

Children's Trust
Logo

Effective Parenting

- a strategy for Darlington



An Inclusive Approach

Darlington has a diverse community and we are committed to serving every member of the community to the best of our ability.

The Parenting Strategy is a partnership document that has had regard to equality and diversity issues that may impact on any members of our community for any reason, but particularly because of their age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, ethnicity, religion or belief. A copy of the Equalities Impact Assessment is attached in appendix four.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DRAFT

INTRODUCTION

Being a parent¹ is an important, complex and challenging task and one for which most, if not all, parents feel ill prepared. This is not surprising since parents typically receive little preparatory training or guidance. The recognition that all parents need access to some degree of advice, support or specific help in order to successfully undertake their parenting role is the starting point for this Parenting Strategy.

Nationally the Government, in partnership with local authorities, is working to make sure that parents have access to the support they need, when they need it, so that all children can benefit from confident, positive, nurturing and resilient parenting, from pre-birth right through to the teenage years. The specific role of parents in improving children's life chances is emphasised in the five outcomes introduced in Every Child Matters. Parents who do the following, in a consistent, loving and affirming way, are likely to be providing effective parenting:

1. **Be Healthy** - Parents, carers and families promote healthy choices
2. **Stay Safe** - Parents, carers and families provide safe homes and stability
3. **Enjoy & Achieve** - Parents, carers and families support learning
4. **Make A Positive Contribution** - Parents, carers and families promote positive behaviour
5. **Achieve Economic Well-Being** - Parents, carers and families are supported to be economically active

This Strategy supports these outcomes and is fundamental to the achievement of Darlington Children Services' vision, which is *'to improve the outcomes and maximise the life chances of all children and young people in Darlington by delivering effective, high quality, integrated services'*.

¹ Throughout this Strategy the term 'parents' is used to include mothers, fathers, carers or any other adults who have responsibility for caring for children, including looked after children.

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND TO THE STRATEGY

1.1 Why we need a strategy - 'A Champion for Every Child'

Parenting has a more significant impact on children's achievement than social class or level of education. From pre-birth through to young adulthood, the quality of the relationship, involvement and practical care by parents will impact on the outcomes for each child and can protect a child against multiple disadvantages.

While parents do not want their influence to be undermined by others, approximately 75% of parents nationally say that there are times in their lives when they would like more support. This can range from advice to more structured and intensive interventions. (DfES, 2006)

Many parents in Darlington already benefit from a wide range of parenting support services. Some agencies have long regarded parenting support as core work and have developed specialist programmes and practices (see appendix one). However, not all parents have had access to the services they need.

To address this and respond to an increasing Government emphasis on the importance of parenting support, Darlington's Children and Young People's plan includes a key priority to promote 'good' parenting. The priority is called 'a Champion for Every Child' and is about parents **being responsible** for bringing up their children and **being supported** in doing this.

1.2 The National Agenda on Parenting

There is an increasing body of evidence that parenting has a significant impact on children's life chances, the national agenda draws on this and the continuing research into what sort of parenting is effective and how best to promote this. There is a growing recognition that parenting support should be available at an early stage in the child's life.

The Children Act 2004, which establishes that the five outcomes in Every Child Matters (referred to in the introduction) should be achievable for every child, has support for parents as a crosscutting theme and explicitly requires Local Authorities to have regard to the importance of parents.

