

Issue 6 Autumn 2006

every lambeth child matters



The Newsletter for Lambeth's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP)



Be Healthy



Kevin Barton
Chief Executive Primary Care Trust

Supporting children and young people to feel happy, healthy and achieve is a key priority of the children and young people strategic partnership.

Our core vision is to support children, young people and their families to give them access to quality services and care, for example:

- The teenage pregnancy board is already making progress to reduce unplanned teenage pregnancies and improve the sexual health of young people through better prevention
- Mental health is also a growing challenge in Lambeth but one that we are tackling head on through a children and adolescent mental health services programme
- 24-hour access to services, special services for children with learning disabilities and greater health promotion

Working together as partners we will use a single common assessment framework (CAF) to assess the health and social care needs of families. For instance, health and social care staff will receive training to increase their understanding of looked after children's health needs and deliver regular and integrated health assessments. They will also offer health advice close to where looked after children live, such as in residential care.

Whatever children and young people's activities are put in place, we always ensure that the user's voice is heard and incorporated throughout our plans.

PCT Teams Who's Who

Angela Dawe - Director of primary care and community services

Angela has worked for the NHS in London for more than twenty years, becoming the PCT's director of primary care in 2002. Before joining the NHS she worked in the voluntary sector on overseas development.

Sarah Cottingham & Susanna Masters - Joint directors of service strategy and commissioning

Sarah and Susanna have extensive experience of working for the NHS and have job shared their role since the PCT was set up. Both have worked in a variety of healthcare commissioning roles in South Lambeth

Amanda Williams - Assistant Director of Nursing
Children and Young People

Key Priorities:

- Provide professional and clinical leadership for all nurses working in children and young people's services
- Lead the nursing workforce for children and young people in the development of effective clinical practice
- Advise and support managers in service and role redesign to develop services that improve health outcomes of the children of Lambeth
- Support the assistant director of localities (children and young people) with the development of integrated working between NHS and local authority services

Moira Dick - Consultant Community Paediatrician
Inclusion and Standards Division

Key Priorities:

- Identify early health and development issues
- Implement the 'team around the child' to support parents and carers with disabled children
- Integrate working with partners in children and young people's service and the voluntary sector
- Increase parent and carers' involvement and foster the 'expert patient' approach for disability
- Tackle health inequalities to improve the health of disadvantaged groups such as children with disabilities, looked after children and refugees

Harriet Agyepong - Assistant Director for Service Strategy & Commissioning
Children's Team

Key Priorities:

- Work with key stakeholders to deliver improvements outlined in the children and maternity national children's framework and local priorities
- Work in partnership with key stakeholders to improve children and adolescent's access to mental health services
- Work with providers to improve the outcome of commissioning based services for children

Daphne Horton - Service Manager for Clinical Teams
Southwest Locality

Key Priorities:

- Lead and manage the children's clinical teams and ensure effective service delivery
- Support the redesign of children's community nursing teams, including setting up new 'Healthy Start' team leaders and specialist health visiting roles for vulnerable families
- Support and develop children's clinical teams through integrated working to improve outcomes for children and young people
- Work with professional groups to support the launch of the new under fives feeding guidelines to children's clinical teams and other key professionals

Geraldine Abrahams - Assistant Director for Children and Young People and Development Services

Key Priorities:

- Integrate service provision across health, children and young people's service and the voluntary sector particularly for children with disabilities
- Respond effectively to vulnerable families by providing targeted, universal and specialist early intervention
- Work in partnership with key stakeholders developing multi-agency care pathways and implementing the common assessment framework (CAF)
- Reduce waiting times for assessment of autism and develop new model of care

Health matters

One of the key priorities in the children and young people's plan for Lambeth is to significantly improve young people's mental and sexual health. Listed below are some health facts for Lambeth:

- In 2004 Lambeth had one of the highest teenage conception rates in the UK.
- The spread of sexually transmitted infections is also of concern, with HIV disproportionately affecting men who have sex with men and those from the African-Caribbean community.
- Smoking is a key health issue for the whole community and has a significant impact on health inequality. 80% of smokers begin smoking when they are teenagers and recent statistics show that young women are smoking more than young men.
- Estimates of childhood obesity in Lambeth show a predicted three fold increase from 6,200 in 2001 to 22,700 in 2010 if current trends continue.
- The consultation document for the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Strategic Plan 2005 highlights the need to promote mental well being within communities and not just with individuals with existing mental health problems.
- Surveys of illegal drug use by young people show 26% of young people reporting that they had used illegal drugs by year 10 in the academic year 2004-05.

Work that is already happening to address some of the issues include:

Partnership working with the Youth Offending Service has been strengthened. Child and adolescent mental health nurses (supported by a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist) work within the Youth Offending Service to ensure that young offenders are formally assessed within five working days.

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) for young people in Lambeth works with the Lambeth Early Onset team from South London and Maudsley Trust to ensure that young people can easily transfer to alternative services if needed.

