



Dartford East and Dartford West Local Children's Services Partnerships

Lynda Hammond, Extended Schools Development Manager

LCSP	Primary	Secondary	Academies	PRU's	Special
Dartford East	13	1	1	1	1
Dartford West	18	6	1	1	1

Dartford East

94% of schools have achieved National Healthy Schools status
81% of schools providing access to the full core offer of Extended Services

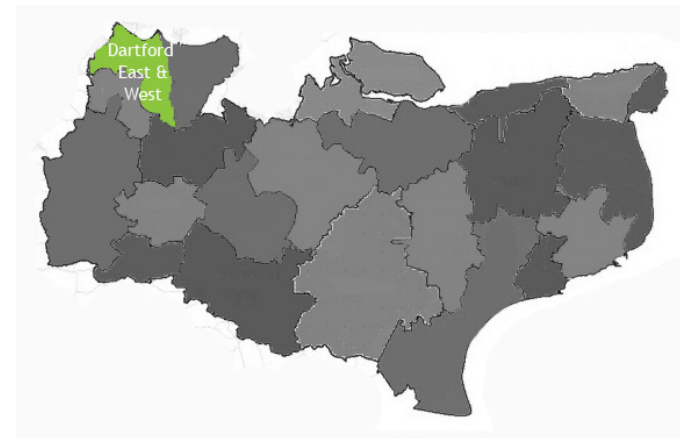
Dartford West

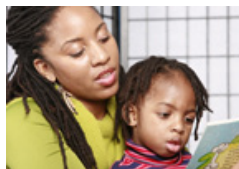
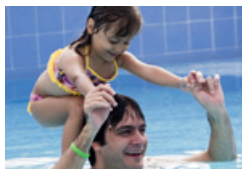
88% of schools have achieved National Healthy Schools status
92% of schools providing access to the full core offer of Extended Services

Figures as at 30 September 2009

2008-09 Extended Services priorities for the partnerships:

- Supporting parents and carers.
- Prevention and early intervention services.
- Broadening the range of opportunities and activities for children, young people and families.
- Transition to primary school and transition from primary to secondary school.
- Ensuring the voice of children, young people and families is part of LCSP and Extended Services planning.





Key Extended Services Programmes for 2008-09

Parents' Voice for Dartford

This parents' forum for both Dartford partnerships was set up and launched by Extended Services in June 2008. At the initial meeting parents identified key areas which they wanted to discuss at future meetings - these included activities available for teenagers, policing and anti social behaviour in the area. Parents were also keen to find out more about the work of Family Liaison Officers (FLOs) and Parent Support Advisers (PSAs) in and around school. In April 2009, the forum members discussed the 6 priorities of each partnership and identified ways in which parents could help the partnership in meeting these and what partnerships could do to help parents. It was agreed that the group would focus on one of the priorities at each of the meetings throughout the year. The Local Implementation Group (LIG) leads for each of the priorities will attend the relevant meeting, meet parents and discuss the priority in further detail. Up to 30 parents from across the partnerships will attend each forum meeting. Representatives from education, adult education, the voluntary sector, the Library Service and Dartford Borough Council are some of the partners who have participated at the meetings. The meetings are publicised with flyers in all schools and Children's Centres. There are also relevant information leaflets available at each meeting for parents to take away. **CYPP Priority 3**

Operation Big School

Extended Services and Healthy Schools jointly commissioned the Lisa Payne Drama Company to develop a play about moving up to secondary school, from both the pupils' and parents' perspective. This was originally piloted in 2007-08 and offered to all schools in both partnerships in 2008-09 when 27 schools engaged in the project. All year 6 pupils were invited to the interactive play where pupils were able to direct how the second half would run. Parents were invited to the performances with up to 40 parents attending each performance. There was also a marketplace offering a range of information materials relating to transition to secondary school and teenagers for parents to take away. There was also the opportunity to talk to professionals including Education Welfare Officers, school nurses and FLOs/PSAs. All parents were given copies of '101 Tips for Parents of Children Starting Secondary Schools'. Feedback from parents was extremely positive - "Very lively and interactive, kept the children engaged", "I already have one son in secondary school and found the play "spot on", "Thank you - it was really useful! I enjoyed it!" Feedback from schools was equally supportive - "Thank you for Operation big school - I thought it was pitched just perfectly whilst still delivering very clear messages." **CYPP Priority 2**

