

Worcestershire Local Area - SEND Accelerated Progress Plan (SEND APP) 2023-2024, Revision September 2023

Project Sponsors: Director of Children's and Chief Executive Officer of Worcestershire Children First (WCF); Chief Executive Officer, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB)

Business Lead: Director of All Age Disability (0-25 years)

Worcestershire's Vision for SEND

"In Worcestershire we want all children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities to be truly seen and respected as individuals and to be the best they can be."

SEND Strategy 2023 -2026

Key Concern Workstreams

<p>1. The lack of suitable specialist provision to meet the identified needs of children and young people</p> <p>LEAD WCF AND HEALTH: Sarah Wilkins, Director of Education, Maria Hardy, Lead for Children and Maternity (ICB)</p> <p>Membership: Families in Partnership (FiP), School Phase Leads including FE, Specialist Schools, Worcestershire Children First, ICB, Health & Care Trust, SENDIASS Management Information Analyst (WCF) Group Manager for Place Planning and Sufficiency (WCF) SEND Group Managers (WCF)</p>	<p>2. The voice of parent/carers and children and young people</p> <p>LEAD WCF AND HEALTH: Daniela Carson, Children with Disabilities Group Manager (WCF), Families in partnership (FiP)</p> <p>Membership: Service user by experience x2, Young Person Participation Officer (WCF), Young Adults Team (WCF) Starting Well Lead (HWHCT), SENDIASS, Lead for Children and Maternity (ICB)</p> <p>Reference groups: Parent carer stakeholder group Children and Young People reference group Regency School</p>	<p>3. The poor quality of EHCPs and limited contributions from health and social care including the process to check and review the quality of EHC plans</p> <p>LEAD WCF AND HEALTH: Melanie Barnett, Director of All Age Disability (0-25) (WCF), Louise Adams, Senior Manager for SEND (ICB)</p> <p>Membership: Families in Partnership (FiP), SEND Group Managers (WCF), CWD Team Managers (WCF), Complaints Officer (WCF), SENCO, Quality Assurance (WCF), Principal Education Psychologist (WCF) Adult Commissioning (WCC), SENDIASS Clinical Services Manager (HWHCT) Designated Clinical Officer (ICB) Further Education Partners (HOW College)</p>
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Aims (updated April 2023)

- Build on the early signs of impact and improved outcomes and develop a clear understanding of how these improvements will be evidenced and sustained.
- Join up approaches across the partnership to secure good EHC plans and evidence the impact of actions undertaken and how these will be sustained.
- Continue to develop and embed monitoring and evaluation systems to demonstrate oversight, actions, and impact on the experience of children and young people who receive SEN support or have an Education, Health and Care plan. (EHCP)
- Continue to develop the leadership of SEND and inclusion, reflecting an inclusive culture in all learning environments. Capture evidence to show how many schools are engaging in the school inclusion project, particularly those where engagement has been problematic
- Build on the work which has already taken place through the production of You Tube videos to close the gap in early years settings.
- Improve engagement with children and young people with SEND to allow for their voices to be heard.
- Develop the school's toolkit to reflect a multiagency approach across all services to demonstrate how they all work with CYP and families.
- Maintain the risk register to ensure sustainability of improved practise going forward.
- Showcase the multi-agency work being undertaken through partnership lead communication

Outcome measure

Specialist Provision	Parents and Carers	Quality of Education and Health Care Plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the % of CYP with an EHCP returning to mainstream school • Bring the number of CYP where there is agreement of need for a specialist setting in Worcestershire in line with statistical neighbours • Decrease the number of CYP awaiting a specialist placement in Worcestershire who are not on a school roll • Reduce the number of children who receive education out of county • Increase the number of Early years EHCP's that have been finalised by the end of the Spring Term where the family receive confirmation of their Reception Year placement before the end of May. • Increase in specific health service alignment or provision linked to enhanced and specialist education provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of service delivery, policy and provision developments across All Age Disability that include co production with CYP and parent carers • Achieve targets for the % of WCF staff who have completed co-production e-learning module • Positive feedback from parent carers experience for new EHCPs • A positive improvement is seen in annual EHCP review quality assurance service user feedback • A positive improvement is seen in new EHCP quality assurance service user feedback • Positive feedback received for children and young people about their experience of the EHCP review process • Positive feedback from CYP about how they experience supported learning in their education setting. • SENDIASS service user feedback • FiP parent carer engagement and satisfaction measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased percentage of Audits judged to be Good or Outstanding for both new and annual review for EHCPs ▪ % of WCF SEND and health staff who have completed IPSEA training relevant to role ▪ Number of WCF staff (excluding SEND) and health partners who have completed the SEND mandatory training ▪ Increase % EHCP requests where review decision is made within 6 weeks. Target above national ▪ Increase the % of EHCP decisions made in 16 weeks (Minus Exceptions). Target above national ▪ Increase the % of new EHCPs issued within 20 weeks (Minus Exceptions). Target above national ▪ Increase the % of Statutory Advice Reports (all types) for EHCP Needs Assessment submitted within 6 weeks of request sent ▪ Decrease number of SEND tribunals initiated