There is a CAMHS team based within the children and young people's service, to work with looked after children (LAC). Joint development work between this team and education psychology has improved support and access to services for learners and teachers. Services are also available for child victims of abuse.

Healthy eating, encouraging exercise, and water intake is being promoted through the Healthy Schools programme 89% of Lambeth primary and secondary schools and 88% of special schools are actively engaged in the Healthy Schools Standard (HSS).

Every local education authority (LEA) in England is working in partnership with primary care trusts (PCTs) to manage a local healthy schools programme. Each programme has a local co-ordinator and a team from education and health supporting its management and delivery.

Agencies are working together to support schools in developing and implementing sex and relationship education.

Work with young people on HIV and sexually transmitted disease is being carried out in a local college and via a sexual health youth worker.



If you have any questions about the Change Management programme you can contact the Integrated Services for Children (IS4C) team by email IS4C@lambeth.gov.uk or visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/is4c

or write to us at:
Integrated Services for Children
Floor 7, International House
Canterbury Crescent
Brixton
London
SW9 7QE



Improving young peoples mental health



To improve the mental well-being of children and young people in Lambeth, the specialist child and adolescent mental health service aims to reach the maximum number of children within the resources available. We do this by basing some CAMHS practitioners in universal services, such as schools and primary care, and some in targeted projects and Sure Start. For example we have clinicians based in Bishop Thomas Grant, Norwood Girls, Archbishop Sumner, Charles Edward Brookes, Ethelred nursery and the Behaviour Support Team (BEST). A senior clinician is also part of Elm Court multi-disciplinary team ('One stop shop'). Direct access to CAMHS at an early stage helps prevent more serious emotional problems developing. Children can develop responsibility for their own mental well-being. They can strengthen their resilience to mental ill health and have more opportunities to form constructive relationships and to learn.

The CAMHS provision to Lambeth Youth Offending Service continues to improve, and is assessed by the Youth Justice Board as performing above the national average. Some young people find it difficult to engage with mental health services. As a result of this we are piloting a 'mentoring' scheme. Two mentors have been commissioned to develop new and innovative ways of reaching out to troubled young people in the Lambeth communities.

We continue to provide therapy to those who are referred to the clinics by their parents, GP, schools, social services, education, the voluntary sector or adult mental health. Some are at risk because their carers have mental health and/or substance misuse problems. Whilst the majority of children who have an emotional or mental health difficulty will respond quickly to treatment, a small number of children and young people have serious problems that will continue into adulthood. By delivering treatment in partnership with other agencies we aim to offer a more integrated and effective service to all children.

Lambeth is committed to providing the spectrum of services to maintain the well-being of children and young people from early intervention to therapy for those with serious and enduring mental health problems. Through the Every Child Matters Outcome Framework it will be possible to create a comprehensive CAMHS across the borough and maintain our commitment to keeping Lambeth children "mentally and emotionally healthy".

Psychosis



Psychosis and schizophrenia are often thought of as the same thing. However if you experience psychotic symptoms it does not mean that you have schizophrenia. Also psychosis does not mean psychopath or someone who is dangerous. During a psychotic episode, a person may experience:

- Seeing, hearing voices or feeling things that are not really there
- Being preoccupied by unusual thoughts or beliefs that other people may not understand, such as believing that someone is watching you, conspiring against you or trying to harm you
- Trouble concentrating, being confused or muddled thinking
- Changes to regular patterns of sleeping or eating
- Difficulty relating to other people and preferring to spend time alone
- Behaving in an odd way, or doing things that are out of character

Who gets psychosis?

Psychosis can occur at any age, but it usually occurs in young adults (between the ages of 16-35 years). In Lambeth the number of people who develop psychosis is very high and it has doubled since the 1960's.

What causes psychosis?

The causes of psychosis are not fully understood although environmental factors appear to play a critical role. The increasing rates of psychosis in Lambeth could be related to the use of cannabis and skunk. Other associated social factors include living in a crowded city, moving from another country, being discriminated against, being bullied, being separated from your family when you are a young child and childhood abuse. It is thought that these factors work together to change the balance of chemicals in the brain that control thoughts, feelings and perceptions.

With prompt treatment the outcome can be very good, with people having no further problems. However, without appropriate treatment the outcome is usually poor, and people are likely to experience further episodes from which they do not recover so well.

Lambeth Council has joined forces with young people to create a new service - 'On it'. The service is available to all 11-19 year olds who go to school or live in Lambeth. On-it provides the service to groups or in one to one sessions, in person, over the telephone, on email or by text to young people, their parents or carers and also professionals working with young people.

There are innovative NHS services in Lambeth that are geared to help people who are at risk. The Outreach And Support In South London (OASIS) service offers assessment and treatment for people between 14-35 years, who have a high risk of developing psychosis. OASIS aims to prevent or delay the development of psychosis, and provide immediate access to specialised services, if psychosis develops. OASIS only sees people who are help seeking, and takes referrals from GPs, colleges, counsellors, Individuals and family members.

