

# Every Child Matters

## what it's all about

The Every Child Matters (ECM) Agenda is a Government initiative to ensure that all children and young people are given the opportunity to develop. There are 5 outcomes of ECM:

- **Be safe**
- **Be healthy**
- **Enjoy and achieve**
- **Make a positive contribution**
- **Achieve economic well-being**

These outcomes are for children and young people whatever their background and the aim is to support children and narrow the gap between disadvantaged children and their peers.

The Government is focussed on improving outcomes for looked-after children and children with special educational needs and disabilities, on reducing teenage pregnancies and the numbers of young people who are not in education, training or employment (NEETS).

Government recognises the crucial role of parents, carers and families in improving outcomes for children and young people and the need to support parents, carers and families to do this. Government also recognises the important role of the community.

To do this, they have set up Children's Trusts. The Trusts bring together all services that provide support to children and young people. There is a Children's Trust for County Durham. Each former district of the county has a Local Children's Board. These boards bring together service providers in a more local area to assess how different agencies can work together to support children and young people.



**For more information on Every Child Matters and how it relates to your group, contact CAVOS on 01388 811115 or email [enquiries@cavos.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cavos.org.uk)**