



What is Staffordshire Children's Trust?

[Staffordshire Children's Trust](#) is a **partnership** which brings together the organisations responsible for services for children, young people and their families in a **shared commitment to improving children's lives**.

Children's Trusts are not a separate organisation/service in their own right; they are a number of partners working together (see who the partners are below).

To find out more about the role of Children's Trusts log onto: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/about/aims/childrenstrusts/childrenstrusts/> The Apprenticeships, Skills Children & Learning Act 2009, placed Children's Trust Boards on a statutory footing from 1st April 2010 and all statutory partners of the Trust will have responsibility to develop, deliver and monitor the Children and Young People's Strategic Plan (CYPP) To view the CYPP log onto: www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/cypp/

How does Staffordshire Children's Trust relate to the National Every Child Matters Agenda?

The Children's Trust wants all children and young people in our area to: Stay Safe; Be Healthy; Make a Positive Contribution; Achieve Economic Wellbeing; and Enjoy & Achieve. These are called the Every Child Matters Outcomes, to view the outcomes log onto: www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/

'The Children's Plan: *Building Brighter Futures*' (December 2007) emphasised the importance of Children's Trusts in delivering the ECM Outcomes and making a real difference for children, this can be found at: www.dcsf.gov.uk/childrensplan/

What will the Staffordshire Children's Trust do over the next few years?

To achieve better outcomes for children and young people Children's Trust Partners will:

- Use a set of activities to agree their shared priorities and the best use of their collective resources for children, young people and families services – **Joint Commissioning**
- Work with children, young people and their families to inform their service development – **Participation and Engagement**
- Work closely with the Safeguarding Board to do everything possible to keep children safe - **Safeguarding**
- Encourage and enable staff from different organisations to work better and more closely together, including promoting and using common language, and joint processes, such as Common Assessment Framework – **Integrated Service Delivery and Integrated Processes**
- Ensure staff are skilled and supported to deliver good quality child and family focused services – **Multi-agency Workforce Development:** and
- Deliver the right services at the right times, ideally as soon as they are identified, so that every child and young person is able to achieve the best outcomes possible– **Early Intervention, Prevention and Narrowing the Gap**

The Staffordshire Children's Trust Board's Children and Young People's Strategic Plan 2010-11 (CYPP) will tell you in more detail what they want to achieve: www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/

Who are the Staffordshire Children's Trust Partners?

- Staffordshire County Council: including the Lead Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services
- Health Services: NHS North Staffordshire, South Staffordshire PCT & NHS West Midlands
- District and Borough Councils
- Staffordshire Police
- Staffordshire Probation Service
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Connexions Staffordshire
- Schools, and Colleges
- Voluntary and Community Sector
- District Children's Trust Boards
- Jobcentre Plus
- Staffordshire's Families' Commissioner (the voice for children, young people and their families)

So, if you work with children and families and your organisation or agency is a partner you too are a part of the Children's Trust.



How is Staffordshire Children's Trusts structured?

Staffordshire Children's Trust is a thematic partnership within the Staffordshire Strategic Partnership (LSP), which is a non-statutory, multi-agency body that aims to bring public, voluntary, community and private sectors together at a local level. Staffordshire Children's Trust, as part of the LSP, makes sure that children and young people's issues are fully integrated into those of the wider community. Staffordshire Children's Trust informs and influences the work of the LSP as it relates to children, young people and families.

Staffordshire Children's Trust has a County Board with senior representatives of the partner organisations. The Board work with children, young people and families to agree; priorities, major actions for delivery, the best way to use their resources and to monitor the delivery of services designed to improve outcomes for children and young people.

The Children's Trust Executive, is the 'engine room' of the Trust, putting the vision of the Trust Board into action. This is supported by a number of working groups for example, the Integrated Service Delivery Project Board, the Joint Commissioning Executive and the Workforce Development Strategy Group. These working groups focus in more detail on the practicalities of developing and improving services for children and young people.

There are also eight District Children's Trust Boards who assist in the planning and delivering services at a local level. These cover the district areas of Cannock, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, South Staffordshire and Tamworth. Visit our website to find out more about your local boards: www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk

How does Staffordshire Children's Trust work locally?

Staffordshire's Children & Young People's Strategic Plan - CYPP

The CYPP is the Staffordshire Children's Trust Board's strategy for delivering better services in order to improve the lives of children, young people and families. This focuses on particular issues, like reducing under achievement, improving access to services for disabled children, and new ways of working, like co-location of services and multi-agency teams that work holistically around the needs of the child. They should also promote strong joint planning and commissioning of services. This CYPP then 'feeds into' and influences the local CYPPs which have been developed by each of the eight District Trust Boards across the County.

Local Area Agreement (LAA)

Staffordshire Children's Trust is central to identifying, agreeing and implementing priorities in the Local Area Agreement that relate to children and young people. Staffordshire Children's Trust has identified and championed children and young people's interests as part of the process. The LAA contains the targets, and the Children and Young People's Strategic Plan sets out the strategy for achieving those targets, including setting out the responsibilities of each partner.

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB)

The Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) is responsible for co-ordinating work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Children's Trust consults the SSCB on issues that affect how children are safeguarded. Both the Children's Trust and the SSCB hold each other to account to make sure they are doing what is necessary to keep children and young people safe.

How can you influence the decisions made by the Children's Trust?

In most cases there will be at least one representative of your organisation or sector that sits on the county Children's Trust Board and its subgroups for example the District Children's Trusts. It is important to know who your representative is and how, through them, you can feed your voice and that of the children and young people who use your service, into local decision making. Visit our website www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk to find out more about consultation taking place and the contacts details for your local District Children's Trust Board or the Children's Trust Board and Executive.