

Update on Darlington SEND Pathfinder

October 2013

A reminder: the case for change

The current system is not working for families and children:

- ✘ Too many children with SEN have their needs picked up late;
- ✘ Young people with SEN do less well than their peers at school and college and are more likely to be out of education, training and employment at 18;
- ✘ Schools and colleges can focus too much on the SEN label rather than meeting the child's needs, and the current Statements/ Learning Difficulty Assessments do not focus on life outcomes;
- ✘ Too many families have to battle to find out what support is available and in getting the help they need from education, health and social care services; and
- ✘ When a young person leaves school for further education, they enter a very different system which does not carry forward the rights and protections that exist in the SEN system in schools.

Our vision

- ✓ Children's SEN are picked up early and support is routinely put in place quickly;
- ✓ Staff have the knowledge, understanding and skills to provide the right support for children and young people who have SEN or are disabled;
- ✓ Parents know what they can reasonably expect their local school, college, LA & local services to provide, without having to fight for it;
- ✓ Aspirations for children and young people are raised through an increased focus on life outcomes, including employment;
- ✓ For more complex needs, an integrated assessment and a single Education, Health and Care Plan are in place from birth to 25; and
- ✓ There is greater control for parents and young people over the services they and their family use.

What we have done so far

- Children's SEN are picked up early and support is routinely put in place quickly.
- **Start of One Plan** with parents of child with additional needs working in partnership with any professional from Health , Education and Social Care.
- Statutory EHC plan time reduced to 9/10 weeks when One Plan is used and identifies continued additional needs.

What we have done so far

- Staff have the knowledge, understanding and skills to provide the right support for children and young people who have SEN or are disabled
- Involved partners in development of the new process and One Plan leading to EHC Plan (if necessary).
- Successful Rapid improvement Event -30, 60 and 90 day reporting.
- October 2013 training started on key working plus key working Interest Group established.
- Keyworkers from each agency health, education, social care and voluntary sector have been part of the pilot so far.

What we have done so far

- Parents know what they can reasonably expect their local school, college, LA & local services to provide, without having to fight for it.
- Partially complete Local Offer website
- Variety of ways of gaining information
- Family centred approach on paper and in practice.
- Peer support offered through DAD Key working in Partnership project.
- Key working for support through the process and on-going for complex needs and situations.

What we are doing

- For more complex needs, an integrated assessment and a single Education, Health and Care Plan are in place from birth to 25; and
- Converting existing Statements into EHC Plans
- Health are starting the One Plan process at 15 weeks and 15 months etc
- Through joint Health and Social Care packages supporting the most complex needs.

What we have done

- Aspirations for children and young people are raised through an increased focus on life outcomes, including employment.
- Making independence and aspirations of parents and young people a central part of the One Plan & the EHC Plan.
- Ensuring the multi-agency meetings address the concerns and issues that are important to the family first.
- Including parents and the family as part of the Plan.

What we are trying

- There is greater control for parents and young people over the services they and their family use.
- To raise awareness of choice and control.
- To make budgets transparent
- To inform about personal budgets and how to meet needs creatively.

Changes to SEN funding

- Secondary Schools
 - all funding is delegated
- Primary Schools (Banding)
 - Bands 1-6 delegated (up to £13,500)
 - Bands 7-10 allocated according to need (over £13,500)
- Special Schools (Banding)
 - Bands A-D

	SEN Provision in Mainstream Schools		Special School or Resource Base Unit Place	
Element 1	AWPU and other pupil-led factors	Element 1 & 2 formula driven and funded through DSG Schools Block (delegated direct to schools)	£4,000	Places commissioned and funded through EFA
Element 2	£6,000		£6,000	
Element 3	Top up funding based on need	LA funded through DSG High Needs Block	Top up Funding based on need	LA funded through DSG High Needs Block