



THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP



CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2026–29



This is Edinburgh's plan for helping children, young people and families have **happy, healthy lives** and **reach their potential**.

People who work with children and families in Edinburgh are joining together - the council, health services, schools, community groups, charities, and other organisations.

This plan was shaped by information about children and families and, importantly, by listening to children and young people.

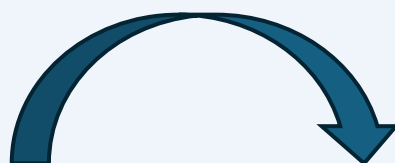
What did children and young people say?



Children and young people said they want:

 Support when things are difficult Support for families, especially with money, mental health or other problems	 Safe places Safe places to spend time, meet friends and feel comfortable.	 More things to do More chances for play, sport, arts, clubs and outdoor activities.	 Adults you can trust Trusted adults who listen, take them seriously and help when things are hard.	 Clear information Clear information about where to get help and what to expect.	 Help with digital life Better support for dealing with social media and smartphones.	 Action on racism and sexism More action and education around racism and sexism.
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What children and young people told us, together with facts and numbers about our city, were put together to make our big goals.



OUR 6 BIG GOALS

1  Help families who don't have enough money We want fewer children to experience poverty. Families should get help with money worries, benefits, food and housing, including when they are at risk of homelessness.	2  Give babies and young children the best start Families should get support from pregnancy onwards, helping babies and young children build strong relationships, stay healthy and learn through play and everyday experiences.	3  Support mental health and wellbeing Children and young people should be able to get the right help as early as possible, including support in their communities, schools and through trusted adults. We will also promote healthier ways to use digital spaces such as social media.	4  Make sure everyone can join in Everyone should have opportunities to enjoy youth work, play, learning, sport, leisure, culture and community activities, especially children who face extra barriers.	5  Make children's voices count Children and families should be listened to when services are planned, delivered and checked. Their views should help change things when services are not working well.	6  Make services work better together The adults and organisations supporting children should share information, learn from each other and work as a team so families get better, more joined-up support.
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What does this mean?

Listen



Support



Include



Improve



Overall, the plan is about:

- listening to children and young people
- making sure families get the support they need
- reducing unfair differences
- respect everyone's rights
- preventing problems early

What Happens Next?

Edinburgh's Children's Partnership has set out actions to work on these goals over the next 3 years.

- ☒ We will work together on the actions
- ☒ We will check progress and what is making a difference
- ☒ We will learn from children, young people and families
- ☒ We will change our approach when something isn't working
- ☒ We will update you on our progress every year in our [Annual Report](#)