

## SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

### Children’s Service Plan Consultation February 2017

In February 2017 an on-line consultation was carried out by South Ayrshire Council to seek the views of children, young people and parents / carers about proposed children’s services priorities and which services were most important to improve for children and young people.

A total of 353 responses to the survey were received, just over half (56%) from parents / carers, and 40% from children and young people aged 7 – 25.

**Table 1. Number of Respondents**

<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Parent/Carer	199	56
Child (7-11 years old)	46	13
Young Person (12-16 years old)	76	22
Young Person (17-25 years old)	19	5
Not Known	13	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **Children’s Service Plan Priorities**

Almost all children, young people and parents / carers agreed with the five priorities. There was a small amount of disagreement (7%) amongst parents / carers.

1. Ensure South Ayrshire children get the best start in life, it is the best place to grow up and all children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.
2. Reduce the gap in outcomes between the most deprived and least deprived children and young people in South Ayrshire.
3. Ensure children and young people who are looked after or are care leavers are cared for and supported to improve their life experiences and life chances.
4. Ensure children and young people are supported to achieve and maintain good emotional and physical wellbeing.
5. Ensure children and young people have a voice in influencing service delivery that affects their lives.

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**Table 2. Respondents Agreement with Children’s Integrated Service’s Plan Priorities by Age / Parent Category**

Respondents	Agree Number	Agree %	Disagree Number	Disagree %	No response Number	No Response %
Parent/Carer	184	92	14	7	1	1
Child (7-11 years old)	45	98			1	2
Young Person (12-16 years old)	76	100				
Young Person (17-25 years old)	18	95	1	5		
Not Known	13	100				
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

#### Comments about the Priorities

##### Children Aged 7-11 years

Some adults could listen to our opinion more  
 I agree but there are a lot of bad and scary people in South Ayrshire that are mean to children and treat them bad  
 It will be good for the fortunate and the un-fortunate

##### Young People Aged 12 – 16 Years

Children should be treated equally, not nastily, no matter race, gender or amount of money  
 I think these points are reasonable  
 Would be better if you could specify how progress can be made on these issues  
 Increase resources  
 Very good policies - could display in schools  
 Be more specific as to the exact actions you are going to carry out to achieve these.

##### Young People Aged 17 – 25 Years

Great priorities

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#### Parent / Carer Comments about Priorities

Parent comments included health issues, ensuring the correct goals and actions for children were developed, early intervention, nurture, environmental learning and outdoor play/activities, working with parents, and children's voice.

#### Individual parent / carer comments

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Children should always be heard and given chances to voice their opinion. Able to speak to someone with their best interest met. Named person will be good for vulnerable children.

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We should not "Reduce the gap in outcomes between the most deprived and least deprived children and young people in South Ayrshire". To meet this goal all we need to do is reduce the outcomes of the more privilege. The Gap is immaterial. We should be "increasing the outcomes for the most deprived and least deprived children".

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I have experienced cancer and I am a single parent and had to basically fight the council and social services for transport for my two children. Schools should be more aware how illness can effect a family and offer more support.

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What is lacking from children today is respect for the environment and persons in authority. Quite how you tackle this with the influences of social media etc. I do not know, however I believe that this should be made a priority for our elected officials.

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The priority for children with additional support needs is missing

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Early intervention is very important to ensure children have the opportunity to thrive and reduce the social gap.

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I feel nurture groups should be introduced to all schools and nurseries in South Ayrshire.

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Continued cuts to support staff in schools does not offer children the best support to reach their potential. Long waiting list for CAMHS my son has been waiting for 7 months for a follow up appointment due to a shortage of staff.

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I feel point number 4 should be a higher priority.

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Provided the young people get a chance to have their voice heard and recognised by those making the policies.

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Want best for everyone. Large group of pupils in the middle grey area who get no support etc

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I agree with these priorities and would suggest that in order to fulfil them attention is given to increasing the facilities for outdoor play/activities within South Ayrshire. Particularly in relation to emotional and physical wellbeing, and in consideration to the increasing number of young people facing mental health issues.

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While I think it important to support children in deprived areas or children who are in care I feel that all children should be encouraged and supported to achieve to the best of their ability and

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potential

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My son has one goal..... to get out of South Ayrshire/the UK as soon as he is old enough, as there are no prospects for young people here, the future lies in other countries and I wholeheartedly encourage him, which is a shame!

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Plus the biggest priority should be .....

Schools and services fully involving and working WITH parents and families to help their children achieve the best start in life and to help keep it on track instead of the devious mismanaged named person information sharing amongst 'professionals' .....

We are as parents professionals of our own children and as such should be respected and treated every bit as much as 'professionals' as school and services are.

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I agree with priorities - but need to know how they'll be implemented.

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Ensure that there are services to meet those needs; voluntary as well as statutory

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number 1 is a statement and cannot be made without comparison ! does not make sense!!

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Particular focus on mental wellbeing... without labels.

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There is nothing here you would disagree with in your aims. The problem with underachieving children is at home. Unemployment, low income jobs, poverty, low self esteem and low life expectations. These are National issues which council can't influence much. However I agree with what your trying to do.

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More funding available for areas that are not deprived.

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These priorities have nothing to do with reality and the nitty gritty of real life. Totally unrealistic. They turn schools into social work departments and less to do with education. Hence the decline in standards of learning.

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Some of the statements are too broad and/or a little vague. ie gap in outcomes what outcomes, this could cover a huge area. Think no 5 should be No 1.

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I fully agree with the comments listed above, however I don't believe that these are being actioned. What do the school do when they think a child is not achieving their full potential? What exactly are the targets for service delivery? Are there KPI's, should there be a service delivery meeting involving children, parents and the service provider. What are the consequences of not meeting targets. Who is answerable? How are the comments in statement 1 measured?

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bad okey

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disagree with Point 5 [Priority 5]

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Although some of the deprived children have parents on full benefits that earn more money a month including free rent that 2 parents that are working over 30hrs a week. They just choose to spend their money elsewhere.

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Schools whose catchment areas cover the most deprived areas should not be measured in the same way as those whose catchment areas are least deprived. Success should not only be measured on exam results.

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children's mental health should be a priority along with their nutritional status to ensure they are able to learn

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Stop giving children labels and appropriate agencies involved with the children to support the children more instead of windgin about budgets and lack of shortfall in budgets that supposedly prevent the children get the necessary help they require

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I would like to see more emphasis on those young people with additional support needs

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I agree with points 1-5 above. I would also like to see a 'positive destinations' priority added for school leavers. Closing the poverty related gap must followed up with opportunities for young people to apply their skills and obtain employment/further education, otherwise all of the good work will be in vain.

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I agree with all the above except the premise that children should help decide how the services are delivered. Whilst they should be consulted on effectiveness to allow constant change, the very state of being a child means that they cannot have the maturity to decide correctly how the service should be structured and delivered.

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Priority has to be the disparity in income related educational opportunities

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Not sure. I know this is what the Scottish government is constantly going on about but I think The problems start in the home. There should be More responsibility from parents. Extending childcare is not the answer young children will spend even less time with their parents. Putting more responsibility onto schools puts too much stress on teachers and staff and doesn't tackle the problems at home.

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These are standard GIRFEC priorities that services are tasked to deliver by Scottish Government along with the Vision 2020 plans and National improvement strategy and are linked to UNCRC. By substituting South Ayrshire for Scotland makes me think you are just paying lipservice to it. They are a priority, but just agreeing they are does not mean SAC will deliver them, you need a plan

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By focussing the priority on respecting Children's Rights in all aspects of their lives, SAC Services will be better placed to meet children's needs.

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#### Improving Children's Services

The consultation also asked respondents 'What would you like services to work on together to improve for children in South Ayrshire?'

Key themes from consultation responses were as follows:

**Children aged 7 – 11 years:** outdoor play and learning (including parks), swimming pools and addressing littering.

**Young People aged 12 – 16 years:** activities outside school, school clubs, school trips, support and information about mental health

**Young People aged 17 - 25 years:** mental health information and support, and activities / recreation opportunities

**Parent / Carers:** comments from parents carers were mixed with less of a clear pattern but there was a large emphasis on additional / appropriate support for children, services working together, opportunities in training and employment beyond school, clubs to support children's behaviour and health (including breakfast clubs), greater opportunities in music, sport and physical health required, the importance of a GIRFEC approach was also raised.

