



Joint area review

Report for children and young people

Report for children and young people about the services they receive in Redbridge

- Being healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and doing well at school and as they grow up
- Making a positive contribution to society
- Being successful in whatever they choose to do when they are adults

Why should I read this?

The law says that inspectors must look at and then report on how well local services serve children and young people in an area. This is called a "review". Inspectors visited your area recently. You might like to read this, or the full report which you can find on Ofsted's website, to find out what they had to say.

What did the inspectors do?

Eight inspectors visited Redbridge in September and October 2006 so that they could get a feel of what life is like for children and young people in the area. They:

- ❖ talked and listened to a number of children and young people they met at schools, youth centres and children's centres, especially in Hainault
- ❖ talked with adults working with children and young people (like social workers, teachers, youth workers, nurses, doctors, police officers and councillors)
- ❖ spoke to parents and other people caring for children
- ❖ met with school councils' representatives and members of the Youth Council. In addition, they also met young people at the Indigo programme after school club
- ❖ heard from the council and other agencies what they think about the services they provide for children
- ❖ read a lot of reports
- ❖ visited services used by children and young people to see things for themselves.

The inspectors also looked at how well particular children are doing, like those children in council care or those who have a learning difficulty or disability.

How well are children and young people doing in Redbridge?

The inspectors found that:

- ❖ most young people are healthy and have information on healthy eating and exercise
- ❖ fewer children have tooth decay than elsewhere
- ❖ most do very well at school, including those looked after by the council and those with learning difficulties or disabilities. Not all children from some minority groups do as well as others
- ❖ most young people over 16 stay on into education and training and the results at GCSE are among the highest in London

- ❖ the Connexions service supports young people well
- ❖ most young people are prepared well for working life
- ❖ the majority of children and young people contribute to decisions made at school and by the council but the youth service could provide more opportunities for them to contribute
- ❖ if you live in Redbridge, you are less likely to be the victim of crime than in other parts of the country.

What were the main things children and young people told inspectors about your area?

- ❖ They feel safe in school and now feel safer in parks and open spaces. This is because there are now officers who patrol parks regularly.
- ❖ They like the safety training that they receive in schools from the police.
- ❖ They have opportunities to support others through the mentoring schemes in school. Those in Manford and Newbridge receive good help and support from the youth service.
- ❖ They are asked for their opinion, for example on how play and leisure can be improved, but they are not always told about changes that have happened.
- ❖ Young people and children from the Albanian community have excellent help to support them in new schools.

What things did the inspectors say are good for children and young people in my area?

- ❖ The council and other agencies work very well together and many services are available locally.
- ❖ They listen to young people. One example is the way in which school meals have improved because of the interest in healthy eating.
- ❖ There are some very good services to help children and young people cope with difficult situations. The Indigo programme provides good support for those who have to care for parents and brothers and sisters.
- ❖ Work to combat drug misuse is good.
- ❖ Children and young people are kept safe and those that are most at risk are given outstanding protection by the council.
- ❖ Schools are good and work hard to ensure that children and young people are happy and achieve well.
- ❖ Crime and anti-social behaviour is reducing.

What things are not so good for children and young people?

- ❖ There should be more opportunities for young people to join apprenticeship schemes.
- ❖ There should be better feedback after children and young people have been asked what they think. They should know what changes have happened and why some of their suggestions have not been used.