



Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative

Information Sheet

Summary

Achieving health equity is about guaranteeing a basic state of health and wellbeing for all children, regardless of circumstance. Barnardo's and the Institute of Health Equity, led by Sir Michael Marmot, are partnering to shape the way Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) create health and address health inequalities among children and young people. We are inviting ICSs to apply to be part of our Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative over the next three years.

We are offering the opportunity to three ICSs to work with us on this exciting programme to design a Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework, with support from children and young people, and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) partners in the ICS region.

Benefits to Integrated Care Systems:

- To improve outcomes for children and young people.
- The opportunity to be part of a dynamic partnership that will position ICSs at the vanguard of change, working with a leading international light/thought leader on inequalities (IHE) and the UK's largest children's charity.
- To better understand local gaps and needs.
- To address childhood health inequalities and wider determinants and develop interventions against specific indicators.

- To lead best practice across all ICSs for children and young people.
- To meet NHS England's ICS health inequalities reporting requirements.
- To influence national policy in partnership with the UK's leading children's charity, Barnardo's and the Institute of Health Equity (IHE).
- To gain insights from other ICSs leading this work.
- To work alongside Sir Michael Marmot, who will be chairing the quarterly Steering Group for the Collaborative and supporting ICSs in the development of workstreams.
- To utilise VCSE data systematically to understand hidden need.
- To engage in a unique, collaborative, system-change project that addresses the holistic needs of children and young people.

The Framework will be developed into a dynamic measurement tool that ICSs can use to gather the right information to focus resource on the development of emotionally, mentally and physically healthy children. The tool will provide a practical solution to addressing wider determinants of health, which lay the foundations of good health. Barnardo's and the Institute of Health Equity will lend their expertise in developing supporting interventions to take evidence-based action on equity indicators.



Context

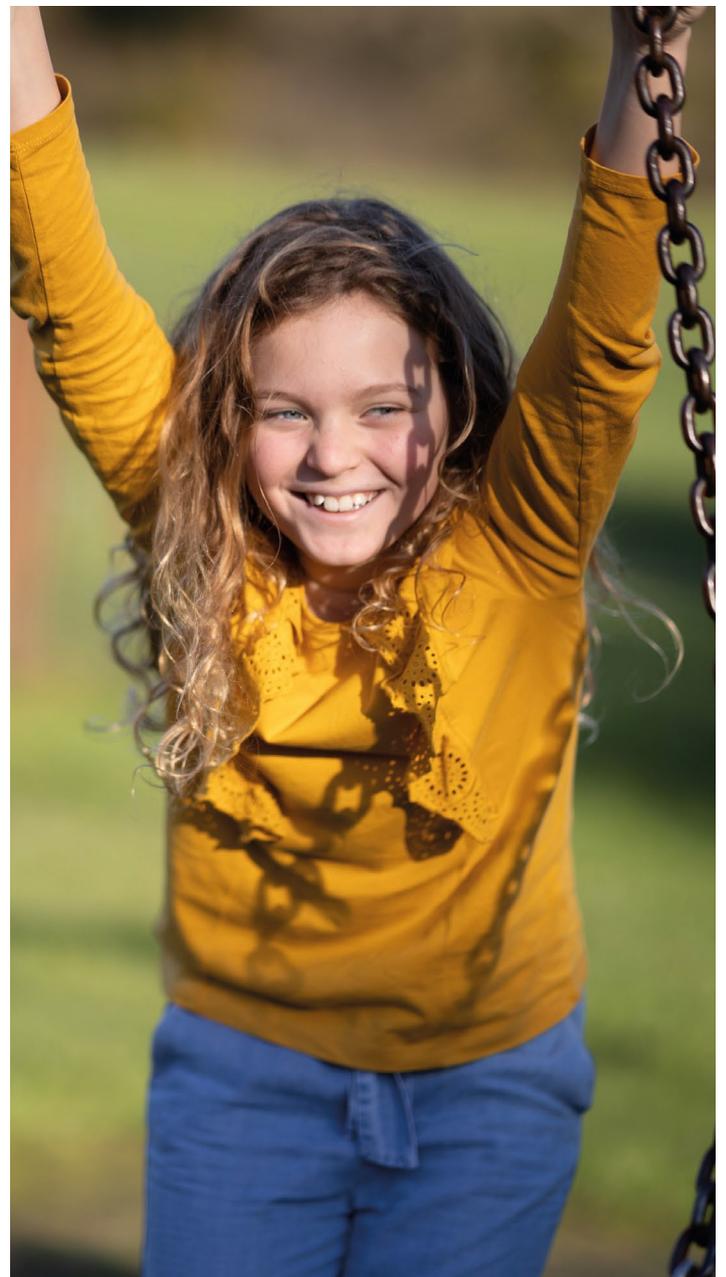
Health systems across the UK are facing significant challenges to meet the needs of children, young people and families and there are wide disparities in health outcomes and inequalities. Many health challenges and inequalities have foundations in childhood and are already evident at birth, leading to differing trajectories and outcomes across the life course.

