



# Children and Young People's SEND Promise for County Durham

## Introduction

The eXtreme Group is recognised by the SEND Strategy and Accountability group as a representative voice for children and young people with SEND living in County Durham.

Facilitated by Investing in Children, the group work together to share their views and to identify how services can make positive changes based on the experiences of children and young people with SEND.

The eXtreme Group completed their own independent review, and as a group, came together to look at key themes that they would like to see prioritised.

The eXtreme Group have subsequently developed a young peoples charter the Children and Young People's SEND 'Promise'. This is a revision of the two existing charters previously in place with the Local Authority and the former Primary Care Trusts, providing one document for all organisations and services within the local area, for children and young people with SEND.





# Children and Young People's SEND Promise for County Durham



## Education

*We promise* to provide a high standard of education that is fun and engaging in a safe learning environment.

*We promise* to provide the best support from qualified staff so that young people can succeed in education.

*We promise* that all young people are fully involved and prepared during transitions in education e.g. moving from secondary school at the end of year 11 to college or an apprenticeship.

*We promise* to provide young people with choices within education to support the goals and aspirations of children and young people.

*We promise* to provide young people with choices to take part in fun and challenging sports and activities within education.





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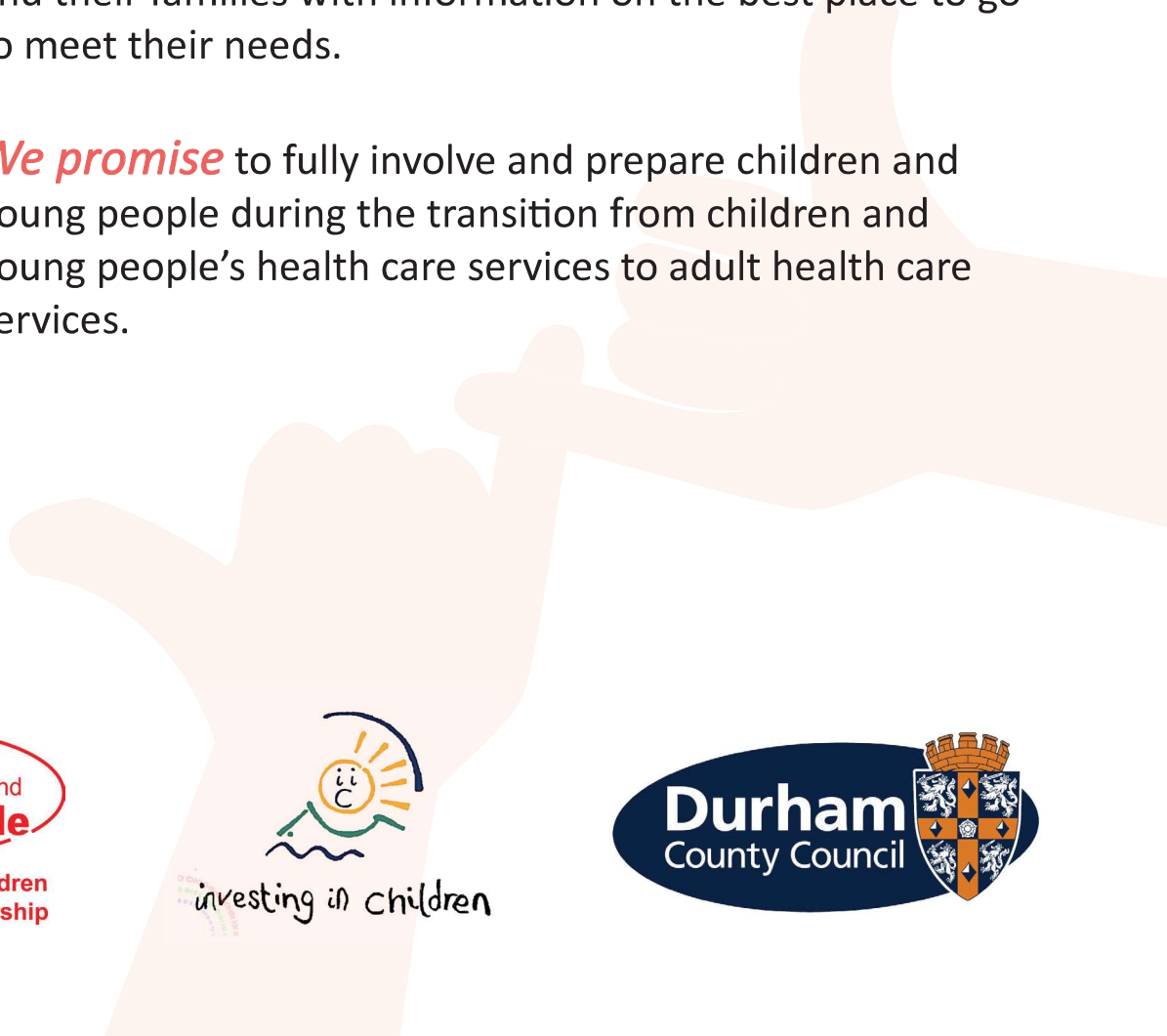


