



**Pupil attainment**

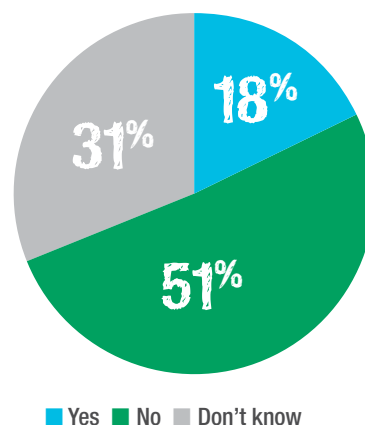


And while we can be proud of this, there are still considerable challenges to be faced as these county level statistics mask some considerable variations. For all too many of our children and young people, reaching their full potential is restricted by life events and circumstances including their family background and where they live. A poor start to learning and their circumstances conspire against them and often result in poorer academic attainment which limits their opportunities, a legacy which may affect their whole life course. National evidence suggests that by as early as the age of 3, a child from a disadvantaged background can be as much as a year behind their more advantaged peers, and this is can be seen in North Yorkshire where the gap for achieving a good level of development at the early years foundation stage between pupils claiming free school meals (a good measure of deprivation) and other pupils is 24 percentage points, a significant gap. Data also shows us that children from low income families are significantly less likely to attend a good or outstanding setting compared to their affluent counterparts and there are significant geographical variations across North Yorkshire. In fact, for children from low income families there are four districts in North Yorkshire (Richmondshire, Harrogate, Scarborough and Selby) which show very little or no progress at all since the start of the first *Young and Yorkshire plan* in 2014.

Variations in children attending good or outstanding school settings in North Yorkshire	Children eligible for free school meals attending a good or outstanding school setting		Children with any Special Educational Need (SEN)	All children	
	Children living in district with lowest percentage	Children living in district with highest percentage		North Yorkshire	National
Primary School	62% Richmondshire	91% Craven	91%	92%	90%
Secondary School	24% Scarborough	100% Harrogate	87%	87%	82%
Special School			97%		

The quality of school guidance and information about future options is critical for enabling young people to make the right, informed choices about their transition from school into further education, work and adulthood. Reassuringly, most young people in North Yorkshire (68%) find their school lessons about careers education useful, while more than half (59%) also agreed that their school prepared them well for when they left school. However, there is more work to do as just 18% (less than 1 in 5) of young people feel they have received enough information and guidance about future options after Year 11, with more than half (51%) saying that did not have enough information. Worryingly, these figures are getting worse over time.

**Children and young people stating they had received enough information and guidance about future options after Year 11 in 2016**

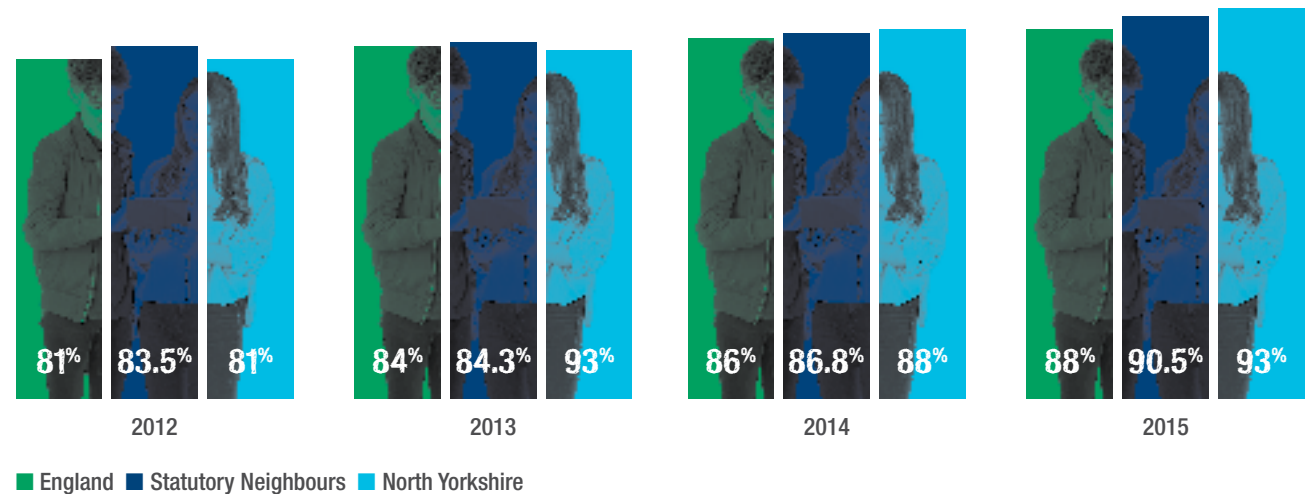


Of course, it is also the aspirations that young people have for themselves that will shape the next steps they take. The growing up in North Yorkshire survey gives us a great insight into the path our young people plan on taking. Whilst we can be pleased that the majority intend to either continue in full time education or undertake further training or an apprenticeship there are considerable variations that we need to challenge, both between males and females, and also between young people based on their material environment.