The Lambeth Early Onset (LEO) services work with people aged 16-35, who are experiencing a first episode of psychosis. They aim is to speed up recovery, help people get their life back on track, and reduce the chances of further psychotic episodes in the future.

Contacting LEO or OASIS

Both LEO and OASIS are available from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Outside this time, you can leave a message and your call will be returned.

LEO Assessment Team:

Tel: 020 7805 0600
Fax: 020 7805 0622

OASIS:

Tel: 020 7805 0616
Fax: 020 7805 0621
Email: Info@oasislondon.com
www.oasislondon.com

On-it can be contacted on 07908 250 967 or at On-It@lambeth.gov.uk

Teenage Pregnancy

Teenage parents tend to have worse health in pregnancy, lower birth-weight babies and a higher infant mortality rate. They are more likely to live in poverty, be unemployed and are less well educated than their peers. High rates of teenage pregnancies are linked with poor sexual health. Between a third and a half of sexually active teenagers in the UK do not use contraception at first intercourse and many continue not to do so, greatly increasing the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Teenage conceptions are also associated with higher rates of abortions and unwanted conceptions and are linked with childhood poverty, lower social class and lower educational attainment for the child in the long term.

Teenage pregnancy affects different population groups. From the 2001 census, the profile of teenage parents in Lambeth suggests a higher representation of teenage mothers in the Black Caribbean and Mixed Black Caribbean-white minority ethnic groups. Higher teenage pregnancy rates also occur with lower socio-economic status, substance and alcohol users, homeless young people, school excludes/school underperformers, children of teenage mothers, and looked after children.

Lambeth has a reducing teenage conception rates in the UK. The latest figures (for 2004) indicate an under-18 conception rate of 84 per 1000 girls aged 15 -17. This is a 1.5% decrease in rates from 1998-2004. The percentage of under-18 conceptions leading to abortions is amongst the highest in the country at 63%.

Although the rates remain high, the experience of being a young parent in Lambeth is improving and is something to be celebrated. Services are working closer together and the level of support available for young people has increased.

Lambeth has a solid and accessible system of support for young parents through mainstream organisations and the Sure Start Plus programme. Lambeth also run a project called Room @ the top. The project is aimed at pregnant or school aged mums and aims to reintegrate them back into education.

Work contributing to the local teenage pregnancy and parenthood action plan is set within the broader context of addressing the health and wellbeing of children and young people in the Borough. The body overseeing implementation of the plan is the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Partnership Board, which is accountable to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP).

Current focus of the plan includes:

- Encourage active engagement of all mainstream delivery partners including the voluntary sector
- Strong senior champion accountable for and taking the lead in driving the local strategy
- Availability of well publicised young people-centred contraceptive and sexual health advice services
- PSHE in schools, with support from the local authority to develop comprehensive programmes of sex and relationships education (SRE) in all schools
- Targeted interventions with young people at greatest risk of teenage pregnancy, in particular with Looked After Children
- Workforce training in SRE for professionals in partner organisations working with the most vulnerable young people
- Well resourced Youth Service, addressing key social issues affecting young people, such as sexual health and substance misuse

If you would like to know more about the Lambeth teenage pregnancy and parenthood partnership then please email teenagepregnancy@lambeth.gov.uk



Raising Educational Achievement

Lambeth has demonstrated a steady and impressive rise in educational achievement in recent years. However, performance data also shows there is a need to narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups and provide targeted support to schools that are not achieving floor targets.

The best for all our children: supporting schools below national floor targets

This is a two year programme jointly funded by London Challenge, NRF and Lambeth Local Authority, to reduce the number of low attaining/ underperforming primary schools by 50% in 2008.

Twelve primary schools are involved in the programme, where less than 65% of children have achieved level 4 across english, maths and science over a period of 3 years. The majority of these schools are situated in wards where children face multiple disadvantages, the majority forming part of the 30% most deprived areas in the country.

The main focus of work in the programme will be:

- Building leadership and management capacity in targeted schools
- Improving the quality of teaching and learning, early reading and numeracy, leading to higher standards at the end of the Foundation stage, KS1 and KS2
- Creating sustainable improvement in parental and carer involvement
- Improving attitudes to and behaviour for learning for all groups of children
- Offering enhancement activities through national strategies and gifted and talented programmes

Since September 2006 a team has been set up to support the work of the programme. Each school has also been matched with a successful partner school to share good practice and the Head Teacher and leadership team can act as consultants.

All schools are clearly focused on improving outcomes for children. Schemes include support for more able pupils in early reading, excellence in mathematics and gifted and talented activities. All staff in 'the best for all our children' schools have access to Continuing Professional Development throughout the programme, which is linked to performance management.

The programme's monitoring systems will track individual pupils in years 5 and 6, the progress of teaching and learning and the status of leadership and management capacity in the twelve schools.