## Health

*We promise* to treat all children and young people with respect and to listen to the needs of the individual.

*We promise* to provide training to staff to support children and young people with SEND, so they can access the best possible health care, including providing children and their families with information on the best place to go to meet their needs.

*We promise* to fully involve and prepare children and young people during the transition from children and young people's health care services to adult health care services.



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Local Offer ✓

THINGS TO DO

YOUTH OFFER



## Children and Young People's SEND Promise for County Durham



### Activities/Leisure Provision

*We promise* to provide quality leisure provision with qualified, experienced support staff to meet the individual needs of children and young people in County Durham.

*We promise* to offer children and young people the opportunity to choose activities that they would like to engage in.

*We promise* to fully involve children and young people in the planning and reviewing of leisure activities in County Durham.

*We promise* to provide leisure activities that are accessible and affordable to all children and young people in County Durham.



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### Respite Opportunities

*We promise* to involve young people in making decisions about their respite care.

*We promise* to support young people to achieve their personal goals and to develop a greater level of independence.

*We promise* to provide an environment that is safe, challenging, stimulating and fun for all young people that access respite care.

*We promise* to give young people a choice of who they would like to work with, either one to one, or the organisation that provides their respite.



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## Transport

*We promise* to discuss home to school transport options with families to help support children and young people to access education.

*We promise* to support children and young people to become more independent by providing training for them to travel on their own, to their education and leisure activities.



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## Children in Care

*We promise* to fully involve children in care, with the opportunities to make decisions that affect their lives in line with the Local Authority 'Our Promise to You' document which includes:

- *to treat you with respect* and as an individual.
- *to find you the best available home* where you feel safe, cared about and treated well, for as long as needed.
- *to help you stay in touch* with friends and family like other young people not in care.
- *to take what you say seriously* by listening to you and trying to act on what you say.
- *to involve you in any decision, plans and changes* that affect you and your future, and your Social Worker and Independent Reviewing Officer and Carers will make sure that this happens.