Health inequalities can include differences in health status, access to and quality of care, health behaviours and wider determinants (such as housing); and can be analysed by socio-economic factors (such as income), geography, specific groups and/or characteristics (e.g. ethnicity)¹.

Experiencing trauma and adversity in childhood also negatively impacts long term physical and mental health outcomes². We know that people living in more deprived circumstances are likely to have higher need for health and social care services and less timely access to those services than their peers. Young people and families are often not able to access services at key times of need due to long waiting lists and gaps in mental health services, resulting in a huge acute cost to the system from preventable diseases and illness. This inequality is set to widen further as the 4 million children living in poverty in the UK (30% of all children) are expected to increase to 5 million by the end of the decade yet targets to reduce child poverty have been abolished³.

ICSs face the twin challenges of creating health within their populations and integrating health and social care to build the most effective system possible. The system is currently focused on spend being weighted to crisis intervention and budgets on early intervention and prevention tend to be the areas that are squeezed.

This is a false economy because we also need to build health among children and young people to prevent them being the high-need service users of the future. Barnardo's Foundation is investing in a three-year programme to develop the tools and the solutions for this.



1. The Kings Fund (2020). What are health inequalities? <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/what-are-health-inequalities>
2. For example, see: Bellis et al., (2019). Life course health consequences and associated annual costs of adverse childhood experiences across Europe and North America: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Accessed via: <https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S2468-2667%2819%2930145-8>; Petruccelli et al., (2019). Adverse childhood experiences and associated health outcomes: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Accessed via: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0145213419303047?via%3Dihub>
3. <https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/key-topics/child-poverty/our-work-to-reduce>

Programme outline

The Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative will comprise three complementary workstreams:

1.

Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework

2.

Children and Young People's Health Equity Dynamic Measurement Tool

3.

Children and Young People's Health Equity Interventions

Partnership working is a critical success factor for our Collaborative. We want to work with ICS partners who can support our programme aims and commit resource against our indicative timescales.

1. Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework:

Year 1 (2022/23):

- Stocktake of existing health inequalities and children and young people reporting requirements of ICSs.

Year 2 (2023/24):

- Co-design of Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework with children and young people, VCSE partners and ICS stakeholders.
- Publish Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework.
- Ongoing iterations of the framework and evaluation of its application in guiding decision-making.

Year 3 (2024/25):

- Publish evaluation.

2. Children and Young People's Health Equity Dynamic Measurement Tool

Year 1 (2022/23):

- Assessment of data availability and resulting data capture strategy.
- Establish data governance arrangements.

Year 2 (2023/24):

- Procure and pilot Dynamic Measurement Tool.
- Evaluation of rollout of measurable dataset, including impact on VCSE sector.

Year 3 (2024/25):

- Continue to develop the Dynamic Measurement Tool.
- Share learning with VCSE partners.

