

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**BARNET CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**DATE AND TIME**

**TUESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY, 2021**

**AT 4.30 PM**

**TO: MEMBERS OF BARNET CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD (Quorum 5)**

**You are requested to attend the above meeting for which an agenda is attached.**

**Andrew Charlwood – Head of Governance**

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**A live audio recording and documents can be found here:**

**[Agenda for Barnet Children's Partnership Board on Tuesday 23rd February, 2021, 4.30 pm  
\(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)**

**ASSURANCE GROUP**

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
1.	Welcome	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	3 - 6
3.	Absence of Members'	
4.	COVID and Recovery 'Lost Learning'	7 - 14
5.	Holiday Activity Programme (February & Summer)	15 - 34
6.	Young People - TBA	
7.	Health & Wellbeing Strategy	35 - 46
8.	Unitas Update	47 - 64
9.	Greenspaces & Leisure - Verbal Update	
10.	Action Plan - To note	65 - 74
11.	Life Chances Strategy Update - To note	75 - 96
12.	Any Other Business	

# BARNET CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Draft Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 4.30pm

## Members Present:

Chris Munday	Executive Director for Children's Services (Chair)	<b>AGENDA ITEM 2</b>
Cllr David Longstaff	Lead Member for Children, Education & Safeguarding and Deputy Leader of Barnet Council	
Ian Harrison	Chief Executive and Director of Education and Learning, Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS)	
Alison Dawes	Director, Schools Access, Skills and Corporate Services, BELS	
Neil Marlow	Director, School Improvement and Traded Services, BELS	
Helen Phelan	Director, SEND and Inclusion, BELS	
Lee Robinson	Children's Strategy & Policy Advisor	
Emily Butterworth	Deputy Head of Inclusion, St Mary's and St John's CE Secondary School	
Janet Matthewson	Chief Executive Officer, Young Barnet Foundation	
Sarah Sands	Head of Garden Suburb Infants, Chair of Nursery and Primary Headteachers' Forum	
Ben Thomas	Assistant Director Education, Strategy and Partnerships, Family Services	
Zoe Garbett	Assistant Director, Children and Young People's Commissioning, NCLCCG	
Adam Driscoll	Commissioning Lead, Growth and Development	
Collette McCarthy	Assistant Director, Commissioning and Family Services	
Lisa Coffman	Coordinator & Treasurer, Barnet Parent Carers Forum	
Rebecca Morris	Voice of the Child Participation Officer	
Liz Longworth	Headteacher of Northside Primary School	
Chaya Posen	Headteacher of Noam Primary School	
Samson Olusanya	Headteacher of Christ College Finchley, Chair of Secondary Headteachers' Forum	
Ishaan Shah	Member of Barnet Youth Council	
Tani Ilemobola	Member of Youth Parliament	
Emma Burton-Lee	Senior Communications and Campaigns Manager	

### 1. Welcome

The Chairman, Chris Munday, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Absence of Members

Apologies for absence were received from Graig Bradley.

### 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 06 August 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

### 4. Education Strategy

Ian Harrison highlighted key areas of the report. The number of young people who were not in employment, education or training (NEET) was increasing as a result of economic

problems. It was confirmed that the council was involved in the Kickstart scheme, which should help some young people who might otherwise be NEET.

Additional aims focused on topics such as curriculum intent, minimising the impact of Covid-19 on attendance and ensuring safety in schools.

Schools were concerned about the need to use Covid catch-up funding to balance budgets due to a drop in student numbers.

A recent survey completed by Headteachers showed that concerns had been addressed in the Education Strategy.

Having reviewed the report, the Board agreed that the strategy be submitted to the Children, Education & Safeguarding Committee for approval.

## **5. Draft SEND and Inclusion Strategy**

Helen Phelan presented the report that was linked to the other education strategies. Following visits from Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) this year, positive feedback was received about services that worked well together to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). It was noted that a communication strategy was needed in order to engage some families.

One of the priorities was to minimise the long-term impact of Covid-19 on attainment of children and the psychological wellbeing of those with SEND. Findings from recent visits showed that children with SEND and their families had been disadvantaged quite considerably by the pandemic. Therefore, such issues needed to be addressed across the partnership.

SEND sufficiency looked at the amount of specialist provision in mainstream schools and consistency in approach was needed. Various pathways around Autism and Mental Health were to be extended to include the mental health transformation plan.

Training needs of schools would be addressed to ensure that staff had the right skills and knowledge to meet the needs of Children with SEND in order to maintain academic progress and improve attainment.

The final priority was about developing resilience in young people by promoting independence which fitted in with the adulthood protocol.

In relation to the drop in numbers in Early Years settings, the pre-school teacher team, Barnet Early Autism Model (BEAM) as well as SENDCOs, continued to support families for early identification and emerging needs.

It was agreed that the partnership plan go for consultation. Any further changes were to be added to the draft plan following feedback from the parent carers forum.

Ishaan Shah who founded an anti-slavery organisation called Stolen Dreams <http://stolendreams.co.uk> talked about how the organisation had raised awareness on modern slavery and human trafficking. By working with local government, the organisation adopted strategies and tackled issues using a localised approach. As learning was moving online, traffickers were looking to exploit children through the digital world. Therefore, explicit education was needed in schools on how young people could stay safe online. It was important for educational staff to have the knowledge on how to deal with mental health issues. The government's implementation of LGBTQ+ in education meant that Barnet had the opportunity to lead the way by providing a robust and effective strategy around LGBTQ+ education as people within that community were disproportionately affected by modern slavery and human trafficking.

'Keeping Safe Online' was to be added as part of the safeguarding priority in the Education and School Improvement strategies.

The Board agreed that the draft SEND and Inclusion Strategy go out to consultation in December.

## **6. School and Settings Improvement Strategy**

Neil Marlow highlighted significant changes in the report which included settings.

It was noted that strong relationships and positive partnerships with schools allowed for vigorous monitoring and challenge to improve schools.

Maintaining a core Learning Network Inspector service was highly regarded by schools as shown in the responses from schools to a satisfaction survey.

Areas of development based on performance data in 2019 remained the priorities for 2020/2021. Curriculum intent and implementation for example, was developed to address issues on equality, inclusion and diversity. Elective home education was being monitored to ensure suitability of home education and to show parents the benefits of their children returning to school.

Tani Ilemobola spoke about the lack of topics such as finance in curriculum where students could learn about business or other alternatives leading to options like apprenticeships. An important element such as Black History should be implemented by consulting students so that their input could form part of that curriculum development.

In relation to supplementary schools, it was noted that other London Boroughs had additional support for resources to link schools with supplementary education and it could be beneficial for Barnet to explore that area.

The Board agreed that the strategy be submitted to the Children, Education & Safeguarding Committee for approval.

## **7. School Places Strategy**

Alison Dawes provided an update on the existing strategy. Place planning work was largely informed by the Greater London Authority (GLA), which considered housing development, pupil roll data and demographic data. School place planning was said to be heavily influenced by several variable factors. i.e. Covid-19 and Brexit.

Although a decline in reception places by 8.4% was seen from 2016, this last year showed an increase in reception places. The number of places available of a non-denominational nature meant that, as a diverse borough, Barnet was best placed to cater to those students who were expected to enrol.

There were 503 childcare providers including childminders who reported concerns of sustainability issues. Pressures on the Colindale area as a result of regeneration was being monitored closely by the Early Years team. Capital Grant funding was made available to provide additional places for 2-year olds. The number of pupils with SEND was on the rise but additional places have been created and the Windmill special school would provide another 90 places, subject to the site being secured by the ESFA and planning issues being addressed.

Additional places for post-16 pupils were also provided in 4 secondary schools since 2017. Woodhouse College was due to collaborate with Imperial College London to open a new post-16 free school specialising in Maths.

The report would be shared with planning policy colleagues who were main contributors to the GLA's pupils forecasting.

The Board reviewed the strategy and agreed that it be submitted to the Children, Education & Safeguarding Committee for approval.

## **8. Any other Business**

Lee Robinson encouraged members to review and promote the Life Chances Strategy Consultation document.

The Forward Work Programme was to be reflective of all members of the Board. Members were also encouraged to join the Christmas Campaign held by the Young Barnet Foundation which involved handing out presents to young people who were LAC and other disadvantaged children.

The Growth team had been working on fibre optic services in Barnet and was looking at new ways to support families in relation to excluded pupils through affordable packages.

*The meeting ended at 5.50pm*

# Barnet Children's Partnership Board Report

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AGENDA ITEM 4

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Barnet schools' response to 'Lost Learning' and support for recovery and 'catch-up'</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2021
<b>Author:</b>	Ian Harrison, Chief Executive, Barnet Education and Learning Service and Neil Marlow, Director, School Improvement and Traded Services
<b>Service / Dept:</b>	Barnet Education and Learning Service
<b>Report to be Presented By:</b>	NEIL MARLOW

## 1. Summary

The report provides information on the government's investment in school 'catch-up' and on its plans to announce a national catch-up programme for schools. It describes the actions taken by Barnet schools and the Barnet Education and Learning Service to mitigate lost learning and support catch-up and recovery from learning 'lost' as a result of school closures.

## 2. Updates since last BCPB

The attached report provides an update on action by Barnet schools and services since the last meeting of the Board in response to 'Lost Learning' and support for recovery and 'catch-up'.

## 3. Impact

- **Equalities and Diversity**

N/A

- **Corporate Parenting**

N/A

## 4. Consultation and Engagement

The council's response to the pandemic and to 'lost learning' is set out in the council's education strategies, which were discussed at this Board in November and subsequently by the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee. There is regular discussion with headteachers and governors about the response to the pandemic, including 'recovery and catch-up' at meetings between officers from BELS and headteachers and chairs and vice-chairs of governing bodies.

There will be discussion of the government's 'catch-up programme' at the next Network meetings with headteachers in March.

## **5. Conclusion and Recommendations**

The Children's Partnership Board is asked to note and comment on the report.

## **6. Background papers**

Key education strategies were considered and approved by the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee at its meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. These have now been published on the council's website and can be seen here:

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-support-information>



## **Barnet schools' response to 'Lost Learning' and support for recovery and 'catch-up'**

### **1. Introduction**

Since March 2020 pupils across the country have suffered a huge disruption to their learning, particularly during the two lockdown periods when schools were closed to the majority of pupils.

From 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 schools were directed by the DfE to close to most pupils for a second time in order to protect the NHS and reduce infection. During January, February and into March, schools are only open for the following categories of children:

- Vulnerable children (children with Education and Health Care Plans, those with a social worker, children who are looked after, children identified by the school as otherwise being vulnerable including those who may not have an appropriate place to do their schoolwork at home)
- Children of critical workers

It should be noted that there have been significant increases in the number of children who are eligible for a place in school compared to the school closures in March to May last year, because of the wider definitions of vulnerable children and critical workers in DfE guidance.

Early Years settings and nursery provision in schools were expected to stay open during the current lockdown. Similarly, Special Schools and Pupil Referral Units were expected to remain open to all children and young people whose parents/carers wanted their children to attend.

The announcement by the government, at the beginning of this term, that schools would close again to all but vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers meant that the majority of pupils in our schools would again have to access education remotely. Fortunately, schools were much better placed to deal with this switch to remote learning and already had platforms and systems which, by January, were tried and tested. However, it still placed additional demands on school staff and additional individual responsibility on the pupils and their parents.

The government has indicated that schools will not re-open before Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and that it plans to give schools a minimum of two-weeks notice before they are expected to re-open. A government announcement is expected on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **2. DfE catch-up funding**

In June 2020, as part of its planning for schools to open fully from September, the government announced a one billion pound investment in school 'catch-up'. £650 million was allocated across state primary and secondary schools over the 2020/21 school year to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time.

School allocations were calculated on a per pupil basis. Mainstream schools have been allocated £80 for each pupil from reception to year 11 inclusive. Special schools and PRUs were allocated £240 for each place. A typical primary school of 200 pupils will receive £16,000 while a typical secondary school of 1,000 pupils will receive £80,000.

Schools are free to decide how the money will be spent, but the government expects some of it to be spent on small group tuition for whoever needs it. This one-off grant to support pupils in state education recognises that all young people have lost time in education as a result of the pandemic, regardless of their income or background. It was designed to help schools to support pupils through remote education and recovery from lost learning arising from school closures.

Separately, a National Tutoring Programme, worth £350 million, was established to increase access to high-quality tuition for the most disadvantaged young people over the 2020/21 academic year. This was intended to accelerate their academic progress and prevent the gap between them and their more affluent peers widening. The funding subsidises tuition costs, with schools expected to draw on their pupil premium allocations to buy in tuition at subsidised rates.

The government has announced that it will invest a further £300million into the catch-up programme that it plans to announce later this month.

### **3. DfE catch-up programme**

At the beginning of February the government appointed Sir Kevan Collins as “education recovery commissioner” in order to “oversee a comprehensive programme of catch-up aimed at young people who have lost out on learning due to the pandemic”. Collins was previously chief executive of the Education Endowment Foundation, one of the organisations running the government’s flagship National Tutoring Programme.

The government is considering a number of options to make up for this ‘lost learning’, including shorter summer holidays, summer schools and extended school days, with initial catch-up plans due to be announced in late February. These options could involve:

- Summer Schools
- Weekly tutoring sessions
- Repeating the school year
- Extending school days or shortened holidays
- Increased well-being support

The government is expected to make announcements about this programme in the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

There will be a discussion of the Barnet response to the programme at the Network meetings for headteachers in March. The school improvement team is collecting information through school-effectiveness meetings with maintained schools and other discussions with all schools and will have a clearer picture of how schools are using and planning to use their catch-up funding at the end of this term.

### **4. Recovery and catch-up action in Barnet schools**

In the meantime Barnet schools have been working tirelessly, supported by Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS) and various other services e.g. Family Services, Barnet Public Health, SHaW and Barnet Integrated Clinical Service (BICS), in order to minimise the disruption and to ensure the pupils are safe and are learning, albeit, in the main, remotely.

The following paragraphs set out the main priorities agreed, and the main activities taken, by schools in partnership with BELS and other services:

#### **4.1 Key Priorities in order to minimise lost learning and support the well-being of pupils**

- To meet the high demand for places whilst balancing the requirements of each school's risk assessment and the safety of the community.
- To ensure the most vulnerable pupils attend school for face to face support, recognising that these pupils are best placed in school rather than at home.
- To carry out welfare checks with pupils at home to check on their safety and well-being.
- Ensuring a high-quality remote learning offer for all pupils.
- The introduction of Lateral Flow Device Testing for students and staff in secondary schools in order to minimise transmission and identify students and staff who test positive at an early stage so they can self-isolate and protect others.
- The introduction of Lateral Flow Device Testing for staff in primary schools.

