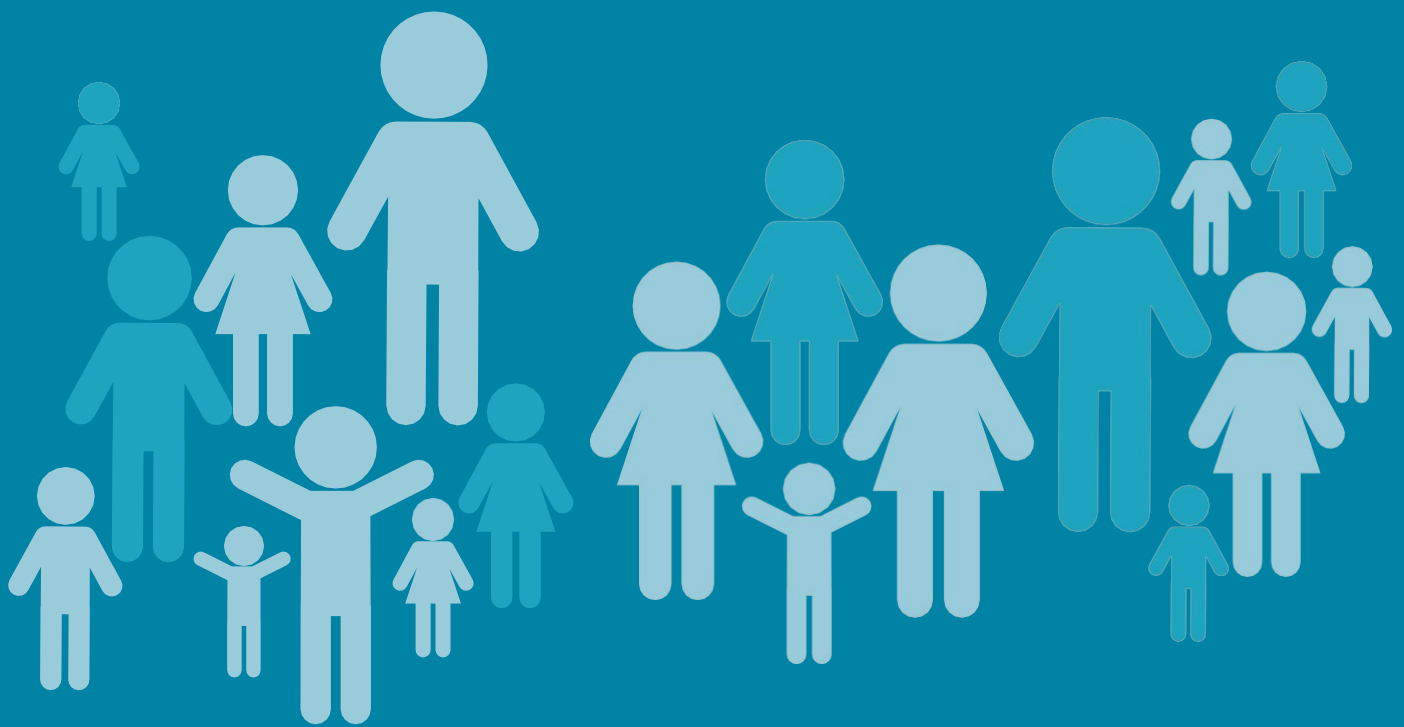


# Children and Young People's Plan 2020 - 2023

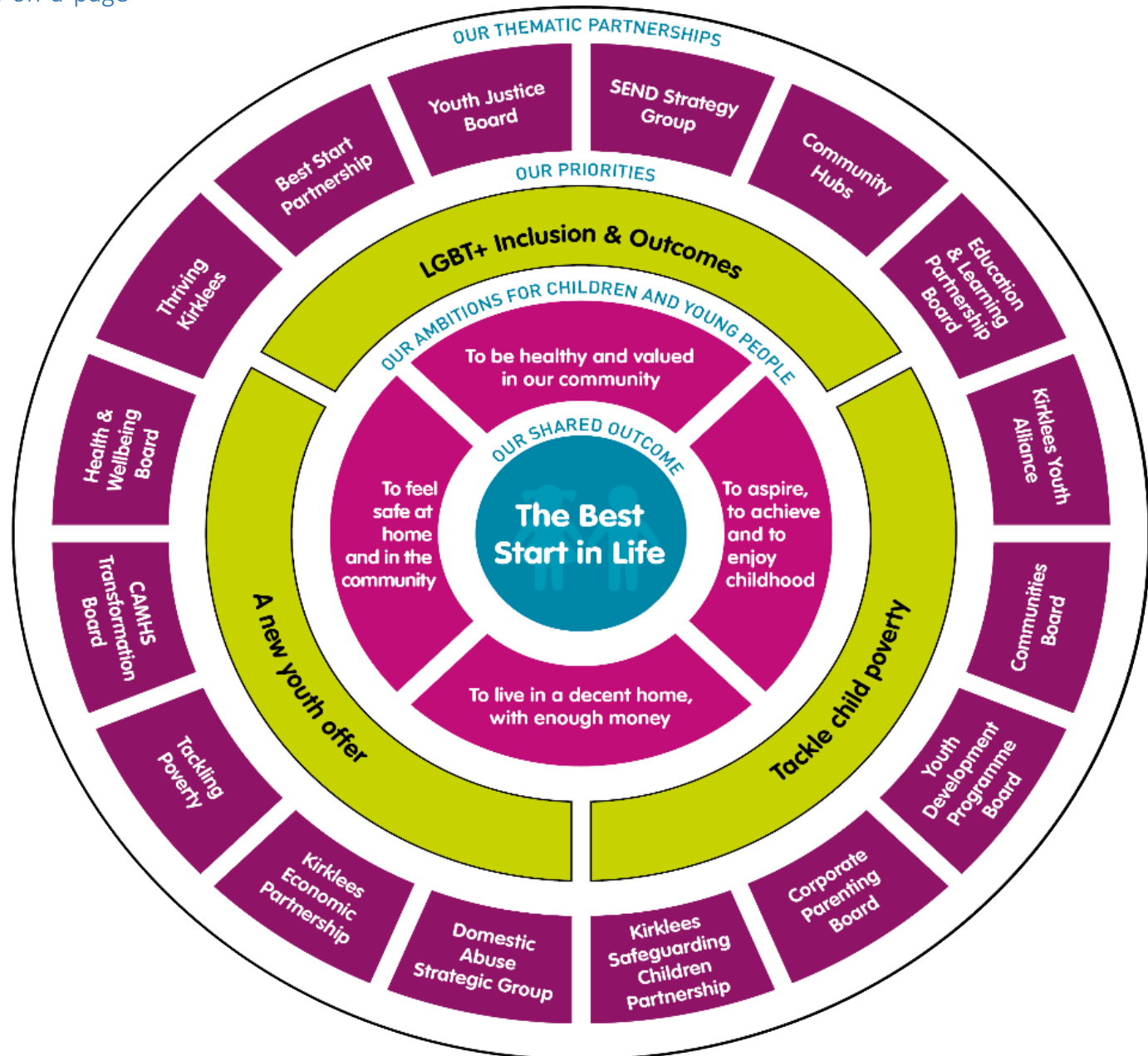


**Our vision:**

**All children and young people in Kirklees have the best start in life and are nurtured and supported to achieve their potential.**

**Our ambitions for Kirklees children:**

- To be healthy and valued in our community
- To aspire, to achieve and to enjoy childhood
- To feel safe – in a loving, secure family and a strong, cohesive community
- To live in a decent home, with enough money.