Reading Recovery Workshops

Literacy has been a key focus for the Dartford West partnership. Extended Services commissioned Volunteer Reading Help (VRH) to develop and run one-off morning workshops for targeted parents. The parents were identified by schools, and were those whose children were on Reading Recovery/Better Reading Partners Programmes. The workshops aimed to help parents understand how they could best support their child's reading, by bringing reading into everyday activities and choosing suitable books for the children to read. Due to the success of these workshops a number of schools have now commissioned VRH directly to run this session for their reception children parents. There were up to 12 parents attending each workshop which were run in 7 schools in Dartford West.

CYPP Priority 3

Family Learning Activities

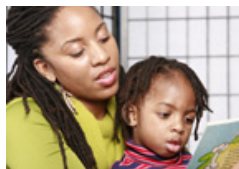
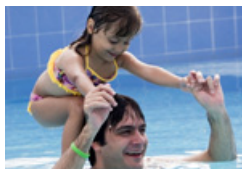
Extended Services has worked closely with Dartford Libraries to provide family learning activities in school holidays. The activities included; producing craft items, working with life sized puppets and producing animated slugs! These sessions were run to give the children positive activities to take part in during holidays and to give parents an opportunity to learn new skills with their children. Eight sessions were run over the Summer holiday period with up to 40 people attending each session. **CYPP Priority 3**

Strengthening Prevention/Early Intervention in Dartford

In June 2009 a Senior Social Worker was seconded to the two partnerships for a one year period, with funding from Extended Services. The role aims to provide additional support to schools with a high level of need. For example, this includes giving headteachers and Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) the opportunity for one-to-one discussions regarding vulnerable pupils within their schools. In addition the secondment provides professional case supervision and support to FLOs and PSAs to develop their everyday working practices. **CYPP Priority 3**

Swanscombe Campus

The Extended Services team has been working closely with all partners on the campus which includes; Swan Valley Community School, Manor Primary School, Kent Adult Education, Libraries, Swanscombe Children's Centre and Youth Services to deliver a coordinated menu of activities from the Discovery Centre (the community space within the campus). All partners are now working together to gain Quality in Extended Services (QES) status for the campus as a whole. Additionally, the partners worked together to organise the first Swanscombe Community Festival in July 2009. Over 1000 people attended and enjoyed a wide variety of stalls and demonstrations/displays including a local Irish dancing club, the Manor School Street Dancing Club and a fancy dress parade. The event helped to engage the local community and showcase the facilities available for them to use on the site. **CYPP Priority 8**



Primary School Council

There is one Council for each partnership with 2 representatives from each of the Dartford primary schools. The Council meetings were held in the Dartford Civic Centre where the children had the opportunity to discuss some of the LCSP priorities with the LCSP managers and record their views using 'Qwizdom' electronic voting system technology. The Mayor of Dartford and some County Members attended the meetings. Further sessions are planned for January when feedback will be given and children's views will be further explored. The Primary Council provides the ideal forum for consultation with children and young people. Children enjoyed the day, particularly sitting in the Dartford Members seats, using the microphones and having the opportunity to have their photographs taken with the Mayor. One task the children were asked to participate in was to identify people who work with and for children and they were able to identify almost all the roles of the Children's workforce within the LCSP. **CYPP Priority 7**

