

A Guide to the Children & Young People's Strategy

After the introduction, the children and young people's strategy is split into four main sections which each cover a particular point. This is a simple guide to what you can expect each section to cover.

This two-page summary was created by Work Experience Student Linnet to support young people to fill in the consultation.

Part A - The Vision

The first section of the strategy talks through the principles that Oxford City Council wants to introduce over the next five years, what they mean and how the council wants to put them into effect. These three principles are:

- Preventative Lead Provision Providing positive activities like sports and clubs for young people, so they can develop their mental and physical wellbeing.
- **Equality, Inclusion and Engagement for All** Making sure that everyone is included in the plan and there is no discrimination.
- Facilitating Partnership Working To make the journey growing up smoother and more personal to individuals, lots of youth services like schools and youth groups will work together to develop young people so they are ready for adulthood and work. This is called the Ready By 21 scheme.

The Zoning Methodology – In order to make the Ready By 21 scheme effective the council proposes to use zoning, which means giving different support to different areas of the city. Areas that need it will get more of the help they want, and every area of the city will have a strategy specific to the needs of *them*.

Part B – Identifying the needs of young people to achieve the best outcome for them

The second section focusses on the aims of the Ready For 21 scheme: for each aim, Oxford City Council explains what the aim is, why it will help and how the council wants to achieve it. It starts with the results of a questionnaire that was given to young people to help the council identify what children wanted to improve. The aims that the section then covers are:

- Healthy The council wants to improve mental health, physical health and sexual health in young people, allowing them to improve their identity and have healthy relationships. The council's ideas on how to do this are included.
- **Connected** Every young person should have a positive identity and a good relationship with the whole community. The council wants to develop this culture and ensure that everyone has access to a safe affordable home at 21.
- Productive By improving education, increasing career options, expanding arts opportunities and reducing the rich/poor gap, the council aims to get every young person ready for their transition to work.

Part C - Measuring success

The council wants to ensure that all their plans for the next five years will really improve the lives and opportunities of young people, so as the next years progress they will regularly check if they need to improve any areas of their plan. A data table shows what has already been achieved, and what it aims to achieve by 2022.

Part D - Conclusion

The council provides a brief summary of their hopes for the future, and then include some tables that sort the information from the strategy into different headings;

- What the council wants to achieve
- How the council is going to do it
- What the milestones of progress are
- The year the council will achieve it by
- Who's responsible for delivering the promise
- The resources the council has

The council wants feedback to know if their answers to these statements are what children and young people want, so do have a look and see if you can relate to them.

The document ends with a list of services the council already offers, and if you want to find out more about these activities, you can follow the links provided.

Take Action: Visit the <u>Children and Young People's Strategy Home Page</u> to read the strategy and respond to the consultation before 27th April 2018.