



# Kent Children's Trust News

Kent Children's Trust & Local Children's Services Partnership newsletter

November 2008 issue 6

## Introduction

Welcome to the sixth issue of the KCT News. This will be the last issue published while Graham Badman is Chair of the KCT and Director of Children's Services for Kent.

At the last KCT meeting members of the Trust paid tribute to Graham for his visionary leadership and dedication to improve services. Under Graham's direction children's trust arrangements have drawn partners together and strengthened commitment to improve life chances and well being for Kent children. His passion to improve outcomes has been infectious and along with others I will certainly miss his sense of purpose.

More recently his focus on vulnerable children growing up in relative poverty has informed the development of the National Children's Plan: Building Brighter Futures. Graham's concepts of learned optimism and resilience to tackle issues of childhood poverty are central to the Kent Children and Young People's Plan and are informing the development of LCSP plans. Graham has consistently lifted the

debate above structures and processes, focussing on children and young people, the issues they face and what they think of their lives. The KCT will carry forward this vision and commitment to narrow the gap between those who have and those who do not. Please see page four for information on work to tackle child poverty.

**Joy Ackroyd**

Kent Children's Trust Partnership Manager



Where every child matters

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# KCT launches its strategy to support Kent parents and carers

Kent County Council is launching the Kent Children's Trust Strategy for Supporting Parents. During Parents Week 2008, (20th - 24th October) a summary of the new strategy for parents and a parent's charter was made available and Graham Badman, Director of Children's Services, will launch the full strategy at the 'Better Together Conference' on November 10th.

In this strategy, all the agencies in the Kent Children's Trust have committed to:

- listening to and respecting parents
- working harder to involve parents in decision making
- being more aware of the role of mothers, fathers, carers and extended family
- creating a workforce that is skilled in working with and supporting parents
- finding better ways to get information to parents and support them
- improving services for parents where needed and making sure that parents can access them
- respecting that every family is different with different needs
- making sure that we offer high-quality support and programmes for parents

Graham Badman said:

“As a parent, and new grandparent, I know first hand how rewarding and challenging bringing up children can be. As any parent will tell you, having children isn't easy and they don't come with an instruction manual.



Every parent we come into contact with wants the best for their children, hoping that they will value education, look after their health, are safe in their communities and grow up to get a job and be financially stable.

In response to this, we have developed a strategy to make sure all services that work with children, families, parents and carers work in partnership to help mothers, fathers and carers be the best parent that they can and want to be.”



In addition to the strategy a Kent Children's Trust Charter for Parents has been developed in consultation with parents and carers across Kent. This charter will outline parents' rights, the support and the treatment they should expect from services in Kent and describes what parents see as their commitments to their children.

The charter outlines the ambition of mothers, fathers and carers to do their best by their children, bringing them up to be part of a community and living healthy, happy and rewarding lives. At the same time it demonstrates that **how** we offer support and assistance to



parents is equally, if not more important, than providing support and assistance alone.

To celebrate Parents' Week and mark the launch, schools, children's centres and community organisations have been running activities and events for parents, carers, young people and the whole community.

For a copy of the strategy or charter, please visit [www.kent.gov.uk/kentextendedservices](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentextendedservices), telephone 01622 694991, or email [parentsvoice@kent.gov.uk](mailto:parentsvoice@kent.gov.uk).

(KCC's Extended Services team has been commissioned by the Kent Children's Trust to produce the Kent Children's Trust Strategy for Supporting Parents, through extensive consultation with parents and partners.)



## Key Contacts:

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We are pleased to welcome a newly  
appointed Children's Trust  
Administrator:

Samantha Hardie  
Children's Trust Administrator  
Children, Families & Education  
Tel: 01622 694195  
E-mail: [samantha.hardie@kent.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.hardie@kent.gov.uk)

## Useful Links:

**Kent Children and Young People's Plan 2008 - 2011:**  
[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/UserFiles/CW/File/Childrens\\_Services/Kent\\_Childrens\\_Trust/KCYPPupdate\\_draft\\_0608.pdf](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/UserFiles/CW/File/Childrens_Services/Kent_Childrens_Trust/KCYPPupdate_draft_0608.pdf)