Youth transitions	All children (M- male; F- female)	Most deprived Children living in 20% most deprived neighbourhoods	Least deprived Children living in 20% least deprived neighbourhoods
Continue in full time education	<b>46%</b> 42% M; 49% F	<b>36%</b>	<b>49%</b>
Find a job as soon as possible	<b>44%</b> 46% M; 42% F	<b>54%</b>	<b>42%</b>
Training or apprenticeship	<b>46%</b> 50% M; 42% F	<b>47%</b>	<b>42%</b>

The transition into adult life is a challenge for all young people, but for those with a special educational need or disability and their families it can be a difficult time without proper support. A positive transition can mean greater independence, more social involvement in the wider community and employment but it also can involve continued education and training. An integrated person-centred approach to support and provision of clear information about the transition process, including personal learning pathways between children and adults services is vital to assist young people with SEND to achieve their long term goals and ambitions. We are delighted to see that increasing numbers of young people with special educational needs are in education, employment or training at age 17.

Those children identified as SEND in Year 11 who are in Education, Employment or Training at the age of 17



The North Yorkshire economy offers its children and young people a bright future. Our region has a much higher than average employment rate and generally, numbers of working age residents claiming out of work benefits are very low. Despite the fantastic opportunities on offer to the future and current workforce in North Yorkshire, there are some significant challenges we need to address. It is crucial we get our skills offer right to attract and retain talent and up-skill our future workforce to support economic growth. In recent years we have seen job opportunities increase, however, they have typically been seasonal work or low pay, part-time jobs. We must work hard to ensure that new opportunities are predominately high value and high pay in order to stimulate the economy still further.



Our key considerations	
<b>Place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall almost all North Yorkshire children attend a good or outstanding secondary school (including every child in Harrogate), yet three quarters of children from low income families in Scarborough attend a secondary school that requires improvement; this places Scarborough amongst the worst performing local authorities in England.</li> <li>The size and rurality of North Yorkshire present challenges for provision, in particular maintaining a broad ranging curriculum offer and a range of progression opportunities that are both vocational and academic, and across sectors and levels.</li> </ul>
<b>Deprivation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disadvantaged pupils continue to perform less well than their peers at all key stages both locally and nationally, and the gaps between those eligible for school meals and others are wider in North Yorkshire than the national average. For example, for all children in early years settings across the county, seven out of ten of these (70%) will reach the expected level of development in their early years compared with just four out of ten (41%) for children from low income families.</li> <li>We can link the future aspirations of young people to the wider material environment and structural inequality across the county. Children who live in the least deprived places in North Yorkshire will be more likely to want to continue in full time education once they leave school (49%) compared with children from the most deprived neighbourhoods (36%), whilst children from poorer places in North Yorkshire will be more likely to want to find a job as soon as possible (54%) (perhaps to make a contribution to the family budget) compared with their affluent counterparts (42%) or undertake training or an apprenticeship instead.</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children receiving free school meals, children with special educational needs and looked after children are less likely to achieve expected national outcomes at all stages of their learning. Progression into adulthood may also pose greater challenges in terms of education, employment and training and, independence.</li> <li>In 2016 24.3% of looked after children achieved 5 A*-C grades at GCSE including English and mathematics - this is the strongest attainment figure ever achieved by children in care in North Yorkshire.</li> </ul>

## What do children and young people think?

### A good education is...

- E** – enjoyment, engagement and having fun
- D** – determination, dedication and discussion are key
- U** – unique, understanding, and equality
- C** – creates a good education
- A** – achievement, progress and closing the gap
- T** – teachers and pupils share a community
- I** – inspiration, intelligence is what you will be
- O** – opinions matter when pupils share voice
- N** – north Yorkshire is the place to share a good education

### Children's Voice Conference

### Young people say they need...

- Education in life skills like paying bills, managing debts and living independently
- Employability skills and more access to work experience placements
- More job opportunities, and a better advice and guidance about opportunities
- Better transport to access jobs

### Youth Summit





## What is the link between Happy, healthy and achieving?

The engagement of a child's main caregiver and the home learning environment they provide are centrally important to the educational outcomes for children and young people. This is particularly so in their early years where the family environment plays a fundamental role in this development.

As children grow, school becomes an important setting to support building resilience and positive lifelong health behaviours. Low levels of educational attainment have been linked to a range of poorer health outcomes, both mental and physical, including levels of obesity, increased rates of cancers, increased likelihood of smoking, higher levels of stress and lower confidence. People who achieve a Level 4 qualification have been shown to have both better health and longer life expectancy.

## What is school readiness?

School readiness is measured through the *Early Years Foundation Stage Profile* which looks at whether a child has developed as they are expected to. In essence it will look at whether a child:

- Has strong social skills
- Can cope emotionally with being separated from their parents and carers
- Is relatively independent in their own personal care
- Have a curiosity about the world and a desire to learn

## Scarborough Pledge and opportunity areas

Department for Education (DfE) Opportunity Areas are an ambitious programme aimed at driving social mobility. They will build young people's knowledge and skills and provide them with the great advice and opportunities they need to get the best start in life. Scarborough has been named as one such area and in partnership with the DfE, schools, colleges, universities, businesses, charities and local authorities, new approaches and innovations will be put in place to improve schools, offer early help and raise aspirations. In combination with the Scarborough Pledge initiative, which targets an additional £750k of local funding, this presents a significant opportunity to ensure that the longstanding underperformance of children in this area of the county is eradicated.

## Did you know?

There are over 1,700 children with a North Yorkshire *Funded Statement of Special Educational Needs* or *Education Health and Care plan*, their primary needs are:





## Contact us

**North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD**

Our Customer Service Centre is open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and bank holidays).

Tel: **01609 780 780** email: [customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk) web: [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

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67026 06/17

[Contents](#)