3. Children and Young People's Health Equity Interventions:

Year 2 (2023/24):

- Co-design Health Equity Interventions with children and young people, VCSE partners, and ICS stakeholders.
- Mobilise pilot intervention.

Year 3 (2024/25):

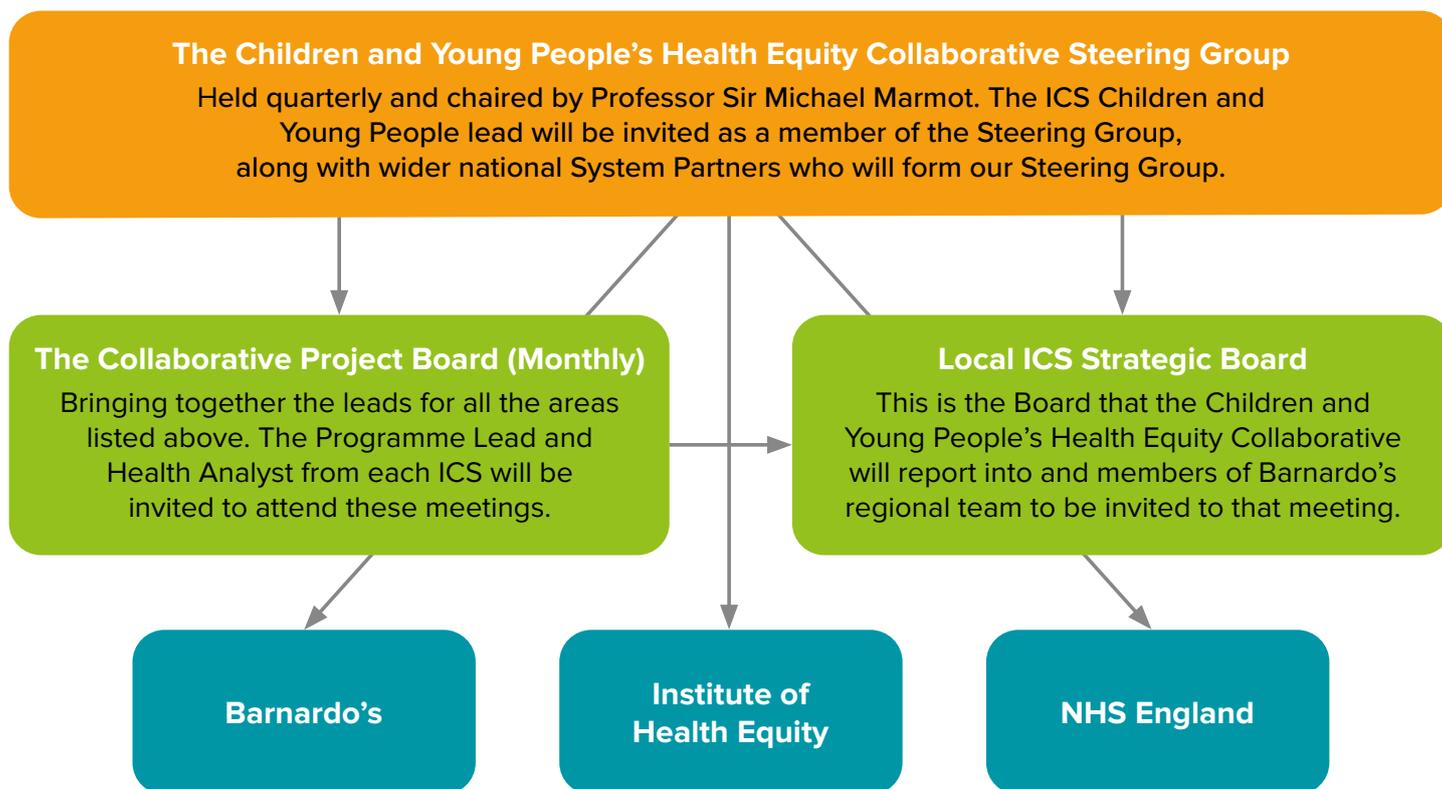
- Evaluate Interventions.
- Disseminate learning.



