



Children's Services Strategy 2026 - 2031

**Ambitious for Every
Child and Young Person:**
Achieving Excellence Together



Our Identity

We put children and young people first in everything we do, listening to their voices and acting on what they tell us.

We build strong relationships and work collaboratively with families, partners, and communities to keep children safe, happy, healthy, and inspired to achieve.

We champion fairness, inclusion, and opportunity, embracing diversity in our communities and workforce, fostering a culture where belonging inspires excellence.

We are committed to innovation, continuous improvement, and delivering high-quality support that creates lasting positive change for children, young people and their families.



Aims



Safe, Secure and Belonging

Every child and young person feels safe, valued, and secure at home, in education and within their community.



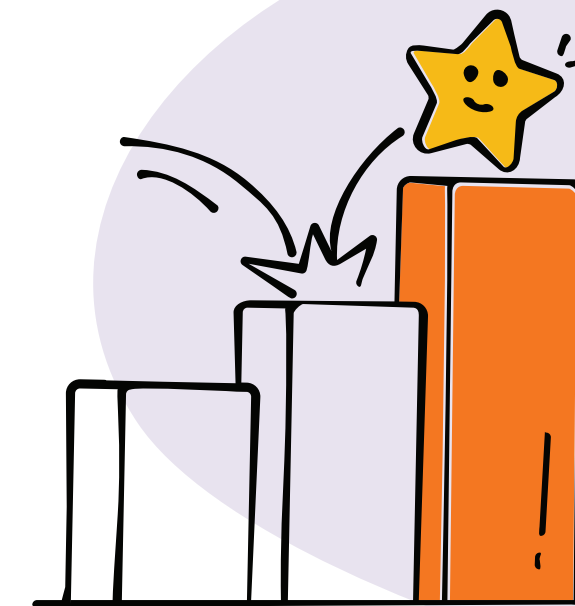
Happy, Healthy and Heard

All children and young people have the support to lead happy and healthy lives. They feel empowered and heard, and their views shape the decisions that affect them.



Equitable, Inclusive and Accessible

Services are equitable, inclusive and accessible to all children, young people, and families. We actively work to reduce inequalities within and between communities, so that every child in Buckinghamshire can grow up with the support they need, regardless of who they are or where they live.



Growing, Learning and Achieving

All children and young people experience learning that unlocks their potential, builds confidence, and prepares them for their future. Whether through school or vocational routes, they are supported to discover their strengths and pursue their aspirations.

Our core beliefs and principles



Children's safety and their wellbeing are our priority.

Children are best brought up in their families, and we strive to empower and strengthen family units. When children are unable to remain with their birth families, they deserve a high-quality, loving, stable and nurturing environment that they can call home.

In our daily work, we listen to children and young people, understand their lived experience, and shape our support around what they tell us matters most, in the moments that count.

We create environments where every child and young person feels seen, valued, and respected so they can grow with confidence and pride in who they are.

We challenge inequality so that no child, young person or family is left behind.

We work with children, young people, and families as active partners, recognising their strengths and offering hope and support that empowers them to create positive and lasting change.

We build meaningful relationships with families, colleagues, and partners, working together across organisational boundaries to do the right thing for children and young people.

We recognise, respect, and celebrate the diversity and differences within our workforce, ensuring that every voice is heard and valued.

We trust and empower our workforce to improve outcomes through healthy challenge, reflection, collaboration, and a culture of continuous learning and growth.

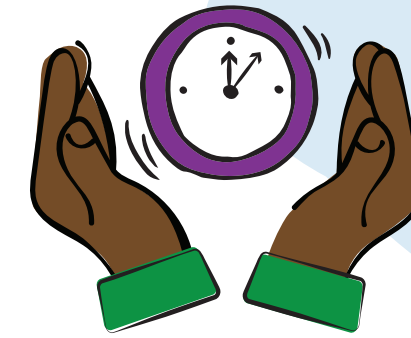
We act with honesty, consistency, fairness, and transparency, while remaining curious, creative, and innovative in finding solutions.

Strategic Priorities



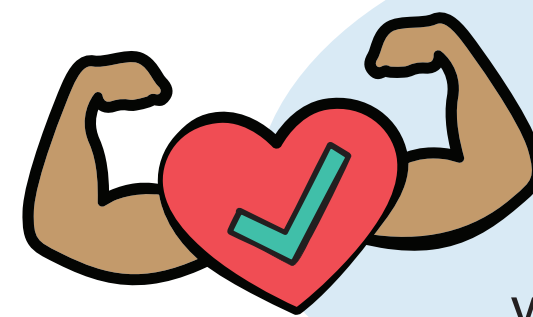
Safe and Stable homes:

Ensure every child and young person is safeguarded and supported to remain safely at home wherever possible. We will work with families and carers to promote stability, so children and young people can grow up in secure and nurturing environments.



Early support and prevention:

Act early by providing timely, co-ordinated support that addresses emerging needs quickly and prevents escalation.



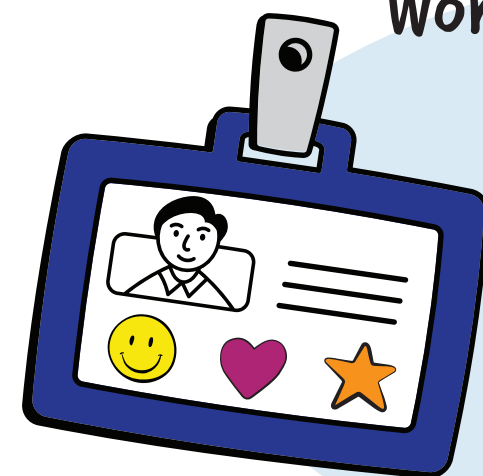
Consistent and Strengths-Based Practice:

Embed purposeful, strengths-based practice centred on the lived experiences of children, young people, and families. We will champion reflective, trauma-informed approaches that lead to meaningful and lasting change.



Learn and Achieve:

Ensure every child and young person can access inclusive education that enhances their life chances. We will provide local opportunities that enable learning close to home, alongside friends, and within their community.



Workforce and Culture:

Develop a confident, skilled, and innovative workforce supported by technology and a culture of continuous learning. Every staff member will feel empowered, valued, and proud of the impact they make. We will celebrate diversity and inclusion, ensuring all voices are heard and respected.



Local and High Quality Provision:

Work collaboratively with partners to secure high-quality local support and provision that meets the diverse needs of children and young people, improve their outcomes, and deliver value for money.