**Kent Children's Trust Home page:**  
<http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/childrenstrust.cfm>

**LCSP Manager Appointments and Contacts:**  
[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp\\_appointments.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp_appointments.cfm)

**National Evaluation of CT Pathfinders:**  
[http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/kct\\_national\\_CT.cfm](http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/kct_national_CT.cfm)

**Department for Children's Schools and Families; Children's Trusts Statutory Guidance:**  
<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/downloadableDocs/Childrens%20Trust%20Statutory%20Guidance.pdf>

**Local Partnership Agreement:**  
[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp\\_partnership\\_agreement.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp_partnership_agreement.cfm)

**Local Children's Services Partnership web pages:**  
[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Clusters/lcsp\\_splash\\_Sept2008.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Clusters/lcsp_splash_Sept2008.cfm)



## Working together to tackle child poverty

There are approximately 48,000 children living in poverty in Kent in urban, coastal and rural communities. Although Kent is relatively affluent compared to other local authority areas, there are significant pockets of deprivation across the county where many families are affected by poverty.

Poverty has a profound impact on children's lives affecting their health and well being, educational attainment, employment prospects, self esteem, confidence and personal relationships. The cost and consequences of child poverty extend to families, communities and society as a whole. A series of reports recently published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation explores, for the first time, the actual cost of child poverty for individuals and society in terms of health, education, employment, behaviour, finance, relationships and subjective well being.

Kent's Children and Young People's Plan sets out a multi-agency commitment to reducing the impact of poverty (generational and situational) on children's lives by tackling the underlying causes and mitigating the effects.

Government has made a commitment to halve child poverty by 2010 and eradicate it by 2020. The Government's strategy document, Ending Child Poverty: Everybody's Business, published alongside the Budget 2008, announced £125 million funding to support nine pilots between 2008-2011 to develop local approaches to tackling the causes and effects of child poverty. During the summer period, the joint Department for Work and Pensions and DCSF Child Poverty Unit invited expressions of interest for a series of 5 pilots:

- Innovation pilot
- Childcare Affordability Programme
- Child Development Grant
- Work focused services in Children's Centres
- Improved housing support for teenage parents

Following a successful expression of interest for the Innovation Pilot, Kent has been invited to submit a full bid to develop a menu of support for families

affected by poverty delivered through Local Children's Service Partnerships (LCSPs). Key elements of the menu will include:

- A new PSHE programme delivered in schools which aims to improve student's social and emotional skills to support social mobility.
- Family mentoring to provide role models, help raise aspirations and improve access to information about support services.
- Family mediation to empower families to manage their own outcomes and essential relationships.
- Family training programme supported by access to free childcare. The programme will cover employability skills, basic family health care, financial management and information about support services.

The aim of the pilot is to empower families to improve their own lives and, through joint working, to provide programmes of support which enable them to build the resilience, optimism and capability they need to make sustainable change.

If Kent's bid is successful, the Innovation Pilot will be rolled out from January 2008 in four LCSP areas – Thanet 1 and 2, Swale Urban and Maidstone 2. Although funding cannot be extended to cover the whole of Kent, examples of effective practice and lessons learnt will be shared with partners across the full network of the Kent Children's Trust to ensure that as many children and families as possible benefit from the support being developed through the pilot.

For further information about the national child poverty pilots please contact: Caroline Jones, Policy Officer (Child Poverty and Housing) 01622 696567, [caroline.jones@kent.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.jones@kent.gov.uk)



# Approved: Kent Children and Young People's Plan 2008-2011

The Kent Children and Young People's Plan (KCYPP) 2008-2011 has now been agreed by the Kent Children's Trust, approved by the County Council and is being launched to the public. The plan sets out the commitment made by partners of the Trust to improve the life chances and well being of all children and young people growing up in Kent.