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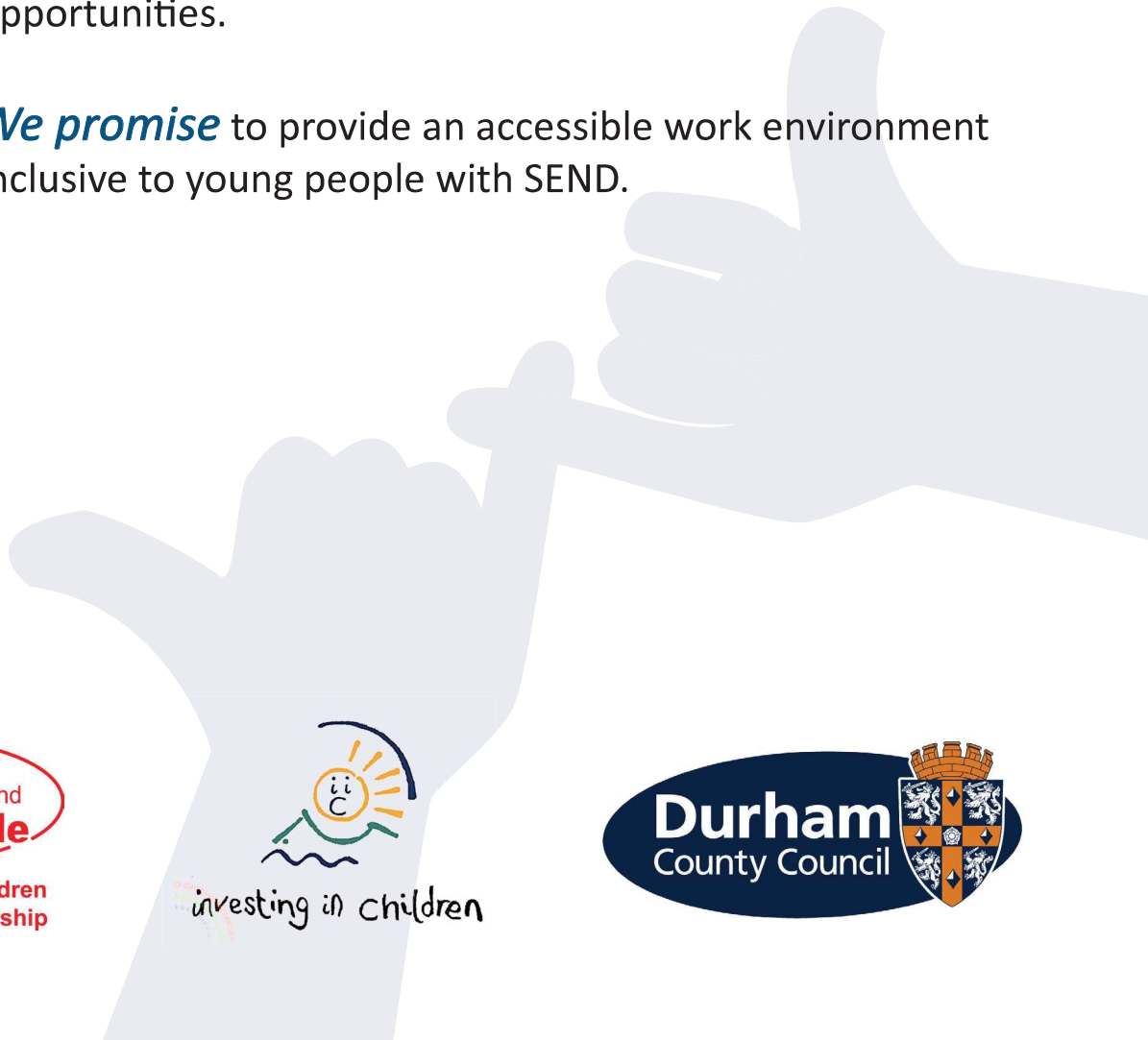


## Employment

*We promise* to provide education, training and work experience to prepare young people so they are ready for employment.

*We promise* to support young people to achieve their aspirations by providing access meaningful employment opportunities.

*We promise* to provide an accessible work environment inclusive to young people with SEND.



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## Access to Information

*We promise* to fully involve children and young people in the development and review of all Education Health and Care Plans or Support Plans.

*We promise* to make information and advice accessible and available to all children and young people and their parent/carers.

*We promise* to work in partnership to enable children and young people and their families to access services without having to retell their story time and time again.





## Children and Young People's SEND Promise for County Durham



### Having a Voice

*We promise*, within any service, to listen to the voices of children and young people ensuring services continue to make improvements based on the experiences of children and young people.



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