

## **The City of Wolverhampton**

### **Children and Families Together Co-Production Charter**

This Charter is a set of principles and promises to children, young people and their families to ensure real life experiences remain at the heart of all decision making.

It is underpinned by the belief that children, young people and their families are best placed to influence and shape the services and support that is available to them. This can be in discussions and decisions about their own individual support, or in partnership with other stakeholders to design services and resources available for others within the community.

#### **As members of Wolverhampton's Children and Families Together Board**

We Promise:

- That children's, young people's and families' involvement will be welcomed, valued and meaningful.
- To provide a way for all children, young people and families in Wolverhampton to be involved in making decisions and shaping the services and support available to them.
- We will provide support to children, young people and families to ensure they are equipped with the skills and knowledge required to enable them to fully participate.
- To communicate effectively, in good time and in a format that is appropriate.
- We will think creatively and not be afraid to try new things.
- To have open and honest conversations and trust from the beginning.
- We will develop ways that demonstrate the value and impact children, young people and families are having.
- To embed these values and principles in everything we do.
- To seek regular feedback from children and young people and families to confirm that all of this happens.

**Our shared expertise will innovate and improve the quality of life for all.**

### **We commit to delivering this promise using the following principles:**

#### **Equal partnership**

We recognise that everyone has their own skills and knowledge to offer  
Together we will plan and agree who should be involved to achieve the end goal  
Everyone will have the opportunity to participate whatever their needs or abilities  
Our time is valuable, we will be mindful about each other's commitments  
We will be honest with no conversations behind closed doors  
We are all in this together!

#### **Shared understanding**

There will be a common understanding of what is to be achieved and trust from the beginning  
We'll develop an understanding about partnership working and what good looks like  
We will demonstrate the value and impact we're making  
When things haven't worked we'll identify why and make things better next time  
We will celebrate our success!

#### **Open-minded**

Our combined expertise can achieve the best possible outcomes  
Finding the right solution may take longer but everyone agrees that that's OK  
We will think creatively and not be afraid to try new things  
We all have high expectations and can learn a lot from each other!  
We will be clear about our limitations

#### **Communication**

We will engage in different ways, meetings are not always the best way to involve everyone  
Information will be received in good time and in a format that's accessible for everyone  
There will be time to prepare, ask questions and make the best possible contribution  
Everyone will be kept informed and updated  
We will be transparent, no one likes shocks or surprises

#### **Trust**

Our contributions are valued and meaningful  
Everyone remains committed  
We decide on priorities together  
We may not always agree but together we will find the best solution  
We will allow different people to take the lead and put their skills and life experiences to work