What How does the Prevention Service approach work for families?

Building on the existing North Yorkshire model for Developing Stronger Families, the new service delivery has a number of key elements:

- a **lead worker** for every family who will get to grips with the family’s problems and work intensively with them to change their lives for the better and for the long term.

- a **single whole family assessment**, addressing the needs of all individuals and how they impact upon that family as a whole;

- a **single family plan** to address the needs identified and signed up to by each member of that family;

- a **restorative approach** that underpins all aspects of implementation and practice.

Each family will be treated individually and be at the centre of their plan.

If you are aware of a family who you feel would benefit from the Prevention Service please see the Children and Families : Prevention page on the NYCC website for details of the relevant Area Prevention Manager for your district.

**Who is involved?**

The Children and Families Service : Prevention is part of North Yorkshire County Council’s Children and Young People’s Service. However, due to the cross cutting nature and the individual needs of each family, all agencies have a contributory role to play in delivering change. These include:

- Schools, academies, pupil referral services, early years settings and providers,
- Children and Families service: Children’s Social Care
- Health and Adult services,
- District councils
- Community safety teams
- Housing services and social landlords
- All Health professionals, commissioners and providers
- North Yorkshire Police
- North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner
- Youth Justice Service
- Jobcentre plus
- Employment & training services,
- Local Enterprise Partnerships
- Drug and alcohol treatment providers
- Domestic abuse support services
- National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Companies
- Other voluntary and community sector providers

**“Offering early help for children, young people and families”**

**Stronger together**
What is Children and Families : Prevention?

North Yorkshire County Council has launched a new Prevention Service. This brings together a range of preventative work previously undertaken by separate services, to create a single service which:
- operates seamlessly throughout the 0-19 age range;
- eliminates duplication, unnecessary and unhelpful transitions for families;
- has a new delivery model, and a greater capacity to deliver early help in a more targeted way to children, young people and families;
- is co-located with the new Healthy Child Teams (5-19)

The Prevention Service Vision:

“Families in North Yorkshire are able to access readily a range of support to ensure that their children are safe, happy and well, and that they can flourish at school and in the wider world”.

What is the aim of the Prevention Service?
The ultimate aim of the service is to reduce the numbers of children and young people requiring more intensive and costly interventions. By providing timely and effective responses, we can prevent difficulties escalating to Children’s Social Care and other crisis led services.

How is the Prevention service different to what previously existed?
The new arrangements not only bring existing 0-19 services together but also work differently in ensuring that the learning, delivery model and required outcomes from the local Developing Stronger Families programme is mainstremed. The 12 county wide Area Prevention Teams will work on a whole family strengths based approach which is responsive to the needs of families, including early mornings, evenings and weekends as necessary.

What will the Prevention Service target?
Supporting all three of the priorities in NYCCs strategic plan “Young and Yorkshire” namely:
- that education is the greatest liberator for children, no matter where they live or what their home circumstances are;
- that the number of children looked after by the authority are reduced safely;
- that more children and young people lead healthy lifestyles

the Prevention Service will focus on:
- school attendance
- those not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Children’s Centre Offer and 0-19 programmes
- young people in Pupil Referral Units
- the six Developing Stronger Families criteria
- children and young people who are Missing
- those at risk of child sexual exploitation
- parenting
- Young people with risky behaviours

Why is the change in approach needed?
Research and experience internationally, nationally and locally shows that many families find working with multiple agencies often intrusive and confusing. Duplication of assessments with different individual services working on single issues does not effectively lead to the whole family engagement needed to achieve lasting results that change the lives and situations of families.

The Prevention Service will provide support for all the difficulties within the family as a whole, and where a young person shows reluctance to involve wider family members, it will seek to reach a position where consent to do so is obtained as soon as possible.

One family, one plan, one worker

How will the Prevention Service work with other agencies?
The Prevention Service will work with our partner agencies to provide a co-ordinated multi-agency response to ensure support is there at the right time, and in a way that best meets the needs of children, young people and families.

As a result, key services can effectively, form part of a streamlined, cohesive package of support. Collaboration and partnership will be at the forefront and support will be co-ordinated by one worker.