

Hillingdon Youth Justice Service draft Plan - 2024-2029

Introduction

This plan is all about how Hillingdon wants to help children and young people between 10 and 18 years old lead happier lives. We want to make things fair, safe, and fun for everyone. We believe every child and young person has the right to be heard, supported, and given a chance to shine.

We are excited to share our plan to make Hillingdon a better place for children. Our mission is to create a safe and fair community where every child and young person is listened to and supported.

Over the years, we have learned a lot about how to help children and young people stay out of trouble, and we want to use that knowledge to make a big difference.

We will be working with lots of different groups to help children, young people and their families. By offering help early, we can try and stop problems from getting worse. We are big believers in restorative justice, which means helping everyone affected by crime to heal and understand each other better.



Our Goals

1

Prevention and Early Intervention

We believe it is important to help children and young people before things get bad. We will work with schools, families, and communities to provide support and activities that keep children and young people out of trouble.

2

Fairness and Inclusion

We want everyone to have the same chances. That means making sure children and young people from all backgrounds get the help they need. We also want to make sure no groups of children and young people are treated unfairly.

3

Child-Centred Practice

Children and young people know best what they need. We are making sure we listen and involve children and young people in decisions that affect their lives. This helps us provide the right kind of support.

4

Reducing Re-offending

If someone makes a mistake, we help them learn from it. We offer programs that teach children and young people new skills and ways to stay out of trouble in the future.

5

Victims and Restorative Justice

We support victims of crime and help them heal. We also teach children and young people who have committed a crime about the impact of their actions and help them make things right.



What does Restorative Justice mean?

Restorative justice is a way to focus on repairing the harm caused, rather than just punishing children and young people who commit an offence.

How have we been doing over the past five years?

First Time Entrants

We have helped lower the number of children getting into trouble for the first time.

We are working hard to help those who have offended not to do it again.

Re-offending

Custody

Fewer children are being sent to custody.



How will we know we have achieved our goals?

Prevention and Early Intervention

- Make sure we spot any problems or risks early on.
- Work closely with others to help children and young people as soon as possible.
- Have fewer children and young people getting into trouble for the first time.
- Have fewer children and young people being suspended or expelled from school.

- Creating a plan to make things fairer with the help of children, families, community groups, and other teams that we work with.

- More training for everyone to understand and stop unfair treatment and to respect different cultures.

- More help for children and young people with additional needs and characteristics.

- Fewer children and young people from certain groups, especially Black and mixed heritage, getting into the justice system.

- More trust in the justice system from children, families, and communities who feel things are unfair.

- Work together with community groups to address unfair treatment.

Fairness and Inclusion

Child-Centred Practice

- We promise to keep training workers so they understand how to put children and young people first.

- Teach speech and language skills to more people, like judges, and give extra training to local police and youth justice staff.

- Make sure we listen to children and young people more to help shape our services.

- Build stronger connections with colleges and schools in Hillingdon.

- Work together better to stop suspensions and exclusions and create more chances for children and young people who need extra help.

- Have more education, training, and employment options available for children and young people.

- Gather more feedback from children and young people about their experiences with the police, in court, and with the youth justice service.

- Keep reducing the number of children and young people who get into trouble again.
- Provide more help during important times, like leaving custody or becoming an adult.
- Work better with youth custody services to make sure children and young people get the right help while in custody.

Reducing Re-offending

Victims and Restorative Justice

- Make sure we stay in touch with victims and keep them involved.
- Make it easier to collect and share information about how well our programs are working, including stories from people involved.
- Keep giving support for restorative justice to other services we work with.
- Ensure that activities to repair the harm to the victim is clearly connected to the offence, helping children and young people make amends to victims.
- Review and improve programs that teach about victims' feelings and safety, with help from the Restorative Justice team.
- Share the best ways to keep victims safe.

Conclusion

This plan is all about making Hillingdon a better place for children and young people. By working together, listening to children/young people, and providing the right support, we believe we can create a community where everyone can thrive. We are excited about what happens next and we are going to work hard to make Hillingdon a safer and happier place for everyone.



what do you think of this strategy? We want to hear your views!

Click on the QR code to complete our survey!



**Thank you to the children and young people that
designed this strategy!**