For further information on 'The best for all our children' programme contact **Kirstin Lewis** on **0207 926 8847** or by email klewis@lambeth.gov.uk



Black African pupils achievement



New research released shows that African heritage pupils' achievement in Lambeth schools is bucking national trends. The report also confirms that black african children in Lambeth schools are doing better than Indian and white British at national level. Lambeth has a higher proportion of African residents than any other London borough (23.6%) and has a unique pool of high quality research data to draw on.

Twelve Lambeth primary and secondary schools were used as case studies for the analysis. They stand out as effective in raising achievement of African heritage pupils:

- The KS2 performance in the case study schools improved from 74% to 82% -up 8%
- 79% of African heritage pupils in the case study schools achieved 5+ A* - C in GCSE in 2005 compared with 48% nationally and 57% in Lambeth
- There has been a substantial rise in GCSE performance of African heritage pupils in the case study schools from 57% to 79%, with an improvement rate of 23% compared to 7% nationally

There are a number of reasons why African heritage pupils are doing so much better. The research identified the following factors:

- African parents value education very highly
- The schools have expectations of high achievement for all and an ethos that nurtures every child
- Parents share the schools' sense of mission and service; they share the Christian, caring values that support their children and the schools' involvement in the community
- Pupils share their parents' aspirations and their understanding that a good education is crucial to their success in later life
- Parents respect authority and value the good discipline that schools instil
- Parents and school staff often share a religious faith
- Parents, pupils and staff value the diversity of those who work in schools and welcome the very good role models that Black African and Black Caribbean staff provides
- The quality of teaching and learning is very high
- Schools use performance data very effectively in order to monitor and guide pupils' progress
- Schools enrich the curriculum with projects and studies that draw on pupils' family experience, and add to their growing pride in being African
- The local authority's link with schools in Ghana and other African Countries contributes significantly to staff and pupils' knowledge of modern Africa
- Schools have strong links with the African Community
- Pupils, staff and parents feel that their school is central to the life of the community in Lambeth

"This ground breaking research demonstrates that if parents have high expectations and support their children at school, young people can excel academically", said Councillor Sally Prentice, Lambeth Cabinet Member for Children and Young People. "The findings of this research on African heritage pupils has implications for national education policy and I hope it will be widely read."

"Working in the London borough with the highest proportion of African heritage residents, Lambeth schools have unrivalled experience and expertise to share with the rest of the country."

Welcoming the report, Phyllis Dunipace, Executive Director of Children and Young People's Service, said: "This report celebrates good practice in Lambeth schools, including a rich array of strategies to raise attainment. This document will increase our understanding of the way in which all schools can enhance pupils' academic attainment at local level."

For further information, please contact **Feyisa Demie**, Head of research and statistics on **020 7926 9448** or by email: fdemie@lambeth.gov.uk

Extended Services

'An extended school is a school that recognises that it cannot work alone in helping children and young people to achieve their potential, and therefore decides to work in partnership with other agencies that have an interest in outcomes for children and young people, and with the local community. In doing so, it aims to help meet not only the school's objectives but also to share in helping to meet the wider needs of children, young people, their families and the community.' DfES 2004

Schools are the principal universal setting that all children, young people and their families experience and as such are at the heart of the "Change for Children" agenda. The Government has set a challenging target for all schools to be extended and offering a core of services by 2010.

All Lambeth schools serve diverse communities and the services offered or developed will vary. A team of Extended Services Area Co-ordinators are working with schools and partners to develop existing and new service opportunities. Each co-ordinator also has a borough wide role to support a specific aspect of the core offer by working with colleagues and providers across the partnership.



Although the core offer of extended services should be available in or through all schools by 2010, there is no expectation that schools should develop and provide extended services on their own. Some schools will be better placed to provide services directly, while others may wish to establish collective arrangements for provision with relevant external agencies and voluntary organisations. As such, the voluntary and community and not for profit sector are seen as key delivery partners of extended services in and around schools. Consistent with the aims of workforce remodelling, extended services is not about headteachers and teachers running services or taking on additional responsibilities. Schools are advised to ensure only the most appropriate people develop and deliver extended services.

Much of the 'core offer' is not new to schools. Lambeth schools have a long history of working with other agencies and the voluntary sector to provide out of hours activities, support to parents, and ensuring pupils receive the specialist support they and their parents may at times need. The extended services programme is therefore as much about developing, extending, and improving access to existing provision as it is about developing new services.

Phase One

To support the 27 Lambeth schools involved in phase one of the programme, a series of development events based on a model developed by the Training and Development Agency for schools (TDA) are being rolled out across town centre groupings and are designed to assist schools and their partners - statutory, and voluntary and community - to identify needs and opportunities, and develop strategies to develop and deliver services.

Extended Services development workshops are being rolled out from November, to help identify and develop service opportunities. All schools are receiving "seed" funding for two years to help set up services although it is expected that any new services are sustainable beyond this period.

Following consultation events and activities with pupils, parents and the community, many schools are now working to embed and extend the range of services offered.

Phase Two

Phase two of the programme will be launched to a further 15 schools from January 2007. Any school that would like to further develop its services should contact a member of the extended services team.