Speech Therapy in Dartford East

Extended Services funding was used to employ a dedicated speech therapist for the Dartford East partnership. As lack of speech therapy provision to schools had been highlighted as an issue. The speech therapist is based at Milestone Special School, but undertakes outreach work to all schools (with referrals through Partnership Based Review (PBR) and also provides additional support for Special Educational Needs Coordinators and teaching assistants in Dartford East. **CYPP Priority 5**

Development of holiday clubs

Extended Services funding was given to Parents Consortium to support the development of holiday play schemes in Dartford. The Parents Consortium is a charitable company who provide services to families, schools, hospitals, children's homes and other organisations who look after children and young people with any form of physical, learning or sensory impairment. Membership is open to all parents and carers who have a disabled child aged 19 or under in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area. More than 30 disabled children and young people were able to access the fully inclusive holiday play schemes. **CYPP Priority 6**

Attention-deficit hyperactivity (ADHD) workshops for parents

Working in partnership the Parents Consortium, Specialist Teachers, Health and FLOs/PSAs developed a 3 day course for parents of children with ADHD. The course was offered to parents in both partnerships. Up to 12 parents attended each workshop which had a specific focus e.g. health or education. Parents were given information, tools and resources. The workshops aimed to help parents to support their child and were very well-received as illustrated by the feedback from parents. "We found the discussions about the medication most useful, but generally we have taken information from all of the training session", "All the Training was useful - you can never have enough knowledge of ADHD children". These workshops will be run again later in 2009. **CYPP Priority 3**

Dartford East LCSP and Dartford West LCSP



Parenting leaflets and courses

A multi-agency group consisting of Extended Services, the Specialist Teaching Service, Health, Children's Centres, FLOs/PSAs, voluntary agencies, Kent Adult Education and Social Services came together to rationalise the delivery of parenting courses in Dartford. Leaflets were produced for both parents and professionals detailing the range of courses available to meet the needs of all parents from universal to targeted needs. Leaflets were distributed through schools, Children's Centres and libraries. Courses are being delivered by multi-agency partners, for example 'Solihull Approach' training (a national parenting programme), is being co-delivered by staff from Children's Centres and FLOs/PSAs. A programme of training is also in place to increase the numbers of professionals able to deliver courses. **CYPP Priority 3**

Manor School Parent and Toddler Club

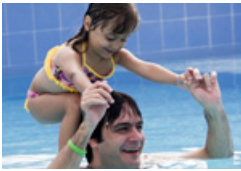
Consultation with parents highlighted a need for a toddler club in the Manor School area. Children's Centres and Extended Services funded the purchase of basic equipment for the group, whilst Manor School provided the venue and support via their family support team. The group is now thriving and meets once a week. The group is run by the parents with support from the school's family support team. **CYPP Priority 3**

Counselling in schools

Extended Services has contributed funding towards the provision of counselling services which all Dartford schools can access. Two voluntary organisations deliver the counselling - Time4U delivers to Primary schools and Time2Talk delivers to Secondary schools. **CYPP Priority 2**

Treejumpers transition day

Dartford East held a specific partnership based review (PBR) to which schools could refer pupils they felt would be vulnerable when they moved to Secondary school. This could be due to educational needs, or simply because they would be the only pupil from that school transferring to the new school. 20 pupils who would be going to Longfield Academy were invited to participate in an activity day at Treejumpers, Fawkham (an outdoor activity centre). Here they undertook a range of challenging physical activities and had a chance to get to know one another in an informal environment. Members of the Dartford East Partnership team and staff from Longfield attended taking advantage of the opportunity to get to know the children better and to network with each other. Friendships were made and arrangements made to meet on the first day of term. Initial reports from the school show that the children have settled in well. A review meeting is planned for October 2009, when the children will help to plan an expanded programme for the 2010 intake. **CYPP Priority 2**



2009-10 Extended Services priorities for the partnerships:

- Supporting parents and carers.
- Ensuring the voice of children, young people and families is part of LCSP and Extended Services planning.
- Prevention and early intervention services.
- Transition to primary school and transition from primary to secondary school.
- Community cohesion.