*Individual comments from respondents:*

#### Children Aged 7-11 years

**What would you like services to work on together to improve for children in South Ayrshire?**

More outside work

More outdoor learning

I would like South Ayrshire to improve on the parks

I would like to get more sturdy parks and get the rusty parks looks brand new

To get better parks

Better parks better swimming pools

Swimming

Swimming pools

Swimming pools

More outdoor learning

More parks/better parks

Outdoor learning

More parks

More clubs

Parks, more fun things

More outdoor learning

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Better swimming pools

Better parks

Outdoor learning

More parks. Old areas could be redone

The pavements to be clean of dog dirt it is dangerous if you are a child. People to clean and litter pick the beaches and pavements and the roads that is very dangerous if you stand in grass or plastic or sharp things.

Stop the people that treat nice children badly

to redo all the old parks

to make sure no one litters

to make sure no one litters

More age restrictions

More age limited football pitches

I would like them to make more things like play parks more challenging for older children instead of very childish things

More things for older example: playparks, clubs etc

Bullying

Bullying people in South Ayrshire

More gymnastics

More gym equipment

More physics, more DFS resources

More gymnastics

More gym equipment

More PE/fitness

More gym

More gym equipment

Art/crafts

Glass decorating

More gym equipment - gymnastic, basketball

Art/glitter - painting- drawing

Schools to work with Ayr United

Yes, Ayr United

Art, making, glitter, design

Being able to dry my hair at the swimming so I don't go out in playground with wet hair and get cold

buses are too dear, seat belts on buses, sports grounds in all areas free for children to use and floodlit in winter. [Name] primary - improve the outside because it looks like a jail  
more art/drama/music clubs

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#### Young People Aged 12-16 years

**What would you like services to work on together to improve for children in South Ayrshire?**

A breakfast club for primary schools

Improving littering

More trips with schools

Improve socialising areas

Yes I would

More school trips

Don't know

More things to do outside school

In school

Outside school

So they get better at stuff and get further in life and they can do what they want to do in life

To do more activities at school and out

Do more activities in the local area

Do some activities in school or local

Activities too in local communities

South Ayrshire should have more places to go i.e. activity centers for free for the less fortunate children as there is no where like this

Education - try to influence children to want an education

Litter picking

More parks with learning walls and staff in them

To have a zone to play at Belmont Academy

Ensure there are social adviser visits to schools and children can get help and advice

Reducing knife crime

School litter

More activities in/out of schools

To promote Ayrshire companies who pay living wage of £8.45 per hour,

To represent the local issue of - mental health in schools

More mental health services

A lot more advice on health issues

More advice about mental health issues

Talk about it more

Help with more mental health

Bullying

Youth clubs

More help with bullying

A youth group

Mental health awareness

Make it cleaner

Mental health help needs to be more attentive

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Come into schools and talks

Mental health facilities

Make sure all kids are able to access help for mental health easily

Emotional and mental wellbeing

Football at lunch time

Bring in more clubs

Mental health support

Disability support

To provide more accessible mental health support

Mental health

school

facilities in local areas

Bullying

Cleaning

Stress before exams

Mental health

Longer weekends

Dyslexia

There needs to be more help

Mental health issues and bullying

Youth ? more

More games

More freedom

More freedom and games

I don't know

At gym hole time

Don't know

I don't know

research the issue of mental health in schools - feedback regularly to pupil councils and SMTs

I would like to see social workers, support workers and health professionals based in schools and nurseries to allow integrated working which would provide holistic care and development

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#### 17-25

**What would you like services to work on together to improve for children in South Ayrshire?**

Recreation

Assistance for those who struggle in clubs

Add priorities for immigrants who can't get further education

Opportunities

Increases financial support

More accessible help for those in need of emotional/mental help eg. staffs in hall/atrium

Mental health support and education

Improve access to mental health

Facilities for older teens

Autism awareness

More mental health services for young people

More resources available

More opportunities for music provision and performance opportunities. Not just popular music but also classical too. More places for instrument lessons in school.

More resources

More things for teenagers to do

Letting everyone voice their own opinions and views.

