

Central
Bedfordshire

great
prospects



Central Bedfordshire Youth Offer 2016

A great place to live and work.

Find us online  www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/youthsupport  @CBYouthVoice

What do we want to achieve with Young People?

Central Bedfordshire Council supports young people achieve their full potential. It works to ensure the needs and wishes of young people are heard, represented and they are supported to achieve personal, social and economic success.



Why do we need a youth offer?

The Council is legally required by the government to have in place and develop a 'youth offer'. A youth offer outlines the range of activities, opportunities and support that young people in Central Bedfordshire should receive. Locally, we have agreed the youth offer should be linked our wider plan for children and young people and include support from others organisations such as the health service, schools and local charities.

What is our offer to Young People?

The council will work with young people and other organisations to secure the following:

- Young people will be supported to **learn** improve their **educational attainment**, make progress and achieve their goals. They will have appropriate knowledge and skills to enter and succeed in their careers
- We will **protect vulnerable young people**. They will feel safe and are happier as a result of the intervention they receive
- Young people will have higher aspirations that are supported by their families. They will be offered a range of services, including **early help and support to improve their life chances**
- Young people will be more positive and feel more **emotionally and physically healthy**. With support, they will be able to make informed choices and understand the impact of the risks they take

How will you know about the offer?

The council will make sure young people have access to information on services by:

- Keeping up to date information on our services on our website and social media www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/youthsupport
- Emailing out regular information on jobs, services and training
- Making sure those who support young people are aware of the services available

If you can't find what you need or want to receive our emails, contact us using the details below and we will be able to help.



How we will know whether the youth offer is working?

The council will work with young people and organisations to ensure it has the best possible youth offer in Central Bedfordshire. This will include:

- A regular check by young people to assess whether our youth offer is working – including meetings with councillors, services and surveys
- We will regularly listen to young people using our services, improve them where we can and let people know when we have done so
- The council will check whether its meeting its targets to support young people, including supporting access education, improving mental health and preventing their involvement in crime

Any questions or want to get involved?

Please contact the Youth Support Service:

By email on Youth.Services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

By phone on 0300 300 6060



What we will offer to young people

Young people will be supported to learn and improve their educational attainment, make progress and achieve their goals. They will have appropriate knowledge and skills to enter and succeed in their careers. This will include:

- Working with schools to ensure they provide better careers education and work experience
- Promoting a range of career options for young people – including apprenticeships
- Secure targeted youth work for those who need it most

We will protect vulnerable young people. They will feel safe and are happier as a result of the intervention they receive. This will include:

- Aiming to provide earlier help and support for those who need it most in order to promote their welfare and protect them from harm
- Support access to accommodation and housing for young people who need it most
- Providing additional support for those who need it most so they can access the right education or training

Young people will have higher aspirations that are supported by their families. They will be offered a range of services, including early help and support to improve their life chances. This will include:

- Securing things to do and places to go (e.g. youth clubs, cultural and leisure activities)
- Help for young people to volunteer and participate in social action
- Secure mentoring projects for those who need it most

Young people will be more positive and feel more emotionally and physically healthy. With support, they will be able to make informed choices and understand the impact of the risks they take. This will include:

- Delivering earlier and timely support for children, young people and families with emerging mental health problems
- Securing access to high quality drugs/alcohol and sexual health services
- Working with schools to ensure they can offer young people a better offer of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

What do we mean by young people who need it most?

Most young people in Central Bedfordshire are able learn, feel safe and have good health. However, some groups may need extra support or be more vulnerable. These could include:

- Young people in care or that have social worker
- Young people in trouble with the police or in the criminal justice system
- Young people who have special educational needs or a disability
- Young people who are seeking asylum or are refugees
- Young people who are homeless
- Young people who are from the gypsy and traveller community
- Young people in poverty or who are socially excluded
- Young people who are pregnant or are parents
- Young people who have caring responsibilities