



Joint area review

Report for children and young people

Report for children and young people about the services they receive in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)

- 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?

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

- ❖ talked/listened to a number of children and young people
- ❖ 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 forum
- ❖ heard from the council and other agencies what it thinks about the services it provides for children
- ❖ read a lot of reports
- ❖ visited services/neighbourhood in North Kensington 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 RBKC?

Inspectors found that children and young people in RBKC are doing very well. In general children and young people in the borough are:

- ❖ very healthy
- ❖ feel and are kept safe
- ❖ enjoy school and leisure and are achieving well
- ❖ are able to make a positive contribution to their communities
- ❖ are given good support as they move into adult life.

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

- ❖ They felt they were being consulted well on matters that affected their lives. They said there were many projects and events to have a voice about what happens in RBKC and that they were listened to in positive ways.
- ❖ They felt proud to live in the Royal Borough and this was a nice place to grow up. There was plenty to do and they felt safe walking in the area.
- ❖ They enjoyed opportunities to learn and to support one another in school and local communities. They liked mentoring each other and felt they were being treated with respect.

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

- ❖ Children and young people in RBKC get good health care and support and encouragement to live healthy lifestyles.
- ❖ Children and young people feel safe in RBKC and they are clear about how to get help and support when needed.
- ❖ There are very good chances to make a contribution to the communities and a great deal of effort is being made to respond to the needs of the many different groups in the borough.
- ❖ Children and young people are achieving well at school and have many chances to enjoy leisure time.
- ❖ The play strategy where children were closely involved in its production is very good indeed.

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

- ❖ Many children and young people have to go out of the borough to school although they attended junior schools in RBKC. They would prefer to stay in the borough if possible.
- ❖ Some young people were concerned about the way the immigration and asylum system was working and how this made things difficult for them in terms of their education, training and employment opportunities.
- ❖ Young carers said they would like to become more involved in the planning of services and felt they had a great deal to contribute to this.

- ❖ Choices for training and preparation by young people for work were sometimes less than is needed and they would like more opportunities at this important time in their lives.