

Parent feedback meeting

16 May 2018

Present: Katie Monette, Laura Gillespie, Julie Chambers, Anne Snowdon, Tim Armstrong, Ben Allchin, Stephen Betts, Alison Gee, Anne Snowdon (notes)

Co- production Charter

Background: Parents met with council officers on 21st March to discuss a co-production charter. It was agreed that a general charter should be developed, and each group would have an appendix specific to their ways of working.

The issue: What progress has been made?

Work to be done: Ben Allchin to circulate notes from the meeting on 21st March. Co-production Charter to be the main agenda item for next feedback meeting on 20th June 2018.

Termly Feedback

Background: SPCF, Core Assets and SENDIAS collate termly feedback from the issues raised by parents. This is now being fed back to the Inclusion Improvement Board (IIB).

The issue: Which other strategic groups should get this feedback?

Work to be done: Katie Monette to raise this at the next IIB meeting as a matter arising from the minutes.

Tim Armstrong's update for parents

Background: There have been some negative comments on Facebook and discrepancies between the number of EHCPs to be finalised.

The issue: Parents are still not feeling an improvement.

Work to be done: Tim to continue to provide updates for parents. Could include more information about the SEN department and how best to work with them (see below)

Communication with SEN team

Background: Parents are still struggling to communicate (phone, emails) with the SEN team and get answers/actions in response to their questions.

The issue: Now that all the transfers have been completed, is there a plan/process in place to update/improve EHCPs?

Work to be done:

- Ben Allchin to work with SPCF on the best way for parents to communicate with the SEN team (preferably by sending an email including the child's name, date of birth, school, the issue and actions required).
- Develop a guide for parents about the annual review process and what can and can't be amended in an EHCP
- Workforce training around annual reviews (key theme 4)

School placements

Background: At the last Education subgroup meeting, a parent was very upset that her child had not been given her choice of secondary school. There was no communication as to why nor any discussion as to which other schools she would like or that they were considering until she got a letter in April/ May naming a school that she had never considered.

The issue: Why are the local authority officers not entering into early and open dialogue with parents in these cases?

Work to be done:

- Anne Snowdon to ask parent if she wants to contact Ben Allchin.
- Feeder schools need to encourage parents to visit a number of schools, not just one.
- Early, open and completely transparent dialogue is needed with parents in these cases.

Council departments working together

Background: The LA need to work better together, e.g. officers saying that isn't my department, Transport and SEN Transport sending exactly the same forms for parents to complete, waste of money and time.

The issue: Is there a SEND communication strategy across council departments? Why is SEN transport located in business services?

Work to be done:

- Key theme 4 of the Inclusion Strategy will be addressing communication.
- Transport as an agenda item for Jayne Ludlam meeting

Funding for students with SEND at Sheffield College

Background: Sheffield College say that they get much less funding for students with SEND than special school sixth forms do and blame the council.

The issue: We would like to understand how Sheffield College and Sheaf Training are funded.

Work to be done: Tim Armstrong to feed back to SPCF after meeting arranged with the College to discuss funding.

Supported Internships

Background: Sheffield College only has 8 students on supported internships with only 2 employers (John Lewis and Amey)

The issue: What is Sheffield spending the extra money for supported internships on?

Work to be done: There are some more students on supported internships at Sheaf and Bents Green School is working with the Dept. for Health on a pilot project for 3 internships. Need to engage more employers but in a coordinated way – talking about internships and apprenticeships at same time.

Social Care Transitions

Background: We have heard talk of a new 0-25 service and a transitions team that has come and gone over the years. Parents are being left to coordinate services themselves.

The issue: What is happening with the transitions team and why are young people who currently receive support from children's services not automatically invited to a transition assessment in good time?

Work to be done: Anne Snowdon to contact Alison Gee to arrange a meeting.

Short breaks and respite review

Background: We understand that there is a short breaks and respite task and finish group in the council.

The issue: Why is there no parent carer representation on this group? When will we know the outcome of the review?

Work to be done: Lorraine Hall to investigate parent representation on Short breaks Task & Finish group.