Welcome!
We would like to welcome the new members of the Youth Council to the Children and Young People's Trust! Welcome...

Maddie Harry
Cat Duffy
Tyler Everall
Rebecca Packer
Callum Dickinson
Lewis Williams
Libby Ainsworth
Paige Taylor
Shane Regan
Jamie Stubbs
As well as Annie Sanderson, new in the post of Lead Participation Worker

What’s next?
This meeting was held to introduce the new members of the Youth Council to everyone involved across children’s services that come together to make sure that the priorities for children and young people are met.

What the Children’s Trust want to focus on now is bringing the young people in to help the priority leads to make sure the priorities are met

Updates from the Youth Council!
The running for the new Member of Youth Parliament is in the process, three of the young people who attended the meeting are up for election, out of a total of 7 in Cheshire East. Two young people will be appointed. Cheshire East Youth Council will sit under the MYP’s.

My Voice (new name for our Children in Care Council) update – leisure activities are in the process of being planned out. The young people have met Jos Saunders and Kerry Birtles. They are going to be looking at the Corporate Parenting Strategy, as well as the new logo for the Children in Care Council.

The trip to Blackpool was a hit!!! The conference was well received, as was the trip to the Pleasure Beach!

One Minute Guide to Priorities!
Priority 1 – Having a voice
Priority 2 – Feel and be safe
Priority 3 – Happiness and mental health
Priority 4 – Being healthy and making positive choices
Priority 5 – Best skills and qualifications
Priority 6 – Those with additional needs have better chances in life
The Children’s Trust Priorities...........

Priority 1

Over the last 6-8 months the contract for participation has been brought in-house, and the children and young people’s plan is being reviewed and embedded by the Children’s Trust. Also involved with participation are the following: Children’s November Rights Month, Make your mark and My Voice. The chosen make your mark topics are as follows: mental health, curriculum for life and transport.

Having a Voice and Participation

Priority 2

In the plan most children in Cheshire East grow up and do well in life, however there are some young people who don’t do so well and some are classed as being high risk. What this priority aims to do is to try and prevent these young people from being at risk and providing the additional support that they might need to feel and be safe. This includes those on child protection plans and living with Foster Carers. So, this priority aims to improve the awareness of risks to children and young people. Training is delivered to all workers in children’s services, such as schools and hospitals, to identify any children or young people who might need extra support. This priority also makes sure that this support is delivered in the appropriate way. We are currently using the Signs of Safety approach – focusing on the positives and what is working well and how to improve. Keeping young people safe on the roads and online are also big issues, as well as trying to help young people understand themselves what might be a risk to them – such as speaking to people online. The neglect strategy has also been launched in order to raise more awareness.

Priority 3

A lot of this work focuses on the healthy schools project. This was funded and begun about two years ago, and worked with 6 schools. Mindfulness, resilience and talking about mental health have now being rolled out in all schools in Cheshire East. This priority is about trying to help people earlier, when problems are first spotted, rather than having to use CAHMS at a later stage. This priority is about reducing the stigma attached to mental health.
The priorities now need young people involved in them to make them actually happen!!!!

Priority 4

Being healthy and making positive choices

Priority 4 covers Health Visitors and School Nurses, and includes picking up young children’s additional needs at an early age. It also covers health and well-being in school – contraception, smoking, healthy weight, substance misuse. This priority is also about transitioning from primary to secondary to college etc. and helping it to run smoothly and helping young people to manage changes.

Priority 5

Best skills and qualifications

Priority 5 is about working with schools and making sure that children have the best start in life, the best opportunities in school, and then the best opportunities to go into further education and employment. There are areas in particular that this priority aims to help – such as boys in key stage 4 Mathematics.

Priority 6

Additional needs

The past two years the partnership has worked on an action plan on achieving the best outcomes for SEND children and young people. Even though a lot of children with special educational needs might find certain things more difficult than others, the plans remains aspirational and focuses on the skills that they do have and how to achieve to the best of their abilities. The SEND Toolkit has been developed recently. It was decided that young people needed to be involved more in their decision making - this has led to much better outcomes for those young people. Inclusive practice and the right to attend mainstream schools is also an important aspect of this priority. Plans for young people with special educational needs and how these needs would be met were traditionally very long. Young people do not want to read them! The innovative way of delivering a plan is via a video. The video will talk about what their identified needs are and how they will be met.

These are the priorities that the young people signed up to:

Priority 2 – Feel and be safe – Nigel Moorhouse – Callum, Tyler, Kat, Maddie
Priority 3 – happiness and mental health – Jonathon Potter – Maddie, Rebecca, Paige
Priority 4 – being healthy and making positive choices – Jo Vitta - Jamie
Priority 6 – focuses on people with special educational needs – Ian Donegani - Kat
Timeline and Next Steps

January 2018 – initial meeting
February - April 2018 – work stream leads to work with young people to develop priority
May 2018 – review of progress
May 2018 – work stream leads meeting to review progress
Summer 2018 – young people’s conference
September – October 2018 – finalise plan
October - November 2018 – passage through key meetings
January 2019 – launch new plan!

Make your Mark Priorities... Campaigns!

Tyler’s MYP campaign is focussed on inclusivity and LGBT, and feeling safe.
Kat’s campaign is focussed on changing the tolerance schools have towards LGBT, and ensuring that everyone is treated equally irrespective of their sexual orientation.
Maddie’s campaign is focussed on school systems and how the new exam system puts too much pressure on students, and this contributes to mental health issues.

Each of these campaigns ties in with the 6 priorities

Email Rebekka at Childrenstrust@cheshireeast.gov.uk and ask for the full list of Youth Parliament Profiles