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Level 2 Action plan

Key Concern Workstream	Actions/Activity							
<p>1. The lack of suitable specialist provision to meet the identified needs of children and young people</p> <p><i>LEAD WCF AND HEALTH: Sarah Wilkins, Director for Education, Early Years, Inclusion and Education Place Planning (WCF), Maria Hardy (Lead for Children and Maternity, ICB)</i></p>	<p>Apply the redesigned Pre-School Forum processes from Sept 2023 to identify pre-school children for support, the relevant assessment and planning for provision for reception year 2024 placements. Update the provision planning cycle to reflect learning and changes from 2023</p>	<p>Develop the Local Offer to describe enhanced and specialist education provision and include parent carers and young person voice in developing this information</p>	<p>Develop clear methods for effective early identification of phase transfer or when a change in provision is requested and use this for in year provision planning and future sufficiency planning.</p>	<p>Have a clearer understanding of reasons for use of independent specialist provision by categorising CYP provision into SEND areas of need and those with additional vulnerabilities. Monitor out of county placements by specific need or sufficiency as a need for placement and planned return points. Use this data to inform and plan for long term planning and to inform commissioning cycle and sufficiency planning.</p>	<p>ICS commissioning reviews and health transformation plan ensure the right level of health provision is available or linked to enhanced and specialist provision: Language Unit reviews, Mainstream Autism Base monitoring, Alternative Provision developments</p>	<p>Collaborate to develop our post 16 offer including supported internships to ensure the education and employment local offer provides clarity and confidence of opportunity for young people and families when making placement choices</p>		
<p>2. The voice of parent/carers and children and young people</p> <p><i>LEAD WCF AND FIP: Daniela Carson, Children with Disabilities Group Manager (WCF), Families in Partnership (FIP)</i></p>	<p>SENDIASS to provide quarterly report evidencing engagement with parent/carers, service user experiences and feedback, Regarding the quality and timeliness of support being offered to them through SENDIASS and any identified themes</p>	<p>Families in Partnership to ensure their representation at partnership board and on all workstreams to facilitate coproduction and engagement throughout the APP.</p> <p>Families in Partnership to develop their action plan and measures to reach out to a broader range of families with experiences to share and shape co-production</p>	<p>FIP to evaluate the impact of the parent/carer toolkit</p>	<p>Provide regular opportunities for parent and carers and children and young people to feedback on the accessibility, effectiveness, and quality of services available to them in Worcestershire’s Early Help offer to SEND children and feed this back into 0-25 partnership board to inform service improvement and development including joint commissioning.</p>	<p>Develop the local offer and how we use this to support engagement, publish information and communicate the wider community</p>	<p>Utilise evidence from the JAM project to increase parental engagement in the EHCP process</p>	<p>Development of CYP listening forums along with health colleagues; to include a number of YP reference groups of different abilities who can feedback on their experiences, ensuring involvement of non-verbal pupils</p>	<p>Provide regular opportunities for parent and carers and children and young people to feedback on the accessibility, effectiveness, and quality of services available to them in Worcestershire’s Early Help offer to SEND children and feed this back into 0-25 partnership board to inform service improvement and development including joint commissioning.</p>
<p>3. The poor quality of EHCPs and limited contributions from health and social care including the process to check and review the quality of EHC plans</p> <p><i>LEAD WCF AND HEALTH: Melanie Barnett, Director of All Age Disability (0-25) (WCF), Louise Adams, Senior Manager for SEND (ICB)</i></p>	<p>Promote the understanding and application of the graduated response so those involved in supporting children and young people are aware of what is ordinarily available in mainstream education to improve the quality of requests for statutory assessments and the quality of EHC plans.</p>	<p>Continue to further develop collaborative and partnership working to ensure a consistently high quality of advice that provides specificity towards individual pupil outcomes and is measurable via EHC audits and service user feedback.</p>	<p>Through audit and service user feedback ensure that needs are identified accurately and assessed in a timely and effective way.</p> <p>This should include the identification of strengths and aspirations.</p>	<p>Focus on the monitoring of timeliness of completion of EHCP new and annual reviews and the quality of input from relevant agencies.</p> <p>Reflect, identify, and develop best practice via internal audit and service user feedback.</p>	<p>Through monthly audit and service user feedback of new and amended EHCP’s, ensure that identified health needs are supported by appropriate provision within the plan</p>	<p>Review and consider SEND workforce development opportunities using learning from audits, service user feedback, compliments and complaints to build on skills, confidence and understanding with all stakeholders in the Local Area.</p>		

AAD Partnership Board and Workstream Summary

AAD Partnership Board

0-25 SEND & All Age Disability (AAD) Deep Dive Board

Chair: Tina Russell, Director of Children’s and Chief Executive Officer of Worcestershire Children First (WCF)

Focus: Deep dive on monitoring progress and outcomes

Meet alternate months

All Age Disability (AAD) Strategy Forum

Chair: Mari Gay, (ICB)

Focus: Wider 0-25 AAD agenda and wider SEND performance issues

Meet alternate months

APP Workstream Leads Forum

Chair: Tina Russell, Director of Children’s and Chief Executive Officer of Worcestershire Children First (WCF)

Focus: APP workstream leads forum to monitor progress against APP

Meet 6 weekly

Management Information Analyst (WCF) provides outcome measures via a data dashboard

Workstream 1

Specialist Provision

Lead WCF and

HEALTH: Sarah Wilkins, Director of Education

Maria Hardy, Lead for Children and Maternity (ICB)

Workstream 2

Parents and Carers

Lead WCF and FiP:

Daniela Carson, Children with Disabilities Group Manager (WCF)

Families in partnership (FiP)

Workstream 3

Quality of Education and Health Care Plans

HEALTH: Melanie Barnett, Director of All Age Disability (0-25) (WCF)

Louise Adams, Senior Manager for SEND (ICB)

Carer’s strategy

LEAD WCC: Sarah Rothwell, Commissioning Manager, Carers

Learning Disability Strategy

LEAD WCC: Fran Kelsey, Lead Commissioner, Learning and Development

SEND Strategy

LEAD WCF: Melanie Barnett, Director of All Age Disability (0-25)

Autism Strategy

LEAD WCC: Fran Kelsey, Lead Commissioner, Learning and Development

SEND Improvement Plan is available on the WCC website

Get in touch with SEND improvement queries at: SendImprovement@worcestershire.gov.uk