

# SE19 SEND Regional Network



## Regional SEND Update July '22

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### Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the new SE19 SEND Update. We hope to produce an update following every strategic forum/conversation with links to presentations and any other updates we receive from SEND delivery partners or regional/national colleagues. Most of all, we would love to share the work of the very talented colleagues, parents, children/young people involved in SEND across the region. In this edition, you will find the presentations that were shared at the recent 'Coproduction Conference' which sets out some of the learning and best practice we have around coproduction in SE19, alongside a contribution from Mrunal Sisodia, national PCF chair.

If you have any practice or information that you would like to share via the update, please contact Rebecca Smith [rebecca.smith@sdsa.net](mailto:rebecca.smith@sdsa.net)

A copy of the update will be circulated to all our SEND network groups and our PCF links. It can also be accessed via the [SE19 network website](#).

*Sheelagh Sullivan*  
SE19 SEND Network Programme Lead

### Message from Kevin McDaniel

As this year gets into gear with some significant changes to the way SEND improvement is supported in the region, I wanted to say thank you to all of those who have worked hard to

make a real difference in the last couple of years with a special mention for Tracey Maytas and Julia Katherine for the work to coordinate national and local programmes and the support of Andrew Howard and Sarah Clarke on behalf of all parent/carer forums in the region.

With more responsibility for improvement now aligned to our south east improvement arrangements (SESLIP) the joint work is going to be more important than ever and I look forward to continuing to work with the Steering Group to make sure we are focused on helping you.

Kevin McDaniel  
Executive Director of Children's Services

### SE19 'amplification response' to Green Paper

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this short paper. Special thanks to Julia Katherine for her time and wisdom. The purpose of the response was not to cover all points, but to 'amplify' the big issues from the SE19 region's perspective.

A copy of the response can be [accessed here](#)

### SE19 health update from Sue Gibbons

#### DCO/DMO Induction Checklist

[Click here](#) to download the presentation on DCO/DMO Induction Checklist.

#### Health and Care Act 2022

The Health and Care Act 2022 has now completed its journey towards establishing Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), moving them onto a statutory footing with the establishment of Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs). This took place on 1 July 2022 as communicated in the NHS 2022/2023 priorities and operational planning guidance. Each Integrated Care System (ICS) will have an Integrated Care Board (ICB), a statutory organisation bringing the NHS together locally to improve population health and establish shared strategic priorities within the NHS. ICBs are now legally established and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) abolished on 1st July 2022.

### DfE update from Liz Flaherty

#### 1. Data

I know you will have been looking at the SEN2 data and the school census information, but some headlines for the South East:

- 83,307 EHCPs in the South East region –4.5 % compared with national 4%
- Highest % in the South East region is 5.4%, lowest is 3.2%
- SEN support in the South East region is 12% compared with national 12.6%
- Highest % of SEN support in the South East region is 15%, lowest is 9.2%
- Yearly growth rate of EHCPs across the South East is 11.9% compared with national 9.9%
- Highest growth rate among LAs in SE is 17.2%, lowest is 4.4%
- 354 EHCPs in the South East region are in AP or Prus, which is 0.42% of the total against national 0.76%
- Highest % of EHCPs in AP or PRUs among LAs in the South East is 4.07%, lowest is 0%

## 2. DBV

Those of you involved with the Delivering Better Value programme will be aware that there is now some early diagnostic analysis underway. Attached is an FAQ sheet which you may find useful

## 3. Naming schools in EHCPs

Would be interesting to gain a sense check of experiences across the South East regarding naming a school in a plan where the school is not in agreement, and steps that can be taken to resolve what can at times become a 'stand-off'

## 4. High needs budget pressures

Information from Gov.uk on 7<sup>th</sup> July

2022;<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-needs-budgets-effective-management-in-local-authorities>

## Feedback from the Co-production Conference – 12/7/22

The conference was an opportunity to come together to hear from colleagues in the region about how they are embedding co-production into all aspects of their work. Colleagues from Surrey spoke about their All age Autism strategy, Wokingham colleagues shared their co-production charter, Buckinghamshire spoke about their co-production strategy. We also heard from Mrunal Sisodia from Bedford Borough on how they have seen the positive impact of co-production.

Feedback from the participants focused on the need for joined up working and trust between Local Authorities and families to support the development of relationships to enable effective co-production.

*Slides are available below;*

[Co-production conference slides](#)

[Wokingham SEND Charter](#)

[Bucks Co-production strategy](#)

## Proposal for renewed 'inclusion' group

The importance of continuing to promote inclusion is set in the green paper. The SE19 SEND network proposes to establish a refreshed regional network inclusion group. The group will be facilitated by Ellen Atkinson and lead officers are Julia Katherine (Surrey) and Helen Johns (West Sussex).

The proposals for the work this group hopes to undertake will be shared with partners at the initial meeting in September and a delivery plan will be produced for the region.

## DfE consultation proposing changing the law on reviews of Education Health and Care plans - reminder

As many of you are aware, the Department for Education has launched a [consultation](#) on the actions that a local authority should have to take if it proposes to amend an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan following a review meeting.

### Detail of the consultation

Local authorities have various duties over when and how they review an individual's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). In the SEND and AP Review Green Paper, DfE

set out their intentions to consider changes to the timescale for the issuing of proposals for amending plans following annual reviews. The consultation is available at [Reviews of Education, Health and Care plans: proposed timescales - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#).

DfE are consulting on whether there should be:

- An additional four weeks after review meetings to finalise any changes proposed to the EHCP. (A March 2022 High Court judgment has clarified that the current duty on LAs is to do this within four weeks of the review meeting)
- An additional week to circulate material for a review meeting

**The consultation closes on 12 August.**

## Updated Guidance

Just in case you haven't seen it, links below to the updated Behaviour in Schools guidance, updated Suspension and Permanent Exclusion guidance, and updated Searching, Screening and Confiscation guidance and the [government response to the public consultation](#).

