

# Sheffield Local Area Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) 0-25

## Development of Written Statement Of Action



Sheffield City Council



1

# Summary

- We have until 30 April to respond to Ofsted with a Written Statement of Action (WSOA)
- The WSOA sets out how we will respond to each area of weakness identified in the inspection
- Seven areas of weakness identified
- Our response needs to include the outcomes we want to achieve in each area
- Various meetings and consultations have taken place to inform initial content
- Drafting is ongoing – and being informed by feedback

# 1. Strategy

**Inspection finding:** The lack of a co-produced, coherent vision and strategy for SEND in Sheffield

## **Draft Outcomes:**

- **Producing the strategy:** A co-produced SEND Strategy for Sheffield that drives a coordinated approach to deliver improvement for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)
- **Communicating and embedding the strategy:** A full and coherent communication and engagement plan to ensure the vision and strategy are understood by stakeholders
- **Delivering the strategy and accountability:** A clear performance, governance and accountability framework

## 2. Communication & relationships

**Inspection finding:** Weaknesses in communication, clarity and consistency in the relationship between the local area leaders, parents, carers, children and young people

### **Draft Outcomes:**

- **Clear & consistent information:** Local offer provides clear & consistent advice, all the information CYPFs and providers need to understand re processes and systems is accessible
- **Clear & consistent communication & engagement:** Clear communication routes and a consistent approach
- **Embedded Co-production:-** Approach embedded in practice for the development of support for children and young people
- **Tell Us Once:** A citywide process of 'Tell us once' for a young person's story to be communicated



# 3. Strategic oversight by CCG

**Inspection finding:** Poor strategic oversight of SEND arrangements by the CCG, which results in unacceptable waiting times for access to specialist equipment and appropriate pre- and post-diagnosis support and children and young people's needs not being met

## Draft Outcomes:

- **Understanding and accountability:** Improved reporting, governance and data flows related to SEND in the CCG
- **Clinical oversight:** Improved CCG clinical oversight of SEND and quality assurance of EHCP process
- **Delivering on priority improvements:** Address existing service issues



# 4. Commissioning

**Inspection finding:** Weaknesses in commissioning arrangements to remove variability & improve consistency in meeting the education, health & care needs of children & young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND

## Draft Outcomes:

- **Understand needs:** Ensure a full and shared understanding of CYP's education, health & care needs to inform commissioning planning & decisions
- **Map current provision:** Ensure a clear understanding of existing commissions and provision; identify gaps/ inconsistencies; and engage with CYPF for feedback as part of commissioning cycle
- **Consistent & improved citywide programme:** Develop joint local area commissioning programme for support to CYP with SEND and a consistent approach to the way we commission services.

## 5. Education Health & Care Plans (EHCs)

**Inspection finding:** Weaknesses in the quality and timeliness of EHC plans

### **Draft Outcomes:**

- **Timely assessment:** EHC Needs Assessments will be compliant with the statutory requirements of 20 weeks
- **High quality EHC Plans:** The quality of EHC Plans will be consistently good with a clear quality assurance process in place



# 6. Mainstream schools

**Inspection finding:** Inconsistencies in identifying, assessing & meeting needs in mainstream primary and secondary schools

## Draft Outcomes:

- **Consistent approach to understanding, assessing & meeting needs:** The graduated approach to meeting needs will be embedded across the city, the Sheffield Support Grid will be consistently used & decision making will be consistent to ensure an equitable allocation of support & resources
- **Consistent & clear expectations:** Clear understanding & expectations of the roles & responsibilities of staff & services so that schools are clear about the help they and others should be giving, to ensure the best support for children and young people
- **Improved practice:** Approaches to quality assurance & identifying & supporting school improvement needs, to ensure practices develop and improve resulting in better support for children and young people
- **The right services and support will be in place:** So all children and young people are able to successfully access a full time education in school



# 7. Transitions

**Inspection finding:** Weaknesses in securing effective multi-agency transition arrangements for children and young people with SEND

## Draft Outcomes:

- **Supported journey into & through education:** Effective transition arrangements to support children into school & across key transition points through education
- **Coordination across services:** Strong partnership working between health, education & care facilitates a coordinated and seamless transition
- **Seamless step into adulthood:** A coordinated & seamless transition between children's & adult services ensuring the young person's continuing needs are met

# Next steps

- Consultation on draft Written Statement of Action - Up to end of March. To include:
  - Key stakeholders
  - Key Boards
  - Cabinet members
  - Leadership and Strategy Group and Governing Body
- Feedback used to revise draft – Up to mid-April
- Relevant approvals in SCC and CCG
- Document submitted – by 30 April