The role of parents in achieving the five outcomes has also been emphasised in a raft of other Government legislation and policies:

- *The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services (NSF)* which promotes early intervention to ensure that parents receive information, services and support to help them with their children including ways in which everyone can promote the emotional/mental well-being of children and young people
- *Development of Comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)* which sets out an expectation that specialist CAMHS will contribute to the development of parenting support to ensure the early identification and promotion of emotional and mental well-being for children, young people and their families
- *The Childcare Act 2006*, which places a duty on local authorities from 2008 to deliver accessible information to parents of children and young people up to their twentieth birthday, in order to fulfil their parenting role

- *Children's Centres*, which deliver advice, childcare and family support
- *Extended Schools*, which provide services beyond the school day as part of a core programme of family support
- *The National Healthy Schools programme*, which must engage with parents in order to achieve healthy schools status
- *Targeted Youth Support*, which will be provided for young people with additional needs and co-ordinated by a lead professional
- *The Crime and Disorder Act 1998* which provides parenting orders to support intervention within the youth justice framework
- *The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and Criminal Justice Act 2003*, which provides measures to work through parenting contracts to support local authorities working with parents to improve children's life chances
- *The Respect Action Plan* highlights the importance of preventative work and the need for intensive family support for parents whose children are engaged in anti-social behaviour
- *The Social Exclusion Action Plan* highlights the importance of parenting as a factor in improving outcomes for children.

In October 2006, the DfES published 'Parenting Support: Guidance for Local Authorities in England', which asks local authorities to develop a strategic and joined-up approach to the design and delivery of a continuum of parenting support services, from early intervention through to the use of enforcement measures. The DfES also published 'Every Parent Matters', which clearly identifies the parent support services, which should be available in all local authorities (see appendix two).

1.3 How the Strategy has been developed

The process began in 2004 when Darlington's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership set up a sub-group for parenting. This group began to look at issues around the range and quality of parenting support available in Darlington. Parenting support was later identified as one of the priorities for the Local Preventative Strategy and incorporated into Darlington's Children and Young People's Plan Review 2007 and the Local Authority's Leading Edge Corporate Plan 2007-2010. Parenting is also a priority for the 'Learning and Culture' themed group of Darlington's Local Strategic Partnership.

In June 2007 Darlington Children's Services set up a multi-agency steering group to oversee the production and delivery of a Parenting Strategy. The aim of the group was to enable professional and organisational exploration of cross-directorate and cross-agency understanding of parenting support, act as champions to raise the profile of the parenting strategy and ensure that the parenting agenda is fed into other strategies so that work is not duplicated.

A larger 'working party'/reference group was also established to take a lead in mapping services, raising ideas, exploring principles and providing feedback. Although included in the working party, parents were more widely engaged in the development of this strategy through a series of meetings with the established parent reference groups already operating in the town.

SECTION 2: VISION, PRINCIPLES AND KEY OBJECTIVES

This section outlines the key objectives that will inform the development and delivery of multi-agency parenting support services in Darlington. It also sets out the key underlying principles to guide Darlington's approach to parenting support and promotes a partnership approach as the most effective and sustainable model for creating provision that recognises parents as the first and most important partner

2.1 The Vision

The vision for all services, which affect the life chances of children and young people, is based on the concept of keeping the child at the centre by providing integrated services that are built around the child, the family and the community. It is set out in Darlington's Children and Young People's Plan Review 2007:

'To improve the outcomes and maximise the life chances of all children and young people in Darlington by delivering effective, high quality, integrated services'

Turning this vision into a reality means improving outcomes on a sustainable basis, creating a whole systems approach, which goes beyond the services delivered by the local authority and strengthens universal and preventative services.

2.2 Underpinning Principles

David Quinton (Supporting parents: messages from research, 2004) found that "**how** you work with parents is as important as **what** you do". The agreed principles underpinning the vision and guiding the delivery of parenting support services in Darlington are:

- ✓ Services should build on parents' strengths and recognise the contribution they make to their child's development
- ✓ Service delivery should be based on mutual respect, trust and honesty
- ✓ Services should be solution focused and empowering
- ✓ Services should be flexible to the needs of children and families
- ✓ Services should be age/issue appropriate
- ✓ Services should be accessible to all
- ✓ Services should be non-stigmatising
- ✓ Provision should be evidence based
- ✓ Provision should be equitable across Darlington

2.3 Key Objectives

2.3.1 Actively pursue parental engagement

Services, which value parental involvement and work with the parent, are likely to be more successful. Services need to take active steps to encourage all parents to become involved in their child's development. There are many examples, particularly from Darlington's Children's Centres and schools, where investing time in parental involvement has strengthened service delivery and improved outcomes for children. This good practice needs to be built upon.