To read the final plan please visit:

[www.kent.gov.uk/publications/education-and-learning/kcc-children-young-people-plan.htm](http://www.kent.gov.uk/publications/education-and-learning/kcc-children-young-people-plan.htm)

The priorities and outcomes reflected in the plan were based on the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for children in Kent and the Strategic Needs Analysis of Outcomes 2008. The intention of both documents is to build a picture of the experience of children in Kent, demonstrating where inequalities exist and evidence of the effectiveness of interventions, all of which help shape the future investment and direction of services. To read both needs analysis documents visit [www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/kct\\_countydata.cfm](http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/kct_countydata.cfm)

The Children and Young People of Kent surveys (NFER) have also been instrumental in the development of the new Children and Young People's Plan. Activity focusing on risk taking, having things to do, e-safety and healthy lifestyles were strengthened because of the Survey results. We are continuing to gather views and feedback and a group of young people is helping us to produce an accessible young people's version of the plan, that should be available early in 2009.

Your feedback is important so please let us know what you think of the KCYPP by emailing [ChildrensTrustAdmin@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ChildrensTrustAdmin@kent.gov.uk)





## Significant investment to transform services for children and young people with disabilities

The Eastern and Coastal and the West Kent Primary Care Trusts working with KCC have been successful in their bid to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to become one of 21 pathfinder authorities for the Aiming High, Short Breaks Transformation Programme, across England and Wales.

### What does this mean for the Children, Young People, Parents, and Carers in Kent?

£15 million is available to Kent to support the Short Term Breaks transformation programme over the next three years to create new and exciting services for children and young people with disabilities. The programme guidelines state that new services must meet the needs of children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), challenging behaviour and complex health needs including those with life limiting conditions and those that require palliative care.

### How we aim to improve our services

Our plan to the DCSF focussed on:

- Improving services in family's own homes, including overnight, day care and sitting services.
- Increasing the provision of Portage service for the under 5's.
- Increasing the number of day, evening, weekend and holiday activities. We aim to provide weekend fun clubs as one of our services countywide.
- Improving the residential respite units facilities at Court Drive, Rainbow Lodge, Allsworth Court and Fairlawns.
- Providing specialised equipment to Foster carers to enable them to provide a service to children with physical and complex needs.
- Enhancing care within children's hospices and outreach services for those children and young people requiring palliative care.
- For the 14 +age group, we are looking to introduce befriending schemes into mainstream services and create a range of initiatives with the Youth Service.
- Expanding the extended schools programme enabling them to be fully inclusive.
- Establishing a bank of Personal Assistants whom parents and young people aged 16+ can employ to assist with providing personalised short breaks.

### What happens next?

Consultation meetings will be arranged with parents, carers, children and young people to ensure that we deliver the right services to meet their needs. Work is also underway to embed these new services and opportunities within the LCSPs.

For further information please contact: Glynis Payne, Programme Manager  
Short Breaks Transformation Programme, 01622 221994, [Glynis.Payne@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Glynis.Payne@kent.gov.uk)



## Local Children's Services Partnership Managers

Kent has successfully recruited to all 23 LCSP Manager posts. During the early stages of LCSP development these newly appointed managers have been focussing on the development of the LCSP Board, supporting the LCSP team (previously the cluster team) and building partnership commitment to the priorities in the Local Children and Young People's Plan. A full list of LCSP Managers is available via the link below, together with the LCSP Manager's job description. [http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp\\_appointments.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp_appointments.cfm)

We are delighted to welcome the most recent appointments:

Molly Norley – Maidstone 1

Carol Healy - Sevenoaks

Read on to find out more about the role of the LCSP Manager through the personal experiences of Karen Sharp and Ruth Herron.

### **Karen Sharp, LCSP Manager, Thanet 2**



#### **What does it feel like in your first month or so within the LCSP?**

It feels hugely exciting to be involved in these early stages of the implementation of LCSP's. It is wonderful to be working in a local community, meeting so many people and partners from different sectors and to understand the issues which cut across all their agendas. I feel absolutely confident that the new arrangements will build on the strong partnership arrangements that have been developing in Thanet 2 to deliver better outcomes for children and young people.

#### **What was your background prior to this role?**

For the past 12 years I have worked in drug and alcohol services, initially in research, then in front line delivery, through to coordination and management of services and most recently the strategic commissioning of services. It was a very important field to work in, as drug and alcohol misuse impacts not just on individuals but on families and wider communities. I was involved in many types of intervention – education, early intervention and specialist treatment so have an understanding of all of these settings and the need to tailor interventions

to the actual issues that people face, rather than a one size fits all approach.