Further useful information and resources is available from the Lambeth website www.lambeth.gov.uk and from the two main national supporting organisations, the Training and Development Agency www.tda.gov.uk and Continyou www.continyou.org.uk

If you have an enquiry about extended services in Lambeth or would like to find out more about how you or your organisation can better be involved, please contact **John Hogarth** on **020 7926 1107**.

Healthy Schools

Healthy eating, encouraging exercise, and water intake is being promoted through the Healthy Schools programme 89% of Lambeth primary and secondary schools and 88% of special schools are actively engaged in the Healthy Schools Standard (HSS). Two nurseries (including 1 Children's Centre) have achieved HSS and, have surpassed the national requirement for Early years settings, with a further 2 nurseries working towards HSS. 59 primary schools are registered with the KS1, the national Schools' Fruit and Vegetable Scheme.



Lambeth has led on a sustainable food procurement initiative which has promoted use of healthy ingredients in school meals and is recognised as good practice by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). As a result of this initiative the uptake of school meals has risen by 2% across the borough from 64% in 2003-04 to 66% in 2004-05, there are improved satisfaction levels from 71% in 2002 to 98% in 2005, and average spending on ingredients per meal has increased from 11p to 56p.

A healthy school is one that has met the criteria in the four core themes below:

- 1 Personal, social and health education including sex and relationship education and drug education
- 2 Healthy eating
- 3 Physical activity
- 4 Emotional health and well-being (including bullying)

These criteria relate not only to the taught curriculum but also to the emotional, physical and learning environment that the school provides.

How does a school become a healthy school?

Schools are asked to demonstrate evidence in these core themes using a whole-school approach involving the whole school community.

The criteria required to achieve Healthy School status provide comprehensive evidence that a school is contributing to the 5 outcomes of the Every Child Matters agenda. The Healthy Schools Programme also supports outcomes and impact for School Self Evaluation.

How many Lambeth schools are healthy schools?

Lambeth's targets for the percentage of schools accredited as Healthy Schools are: 50% by December 2006 and for 100% of schools to be involved in the programme by 2009.

In the three years since the initiative began, thirty-seven Lambeth primary and secondary schools have achieved Healthy School status and at least six more schools will be ready for accreditation before December 2006. Therefore we are confident in achieving the December 2006 target.

What support is there?

Schools are supported in the process of accreditation by a Lambeth teaching and learning consultant for Healthy Schools, members of the Lambeth Primary Care Trust, Health Education Links, Lambeth Drugs Action Team and Teenage Pregnancy Team.

Further Sources of Information:

- Every Child Matters multi-agency grid which will have been sent to schools in early September - How to address the five outcomes in Lambeth Schools
- www.wiredforhealth.gov.uk the Department of Health's website for schools
- OFSTED Report: 'Healthy Schools, healthy children? - The contribution of education to pupils' health and well-being'.

Building Schools for the Future

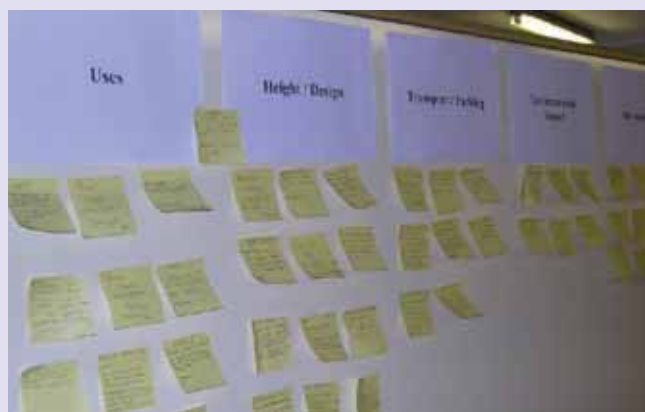
Lambeth Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is part of a wider Government investment programme, which aims to rebuild or substantially refurbish every secondary school in England, to ensure that all secondary pupils learn in 21st-century facilities. It is a major transformation programme, which will contribute towards increasing access to quality schools in Lambeth.



Consultation is integral to the successful implementation of the BSF programme in Lambeth. Regular consultation, dialogues and development meetings are ongoing throughout the project to ensure that decisions are made in collaboration with stakeholders. The BSF team believes that continuous discussion with the many interested parties will help deliver a comprehensive programme, which will transform secondary education in Lambeth. We are currently reviewing our engagement methods to ensure that all groups are regularly kept abreast of BSF developments and have an opportunity to participate in the programme.

Whenever appropriate the BSF team devises consultation activities and holds events to present and discuss proposals affecting individual schools with local residents and stakeholders. The views of the participants to consultations are taken into consideration by the BSF team when finalising the development plans.