**The Children and Young People Partnership** has been re-launched in 2019 to create a forum for those who work, live with and care for children and young people. It brings together our collective insight, expertise and resources to collaborate to achieve the best start for children and young people. The Partnership provides coherence to the work of a range of thematic partnerships that focus on specific populations and issues. The thematic partnerships have their own priorities and plans to improve the lives of children in particular circumstances. The Children and Young People Partnership's actions and priorities strengthen and de-segment this diverse work, to provide coherence and a shared focus on improving outcomes and services. The Partnership works with all children aged 0 – 19, and up to 25 for vulnerable young people like care leavers and those with special needs and disabilities. The Partnership:

- \*Works restoratively – **with** not to or for
- \*Listens to and values children's voices
- \*Shares power and responsibility across sectors and agencies
- \*Provides challenge and support to hold each other to account
- \*Celebrates and serves the diverse needs of people and places in Kirklees.

#### **Our priorities 2019 – 2022**

The Children and Young People's Partnership has identified **priorities** to support good outcomes for all children. They will help close the gaps in children's inequalities and their life chances, **enabling young people to be happy, resilient, safe and able to contribute and achieve.**

Six of the Priorities are being addressed by thematic partnerships. They are:

- **Emotional health and resilience** – Children's Integrated Commissioning Group
- **Early Support in communities** – Kirklees Children's Safeguarding Partnership Task & Finish Group, Best Start Partnership, Early Support Review
- **Food & Physical Activity** – Health & Wellbeing Board; Thriving Kirklees
- **Vulnerability to criminal exploitation** – Youth Development Programme; Kirklees Children's Safeguarding Partnership; Communities Board.
- **Gaps in educational attainment** between some groups and the Kirklees attainment rates – Education and Learning Partnership Board & Community Hubs.
- **Outcomes for Looked After children** – Improvement Board; Corporate Parenting Board; Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Three priorities are new. They are :

- **To reduce the effects of poverty on children**
- **To support inclusion and better outcomes for LGBT+ young people**
- **To grow our youth offer – places to go, people to see, things to do.**

Children face inequalities of income, experience and outcomes. Evidence shows that childhood inequality can have lifelong consequences for income and health. The Children's Partnership works to understand disadvantage and focus effort to narrow gaps and inequalities to improve outcomes for all children.

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### Foreword

**The Children and Young People Partnership** has been re-launched in 2019 to create a forum for those who work, live with and care for children and young people in Kirklees. It brings together our collective insight, expertise and resources to collaborate to achieve **the best start for children and young people**.

The Partnership works with all children aged 0 – 19, and up to 25 for vulnerable young people like care leavers and those with special needs and disabilities. The Partnership:

- \*Works restoratively – **with** not to or for
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### Introduction

We want Kirklees to be a great place to grow up. 438,700 people live here, 101,200 of them are under 18, and 66,300 are school aged. 1 in 9 school aged children (7600) have a special educational need or disability. 1 in 5 of the school population is entitled to free school meals, and English is an additional language for 3 in 10 primary school starters. We are a diverse area of urban centres and rural villages and valleys. 1 in 5 of the total population and 1 in 3 babies born to Kirklees mums are from a BME community.

We have a range of organisations working with our children and families, providing learning, health, social care, and enrichment. They work in the public, voluntary, community, faith and private sectors. Some work with everyone, some work in particular towns and villages, or with particular groups of young people. Some provide universal services (such as schools and GPs), others work with specific groups and individuals (such as those with special needs, or infants, or young carers). The Children and Young People's Partnership provides a network for them all.

The Kirklees Children's Plan, produced by the Partnership, sets out our shared vision, ambitions and priorities for all children in Kirklees. It provides a focus for work that helps Kirklees children to have the best start in life, wherever they live, whatever their circumstances or life stage.

## Vision & ambitions

### Our Vision

**All children and young people in Kirklees have the best start in life and are nurtured and supported to achieve their potential.**

### Our ambitions for Kirklees children:

- To be healthy and valued in our community
- To aspire, to achieve and to enjoy childhood
- To feel safe – in a loving, secure family and a strong, cohesive community
- To live in a decent home, with enough money.

These ambitions provide the right conditions for children to thrive and to grow up with the best possibility of a good life

### Tackling inequality

Children and young people's experiences and outcomes are fostered by their immediate environment – family, neighbourhood, community and the people who live and work in them - and by the strategic environment – the plans, partnerships, organisations and civic society that shapes their world. Children face inequalities of income, experiences and outcomes. Evidence shows that childhood inequality can have lifelong consequences for income and health. The Children's Partnership works to understand disadvantage and focus effort to narrow gaps and inequalities to improve outcomes for all children so that we can work towards achieving our ambitions.