#### **What have you enjoyed the most so far in your role as LCSP Manager?**

So far in this role I have most enjoyed meeting with dedicated and committed professionals who obviously care passionately about children and young people in their area. Thanet 2 has a range of social issues but it also has a proud culture with strong community ties. People who work in Thanet 2 are hugely dedicated to providing the best for children and young people in their community and it is therefore an inspirational place to work.

#### **What do you think the most rewarding aspects of this role will be?**

In this role it will be enormously rewarding to be able to ensure that services are developed in response to local need. Thanet 2 covers Ramsgate and Broadstairs which includes children and young people with a broad and diverse range of backgrounds and aspirations; to work in a structure which enables a real drilling down into local issues is a great step forward. LCSPs will plan services on a thorough and comprehensive understanding of local need, which will result in much more responsive and therefore better services.



**How do you think the LCSPs will transform children's services in Kent?**

I think LCSPs will transform services by providing a strategic co-ordination of all children and young people's services based on a clear and detailed profile of the local community. The delivery of integrated processes is hugely significant in order to shape services around the needs of individuals and families, and through minimizing the duplication of services, free up frontline resources. LCSP's will ensure better services with better outcomes for children and young people and it is an absolute honour to be part of such significant developments.

**Ruth Herron, LCSP Manager, Canterbury City and Country**



**What does it feel like in your first month or so within the LCSP?**

Exciting, challenging and exhausting! New colleagues and the Partnership team have made me extremely welcome, as have other organisations including schools, and partners in social services, health, youth services and the voluntary sector. As a team we have been working hard to complete our Needs Assessment and agree our final priorities for our local Children and Young Peoples Plan. It has been a steep learning curve in some areas and I am learning quickly!

**What was your background prior to this role?**

I have worked for the NHS in various roles and my focus has mainly been children and young people. I initially trained as a registered nurse and then completed my registered sick children's training, before becoming a ward sister for some time. I moved into health visiting, changed direction and qualified as a nurse practitioner, then moved into management where I studied part time for my MSc. I have spent the last three years in a strategic management post based in Children, Families and Education (CFE) in a joint appointment between KCC and the PCTs. This provided me with an excellent overview of systems and infrastructure of education, social services, and the youth service.

**What have you enjoyed the most so far in your role as LCSP Manager?**

I love the variety of the job, the challenges and the opportunities. My colleagues are a real team and have been very welcoming to the new people in post. I initially applied for the post because I believe the partnerships, with the opportunity for local planning and commissioning, are the way forward. I have a real determination to make this work, I have been involved with local planning before but from a single organisation perspective. Having the chance to develop and deliver joint initiatives that will really help us all work together to make a difference to children's outcomes is a privilege. Locally I have found every organisation so ready for this and the enthusiasm is infectious.

**What do you think the most rewarding aspects of this role will be?**

I think the knowledge that we are making a difference to children and young people's lives will be the most rewarding aspect, but that will take time to evidence. However getting early intervention initiatives off the ground that really deliver the Every Child Matters outcomes to young people is very rewarding.

**How do you think the LCSPs will transform children's services in Kent?**

There is already fantastic work going on in schools, health services, youth and social services as well as in the voluntary sector. The Local Children's Service Partnerships are a pivotal point to ensure organisations are working together and coordinating what is being offered to children, young people and their parents. The partnerships present opportunity for all organisations to become stakeholders in the planning and commissioning of children's services, and so develop a real sense of ownership. They also give a local voice to young people and parents. A fundamental aim of Children's Trusts is to improve outcomes for young people, a mechanism for which is joint planning and commissioning. This should lead to clearer pathways to early intervention and support and increased opportunities. LCSPs, are the catalyst to make this happen!



## KCT Publicity

Thanks to pupils at Eastborough County Primary School who helped to create this aerial image of the new Kent Children's Trust logo. The picture was featured in the Kent Messenger newspapers during September with an article entitled "Trustworthy"!

