####

**SEND Partnership Board**

**Teams Meeting**

6 July, 10.00 – 12.00

**Notes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Attendees** | **Apologies** |
| Helen Johns, Assistant Director, Inclusion and SENDKathy Lockyear, Lead for Specialist Advisory Teaching ServiceKeir Margrave, Local Offer OfficerRachel Sadler, Youth Participation LeadMichael Rhodes-Kubiak, Short Breaks Commissioning ManagerPatricia Byrne, SEND IASNatalie McNeill, Designated Social Care OfficerKathryn Kellagher, SEND & Inclusion Project Support OfficerClaire Hayes, Head of Service, Early HelpKate Kewley, Social Care, Pathways to adulthoodKatie Tobin, Support Broker, Adult Services & HealthRachael Lee, Designated Clinical OfficerKim Tucker, Team Manager, Libraries Service (Disability Register)Rowan Westwood, West Sussex Parent Carer ForumMajella Murphy, Team Manager, Lifelong ServicesSarah Albery, Assistant Head, Virtual SchoolTasha Brabon, AspensMichelle Olden, Team Manager, Adult Services and HealthGillian Santi, School GovernorDebi Daisley, SENCO at Heene Primary School Claire Lewis, SENCO at Georgian Gardens Primary School | Claire Prince, Senior SEND & Inclusion AdviserAndrea Morgan, Principal Educational PsychologistGrace Fairbourne, Early Years ConsultantHannah Delmar- Addy, Reaching FamiliesJacqui Parfitt, SEND Service and Market Development ManagerEmma England, Project Officer, Joint Commissioning UnitSally Kean, Children’s Health Commissioner, Joint Commissioning UnitHeather Mcintosh, Team Manager, SEND IASDoug Thomas, Head Teacher, West Sussex Alternative Provision CollegeSam Channon, Business Manager, West Sussex Alternative Provision CollegeVal Evans, West Sussex Parent Carer ForumLouise Fox, Head of Service, Family Support and ProtectionLou Gatton (The Angmering School) and Amy Osborne (Oriel) to join the board in Autumn 2022 |
|  |  | **Action** |
| 1. | **Notes of previous meeting (including Terms of Reference)** The notes of the previous meeting and the Terms of Reference for this group were agreed.* We now have representation from schools
* HJ encouraged the group to respond to the Green paper consultation. We are putting together a response on behalf of SEND & Inclusion which will be shared with Cabinet and we are happy to represent the voice of others as well.
	+ Please forward your views to HJ if you would like them represented in the SEND & Inclusion response.
	+ You don’t have to answer all the questions in the consultation – just focus on the ones you feel are relevant.
	+ The West Sussex Parent Carer Forum is encouraging its members to respond and are highlighting the final “catch all” question. There are concerns that the direction of the Green Paper does not align with the Schools White Paper, which includes the expectation that 90% of children and young people will achieve expected targets in reading, writing and maths at the end of KS2. This concern should be reflected in the response to the Green Paper consultation.
	+ The Governors’ Association is meeting next week to put forward a response.
* **On-line discussion group**It was agreed that KK should set up a Sharepoint site that can be accessed by colleagues from other organisations. KK will need to pass an on-line training course and there will be a small annual fee.
* **Reporting Cards**These will be issued to everyone next time, and members are encouraged to complete them.
 | AllKKALL |
| 2. | **SEND & Inclusion Strategy updates** There have been some key events this term:**SENCO Conference.** This was a very positive experience for the SENCOs who were able to attend. It was great to finally bring people together after COVID and there was a positive vibe and energy in the room. **Two alternative provision events**A high proportion of the children and young people accessing alternative provision have identified SEND and this link has been acknowledged in the Green Paper. We have run a couple of alternative provision events in the last week:1. **Independent Alternative Providers – Showcase.** This event was an opportunity for the independent Alternative Providers, who are signed up to the **Dynamic Purchasing System (**[DPS)](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMjA3MDYuNjAzNzEwODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3dlc3RzdXNzZXgubG9jYWwtb2ZmZXIub3JnL2luZm9ybWF0aW9uX3BhZ2VzLzYzMC1wcm92aWRlci1ndWlkZS10by1ob3ctd2VzdC1zdXNzZXgtY291bnR5LWNvdW5jaWwtYnV5cy1jb21taXNzaW9ucy1zZW5kLXNlcnZpY2VzLWZvci1jaGlsZHJlbi1hbmQteW91bmctcGVvcGxlIn0.7hHkvCfkFOYjgV9rfi20ZhSwxrWdoU53tdKSpfZAbkU/s/640531607/br/135652648106-l)**,** to showcase their provision to schools. [Alternative educational provision](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMjA3MDYuNjAzNzEwODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3NjaG9vbHMubG9jYWwtb2ZmZXIub3JnL3RlYW0tYXJvdW5kLXRoZS1zY2hvb2wvc2VydmljZXMtc3VwcG9ydGluZy1zY2hvb2xzLWFuZC1zZXR0aW5ncy12Mi9hbHRlcm5hdGl2ZS1wcm92aXNpb24vaW5kZXBlbmRlbnQtYWx0ZXJuYXRpdmUtcHJvdmlzaW9uLyJ9.pCr6oarTjoBvJUNcIv38cj0afV713gRjd42GMPLRonA/s/640531607/br/135652648106-l) is used to complement/supplement the provision in school for learners who struggle to attend school full-time, giving them access to a small, therapeutic-based setting for a period of time, which allows them to build the skills and resilience they need to return to a mainstream setting.  The DPS is a quality assurance framework we have set up around the providers, who are unregistered with Ofsted. Ofsted has issued a call for evidence on unregistered providers and this is becoming an area of greater focus.