In addition, the roll out of 'Transition Information Sessions' (TIS)² for all parents of secondary aged children and the introduction of 'School to Home' support advisers in targeted schools is planned to proactively engage with parents at a school level.

² TIS is a national initiative aimed at engaging parents in discussions about parenting, their role in their children's learning and broaden their access to family support services

2.3.2 Develop a coordinated framework for service delivery

Darlington is adopting a locality approach to the planning & delivery of services to children, young people and families, specifically to enable teams of professionals from different disciplines and sectors to work together in a more coordinated and joined up way. In the context of parenting support services, localities will:

- Assess need and develop a clear strategy for different levels of parenting support provision at each age group (taking into account the 'national menu' described in appendix two)
- Develop parent forums
- Coordinate and publicise provision at a local level
- Work with local agencies to ensure trained staff are supported to deliver
- Develop shared resources at a locality level
- Work with partners to ensure that parents who would most benefit from parenting support services are supported to access them
- Work with schools to evaluate the impact of parenting support on, in particular, behaviour and exclusions and in reducing offending and re-offending
- Develop a practitioner network

2.3.3 Refocus provision on preventative rather than remedial interventions

Support to parents should be available early to prevent them from reaching crisis. Key national/local initiatives planned to achieve this include:

- The development of Darlington's 'Services Directory' to effectively inform & signpost
- The Family Nurse Partnership³
- Targeted Youth Support⁴

In addition, the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), as it comes into use, will focus support on early intervention. Related to this, locality teams, as they are developed, will be able to identify how existing services support early intervention and identify the remodelling, decommissioning and new commissioning that needs to take place to ensure an effective local menu of proactive and accessible parenting support services. This will be an ongoing process of development and refinement and the analysis and delivery will become more sophisticated and more effective over time.

2.3.4 Develop multi-agency working/training

This parenting strategy is relevant to all agencies working with children, young people and families and to all staff working within them. The children's workforce is diverse and includes staff working in a range of agencies and settings including schools, social care, health trusts, connexions, youth offending, the police and education. It is essential to make sure that **all** these staff have the necessary knowledge and skills to be effective.

³ A targeted programme aimed at helping first time parents under 20 years to improve pregnancy outcomes, improve child health & development & future school readiness and achievement and improve parents' economic self-sufficiency.

⁴ A process of securing a support package for young people, who are at risk of not achieving the five Every Child Matters' outcomes, that draws on mainstream and specialist support services and is coordinated by a lead professional

Nationally, the New Occupational Standards for Work with Parents sets out an agreed statement of competence which describes what an effective and competent worker does and needs to know in order to deliver quality in their job. Within Darlington there is a Workforce Development Strategy Group, which is overseeing a programme of change management and staff training to ensure that all staff meet these standards. This activity will underpin the implementation of this parenting strategy.

2.3.5 Provide Quality Assurance of Parenting Support Services

It is important that resources are invested in effective parenting support services, which are supported by an evidence base. In fact there is clear encouragement from Government to consider the use of parenting programmes, which have been **independently** evaluated as effective. The DCFS has funded Parenting UK to create a searchable database⁵ of such programmes to equip those commissioning parenting support services with a greater knowledge of the range of interventions which research and evaluation suggest may be most effective. Many of the parenting support programmes currently being used in Darlington are on this database e.g. Webster-Stratton's 'Incredible Years' and 'Strengthening Families'.

These national programmes have built-in evaluation and feedback mechanisms, but all parenting support services should develop an on-going process of impact monitoring, review and improvement, which involves parents.