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#### Parents and Carers

<b>What would you like services to work on together to improve for children in South Ayrshire?</b>
Kinship care can be very difficult for families and I think they need more support financially to support families trying keep siblings together, wherever possible.
Numeracy/literacy skills and more range in school clubs/activities for p1-3
Education for children unable to attend mainstream school.
Bullying. Stop letting the bully get away with it and the person being bullied has to move school.
More frequent school inspections to ensure schools are meeting targets. More money to be given to schools to ensure they can retain good teachers and attract new ones.
Introduce a clear step by step bullying policy for ALL schools in South Ayrshire which they must adhere to. At the moment it seems to be a postcode lottery as to which schools effectively deal with bullying and which schools ignore it.
supporting local community partnerships and campaigns bringing together families, schools and local organisations working with children in a fun and attractive way - such as community festivals and events. Also want more free activities for Pre-school children which could be held in local nurseries/schools and LA buildings but open to all families not just those with children attending those nurseries and schools.
Mental health
Structured after school care that focus on child development - is physical activity, life skills, homework clubs etc. This includes during holidays periods too.
More provision for children when parents become ill.
I feel careers advice is lacking, children are directed to websites but there is little support in obtaining actual experiential work places.
Every child who needs support needs to have a GIRFEC Child Plan, initial as early as possible. All co-ordination of assessments should be done through the named person. Families should be taught about the GIRFEC principles directly.
Help improve access for children with additional needs.
Support for children in school who require it. Along with quiet spaces activities for children of all abilities.
More money to be put into mental health services for children of all ages in South Ayrshire.
Mental Health and well being
Yes
More areas for our young children to "hang out" with activities for them to be involved in to encourage them to get in to sporting activities
Fine as it is with no issues.
More places for them to go in the evening.
yes
Safety
I would like to see comprehensive, well thought out and well implemented policies on violence

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<p>in schools. I would like to see more accountability for pupils' behaviour in and out of classrooms. I see a significant problem with violence in some primary schools, Ayr Grammar in particular seems to suffer from a culture of violence, which of course is carried on to the secondary school that pupils progress onto. I would like to see parents being informed (in detail) about what steps are being taken to tackle violence in schools. I would expect every school to have a clearly developed, unambiguous policy that all stakeholders are aware of and are accountable for.</p>
<p>This is actually difficult to answer, as fortunately we are not "deprived"; however, I know that there is a greater need for activities outside of school which would allow vulnerable children to go to and not hang around streets and get into trouble.</p>
<p>Improving outcomes at an earlier age and not waiting until later in secondary school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure that sufficient funding is provided to schools. Debate the issues of class size - is it better to have a larger class size with a cohort of children who move through school together as one "family" providing a sense of belonging, security and support, or is it better to have a small class size with children moving from class to class to ensure "maximum class size" numbers are achieved, resulting in children not feeling connected with their cohort (although perhaps knowing more children) but not having the sense of belonging and security that is felt when being part of a class cohort who moves through school together. Having experienced my children moving through primary 1-4, I feel that the former is much more beneficial to the well being of children, rather than strict class size limits. Lots of changes of teachers and changes between classes has caused anxiety in my own child.</li> <li>- Limiting the pressure at school on children - not too much emphasis on exams and doing well academically, but an emphasis on doing well at what you are good at, trying hard in life e.g. through helping others, supporting the community, being happy.</li> <li>- Helping children to learn how to be resilient emotionally - teaching techniques to manage stress etc. which provides them with good mental health in later years.</li> <li>- Mental health/support services for looked after children</li> <li>- Promoting healthy communities which look after each other and feel valued e.g. supporting community councils to identify local priorities. Ensuring that money is spent fairly across South Ayrshire (not just in areas that are able to shout the loudest or have the most influence).</li> <li>- Improve child care provision around Maybole (there are too few childcare places i.e. no private or council nurseries within Maybole and no childminder places). I was not able to get child care within Maybole for my children so had to rely on babysitters and friends.</li> </ul>
<p>improved support for young people leaving LA care</p>
<p>More funding and opportunities for children to be involved in all types of sport</p>
<p>Education and behaviour</p>
<p>consistency for all young people being taught in school this term my child who is in 4th year has 4 teachers taking the Maths class's which I dont think benefits the young people in this class. GIRFEC - All relevant parties, young people, parentS, carers etc to have input into the GIRFEC plan.</p>
<p>Providing suitably qualified teachers for subjects offered at secondary school. Too many</p>