Roles and Responsibilities

Barnardo's	Institute of Health Equity	Integrated Care System
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme management for the Collaborative. • Coordination of individual ICS programme plans, programme-wide communications and support our governance structures. • Link with our regional teams to deliver workshops to engage children and young people, and VCSE partners in our programme. • Lead on the specification, procurement or development of the Dynamic Measurement Tool. • Lead the service design of our supporting intervention(s), leveraging our expertise in working with children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead responsibility for designing the Children and Young People's Health Equity Framework. • Design means of measuring and capturing data with the tools and partners available. • Advise on how to use the tools in practice to guide ICS strategy. • Support service design of the Health Equity Interventions. • Lead the evaluation of all workstreams of the Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene local working groups and enable children and young people's participation and VCSE engagement in development of the Framework. • Take a lead role in ensuring data governance requirements are met and for partners to access data under the required data sharing agreements. • Participate with all evaluation activity. • Support the codesign and delivery of the Health Equity Interventions.

Children and Young People's Health Equity Governance Structure



We also ask that you identify a Strategic Board that the Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative will report into within your ICS and invite members of Barnardo's regional team to that meeting⁴.



4. Additional task and finish groups may be required during the programme, most likely at individual ICS level.



Resource commitments

Participating ICSs will be part of a strategic partnership with a Memorandum of Understanding, signed by their Chair, their Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Children's Services.

ICSs will be asked to identify a Programme Lead with whom we can work with for day-to-day Collaborative delivery.

ICSs are asked to employ a full time Band 8A Health Analyst to support the Collaborative across ICS partners.

ICSs will be asked to provide access to local data governance resource.

ICSs will be asked to ensure senior level representation and attendance at quarterly Steering Group Meetings.

ICSs will be asked to support the Collaborative to secure funding for the Health Equity Interventions, through Children and Young People Transformation Funds, joint grant applications or by other means.

These are minimum requirements and we would support ICSs to release additional funding to support the Collaborative's success.

Our preference is always to work in partnership through shared values, strong communication and collective problem-solving.

However, if these minimum requirements of the Collaborative are not maintained, we reserve the right to withdraw membership. This will always be a last resort and arrived at through a joint decision-making process.

Selection criteria

We will be undertaking a three-stage selection process:

(1) ICSs are shortlisted based on minimum criteria:

Question	Weighting
B1: What is your existing commitment to addressing health inequalities within your ICS?	30%
B2: Why do you want to be part of the Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative?	25%
B3: What are the main issues for children and young people in your ICS, and what are your plans and priorities?	30%
B4: What added value will your ICS bring to the Children and Young People's Health Equity Collaborative?	15%

(2) 10-15 ICS will be invited to attend a partnership conversation in which we will explore:

- Current ICS priorities
- Existing partnerships within the ICS
- Children and young people's participation
- Data governance and informatics

(3) A final selection and invite to interview will then be based on the optimal combination of:

- Geography (rural/urban)
- Demographics (protected characteristics)
- Deprivation (socioeconomic status and variation within an ICS)
- Population size



Application timescales

Children and Young People Health Equity Collaborative launched and applications open	01 September 2022
ICS and Partners Stakeholder Engagement Events	22nd and 29th September 2022 (11am–12pm)
Expression of Interest deadline	31 October 2022 – 12pm
ICS contacted for Partnership Conversations	14–25 November 2022
ICS Partnership Interviews	w/c 12 December 2022
Initial Steering Group Meeting	w/c 23 January 2023

If you have any additional queries, please contact healthteam@barnardos.org.uk

The ICS and Partners Stakeholder Engagement Events on 22nd and 29th September is the ideal opportunity to find out more and ask any questions you may have.

Please book your place via Eventbrite: www.bit.ly/BarnardosCYP

We require all applications to be submitted and received by **12pm on Monday 31 October 2022**

To learn more about the collaboration and how to apply, visit:
www.barnardos.org.uk/health-equity-collaborative

We look forward to receiving your application