Wakefield Families Together

We are ambitious for our children and young people. Our Vision is for children and young people to tell us they are happy, healthy and safe, thriving in communities where families and services work together to help them to achieve their potential and dreams.

We want to achieve outcomes where…
- Families are resilient and thrive in their communities
- Every child has the best start in life
- Families have improved emotional and mental well-being
- Children receive inclusive education to transition into further education, employment and adulthood

Successful practice is built on behaviours when we…
- Listen and respond to the voice of a child, young person, their family and each other by using restorative and strength-based approaches
- Are focussed, take ownership and communicate clearly
- Focus on what makes a difference to families - leaving the smallest footprint on their lives

How will we know we’re making a difference?

Families will tell us:
- They can get help easily, know what is happening and are involved in decision making
- Children talk about (we observe) what is different at home, that they feel heard and their wishes and feelings acted on to make things better at home
- We worked together on family plans that they and their support network understand and can carry out with the right intervention

Integrated staff teams tell us:
- Wakefield is a great place to work with opportunities for working creatively
- They feel part of a co-ordinated integrated practice approach, can easily record information and understand each other’s roles, responsibilities and systems
- We have created a learning organisation with the capacity for reflection which leads to practice and service improvement
- We have good two way communication flows where staff are kept informed and can contribute to service improvement

Data will tell us there is:
- Increased appropriate referrals dealt with at the earliest point by the right service/agency
- Decreased statutory intervention and re-referrals
- Increased number of children and particularly teenagers able to stay with their families and thrive
- Reduced school fixed term and permanent exclusions
- Improved school attendance

When designing our service we want…
- An integrated ‘one team, one conversation’ approach that is coordinated and seamless
- Pathways that are accessible and delivered at the earliest point of need
- Learning organisations with a culture to create self-improving services
- Services that are unrestrained by traditional boundaries to access expertise at the point of need
- Sustainable and affordable cluster areas where everyone is invested in making every contact count

We will do this by…

Communicating well with each other and keeping everyone informed

Having one lead worker, one plan

Jointly responding and evidencing that local need is being met by sharing data and information

Using joint tools and approaches for assessments

Using restorative strength-based approaches

Helping families to help themselves through joined up delivery

Doing the basics right

Growing and developing community capacity