#### **4.2 Evidence of Success**

- Attendance of pupils in school in line with national averages (primary approximately 20% and secondary 4%).
- Attendance of vulnerable children is in line with national statistics (35% to 45%).
- LAC pupils are monitored for attendance both on-site and participation in remote learning.
- Audit and monitoring of remote learning have indicated the majority (approx. 92%) of Barnet schools are offering a good quality remote learning offer.
- The small minority (approx. 8%) of schools that need to improve their offer have plans for support in place and regular contact with the Learning Network Inspector (LNI) team.
- High attendance by staff at the Barnet Partnership for School Improvement (BPSI) remote learning training offer.
- All schools have demonstrated use of enhanced technology compared to the first lockdown with both pupils and staff more confident in the use of digital learning platforms.
- Regular meetings with leaders have demonstrated their continuing resilience and flexibility in responding to the shifting demands.
- High attendance at headteacher network meetings, Deputy and Assistant HT meetings, SENCo Conferences, Designated Safeguarding Leads briefings and other partnership meetings.
- High attendance at PVI training sessions run by the Early Years Standards Team.
- High attendance at the Director's Briefing with Chairs and Vice Chars (over 75 attended) and at Governor Training.
- 2200 laptops funded by the DfE have been distributed to Barnet schools to date and more are being delivered this month.
- A 'Covid Personal Education Plan' (PEP) for Looked After Children (LAC) has been created to reflect the current situation.

- Virtual School caseworkers have been commended by schools for support given to schools and pupils in danger of permanent exclusion.
- Communication with foster carers and designated teachers has supported LAC pupils attending school or receiving remote learning

## **5. Continuing Challenges**

The following challenges remain for schools:

- Continuing challenges of coronavirus cases, testing, track and trace, keeping schools safe for those children who need a place and managing demand.
- PVI settings not having access to lateral flow tests in the setting and needing to travel to community sights for testing.
- Wider re-opening – a lot of unknowns about what is planned and when.
- Cancellation of exams and formal assessment.
- Planning to move from remote to blended learning.
- Continuing to balance remote learning for some pupils with remote training and CPD for staff.
- Assessing and evaluating pupil achievement through remote learning.
- Response to our laptop survey showed that, in the 52 schools that responded to the survey, approximately 2000 laptops and 800 improved wi-fi connections were still required in pupils' homes in order to successfully access the remote learning offer
- Staff and pupil well-being and mental health.
- Stress amongst some school leaders, staff and parents.
- Staffing re-structures, recruitment and retention.
- Funding: loss of external income, e.g. from lettings.
- Current Covid situation is making it more challenging for Post-16s to engage, resulting in an increase in NEET.

## **6. Work by BELS to support remote learning and catch-up/recovery**

Barnet Education and Learning Service has provided the following support to schools:

- Monitoring the quality of remote training in schools through:
  - Audit of quality and subsequent RAG rating.
  - Remote school effectiveness visits (including professional discussions with all school leaders, looking at quality of delivery, monitoring quality of children's work and feedback given by teachers, exploring the quality of learning by focusing on specific a subject and the sequence of learning).
  - Reviews of school websites.
- Issuing regular guidance and updates to ensure school leaders and PVIs are aware of latest government and Ofsted guidance, expectations and requirements.
- Providing support for schools and settings that have had an Ofsted call. Findings distributed to all schools and settings.
- Updating schools and settings on Ofsted expectations and changing policy.
- Leading a remote learning project which has focused on:
  - Wider training for all schools, laying out expectations and best practice.

- Using schools with strong practice to lead action research projects, in order to disseminate best practice to all schools.
- Facilitated 'expert' sessions to train any primary practitioner to use a range of technologies with confidence.
- Taking part in a "Lost Learning" project with five other London local authorities which involved speaking with schools and students, focussing on Year 5 and 6 in primary and Year 11,12 and 13 in secondary and using the materials to support "emergency schooling".
- Liaising with other services and agencies to ensure schools and settings are well supported in implementing government directives (e.g. Barnet Public Health/Family Services).
- Facilitating network and partnership meetings to disseminate information and share best practice.
- Monitoring and actively supporting the wellbeing of senior leaders, through daily contact with individual leaders, headteacher and PVI 'drop in' sessions, liaison with the heads' forum and acting on feedback.
- Supporting governing bodies, including regular updates and briefing sessions.
- Supporting governing bodies with recruitment of senior leaders.
- Supporting governing bodies in ensuring that they are representative of their school communities (governor ethnic monitoring survey).
- Identifying and providing other remote training opportunities to support the development of good practice across Barnet schools and settings.
- Supporting schools to deliver effective safeguarding arrangements and responses.
- Introducing early years projects to raise attainment in reception aged children.
- Preparing schools and settings for the EYFS reforms, being introduced from September 2021.

## **7. Special Educational Needs**

In addition, BELS has provided the following support to mainstream and special schools to promote the achievement of pupils with SEND

- Weekly forum for SENCOs to discuss challenges, share key information and signpost to key resources.
- Specific resources have been developed by the Specialist Inclusion Team to provide support and signposting to helpful resources for families to use, including information about activities and support available during school holidays.
- New content has been developed for the SENCO Zone on the Local Offer, which is being shared with SENCOs at the forum meetings.
- Training for schools and settings has taken place on a range of pandemic related areas: Early Years (a focus on early identification of needs); SENCO Conference, "The Ever-Changing Role of Support Staff", and "SMART EHCPs in a Pandemic". These have been well attended and high valued as evidenced by the evaluations.
- Governor training on key information and signposting to resources.
- Regular forums with all the special schools to discuss and resolve issues in relation to increasing staff confidence and capacity, safely transporting children and young people to school.

- Revisiting the “SENCO Toolkit” and resources, as well as offering a training programme to support schools with managing emerging needs in their settings.
- Development of clear guidance and pathways to support early identification of needs.
- Develop a Transition Toolkit to support key transitions for SEND (Early Years, Secondary Transfer, and Post 16). This will include key templates and proformas such as the Transition and Reintegration Plan, as well as guidance on how to support children and young people through key transitions. There will be opportunities to explore this in the SENCO workshops in the summer term.
- Continuation of Placement Panels and Complex Needs Panel for children and young people who have needs requiring an Education, Health and Care Plan, and those who need access to specialist provision.
- Continuation of specialist support from Educational Psychologists, Autism Advisory Team, BEAM, HI, VI and Physical Disability Advisory Teachers for schools and settings.
- Having a robust system for Risk Assessments for children and young people in independent specialist and out of borough provision. Raising concerns, including safeguarding concerns with MASH on a weekly basis.

BELS

12.2.21

# Barnet Children's Partnership Board Report

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<b>Title:</b>	Holiday Activity and Food Grant	AGENDA ITEM 5
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2021	
<b>Author:</b>	Karen Pearson	
<b>Service / Dept:</b>	Family Services	
<b>Report to be Presented By:</b>	Karen Pearson	

## 1. Summary

### 1.1 Background

Since 2018, the department for education have invested in local programmes that deliver free healthy meals and fun activities to disadvantaged children in the summer as part of targeted pilot programmes

- In summer 2018, £2 million in seven summer holiday pilots across England.
- In summer 2019 £9m in programmes in 11 local authority areas, to improve coverage, joint-working, promotion, consistency and quality.
- In summer 2020 £9m in 17 local authority areas

The learning from delivery in these areas is being shared now that the programme has been extended to all local authorities in England.

The Holiday Activities and Food programme will expand in 2021 so that children on free school meals in England will be offered free healthy meals and enriching activities over the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays.

£220 million will be delivered through grants to all local authorities, LBBs grant allocation is £1,163,420.

### 1.2 Aim

It has been demonstrated that school holidays can be pressure points for some families because of increased costs and reduced incomes and that some children are more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health. Evidence also suggest that some children from lower-income families are less likely to access fun activities. Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue. They can work best when they provide consistent and easily accessible activities, for more than just breakfast or

lunch and enable children to have access to physical activities, hot meals where possible and health eating education.

Such programmes promote a child’s welfare and development and improve their outcomes for education, health and wellbeing. Children who attend holiday provision will:

- Eat more healthily
- Be more active
- Take part in engaging and enriching activities
- Be safe and not isolated
- Have greater knowledge of health and nutrition
- Be more engaged with school and other services
- Have greater knowledge and awareness of holiday club provision

### 1.3 Criteria for Delivery

The DfE sets out the requirements for each activity delivered (see below) which will form the framework for allocation of funds and monitoring of outcomes



Each local authority is required to undertake the steps below and submit an initial survey to inform a delivery plan in early February.





A steering group with relevant partners has been established in order to progress this work in preparation for the delivery of the programme across the year. The group will establish

- Mapping of current provision and identify any gaps and how to address these – through survey and briefings to schools, out of school providers and key partners within the voluntary sector. This will also be informed by the positive activities lead within the 0-19 Early help service.
- Gathering and analysis of data in relation to the number of eligible children, areas of need and deprivation
- Integrated work with those leading on food security
- Development of application and monitoring process for those who wish to deliver
- Financial modelling
- Supporting families beyond the bespoke activities through communications and wider support in relation to healthy eating and exercise including accessing affordable food and menu planning
- Developing a quality framework for those who wish to deliver as part of the programme

There is allowed capacity in the budget to employ a co-ordinator for the programme given the volume of work required.

The programme funding and delivery does not commence until April and the Easter holidays. During the February half term, we already have a wide range of virtual activities in place through our positive activities programme and children's centres. Partners in the VCS sector are also delivering small targeted groups and virtual activities. The second payment of the Covid Winter Fund scheme will also take place in February and whilst this does not replicate free school meals it does provide food vouchers for families with children who have been financially impacted upon by Covid.

Work will continue in relation to food security so that children and families have access to foodbanks, community social kitchens and welfare advice through a range of partners.

#### **1.4 Contingency Planning**

We do not know when the lock down period will end and this may impact on delivery of face to face programmes. Should face to face be allowed we will focus where possible on outdoor venues. We are also developing activity packs and online activities that will be supplemented with food parcels/vouchers and menu cards.

#### **2. Updates since last BCPB**

N/A

### **3. Impact**

- **Equalities and Diversity**

The criteria set by the Department for Education is that this scheme is targeted for all children and young people in receipt of the benefit element of the free school meal entitlement and activities delivered as part of the programme should be inclusive and accessible to all in the cohort.

Any partners who deliver as part of the programme will be required to demonstrate how they will ensure the activities are inclusive and accessible. Consideration will be given to identified additional needs of any child or young person and a plan to address these needs to enable access will be put into place.

Our communication strategy will ensure that information is accessible to this cohort and their families, particularly through working closely with the schools the children attend.

- **Corporate Parenting**

N/A

### **4. Consultation and Engagement**

A series of briefings are being prepared for schools and the VCS sector to share the programme and engage these partners in planning and delivery.

A survey of schools, out of school providers and the VCS sector is also taking place to identify existing provision that can be built upon and establish any gaps.

A communication programme will be developed that will utilise existing mechanisms used for engaging children, young people and families such as the Schools Bulletin, Barnet web site, Barnet Youth webpage and social media such as Facebook and Twitter (through corporate accounts). The Young Barnet Foundation as partners will also promote through the VCS sector

### **5. Conclusion and Recommendations**

An outline delivery plan for the Easter holidays will be submitted to the Department for Education in mid-February. Following discussions with the DfE and in looking at what other LA's are delivering the Easter programme will in the main be a virtual delivery of activities, activity packs and distribution of food. Some small face to face delivery in targeted areas and including those children who do not have access to online activities will also take place. There are working groups established that are planning and co-ordinating this delivery.

The programme will be expanded during the summer holidays when it is hoped Covid restrictions will be eased allowing more face to face delivery particularly as with improved weather more outside activities should be able to take place.

The Christmas delivery will be planned as face to face delivery however we need to be mindful that scientific advice currently is that even with the Covid vaccination programme some restrictions may need to be in place during the winter months. We will keep this under review and if required will use a blended approach similar to that being planned for the Easter holidays.

The board are asked to note the information provided in this report and recommend if update reports on the delivery of the programme should be presented at future board meetings.

## **6. Background papers**



Holiday activities and  
food presentation - L

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Department  
for Education

# Holiday activities and food programme

# Our focus

- School holidays can be pressure points for some families because of increased costs and reduced incomes
- Some children are more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health
- Some children from lower-income families are less likely to access fun activities
- Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue. They can work best when they provide consistent and easily accessible activities, for more than just breakfast or lunch



# Our programme

- Since 2018, we have invested in local programmes that deliver free healthy meals and fun activities to disadvantaged children in the summer.
- In summer 2018, we invested £2 million in seven summer holiday pilots across England.
- In summer 2019 we invested £9m in programmes in 11 local authority areas, to improve coverage, joint-working, promotion, consistency and quality.
- In summer 2020 we invested £9m in 17 local authority areas, including projects that covered more than one LA.



# Our summer 2020 projects

- StreetGames UK – Newcastle upon Tyne
- Edsential – Chester West and Chester, Halton and Wirral
- Gateshead Local Authority – Gateshead
- Leeds Community Foundation – Leeds and Bradford Metropolitan District
- Mayor’s Fund for London – Lambeth and Southwark
- The Romsey School – Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and Isle of Wight Council
- Spring North – Blackburn with Darwen
- Suffolk Local Authority – Suffolk County Council
- Tower Hamlets Local Authority – London Borough of Tower Hamlets
- Voluntary Action Sheffield – Sheffield

Covid-19 had a great impact on the delivery of the HAF 2020 programme, but we worked with our 2020 coordinators to ensure that the programme went ahead and supported thousands of children and families.



# Expansion in 2021

- The Holiday Activities and Food programme will expand in 2021 so that children on free school meals in England will be offered free healthy meals and enriching activities over the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays.
- Our investment of up to £220 million will be delivered through grants to all local authorities.
- We greatly value the important role that community and voluntary organisations have played in this programme over the last three years, and we encourage all local authorities to work with a wide range of partners in the delivery of this programme.



# Impact of January 2021 Lockdown

- We don't know when schools will re-open again and when it will be safe to run HAF clubs face-to-face
- The 2020 programme showed us what was possible despite the restrictions
- The offers ranged from full face-to-face clubs with a focus on outside activities to food parcels with home activity packs
- LAs may want to plan for a combined approach – but we appreciate this is not ideal
- We will confirm further advice and guidance on the impact of the latest lockdown ASAP



Our minimum standards aim to support high quality provision



Healthy food



Enriching activities



Physical activities



Nutritional education



Policies and procedures

### And a few other requirements:

- Inclusive and accessible provision (e.g. SEND and rural children)
- Provision offered to all FSM children in the local authority
- At least 4 hours for 4 days a week. For 4 weeks in the summer, and for a week in Easter and Christmas.

