Wokingham SEND Partnership - Strategy Development

69

Update for Health & Well-Being Board

Agenda Item 43.



Strategy Development - Process so far...

- Initial discussion at SEND Partnership in May 2023
- Consensus that whilst the strategic and financial context had changed, priorities identified in the 2021-24 SEND Strategy remained valid
- Therefore agreed that the strategy required relatively 'light touch' updating and refreshing rather than comprehensive 'root and branch' change
- Data gathering process through surveys and wider discussion:
 - Survey for schools between June July 2023
 - SEND Voices Parents and Carers Annual Wokingham Borough SEND Survey 2023
 - Me2 Club surveyed young people's views June September 2023
- Pulled together initial draft of plan in the Autumn / Winter term
- This is the version that has been circulated conscious that there are gaps in terms of input particularly from health colleagues

Strategic Vision

71

- Wokingham is a great place for children and young people to grow up. The area is vibrant and has a strong local economy. Most families in Wokingham benefit from high quality housing and access to good community services. Schools in Wokingham are excellent. Healthcare provision across the Berkshire West area is accessible and high quality.
- It must be recognised, however that for children and young people with SEND, that positive picture is not always shared, with a range of barriers preventing and restricting access to opportunities and services.
- The aspiration and vision set out in this Strategy is that Wokingham should be great place for ALL children and young people, including those with SEND, to grow up with voices that are heard, access to opportunities, and who are well prepared for an independent and fulfilled adult life.

Key Principles underpinning the SEND Strategy

Co-Production is central -We will ensure that the voices of children, young people and their families shape our services

We will ensure that children and young people with SEND are valued, visible and included in their communities

We will ensure the local SEND system is focused on early support and prevention SEND is Everyone's business - We will ensure that all services are supported and challenged to play their part in delivering the SEND Strategy

We are ambitious for Children and Young People with SEND and will support and encourage their high aspirations Support will be needs-led NOT label-led - Services will respond quickly to address needs rather than await diagnoses

Honesty, integrity and trust will be hallmarks of the local system

SEND Partnership Strategic Priorities

AIMS
Ensuring that C&YP with SEND are visible, valued and included as part of their local communities and that every provider plays their part in meeting these needs through positive and proactive inclusion and early intervention
Ensuring there is access to sufficient high-quality education, health and care provision to address the special educational needs and disabilities of the local 0-25's population
To maximise the reach and impact of education, health, and social care support across the system, at both SEN Support and EHCP levels through effective commissioning and contract management
Ensuring we are able to target resources and support at key stage transfers and other points of tension and system failure
Develop a more consistent approach to engaging with young people with SEND to ensure their views and experiences contribute to shaping the local SEND System Address stakeholder frustrations around communication regarding SEND processes and provision
-

SEND Strategy Development Timetable

- Initial Draft released for feedback early December
- This had been developed with input from schools, parents and carers of young people with SEND and young people themselves
- Following a request from health colleagues seeking more opportunities to input into the Strategy we are currently in the process of holding three Co-Production workshops in the first quarter of 2024 (January, February and March)

SEND Strategy Co-Production Workshops Thursday 25th January 10:30-12:30 Monday 19th February 15:00-17:00 Thursday 28th March 12:00-14:00

- These sessions are focused on identifying and addressing barriers to progress on our shared priorities
- This will culminate in the final draft being presented to Executive for approval 30 May 2024