Recently the team appointed Indigo Public Affairs to manage a consultation exercise to help finalise the development brief of Stockwell High School. The aim of the activity was to ensure that all concerned parties, such as local residents, members of the school community, representative and voluntary organisations have an input into the proposed redevelopment of the school. To increase access to participation and maximise the opportunity to be involved in the consultation, a mixed method approach was adopted, which included:



- A consultation newsletter and feedback card distributed to pupils and staff of the school and hand delivered to all properties
- A public exhibition
- Planning for real events together with tours of the school
- Workshops events with Year 7 pupils and the School Council
- Door to door canvassing
- Breakfast meetings

For further information please contact Frank Fonton, Communications and Consultation Manager on **020 7926 3223** or ffonton@lambeth.gov.uk

Creating quality childcare places in Lambeth



Childcare is full or wrap-around care that supports working parents and those training and/ or in need of full care for their children. Any childcare providing more than 2 hours care for a child under 8 must be Ofsted registered. This includes nurseries, pre-schools, childminders, crèches and after school and school holiday provision.

What do we know about childcare in Lambeth?

An analysis of all Ofsted for the period from April 2005 to June 2006 showed:

- There is an increase in the number of providers and places in Lambeth above the national average
- Providers - 14.5% growth in Lambeth compared to 2.9% in England
- Places - 10.4% in Lambeth compared to 5.2% in England

This is mainly accounted for by an increase in the number of childminders (Lambeth 17.3%, England 2.1%) and out of school day care (Lambeth 19%, England 9%); Crèche provision increased by 20% against 8.5% nationally. Sessional day care continues to fall nationally and locally.

We are carrying out research about childcare across the borough, looking at statistics as well as talking to parents about their present and future childcare needs. The results of this research will be used to ensure that supply meets demand and we don't have too much or too little childcare in particular areas of the borough.

Improving the quality of childcare in Lambeth

A detailed analysis of the strengths and weakness of childcare in the borough has been carried out and an action plan to help support childcare providers has been drawn up. A number of new initiatives have also been put in place since April 2006.

All new or potential providers are offered direct support from Early Years and Sure Start (EYSS), including pre and post Ofsted registration visits. Advice and information is provided in the form of guidance packs, one to one support and training.

All Ofsted registered providers are offered free training and professional development. A new Early Years Workforce Forum held each term is open to all maintained and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings. It highlights key changes and developments taking place nationally and locally and ways of accessing support. A new Study Awards programme is available to everyone working within the early years and play sectors to acquire initial and enhanced professional qualifications.

New Town Centre Childminding Cluster meetings take place three times a year with the aim of building support and promoting a quality service. A childcare development officer acts as lead officer in each of the Town Centre areas.

For more information contact **Nicky Road**, Interim Head of Childcare Development, on **020 7926 8617** or by email: nroad@lambeth.gov.uk

Understanding the needs of Looked After Children



The Looked After Children Educational Achievement (LACEA) team recently held a one-day conference aimed at Lambeth designated teachers for looked after children (LAC). The aim was to raise awareness about emotional and behavioural issues affecting many looked after children, and how this can impact on their school experience, learning outcomes and exclusion.

Key note speaker Marion Bennathan, Chair of Nurture Group Network and co-founder of Young Minds, provided context for the days discussion on the topic of early relationships and learning and how being in care impacts on the development of these.

Workshops and presentations led by Local Authority and partner services including, children looked after mental health service (CLAMHS), Lambeth teaching and learning consultants, social care management and the educational psychology service, looked at methods to best meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people.

Evaluation of the event indicated that it was well received and provided delegates with a mix of strategies and examples of good practice already in place in Lambeth schools. These strategies help break down some of the barriers to educational success, faced by looked after children.

For further information please contact **Colm Doyle** LACEA team leader on **020 7926 9767**.

Children's Fund Programme



Lambeth Children's Fund commissions predominantly voluntary and community based organisations, to develop a range of preventive services and interventions for children (aged 5 to 13 years old) and their families.

Since the programme was set up 4 years ago, a lot valuable work has been done to support children and young people's physical, social and emotional development. This has helped to improve school attendance and attainment and to reduce and prevent youth offending.

Prevention is a central aspect of the fund and a range of services and projects have been developed to help young people at the earliest possible stage. This may be through provision of a specific service or by improving young people's access to wider facilities in the community.

A number of projects offer advice and support to vulnerable children and families who need help in accessing education as well as a range of support services, welfare advice and guidance on parenting issues.

The programme aims to deliver flexible and joined up services cross-borough, to meet the needs of children and families. Some outreach-based projects carry out home visits if needed, to reach the most vulnerable children. Many services are based within schools offering hands on support, advice and an opportunity for children to talk about problems they are experiencing, such as bereavement, family breakdown, bullying, anger, sibling rivalry, relationship or friendship difficulties.

Peer mentoring and peer mediation programmes and training equips children and young people with skills in listening, communication, negotiation, team building and creative problem solving.

Transitional support is offered for young people while moving from primary to secondary school. Support is also provided around issues such as mental and sexual health, relationships, growth and development including physical and emotional changes, smoking, drug and alcohol support, body image and weight.

