

We also make sure we consult with and involve children, young people and their parents and carers in developing and evaluating the projects.

Consultation and Participation

The CCF's Consultation and Participation Officer works with projects to develop the involvement of children and their families, and uses their feedback as a basis for improving services.

Evaluation

Educari is the independent evaluator appointed to evaluate all the projects and identify effective practices.

Membership and structure

The Partnership is made up of representatives of statutory, voluntary sector and community organisations. It is chaired by an Assistant Director from Camden Council's Education Department. Each project has a steering group made up of stakeholders including parents. Some projects have children's advisory groups.



For more information contact:

Olivia Vincenti,
Camden Children's Fund Programme Manager
(020) 7974 8041 or (020) 7974 8043
olivia.vincenti@camden.gov.uk
<http://www.camdenet.org.uk/groups/ccf>



This leaflet has been put together to explain what the Camden Children's Fund actually is. It's aimed at child-care professionals and families alike. We hope you find it useful.

Background

Camden Children's Fund was set up in 2001 as part of the Government's strategy to tackle child poverty and social exclusion. It works at stopping problems before they start for 5-13 year olds, and is recognised as making a real difference to the lives of the children, young people and families involved in the projects.

0-4 years.	5-13 years	13-19 years
Sure Start	Children's Fund	Connexions

The Camden Children's Fund is based on the kind of services proposed in the Green Paper 'Every Child Matters'. The challenge now is to adapt to the fact that additional funding will not always be available.

Objectives

The goal is to ensure that we can pick up on early signs of difficulty, find out what's wrong, and provide children and young people who have experienced difficulties with the help they need.

The plan is that doing this will lead to reductions in truancy, improvements in educational performance, reductions in youth crime and antisocial behaviour, health improvement, more use of services by commonly excluded groups and more involvement of service users and the community in service delivery.

Core principles

- Focus on those children, young people and families most at risk of getting left behind by society.
- Work together with those services that already exist, and introduce new services where necessary.
- Get children and their families involved in making the programme work for them.
- Treat the voluntary sector as equal partners.
- Provide culturally appropriate services which are sensitive to individual needs.



The projects

There are seven projects in place. This is a brief summary of what they each do.

'Our House' Homeless Families Project

Supports children living in temporary accommodation in Camden and works to ensure children have access to schools, health and leisure facilities.

Primary Schools Project

Develops methods for identifying early signs of difficulty and provides comprehensive support packages.

'Fusion' Inclusive Play Project

Inclusive holiday play project for young people aged 11-13 who have physical disabilities, learning difficulties or health problems.

Somali Supplementary Schools Project

Supports a network of supplementary schools to raise the educational achievement of young Somali people.

'Peace of Mind' Somali Mental Health Project

Supports Somali parents to help with children's emotional and educational needs.

Junior Youth Inclusion Programme

Reduces social exclusion and anti-social behaviour among those 8-12 year olds identified as being at risk of offending, provides after-school and holiday structured activities and helps keep young people in school.

Restorative Justice Project

Delivers peer mediation training (training young people to sort out other young people's quarrels) and commissions family group conferences to help families help their young people take responsibility for their actions. The project will also focus on reducing bullying within the community.

