140+ ORGANISATIONS CALL ON GOVERNMENT TO PUT CHILDREN AT THE HEART OF THE NATION'S RECOVERY

Despite the Prime Minister's pledges on Building Back Better and Levelling Up, the resignation of Sir Kevan Collins has highlighted a disturbing truth: supporting babies, children and young people to recover from the impact of the pandemic is still not a priority for government investment.

Even before the onset of the crisis, child poverty was rising, school budgets were under pressure, waiting lists for mental health services were unacceptably long, and services supporting families and protecting children from abuse and neglect were at breaking point, stretched by rising need and reduced government funding.

We are calling on the Government to embrace a new vision of childhood to support children, young people and their families to recover from the impact of COVID-19. The voices of children, young people and families must be at the heart of the recovery and rebuild process, and there must be renewed investment in the services and workforce that they rely on.

The Government must produce a recovery and rebuild plan designed to enable our children to thrive. It must do so with urgency and at a scale that is transformational for this generation of children.

That will mean action and investment across Whitehall and in town halls, including: funding for early help services and public health; supporting innovation and integrated working, particularly with charities; dedicated financial support for children; more support for early years settings and schools so attainment gains are not lost; and unprecedented investment in children's mental health. This must be accompanied by a commitment to protect children facing additional challenges, like those with disabilities, asylum seekers, abuse victims and those from minority communities.

It's now time for the nation to put children at the heart of its plans for the future, to stop childhoods being disrupted, life chances being derailed and economic growth being diminished.

Now is the time for the Government and the Prime Minster to send a message about what really matters to them.

































Children & Young People's Mental Health Coalition











Ambitious about Autism





the british psychological society promoting excellence in psychology







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Centre for Mental Health









































































































The professional association for social work and social workers





*Brighter thinking

















Nass





Supporting children's rights to play, care and learning

















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Supporting people with learning disabilities



































khulisa



because both parents matter





The Rt Reverend Paul Butler, Lord Bishop of Durham



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