The purpose behind the KCT logo and brand is to build a strong sense of partnership, identity and commitment across children's services. For more information on using the KCT Logo and those for LCSPs please view

[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp\\_communication.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp_communication.cfm)

or contact: Jill Johnson, Head Of Communication & Information Governance Team, 01622 696557, [jill.johnson@kent.gov.uk](mailto:jill.johnson@kent.gov.uk) or [communicationcfe@kent.gov.uk](mailto:communicationcfe@kent.gov.uk), 01622 221201.



## Children's Trust Staff Development

To support the development of children's trust arrangements at county and local levels a Children's Trust Staff Development Programme is being planned to support professionals from across children's services. The programme is intended to support induction and team building within LCSPs and to support all staff working in children's services.

The programme includes a range of modules, which will be pertinent to staff irrespective of their professional background:

- Social Justice: Childhood and Poverty in the UK
- Communications: Building Bridges in the Community
- Growing, Learning and Developing: Applied Child Development
- Improving outcomes: Making a Difference

The modules will take place in January 2009 and will be repeated in May /June 2009. Please visit the link below for further details and a booking form.

[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct\\_staffdev.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct_staffdev.cfm)

Further development opportunities are being planned from March 2009 onwards, with a focus on – 'building a coherent children's workforce'. This phase

will offer a range of training and development both through a planned programme and through bespoke tailored opportunities, identified through needs analysis and performance management. Modules can be linked to accreditation pathways and will support career development.

For further information please contact: Carrie Beech, Principal Adviser, Professional Development [carrie.beech@kent.gov.uk](mailto:carrie.beech@kent.gov.uk)

Kelly Matthews, Education Support Officer, Improvement and Leadership [kelly.matthews@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kelly.matthews@kent.gov.uk)

Ella Hughes, Executive Support Officer to Dr Ian Craig / Head of Operations Support [ella.hughes@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ella.hughes@kent.gov.uk)

## Targeted Youth Support (TYS)

### What is TYS?

All young people require access to high quality universal services and young people (13+) at risk of poor outcomes also need targeted advice and support. Targeted Youth Support for Kent's young people will be delivered collaboratively in the Local Children's Service Partnerships through a range of services e.g. Youth Service, third sector, Connexions, school nurses, KDAAT, Youth Offending Service, extended schools, District Councils, teenage pregnancy services, CAMHS, etc.



Currently TYS is being piloted in Canterbury Coastal, Canterbury City and Country, Shepway I and Shepway Rural LCSPs. By the end of December 2008, KCC will need to demonstrate to the DCSF that TYS is being developed across the county against the seven key delivery elements set out below. Through the development of integrated working and processes LCSPs are already delivering against some of these key elements and will be supported to work towards full delivery.

#### 7 Key Delivery Elements

- Children, young people (particularly those who are vulnerable), their parents or carers, and their communities are fully engaged in reforms and their own support packages.
- There are effective processes for early identification of vulnerable children and young people.
- An efficient process is in place for assessing children's and young people's needs based around the CAF.
- Vulnerable children and young people are able to access early support in universal settings, through better links between agencies.
- The lead professional (LP) role is in place and widely used, to provide more coordinated packages of support.
- Children and young people are able to access relevant services through appropriate settings.
- Children and young people are supported across key transitions – either at particular life stages or between services.

Members of the Joint Commissioning Unit are in the process of meeting with each LCSP to discuss plans for the implementation of TYS. All LCSPs will be asked to complete a short self-evaluation with the support of the team.

For further information please contact, Helen Jones, Commissioning Officer, 01622 696682, [helen.jones@kent.gov.uk](mailto:helen.jones@kent.gov.uk)



## Progress in implementing Integrated Systems and Processes

Integrated processes are nationally required and will support practitioners in all children's services to work better together to share information and improve outcomes. More detailed articles on integrated processes: Common Assessment Framework, Lead Professional, ContactPoint and the Kent Resource Directory can be seen in issue 5 of the KCT Newsletter. Below is a brief update on what is happening currently in Kent.

### Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Lead Professional

CAF and Lead Professional arrangements are being implemented through LCSPs in a phased approach.

