



Páirtíocht Iarthar Bhéal Feirste

West Belfast Partnership

Integrated Services for Children and Young People

Local Area Guide - **West Belfast**

Improving the **life chances** of children and young people

The Belfast Health Action Zone is working through the Integrated Services for Children and Young People Programme (the Integrated Services Programme) to improve the life chances of children and young people, demonstrated by increased achievement levels, a commitment to 'life long learning' and an increase in employability.

The Integrated Services for Children and Young People Programme is led by the Belfast Education and Library Board on behalf of the Health Action Zone.

By 2011 the Integrated Services Programme will have created a legacy of a comprehensive and integrated approach to all aspects of the lives of children and young people, and those within and beyond their families who have influence on them.

The five key principles of the Integrated Services Programme are:

Integration

- working together

Achievability

- getting realistic results

Sustainability

- maintaining progress

Innovation and added value

- doing new things that make a difference

Prevention

- ensuring the patterns of the past are not repeated

Improving the **life chances** of children and young people

Integrated Services for Children and Young People - West Belfast

The Integrated Services for Children and Young People Programme (Integrated Services) is a unique co-ordinated approach designed to address the vital need for the integration of services working with, and impacting upon, the lives of children and young people across West Belfast.

Funded in response to the work of the West Belfast and Greater Shankill Task Forces through the Integrated Development Fund within OFMDFM, the Integrated Services Programme will engage Education, Health and Social Care and Local Community and Voluntary Agencies working together to meet better the needs of children and young people.

In West Belfast, the local Partnership Board has led the process, implementing and delivering the Integrated Services Programme through the Greater Falls, Upper Springfield, Upper Falls (i.e. Lenadoon and Andersonstown) Full Service Community Teams as well as through the West Belfast wide Alternative Education Provision strand.

An Integrated Services team has been recruited to full and part-time positions in 'Education Ready' and 'Learner Support'; 'Family / Parent Support' and 'Early Years'; 'Mental Health and Wellbeing' including 'Counselling Services'; and 'Youth Services'.

Mission

To actualise our Aims through Integrated working by Community, Statutory and Voluntary Agencies impacting on all aspects of the lives of our Children and Young People

In particular the Integrated Services Programme also seeks to create and develop new ways of using existing resources more effectively. To this end the West Belfast Integrated Services Programme will:

- Engage and develop partnerships with and among relevant stakeholders in the Statutory, Community and Voluntary Sectors;
- Engage and influence policy stakeholders and decision makers in government and at local level;
- Work to incorporate new structures within the overall implementation and operational practice through Integrated Services based on development of effective 'delivery models';
- Work to change, review and renew policy and practice taking account of departmental strategies and action plans - with a view to longer term sustainability of Integrated Services Programmes.

Improving the **life chances** of children and young people

As integration is key this will extend throughout the 3 Full Service Community Teams and the Alternative Education Provision (AEP) strand across West Belfast.

Integrated Approaches

A Holistic Multi Disciplinary Wrap-around Approach

Components

- Connectivity
 - Service provision at point of need
- Inter / Intra disciplinary and Inter / Intra agency working
 - Addressing social exclusion
 - Raising attainment levels and expectations
 - Improved communications systems
 - Cross sectoral working approaches
- Bringing together the Community and Statutory Sectors

Across Sectors / Organisations / Professions

Sectors

- **Community**
- **Statutory**
- **Voluntary**
- **Education**
- **Health**
- **Youth Justice**
- **LAC/VCYP**

Organisations

- Community Organisations, NGOs, Various Fora, WBPB, BELB, BHSCT
- ESA, BELB (inc Educ' Opt's Panels), Schools, ASEPs, Community Orgs, Surestart, Pre-school to FHE / Training / Careers / Employers
- BHSCT & Service Deliverers
 - Physical/Mental/Emotional/ Sexual Health
- Youth Justice Org's - Community and Statutory and Voluntary
- Social Services, Care Homes, Relevant Community Organisations

Professions

- **Education**
 - Teaching
 - SENCOs
 - Education Welfare
 - Education Psychology
- **Youth Service**
- **Community Development**
 - Youth and Community
 - Early years
 - Family/Parent Support
- **Social Services**
- **Medical**
 - Speech and Language
 - Counselling
 - GPs, Nurses etc

Integration will also be within and across sectors, disciplines and relevant agencies / organisations.

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The Four Themes

There are Four Thematic Pillars to the West Belfast Integrated Services for Children and Young People Programme

1. Learner Support:

THEME: Education Ready

A multi-agency resource to support schools to develop early interventions which will address behaviour problems, suspensions and expulsions.

In West Belfast we are working with Schools – Nursery, Primary, Post-Primary and Alternative Education Providers, Education Welfare Services, Education and Library Board Staff, Department of Education and the Education and Skills Authority to address issues in education facing our children and young people.

2. Early Years:

THEME: Youth

Consolidation and strengthening of Early Years' support to improve life chances, educational achievement and employment opportunities.

In West Belfast we are working with Statutory and Community Youth Services, Youth Fora across 'the West', Youth Justice Agencies and a variety of Voluntary Organisations involved in Early Years, Youth Provision and Activities, Youth support and a broad range of service delivery.

3. Health & Wellbeing:

THEME: Community-based Mental Health Services

A range of measures to target specific health concerns of children and young people including vulnerable children and young people at risk.

In West Belfast we are working with Community based Counselling and Mental Health Support Services, the Department of Education's Independent Counselling Services for Schools and a range of voluntary and statutory providers.

4. Parenting Support and Participation:

THEME: Family Support

Expanding and developing methods of supporting parents' participation in their children's education.

In West Belfast we are working with a range of statutory, community and voluntary agencies to support the role of parents' empowerment and participation in their children's education.

All of these themes 'overlap' and complement the work under each thereby enhancing effective service delivery, impact on our children and young people and integrated working at various levels.

Improving the **life chances** of children and young people

The Local Implementation Action Group (LIAG) Executive is responsible for the 'rolling out' of the Integrated Services Programme. Each Full Service Community Team is delivering programmes under each 'theme'. Integration of their service provision will be developed across West Belfast in parallel with the integration of community, statutory and voluntary agencies' collaborations and partnership working.

INTEGRATED SERVICES PROGRAMME - WEST BELFAST STRUCTURE



The Operational Managers are responsible to the Lead Agencies' Chairs and Steering Groups who monitor progress, direction and implementation at local level. The LIAG is responsible for monitoring progress, direction and implementation at West Belfast level through the West Belfast Integrated Services Programme Manager and the West Belfast Partnership Board. The West Belfast Programme Manager is responsible for reporting progress to West Belfast Partnership Board.

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