In addition, the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) recommends that all parent training / education programmes, whether group or individual based, should:

- Be structured and have a curriculum informed by principles of social learning theory
- Include relationship enhancing strategies
- Offer a sufficient number of sessions, with an optimum of 8-12, to maximise the possible benefit for participants
- Enable parents and carers to identify their own parenting objectives
- Incorporate role-play during sessions, as well as homework to be undertaken between sessions, to achieve generalisation of newly rehearsed behaviours in the home situation
- Be delivered by appropriately trained and skilled facilitators who are supervised, have access to the necessary ongoing professional development, and are able to engage in a productive therapeutic alliance with parents
- Adhere to the programme developer's manual, and employ all of the necessary materials to ensure consistent implementation of the programme.

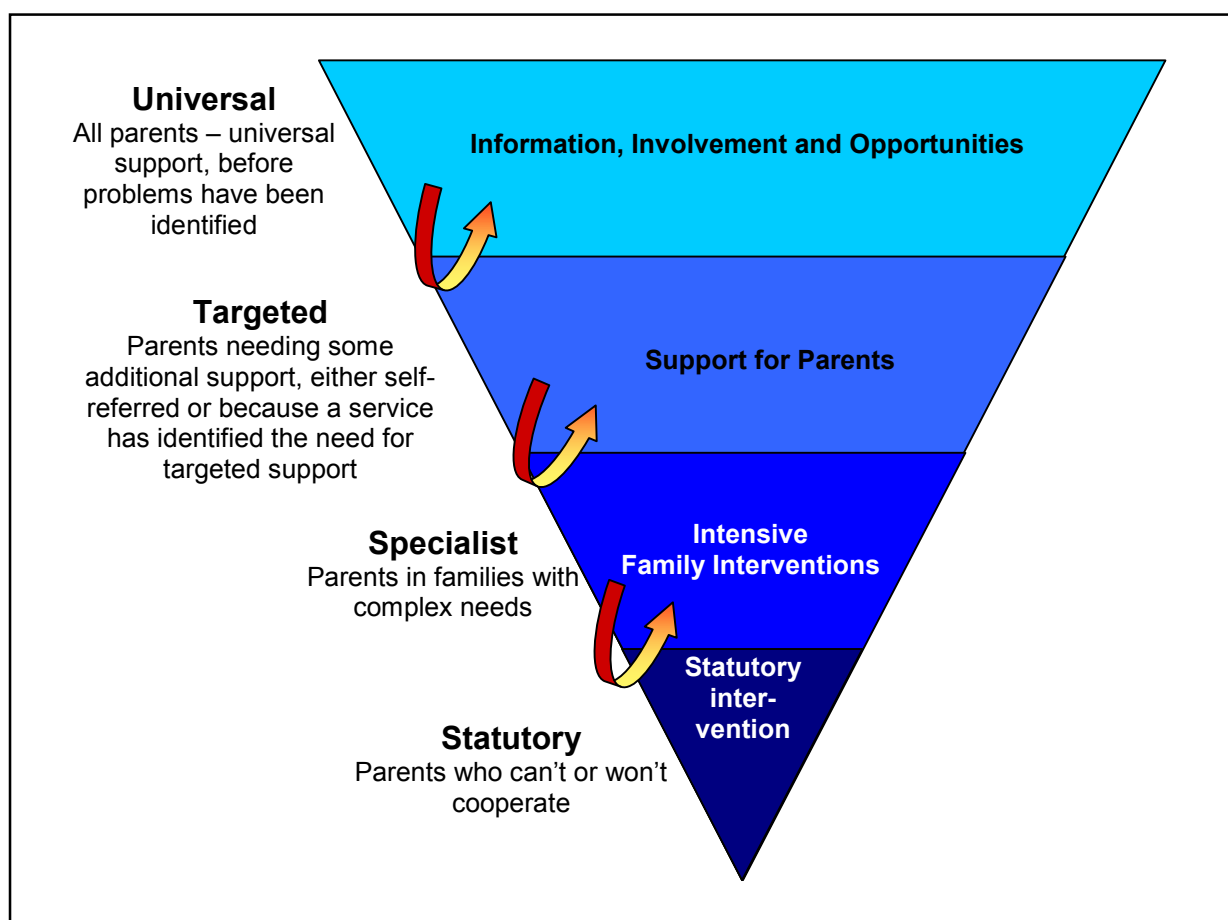
⁵ www.toolkit.parentinguk.org

SECTION 3: ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES, MEETING THE PRINCIPLES