The Children's Fund programme aims to enable disadvantaged children such as children with disabilities, from minority ethnic or refugee communities, young carers or those who are living in temporary housing to access quality sport, arts and play activities as well as wider service provisions in their local area.

For a copy of the booklet listing all the services and organisations funded by the Children's Fund contact **020 7926 8584** or visit www.childrensfund.org.uk

The Common Assessment Framework

All local authority areas are expected to implement the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) between April 2006 and the end of 2008 and all areas should be working during 2005/06 to prepare for this.



Why do we need a Common Assessment Framework?

Some children are being assessed and asked for the same information time and time again; others are having important needs overlooked because

they fall outside the remit of the assessing agency; and inter-agency referrals do not operate as well as they could. A more consistent approach to assessment will go a long way towards improving the situation.

What is the CAF?

The CAF is a national, standard approach to conducting an assessment of the needs of a child or young person and deciding how they should be met. Practitioners in all agencies have developed it for use so that they can communicate and work more effectively together. It will support earlier intervention by providing a tool to enable practitioners in universal, as well as targeted or specialist services, to assess needs at an early stage. It aims to potentially be the main method whereby needs are assessed by agencies, reducing the number and scale of specific assessments.

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) will provide an opportunity to bring together a number of initiatives such as Lambeth Information Sharing Assessment (LISA) and work force development and reform. The roll out of CAF will support further development in the role and use of the lead professional across the partnership.

All agencies are expected to train at least some of their staff in completing common assessments. Groups of staff that are identified should attend one of the following training sessions:

Date	Contact	Venue	Time	Number of staff
5 January 2007	Sandra Evans	Lecture Theatre, International House, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton, SW9 7QE	2.00pm - 3.30pm 3.45pm - 5.15pm (Please select 1 session)	40 (max)
9 February 2007	Sandra Evans	Lecture Theatre International House, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton, SW9 7QE	2.00pm - 3.30pm 3.45pm - 5.15pm (Please select 1 session)	40 (max)
9 March 2007	Sandra Evans	Lecture Theatre, International House, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton, SW9 7QE	10.00am - 11.30am 2.00pm - 3.30pm 3.45pm - 5.15pm (Please select 1 session)	40 (max)
13 April 2007	Sandra Evans	Lecture Theatre, International House, Canterbury Crescent, Brixton, SW9 7QE	2.00pm - 3.30pm 3.45pm - 5.15pm 6.00pm - 7.30pm (Please select 1 session)	40 (max)

Please be advised that these training sessions are repeats of the sessions held in February, March, April, May, July, August & September this year and are aimed at staff who missed these sessions and new staff.

To book a place on one of the above courses please call **Sandra Evans** on **020 7926 9236** or email sevans@lambeth.gov.uk

Programme Highlights

The second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP2)

As you are aware we have a one year Children and Young People's Plan. Feedback has now begun to be collated on the second Children and Young People's Plan, with key messages identified through consultation with Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) partners and the voluntary and community sector. All performance on targets for 2006 / 07 is being monitored and actions logged that support the achievement of targets within the plan.

The second Children and Young People's Plan will be a three year strategic plan, closely linked in with the Local Area Agreement, Neighbourhood Renewal and key strategic developments across the partnership.

Further consultation meetings with CYPSP partners will take place to agree priorities and establish a lead officer for each of the priorities and target areas.

Local Area Agreement (LAA)

Local Area Agreements simplify the number of funding systems from central government to local government. By focussing on a core set of outcomes, LAA's give local areas much greater freedom to spend on local priorities.

An LAA is delivered by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and organised around four broad 'blocks'

1. Children and Young People
2. Safer and Stronger communities
3. Healthier communities and older people
4. Economic development and enterprise

What are the advantages of an LAA?

- Outcomes focused - We have identified a set of performance indicators and targets that we will be measured against according to local priorities and need
- Reward element and stretch targets - We are in the process of negotiating with Government Office for London (GOL) 12 local priorities for measurable stretch performance targets, in return for a reward grant

Children and young people's block

The Children and Young Peoples (CYP) block has been steered and developed through the leadership of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) and in particular the Director of Children and Young People's service.

The CYP block is closely aligned to Lambeth's strategic Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP). The priorities from the plan are the basis for the outcomes framework of the CYP block.



A key driver for the development of the LAA was the need to ensure that the LAA added value and would actually focus attention on priorities for service delivery. Of significance was the fact that the needs analysis identified the over representation of similar groups of children and young people over and over again in the priority areas for action. These included teenage parenthood, entry into youth justice system, those not in education, employment or training and those with low educational attainment levels.

The first draft of the Local Area Agreement for the Children and Young People block was submitted to GOL on 30 September 2006; feedback received on the

submission was assessed as good. Following further partnership consultation, all feedback was later incorporated into a second draft and submitted on 30 November 2006.

The final draft of the LAA is due for submission on 26 Jan 2007. Lambeth will need to have an LAA negotiated and ready by 1 April 2007. It will be a three-year agreement, with Lambeth Council receiving funds and acting as the accountable body on behalf of the LSP, Lambeth First.

