

## Best Start in Life – Indicative Logic Model

Source: Best Start in Life Local Plan – <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/4893/the-best-start-in-life-local-plan>

NEED	INPUTS	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GLD below national levels (64.3%)</li> <li>• Strong age-2 outcomes not sustained</li> <li>• Gaps: FSM, boys, SEND</li> <li>• Rising SEND demand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Hub network</li> <li>• Multi-agency workforce</li> <li>• Aligned strategies</li> <li>• Shared data &amp; governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote early language &amp; play</li> <li>• Increase early education access</li> <li>• Improve EY &amp; Reception quality</li> <li>• Early SEND identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Hub engagement</li> <li>• Increased early education take-up</li> <li>• Earlier SEND &amp; SALT support</li> <li>• Stronger transitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved communication</li> <li>• Better early learning access</li> <li>• Reduced escalation</li> <li>• Narrowing gaps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher GLD outcomes</li> <li>• Reduced inequality</li> <li>• School-ready children</li> <li>• Lower long-term demand</li> </ul>

### Context & External Dependencies

#### Local System Context

- Rotherham has a population of approx. 265,800, with significant socio-economic challenges
- Around 30% of children aged 0–15 live in relative low-income households
- Deprivation is unevenly distributed, with some neighbourhoods experiencing concentrated disadvantage
- Early development outcomes are strong at age 2–2½, but decline by Reception
- Literacy and communication are the weakest EYFS areas locally (writing and word reading)
- SEND prevalence is higher than national (over 20%) and EHCP numbers have increased sharply
- Family Hub engagement is high, providing a strong platform for early intervention
- National early years, childcare and SEND reforms continue to shape delivery and funding

### Assumptions

#### Key Assumptions

- Early intervention has the greatest impact on long-term outcomes
- Improving quality and consistency in early years reduces inequality
- Speech, language and communication are foundational to school readiness
- Joined-up services reduce duplication, delay and escalation of need
- Family Hubs act as trusted access points when visible and accessible
- Sustained improvement depends on workforce capability and stability