

Health and Wellbeing Board

26 July 2016

Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities 0-25 2016/18



Report of Caroline O'Neill, Head of Education, Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board with an overview of the Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) aged 0-25 2016/18, attached at Appendix 2, covering the following key strategic aspects:
 - Shared vision
 - Areas for action consideration from the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
 - Outcomes
 - Recommendations

Background

- 2 The strategy has been co-developed between Durham County Council, Education (Schools and Colleges), Health, Parents and Carers and Children and Young People.
- 3 The strategy describes the current support available in County Durham for children and young people with SEND and outlines the next steps of the SEND and Inclusion team and the wider teams across Children's Services, including our response to the Children and Families Act 2014 SEND Code of Practice.
- 4 At the heart of the strategy is the principle that all children and young people, including those with SEND be given every opportunity to take control of their lives, be as independent as possible and achieve as much as they are able.
- 5 To achieve this, the strategy recognises that service design and delivery should have children and their families at the centre and be focussed on their physical and emotional health, independence, and inclusion.
- 6 The strategy is focussed on ensuring needs are identified early and that the right support is made available at the right time in order to promote the very best chances for children and young people with a wide range of SEND.

Main Issues of Report

Shared Vision

- 7 Our shared vision in County Durham is for all children and young people with SEND to have every opportunity to take control of their lives, be as independent as possible and achieve their full potential. To achieve this we are committed to:
 - 7.1 **Participation** - Ensuring children and young people and their families are at the heart of developing and planning services.
 - 7.2 **Promotion and Prevention** - Promoting wellbeing and inclusion, ensuring that the right support is available which develops skills and capacity and identifies and meets needs as soon as possible.
 - 7.3 **Personalisation** - Providing and commissioning services to maximise choice to the right support enabling children and young people with SEND to fulfil their individual aspirations.
 - 7.4 **Preparing for Adulthood** - Ensuring all professionals working with our children and young people share high aspirations and support them towards greater independence and employability.

Areas for Action

8 Within the report, detailed actions are provided under the headings listed in 7.1 – 7.4 above.

8.1 Participation

Action we will take	By when	Who will lead this
All services ensure they maximise participation in the co-production of services.	September 2016	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion
All services to routinely seek feedback from service users to continually improve the quality of services.	October 2016	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion
Services to gather and share evidence of best practice in the participation of families, young people and children.	December 2016	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion

8.2 Promotion and Prevention

Action we will take	By when	Who will lead this
All partners to review and/or promote the development of an Accessibility Strategy.	December 2016	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion
Ensure all services reflect the strategic aims of the SEND Strategy within planning and delivery of services and evidence within performance measures (e.g. Early Help Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan, Mental Health Transformation Plan).	March 2017	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion
All services to contribute and participate in multi-agency training programmes for all staff at a universal, targeted and specialist level to ensure that they are fully equipped with knowledge and skills to support families and children and young people.	April 2017	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion
All partners to have a workforce development plan to continue to develop a competent and highly skilled workforce.	April 2017	Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion

8.3 Personalisation

Action we will take	By when	Who will lead this
Develop a joint understanding of the outcomes that matter to children and young people with SEND to inform the planning, commissioning and delivery of personalised services and the monitoring of how well services across the local offer have secured these outcomes.	April 2016	Strategic Manager Commissioning

Outcomes

- Reduction of the gap in attainment between pupils with SEND and their peers;
- Compliance with the requirements of the SEND Reforms;
- Reduction in out of county high cost placements;
- Increased numbers of children remaining in mainstream school.

Recommendations

9 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- Note the contents of the report
- Endorse the Strategy for Children and Young People with SEND aged 0-25 2016/18 (Appendix 2).

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people.

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – One of the central points within the strategy is to meet the needs of children with disability.

Legal Implications – None