Excellence by 2008

The Annual Performance Assessment report outlines that:

- The contribution of social care services to maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people has strengthened and is good
- Considerable headway has also been made with the integration of services
- Collaborative planning is embedded and is clearly driven by Every Child Matters objectives
- Good progress has been made in the majority of areas for improvement from last year's APA, although some key challenges remain

The APA inspection results for 2006 are as follows:

Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) assessment:

scale: 1= weak; 2 = poor; 3 = good; 4 = Excellent

- Children's Services = 3 (3) ● Social Care Services = 3 (2) ● Capacity to improve = 4 (4)

The capacity to improve is excellent and graded as a 4

Primary Care Trust (PCT) assessment:

- Quality of services = 3 ● Financial Management = 3

Lambeth's PCT were 1 of only 2 London PCT's that were ruled as good in the inspection and only 1 of 8 nationally.

Strategic Commissioning

Work with our partners is being carried out to develop a joint commissioning strategy for Lambeth. A joint commissioning workshop was held on 28 November 2006 with CYPSP board members to discuss how best to develop a strategic framework to support the development of strategic commissioning across the partnership.

Parents Forum

The Chairs of parent support groups are invited to attend a meeting on 19 December 2006, 10am - 12.30pm to discuss the establishment of a parents forum. If you chair a parents support group and would like to be involved in this initiative, please contact Katie Myhill on 020 7926 1106 or by email kmyhill@lambeth.gov.uk

Developing the Team Around the Child

The development of the Team Around the Child (TAC) is one of the approaches that will be developed and used to meet the statutory Every Child Matters requirements to integrate systems, processes and service delivery, to improve outcomes for children and young people.

The integration of service delivery will be based on the needs of localities and communities governed by the three planning areas, which will be co-terminus with those of the PCT.

TAC is an approach that has first developed to provide integrated services to children under 5 with complex disabilities - generally through child development services. It is proposed to use this approach to bring together a range of professionals to address the needs of children with additional needs.

TAC in Lambeth

The TAC approach will be used as:

The driver for cultural and organisational change where needed to ensure we are able to meet the requirements of the Every Child Matters agenda.

To develop early identification of need and preventative working through the establishment of multi agency/disciplinary teams within each of the three planning areas. As these arrangements develop and embed, planning, commissioning and integrated service delivery will be governed by the three areas. The TAC will bring together a range of professionals to meet the individual needs of a child/young person across the CYPSP.

The TAC will be different for individual children as they have differing needs. The activities and composition of the TAC will be informed by the completion of a common assessment. A lead professional will co-ordinate the activities of the TAC.

Service providers will need to consider a range of issues including: Who will be part of the Team around the Child.

CYPSP

The CYPSP Board is the primary body for formulating strategy and making decisions. It has a two-way purpose; it hears the discussions and recommendations of the Programme Forum and the Assembly, as well as cascading information down through the agencies. The Board represents both business and end-user interests and informs external stakeholders of programme developments. It ensures that appropriate actions are taken and approvals are sought from relevant decision-making bodies and management teams. The CYPSP Board meets six times a year, to monitor and progress work and actions (members only).

CYPSP Programme Forum

The Programme Forum is a group of key managers, who interpret strategy into policy and practice, and drive the implementation of decisions. It enhances partnership working within and between key agencies and seeks to use partnerships to improve outcomes for children and young people. The CYPSP Programme Forum meets every six weeks (members only).

The CYPSP Assembly

A consultative meeting, that provides feedback on policies and plans as they are developed. Participants are encouraged to offer innovative solutions based on their knowledge and experience of public facing service delivery. It is open to all those who work with children and young people in the borough and meets quarterly. Please contact Katie Myhill on 020 7926 1106, kmyhill@lambeth.gov.uk if you wish to attend.

Voluntary and Community Sector Forum

This is a monthly meeting for the voluntary and community sector that has been set up as a consultative body for matters relating to children and young people. Please contact Katie Myhill on 020 7926 1106, kmyhill@lambeth.gov.uk if you wish to attend.

Key Dates

Date: Wednesday 6 December 2006
Time: 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Board (members only)

Date: Wednesday 17 January 2007
Time: 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Programme Forum (members only)

Date: Tuesday 30 January 2007
Time: 10.00pm to 12.30pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Voluntary Sector Forum

Date: Friday 2 February 2007
Time: 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Venue: Lecture Theatre, International House, SW9
Description: CYPSP Assembly

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2007
Time: 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Board (members only)

Date: Wednesday 7 March 2007
Time: 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Programme Forum (members only)

Date: Wednesday 21 March 2007
Time: 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Venue: Boardroom, 205 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL
Description: CYPSP Board (members only)

Contact us

If you have any questions or comments about the IS4C programme, please e-mail the team at is4c@lambeth.gov.uk

Or write to us at:

7th Floor, International House
 Canterbury Crescent
 Brixton
 London SW9 7QE

