

North Tyneside Health & Wellbeing Board Report Date: 9 March 2023

Title: Equally Well
Progress Update:
Maximising the
Capabilities of Children,
Young People and Adults.

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Responsible Lead: Julie Firth, Director Children's Services (Tel: 0191 643 1454)

Relevant Partnership Board: North Tyneside Children and Young People Partnership

1. Equally Well: Progress Update: Maximising the Capabilities of Children, Young People and Adults

This item relates to the Maximising the Capabilities of Children, Young People and Adults theme of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, "Equally Well: A healthier, fairer future for North Tyneside 2021- 2025".

As outlined in 'Equally Well' educational achievement plays a significant role in reducing health inequalities by shaping life opportunities.

Making North Tyneside an even greater place for children and young people to thrive, where all can access a high-class education with a culture of inclusion and achievement is a key priority.

Our employment and skills service and many of our VCSE organisations aim to raise aspiration and release potential of all young people and adults. There are opportunities for life-long learning across the system

This briefing paper will be supplemented by a presentation at the Board meeting, which will give further detail about all the efforts to maximise the capabilities of children, young people, and adults.

2. Recommendation(s):

The Board is recommended to: -

- a) Be assured that the North Tyneside Children and Young People Partnership is making progress in delivering the actions for Maximising the Capabilities of Children, Young People and Adults and to reduce health inequalities.
- b) Provide any comments on any areas requiring further action; and

- c) Request the North Tyneside Children and Young People Partnership to submit further progress reports to the Board in relation to its implementation plan for next year, the delivery of those actions and their outcomes.

3. **Progress update: Maximising the capabilities of children, young people and adults.**

North Tyneside has an education system to be proud of and is a strong performer regionally and nationally. However, inequalities in educational outcomes affect physical and mental health, as well as income, employment, and quality of life. Therefore, supporting our most vulnerable children, young people and adults is crucial to ensure that they reach their full potential.

In addition, partners also have a commitment to increasing access and use of quality lifelong learning opportunities across communities. Without life skills and readiness for work young people and adults will not be able to fulfil their full potential, to flourish and take control over their lives.

The following bullet points outline actions and progress against the implementation plan:

- **Achievement for all with a focus on the most vulnerable children – as part of the Ambition for Education.**
 - This is a key focus of the Ambition for Education and runs throughout all the delivery themes. An example of focussing on our most vulnerable children to ensure they maximise their capabilities is through specialist education and health practitioners working together in the pioneering HIVE Team (Health, Information and Advice, Virtual School and Emotional Well-being). The HIVE team provides direct educational and health support to children in care and therapeutic support those with a trauma history. The HIVE Team also runs training for practitioners in schools. We launched our Connect Mental Health Support Team for schools in September 2021. This team provides low intensity mental health support to pupils in partner schools and provides consultation, signposting and supports a whole school approach to emotional wellbeing, including support for parents and staff.
 - The Barnardo's and North Tyneside's Strategic Alliance enables innovation around early intervention for mental health and emotional wellbeing across the system. This has included the development of The Link Programme to provide psychoeducation to vulnerable pupils in KS2 and KS3 about understanding and managing their emotions to enable them to access learning more effectively
 - Dedicated Connexions adviser support for vulnerable young people continues to be provided and focusses on supporting looked after children and care leavers, SEND, young carers and young offenders to maximise their capabilities.
 - **Barnardo's Employment Training and Skills (ETS)** courses provide young people with skills and qualifications they can build on and develop throughout their working life. In partnership with employers, schools, colleges and charities, they train and support a large number of young people providing courses, support and careers advice, specialising in construction qualifications and hairdressing apprenticeships
 - **YMCA North Tyneside, in partnership with North Tyneside Council Employment and Skills Service** delivers a hospitality and catering academy that provides learners with classroom learning and hands-on training in a commercial kitchen. This authentic training environment has provided a smooth transition into employment for many participants, with some of them now preparing and serving food to cafe customers on site, while others are now employed in other roles across the organisation or have moved onto careers in the hospitality and catering industry. A Social Care Academy

based on this successful model has also now been developed delivered from the YMCA in North Shields.