Our model aims to support high quality provision coordinated across a local area

## Local coordinator objectives



MAP  
PROVISION



AWARD  
FUNDING



SUPPORT  
PROVIDERS



PROMOTE  
PROVISION



WORK WITH  
OTHERS



DEVELOP  
SUSTAINABLE  
APPROACHES

## We want children attending clubs to:

- Eat more healthily
- Be more active
- Take part in engaging and enriching activities
- Be safe and not isolated
- Have greater knowledge of health and nutrition
- Be more engaged with school and other services
- Have greater knowledge and awareness of holiday club provision

# Feedback from parents

We asked holiday parents/carers about their experiences of the programme in 2020. Findings included:

- Despite Covid, the overwhelming majority confirmed their child had accessed provision in person with a clear majority attending exclusively in person
- The majority of respondents told us that their child attending a holiday club reduced stress and pressure, many told us it financially supported them and many told us it provided reassurance that their child was somewhere safe.
- Most respondents had been provided with advice on cooking healthy meals by their club.
- Most respondents would be willing to purchase longer hours, if they were offered. But some respondents were unaware they could reclaim up to 85% of the costs for attending Ofsted rated settings through Universal Credit

# What has worked well?



Huge amount of work done by coordinators and staff



Variety of approaches, from centrally-set programmes to club-led programmes and combination of the two



Big focus on building capacity in the sector



Some innovative approaches to mapping demand, ensuring that provision was in place in areas of real need



Minimum standards seemed to work well



4:4:4 seemed to work well - this needs to be applied flexibly



Some really good engagement with parents and families



# Challenges and reflections



Building the widest possible local partnerships, including schools and other partners



Collecting data and management information



Some settings needed to work hard to meet the food standards



Areas need sufficient time to plan and prepare



Some smaller clubs needed intensive support

# DfE implementation team



Regular conversations with local authorities from January 2021 and responding to issues.



Convening regional peer-to-peer support networks, sharing best practice and linking to relevant national organisations.



Reviewing delivery plans in advance of holidays and reports of provision submitted by local authorities following each delivery period. This may inform future payment instalments.



Providing more support for local authorities that need it.



Transition to national support partner from April 2021 but with DfE local implementation support continuing



# Next steps

## Further meetings

- Repeat of meetings planned for February
- First delivery report due by 19 February, setting out the intended scale and reach of their programme for Easter 2021 (we will be in touch shortly to provide you with a short template for these)
- Areas encouraged to continue to meet if it is useful
- Surgery sessions

## Contact details

- Implementation leads: Viv McCotter and Tara Whitehorn
- North, East & Midlands: Vanessa Mynard, Tom Edwards and Hannah-Mai Flynn
- South & West: Deborah McKay and Julie Nelmes



General enquiries: [HAF.Programme@education.gov.uk](mailto:HAF.Programme@education.gov.uk)



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# Barnet Children's Partnership Board Report

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Title:** Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25

**Meeting Date:** 23 February 2021

**Author:** Director of Public Health and Prevention

**Service / Dept:** Public Health Directorate

**Report to be Presented By:** Sharon Smith, Public Health Strategist  
Oliver Taylor, Health in All Policies Officer

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update to the Board on the draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021- 25 which is currently out for consultation. The consultation closes on 12 March 2021 is available here [Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025 | Engage Barnet](#).
- 1.2 The purpose of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) is to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community and reduce inequalities for all ages and is a statutory requirement of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB). With the current strategy extended to March 2021, the Public Health team in collaboration with partners are producing a new strategy for 2021 to 2025.
- 1.3 The Barnet Draft Joint and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 is our system-wide vision for improving the health and wellbeing of the people who live, study and work in Barnet. Over the next four years, the HWBB will focus on three Key Areas to drive integrated improvements to health and wellbeing in the borough.  
These Key Areas are:
  1. Creating a healthier place and resilient communities
  2. Starting, living and ageing well
  3. Ensuring delivery of coordinated holistic care, when we need it
- 1.4 This report aims to give the Board an overview of the JHWS development thus far and provide opportunities for the Board to shape this work specifically to the needs of children and young people.
- 1.5 Priorities articulated in the Strategy will link to the refreshed Corporate Plan, Barnet 2024.

## 2. Updates Since last BCPB

- 2.1 The draft JHWS has been presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 14 January 2021 and is now available for public consultation.

### **3. Impact**

- **Equalities and Diversity**

The purpose of the JHWS is to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community and reduce inequalities for all ages. The strategy sets out a whole systems approach to prevention and health and care integration with a focus on health inequalities across the life course. COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the disproportionality of the health outcomes amongst various groups including minoritised communities, children and families and this is reflected in the priorities within the draft strategy.

- **Corporate Parenting**

Whilst there is no direct impact on the Council's corporate parenting role as a result of the JHWS development, the strategy creates opportunities to support the Council's role as corporate parent through the health and wellbeing improvement interventions for children and young people residing in the borough.

### **4. Consultation and Engagement**

4.1 A six-week consultation period is now taking place. Within this period residents and stakeholders will be asked to complete an online survey to provide feedback on the JHWS that will be then reflected in the final version.

4.2 The Council engaged with residents via a Coronavirus Residents' Survey which was open from 19th October until the 6th December 2020. The purpose of this survey was to understand the impact of coronavirus on local people and any current and future needs that may arise so we can plan accordingly. The findings are to be reported at a later date.

4.3 Healthwatch Barnet have been commissioned to provide focused engagement with residents on their health and wellbeing. This project is linked to determining the impact of COVID-19 and residents' views on health and wellbeing, including focused work on minoritised communities.

4.4 Focussed engagement with young people is being encouraged through collaboration with Youth organisations and networks and engagement with the Youth Board.

### **5. Conclusion and Recommendations**

5.1 That the Board consider the draft strategy and provide feedback. Detailed feedback can be sent directly to [HealthandWellbeingStrategy@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:HealthandWellbeingStrategy@barnet.gov.uk) by the 08 March 2021

### **6. Background papers**

The consultation is available here [Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025 | Engage Barnet](#).

# Draft Barnet Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025: Creating a borough of health together!

Presented by: Sharon Smith, Public Health Strategist, CYP Team

Oliver Taylor, Health In All Polices Officer

# Introduction

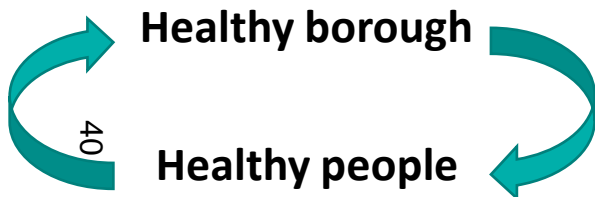
- The Barnet Draft Joint and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 is our system-wide vision for improving the health and wellbeing of the people who live, study and work in Barnet.
- Over the next four years, the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) will focus on three Key Areas to drive integrated improvements to health and wellbeing in the borough.
- These Key Areas are:
  1. Creating a healthier place and resilient communities
  2. Starting, living and ageing well
  3. Ensuring delivery of coordinated holistic care, when we need it

# COVID-19 and our strategy

- The long-term impact of the pandemic will likely extend beyond the four-year scope of this strategy.
- We will continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. But we will also use the capacity and resilience of our systems and partnerships to support the borough to recover, restore and thrive.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted further existing public health challenges and disparities in health and wellbeing.
- Therefore, our vision has been reinforced and by working together with local residents and partners, we can continue to make positive differences to everyone's wellbeing in Barnet.

# Our vision

- A healthy borough makes healthy people. It is where the environment around us supports and promotes our health and wellbeing.
- In a healthy borough, everyone has access to a good education and can experience good and secure housing and employment. High quality health and social care is available for anyone when they need it.
- A healthy borough works well with their communities, reaches out to the most vulnerable and gives everyone opportunities to thrive. With healthier and happier residents, communities are strengthened to support each other, and the local culture and economy flourishes.





# Our five guiding principles

## 1. Making health everyone's business

We will ensure health is everyone's business, not just for agencies primarily concerned with health and wellbeing, but also for those that works to improve wider determinants of health

## 2. Collaborative partnership

We will work in collaborative partnership across organisational boundaries and learn from different viewpoints across the whole system. We will focus on the areas where collaborative work makes the most difference and HWBB can add the most value.

## 3. Considering everyone's needs across the life course

We will consider needs of all parts of the population in all that we do. This includes children and young people and people with complex needs such as mental health issues and learning disabilities

## 4. Co-design approach

We will champion a co-design approach to resolve our challenges, making sure Barnet residents' needs are met and resulting services are practical and sustainable.

## 5. Evidence-based decisions

We will use robust evidence base to inform our decisions, ensuring that our investment creates maximum value for money and our resources are distributed equitably.

# Key Area 1: Creating a healthier place and resilient communities

- This Key Area is about our place-based approach and our work on areas such as air quality, community safety, food environments and the built environment. It includes the projects that we should look at to make Barnet a healthier place for all.
- Our commitments for this Key Area:

## **Integrate healthier places in all policies**

We will ensure that all of our policies and strategies across the system include specific actions on improving health and health equity through creating good housing, employment opportunities, active travel links and other economic and commercial conditions in Barnet .

## **Create a healthier environment**

We will create healthier choices locally with a focus on improving access to clean air, water and healthy food

## **Strengthen community capacity and secure investment to deliver healthier places**

We will facilitate networking and capacity building between local communities and promote safety and cohesion while preventing violence and crime

# Key Area 2: Starting, Living and Ageing Well

- This Key Area is about supporting people across the whole life course. It includes priorities that enables us to prevent diseases at key stages of life from pre-conception, pregnancy, infancy, childhood, through to adulthood.
- Our commitments for this Key Area:

## Improve children's life chances

We will improve children's life chances by supporting their health and wellbeing from very early age and through to their transition into adulthood

## Support a healthier workforce

We will invest time and resources to ensure our workforce is supported to be healthy, happy and productive at work

## Get everyone moving

We will improve choices for physical activities locally for all ages and abilities, and ensure residents know how to access it

## Promote mental health and wellbeing

We will promote good mental and emotional health across all ages and different communities and work together to prevent severe mental illness and suicide

## Prevent long term conditions

We will work with communities to understand what support can be offered to reduce risks of developing long term conditions and recognise early signs and symptoms

# Key Area 3: Ensuring delivery of coordinated holistic care, when we need it

- This Key Area is about how we integrate health and social care and support those with complex needs. It sets out our priorities to ensure that those who need it receive excellent care and have a health care system that works for them.
- Our commitments for this Key Area:

## Support digital transformation of services

We will create circumstances where access to digital care can be easy for all who need it

## Enable carers health and wellbeing

We will support care staff and informal carers to look after their health and wellbeing

## Deliver population health integrated care

We will work together to ensure the Barnet Integrated Care Partnership is centred around resident's need, aims to reduce health inequalities, promotes good physical and mental health and enables seamless access to health and care services across the life course

# Focus on children and young people

- Across the life course from perinatal, early years, school life and through transitioning to adulthood
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- CYP COVID-19 Health Impact Assessment drawing on information fed in by young people
- Continue working with partners from across the system of children's services so that we can work toward integrating services better for the benefit of CYP and their families.

## CYP focussed actions include:

- Perinatal support
- Healthy start, Infant feeding
- Access to adequate and healthy food.
- Support health and physical activity Including active travel
- Develop a healthy weight management strategy that support schools promote a healthy environment
- Mental/emotional wellbeing and resilience
- Oral Health
- Vaccination and immunisation
- Period poverty and hygiene

# Our next steps

- Continue to prepare a final strategy document and integrate feedback from partners and public consultation
- Consult with the public and young people on our draft strategy during a six-week consultation period ending 12 March 2021:

[Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025 | Engage Barnet.](#)

- Detailed feedback by 08 March to be sent to:  
[HealthandWellbeingStrategy@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:HealthandWellbeingStrategy@barnet.gov.uk)
- Finalise the strategy document and present to HWBB for approval  
April 2021

# Barnet Children's Partnership Board Report

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## AGENDA ITEM 8

**Title:** Challenges during Lockdown and Support to Young People

**Meeting Date:** 23.02.21

**Author:** Tony Lewis

**Service/ Dept.:** Unitas Youth Zone

**Report to be Presented By:** Tony Lewis, Chief Executive

### 1. Summary

The presentation seeks to update the Board upon the incredible impact Unitas Youth Zone is making upon the lives of young people within the borough, and our amazing response in supporting the local community as a result of the Covid19 pandemic and being there to support young people despite heavy restrictions.

### 2. Updates since last BCPB

N/A

### 3. Impact

- **Equalities and Diversity**

N/A

- **Corporate Parenting**

N/A

### 4. Consultation and Engagement

N/A

### 5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The Children's Partnership Board is asked to note the report/ presentation.

### 6. Background papers

N/A

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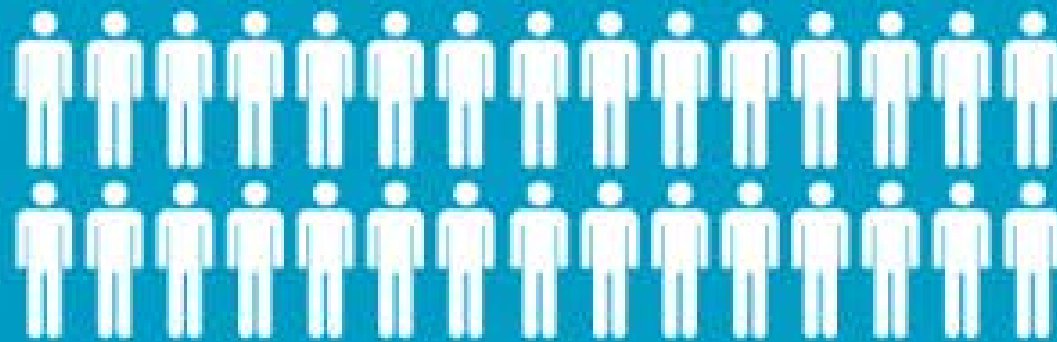




# An Overall Look

since June 2019

**6,697**  
active members



## Ethnicity Range

White British  
17% (1,193)  
Other White Background  
9% (644)  
Black or Black British Caribbean  
4% (289)  
Black or Black British African  
16% (1,115)  
Other  
16% (1,113)



**611**

SEND /  
LIMITLESS

of our active members declared  
an additional need/disability



## Gender Split

38% females  
61% males  
2% choosing  
not to say / other



**14%**

on Free  
School Meals

(927) of our members  
are on FSM against an  
average of 11%





YOUR VOICE.  
YOUR POWER.  
YOUR UNITAS.

# UNITAS 2.0

YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST // #ONETEAM // DREAM BIG // INTEGRITY // BE THE BEST VERSION OF YOU

UNITAS	UNITAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH	UNITAS SATELLITE	UNITAS MENTORING	UNITAS YZ AT HOME (DIGITAL)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capped sessions in line with guidance</li><li>• Bookable activity</li><li>• Invite only</li><li>• Community partners</li><li>• Holiday Club</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Montrose Park - fitness, art, dance, open air drama, mentoring</li><li>• Walking Bus</li><li>• Local parks</li><li>• Engaging young people through street based activity</li><li>• Trips &amp; Treats - bowling, meals out</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community spaces</li><li>• Children's centres?</li><li>• Local Authority hubs</li><li>• Working collaboratively with local partners and at their venues</li><li>• After School Clubs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1:1 support</li><li>• Borough wide</li><li>• Meet in neutral spaces like local cafes and restaurants</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timetable weekly content</li><li>• UniCafe</li><li>• Peer to peer</li><li>• Tik Tok</li><li>• Insta</li><li>• Snapchat</li></ul>

← **YOUTH VOICE / SEND / VOLUNTEERING / AMBITIONS / TRAINEESHIPS** →

*PPE - Risk Assessment - Social Distancing - Staff Bubbles - Salesforce - Review*



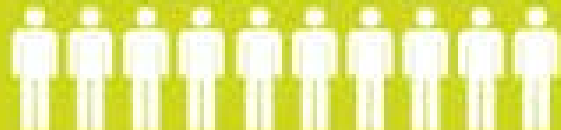
# And 2020 over Lockdown?

**1,021**  
new members

504 Juniors



516 Seniors



**10,041**

Engagements



**75**

Causes for Concern

For inappropriate behaviour,  
bullying, domestic violence  
and self injury

# **Some New Initiatives**

## **under Unitas 2.0**

# Food Poverty

Foodbank

40-50

families  
supported a week



Grab & Go  
Lunches



over  
**100**  
a week

# Outreach

## In-Person Outreach

Since Dec 2020

**52** young people



met & signposted through on-the-road outreach

Mainly through our project work with **Douglas Bader Park** & often with parents and other family members engaged during doorstep visits.

## Telephone Outreach

Oct - Dec 2020

**150**



outbound welfare calls made

# Excellence Framework

*We deliver high quality services to support and inspire young people to lead healthier, more positive lives, raising their aspirations to become happy, caring and responsible citizens. We challenge them to be the best that they can be. We seek their active involvement in planning, development and delivery to ensure our offer is relevant, wanted and meets their needs.*



**YOUR VOICE.  
YOUR POWER.  
YOUR UNITAS.**



# 2021 Objectives & Strategy



**WE'RE  
HERE  
FOR  
YOU**

- *Young People*

- *Great Universal offer*

*Targeted projects and provisions*

- *Implementation and accountability to our Try, Train & Team method*
- *Holistic & wellbeing support for young people*
  - *Reaching out across the borough*
  - *Young people feedback & action*
    - *Community Engagement*
      - *Fundraising*
    - *Colleague development*



YOUR VOICE.  
YOUR POWER.  
YOUR UNITAS.





## Sharon's Story

Sharon joined Unitas in October 2019 after being invited down by her friends. Before Unitas Sharon wasn't involved in any activities or hobbies outside of school. Sharon told us "***When I first started Unitas, I was unconfident, as I suffer from ADHD and Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, which gets me frustrated sometimes. But then I joined the boxing sessions! This has built up my confidence and makes me feel like a better person within myself.***"

In October 2020, Sharon turned 18, and shortly after this, presented at Unitas to inform us that she had become homeless. Sharon had fled violence at home and for a while had been sofa-surfing with friends. Following an argument, her friend had asked her to leave and Sharon now faced having nowhere to.

Unitas staff jumped into action to help Sharon by contacting local housing support offices and storing the suitcases that Sharon had been carrying with her everywhere. That night and for a few nights following, Unitas booked Sharon into a local hotel, and were able to transport her here safely.

What followed was a challenging and frustrating few days and weeks. As Sharon had just turned 18, she was expected to access the adult homeless services in the area, despite being a vulnerable female in her teens. Marsha, Sharon's mentor at Unitas supported with the documentation needed for Sharon to be assessed by local services.

After a few days of awaiting decisions from local services, Sharon was asked to attend a homeless service in Kings Cross that may be able to help her, but upon her arrival, she was told that it would be too late for them to help her today and instead was advised that she must be found, on the street, by street services the following morning at 6.00am in order to be verified.

Unitas once again booked Sharon accommodation nearby to ensure that she had a bed for the night. The following morning Sharon returned to the spot where she was to be verified, but quickly became frightened when she overheard rough sleepers nearby discussing the recent trafficking of young women in the area. Whilst on the phone to a member of our team, Sharon made her way back to the hotel, without having been verified. She was frightened, anxious, and panicked. Staff remained in contact with Sharon, 24 hours a day for the rest of the weekend, before picking her up on Monday morning to once again return to Barnet in the hope of securing Sharon some emergency accommodation. After more waiting and filling in of forms and persistently picking up the phone, Sharon was eventually granted emergency accommodation by local homeless services.

Sharon is now settled into her new accommodation and is being supported by Unitas via mentoring, welfare checks, and foodbank support. Sharon has even attended a Unitas board meeting and shared her story with our Trustees. She is an incredibly brave young person, who has overcome so much at such a young age. We are so glad that Sharon recognised Unitas as a safe place that could help her and offer her support when she found herself in crisis.

Following this experience, Sharon says; "***Unitas has played a big part in my life. When I was homeless and sometimes had nothing to eat, they accommodated me in hotels and gave me food. I will never forget what the staff have done for me. Without their support I would be sleeping on the streets today. I just want to say a big THANK YOU to UNITAS.***"



Young people working towards common goals and objectives, developing skills in key areas while also helping with self-esteem and confidence upon completion.

Strengthening ties with external partnerships who can help deliver these projects, giving young people new opportunities and exposure to different organisations.

Delivering on outcomes and deliverables help young people to see the progress they have made as well as motivating staff who can continuously learn and develop.



## Targeted Projects & Provisions

*“Support, inspire, raise aspirations”*



Giving young people an opportunity to try new things while also forever being challenged, whether that be arts, music, cooking or sport.

Implementation and accountability around Team activities – media squads, basketball tournaments, dance battles – tasking our staff and young people to rise to the challenge at hand.

Outward facing – for new and lapsed members to see the progression you can make at Umitas and feel inspired to participate and develop own goals.



## Try, Train & Team method

*“Challenge them, relevant, meets their needs”*



Mentoring under the Uritas 2.0 banner has shown the need for 1:1 support for young people, based around supporting their personal and individual situations.

Conversations around physical health, healthy relationships, family and school life and mental health are crucial in being able to support young people.

Getting young people to evaluate and reflect on themselves and set themselves clear goals and outcomes help for them to see progression and further signposting.



## Holistic & Wellbeing Support

*“Healthier, more positive lives, to become happy, caring and responsible citizens”.*



While our membership is strong, more can be done to connect with young people across the borough from different backgrounds and cultures.

Utilising the outreach and detached to connect with different communities of young people, taking Uitas to them while remaining relevant to their needs.

Satellite hubs across the borough to help deliver activities outside of our four walls and partnering with local organisations and external partners to benefit young people.



## Reaching out across the borough

*“Relevant, wanted and meets their needs”.*



Actioning young peoples feedback is crucial as the building is “for them” and youth participation in our development is crucial.

Each area (Sports, Arts, Media, Wellbeing) having targeted focus steering groups as they are the experts and can work with staff to get the most of their spaces.

6-month surveys for young people – asking them everything from the quality of the food, to what they would like to see change to highlight positives which they would like to see repeated.



## Young people feedback & action

*“Active involvement in planning, development and delivery”*





- How can we grow our membership across the borough?
- Where can we lead from the front of our response to the pandemic?

## WHAT'S NEXT

- What does a great youth offer look like moving forward in 2021 and beyond?
- Where should we focus our targeted & project work?



Barnet YP Survey theme	Issue	Aim	Actions	Timescales
Young People's top concerns	<b>Crime (56%)</b>	Tackling crime	<p>In Barnet, the focus on preventing serious youth violence is outlined in the Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 and a range of initiatives including REACH. The strategy provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of criminal exploitation and highlights key priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to local issues and needs. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf</a></p> <p>A collaborative approach towards early identification and intervention to protect vulnerable young people is also outlined through implementation of Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-2020. The strategy sets 4 four key priorities including preventing young people from offending and protecting the public. . <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf</a></p>	Ongoing
	<b>Litter in streets (37%)</b>	Improve environment	The council's corporate priority is ensuring Barnet is a pleasant, well maintained Borough. It is investing in Street Cleansing services an area based operating programme to enhance service standards and improve the borough. Environment Committee report - 09/09/20 <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s59819/Street%20Cleansing%20Enhancement.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s59819/Street%20Cleansing%20Enhancement.pdf</a>	Ongoing
	<b>Lack of jobs for young people (24%)</b>	Increase opportunities	<p>Youth unemployment is being tackled through the promotion and roll out of programmes for work experience, apprenticeships, training, volunteering, and paid employment including supported opportunities for people with SEND.</p> <p>Access to advice and support for young people has been improved by co-locating and better coordination of services – e.g. benefits and housing advice services, Jobcentre Plus and careers services</p>	Ongoing
Young People's top personal safety concerns	<b>Knife crime (71%)</b>	Tackling knife crime	<p>A series of initiatives aimed at preventing knife crime have been developed through Trusted Relationships funding and existing partnerships with Art Against Knives, Growing Against Violence and MAC-UK.</p> <p>The project will delivers a school-based prevention programme and a community-based creative spaces programme targeting 10 – 17 year olds</p> <p>Barnet Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of serious youth violence including knife crime. The strategy outlines key priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to local issues and needs. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf</a></p> <p>A collaborative approach towards early identification and intervention to protect vulnerable young people is also outlined through implementation of Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-2020. The strategy sets key priorities including preventing young people from offending and protecting the public. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf</a></p> <p>The Serious Adult Violence Panel has been formed to help enhance the multi-agency response and set of interventions available for adults (18+) considered at risk of involvement in serious violence, including knife crime. The SAV panel works closely with our Our Integrated Offender Management Programme which works to support adult offenders to turn away from crime.</p>	Ongoing

**Gangs (52%)**

Gang activity prevention

Safeguarding children and young people from gangs remains a core priority in Barnet. The Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of gang involvement. The strategy outlines key priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to criminal exploitation and vulnerability to gangs.  
[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs\\_barnet\\_va\\_strategy\\_20-22.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf)

A collaborative approach towards early identification and intervention to protect vulnerable young people is also outlined through implementation of Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-2020. The strategy sets out key priorities including preventing young people from offending and protecting the public as well as improving the lives of vulnerable adolescents.  
[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth\\_justice\\_plan\\_-\\_update\\_august\\_2019\\_-\\_web.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf)

Ongoing

**People taking drugs in the streets (37%)**

Increase drugs education

The prevention of harmful use of substances and the protection from indirect harm caused by substance misuse is part of a broad plan to support children and young people. Barnet Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of being involved in drugs. The strategy outlines priorities to deliver coordinated actions to address the misuse of drugs.  
[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs\\_barnet\\_va\\_strategy\\_20-22.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf)

A collaborative approach towards early identification and intervention to protect vulnerable young people is also outlined through implementation of Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-2020. The strategy sets out key priorities including preventing young people from offending and protecting the public.  
[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth\\_justice\\_plan\\_-\\_update\\_august\\_2019\\_-\\_web.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf)

Ongoing

<b>Young People's top priorities for council</b>	<b>Protecting people from crime and anti-social behaviour (45%)</b>	Improve personal safety	<p>Barnet Youth Offending Service (YOS) is a multi agency team that works with a range of partners and stakeholders to protect the public from crime and anti-social behaviour being committed by young people aged 10-18. The Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of criminal exploitation. The strategy outlines priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to local issues and needs.  <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf</a></p> <p>A collaborative approach towards early identification and intervention to protect vulnerable young people is also outlined through implementation of Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-2020. The strategy sets key priorities including preventing young people from offending and protecting the public.  <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf</a></p> <p>The Community Safety MARAC panel has been working to deliver a co-ordinated multi-agency response for victims of repeat and high risk ASB. The panel is implementing action plans for approximately 6 to 10 such cases per month. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/community/community-safety">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/community/community-safety</a></p> <p>In partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector, the Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime project has continued engaging with communities and organizations across the borough to improve access to justice for victims of Hate Crime and to make it easier for people to report Hate Crime and get the support that they need. To date over 500 residents have signed up to become Hate Crime Reporting Champions.  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s55846/b1_Agendaltem5_Report_on_the_Barnet_Zero_Tolerance_to_Hate_Crime_Project_Oct_2019.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s55846/b1_Agendaltem5_Report_on_the_Barnet_Zero_Tolerance_to_Hate_Crime_Project_Oct_2019.pdf</a></p>	Ongoing
	<b>Protecting young people from harm (43%)</b>	Provision of a safer environment	<p>A multi agency approach working with a range of partners and stakeholders to protect the public from offending and harm has been developed by Barnet. This includes the use of intelligence and psychologically informed approaches to target disruption activity related to child criminal exploitation, child sexual exploitation and serious youth violence. The Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk in the borough.  <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf</a></p>	Ongoing
	<b>Supporting young people with mental health problems (29%)</b>	Improve mental health protection	<p>Barnet Children and Young People's Mental Health Local Transformation Plan 2019/2020 outlines the vision to help young people thrive in the borough. The priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rollout of Resilient Schools Programme as a universal offer to schools to increase mental health awareness, early identification of mental health issues, and appropriate access to mental health support.</li> <li>- Provision of online counselling and well-being support for young people through KOOTH. Online counselling available for educational staff and parents/carers of children and young people with SEND or SEMH through QWELL</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.barnetccg.nhs.uk/Downloads/Publications/Strategies/Barnet%20Children%20and%20Young%20Peoples%20Mental%20Health%20Local%20Transformation%20Plan%20201920.pdf">https://www.barnetccg.nhs.uk/Downloads/Publications/Strategies/Barnet%20Children%20and%20Young%20Peoples%20Mental%20Health%20Local%20Transformation%20Plan%20201920.pdf</a></p>	Ongoing
	<b>Supporting young people with health problems/disabilities (23%)</b>	Reduce inequality and increase accessibility	<p>Support to young people with health problems/disabilities is outlined in the Barnet Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2023. The strategy outlines key priorities including partnership support to children and young people (and their families) locally and the provision of online counselling and advice.  <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2019-06/Barnet%20Children%20and%20Young%20Peoples%20Plan%20Digital.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2019-06/Barnet%20Children%20and%20Young%20Peoples%20Plan%20Digital.pdf</a></p>	Ongoing

	<b>Protecting the environment</b>	Improving quality of life	<p>The Council's first Long Term Transport Strategy 2020-2041 was adopted in September 2020 and includes our commitment to making travel across the borough more sustainable by supporting and encouraging residents to use more active modes of transport.</p> <p>Over 100 Electric Vehicle Charge Points have been installed across the borough, in order to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles and assist residents in adapting to meet the needs of the ULEZ expansion in October 2021.</p> <p>The Air Quality Action Plan 2017-2022 was produced as part of the council's duty to contribute to London Local Air Quality Management. It outlines the action the council will take to improve air quality in the borough.</p> <p>The Barnet Tree Policy was adopted in October 2017 and lays out the borough's plan for improving the tree planting and maintenance across the borough. In addition it includes a tree planting programme with an additional 4,500 trees planted between 2018-2023.</p> <p>The Growth Strategy 2030 lays out a commitment to make growth in the borough more sustainable. It will look to address the emissions arising from construction, which remains the main source of air pollution across the borough.</p>	Ongoing
<b>SEND</b>	<b>Concerns about crime (71%)</b>	Tackling crime	Barnet Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of criminal exploitation. The strategy outlines 7 key priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to to local issues and needs. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fs_barnet_va_strategy_20-22.pdf</a>	Ongoing
<b>BAME</b>	<b>Concerns about crime (44%)</b>	Tackling crime	Barnet Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020-2022 provides the framework for identifying vulnerable young people at risk of criminal exploitation. The strategy outlines 7 key priorities to deliver coordinated actions in response to to local issues and needs. <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf</a>	Ongoing

Barnet YP Survey theme	Issue	Aim	Actions	Timescales	Responsible
Worries about coronavirus	Covid-19 (65%)	Reducing concerns	Throughout the pandemic Barnet Education and Learning Service, the Barnet Public Health Team and the Barnet Safety, Health and Well-being team have worked closely together to provide support and advice to schools about the opening and closing of schools, risk assessments and control measures needed to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service/Public Health, Health & Safety, Health & Wellbeing team
			Extra support and training to be given to schools, including the DfE's Return to Education Well Being Programme, regarding the impact on mental health and well-being of pupils due to school closures and partial closures arising from covid19.		
			See Education Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf</a>		
Effects of lockdown	Lack of physical education (51%)	Improving health & wellbeing	Support provided to schools and young people to improve physical activity levels for all children and young people in Barnet including supporting primary schools to implement 20 mins of extra daily physical activity.	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Resilient Schools Programme
			BELS to continue to offer support and training to PE subject leaders in primary schools and Barnet Partnership for School Sports continue to offer support to all schools  See Education Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf</a>		
	Harming long term education (50%)	Increasing educational attainment	As part of the Education Strategy, continued support provided through schools with blended learning approaches, recognising that the approaches need to be both flexible and adaptable. Schools establishing reliable baseline data for pupils and ensuring the curriculum meets the needs of all the pupils and is diminishing the expected wider differences between groups of pupils.  Work is continuing to identify young people at risk of NEET and to provide them with additional support to help ensure they progress to education, employment or training. In addition, increased promotion pathways into Further and Higher Education within Barnet and the wider region/sub-region, working with Education partners to ensure that courses are both attractive to young people and that they respond to future skills needs. Barnet Partnership for School Improvement (BPSI) will run a Covid Learning Recovery Project (CLRP) for schools in the Autumn Term 2020 and a Blended Learning Research Project (BLRP) in Spring Term 2021  See Education Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61255/Appendix%20C%20School%20and%20Settings%20Improvement%20Strategy%202021-24.pdf</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service

	<b>Mental health &amp; well being suffering (43%)</b>	Improving health & wellbeing	<p>Barnet Education and Learning Service, the Barnet Public Health Team and the Barnet Safety, Health and Well-being team have worked closely together to provide support and advice to schools regarding the impact on mental health and well-being of pupils due to school closures and partial closures arising from Covid-19.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Barnet Public Health, BICS, Resilient Schools Programme
<b>Top worries</b>	<b>Education, Exams and Qualifications (56%)</b>	Sustaining educational attainment	<p>Continuing support to schools with their blended learning approaches, recognising that the approaches need to be both flexible and adaptable.</p> <p>Continuing to support schools in establishing reliable baseline data for pupils and ensuring the curriculum meets the needs of all the pupils and is diminishing the expected wider differences between groups of pupils.</p> <p>See Education Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service
	<b>Mental health &amp; well being (35%)</b>	Improving health & wellbeing	<p>Continuing support to schools regarding the impact on mental health and well-being of pupils due to school closures and partial closures arising from covid19.</p> <p>Priority to ensure a curriculum which also contributes well to pupils' behaviour and welfare, including their physical, mental and personal well-being, safety and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Barnet Public Health, BICS, Resilient Schools Programme
	<b>Staying safe from coronavirus (34%)</b>	Improving health & wellbeing	<p>Throughout the pandemic Barnet Education and Learning Service, the Barnet Public Health Team and the Barnet Safety, Health and Well-being team have worked closely together to provide support and advice to schools about the opening and closing of schools, risk assessments and control measures needed to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.</p> <p>Regular updates given to schools helping them to interpret the DfE guidance and examples of good practice in schools. Regular meetings with headteachers, deputy and assistant headteachers, SENCos, Designated Safeguarding Leads to deal with issues and support with challenges. Webinars arranged for schools with Barnet Public Health.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Barnet Public Health, SHaW
<b>Home schooling challenges</b>	<b>Difficulty learning online (68%)</b>	Maintaining educational attainment	<p>Significant efforts were made by Barnet schools to provide online resources and support via email and meeting platforms and many schools ensured that pupils who could not access learning online had access to hard copy materials. The school improvement team created Google Classroom and MS Team forums for secondary schools as a support network for home learning as well as sessions on various IT platforms for primary schools.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy and the Local Offer  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service

	<b>Screen time playing games has increased (64%)</b>	Maintaining educational engagement	As part of the Education strategy the offering included making the online offer as good as possible with high quality teaching and learning materials in school and at home. The school improvement team created Google Classroom and MS Team forums for secondary schools as a support network for home learning as well as sessions on various IT platforms for primary schools. Support and advice to Designated Safeguarding Leads regarding online safety.  See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service
	<b>Effects on ability to understand (57%)</b>	Maintaining educational comprehension	As part of the Education strategy the offering included making the online offer as good as possible with high quality teaching and learning materials in school and at home. The school improvement team created Google Classroom and MS Team forums for secondary schools as a support network for home learning as well as sessions on various IT platforms for primary schools. School Effectiveness Visits carried out to all LA maintained schools looking at the schools' response to the pandemic and how they ensure the curriculum is relevant, appropriate and easily accessible for the pupils.  See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service
<b>Impact on social life and friendships</b>	<b>Speaking to more friends on line (58%)</b>	Social Wellbeing	Support mental health and being. Mental health campaign. BELS School Improvement Team ensuring that schools have processes in place to allow pupils to communicate with one another when at home e.g through school's IT platform.  See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education and Learning Service
	<b>Speak to less friends than before (57%)</b>	Social Wellbeing	Schools ensuring that they maximise the number of pupils who attend school and prioritise vulnerable pupils. See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education and Learning Service, Family Services
	<b>Friendships affected by social distancing</b>	Social Wellbeing	Schools ensuring that they maximise the number of pupils who attend school and prioritise vulnerable pupils. See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education and Learning Service, Family Services
<b>Extra support during the pandemic</b>	<b>More support dealing with stress (51%)</b>	Health & Wellbeing	Extra support to schools regarding the impact on mental health and well-being of pupils due to school closures and partial closures arising from covid19. Schools have systems in place to make contact with more vulnerable pupils more regularly if at home, some on a daily basis. See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Resilient Schools Programme
	<b>Close and regular contact with teachers (46%)</b>	Educational attainment	Extra support to schools making the online offer as good as possible with high quality teaching and learning materials in school and at home. Google Classroom and MS Team forums created for secondary schools as a support network for home learning as well as sessions on various IT platforms for primary schools. Schools have systems in place to make contact with more vulnerable pupils more regularly if at home, some on a daily basis.  See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;MId=10095&amp;Ver=4</a>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Family Services
	<b>Exercises at home (46%)</b>	Health & Wellbeing	Schools giving exercise options to pupils at home, directing them to appropriate websites e.g Joe Wicks	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Resilient



					Schools Programme
<b>SEND</b>	<b>Increased anxiety and mental health needs</b>	Health & Wellbeing	<p>In response to the pandemic, we developed a new Parent Carer Zone on the Local Offer with information and resources to help families to support their child during 'lockdown' and their transition back to school.</p> <p>'Open Spaces' project has been extended to provide families with safe access to swimming/leisure facilities and explore with families of children and young people with significant learning needs ways to support their education/development;</p> <p>In line with Resilient Schools programme, the emphasis is on developing greater confidence, skills and competencies in mainstream schools and settings to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND.</p> <p>Building on the short breaks work, enhance respite provision for children and families, to increase resilience of families and help ensure that children and young people with SEND have their needs met locally in borough.</p> <p>See Education Strategy and SEND Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Barnet Public Health, BICS, Resilient Schools Programme
	<b>Lost learning (75%)</b>	Educational attainment	<p>As part of Barnet's COVID-19 emergency response, 700 computers were provided to support vulnerable children in the borough with their school work. Schools implementing a blended approach, to include when a face-to-face assessment or intervention needs to take place. Ensuring that, where advice for new EHCPs has been provided virtually, an early review is undertaken to ensure that the Plan accurately reflects the needs of the child and the provision required to meet need;when families are digitally or otherwise isolated. LA took part.</p> <p>The School Improvement Team has given considerable support to schools before, during and after the school closure period. The Team was also involved, along with five other North London Boroughs, in a project entitled "Supporting the futures of children's and young people's education and skills following Covid 19" The learning and recommendations from the project have been shared with schools and the traded school improvement service, BPSI, developed a Covid19 Learning Recovery Project and a Blended Learning Research Project for primary schools.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service, Family Services
	<b>Impact on further education and employability (57%)</b>	Educational attainment	<p>Development of an Engagement Curriculum with mainstream schools to provide support meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND. Continue to develop and embed a range of pathways for post 16, including supported internships, apprenticeships, voluntary and paid employment. Produced a Year 11,12 and 13 Transition Strategy and all Barnet schools signed up to this.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service



<b>BAME</b>	<b>Harming long term education (50%)</b>	Educational attainment	<p>Actions focus on accelerated learning to diminish the gap with their peers. Measures also include blended learning recognizing approaches need to be flexible and adaptable.</p> <p>See Education Strategy, SEND Strategy and School and Settings Improvement Strategy  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=697&amp;Mid=10095&amp;Ver=4</a></p>	Ongoing	Barnet Education & Learning Service
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# Life Chances Strategy 2020-2024



# 1. Introduction

This revised draft Life Chances Strategy sets out the approach to improving life chances in Barnet, building on the Child Poverty Strategy 2016-20. It outlines how we will work to improve young lives and increase their opportunities to succeed. The strategy is underpinned by our family friendly vision that is focused on making Barnet the most family friendly borough in London and a better place for all families to live.

Published figures highlighted the progress that has been made in Barnet on reducing the number of children living in poverty, with 14.0% of children under the age of 16 living in low income families in 2016 compared to 24.9% in 2006. Education results have also improved and are among the best in the country. Successful outcomes for young people have been supported through tackling high priority areas such as workless households, improving educational attainment and supporting 'troubled families'.

A draft of this strategy had been approved for public consultation in March when the Covid-19 pandemic struck. The pandemic has disrupted the life of every child in the country. It is not only an unprecedented public health emergency, but also a challenge to our society and our economy, one that has been not seen in UK peacetime. The impact could have a serious effect on the life chances of young people in Barnet. They have already experienced the pandemic crisis and lockdown in many ways, from their education to staying at home, from the way they access health and support services to their emotional health and well-being.

Measures taken to tackle the crisis including online lessons, enforcing social distancing and working from home, have been necessary. However, there has been a significant impact on children and young people particularly those from low-income families, with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or living in poverty. The specific nature of the economic shock associated with COVID-19 has exacerbated the social and economic divide. There have been sharp differences in deaths from COVID-19 with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups particularly affected.<sup>1</sup> The crisis has had a disproportionate effect on children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). It is likely to leave many challenging legacies for inequality which will need to be addressed. There is also much uncertainty about the ongoing potential impacts of the pandemic, with children likely to face the long-term consequences of economic recession, including sustainability related to employment and housing. The crisis has badly hit the voluntary sector with many organisations and community groups that support young people under pressure, facing reduced income at just the time when demand for their services has risen hugely.

Child poverty is expected to grow significantly from the estimated 4 million children and young people in the UK already in poverty<sup>2</sup>, and the increase in unemployment is already disproportionately impacting on young people. This means that working as a partnership to improve young people's life chances and their opportunities to succeed has become even more important. By improving life chances, we can have a profound effect on poverty and inequality enabling better outcomes for young people in the borough.

This strategy has therefore been updated to take account of the impact of Covid-19 on life chances. It sets out a needs analysis, which provides an overview of the emerging picture around life chances

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<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/908434/Disparities\\_in\\_the\\_risk\\_and\\_outcomes\\_of\\_COVID\\_August\\_2020\\_update.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908434/Disparities_in_the_risk_and_outcomes_of_COVID_August_2020_update.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://cpag.org.uk/child-poverty/child-poverty-facts-and-figures>

in Barnet, and an action plan structured against the strategic priorities. Delivery of the action plan will be monitored through the Children's Partnership Board.

## **2. Life Chances and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

We are committed to upholding children's rights within Barnet and over the next three years, the London Borough of Barnet, including all its delivery partners, will work with UNICEF to progressively achieve a number of core outcomes within the Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2023. The overarching ambition is for the borough to be recognised by UNICEF UK as a UNICEF Child Friendly Community.

There are several articles from the UNCRC which are relevant to improving life chances.

**Article 3** (best interest of the child) The best interest of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

**Article 6** (life, survival and development) Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

**Article 12** (respect for the views of the child) Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

**Article 24** (health and health services) Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy.

**Article 26** (social security) Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits.

**Article 27** (adequate standard of living) Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development.

## **3. What young people have told us**

Young people's opinions are important and help shape our strategic priorities.

The Young Persons Survey (YPS), a bi-annual face-to-face survey of Barnet young residents aged 11-18, was undertaken by an independent research company. 500 Barnet young people were interviewed between 12th November – 20th December 2019. This was the third time the survey had been undertaken and it provided important information on the views of young people in Barnet.

- The majority (84%) of young people feel Barnet is a family friendly place to live which is in line with 2017 and an increase from 2016 survey (81%).
- All measures about the council's image have improved. More young people think the council is: doing a good job (92%, up from 73% in 2017), provides the services young people need (86%, up from 71% in 2017), does enough to keep young people safe (75% - up from 69% in 2017) and involves young people when making decisions (60%, up from 57% in 2017) .

- Young people's top three concerns are crime (56%, up from 53% in 2017), litter in the streets (37% up from 21% in 2017), and lack of jobs for people/young people (24%, down from 33% in 2017).
- Young people's views on priorities for the council and its partners are that they the top priority should be protecting people from crime (45%, up from 28% in 2017), followed by protecting young people from harm (43%, up from 31% in 2017) and supporting young people with mental health problems (29%, up from 21% in 2017).

Following the COVID-19 crisis, an online survey was carried out, aimed at Year 5, Year 6 and all secondary school students, to which 853 young people responded between 8th July – 30th July. The results highlighted the impact, concerns and worries - providing useful information to support young people, which will be used to inform this strategy.