3.1 The Model

An underpinning principle identified for all work with parents is that all children, young people and families are entitled to access services on the basis of need. This strategy identifies four broad levels of need, and aims, through its key objectives, to provide a menu of appropriate support and intervention at each level. The levels are not exclusive – some work strands impact on more than one level and families might use a range of services across different levels, and might need different types of support at different stages of their child’s life.

Model/Framework of Support



3.2 Work Streams

3.2.1 Actively Pursue Parental Engagement

Ref no.	How Delivered	Milestones	Lead Officer
1	Identify examples of good practice and disseminate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examples of good practice on consultation/engagement with parents collected from all agencies 2. Directory of good practice compiled 3. Directory circulated and discussed at practitioner network 	Parenting Coordinator
2	National Healthy School roll out	<i>See Darlington's National Healthy Schools Action Plan</i>	Locality Development Manager

3	Roll out of Transition Information Sessions (TIS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Content/ format of TIS agreed with Head Teachers, Choice Adviser, family learning 2. Sessions take place during summer term 2008 and each year thereafter 	Assistant Director - School Effectiveness /Parenting Coordinator
4	Introduction of 'School to Home' Support Advisers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholders meet to discuss opportunity in Sept 2007 2. Pilot School Cluster (inc. funding) identified by Dec 2007 3. Advisers appointed by Feb 2008 4. Pilot runs for 3 years 5. Evaluation of pilot 	Parenting Coordinator
5	Locality parent forums	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing children's centre parenting groups expanded to cover full age range by April 2008 2. Groups meet at least termly 	Children's Centre Managers / Locality Coordinators

3.2.2 Develop a coordinated framework for service delivery

Ref no.	How Delivered	Milestones	Lead Officer
6	Identify a single Parenting Commissioner	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Trust appoint a Parenting Commissioner by April 2008 2. GONE informed of appointment 	Director of Children's Services
7	Recruit a parenting coordinator	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job description developed by Nov 07 2. JD thro' Job Evaluation by Dec 07 3. Coordinator recruited by Feb 2008 	Assistant Director – Partnerships
8	Roll out Locality working	See LAA product and Locality Working Strategy	Assistant Director – Partnerships / Locality Development Manager
9	Commission local parenting support services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of services provided on a topic/age basis 2. Analysis of need across universal, targeted and specialist levels 3. Analysis of funding/value for money 4. Specify new services required 5. Procure new services / decommission old services 	Parenting Coordinator
10	Develop a parents charter setting out responsibilities across all agencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Content researched 2. Draft charter consulted upon through practitioner forum and parents forums 3. Charter adopted through Children's Trust 	Parenting Coordinator
11	Review agency communications with parents and develop a framework / set standards for communication	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current practice researched 2. Standards developed 3. Draft standards consulted upon 4. Framework/standards agreed by practitioner forum & implemented 5. Impact reviewed 	Parenting Coordinator

3.2.3 Refocus provision on preventative rather than remedial interventions

Ref no.	How Delivered	Milestones	Lead Officer
12	CAF roll out	See <i>CAF Implementation Plan</i>	CAF Project Manager
13	'Menu' of Locality Services including provision to support emotional well-being and preventing offending and anti-social behaviour	See <i>LAA product / Locality Working Strategy / Emotional Well-Being Implementation Plan</i>	Locality Development Manager / CAMHS Strategy & Commissioning Lead / YOS Manager
14	Services Directory	See <i>C&YP's Plan Review 2007</i>	Head of Performance
15	Family Nurse Partnership	See <i>Family Nurse Partnership project plan</i>	Family Nurse Project Lead
16	Targeted Youth Support	See <i>Targeted Youth Support plan</i>	Head of Youth Service