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<p>teaching vacancies. Also providing more access to counselling within schools as camhs is struggling to provide mental health support.</p> <p>As a parent I feel guidance on careers is also lacking for students and commencing too late for some children to make informed choices re university applications.</p> <p>I feel children with additional support needs are being sidelined due to lack of support both within teaching and social work budget constraints.</p>
<p>Parents in more deprived areas learning how to play with their kids and importance of healthy eating ie not a bar of choc for breakfast - maybe teaching them how to prepare very simple things</p>
<p>Children who have behavioural issues get the right support to help their problems and in turn do not disturb the teaching and learning in schools. To close the gap there should be more home link workers and persistent late children should have a named person to actually go to their door to bring them to school. CAMHS is overstretched and as such is a failing service and South Ayrshire need to tackle this.</p>
<p>Communication between services must improve &amp; easier referrals. More funding for qualified staff &amp; training for existing staff to help kids with dyslexia etc.</p>
<p>Ensure they get a good solid start to life and these skills should be taught to our young people from a very early age.</p>
<p>Healthy eating and habits</p>
<p>Ensuring that the mental health of our youngsters is a higher priority and that they do not feel stigmatised if they do need help.</p>
<p>Opportunities</p>
<p>Multi agency working to improve outcomes for vulnerable groups of children and their families including involvement from third sector organisations who can make a huge impact and produce positive outcomes. It would be good to see more funding put into intensive support where required to reduce the gap between disadvantaged and more advantaged groups to provide all children in south Ayrshire with the same opportunities and chances in life as they grow into adulthood.</p>
<p>To work together and communicate with each other more effectively to ensure that all children are supported in accordance with their individual needs in educational establishments.</p> <p>To ensure that where children need support with emotional wellbeing ie: anxiety and panic attacks they are supported fully with this, and that the teachers within the schools take all children needs into consideration when talking about exams and piling more pressure on to children to achieve higher grades!</p>
<p>More out of school clubs get kids off the street teach them to respect the elders and community</p>
<p>In agreement with all the priorities listed above.</p>
<p>Breakfast clubs at all schools.</p> <p>Improving quality of school dinners....no matter how they are made having pizza, burgers, fish &amp; chips on a menu do not encourage a child to eat healthier.</p> <p>More teaching staff in schools. Classes getting bigger again, but teachers have less help. They have to deal with all sorts of behaviour with little assistance.</p> <p>Standards of education are too low. It seems to be acceptable to teach to the lowest acceptable base level. What about those kids who need stretching and by the upper school are bored.</p> <p>S1 has same standards as P7. Should it not be more challenging?</p> <p>Ensure failing teachers are weeded out of the education system.</p>

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<p>Ensure children who need help for any issue...speech, behaviour, dyslexia etc....are seen more promptly, and meetings not constantly rescheduled, delaying help for longer.</p>
<p>Equal opportunities across ALL social groups. Support for pupils who set a good example. Re instate respect for others</p>
<p>Greater guidance for young people choosing not to continue with traditional academic education at school, specifically improved support from Careers / guidance and not just a tick box exercise, many young people who leave for college do so as they have maybe struggled at school and lack confidence and they then find themselves in a new environment where they are reliant mostly on parental guidance (which 100% is valuable) however perhaps link working with college and employment advisors and even guidance from schooling how to access this type of support would be beneficial to those planning g on leaving school as I feel this is when young people may stop engaging and may find it difficult to make positive choices, resulting in them not contributing to their community and potentially limiting their opportunities and life chances.</p>
<p>keeping existing services in the rural area's, not putting all activities in town's, stopping community involvement</p>
<p>Respect for one another and for teachers</p>
<p>Services should work together to support all children</p>
<p>I would like schools to promise to do what they have said they would do!!,As a parent of a child at Ayr Academy we were told that this Joint Headship would great for our children and we are still waiting!! in the 3 months since this happened I haven't seen ANY difference, I may be missing something though. I have no faith in the Education Dept of SAC and I feel that there are only words and look good doing these consultations, as most decisions are already made. Prime example of this was the shared Headship</p>
<p>Opportunities to learn a musical instrument. All children could be exposed to music through learning a recorder at primary school and then given the opportunity to try brass/woodwind/percussion etc as they develop. It shouldn't be a 'test' to see if they demonstrate 'something' that can be worked on as it is now. Music can provide a whole host of opportunities for young people who are not always 'academic'. This should be encouraged through schools and communities to help children develop this valuable experience.</p>
<p>Music and sport for all.</p>
<p>Better communication between all bodies involved in individual cases. Seek to improve the quality of services received by carers ect.</p>
<p>Smaller class sizes Recognise that not all children are academically minded and will not necessarily meet desired targets Mental Health in children needs to be addressed with a more positive inclusive attitude and help should be more accessible than it is.</p>
<p>Increase provision in services available to refer children too. Increase in educational support -dedicated staff members who provide emotional support-who do not have to rush off to class.Holistic approach by services.</p>
<p>Bullying.</p>
<p>Provision for outdoor activities as well as increased access to activities including play areas, outdoor sports facilities, play schemes, clubs etc for all ages.</p>

