



**C4EO**

for the sector  
from the sector



Introducing the  
Centre for Excellence  
and Outcomes –  
C4EO



*Christine Davies CBE*



## What is the Centre?

**Welcome to the Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO).**

Funded by the DCSF, C4EO has been established to help transform outcomes for children, young people and their families. It will do this by identifying and coordinating local, regional and national evidence of 'what works' to create a single and comprehensive picture of effective practice. Using this information, the Centre will offer support to Local Authorities and their Children's Trust partners, working with them to help improve services.

Led by Christine Davies CBE, the Centre draws on the expertise of a consortium of core partners: the National Children's Bureau (NCB); the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER); Research in Practice (RIP); and the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE).

C4EO also has four strategic partners, who bring additional expertise and influence: Family and Parenting Institute (FPI); the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA); the Institute of Education (IoE); and the National Youth Agency (NYA), plus a range of delivery partners who will provide specialist services.

There will be close consultation and cooperation with the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS), the Local Government Association (LGA), the NHS Confederation and the regional Government Offices.

The Centre will largely be 'virtual' with an administrative base at NCB and meeting facilities at SCIE. The main focus, however, will be working with localities across the nine regions of England.

## How the Centre will make a difference?

**In its first three years of work, C4EO will focus on six national ECM themes early years; children with disabilities; vulnerable children (particularly children 'in care'); youth; parents, carers and families; and schools and communities. Each theme will have three 'key lines of enquiry' (priorities).**

Local Authorities and their Children's Trust partners (including schools and health) will be provided with evidence that they can rely on, relating to the six themes and supporting them determine how to improve practice locally.

This will include:

- the best research available
- the most robust data
- examples of effective local practice, drawn from across the country.

Through C4EO, they will be given access to accredited specialist practitioners combined with tailored local support. In turn, they will be encouraged to offer their own specialists to help others. 'State of the art' outputs, produced by the Centre, will support them in bringing about change in their areas.

The collaborative sector-led approach and outputs from the LGA's 'Narrowing the Gap' programme will contribute to the development of C4EO.

Whilst the Centre will work closely with the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs) and other regional field forces, Local Authorities and their Children's Trust engagement will be entirely voluntary.

## Will stakeholders, including children, young people and their families, have their say?

C4EO's stakeholders will be key to its success. A Programme Board, to be chaired by the President of ADCS, will be established to advise the Centre's management team, with national, regional and local representation. This Board will be advised by a Children & Young People's Panel and a Parents and Carers Panel. Their views will have an influence on what C4EO does.

Working with organisations across the children's sector and drawing on the lessons and experience of local areas, C4EO will encourage a culture of improvement – nationally, regionally and locally, underpinned by an appetite and a passion for doing the very best for all children, young people and their families.

For more information go to [www.C4EO.org.uk](http://www.C4EO.org.uk)

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