3.2.4 Develop multi-agency working/training

Ref no.	How Delivered	Milestones	Lead Officer
17	Development of generic staff training packages	See <i>Workforce Development Action Plan</i>	Workforce Development Manager
18	Develop a Darlington-wide practitioner forum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practitioners from all sectors identified 2. First meeting takes place in April 2008 3. Purpose of meetings clarified & agreed (i.e. sharing best practice and professional development) 4. Subsequent meetings take place on at least a quarterly basis 	Parenting Coordinator
19	Pooled funding for parenting services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Levels of resourcing required for effective town-wide service delivery identified 2. Current parenting resources across all agencies identified 3. Joint budgets negotiated through Children's Trust by Dec 08 	Parenting Coordinator/ Director of Children's Services

3.2.5 Provide Quality Assurance of Parenting Support Services

Ref no.	How Delivered	Milestones	Lead Officer
20	Develop Darlington 'quality standards' for work with parents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research any existing QA schemes for work with parents e.g. Youth Justice Board standards 2. Working through practitioner & parent forums, adopt / develop quality standards for work with parents in Darlington including key outcomes and performance measures. 3. Link to Parents Charter 4. Publicise 	Parenting Coordinator

3.3 Sponsorship and Coordination

Through this strategy, Darlington will have a 'Single Parenting Commissioner' who will have responsibility for assessing the need for parenting support, identifying gaps in services and for ensuring that parenting support is appropriately reflected in the Children and Young People's Plan.

There will also be a coordinator to work across Darlington, who will drive the overall parenting strategy development and support the delivery of the different work streams. In particular, s/he will coordinate service provision across the full range of delivery agents.

Both the Commissioner and Coordinator will be supported by a strategic Parenting Steering Group, which is already established and whose role is to monitor and evaluate the implementation and development of the parenting strategy. (See appendix three)

3.4 Resources

As mentioned in section one of this document, some agencies have long regarded parenting support as core work and there are many specialist programmes already being delivered in Darlington. An important element of this strategy is to gain a comprehensive overview of the resources currently being deployed for this parenting work and review these in the context of a coordinated locality 'menu' of provision, looking for synergy in its delivery and best value. The ultimate aim is to establish a pooled budget to support the multi-agency delivery of a comprehensive and coordinated network of parenting support in the town.

In addition to the existing funding streams, the Local Authority has received a £40,000 grant from the DfES to support the development of its parenting strategy. 'School to Home UK', a national charity has also made a bid to the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for approximately £90k to support a four year pilot. Other funding opportunities, e.g. lottery-funding, will also be sought as and when appropriate.

3.5 Management Information and Performance Measures

Performance Measures		Linked Delivery Strand
1		2
2		3
3		4
4		

Importantly, the performance measures will be further developed and informed through the work with the parent forums on their desired outcomes for the parenting support available in the town.

APPENDIX ONE - Table of existing provision

(Developed by practitioners at a 'Working Party' event on 4 May 2007).

Pre Birth		
Universal	Targeted	Specialist
Ante natal classes in hospital	Ante-natal classes through Children's Centres	
	Targeted antenatal & post natal support for hard to reach & vulnerable families (Liz Robinson)	
	Ante-natal breast feeding workshops, aqua natal, exercise, physiotherapy through Children's Centres	
	Accredited breast feeding peer support programme	
	Smoking Cessation thro Children's Centres	
	Antenatal and post natal support service for young parents thro children's centres	

0-5 Years		
Universal	Targeted	Specialist
Incredible Years through Children's Centres	Incredible Years through Children's Centres	Info re drug, alcohol and homelessness thro' First Stop
Carers Assessment Via Adult Social Services	Info re drug, alcohol and homelessness thro' First Stop	Family Intervention Programme (FIP)
Solihull Approach via Health Visitors	Trips, shows through Mc Nay St CC	Parenting classes and counselling via YOS Prevention
1-1 Health Visiting	Baby massage, stay & play & toy library thro' Children's Centres	Parenting classes for drug using parents
Book start (0-4)	Baby & Toddler group, music box and sure shots cooking thro' Children's Centres	Portage service & Autism support
Webster Stratton via DBC and Health Visitors	Webster Stratton via DBC and Health Visitors	Parent Partnership Service (support for families who have children with additional needs)
Baby Rhyme time	Ed Psych support for parents of children with SEN & complex needs	Health Visitor
Family Learning	Nursery nurse/ Early Years Practitioner 1-1 support	Family Learning Intensive support (5-11)
Story Sacks	Child development team at Harewood House	
Toy Library	Visually & hearing impaired service	
Free & Supported Access to information through Libraries	Time out (SEN) through Early Years	
Parents Evenings	Targeted family numeracy (3-11)	

5-11 Years		
Universal	Targeted	Specialist
Webster Stratton via DBC and Health Visitors (5-11)	Targeted family numeracy (3-11)	CAMHS
Family Learning (5-11)	Incredible Years through Children's Centres & Health Visitors (3-8)	Family Learning Intensive support (5-11)
Story Sacks	WSPG – Yvonne Watson	Parent Partnership Service (support for families who have children with additional needs)
Toy Library	Ed Psych support for parents of children with SEN & complex needs	Parent counselling (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Maths days & weeks with parent	Visually & hearing impaired service	CAMHS - WSPG
Football Academy (5-11)	Home Educated access to library – supported access to information and education resources	Family mediation (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Free & Supported Access to information through Libraries	Webster Stratton via DBC and Health Visitors	Parenting Service, 1-1 or group (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Parents Evenings	Ed Psych support for parents of children with SEN & complex needs	

11- 16 Years		
Universal	Targeted	Specialist
Family Learning	Ed Psych support for parents of children with SEN & complex needs	Family mediation (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Super Nanny – Kym Cheeseman	Strengthening families Programme at Eastbourne & PRU	Strengthening families Programme at Eastbourne & PRU
Free & Supported Access to information through Libraries	Visually & hearing impaired service	Parenting Service, 1-1 or group (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
BBC RAW – literacy and reading promotion with adults with low literacy levels	Home Educated access to library – supported access to information and education resources	Support/advocate for parents via Children's Services
	Mobility Gaming Club – strategy gaming (an opportunity to share enthusiasm)	Belgrave Street
		Parent Partnership Service (support for families who have children with additional needs)
		Counselling service via Children's Services
		'SWITCH' (informal)

16 – 25 Years		
Universal	Targeted	Specialist
BBC RAW – literacy and reading promotion with adults with low literacy levels	Young parents floating support	Family mediation (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Family Learning	Grace Court – young parents supported housing	Parenting Service, 1-1 or group (5-18) for children at risk of ASB, Substance misuse thro' YOS
Work-based learning		Parent Partnership Service (support for families who have children with additional needs)
Free & Supported Access to information through Libraries		

Appendix Two - Parenting Support Services, 'a national menu'