Phase 1 is in progress and includes:

**LCSPs:**

Shepway 1  
Shepway Rural

**Contact Details:**

Kelly King  
Kelly.king@kent.gov.uk

Canterbury City and Country  
Canterbury Coastal

Lisa Loftus  
lisa.loftus@kent.gov.uk

Maidstone 1  
Maidstone 2

Bev Boylett  
Beverley.boylett@kent.gov.uk

Preparation for Phase 2 implementation has begun in the following LCSPs: Ashford 1, Ashford Rural, Dover, Deal and Sandwich, Swanley, Thanet 1, Thanet 2 and Tunbridge Wells. CAF and Lead Professional will go live in these localities from November 2008. All other LCSPs will be included in Phase 3 from January to March 2009.

All practitioners who will need to use these processes must attend the 2-day programme of training. Senior and middle managers should attend a half-day workshop, which provides an overview of integrated processes and their implementation. Details of all training is available on [www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct\\_CAF.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct_CAF.cfm)

For further information please contact: Mary Burwell, CAF and Lead Professional Project Co-ordinator, 01622 696681, [mary.burwell@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mary.burwell@kent.gov.uk), [http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct\\_CAF.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/kct_CAF.cfm)

### Changes to ContactPoint Implementation in Kent

ContactPoint will be an online directory that will enable practitioners to quickly find out who else is working with the same child or young person. It will contain a basic record for every child and young person aged between 0 – 18 living in England. The national timetable for ContactPoint has now been revised and the new model means that Kent will get access to ContactPoint functionality in stages:



- January 2009                      Training for ContactPoint Team staff on 'shielding' information about the whereabouts of children and young people who have been identified as meeting the shielding criteria.
- March 2009                      Initial shielding complete.
- June 2009                      Training for ContactPoint Team staff on data and user Administration. This will allow connection of local data sources to start.
- October 2009                    ContactPoint train the trainers.
- November 2009 onwards      ContactPoint User training.

KCC and partner agencies are currently working on required preparation activities for ContactPoint. As part of the preparation activities, procedures to identify children and young people who meet the shielding criteria are being developed. Work is also taking place on a toolkit to support organisations going through the ContactPoint Accreditation process.

For further information, please contact: Nikki Patient, ContactPoint Project Manager, 01622 696553, [nikki.patient@kent.gov.uk](mailto:nikki.patient@kent.gov.uk)



**Kent Resource Directory**  
for Children's Services

be healthy  
stay safe  
enjoy and achieve  
make a positive contribution  
achieve economic well-being

### **Kent Resource Directory Update**

KCC has completed the first development phase of the Kent Resource Directory ([www.krd.org.uk](http://www.krd.org.uk)) aimed at providing information and resources for practitioners, children, young people and their families.

### **Feedback and Information**

We are keen to gain feedback on the directory from professionals and parents. You can let us know your thoughts and provide information about your services and activities by using the new on-line feedback form on the website. The form will only take a couple of minutes to complete and your input will help us continue to improve and develop the directory for the benefit of children, young people and their families.

[www.krd.org.uk/feedback.aspx](http://www.krd.org.uk/feedback.aspx)

### **New Features Coming Soon**

We will be introducing a new map element for the directory later this year. This enhancement to the directory will allow users to view services and activities on a variety of different maps and see their location in relation to other services, i.e. bus stops, schools and libraries.

For further information please contact: James Harman, Executive Officer, Kent Resource Directory, 01622 696590, [james.harman@kent.gov.uk](mailto:james.harman@kent.gov.uk) or please visit [www.krd.org.uk](http://www.krd.org.uk)



## A New Model of Local Leadership - LCSP Boards

Following the introduction of Local Children's Services Partnerships (LCSPs) in September the Local Children's Services Partnership Boards have been forming and getting to grips with the issues in their area.

The **core purpose** of the LCSP Board is to:

Lead the delivery of improved ECM outcomes for children and young people and their families, as agreed with the Kent Children's Trust (KCT), through effective integrated commissioning across children's services in the locality. Full terms of reference setting out how the LCSP Board will fulfil this purpose is set out in the LCSP Partnership Agreement – please see link below.

