Our plan brings together the outcomes and priorities that will guide our work, the way we will measure our progress and how we will work to realise our ambitions. It is based on data, evidence and consultation across the area, including the views of children and young people.
FIFTEEN PRIORITIES:
1. Help children to live in safe and supportive families
2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
3. Improve achievement and close achievement gaps in education
4. Increase numbers of young people participating and engaging effectively in their communities
5. Improve outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability
6. Support children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning
7. Support educational settings to improve attendance and develop positive behaviour
8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating
9. Ensuring young people have a clear route to employment and training so they can participate in a growing economy
10. Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol and tobacco
11. Ensure young people and their families have access to the right information and advice to make their own choices
12. Improve social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people
13. Reduce the number of children and young people in poverty and ensure they live in safe, stable and affordable homes
14. Increase engagement and participation, voice and influence of young people
15. Offer families in need, support at the earliest opportunity

ONE VISION:
Enabling every child and young person to thrive. Children and young people should have a good start in life, be safe and do as well as they can, while being able to access support when necessary.

FIVE OUTCOMES:
We want all our children and young people to:
1. Be safe from harm
2. Do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life
3. Enjoy healthy lifestyles
4. Have fun growing up
5. Feel they have a choice and influence

THREE PASSIONS:
1. Listening to children & young people
2. Doing fewer things better
3. Areas of focus where we can make a real difference

FIFTEEN PRIORITIES:
1. 15. Increase engagement and participation, voice and influence of young people.
1. 15. Improve social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people.
1. 15. Ensure young people and their families have access to the right information and advice to make their own choices.
1. 15. Support children to have the best start in life, be safe and do as well as they can, while being able to access support when necessary.

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MAKING EVERY CONTACT COUNT:
Developing quality connections, conversations and relationships with children, young people and families and other professions is the most important part of everybody’s work in children’s services. Making every contact count.

VALUING FAMILIES:
- Children live in families
- Families create communities
- Communities create our South Gloucestershire.

SIGNS OF SAFETY:
Practitioners supporting families work together to look at the strengths (what’s going well in the child’s life), the worries and concerns identified (who is worried and why) and focus on what needs to be done (outcomes) to build on the strengths, reduce the concerns and keep the child safe.

The benefits of Signs of Safety are that it:
- Puts the child at the centre of the process
- Seeks to create a more constructive culture around child protection practice whilst remaining vigilant and realistic about risk
- Uses a common and simplified language that everyone understands
- Balances risk and safety factors
- Separates fact from hearsay.

ABOUT SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE:
Total population: 274,700 including:
- 64,600 Children and young people aged 0-19
- 81,600 aged 0-25
- 129 schools or colleges.
(ONS mid-year Est 2015)

OUR PEOPLE

WORKING TOGETHER

We want South Gloucestershire to be a great place for children and young people to grow up in. To help us make this happen we have:

Health & Wellbeing Board
Children, Young People and Families Partnership
Local Safeguarding Children’s Board
0 - 25 Special Educational Needs/Disability Partnership Board
Education Partnership Board

These boards are further supported by steering groups focusing on our key programmes of Corporate Parenting, Early Help, Families in Focus, and work in the early years in our Children’s Centres. They each bring senior people together from the main organisations working with children, young people and families to make sure we are doing what we should to improve outcomes and deliver the priorities in our plan and keep children safe. We also have North and South Localities and six priority neighbourhoods in South Gloucestershire. These bring services together to focus on localised issues and challenges, and support the most vulnerable families in their area.

FIND OUT MORE

To find out more about our work in South Gloucestershire see:
- The Joint Strategic Needs assessment: http://edocs.southglos.gov.uk/completejsna
- The Local Safeguarding Children Board website for details of how we work together to keep children and young people safe: www.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding
- Our Local Offer Annual Feedback Report about how we’re developing our local offer for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or disability: http://edocs.southglos.gov.uk/localoffer/