- The majority of young people consider the effect of the crisis to be, doing less physical activity (51%) followed by harm to their long-term education (50%), and their mental health and well-being being affected (43%).
- Young people say they were most worried about their education and exams (55%) during lockdown, followed by staying safe from the coronavirus (35%) and their mental health and well-being (34%).
- The majority of young people think more support should be provided for dealing with stress and isolation (51%) followed by close and regular contact with teachers (46%) and exercises for children while at home (45%).
- A survey of young people with special education needs and disabilities found that their key concerns related to increased anxiety and other mental health needs resulting from 'lockdown' and uncertainty about the future; Lost learning due to not being in school and not able to access on-line learning due to poor IT access and/or learning need not being met remotely; Impact on access to further/higher education and employability.

## **4. Barnet's profile**

### **4.1 Barnet's population**

Barnet is the largest borough in London by population (402, 700) and is continuing to grow. Similarly, the number of children (aged 0-19 years) in Barnet, currently 99,300 (almost a quarter of the Boroughs population) is also projected to increase between 2020 and 2030, by 4.9% to 104,200. The projected increase is largely due to regeneration with the greatest projected growth in the number of young people in Colindale ward rising by 56.8% from about 8,100 in 2020 to 12,700 in 2030<sup>3</sup>. In Barnet the gender breakdown is Girls: 48.5% and boys: 51.6%<sup>4</sup>. Children and young people from Black and Ethnic Minority background make up 52% of the population. Based on data from the Annual Population

<sup>3</sup> <https://jsna.barnet.gov.uk/1-demography>

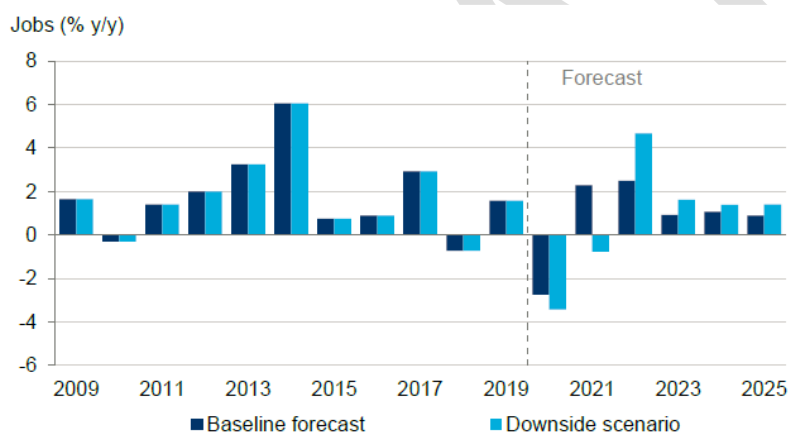
<sup>4</sup> <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2019-06/Barnet%20Children%20%26%20Young%20Peoples%20Plan%20Digital.pdf>

Survey, the most common religion in Barnet is Christianity (39.2%), followed by the Jewish (19.2%) and Muslim (11.8%) faiths.<sup>5</sup>

## 4.2 Barnet's economy

Barnet's economy is projected to contract by 9% in 2020 according to a recent study by the West London Alliance (WLA)<sup>6</sup>, with some sectors seeing more of a decline than others. The education, construction, retail, and hospitality sectors are likely to be experiencing particularly large falls in Gross Value Added (GVA). In terms of jobs, workplace employment in Barnet is projected to contract by 3%, or 4,600, in 2020. The accommodation & food services, wholesale & retail, construction, entertainment, and professional services sectors account for the majority of these job losses. However, the report suggests, these sectors, like most others, should see rebounds in 2021. See Figure 1

Fig 1. Baseline workplace, employment and scenario, Barnet, 2009-25, % y/y



Source: Oxford Economics

The study highlights that amongst London boroughs, Barnet has low exposure to the at-risk manufacturing, hospitality and transport sectors, good broadband connectivity, and a workforce that is likely to adapt well to working from home. These are advantages. It also has high levels of self-employment, and a concentration of micro- and small businesses in the professional services, construction and retail sectors. While these are normally strengths, they also make Barnet more vulnerable to the impacts of coronavirus.

<sup>5</sup><https://jsna.barnet.gov.uk/jsna/demography>

<sup>6</sup> How might the coronavirus impact the West London economy? (A report for the West London Alliance June 2020)

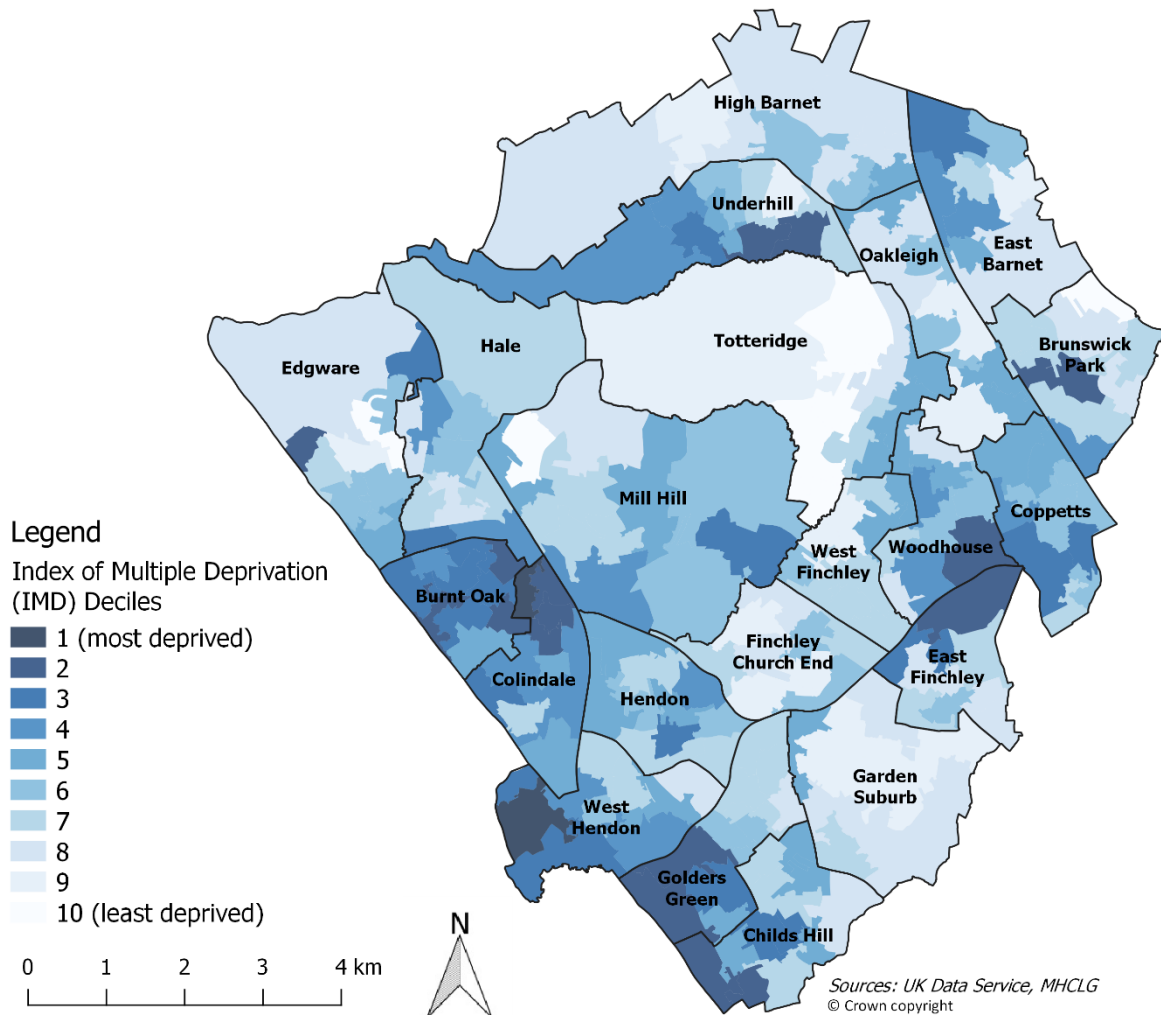
## 5. Life Chances needs assessment in Barnet

The full impact of COVID-19 on life chances across Barnet will take some time to emerge. The following sections set out the key information and data that is known at this stage from a range of sources.

### 5.1 Child poverty

Based on HMRC data, 14.0% of children in Barnet under the age of 16 were living in low income families in 2016, which was significantly lower than both London (18.8%) and England (17.0%). Within the local authorities in London, Barnet is ranked 25<sup>th</sup> on child poverty, using this measure. The latest research into child poverty shows Barnet has an Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD, 2015) score of 17.8, making it one of the least deprived boroughs in London. However, even in this relatively prosperous borough, there are pockets of deprivation, many of which are concentrated in the west and south of the Borough. See Figure 2

**Figure 2. Barnet Income Deprivations Map**





For Barnet, during 2017/18, the highest proportion of children living in poverty (after housing costs are considered) was found in Colindale (50%) and the lowest in High Barnet (23%), during the same period.

This disparity in the proportions of children living in poverty between different wards in the borough has important implications for health and wellbeing as well as service provision. The impact of Covid-19 on low income families with children is likely to be severe in the short term and recovery for these families will take much longer.

## 5.2 Food Security

As the impact of Covid-19 continues to take effect, food banks in the Trussell Trust's network reported an 89% increase in emergency food parcels given to people across the UK in April 2020 compared to the same period in 2019.<sup>7</sup> The figures include a 107% increase in parcels going to children compared to last year. The number of families with children receiving parcels has almost doubled compared to the same period last year.

Independent food banks saw similar increases, with the Independent Food Aid Network reporting a 175% increase in need for emergency food parcels given out in the UK during April 2020 compared to the same month last year.

A YouGov poll, commissioned by the Food Foundation, showed that:

- More than 1.5 million adults in Great Britain now report that they are unable to obtain the food they need and that nearly half (44%) of people surveyed are worried about getting the food they need as a result of coronavirus.
- People with children aged 8 to 16 in their household are more worried about getting food (52%) compared with those with no children (40%)
- People with children are more worried about getting fruit and veg (50%) compared with those with no children (42%)

From April to June 2020, Barnet's Community Help Hub answered 3,513 urgent phone calls and 2,846 emails asking for help. Its website received 12,565 unique visits.

In January 2018, Barnet received funding from the GLA to develop a food security action plan. Working with the Voluntary Community Sector, research partners at UCL and London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine, the final plan was signed off at Health and Wellbeing Board in October 2019. COVID-19 and the resulting lockdown has slowed progress on the original plan significantly, however it has also united partners in the fight against food poverty, highlighting the urgent need for support.

Work has begun with researchers at UCL to better understand how COVID-19 impacted the landscape around food bank use as a result of COVID-19 in Barnet. The project will last 12 months but will provide a much needed in depth understanding of food poverty in the borough. The food

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.trusselltrust.org/2020/06/03/food-banks-busiest-month/>

security working group will also be relaunching in October 2020 to review the existing action plan and to develop a new fit-for-purpose plan, building on the work done during lockdown.

### 5.3 Mental Health

The COVID-19 episode has had substantial negative impacts on mental health across the UK population. The biggest impacts have been on the same groups, broadly women and the young, that already had relatively low levels of mental health. Pre-existing inequalities in mental health have therefore been exacerbated by the crisis.

Our local survey of young people revealed 40% of young people felt the crisis had affected their mental health and well-being. There has been an increase in mild to moderate mental health presentations to our Barnet Integrated Clinical Service (BICS). BICS is the main provider of mild to moderate mental health services for children and young people (CYP) and families across Barnet. Additionally, increase in anxiety related presentations to KOOOTH (the council commissioned online counselling service), has reported a 25% increase in demand. BICS has set up support help lines for CYP, families and professionals between 9am to 8pm. This was in response to schools closing and families finding it harder to access to GPs. These support line were set up for easier access to BICS, support and help signposting to relevant services in the borough. BICS has provided innovation through digitally offering podcasts and pre-recorded videos as resource tools for the Barnet community and agency networks, and are delivering wide range of workshops and groups as part of an extension to their business as usual clinical offer which will continue. This has been well received by both families and wider agencies. Moreover, BICS has been an integral part of the Back to School Campaign and general COVID response.

BICS sits within the 'getting advice' and 'getting help' part of the Thrive model. According to the NHS Long Term Plan (2019)<sup>8</sup>, half of all mental health problems are established by the age 14, while the government's Green Paper on transforming CYP MH<sup>9</sup> suggests that one in ten young people have some form of diagnosable mental health difficulty. Therefore, BICS provides the much-needed stepped care approach to support prevention of specialist CAMHS provision and CYP going into crisis. Thus, the Barnet community benefiting from whole system approach.

A total of 838 referrals were made to BICS in the 12 months from September 2019 to August 2020 inclusive, with a 91.0% referral acceptance rate. 46.1% of 4,000 appointments offered during this period were conducted face-to-face (53.9% not face-to-face) – a figure heavily skewed by the impact of the government's pandemic response. A blended approach of remote working and face-to-face to work was offered through the pandemic, thus the average did-not attend (DNA) rate was only 2.1% of all appointments. High appreciation of the blend of face-to-face and digital offer based on clinical need was received.

In addition, Specialist CAMHS established a 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Line as part of their response to the pandemic. Working as part of the North Central London (Camden, Islington, Enfield, Barnet and Haringey) partnership, BEH MHT delivered specialist mental health hubs. The partnership also increased the capacity in the mental health crisis out-of-hours provision.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/nhs-long-term-plan-version-1.2.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/664855/Transforming\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_people\\_s\\_mental\\_health\\_provision.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664855/Transforming_children_and_young_people_s_mental_health_provision.pdf)

In line with other mental health trusts across the country, in the two weeks after the lockdown in March 2020 began, routine referrals to specialist mental health services reduced then increased and stabilised in July 2020. Although routine referrals reduced, CAMHS activity increased due to contacts with children and young people on CAMHS cases in this period, including telephone appointments and “Attend Anywhere” video conferencing sessions.

In Barnet, for 2018, the percentage of school age pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs was 2.61% which is higher than both London 2.41% and England 2.39% respectively. The percentage of primary school and secondary school pupils in the borough with social, emotional and mental health needs are also higher than the national average, in each case<sup>10</sup>. The hospital admissions due to self-harm for 10-24-year olds in Barnet have also been higher than London, since 2015/16.

## 5.4 Education

Barnet is well known for the excellent quality of its schools and the diversity of its educational offer. Our excellent educational outcomes and ensuring that all children and young people are resilient and equipped to meet the needs of employers are key factors for life chances. Education performance, including for disadvantaged pupils, has consistently improved over the last five years:

- The percentage of Good and Outstanding schools in Barnet is now 96.8% and is in the top 10% of the country.
- School attendance has consistently improved and Barnet is now in top 20% of Local authorities nationally for primary and the top 10% for the secondary phases.
- End of Key Stage 1 attainment in Reading, Writing and Maths is in the top 10% nationally.
- End of Key Stage 2 attainment in Reading, GPS and Maths and RWM combined is in the top 10% nationally.
- At Key Stage 2 the attainment of disadvantaged pupils is in the top 10% for Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined.
- AT Key Stage 2 Barnet is in the top 10% of local authorities for the progress disadvantaged pupils make in Maths and Reading.
- End of Key Stage 4 GCSE attainment (Attainment 8) is in the top 5% nationally for all pupils (2nd) and for disadvantaged pupils (5th).
- At Key Stage 4 the average Progress 8 score is in the top 5% of LAs nationally across all pupils (2nd) and for disadvantaged pupils (4th).
- In Progress 8 Barnet disadvantaged pupils are performing better than non-disadvantaged pupils nationally.
- End of Key Stage 5 A Level attainment is in the top 5% nationally.

