

Vision

Giving children and young people a great start in life

Goals

Safety and well-being

All Children and young people are protected from harm, both physical and mental

High standards

All Children and young people can access high-quality provision and achieve their potential

Equity

Access to education and training is fair. All vulnerable Children and young people receive extra support to overcome barriers to their achievement

Preparation for adult life

Young people embark on their chosen career path at 19+ with the qualifications, skills and character to contribute to regional and national economy

Priorities

1 Drive sustainable school improvement

- Support schools' improvement in teaching and learning and leadership practice, under the direction of the Herefordshire School Improvement Partnership (HSIP)
- Work collaboratively with NLES, teaching schools and HSIP to ensure there is high quality professional development across the county which meets identified areas of need
- Align council statutory functions and IT systems so that schools and settings can access the support they need to be set up for success

2 Strengthen leadership

- Support governors and external agencies such as DfE, RSC's office and Ofsted to prevent under performance, help all schools and settings to improve and to tackle chronic under performance

3 Embed clear accountability

- Provide leaders, especially governors, with clear information to help them to hold schools and settings to account
- Develop existing risk assessment procedures to include post - 16 so that there is a clear understanding of performance across all phases

4 Support and protect vulnerable children

- Champion fair access to education and training for vulnerable Children and young people and challenge unsatisfactory practice
- Improve existing partnership working with multi-agencies so that there is a joined up approach to support for Children and young peoples, particularly around their mental health
- Review our strategy to improve SEN and disabilities provision
- Work with external partners, such as the Home Office to protect Children and young people from radicalisation

5 Embed the early years strategy

- Create an approach that supports the autonomy of early years settings and providers, particularly around workforce development

6 Ensure access to quality places where they are needed

- Deliver x new places at primary and x at secondary to meet demand

7 Focus on the 16-19 education and skills agenda

- Develop provision in technical level qualifications so that outcomes match those at A-level
- Adapt NEETs strategy so that the number of young people in education or employment with training is well above national average
- Champion employability by working with schools and FE providers on a county careers strategy which compliments a broad, empowering, creative curriculum

Principles

Supported autonomy for schools and settings

Children and young people first

Top quartile performance

High expectation for every child

Impact measure: Is the HC Strategy leading to improvements in outcomes for children and young people?