Alternative provision is used to help integrate a young person back into a mainstream (or sometimes specialist) offer and needs to be used as part of the planning for this return. It should focus on developing the personal skills necessary for a young person to access the full curriculum at their school. The presentations can be accessed via the [Showcase for Independent Alternative Provisions on Tools for Schools.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMjA3MDYuNjAzNzEwODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3NjaG9vbHMubG9jYWwtb2ZmZXIub3JnL3RlYW0tYXJvdW5kLXRoZS1zY2hvb2wvc2VydmljZXMtc3VwcG9ydGluZy1zY2hvb2xzLWFuZC1zZXR0aW5ncy12Mi9hbHRlcm5hdGl2ZS1wcm92aXNpb24vaW5kZXBlbmRlbnQtYWx0ZXJuYXRpdmUtcHJvdmlzaW9uL3Nob3djYXNlLWZvci1pbmRlcGVuZGVudC1hbHRlcm5hdGl2ZS1wcm92aXNpb25zLyJ9.914qyZR8RkAWlZwA-o0Vlnz2Phgg8ZyksjTeUU4qshE/s/640531607/br/135652648106-l)1. **Alternative Curriculum Pathways**Secondary schools came together to share their own alternative provision for children and young people who are struggling. It was very encouraging for us to see the drive and commitment from secondary schools to keep their children and young people in their local community. Some of the presentations can be accessed on Tools for Schools under [Alternative Curriculum Pathways](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMjcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMjA3MDYuNjAzNzEwODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3NjaG9vbHMubG9jYWwtb2ZmZXIub3JnL3RlYW0tYXJvdW5kLXRoZS1zY2hvb2wvc2VydmljZXMtc3VwcG9ydGluZy1zY2hvb2xzLWFuZC1zZXR0aW5ncy12Mi9hbHRlcm5hdGl2ZS1wcm92aXNpb24vYWx0ZXJuYXRpdmUtY3VycmljdWx1bS1wYXRod2F5cy1pbi1zY2hvb2xzLyJ9.ZX0-cRDWgdRUZ-YTpz2JKI1iNEgPm3VM8DERVnk6_UY/s/640531607/br/135652648106-l).

**Timelines for Education, Health & Care Needs Assessments (EHCNA)**We continue to experience very high demand for EHCNA and specialist placement. We are not meeting our 20-week statutory deadline as we do not have capacity, particularly within the Educational Psychology Service, which is causing a great deal of parental anxiety. We are doing everything we can to be more efficient but there is a national shortage of educational psychologists (EPs) which is affecting our ability to recruit. * Patricia Byrne, SEND IAS, asked if the EPs will help address the backlog by carrying out assessments during the summer holidays. Traditionally they have needed to observe a child or young person within an educational setting but waiting until September will have a further impact on timelines. HJ: because of the huge pressure we are under, yes, the EPs will see a child or young person in their home or in a neutral place over the summer holidays. We are trying to work through the assessments as fairly as possible and are prioritising early years while trying not to be detrimental to other young people in the system. It is a massive challenge to professionals working in the system, as no-one wants to let down children or their families.

**Free special school bid**We have expressed interest in the free special school bid and our submission will go in October. We are asking for two special schools, one in the north and one in the south of the county, which is a part of a long-term solution to address the high demand in areas such as autism. We would hope to deliver a school in 2025. In the meantime, we are working on various projects with our current special schools to increase their capacity, by eg using other sites or trying to extend what they have. **Principal Lead for SENAT** left at end of May and we have recruited Karen Spencer from Portsmouth who will be in place by September. Kim Clayton is the interim Lead for SENAT.  |  |
| 3. | **Reports from other teams****Short Breaks** – Michael Rhodes-Kubiak, see attached Report Card Current contracts are coming to an end and there has been a series of engagement sessions/surveys with families as the team reviews the short breaks offer. A key message from working with the WSPCF is that any changes need to be communicated as clearly as possible to reduce parental anxiety. We are also being clear that we are making changes to the short breaks offer, but are working within the limits of the same overall budget – it is a case of redistributing funds. A greater focus in one area will mean less of a focus in another and parents are broadly in agreement with this approach. The feedback is:* More school holiday provisions, particularly during the summer. This will result in a lessened focus on after school provision.
* An increase in the number of family fun days
* Support children/young people, age group 14-18, with transition to adulthood and helping them to learn life skills such as shopping and cooking a meal.
* Provision for children and young people with complex needs who need a higher staff ratio.

Michelle Olden and Kate Kewley to talk to Michael around how best to prepare children and young people for adulthood and the potential for commissioning some short breaks for the over 18s**Youth Participation -** Rachel Sadler, see attached Report Card.* The Youth Ambassadors attended the SENCO Conference. They have received positive feedback and the conference has opened up some further opportunities for them to speak at other events.
* Rachel is working with the West Sussex Youth Cabinet to look at a guide to how children and young people can take part in formal and strategic meetings. She will share the guide with this group once it is finalised.
* The SEND Participant Assistant contract ends in late August.
* The co-production around the Single Point of Access (SPoA) was sporadic. Rachel and Rowan (WSPCF) have met with Naomi Frith, the Project Manager, to discuss how this can be improved going forward. If this remains an issue, Rachel will bring it back to this group for escalation.

**Local Offer** – Keir Margrave* The Local Offer is working towards migration to a new system and are aiming for a launch date in September. Teams that are on the Local Offer will be contacted to update their pages. A key piece of work will be getting all the schools to update their pages. It should be up and running for the SEND Awareness term.
* Spectrum Gaming is creating a safe on-line community for autistic children and young people, where they can game and socialise safely. They are also co-producing some advice around EBSA which we can share with the group when it is available. [Home | Spectrum Gaming](https://www.spectrumgaming.net/)

**SEND Awareness term** This will focus on getting information out about SEND to wider agencies, particularly within Social Care. Natalie McNeill to update at the next meeting.**West Sussex Parent Carer Forum -** Rowan Westwood* Rowan apologised for not completing a report card but thinks they are a great idea and she will do one for next time.
* Generally it has been a busy term for the forum and families. The key concerns for families are around waiting lists and decision-making timelines.
* On a more positive note, there has now been engagement with SPoA, she has met with Rachael Lee, Designated Clinical Officer, and she is co-producing some resources with the Neurodevelopmental Pathways team (**NDP**).

**Disability Register** - Kim Tucker * This is now up and running, families have transferred over from Amaze and a number of new families have joined. Max cards are now available in libraries which should help families affected by the ending of the Compass Card scheme in West Sussex.
* They have recently appointed Felicity Masters as the Principal Librarian for SEND. They will invite her to the next meeting to update us on disability register and SEND events such as sensory stories.

**Designated Clinical Officer -** Rachael Lee * The CCG merging has resulted in an Integrated Care System, launched today. This shouldn’t affect day to day services but there is now a pan Sussex commissioning service, with West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove merging, which should bring a greater parity of services.
* Linda Willmott has retired and Aaron Gain has also left.
* The Integrated Care System (ICS) will have a SEND Lead and once appointed, this will have a positive impact on relationships and understanding of health in terms of SEND. We’re not working together as well as we would like but we are more optimistic for the future.
 | MR-K, MO, KKewRSNMKT, Felicity Masters |
| 4. | **How to involve young people in the work of the Partnership Board**See attached presentation.Rachel Sadler led us through her presentation which was positively received by the Board.It was noted that the way meetings such as are run does not enable meaningful engagement with young people – too dry, too many confusing acronyms etc. This is an ideal opportunity for us to think through how to work differently and in a more meaningful way with young people, which we could then use as a model of good practice within WSCC. It was agreed that:1. We will use the SEND Partnership Board as an opportunity to develop our commitment to involving and engaging effectively with children and young people.
2. We will set up a mirror SEND Youth Board, which will meet two weeks in advance of the SEND Partnership Board and will feed into it.
3. In order to make it easier for young people to attend the SEND Partnership Board, we will make one meeting a term to be face to face and will change the timing of it to be 4-6pm. The young people will not need to attend the whole meeting but could, for example, attend between 5-6pm.

Next steps:* The meetings for next term are scheduled for 19 September and 8 November. We will aim for the first meeting of the SEND Youth Board to be around 25 October.
* Consider how we can recruit young people and liaise with Rachel Sadler
	+ Tasha Brabon, Aspens and Claire Hayes, SEND Champions
* Rachel to set up a small working group to take this forward.
 | RS, TB, CHRS |
| 5. | **Local Area SEND Inspection Framework consultation**See attached presentation.The Area SEND inspection framework (ASEND) is aligned to the SEND Green Paper and will be leaunched in early 2023.The consultation began on Monday 13th June and will run for 12 weeks, closing on 11th September 2022. * Members of the SEND Partnership Board need to be aware of these changes and how they will affect our different areas of work.
* We are already considering how we will carry out deep dive audits and will make this a focus for the autumn term.

**ACTIONS:** Share the attached presentation with your groups and consider how we can engage the wider community with regards to deep dive audits.To be revisited at our next meeting on 19 September. | ALL |
| 6. | Next meeting: 19 September, Teams meeting |  |