Personal circumstances and structural inequalities leave some groups and individuals vulnerable to poorer outcomes. Our data and intelligence tell us that children from families living with poverty and its consequences, those with special educational needs and disabilities, some young people from BME communities and many LGBT+ young people are those who are more likely to experience this. We analyse where this happens and who this happens to so that we can work together to design better services, offer additional support to the right people, and create a more equitable world.

### CYP Partnership

The Children and Young People Partnership has been re-launched in 2019 to create a forum for those who work and care for children and young people in and from Kirklees. It brings together our collective insight, expertise and resources to collaborate to achieve the best start in life for children and young people. The Partnership works with all children aged 0 – 19 years, and up to the age of 25 with vulnerable young adults, including those with special educational needs and disabilities and those who have been looked after in the social care system as children.

Membership of the Partnership is open to all organisations from the public and third sector, including strategic managers, frontline workers, elected representatives, and both specialist and universal service providers. Members are accountable to each other and to children, young people and families in Kirklees. There is no formal committee structure, no formal decision making responsibilities. The people involved are there because they want to collaborate to achieve our ambitions for children.

The Partnership will:

- Focus energy and expertise on agreed priority areas of work
- Share intelligence and insight into children and young people's experiences so that children's outcomes and services are improved
- Use collective insight into children's voice and views to influence and shape its work
- Collaborate effectively to use partner organisations' resources to address collective goals & priorities
- Influence, inform and provide strategic leadership in the children's sector
- Agree key, shared priorities, based on evidence of need that members bring their collective energy and focus to;
- Provide analysis to inform service improvements, transformation and cultural change, including an annual

review of key outcome data and updates from related partnerships

The Partnership aims to provide coherence to the work of a range of thematic partnerships that focus on specific populations and issues. The thematic partnerships have their own priorities and plans to improve the lives of children in particular circumstances (see below for detail about this). The Children and Young People Partnership's actions and priorities strengthen and de-segment this diverse work, to provide coherence and a shared focus on improving outcomes and services.

The Partnership has agreed that its members will:

- Work restoratively – with not to or for
- Listen to and values children's voices
- Share power and responsibility across sectors and agencies
- Provide challenge and support to hold each other to account
- Celebrate and serve the diverse needs of people and places in Kirklees.

### **CYPF Voice & influence**

Children and Young People's ideas, opinions and experiences enable the Partnership to understand what matters to them. The partnership listens to and engages with children through formal and informal routes. They include working with focus groups, school councils, the Youth Council and Children in Care Council. We receive feedback through specific projects (such as the LGBT+ yOUTH Mystery Shopper project), by talking to service users about their experiences, inviting them to work with us to plan or comment on proposals and through the now annual Year 9 Health Survey. Members of the Partnership engage with the children and young people who they work with and use this insight to advocate for them. Where it is appropriate, the Partnership and its members commission specific pieces of work to engage with children and young people.

### **The Plan:**

#### **Our priorities 2020 – 2023**

The Partnership analysed a range of data and intelligence to understand what it's like to be a child in Kirklees, and which areas of work and outcomes are causing concern. This insight identified nine priorities. Six of the priorities continue current work programmes. Three are new and are especially appropriate for the Partnership to support because the things that will help them to improve are complex and are best addressed by a range of organisations pulling in the same direction.

These **three priorities** will be championed by the Children and Young People's Partnership. They support good outcomes for all children. They are likely to have greater benefits for children who face disadvantage. They will help to close the gaps in outcomes and to improve life chances, enabling young people to be happy, resilient, safe and able to contribute and achieve.

- To reduce the effects of poverty on children
- To grow our youth offer – places to go, people to see, things to do.
- Improving LGBT+ inclusion and outcomes.

**Reducing the Effects of  
Poverty on children**

### **Why this is a priority:**

We want to decrease the number of households and children who live in poverty because poverty has a wide-ranging impact on outcomes and life chances.

