

## What is Time for Kids?

Time for Kids is a movement that is building momentum across the Children's System in Surrey. It is a values-based way of working to reignite and strengthen the passion and vocation in all of us working with children and young people. It puts children at the centre of all that we do so that they can fulfil their potential. Time for Kids consists of five principles that are easy to remember as they are not rocket science, they are why we do our chosen jobs, and if embedded in the way we work will help our children and young people thrive.

## What are the Time for Kids Principles?



1

### Being crazy about our kids

We need to focus on human **connection** with a child, have patience and passion to achieve the very best for all children and young people



2

### A consistent relationship with at least one adult they trust

We need to enable professionals and volunteers to have the time and resources to provide stability and earn the child/young person's **trust**.



3

### Every child needs to be able to tell their story and hope for the future

We need to encourage young people to tell and understand their story, to listen, believe and help them make the changes that they need to develop **hope** for their future.



4

### Belonging and encouragement to shine

We all need to find ways to enable to children to **belong**, to build on the individual strengths of each child whatever they might be and help them to **shine**.



5

### Believe in what they can achieve

We all need to **believe** in the child or young person and what they can achieve

## Where have the Time for Kids Principles come from?

A group of forward thinking, like-minded people<sup>1</sup> from across the Surrey system came together to consider why some children in Surrey don't thrive and fulfil their potential. The group included health, children's services, the third sector, education, the police and national experts. Dave Hill was part of the group and we want Time for Kids to be part of his legacy.

<sup>1</sup> Joe Crome (Community Foundation for Surrey), David Gumbrell (The Resilience Project), Jon Hetherington (More House School, Frensham), Chris Hickford (The Eikon Charity), Dave Hill (Surrey County Council), Trudy Mills (Children and Family Health Surrey), Cate Newnes-Smith (Surrey Youth Focus), Jon Savell (Surrey Police), Caroline Slocock & Steve Wyler (Better Way Network). With help from: Martin Buffoni (Surrey Police), Vicky Stobbart (Guildford and Waverley CCG)

The group have been inspired by the voices of children, young people and colleagues across different organisations. The consensus was that, due to a range of factors, the system in Surrey has not always served children as well as it might, positive outcomes are sometimes achieved despite, not because of, the system. Over time, circumstances have led us to “manage risk” in relation to our organisations rather than being confident in making the best decision for the child. Embracing Time for Kids will help us make changes that will help refocus the system. Time for Kids gives us permission to put children and young people at the heart of all we do, to listen to them and, together, consider the best outcomes for them.

## What does Time for Kids look like in reality?

The Health and Wellbeing Board have endorsed Time for Kids and this movement has already been shared and embraced by partners across the system. We want Time for Kids to encourage you to have transformative conversations with your colleagues and partners, so that all front-line practitioners are enabled to do the very best that they can to serve children and young people. There is no blueprint for Time for Kids – everyone and every organisation has a different role within the system, therefore it will not look the same everywhere. We ask that you consider what Time for Kids means:

- For the young people you know (what are their expectations of us),
- For your role,
- For your organisation, and
- For the system.

So far, the Time for Kids principles have been:

- Incorporated into safeguarding and induction training
- Incorporated into business plans
- Used to inform strategies
- Used as a new lens to consider existing work

- Discussed in team meetings
- Incorporated into Board Terms of References
- Demonstrated by the daily work by practitioners during COVID – going the extra mile

How might you find Time for Kids? The opportunities are endless...

## How can we get involved and find out more?

Time for Kids builds on the transformation work already taking place across the system. Please feedback examples of Time for Kids so that we can share them more widely. We cannot do this alone. We are looking for a groundswell of enthusiastic people across Surrey’s public sector and charities to help make this happen.

We are happy to come and present Time for Kids, work with you to implement Time for Kids or simply to chat through your thoughts.

Please do get in touch: [jo.cookes@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk](mailto:jo.cookes@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk)