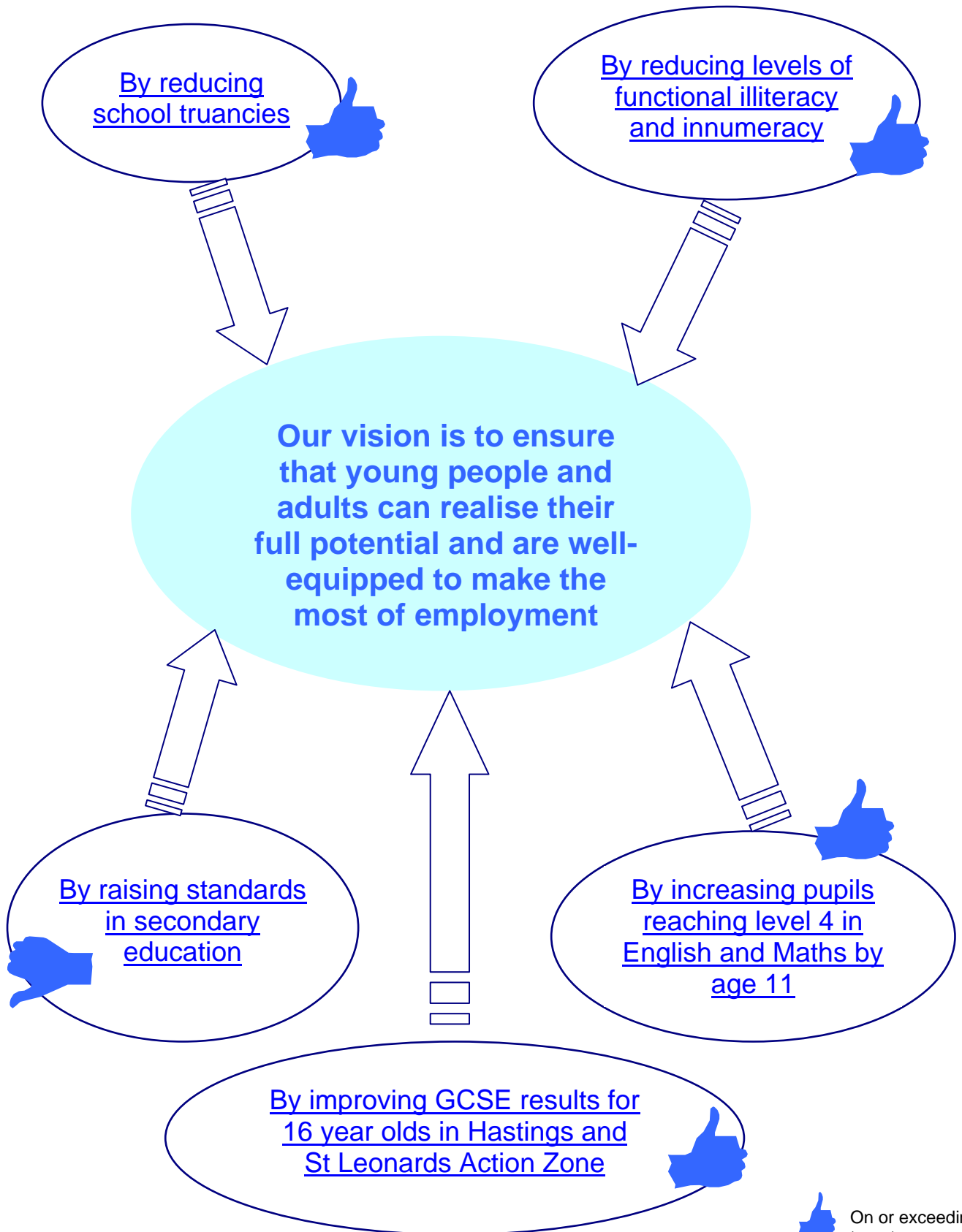





Raising educational aspiration and achievement



-  On or exceeding target
-  Progress unclear
-  Not yet on target



Raising educational aspiration and achievement

Target 1: Reducing school truancies



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would reduce school truancies by 10% by 2004 (compared to 2002)

How does this target help achieve our vision?

A good education is the foundation stone which ensures young people can make the most of employment opportunities in the future. When children are in school they are also supervised so we know that they are safe. We want to ensure that truancy does not interfere with a child's education and that absence from a supervised environment does not put them at risk.

What did we achieve?

Authorised absence from primary & secondary schools has decreased steadily since 1999. By summer 2005, both primary & secondary rates were well below national & statistical neighbour averages. Although unauthorised absences (truancy without the knowledge of parents/carers) have increased from the baseline year to 0.78% half days missed in primary schools and 1.41% half days missed in secondary schools, this is attributed to very robust reporting procedures by schools & a tough line on not authorising holidays in term time.

The overall level of attendance of pupils (95.0% primary and 92.7% secondary) is higher than national & statistical neighbour averages.

Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?

As truancy has fallen in the county and continues to be tackled by East Sussex County Council, the East Sussex Strategic Partnership has decided to concentrate instead on exclusions, which can significantly impact on young people's lives and prospects. The Local Area Agreement, therefore, includes the following target:

4.1 Reduce days lost through exclusion from school, particularly in Hastings

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Target 2: Reducing levels of functional illiteracy and innumeracy



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would reduce levels of functional illiteracy & innumeracy by 2010.



Raising educational aspiration and achievement

How does this target help achieve our vision?

Being unable to read and write not only reduces people's ability to gain employment but can interfere with their access to services and reduce confidence. By helping people to gain these skills we can equip them to realise their potential and make the most of their opportunities.

What did we achieve?

Between March 2001 and March 2004, 3716 individual learners achieved at least one Skills for Life QCA approved qualification from Hastings College of Arts and Technology, Sussex Downs College and Plumpton College.

In 2005, at the end of Key Stage 4, 91.0% pupils achieved Level 1 in functional English and maths comparing well to the national average of 90.6%.

Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?

We will continue to work together to promote the attainment of basic skills and educational qualifications in the County. The Local Area Agreement for East Sussex, which will be the focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership for the next three years, includes the following targets:

- 3.1 Reduce gaps in early skills development between children in the most deprived Super Output Areas and the rest of the county.
- 3.3 Increase the proportion of 19 year olds who have achieved "NVQ Level 2" in education and training.

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Target 3: Raising standards in secondary education



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would raise standards in secondary education so that, by 2004, 75% of 14 year olds achieve level 5 or above in English, Maths and ICT and 70% in Science.

How does this target help achieve our vision?

The quality of the education we can provide for our children directly affects their future prospects. We want East Sussex to be a place where people can maximise their potential and future employment prospects.



Raising educational aspiration and achievement

What did we achieve?

In tests taken in summer 2004, the percentage of pupils achieving level 5 or above in English was 72% and in maths 76%, both an increase over the baseline year and higher than the national averages of 71% for English and 73% for maths.

We were very pleased to be close to our ambitious target for English and to be exceeding it for maths. However, in science, the percentage achieving level 5 or above in 2004 was 68%, representing no change since the baseline year (although higher than the national average of 66%), and for ICT, 54% marked a notable decrease. We have therefore continued to report on this target, past the target date, and in 2005 managed to increase the percentage achieving level 5 or above in ICT to 58%. There was no change in the percentage achieving level 5 or above in science; 68%.

Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?

We continue to take the educational achievement of our young people very seriously and will continue to work in partnership on this issue. We believe that we need to look further at the whole education process and the qualifications being achieved by the age of 19. The Local Area Agreement for East Sussex, which will be the focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership for the next three years, includes the following target:

- 3.3 Increase the proportion of 19 year olds who have achieved "NVQ Level 2" in education and training (at least 5 GCSE grades A* -C or equivalent).

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Target 4: Increasing pupils reaching level 4 in English and Maths by age 11



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would ensure that 90% of pupils reach level 4 in English and Maths (Key Stage 2), by age 11 by 2007

How does this target help achieve our vision?

The quality of the education we can provide for our children directly affects their future prospects. We want East Sussex to be a place where people can maximise their potential and future employment prospects.

What did we achieve?

In tests taken in summer 2005, 78% of pupils reached level 4 in English and 75% in Maths (Key Stage 2), by age 11, taking us some way towards achieving our very ambitious final target in two years time.



Raising educational aspiration and achievement

Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?

We continue to take the educational achievement of our young people very seriously and will continue to work in partnership on this issue. We believe that we need to look further at the whole education process and the qualifications being achieved by the age of 19. The Local Area Agreement for East Sussex, which will be the focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership for the next three years, includes the following target:

- 3.3 Increase the proportion of 19 year olds who have achieved "Level 2" in education and training (at least 5 GCSE grades A* -C or equivalent).

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Target 5: Improving GCSE results for 16 year olds in Hastings and St Leonards Action Zone



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would increase the percentage of 16 year olds in secondary schools within the Hastings and St Leonards Action zone achieving at least one grade A-G at GCSE from 91% (2002) to 94% by the end of 2005

How does this target help achieve our vision?

The quality of the education we can provide for our children directly affects their future prospects. We want East Sussex to be a place where people can maximise their potential and future employment prospects. We chose to target 16 year olds within this Action Zone because we were concerned about their achievements in comparison with elsewhere in the County and wanted to ensure that they were able to share in the ability to realise their potential.

What did we achieve?

In summer 2005, 95.6% of 16 year olds in secondary schools in the Hastings and St Leonards Action Zone achieved at least one A-G at GCSE.

Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?

The Local Area Agreement for East Sussex, which will be the focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership for the next three years, includes the following target:

- 23.2 Reduce inequalities between educational development achieved by pupils in Hastings at ages 11, 14 and 16

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