**Assessment & Intervention Quality Standards**

**Vision and Values**

Children, young people and families will receive a high-quality social work assessment and intervention service that is aspirational and supports our vision to make Wirral great for children and families.

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| **Our Commitment** We will work to achieve and secure excellent practice and constructively challenge that which falls below the agreed standards. Our managers and leaders will be visible and accessible. We will celebrate our achievements and learn collectively from our mistakes. We will provide staff with the tools, strategies and learning opportunities that enable them to deliver outstanding services to children, young people and families.  |
| **Performance standards** * We will ensure that children’s best interests are at the heart of decision making.
* We will see, listen and engage with our children/young people and include their contributions within our assessments and plans.
* Our assessments will be completed in a timescale that reflects the child and family’s needs but will not exceed the statutory timescale of 45 days.
* Our plans will be completed, implemented and reviewed timely and drive improved outcomes for children and families.
* We will at all times ensure that our contributions to decision making forums are evidenced based, of a high standard and meet our statutory timescales.
* Our records, including chronologies, case summaries and managerial oversight is current and accurately reflects the child’s journey.
* We will aim to ensure transitions are planned, timely and child centred.
 | **Practice standards** * Our assessments evidence understanding of the child’s lived experience and that of their parents. They will include contributions from partners to ensure we have a comprehensive understanding of the required level of intervention.
* Our practice will identify and build upon the child and family’s strengths and respond effectively to manage identified risk.
* Our plans will reflect the assessed need and intervention required to make a positive difference to the child and their family. Our plans will be Specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time limited (SMART).
* Permanency planning will be at the heart of our practice to ensure children are provided with stable, safe and securing homes in which to thrive and develop through to adulthood.
* We will communicate with children, families, and professionals regularly during the course of our assessment and intervention.
* We will be confident in our decision making and in delivering creative and innovative practice to meet the diverse needs of our children and families to bring about sustained change.
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| **Behaviour & Culture** * We will all lead by example, taking responsibility and being accountable for our practice with children and families.
* We will promote a culture of transparency were reflective practice is embraced and practitioners feel safe and supported.
* We will be responsive to the needs of our children and families, embrace change and promote practice that results in positive changes for our children.
* We will demonstrate a strength-based practice approach to our work with children and families whilst maintaining professional curiosity.
 | **Non negotiable*** We will use our influence to secure good outcomes for children, young people and families.
* We will see, engage, and capture the child’s DLE.
* We will respect children & family’s uniqueness & worth.
* Our assessments and interventions will be timely and underpinned with regular supervision and management oversight.
* Children will be supported to remain with their families and only come into care where evidence indicates this will improve their long-term outcomes.
* We will work collaboratively with internal & external partners.
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**WIRRAL PLAN 2025**