- **Route 16 to smooth transitions for a specific cohort of young people**
 - Young people identified by school as in need of different support and challenge to be successful at KS4 can access the Route 16 offer. The Pilot was so successful that this programme has become embedded into our North Tyneside offer to schools. There are both a one year and two route options which blends traditional learning and accreditation with work-based learning. Young people have been successful in gaining GCSEs and employment skills decreasing the risk of becoming not in education, employment or training (NEET).
 - The voluntary sector (VODA and The Base project at Barnardo's) have recently set up a recovery college called Discover Me for 16 – 25-year-olds to develop their own peer support programme to improve mental health and emotional wellbeing. Groups so far have involved craft, music, gaming and cookery. The programme is co-produced with young people.
- **Roll out of Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) across schools**
 - Embedding a strong emotionally healthy culture and providing support for school communities post-COVID-19 through the Children and Young People's Mental Health Strategy is crucial to enabling learning and achieving potential.
 - Now in the third year of delivery, the final cohort of 14 schools is being trained in MHFA. This cohort have completed baseline surveys, audits and created their initial action plans. Specialists from Education North Tyneside have delivered Mental Health First Aid training for 30 adults this term. A further 60 adults have completed Mental Health Awareness training. As we develop our skills and specialisms, we have been able to adapt courses to suit the needs of those working with different age groups and cohorts. For example, we have developed a specialist half day Mental Health Awareness course for early years practitioners and have now delivered this to 120 adults in North Tyneside. There are 60 schools in North Tyneside who have taken part in this project or are currently involved.
- **Pilot a model of 'sleep' support including a community sleep clinic.**
 - Sleep Well North Tyneside is a pilot service provided through the Barnardo's Strategic Alliance via a multi-agency partnership including school nurses, Early Help workers, Educational Psychologists and Occupational Therapists (from The HIVE Team). Following a sleep needs assessment through Public Health, staff from across services were trained in both Sleep Awareness and Sleep Counselling by Sleep Scotland. The offer includes self-help materials, workshops for parents and 1:1 counselling. Feedback has been positive from selected families receiving sleep support to date. This pilot will be accepting referrals from mid-February 2023.
- **Implement and launch new framework for revised parenting offer including mental health and children with SEND and reducing parental conflict**
 - Reducing Parental Conflict training has been rolled out to 360 frontline practitioners across North Tyneside to help increase skills and confidence to work with, or refer, parents in conflict to appropriate support. The practitioners are from a variety of settings including schools, young carers, residential, Early Help, 0-19 Children's Public Health service, housing and leisure teams. The training will in turn support children's early emotional and social development and improve their chances to lead fulfilling, happy lives.
 - Early Help and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are working together to support families and offer parenting workshops where CAMHS thresholds

are not met. In addition, families are also benefitting from whole family working where children have special educational needs and disabilities.

- The Early Help Team (Family Health and Wellbeing Partners) are attached to Primary Care Networks and will work alongside GP practices. They will be working to support families where social issues are identified as having an impact on emotional wellbeing to offer early help e.g., individual or group support or signposting to existing community resources.
- **Improve early language and reading with a focus on SEND and improving outcomes for disadvantaged**
 - The Local Authority's health visitors and early help teams work alongside NHS midwives and community nursing teams to identify and provide support to babies and families with SEND from the earliest opportunity. The Speech and Language Therapy (SALT), physiotherapy and occupational therapy teams work very effectively with SEND children and young people, taking a personalised approach. A SEND Youth Forum has been established and has strong linkages with North Tyneside's SEND Parent Carer Forum. Through these groups the SEND Local Offer has been updated and is communicated via a new monthly SEND newsletter for families. A recent Local Government Peer Review gave very positive feedback about the work of the partnership.
- **Pilot programme in two schools to embed careers into the school curriculum**
 - The pilot programme Cobalt Education to Employment is in the second year with the aim of embedding careers into the school curriculum. Work continued over the summer to refine the programme areas and expected outputs in 2022-23. Norham High School is now involved, alongside Marden and Burnside.
 - Kim Smith (NELEP) has agreed to support with an "Introduction to T-Levels" session for Cobalt employers. Early discussions with several employers around "teacher externships" - for teachers around the industry requirements, skills gaps etc.
 - Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust connect with schools in North Tyneside to promote health & care careers, including apprenticeships and attending careers fairs, joining in employer engagement events such as mock interview events.
- **Review and develop programme of post 16 support**
 - Completed the post-16 review and developed actions which include a commitment from all North Tyneside Schools to signpost the local Post 16 offers, schools working towards the Quality in Careers Standard (QiCS) to sustain improvement to 'Careers Information Education and Guidance' and the development of T Level opportunities.
 - Following the Post 16 Review support continues to be developed to support the most vulnerable young people including:
 - Preparation for Adulthood: an established post-16 SEND work-based learning programme 'Ignite Your Potential'. This is delivered by the Authority's Employment and Skills Team and provides vocational pathways to supported internships and apprenticeships. A dedicated post-16 officer is in post to promote to schools and business/industry partnerships. The number of places available will be increased in 2023-24 to support more young people with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) issues.
 - The 'Working Roots' partnership programme supporting young people with multiple barriers to employment into construction and horticulture careers is being expanded to consider opportunities in hospitality and catering.
 - Work with schools and employers to prepare for the introduction of T-Levels which are new 2 year courses which are taken after GCSEs and are broadly equivalent to 3 A Levels. the content of T-levels should meet the needs of industry and prepares

students for entry into skilled employment, an apprenticeship or related technical study through further or higher education. Schools will potentially be delivering T-levels from September 2024. This includes work with employers to support them to offer T-Level placements.

- **Review lifelong learning opportunities – including older people accessing digital technology and retirement courses**
- Tyne Coast College works closely with North Tyneside Council Employment and Skills Service to deliver a progression strategy for adult learners from entry level engagement and community learning through to progression into higher education courses
- The North Tyneside Digital Inclusion strategy aims to set out the borough wide ambition to support residents to get online and expand their use and understanding of digital technology and how it can support their lives.
- Working together the Council, North Tyneside ICB and the VCSE sector will create a digital inclusion strategy to support our ambition and guide our efforts. The strategy will be published by 31st March 2023 and will contain an action plan
- The multi-agency partnership developing the Strategy meet monthly to review activities including the provision of digital inclusion support such as digital skills, access to devices developing digital access to support and raising awareness and access to information.
- The work is being informed by Digital Poverty research undertaken by Newcastle and Northumbria Universities and North Tyneside ICB and is also aligned with other Digital Strategies being developed by partners.

4. Performance indicators

It is important to understand if our approach and strategic ambition is making a difference to reducing health inequalities. Appendix 2 gives an overview of the direction of travel indicators for Maximising capabilities of children, young people, and adults.

As noted in the strategy major change to reduce health inequalities will not happen overnight, so we will be seeking gradual improvements in these indicators and a reduction in inequalities between different localities across North Tyneside.

- **Reduced gaps in educational attainment**

Measures of attainment gaps at both primary and secondary have historically been based upon comparing the proportions of pupils in each group achieving an expected standard - particularly level 4 in reading, writing and maths at the end of key stage 2, and 5 good passes including English and maths at GCSE. In 2020 and 2021, all GCSEs in England have been reformed and use the new 9 to 1 grading system (rather than A*-G). Year on year comparisons will be limited until these qualifications are consistently included from 2020 onwards. However, results for 2020 and 2021 are not comparable with earlier years due to the cancellation of exams (due to COVID-19) and the changes to the way GCSE grades were awarded. Attainment Gap for pupils eligible for Free School Meal, average attainment 8 score among children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) in North Tyneside is 37, lower than National average of 39 in 2020/21, shown in appendix 1, figure 1. National and Local Authority attainment 8 deprivation gap is shown in appendix 2, figure 2.