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Emphasis to be given to children's mental health
More physical activities.
More things to do for south Ayrshire children, most of them spend most of their time online, through no direct fault of themselves, family or education systems. I feel that too much information is put online by children, I have 3 children, I don't think enough emphasis is put on online dangers...
good outcomes across all schools in South Ayrshire for all children regardless of their background no merger between existing schools and a healthy positive work environment for staff fair chances for all children, including those from a more privileged background
Better opportunities, wider variety and more apprenticeships. I started work for the NHS as a Youth Trainee, learning various skills in lots of different departments, whilst attending college, to better me education and earning a wage at the same time. I am still with the NHS and think the YTS scheme was a brilliant idea and a great opportunity to try different aspects of 'admin' work. I feel kids are too young when they are being asked what they want to do for the rest of their lives.... I still don't know and I'll be 50 this year.
Stop the rubbish named person information sharing
Education - ensuring the basic skills of reading and writing are consolidated properly in the primary schools and that secondary schools are resourced to deliver subjects without relying on temporary teachers to plug gaps.
More time spent on children without additional needs.
Better classroom support for all children
Confidence building in children
Inclusion. To ensure young people who have learning needs are included.
early intervention services for children, young people and families
integration between educational and psychological and medical services more
More robust systems of information sharing to schools between agencies - particularly Health and Social Work
More up to date resources available and support for children who are most vulnerable.
Agencies sharing information equally.
Communication. All appropriate services being able to meet when required.
physical and emotional wellbeing for all pupils
Additional support available when children are in crisis.
Access to a wider arts programme
More input for children in main stream school who need extra tuition
Affordable child care for pre and post school days and also during school holidays. Council run clubs for example. By sending my 2 children to a private child care facility during school holidays, I pay more to them than I earn in a month and I am not on a very low income. There needs to be more options.
I honestly believe that girvan nursery are going above and beyond and don't need to work on anything.
Better cheaper activities for kids
more dropin social places eg knowhere at night for children to hang out unless you are part of

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<p>a specific group or are seen as vulnerable !! what do the good kids get ( they get nothing!!) Girvan and surrounding area.</p>
<p>Local opportunities for young people to learn across all vocations, not just the ones Ayrshire College supports.</p>
<p>improving childrens diets in school. the school meals are not of a high quality and do ot help children learn good dietary habits. children consume more than 1/3 of daily calories at school!</p>
<p>Pre &amp; post school care recognising the very real challenge working parents face.</p>
<p>More confidence and self esteem building programmes. More teambuilding and practical hands on activities. Outdoor education needs a bigger focus.</p>
<p>Outdoor activities to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.</p>
<p>The attainment gap well not be closed by throwing money at schools; a child's aspirations are nurtured or destroyed at home. We should be putting more resources into ensuring deprived families have the fewest possible distractions (poverty, unemployment, poor quality housing) to their abilities to raise our citizens of the future.</p>
<p>More supervision in playgrounds.</p>
<p>Better communication between agencies to ensure current and correct information is passed on. More open door policies to ease access to services. Provide more nurture and supportive groups early on to reduce children's stress. Think of more effective behaviour policies and procedures. Try to retain staff, especially secondary schools. Better, more effective transition days, to help young people cope. More awareness of mental health and drug/alcohol abuse and children should be aware how to access support. General life skills should be taught to relate for adulthood.</p>
<p>More support in mental health</p>
<p>To understand exactly what is required to improve life for its youth. The people being paid to do this at present are failing the young.</p>
<p>Positive Mental Health / Emotional Wellbeing Outcomes for Care Experienced Children / robust transitions Promote "community values", particularly in Secondary Schools</p>
<p>Direct intervention on education paid for by social work.</p>
<p>Child to come first</p>
<p>This is a poorly worded question.</p> <p>My experience is that there is a bullying culture within both primary and secondary schools, probably made 'easier' with social media. This can have a huge impact on a childs life - relationships, confidence etc. I would like to see specific initiatives developed to address this and to have a clearly documented policy that allow leadership in schools to take action and stop/deter incidents.</p>
<p>Improved leadership who have experience in schools not just go getters who don't care about the children. Fed up of head teachers and deputies who are employed and clearly have no vision. A serious decline in many schools and it is not down to the teaching or support staff who seem just as frustrated as everyone else by this nonsense. I fear for my childs education in the future...an utter disgrace</p>
<p>I would like to see children being encouraged to join in more in non academic subjects, I would like to think that if for example a child is good at drama or art or music they were encouraged to pursue it in after school clubs or having talks about it. I would also like to think that if the school or teachers are concerned about a child perhaps they are very quiet the teacher tries to encourage that child more, not just merely ignore them</p>