The **membership** of the Board reflects the membership of the KCT bringing together those partners with a statutory duty to cooperate with other relevant partners for the locality. The partner commitment to joining LCSP Boards has been very encouraging with full membership having been secured in most LCSP areas. Representation from the voluntary and community sector appears to be a development issue in a significant number of LCSPs and the KCT will be looking at ways of facilitating this more effectively. LCSP Board memberships will be posted on the KCT web pages shortly, in the meantime please contact the LCSP manager for membership details.

The **Chair** of the LCSP Board can be drawn from any membership category and to date these include a Connexions Manager, Children's Centres Managers, Headteachers, a District Council Officer, Youth Manager and a Police Inspector. LCSP chairs will be meeting together for the first time on 26 November to share issues and inform the strategic development of LCSPs across Kent.

For more information about LCSP Boards please see the LCSP Partnership Agreement [http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp\\_partnership\\_agreement.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/lcsp_partnership_agreement.cfm)

## Kent Pupils Continue to Improve their Results in Every Key Stage

It is lovely to be able to let everyone know that the hard work of our teachers and early years practitioners has been rewarded once more, as children in Kent schools and pre-schools have continued to improve their achievements in SATs and external examinations again this summer.

In the Early Years Foundation stage our youngest children made very good progress in every area of learning, with particular improvements in their ability to link sounds and letters. Kent seven year olds also achieved their best ever results, reaching national standards in every subject.

Our primary school leavers achieved excellent results in English and mathematics, improving in both subjects at level 4 (the level that pupils of this age are expected to achieve prior to moving to secondary school).

In secondary schools there were the usual good results in all subjects at key stage 3 for pupils. At GCSE nearly 67% achieved 5 (or more) at grades A\*-C with a total of 93% of young people achieving 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent qualifications) at grades A\*- G. Finally, at A level, students continued to make great improvements as the number achieving 2 A levels rose yet again in Kent. So, a fantastic year and we will be looking forward to even greater achievements in Summer 2009. Watch this space!

**Carol Parsons - Director - Standards & Achievement**



## 2008 Children and Young People of Kent Survey

We were delighted that over 45,000 children and young people took part in this year's Children and Young People of Kent Survey (NFER). Once again, the survey produced a wealth of information and is a key instrument in obtaining the views of children and young people in the county. Alongside the "Framework for Participation with Children and Young People", it demonstrates Kent's commitment to "Listen to young people's views and opinions and develop their ideas to improve education and life in Kent" (KCC 2010 target).

The survey, conducted by NFER on behalf of KCC, covers the five Every Child Matters outcomes. Children and young people were asked a range of questions from healthy living and staying safe, to learning, and aspirations for the future. It also asks children and young people their perceptions of the area where they live.

Completing the survey in 2008 means we can make comparisons with the 2007 survey and start to identify some trends over time. Also, as it such an extensive survey, it provides valuable information that is useful both county wide and at a local level.

The key findings from the survey will shortly be available on Kent Trust web, also data from the survey has already been made available to Local Children's Service Partnerships and to the schools that took part.

We expect the findings from the survey to be useful for CFE staff and for colleagues in partner agencies; it has already helped inform the development of the 2008/2011 Children and Young People Plan.

Conducting a survey of this size is a major undertaking and we would like to thank all those people who assisted, particularly in the schools and the LCSPs.

For further information please contact: Anthony Mort, Policy Manager, 01622 696363, [anthony.mort@kent.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.mort@kent.gov.uk)

### And Finally...

Thank you for your positive feedback on the content and style of Issue 5 of the 'new look' KCT newsletter. We hope that this edition will be equally well received. We are trying to increase the circulation of the newsletter across children's services so please pass a copy to your colleagues and others who may be interested.

Since the last newsletter we have responded to a DCSF consultation on the Strengthening of Children's Trust Legislation. A summary of the consultation proposal was set out in Issue 5 of the newsletter. To view our response please visit:

<http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/childrenstrust.cfm>

If you have any suggestions for future newsletter items, please contact Matthew Redmond, Kent Children's Trust Policy Development Officer, and Trust Newsletter Editor, [matthew.redmond@kent.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.redmond@kent.gov.uk)

You can also stay in touch with all the latest developments by visiting the Kent Children's Trust web page <http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/Children/childrenstrust.cfm>