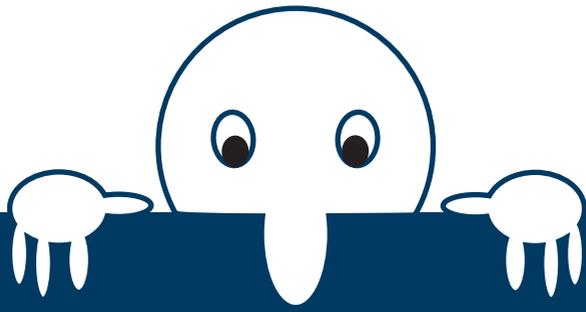


# ***CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN***

South  
Cambridgeshire  
District Council



# ***WE NEED YOUR HELP!***



**At South Cambridgeshire  
District Council we  
are committed to  
supporting all the  
different organisations  
that we work with to  
help improve things  
for children and young  
people.**



# The Plan:

Our plan sets out how we can make sure that children and young people have opportunities to have a say about the things we do at the Council that affect them. We will help children and young people across South Cambridgeshire:

- Understand the things we do that affect them (help fund facilities, equipment, sports, arts, youth clubs, etc).
- Understand how we do this (work with other organisations, help local voluntary groups, give grants, put together plans for facilities in new and existing towns and villages).

# We will:

**Ask children and young people across South Cambridgeshire:**

- If they would like to have a say in the things we do and the decisions we make that affect them.
- How they would like to be involved and informed (through Parish Councils, schools, here at the council, Facebook, Twitter, Webpage, youth Forum, etc).
- To help us put together a plan so that they can be involved, and informed, when they want to and in a way that is best for them.



# How we would like to involve and inform children and young people:

- Listen to what is important to the children and young people.
- Ask them how they want to be involved and informed and be clear about the ways in which they can be, including where, when, and how.



- Tell children and young people how their views are used and what difference they are making.
- Make sure it is interesting, enjoyable and relevant.

# We want to involve and inform children and young people so that:

- They understand that they have a big part to play in society with important contributions to make their communities.
- Services and facilities are easier for them to get to and attend, and are the kinds of places they want to go to and use.
- They have opportunities to do something about things that will affect them.
- They can experience and understand how decisions are made and how to contribute to them.
- They can experience and understand how rights and responsibilities work best together.

- They have opportunities to develop personal skills, confidence and hopes and dreams for the future.
- Can go to places where they feel included.

## What difference it makes if we have their opinion:

It will be important to know how useful the views and opinions of children and young people are for them and the people that work with them, and if it's made a difference to things. This should include children and young people and the people that work with them or provide services for them, to assess for themselves the difference it has made. This should not just be carried out using questionnaires or having meetings during office hours. It might mean working in different ways that are better for children and young people to understand and take part in.



### Our commitment to children and young people is to:

- Listen to children and young people and make sure that they have a say in how we involve and inform them in the things we do.



- Make sure that all the different departments of the Council understand that children and young people have a right to have their views taken into account.
- Make sure that there are staff at the Council who are trained in how to involve and inform children and young people in the things that they do.
- Explain to children and young people about what we have done differently when they have shared their views with us, and if we could not change things - why it was not possible.
- Work with the Children's Trust and other organisations to celebrate children and young people's involvement in their communities.

### **We want children and young people to:**

- Be included and involved in their communities.
- Make the most of education, training and employment opportunities.
- Be able to make informed choices about their life.
- Enjoy their childhood and teenagers years.

## **Ways in which we can talk to you or you can talk to us:**

We will make sure that there are different ways to involve children and young people and for them to find out information about what we are doing, not just lots of forms to fill in. Some examples might be:

- Working with groups in local schools.
- Working with groups at local youth clubs.
- Web page for children and young people.
- Facebook.
- Twitter.
- Making sure we link better with all the other people working with children and young people such as Youth clubs and youth workers, community safety teams, arts and sports clubs, Parish Councils, etc.





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