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<p>and then not even remember that the child is in a class!!! I would also like to think that my child is not going to school feeling unsafe. I have heard that there are fights every day and at times people have had knives. This is not satisfactory at all.</p>
<p>More investment in Children's Services, across the board; increased early intervention strategies for families/parents just about managing; more social workers; in-house assessment team for parenting assessments; greater emphasis in schools on teaching life skills (relationships, health, finance, parenting, nurture principles etc); closer integration between Children's panels and Social Work; mother and baby unit.</p>
<p>Young carers Safe environments where young people can meet</p>
<p>home ò ring</p>
<p>Counselling support CAMHs is seriously overstretched</p>
<p>Which services? Questions are vague and not descriptive enough to know who or what it is that trying to be achieved, apart from 5 points above. Far to vague to really make comment on. A bold statement with nothing behind it.</p>
<p>More activities available outwith school times or more awareness of what is on offer.</p>
<p>Community groups, activities for children to attend, adults to get involved</p>
<p>More afterschool and weekend facilities or clubrooms that children of all ages can go to.</p>
<p>Equality &amp; install this into parents too.</p>
<p>More school assistants to help support teachers and pupils.</p>
<p>Increasing post adoption support via social work and education. Better educating school staff on adoption and fostering issues. Better website info regarding resources available in school for example what learning support is available in each school to help parents make informed decisions about their child's education.</p>
<p>I want my child's key worker to talk to me more and be there at wee groups I go to. She misses things that my son does then tells me he doesn't do it in the playroom.</p>
<p>All of the above</p>
<p>Safety for kids getting to school ...andore pupil support teachers</p>
<p>Support for teachers to be able to carry out the advice of specialist services such as CAMHS and educational psychology</p>
<p>as above</p>
<p>Evening/weekend opportunities for children 12+ in local area.</p>
<p>More support in class for children who struggle academically</p>
<p>Redusing the gap between "better and worse" schools and daycares is really important. Every child deserves the same opportunities and the same safe, clean and fun environment.</p>
<p>Early intervention in the home to assist and educate parents/carers on the basic needs (hygiene, , housekeeping, cooking, funding) to hopefully allow more children to remain in the care of their parent.</p>
<p>Safe outdoor spaces to play and explore</p>
<p>As a parent to a child with a diagnosis of ADHD, Autistic traits and sensory processing difficulties, South Ayrshire's inclusion policy is an area that needs massive changes. Teachers etc are not receiving the appropriate training necessary to understand the diverse range of conditions affecting children in modern, everyday life.</p>
<p>As a family, we have personally experienced out-dated opinions and practices which led to my</p>

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<p>child developing anxiety and a reluctance to attend a school which made [them] feel "like a naughty [child]"..exact words used by member of staff, to my child's face.</p> <p>On another occasion I was questioned by a member of staff on my decision to medicate my child (Oh, you're not going to medicate are you?), a decision which gave a much better quality of life, helped develop age-appropriate social skills and allowed my child to operate at the same academic level as peers.</p> <p>My child is a square peg who has been repeatedly forced to fit into a round hole. The current inclusion policy is damaging the children it aims to support, this has to change..in 2017 neurodiverse children should not still be made to feel 'less than' neurotypical children.</p>
<p>Promote healthier diet Provide better recreational and leisure facilities Promote work-ethic and achievement</p>
<p>To be treated equal no matter what there background.</p>
<p>Better budget management. Re think school environment(open plan nonesense! Give staff, caters/parents children a survey). Bring schools to 2017(electrics, lighting, green playgrounds, no more paper filling etc..). Make sure the children can relate to the same teacher in primary schools, unless may leave, sickness or gross misconduct, It s important to bond for caters, children and teacher does' t have to live in fear of whereabouts job or no job!! No holiday pay etc..</p> <p>More importantly reduce numbers in classrooms it s ridiculous, feels like survival of the fittest (Jurassic park education!). More classroom assistants budget, opportunity for them to get svq while at work.</p>
<p>Co ordination of training and awareness of autism in staff supporting children</p>
<p>Increase the number of opportunities for children to participate in free sporting activities, or subsidised sporting activities, for families on low incomes. Make it easier for families to claim free school meals and clothing grants - current system is difficult for vulnerable families to access. Ensure that children at Secondary School have access to subject specialist teachers, particularly in English and Maths. Increased opportunities for apprenticeships for young people in South Ayrshire. Positive destinations for school leavers absolutely vital - in fact, these should be viewed as being equally as important as closing the poverty related gap.</p>
<p>More effective intervention Clearer lines of communication</p>
<p>Need to improve speed and availability of assessment and treatment in mental health services for young people.</p>
<p>CAMHS / educational psychologists and schools more aligned</p>
<p>Equality and equity of access to out of school sports and leisure clubs and facilities</p>
<p>Need to improve speed and availability of assessment and treatment in mental health services for young people.</p>
<p>Increase amount of staff in early years provision</p>
<p>Education</p>
<p>More funding &amp; staffing in schools to improve pupil support and attainment gap. Holistic approaches to support for the whole child as well as academic.</p>
<p>Community spaces. Children's and adult services working more closely together. Everyone</p>