What	By when	Relevant Service Plan
For parents whose child is excluded from school, a new duty to ensure that their child is not in a public place for the first five days of the exclusion <i>Local authorities will have new powers under the Education and Inspections Act on excluded pupils and parenting contracts and orders</i>	Sept 07	Behaviour & Attendance 07/08 Plan
For children and young people in secondary schools, access to the SEAL programme	Sept 07	/NHSS action plan
For all 5 and 11 year olds, a free book	Autumn 07	
For parents and carers with literacy and numeracy needs, a pack will be available to help them support their children's learning <i>Local authorities will have access to packs for local parents and carers with literacy and numeracy needs</i>	Autumn 07	
For parents and carers with literacy and numeracy needs, availability of a Family Learning course <i>Family Learning course for parents and carers with literacy and numeracy needs will be available to local authorities</i>	Autumn 07	
All parents increasingly likely to be offered information sessions around the time their child enters primary and secondary school	Early 2008	Parenting Strategy/ Transition Strategy
Parents more likely to find the childcare place they need once the childcare sufficiency duty and offer of brokering childcare places starts	April 08	Early Years Service Plan
Vulnerable young people will receive targeted support	April 08	TYS Implementation Plan
Parents can be more certain of a quality childcare place with the introduction of voluntary Ofsted Childcare Register	April 08	Early Years Service Plan
Children 0-5 in childcare and early education will receive the Early Years Foundation Stage	Sept 08	Early Years Service plan
Parents can be assured of their child's safety in settings when the Vetting and Barring scheme comes into force	Sept 08	Early Years Service Plan
Parents of children and young people from birth – 19 years will have access to a full range of information on parenting and local services from their Children's Information Service	2008	Early Years Service Plan
All parents increasingly likely to have access to Parent Support Adviser through their extended schools	2008	Parenting Strategy
All families with children under 5 have access to Sure Start Children's Centres, 3,500 centres – one in every community	2010	Early Years Service Plan
All families able to access extended services through their children's school	2010	LAA/Integrated Working Strategy
All families with children aged three and four able to access 15 hours of free early education and childcare, 38 weeks of the year, over three or more days.	2010	Early Years Service Plan

Appendix Three - The Strategic Parenting Group

Membership

Name	Role
Paula Akers	Children's Fund Manager
Mervyn Bell	Youth Service
Mark Cain	CAMHS
Elaine Clarke	Safeguarding children coordinator
Jo Dawson	General Manager for CAMHS Community Services for T,E & WV
Tracy Freeman	Project Coordinator, First Stop
Julie Garnett	Principal Education Social Worker
Lynne Henderson	Acting Head of Early Years
Christine Jones	Locality Development Manager
Lynn Kilpatrick	Connexions
Sharon Lissaman	PEP Manager of Early Identification and Intervention Services
Heather Long	Primary Strategy Manager
Linda Oliver	Health Visitor
Tracy Spledding	CAMHS Team Manager for Darlington & Stockton
Justine Stewart	Workforce Development Manager
Mary Sweeney	FIP Project Manager
Rita Taylor	YOS
Rob Thompson	Secondary Strategy Manager
Donna Thorne	Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator
Chris Thwaites	DAD
Jen Todd	Targeted Team
Gill Walker	Assistant Director - Partnerships & Integration
Lucy Wheatley	Children's Services Lead (PCT)
	Parenting Coordinator
	Extended Schools Coordinator
	Secondary School Rep
	Primary School Rep

Parents will be represented on the above through established groups (e.g. DAD, those engaged with the Youth Offending Service, PTAs) and the proposed locality parent forums which will build on the Children's Centres' parents groups

Role

- Ensuring that universal & targeted parenting support is inclusive & accessible to all parents
- Supporting the parenting coordinator and agree the work plan
- Enabling professional, personal and organisational exploration of cross-directorate and cross-agency understanding of parenting support
- Ensuring the promotion and development of joint learning, working an training
- Promoting the involvement of parents/carers in planning and evaluation of services relevant to parenting
- Acting as champions and raise the profile of parenting strategy
- Ensuring that the parenting strategy agenda is fed into other strategies so that work is not duplicated
- Determining priorities according to need
- Advising on priorities for spending
- Monitoring the local implementation

The work of the Strategic Parenting Group will be overseen by Darlington's Parenting Commissioner and will report to the Children's Trust.

Appendix Four- Equalities Impact Assessment

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