As far as possible, the education focus throughout the pandemic has been on children continuing to learn. As children transitioned into school, the focus was on addressing concerns of lost learning. Barnet participated in a 6-borough project on lost learning<sup>11</sup> which is being used by schools to look at programmes in the autumn term.

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<sup>10</sup> Public Health England Fingertips. [Online] Available here: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile-group/mental-health/profile/cypmh/data#page/0/gid/1938133090/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000003/cid/4/page-options/ovw-do>

<sup>11</sup> Supporting the futures of children’s and young people’s education and skills following COVID-19

With examinations cancelled the impact on education performance is as yet unknown. However, lost learning is likely to have impacted most on disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils, whereas some young people will have benefitted from virtual learning, exacerbating differences in achievement.

The effects of being out of the classroom and learning online were highlighted in our survey of school children. 68% felt being in school is important to get help from friends, 60% say their screen time increased playing games and the same percentage said not being in the classroom affects their ability to understand. Further analysis of the survey data revealed young people of Asian (67%) and Black origin (75%), with a disability (75%), were more likely to agree the pandemic is harming their long-term education.

### **Achievement of disadvantaged pupils**

Although the achievement of disadvantaged pupils is in the top 10% nationally, the North London Disproportionality Dataset shows, for 2019, the ratio of black pupils in Barnet attaining the expected standard at Key Stage 2 and 4 compared to white pupils is low and in some cases being the lowest or second lowest in North London. This dataset also shows that Barnet's pupil referral units have disproportionately high numbers of pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds and school exclusions data shows that Black pupils are twice more likely to be excluded than white pupils.<sup>12</sup> Eliminating differences in the performance of groups of pupils remains a priority for improvement.

### **Special Educational Needs**

2.6% of Barnet's school population have an Education, Health and Care Plan, compared with the national proportion of 2.8%. In addition, 10.9% receive Special Educational Needs Support compared with 11.9% nationally. The largest groups of needs are, Autistic Spectrum Conditions and Speech, Language and Communication Needs<sup>13</sup>. Between them, they account for most children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan<sup>14</sup> (EHC Plan). SEND is disproportionately prevalent within the Black and Black British community. 4.5% of Black children and young people will have an Education, Health and Care Plan, compared to 2.6% across the entire population of children and young people.

The quality of our educational provision for pupils with SEND is among the best in the country, with over 96% of Barnet schools graded good or outstanding by OfSTED, including all our special schools and every mainstream school with an Additional Resource Provision (ARP).

Educational attainment at Key Stage 2 for Reading, Writing and Maths combined is in the top 10% for children with SEN Support and narrowly outside the top 10% (19<sup>th</sup>) for children with an EHC Plan. Progress in Key Stage 2 is in the top 25% for Reading, Writing and Maths for pupils on SEN Support and with EHCPs. At Key Stage 4 Barnet ranks in the top 10% of LAs for both Attainment 8 and Progress 8 for pupils at SEN Support. For pupils with an EHC Plan, Barnet is narrowly outside the top 10% (19<sup>th</sup>) in attainment and below the top 10% but above the national average for Progress 8.

Attendance is above national and statistical neighbour averages for pupils with EHCPs and in the top 10% of local authorities for SEN support pupils in both primary and secondary phases. There have been no permanent exclusions of primary pupils at SEN support or any pupils with an EHCP for the

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<sup>12</sup> North London Disproportionality Dataset September 2020

<sup>13</sup> Joint Plan with Barnet CCG, Barnet Council, Cambridge Education and Barnet Parent Carer Forum (2017). Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy. [Online] Available here: [https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/appendix\\_a\\_send\\_strategy\\_2017-2020.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/appendix_a_send_strategy_2017-2020.pdf)

last three years for which data is available (up to 2017/18). The percentage of permanent exclusions of SEN support pupils has fluctuated but was below the national average in 2017/18. 96% of 16- to 17-year-olds with special educational needs are in education or training, compared to the national figure of 89%.

There is growing evidence of the significant impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on children and young people with SEND and their families. A study undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April involving 241 families of children with SEND, found that nearly half of the parents reported experiencing greater anxiety, concern for their child's future and fears of them failing even further behind their peers (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, NICE, 2020).

In Barnet, the 0-25 Disabilities Service assessed the safeguarding risk and need based on disability of every child. Visits continued, the majority of which were virtual but where essential face to face visits were completed. Social workers kept in touch with families throughout as little or no support could go into homes for months. Work was done with care providers to explore different ways to deliver support to prevent escalation of need.

In Barnet, a survey was undertaken with 700 young people with SEND about the impact of the pandemic for them. Key concerns have related to increased anxiety and other mental health needs resulting from the impact of 'lockdown' and uncertainty about the future, lost learning and the impact of the pandemic on access to further/higher education and employability.

In October Ofsted/Care Quality Commission undertook a SEND Assurance visit in Barnet and confirmed that services and providers had worked well together to support children and young people with SEND and their families. From our own learning, and the feedback from children, and young people, parents and schools in Barnet, we aim to build on what has worked well during the pandemic and identify any gaps or greater areas of need that have resulted from the pandemic.

### **Children in care & care leavers**

There was improved attainment and progress of Looked After Children in 2018. The Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores for looked after children was better than national and London averages and statistical neighbour LAs.

At the end of December 2017, 96.04% of Barnet 16 & 17-year olds were in education or training, compared with 94.77% for its statistical neighbours and 92.01% for England. In 2017, Barnet was ranked 10th nationally on this indicator and had been consistently higher than both its statistical neighbours and England for several years.

Barnet's Virtual School was operational throughout the pandemic, adapting to new ways of working. At the start of the pandemic, tuition for all children was offered for two hours a week for four weeks to bridge the gap as schools got their online learning up and running and some children returned to school. Barnet Virtual School, in collaboration with Achieving for Children's Virtual School (Kingston, Richmond, Windsor and Maidenhead) and St Mary's University, has developed a Transition Hub for children in care aged 11 to 14. The project is to support young people who are new to care and children in care experiencing a transition in home/school placement within the care system.

For Barnet care leavers access to employment, training and education has worsened over the pandemic with an increase of 10% who are NEET resulting in 56% of care leavers being NEET. A

number of young people working in the hospitality sector became unemployed and young people turning 18 during this period were unable to commence their training.

## 5.5 Digital divide

COVID-19 is set to make the impacts of digital exclusion worse for the millions of young people affected, with the poorest hardest hit. Lockdown has highlighted reliance on virtual means of staying in touch. Critically, it has also thrown into focus the issue of digital exclusion, which has been a reality for 22% of the UK's population who lack basic digital skills since long before the Covid-19 outbreak according to a recent report<sup>15</sup>. At borough level, a 2017 survey indicated that Barnet has a low likelihood of digital exclusion, with only 11% of Barnet households having not been online., with low levels of connectivity seen around the north and centre of the borough.<sup>16</sup> As part of Barnet's COVID-19 emergency response, 700 computers were provided to support vulnerable children in the borough with their school work.

## 5.6 Housing

Following the Covid crisis, there has been an increase in number of care leavers waiting for permanent housing with 89 young people awaiting allocation of a property. There are various factors that have influenced this situation, namely the use of temporary accommodation for rough sleepers, the stay on evictions and the staying put guidance that stated that children should not be expected to move out of their placements at 18 during the lockdown.

Housing is an important determinant of our health, and it is essential for the wellbeing of children that their home provides for their needs, makes them feel safe, and allows them to stay connected to their community. The impact of housing on children's and young people's health is likely to have been greater than ever over the period of lockdown, with government guidance to stay at home and a significant number of households experiencing greater financial difficulties. The consequences of COVID-19 could increase housing insecurity, including unaffordability, short and unsustainable tenancies, and overcrowding.

Barnet's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-24<sup>17</sup> sets out its approach to tackling and preventing homelessness in Barnet, and noted that the most at-risk group of homelessness was single parents with dependent children.

## 5.7 Youth unemployment

The current crisis risks pushing more young people into unemployment and financial uncertainty. A recent study undertaken by the Institute of Fiscal Studies draws a correlation between the consequences of the crisis and the negative impact on employment for young people, with 16% of all people aged between 22 and 25 working in their first full time job after leaving education in the

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<sup>15</sup> [https://www.lloydsbank.com/assets/media/pdfs/banking\\_with\\_us/whats-happening/lb-consumer-digital-index-2019-report.pdf](https://www.lloydsbank.com/assets/media/pdfs/banking_with_us/whats-happening/lb-consumer-digital-index-2019-report.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> UK Tech Partnership, 2017. "UK Digital Exclusion Heatmap".  
<http://heatmap.thetechpartnership.com/?area=Barnet&metric=total>

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/homelessness\\_strategy\\_2019-2024.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/homelessness_strategy_2019-2024.pdf)

sectors hit hardest by the crisis<sup>18</sup>. Young people are most likely to have had their pay cut, with 35% earning less than they did at the start of the crisis and 9% earning more according to the Resolution Foundation.<sup>19</sup>

Covid-19 has also created difficulties for young apprentices. The group is suffering from both the employment crisis and with complications over the support they need to learn and progress. According to a report by the Children’s Commissioner <sup>20</sup>, 1 in 5 apprentices have been made redundant, are on a break from learning or have left their programmes. They are likely to be in sectors struggling due to the pandemic such as hospitality, retail and construction. Younger workers are also more like to be furloughed than older ones. In Barnet, negotiations have taken place with individual contractors and employers to secure or ringfence supported Internship opportunities. This is happening alongside work with training providers who have employment opportunities or work experience links. Commissioning has continued of Supported Internships programmes for young people with EHCP’s.

Increased unemployment of adult household members, and the associated financial uncertainty and risk to housing security will also have impact on children. Information released in July 2020 on numbers of people being furloughed at a constituency level in Barnet revealed Hendon as the worst affected (19,200 people; 9<sup>th</sup> out of 74 in London) followed by Finchley & Golders Green (16,100, 25<sup>th</sup>) and then Chipping Barnet (13,100, 41<sup>st</sup>). Table 2.

Table 2. Furlough in Barnet

London	1,074,900
Hendon	19,200
Finchley and Golders Green	16,100
Chipping Barnet	13,100

In July 2020 the number of working aged adults claiming work related benefits was 18,105 which has tripled since February 2020 (6,455). Young people are at significant risk of economic hardship with 18-24-year olds claiming benefits up from 2.5% in July 2019 to 9.5% in July 2020 and seventeen-year olds are more likely to be furloughed.

Young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) have been affected by COVID. Barnet’s Education Strategy (2017-2020)<sup>21</sup> notes that the number is low for 16-17 years old. Public Health England’s 16-17-year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose activity is not known in Barnet is 140 (1.9%) lower than London (4.8%) and England (5.5%)<sup>22</sup>. At the start of lockdown, the NEET figures for Care Leavers indicated that 39% of young people were not in

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/14914>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/young-workers-in-the-coronavirus-crisis/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/cco-what-covid-19-means-for-young-apprentices.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> Barnet Education Strategy 2017-2020. [Online]. Available here:

[https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/barnet\\_education\\_strategy\\_2017\\_to\\_2020\\_.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/barnet_education_strategy_2017_to_2020_.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> Public Health England, Fingertips. [Online] Available here: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1/qid/1938133228/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000003/iid/93203/age/174/sex/4/cid/4>



education, employment of training, compared to 36% in March 2019. As lockdown restrictions ended, this increased to 49% compared to 45% in June 2019.

## 5.8 Domestic abuse

A surge in domestic violence has been reported during Covid-19 pandemic as those living with domestic violence face greater risks at home during lock down, and support services are harder to reach. Statistics revealed that domestic violence increased since lockdown began in March 2020 with the charity, Refuge, reporting a 700% increase in calls to its helpline in a single day<sup>23</sup>.

Between April 2017 and April 2019, there were 5,708 domestic abuse (hate crime) offences recorded by the Metropolitan Police in Barnet. In the 12 months to April 2019, the number of these offences recorded for the borough was 12.75% higher than the previous 12 months, compared to 11.17% for London overall

## 5.8 Crime

Barnet's Young People's Perception Survey conducted in November 2019 showed crime (53%) remains the top concern among young people. Knife crime is the top personal worry (71%) with gangs (52%) and people taking drugs the other key worries.

The Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-20<sup>24</sup> using data from the YJB for First Time Entrants (taken from PNC) shows a 25% reduction in First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice system, dropping from 293 in the period between January to December 2016, to 218 from January to December 2017. Furthermore, the information from the YJB shows that the rate of custody (young people sentenced per 100,000 of the youth population) has increased marginally (0.28 for the period April 2017 – March 2018 compared with 0.22 from April 2016 – March 2017). This is on a par with statistical neighbours, and the rate of change between the two periods. Barnet's custody rate continues to be lower than the national rate.

The Youth Justice Plan highlights the complexity of youth crime in the Borough seen through increasing numbers of young people who are assessed as being gang affected. In 2016/17 this was 32% of the caseload with a risk to 49% by 2017/18. The vulnerability of this group is evidenced by the fact that 40-45% had contact with social care in some form.

## 5.9 Vulnerable children

Apart from the financial stresses affecting families, there are other issues being amplified by the crisis. Although children face less risk of Covid-19, vulnerable children face a mixture of additional risks with families becoming destabilised at the same time as support structures such as schools, clinics, health visitors and children's services suffered restrictions to the support on offer.

The Multi-Agency Early Help Panels have continued to operate remotely with good attendance from all key agencies. In partnership with key local providers, schools and the VCS, a summer programme of activities was developed building on the virtual delivery that was developed at the start of

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.refuge.org.uk/refuge-sees-700-increase-in-website-visits/>

<sup>24</sup> Barnet Youth Justice Plan 2018-20 [https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth\\_justice\\_plan\\_-\\_update\\_august\\_2019\\_-\\_web.pdf](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_justice_plan_-_update_august_2019_-_web.pdf)



lockdown. Early Help staff have delivered face to face and on-line programmes of activity with interactive, live and pre-recorded sessions in place.

Between March and September as services ceased operating or moved to remote ways of working there is evidence that this impacted on the volume of referrals into the MASH which were lower than usual, with 7891 contacts between March and September 2020, which was lower (<770) than the 8661 reported in the same period in 2019. As lockdown restrictions eased there was a moderate increase in contacts from a range of agencies.

The Duty and Assessment Teams worked on rota to undertake assessment and 96% of children were reported to have been seen during assessments over the period March – September. Visits were face to face throughout the pandemic with staff using PPE as necessary. Face to face visits were prioritised to those perceived to be at the greatest risk at home. Child protection processes remained in place virtually over the lockdown period with Strategy Discussions and S47 enquiries taking place virtually. Children were seen alone and interviewed.