- One third of Kirklees CYP live in the most deprived income group (the lowest income quintile).
- 60,000 Kirklees households live in poverty
- 18,020 children live in poverty – 1 in 5 of the child population

Source – Kirklees JSNA

### **How we will do it**

Work to renew the Kirklees Tackling Poverty Strategy began with a public launch and consultation with partner organisations on 22 October 2019.

An Action plan is now being developed, with Child Poverty a key strand, supported by Children's Partnership members.

The March 2020 Children's Partnership forum focused on this priority, to share information, provide challenge and contribute to the emerging strategy and action plans

## **LGBT+ Inclusion & Outcomes**

### **What we want to change**

The Kirklees Year 9 Health Survey evidences poorer experiences and outcomes for LGBT+ young people. Research from the Brunswick Centre's yOUTH Project is also identifying inequalities of experience and outcome. Both identify a need and will for services to develop more inclusive practice. Concerns include poorer emotional health and wellbeing, more frequent experiences of bullying, less access to trusted adults for support and some worrying health behaviours.

### **How we will do it**

The December 2019 Children's Partnership forum focused on this priority, hearing evidence of the range and impact of LGBT+ experiences and about local specialist youth work and services delivered by the yOUTH project's work. The forum worked on clarifying areas for action and attention.

This work will be led through a Children's Partnership Task & Finish group. We are consulting with the Brunswick Centre to develop this new work.

## To grow our youth offer

### What we want to change

Austerity had a significant impact on youth services.

Places to go, people to see and things to do are particularly important for children's physical, social and emotional development. They also provide spaces for trusted adults to develop positive relationships and receive support when this is not readily available in children's home and school lives. It can be an important early warning system, as well as a source of fun, informal learning, and achievement.

### How we will do it

This work is being delivered through the Youth Development Programme Board. The 5 work streams are:

- Detached Youth Work – targeted work with young people at risk
- Youth Spaces – developing appropriate facilities, safe spaces and provision for youth work
- Practice Model – integrating practice and services for especially vulnerable young people
- Youth / community Offer – generic, preventative places to go, people to see, things to do in young people's own community settings
- Prevention Pathway – providing early support to young people who may otherwise be at risk.

Other priorities and outcomes causing concern are already being addressed through the plans and work of some of our thematic partnerships. Where this is the case, the thematic partnerships will continue to address issues and will update the partnership on progress. Thematic partnerships will involve the Children and Young People's Partnership when their insight, capacity, and strategic connections will be helpful. This approach is intended to make sure that we do not duplicate effort or confuse accountability and can draw on expertise when it is needed. The priorities that the Children and Young People's Partnership identified that are the responsibility of thematic partnerships are:

- **Emotional health and resilience** – Children's Integrated Commissioning Group
- **Early Support in communities** – Early Support Partnership & Best Start Partnership
- **Food & Physical Activity** – Health & Wellbeing Board; Thriving Kirklees
- **Vulnerability to criminal exploitation** – Youth Development Programme; Kirklees Children's Safeguarding Partnership; Communities Board.
- **Gaps in educational attainment** between some population groups and the Kirklees attainment rates – Education and Learning Partnership Board & Community Hubs.
- **Outcomes for Looked After children** – Improvement Board; Corporate Parenting Board; Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership.

### How the plan relates to other plans and partnerships

An important role for the Children and Young People's Partnership is to foster coherence for the work of thematic partnerships. These groups focus on specific populations (such as infants or young people with special needs) and specific issues (such as mental health or domestic abuse). Each group has their own priorities and plans to improve the lives of children in particular circumstances. Some of the Children and Young People Partnership's priority concerns are already being wholly or partially addressed by thematic groups, and the role of the CYP Partnership is to provide support, feedback and check and challenge where appropriate. As a forum addressing the needs of the whole child population, the CYP Partnership will work to strengthen and de-segment the diverse work of thematic partnerships to collectively focus on improving outcomes and services.