- **Attendance and exclusion data**

North Tyneside provisional suspension rate for primary and secondary schools is 9.19% (provisional rate) and 0.21% permanent exclusion rate (provisional rates). Provisional absence rate is 6.88% , primary and secondary schools, in-line with regional and better than National. Overall Absence trend for NonFSM6 Pupils provisional in 2020/21 is 6.40%, this is lower than National. Provisional outturn for NonFSM6 pupils in 21/22 has increased to 9.30% (appendix 2, figure 3.)

- **Percentage of 16–18-year-olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)**

Latest outturn for the percentage of children that are NEET in North Tyneside is 3.09% (January 2023), lower than regional. Overall, North Tyneside NEET rates for 2021-22 were lower than 2020-21. However, the reduction was less than that seen nationally and regionally. Monthly National NEET rates have been lower, month compared to month, than any other time in the last five years. Whereas local rates have yet to return to 2020 levels of performance (appendix 2, figure 4.)

- **Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm (10-24 years)**

This measure captures the number of finished admission episodes in children aged between 10 and 24 years where the main recorded cause is intentional self-harm. Hospital admissions for self-harm in children have increased in recent years, with admissions for young women being much higher than admissions for young men. In North Tyneside the number of hospital admissions as a result of self-harm is increasing. 2020/21 figure shows North Tyneside's overall rate is 3.6 thousand per 100,000 this is higher than National and Regional (appendix 1, figure 5.)

Increase in adult learning completers in education / employment across the lifecourse

North of Tyne – skills funding

- 25,700 enrolments in 2020-21 and 32,700 enrolments in 2021-22
- NTCA Learner Profile in 2020-21:
 - 56% of residents accessing devolved Adult Education Budget reside in the top 20% deprived wards in our region (43% in the top 10% deprived wards)
 - 16,545 (67%) of AEB opportunities were undertaken by unemployed residents
 - 3620 (27%) of AEB opportunities were undertaken by young people (19-24)
 - 4269 residents (17%) participating in provision self-declared a learning difficulty/disability

North Tyneside Adult Learning Service:

- Overall enrolments – 1,134 in 2020-21, 1,651 in 2021-22
- 69% of learners were female, 31% male for adult learning courses
- 84% of Apprentices were female, 16% male
- 32% of learners reported have a learning difficulty or disability
- 57% of learners were unemployed
- 46.4% of Adult Learners progressed into employment
- 95% of Apprentices continued into full time employment

5. Community engagement

The Children and Young Person's Partnership regularly engage to seek the young person's voice via a range of mechanisms including Elected Young Mayor, Elected Member of UK Youth Parliament, Youth Council, Children in Care Council, Children's Council and other committees such as North Tyneside SEND Youth Forum. These forums give children and young people the opportunity to tell the council and its partners about what life is like growing up and going to school in North Tyneside.

6. Appendices:

Appendix 1. Implementation plan progress – Maximising Capabilities

Appendix 2 : Performance indicators

7. Contact officers:

Lisa Cook, Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion, North Tyneside Council

Mark Barrett, Senior Manager, Employment and Skills, North Tyneside Council

9. Background information:

The following background documents have been used in the compilation of this report and are available from the author:-

[**Ambition for Education in North Tyneside 2020 - 2024**](#)

COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

10 Finance and other resources

Any financial implications arising from the delivery of the implementation plan to delivery Equally Well, North Tyneside's Health and Well Being Strategy will be met from existing budgets.

11 Legal

The Board has a duty under Section 195 of the Health & Social Care Act 2012 to encourage partners to work closely together and in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people in the area.

13 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

14 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

15 Risk management

There is a risk that despite the considerable effort for joint action by the Health and Wellbeing Board, partners may not improve the inequalities in health seen in North Tyneside.

The health inequalities that existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic have subsequently been amplified and more recently it is also widely acknowledged that the current rise in

the cost of living is likely to have a disproportionate impact on some of our communities in North Tyneside.

A corporate risk has been identified for this scenario with a mitigation report was presented at the Audit Committee in November 2022, and this risk will continue to be monitored with regular reporting.

16 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

SIGN OFF

Chair/Deputy Chair of the Board

Director of Public Health

Interim Director of Children's Services

Interim Director of Adult Services

Director of Healthwatch North Tyneside

Integrated Care Board Director of Place