Young people at risk of criminal and sexual exploitation and/or gangs and serious youth violence have received virtual support during the lockdown period via the Trusted Relationships Project (Art Against Knives, MAC-UK and Growing Against Violence). The REACH team has continued to undertake face to face visits to children and young people, whilst incidents of exploitation, missing episodes and serious youth violence practically diminished over the lockdown period, there have been increases across all domains of risk since the restrictions were eased. The Vulnerable Adolescents Strategy 2020 – 2022 sets out the key priorities for the multi-agency partnership in tackling vulnerability to exploitation.

### **Children with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities**

Children with disabilities have been identified as an exception to the low risk group profile. Complex health needs have resulted in disabled children being 'shielded' with limited, if any, access to outdoor space including school. Despite some school places being made available, parental anxiety has affected take up. The concept of 'social distancing' is not always understood by children with disabilities and this has added additional challenges for schools.

It is acknowledged that the lack of access to therapies, health services and education particularly for those with significant and complex learning needs may have caused regression in physical mobility, emotional wellbeing and learning. As part of recovery of service provision children's needs will need to be carefully assessed to establish need and decide on what support is required. This will be addressed through the Barnet SEND Strategy 2021-2024.

During lockdown, the Open spaces scheme enabled families with children with autism and learning disabilities to access a safe space to play and enjoy a change in environment. Around 100 families have accessed this to date. Given that the evaluations have been so positive, this scheme has been extended at weekends and will continue into 2021. In addition, further development of the scheme will provide indoor learning activities for clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people who have significant learning needs and who may not be able to access some of the online learning activities.

## **Children in Care and Care Leavers**

At the start of the Covid-19 crisis, there were 322 Children in Care, including 64 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and 340 Care Leavers. Throughout the period between March and September 57 children came into care, and a decision was made that no young people turning 18 would be considered to have left care, ensuring they remained supported by their social workers.

Young adults turning 18 were also supported to remain in their accommodation with their foster carers and supported semi-independent provisions to ensure young people did not experience significant life changing events during the lockdown period.

Placement stability is essential for children who are in care's wellbeing. 63% of children in our care live with foster carers. Foster carers showed admirable resilience and strength during lockdown and there is evidence of improved relationships, calming of challenging behaviours and for some children home learning has been a better experience than being in school environment. 67% of children in care have remained in their first placement and 89% of children have had 2 placements during their time in care.

The addressing of health needs for children in care has been impacted by COVID-19 as health assessments and reviews were completed virtually. The capacity of GP's to complete assessments reduced the timeliness of assessments with only 87% of assessment being completed on time. With dentist surgeries remaining closed for an extended period, only 37% of children were able to have their dental checks. This impact is being address by the Looked After Children Health Team. GP capacity is being increased and dentist surgeries have been directed to prioritise appointments for children in care.

## **6 Revised Action Plan 2020-2024**

A renewed commitment to successful outcomes for children, young people and families in the borough is shared by all services across Barnet. With the impact of COVID-19 and financial spending falling, there is a pressing need for partners to focus on working together to improve young lives and increase opportunities, addressing the drivers of child poverty and building resilience to improve future outcomes.

We recognise to improve life chances and address the issues previously outlined including child poverty and its contributing factors, there is no single response that will succeed on its own. Services need to work even closer together on a whole family basis in order to drive improved outcomes and wellbeing for children living in poverty. All interventions must consider targeted communications campaigns as a primary tool for raising awareness and driving behaviour change. Evidence suggests that single agency responses are unlikely to affect the change a child and family requires to succeed and escape deep-rooted poverty.

It has been agreed to retain the existing priorities but to further enhance the associated actions, in light of the impacts of COVID-19, to improve life chances for children and young people in the borough. The actions outlined are high level service priorities and further detailed information on respective strategies can be found in the appendix.

## Priority 1: Strengthening families and early years

Action	By whom
Deliver more initiatives through Children's Centres in the 0-19 Early Help hubs including access to training and employment opportunities, through a blended delivery model.	Early Years
Proactive publicising and enabling of increased access to 30-hours and Free Entitlement to Education (FEE2) offer. The 30-hour offer eligibility was extended during Covid-19 and it was agreed this additional eligibility will continue.	Early Years
Introduce termly parenting programmes to run across the borough with more 0-19 staff trained in specific parenting programmes including Strengthening Families.	Early Years
Increase use of 0-19 hubs as venues that distribute food bank vouchers and work with the Voluntary sector around the Holiday Hunger Scheme - including further work to define and target, without stigmatising, those suffering.	Public Health
Maintain the health visitor offer to deliver the five mandated reviews universally – antenatal, new birth, 6 – 8 weeks, 9 – 12 month and 2 – 2 ½ years. This has remained the priority during Covid-19 as reviews have been adapted to be delivered online.	Public Health
Work with partners to deliver Barnet's Childhood Immunization Action to increase immunization uptake across all socioeconomic groups.	Public Health
Improve access to healthy food in early years by increasing the number of families accessing the Healthy Start vouchers and vitamins, including facilitating the roll out of the electronic scheme.	Public Health
Continue to lead work with partners to improve our perinatal mental health pathway for Barnet, including 1:1 support for vulnerable parents.	Public Health
Aim to maintain current health provision where possible, whilst continuing to refine the virtual offer to ensure access to health services.	Clinical Commissioning Group

## Priority 2: Developing resilience and improving education

Action	By whom
Work with schools to maximise the percentage that are good or outstanding.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Work with schools and families in a supportive way to get attendance rates back to the levels they were at before schools were closed as a result of the pandemic.	Barnet Education & Learning Service BICS
Work to support schools regarding the impact on mental health and well-being of school closures and partial closures arising from covid19.	Barnet Education & Learning Service BICS
Continuing support to schools with their blended learning approaches, recognising that the approaches need to be both flexible and adaptable.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Continuing to support schools in establishing reliable baseline data for pupils and ensuring the curriculum meets the needs of all the pupils and is diminishing the expected wider differences between groups of pupils.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Support families so that they feel confident in safely returning their child to school and reducing the likelihood of them opting for Elective Home Education.	Barnet Education and Learning Service BICS

Work with schools to identify young people at risk of NEET and to provide them with additional support to help ensure they progress to education, employment or training.	Barnet Education & Learning Service BICS
Promote pathways into Further and Higher Education within Barnet and the wider region/sub-region, working with Education partners to ensure that courses are both attractive to young people and that they respond to future skills needs.	Business, Employment, Skills & Training
Challenge and support schools to make effective use of Pupil Premium funding for the benefit of pupils from low-income families.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Accelerate progress of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils in order to diminish the difference between them and their peers.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Improve the achievement and attendance of looked after children.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Champion the educational achievements of pupils with SEND.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Develop a programme of extra-curricular learning activities for children through libraries.	Libraries
Further expand the Resilient Schools Programme to 75% of schools in Barnet by 2021.	Public Health
Further expansion of the Healthy Schools and Healthy Early Years programmes, include a focus on healthy weight, physical activity, and sexual health.	Public Health
Continue to work with schools, our service providers, and other partners to deliver high quality health and healthy relationship education in line with the national curriculum.	Public Health
Work with schools and young people to improve physical activity levels for all children and young people in Barnet including supporting primary schools to implement 20 mins of extra daily physical activity.	Public Health
Continue to support children in care with enhanced Personal Education Plan (PEP) reviews with additional support and provision in place where needed.	Corporate Parenting
Building on the "Lost Learning report" commissioned by authorities in North London support schools and early years settings to provide evidence informed and appropriate curricula to support Children and Young People with complex needs to catch up.	Barnet Education & Learning Service
Ensure that regeneration projects promote community cohesion and that young people are involved throughout the whole project. A borough-wide approach to growth and development will be taken.	Growth & Development
Delivery of social infrastructure to support housing, such as investments in schools, community facilities, health and leisure provision, open spaces and spaces for play, alongside opportunities to improve health and wellbeing and apprenticeships.	Growth & Development

### Priority 3: Delivering equal access to opportunities

Action	By whom
Ensure sufficient high-quality provision in borough for children and young people 0-25 years with complex needs, including Autism.	0-25 Disability Service
Support the uptake of nutritious free school meals and healthy start vouchers as part of Food Security Action Plan.	Public Health
Seek opportunities to support at-risk children to access nutritious food 365 days a year to minimise the health impacts of chronic food insecurity.	Public Health

Roll out and promote programmes for work experience, apprenticeships, training, volunteering, and paid employment including supported opportunities for people with SEND.	Post-16/SEND
Improve access to careers education, employment opportunities and ongoing mentoring support for people in poverty by co-locating and better coordination of services.	Post-16/NEET
Extend the innovative 'Open Spaces' project to provide families with safe access to swimming/leisure facilities and explore with families of Children and Young People with significant learning needs ways to support their education/development.	Barnet Education and Learning Service/0 – 25 Disability Service
Maintain high performance on timeliness and quality of EHCPs and ensure that where advice for new EHCPs has been provided virtually, an early review is undertaken to make sure that the Plan accurately reflects the needs of child and the provision required.	Barnet Education and Learning Service
Formalise a blended approach to working with children and young people with SEND, to include when a face-to-face assessment or intervention needs to take place; or when families are digitally or otherwise isolated.	Barnet Education and Learning Service
Building on a strong culture of partnership working ensure that front-line practitioners utilise the opportunities presented through technology to enhance information sharing about children and young people with SEND, co-producing with families.	Barnet Education and Learning Service
Building on a strong culture of partnership working ensure that front-line practitioners utilise the opportunities presented through technology to enhance information sharing about children and young people with SEND, co-producing with families.	Barnet Education and Learning Service

#### Priority 4: Targeting support

Action	By whom
Food security working group relaunching in October 2020 to review the existing action plan and to develop a new fit-for-purpose plan.	Public Health
Work underway with researchers at UCL to better understand how COVID-19 impacted the landscape around food bank use as a result of COVID-19 in Barnet.	Public Health
Ensure care leavers have access to food education as identified in the Food Security Action Plan. Actively seek out additional funding opportunities to enable the provision of budget cooking skills.	Public Health
Collaborate with voluntary sector to set up Holiday Health programmes in the borough.	Public Health
Provide specialist employment and training support for young people aged 18 plus who are NEET or are unknowns in Barnet, targeting males particularly from White British and Black heritage who are over represented as not in work or education.	Post-16/NEET
Work with S106 Team to identify apprenticeships and work opportunities. Ring fence opportunities for the hard to reach groups in Barnet.	Post-16/NEET
Continue the Care Leaver Programme to ensure care leavers are fully supported to move into sustained employment, education and training.	Post-16/NEET
Implementation of Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy providing support to prevent young people becoming homeless and rough sleeping.	Barnet Homes
Strengthening support for homeless families in temporary accommodation and increasing the supply of all forms of private and affordable housing available across the borough.	Barnet Homes

Increase focus on early intervention and homelessness prevention measures, such as tenancy sustainment, youth domestic abuse support services.	<b>Barnet Homes</b>
Continue to embed Mental Health Support Teams and voluntary sector projects within Barnet for children and young people with mild to moderate mental health needs ensuring a robust and consistent approach.	<b>BICS</b>
Implement new Mental Health Support Team for Barnet focused on vulnerable adolescents and children and young people with SEND.	<b>BICS</b>
Continue to embed the Barnet Integrated Clinical Service, which offers social, emotional, behavioural and mild to moderate mental health support to children, young people and families	<b>BICS</b>
Work to increase take up of the Reading Well mental health scheme for young people.	<b>Libraries</b>
Develop further targeted work to promote all prevention and Early Help services and expand access routes for our local services to enable more self-referral.	<b>Early Years</b>
Ensure children in care and care leavers are appropriately prepared and supported to live independently. Develop Moving Forward project where semi-independent living is experienced and target support received.	<b>Corporate Parenting</b>
Improve multi-agency working between housing and partners to ensure care leavers at risk of homelessness are identified early and appropriate action taken to improve their outcomes.	<b>Barnet Homes</b>
Continue to provide council tax exemption to support care leavers to live independently.	<b>Barnet Homes</b>
Introduce post diagnostic workshops for children with Autism, which help parent-carers to have a better understanding of their child's needs and what support is available.	<b>Barnet Education and Learning Service/0-25 Disability Service/Clinical Commissioning Group</b>
Support families of children with SEND to have a better understanding of their financial entitlements and rights.	<b>Barnet Education and Learning Service/0- 25 Disability Service</b>
Increase the accommodation choices, employment, training and leisure opportunities for children, young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families to make successful transitions to adulthood.	<b>0-25 Disability service</b>
Targeted outreach for those most vulnerable to anti-social and criminal activity, educating them about avoiding and managing risks, and instilling confidence to address their fears and perceptions of threats.	<b>Family Services BICS</b>
Upgrade free digital provision in libraries, replacing all public access PCs including those for children and young people. Work with partners to increase the number of digital skills support sessions delivered through libraries.	<b>Libraries</b>
Build on strong parental engagement to formalise our outreach function for families, including those most isolated, so that there is effective communication and a dedicated SEN 'link' contact person for families of Children and Young People with complex needs to help ensure equality of access through the provision of information and signposting to other teams/services.	<b>Barnet Education and Learning Service</b>

## APPENDIX

<b>Barnet Council Young Persons Survey (February 2020)</b>	<a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60185/Appendix%201%20-%20Barnet%20YPS%202019%20Presentation.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60185/Appendix%201%20-%20Barnet%20YPS%202019%20Presentation.pdf</a>
<b>COVID-19 Young People Online Survey (July 2020)</b>	<a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60186/Appendix%202%20-%20COVID-19%20Young%20People%20Online%20Survey.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60186/Appendix%202%20-%20COVID-19%20Young%20People%20Online%20Survey.pdf</a>
<b>Autism Plan</b>	<a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s59883/Autism%20Plan%20Report.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s59883/Autism%20Plan%20Report.pdf</a>
<b>A Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015 – 2020</b>	<a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/health-and-wellbeing-key-documents/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-2015">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/health-and-wellbeing-key-documents/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-2015</a>
<b>Education Strategy 2021 to 2024</b>	<a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60974/CPB%209.11.20%20-%20Education%20Strategy%20cover%20report%20-%202029.10.20.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60974/CPB%209.11.20%20-%20Education%20Strategy%20cover%20report%20-%202029.10.20.pdf</a>
<b>Draft SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2021 to 2024</b>	<a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60965/CPB%209.11.20%20-%20SEND%20Strategy%20cover%20report%2029.10.20.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60965/CPB%209.11.20%20-%20SEND%20Strategy%20cover%20report%2029.10.20.pdf</a>
<b>Barnet Housing Strategy 2019 – 2024</b>	<a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/housing_strategy_final1.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/housing_strategy_final1.pdf</a>
<b>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024</b>	<a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/homelessness_strategy_2019-2024.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/homelessness_strategy_2019-2024.pdf</a>



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