Thematic Partnership	Role
Best Start Partnership	The Best Start Partnership has a focus on the youngest children, to reduce inequalities, improve children's health and life chances, school readiness and child development.
CAMHS Transformation Board	This group is responsible for delivering the Child and Adolescent mental Health Transformation Plan – to improve these services and children's emotional and mental health outcomes.
Communities Board	The Communities Board brings a range of partners together to collaborate to tackle prevent and reduce crime and promote community safety
Corporate Parenting Board	The formal Kirklees Council group overseeing corporate parenting for looked after children.
Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership	Responsible for developing and delivering the Domestic Abuse Strategy
Early Support Partnership	A partnership to manage and deliver the Early Support strategy and its vision to develop a shared language and approach to working with families and young people.
Education & Learning Partnership Board	A strategic partnership forum for the development, leadership and quality assurance of educational improvement.
Kirklees Community Hubs	Community Hubs are place based multi-agency networks, focussed around school communities that collaborate on plans and activities to address local coproduced priorities.
Kirklees Economic Partnership	On hold until 2020. Responsible for developing and delivering the Kirklees Economic Partnership
Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership	The KSCP brings together agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Kirklees.
Kirklees Youth Alliance	A network of 130+ community organisations providing positive activities for young people, infrastructure support for those delivering this work, and a Healthy Holidays activity programme for children.
SEND Strategy Group	Focuses on children with Special Educational Needs & disabilities, to improve their services and outcomes.
Thriving Kirklees	A Partnership of the council, health partners and third sector delivery organisations to deliver a range of services to improve children's health and wellbeing
Youth Development Programme Board	A new Board for partners to collaborate to develop and deliver a long-term, holistic Kirklees Youth Development Programme, supporting young people to reach their potential, be healthy & happy and help shape a positive future for Kirklees.

### **Outcomes & measuring progress**

We will use OBA – outcomes-based accountability – to measure progress. Our headline desired outcome is the children have the best start in life, one of the shared outcomes monitored through the Kirklees Corporate Plan.

The partnership forum will review key indicators on a population level annually so that we can judge what is getting better – or worse – for children and families. This work helps us to measure progress and agree where we need to direct attention and resources.

Each of our priorities will have a set of indicators to measure our progress and performance. This work is done through our thematic partnerships and task and finish groups.

The appendix contains key data about our child population and outcomes.

### **Governance and accountability**

The Children and Young People's Partnership is accountable to the Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Board. We will report on progress every six months.

## **Appendix – Key data on CYP in Kirklees:**

Source – Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment <https://observatory.kirklees.gov.uk/jsna>

### **Our child population:**

There are 101,200 under 18s in Kirklees

66,329 school aged children live in Kirklees

7,600 (1 in 9) children have a special educational need or disability

3 in 10 primary children have English as an additional language

### **Ambition: To be healthy and valued in our community**

77% of 5 year olds and 63% of 10 year olds are a healthy weight

34% of 14 year olds walk or cycle to school

40% of 14 year olds 'worry most days' (64% for LGBT+ young people)

76% of 14 year olds feel in good health (52% for LGBT+ young people)

### **Ambition: To aspire, to achieve and to enjoy childhood**

68% of children achieve a 'good level of development' at the end of reception

The average Attainment 8 score for all Kirklees year 11 young people is 45.3. This drops to 34.7 for children on free school meals and 26.3 for looked after children

96.5% of 16 year olds and 90.5% of 17 year olds are participating in education, employment or training.

2.8% of 16 and 17 year olds were NEET – not in education, employment or training – in December 2018

### **Ambition: To feel safe – in a loving, secure family and a strong, cohesive community**

3 in 4 young people feel safe in their local area (2 in 4 for LGBT+ young people)

16% of 14 year olds said that they had been a victim of crime (31% for LGBT+ young people)

79% of young people have someone to speak to at home (57% for LGBT+ young people)

### **Ambition: To live in a decent home, with enough**

**money.** 1 in 5 schoolchildren are entitled to Free School

Meals; 60,000 Kirklees households live in poverty

18020 children live in poverty – 1 in 5 of the child population