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working together to improve public places.
Continuity for all children.
Child protection
To develop core values for life, challenging the dreadful values pushed by popular culture and particularly focused on youth, all to their detriment.
Equal access to education and experiential learning regardless of social status
Access to leisure and education
Better communication between agencies. Recreational options out with school
Improved leisure facilities
Eradicating child care givers - children should be looked after, not be looking after others.
Provide more resources that are universally available particularly for adolescents
GIRFEC starts before birth, the services in South Ayrshire need to work together to deliver the SHANARRI indicators, but from I can see most things are being left at the teachers door to sort. Parenting skills are a problem, and people need to be taught those skills, unfortunately it is normally the parents who actually don't need the basic advice that attend things like PEEP sessions, school meetings, Internet Safety Days etc. They are already doing what they can and are keen to know more. Schools themselves are underfunded, teachers buy their extra materials and rewards for class OUT OF THERE OWN POCKETS, this is a disgrace. PTAs and Parent Councils raise funds for books, whiteboards, buses, this is a disgrace and it is not addressing the fact that local authorities cannot provide to meet the needs of schools, let alone the children that attend them. There are shortages in pupil support, I am aware of a school in Prestwick where almost 1/3 of the school role are on staged intervention. There are on a plan, but there are not enough support teachers to support them! This is a disgrace that these children are not getting support to get it right for them. There are children with support needs in schools who are being let down dreadfully. It is not the teachers faults, they get more and more piled on them. An example of services no longer supporting in schools is that the school nurses are no longer to be involved in puberty talks with p6 & p7 and instead this has to land into the workload of the class teacher, already stretched. And they are not specialist in this area. Seems to me services are not working together there. School nurses are being pulled away to do other roles. Some schools have PE specialists, some have music specialists, some have drama specialists. There is no consistency. I have witnessed in two schools in South Ayrshire teachers teaching PE in their heels with their handbags. So much for the health and wellbeing focus. And that is just the education side of GIRFEC, what about all the other services and agencies that are supposed to shape each child's future, they are not getting it right either. People work really hard and really care for the children they are involved with, but when services are underfunded and lack good leadership they are thwarted at every turn. I'm actually also appalled that you think people answering these 2 questions on a survey "will help to shape and improve services for the next three years" South Ayrshire Council needs consultants in to take a proper look at how it's supposed to work and get rid of the deadwood and free up funds to do this properly.
1. Keeping parents and children informed of all the services and help which is available. Including young people in any decisions about Council budget cuts or reduction in services and amenities Often the left hand doesn't seem to know what the right hand is doing. 2. Include all young people under 18, even if living independently and not at school or college, and not just the select few who join pupil councils or take an interest in the Scottish Youth

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Parliament.

3. Offer advocacy and/ or legal advice services for every child who encounters difficulties whether they have issues in school such as bullying or are suspected of criminal behaviour, have relationship difficulties following separation, imprisonment, maintaining contact siblings parents and extended family etc... to ensure they know what their rights are and can be supported properly to have their voices heard.

4. Supporting local ventures such as the foodbanks, baby clothes and equipment exchanges, holiday programmes, parenting advice and support groups and work with the local groups and charities to make sure no child is SAC is hungry or in danger or in need of basic love and care.