- The updated [Behaviour in Schools guidance](#) has been rewritten to provide more practical advice for all school staff and is organised into four sections: Creating and Maintaining High Standards of Behaviour, Responding to Behaviour, Preventing Recurrence of Misbehaviour, and Guidance on Specific Behaviour Issues. The updated guidance provides further advice which reflects the importance of the proactive and preventative work that schools can do to ensure high standards of behaviour.
- The updated [Suspension and Permanent Exclusion guidance](#) sets out legislative changes to expand the headteacher's duty to inform where relevant a social workers and virtual school heads if a child in their care has been excluded and to notify local authorities of all suspensions immediately. These legislative changes are reflected in the School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 which are due to be made and laid in Parliament tomorrow (Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July). The guidance also includes information on the limitations of the headteacher's power to cancel an exclusion, the use of managed moves, off-site direction, examination of data by governing boards and off-rolling.
- The updated [Searching, Screening and Confiscation guidance](#) – The former Secretary of State for Education Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP committed to an urgent review of the Searching, Screening and Confiscation guidance following the events involving Child Q. Specifically, the guidance has been updated to emphasise safeguarding policies as well as being restructured to provide clear advice to staff and parents on how and when to safely screen or search a child. The guidance also provides new advice on recording searches, informing parents, and supporting the voice of the child.

## Government seeks views to improve lives of people with Down's syndrome

Government launches call for evidence to ensure better access to health, education, social care and housing for people with Down's syndrome. The press release can be [accessed here](#).

## SEND Newsflash\*\*

### **Contract to support SEND improvement in local areas announcement**

This SEND Newsflash can be [accessed here](#).

### **Ministerial portfolios, SEND & AP Green Paper Consultation & Unregistered AP call for evidence**

The latest SEND Newsflash can be [accessed here](#).

## SEND Workforce Survey

The Council for Disabled Children will design and deliver training and resources which further develop skills and knowledge across the SEND workforce under the [Research & Improvement for SEND Excellence partnership \(RISE\)](#), funded by the Department for Education (DfE). To cater to the needs of the workforce and understand the needs of practitioners and professionals, we have developed a **SEND workforce survey**. The analysis will inform the design of the training, and we need your input in order for it to be as relevant as possible.

The survey captures the whole SEND system in five main themes (legislation, co-production, systems, processes and pathways, data). To access it follow this link: <https://bit.ly/3ybbvw0>

The survey is anonymous and should not take more than 10-15 minutes depending on the amount of detail you share. The deadline to fill in the survey is August 2nd, 2022.

For any questions or queries, please contact Dafna at [dbicaci@ncb.org.uk](mailto:dbicaci@ncb.org.uk)

## Dates for SEND Network Meetings

There are a number of forums, network meetings and task and finish groups that work across the SE19 region to support practice in SEND. Some meeting dates will be finalised over the summer and all will appear in the next update. If you are part of a group, you will have been (or will be) asked about the most convenient times to meet and the frequency of meetings. However, we have been able to finalise some meeting dates for the new academic year and have listed them below.

We know that there has been some confusion about the different groups so we hope this helps and enables you to book meetings into what we know are very busy calendars. This is your network and we want meetings and groups to work for you so let us know if you have any suggestions for change.

### **Groups:**

1. **'Joint SEND Strategic Conversation'** (a bi-monthly forum for all colleagues (including PCF reps) involved in strategic SEND in development in SE19 to raise and discuss issues/ best practice and provide a platform information to be shared by

- all key partners). This forum is jointly shared by health and LA colleagues. The SE19 coordinator link is Sheelagh Sullivan and facilitation is provided by SDSA.
2. **SEND LA Strategic Leads Group** (a bi-monthly network meeting for all LA SEND leads in SE19 to discuss issues, share ideas/information and develop practice through collaborative working). The meeting is chaired by LA SEN Leads on a 'revolving' basis. The SE19 coordination link is Sheelagh Sullivan with facilitation provided by SDSA
  3. **SEND EHCP Operational Leads Group** (a network meeting for all colleagues involved in the management of services responsible for producing EHCPs. The chair is Karen Spencer - Portsmouth). The SE19 coordination link is Sheelagh Sullivan with facilitation provide by SDSA.
  4. **SE19 SEND Steering Group** (the governance group for the SE19 SEND network with representation from all key stakeholders and chaired by Kevin McDaniel – DCS RBWM. The group meet on a termly basis and facilitation is currently provided via Kevin's PA)

### Meeting dates

Meeting Group	Joint SEND Strategic Conversation	SEND LA Strategic Leads Group	SEND EHCP Operational Leads Group	SE19 SEND Steering Group
Time	Wednesdays, 12-1:30pm	Wednesdays, 12-1:30pm	Thursdays, 12-1:30pm	11:30–1:30pm
Dates	12 <sup>th</sup> October	14 <sup>th</sup> September	13 <sup>th</sup> October	5 <sup>th</sup> September
	14 <sup>th</sup> December	16 <sup>th</sup> November	1 <sup>st</sup> December	<i>Spring and Summer term meetings 2013 tbc</i>
	15 <sup>th</sup> February	18 <sup>th</sup> January	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	
	26 <sup>th</sup> April	15 <sup>th</sup> March	16 <sup>th</sup> March	
	14 <sup>th</sup> June	17 <sup>th</sup> May	11 <sup>th</sup> May	
	5 <sup>th</sup> July	6 <sup>th</sup> July		