

SE19 REGION SEND NETWORK NEWSLETTER JULY '23



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SE19 SEND NETWORK FORUM

Thank you to all who attended the SE19 SEND Network Forum last month, it was great to see so many of you.

We were delighted by the range of speakers and information shared and a huge thank you to all who contributed;

- **DfE Update, Andre Imich**

Please find attached feedback from Andre on questions raised during the Forum

- **Experience of Health and AP Thematic review, Katie Worley, NHS Frimley**

- **Healthy Parent Carers, Fleur Boyle, Exeter University**

For further information on Healthy Parent Carers, please find attached a flyer and the presentation slides. For further information please contact healthyparentcarers@exeter.ac.uk or visit www.healthyparentcarers.org

Evaluation

We would value your feedback on the forum to help support the network. Please can we ask you to complete the following form; <https://forms.gle/4Dhf3m5rck3jTGpK9>

Thank you

Sheelagh Sullivan, SE19 SEND Network Coordinator
sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com

Becky Smith, SE19 SEND Network facilitator
becky.smith@sdsa.net

SE19 SEND NETWORK MAP

A revised SE19 SEND Network Map has been produced setting out the different meeting groups that form the regional network. If you would like more information about any of these groups, please contact sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com

DFE UPDATE

The attached presentation highlights key DfE updates including Self Evaluation Frameworks, Delivering Better Value Programme and Safety Valve Programme.

Thank you, as always, to Mark and Liz for their valued contribution to the SE19 SEND forum. Mark and Liz will hopefully be around supporting regional colleagues in the future but their current role as regional SEND Advisers is due to end in September. On behalf of all, I would like to say thank you for all their support, wisdom and encouragement. However, I'm sure many will see more of them in the future albeit in a different guise.

There will be more information about how regional and national SEND support will operate from regional colleagues in the Autumn term once arrangements have been finalised.



HIGH NEEDS FUNDING GROUP AND COMMISSIONING GROUP

Feedback has been requested from SE19 LA's to understand what areas of focus they wish for the HN Funding Group and Commissioning Group to concentrate on for 23/24 via two jamboards.

Commissioning Group

High Needs Funding Group

Nathan Cain (Groups chair) and Nick King are creating work plan based on priorities from jamboard to present to Groups in July.

- Benchmarking HN Top ups (Special/PRU/Mainstream)
- QA and contract monitoring INMSS and AP
- INMSS Contracts

Meeting Dates

September 2023

January 2024

March 2024

INCLUSION GROUP

This group is focusing on the key elements of the SEND AP Improvement plan and how the region can share practice and improve inclusion across the sector.

The group has agreed to meet bi-monthly during term time. The next meeting will be on the **20th September 2-3.30pm 2023** via MS teams. The membership of the group would benefit from having colleagues to represent schools and colleges. Currently only the school sector is represented.

To join the next meeting please contact Ellen Atkinson who facilitates the meetings on ejatkinson@me.com or join using the link below.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 326 027 116 691

Passcode: VmwJs6

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PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

The group had a brief disruption due to changes in support available to facilitate the group. The group will now meet on a regular basis each term to bring together any challenges or issues, and to share practice to ensure we can respond to preparing young people for adulthood. The next meeting is on the **12th October 2023**.

Please contact Ellen Atkinson if you would like to join the group. ejatkinson@me.com or join using the link below.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 374 628 907 373

Passcode: 8hZcJM

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

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USEFUL INFORMATION

SE19 SEND Peer review - Courageous Conversations

The region is developing an approach to peer review that is intended to provide opportunity for supportive, candid conversations around SEND delivery in the local area. Areas will be asked to identify one area of focus and will be supported by regional colleagues to carry out a review of delivery and identify ways forward. The approach is intended to help both the reviewers and the reviewed. It will explore what is not working and build upon what is working. The focus of the conversation is intended to be agreed with the area's PCF.

There will be a trial of the approach in the Autumn and it is hoped to offer all areas an opportunity to be involved over the next two years. There will be more information and sharing of experience in future SE19 SEND forums.

Internships Work Programme

The region is engaged in the Internships Work programme, a three year funded programme by the Department for Education (DfE). It is being delivered in partnership by the National Development Team for inclusion (NDTi), The British Association for Supported Employment (BASE) and DFN Project Search.

Internships Work aims to support more young people with SEND into employment through doubling the number of internships available to young people with EHCPs.

All LAs in the region have a grant from the DfE to support the development of pathways to employment until the end of March 2025.

There is free training and support available for all LAs through the programme for staff development and training.

Please contact Ellen Atkinson at ellen.Atkinson@ndti.org.uk for further information



Safeguarding children with disabilities in residential care homes: Phase 2 report

The latest report can be accessed here;

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1151060/Safeguarding_children_with_disabilities_in_residential_care_homes_phase_2_report.pdf

SEN 2 Statistical Release

This year's SEN 2 statistical release has recently been published. The information collected through the special educational needs survey (SEN2) provides the major source of data collected on children and young people with Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans. It is the only source of data on the totality of EHC plans maintained by individual local authorities (LAs).

A 'person level' collection has been done for the first time this year. The person-level return provides additional information on children and young people with EHC plans including adding gender, ethnicity, and type of need to the information already collected (age and setting types).

The data illustrates the growth in demand over the past year and the challenges faced by Local Areas in responding to the changing landscape.



Key headline stats;

1.The total number of EHC plans has continued to increase

The number of plans now stands at 517,026, 9% more than last year and 62% more than the equivalent figure (the combined number of plans and statements) five years ago.

2.The number of assessments completed in the calendar year has also increased

There were 72,695 assessments completed during 2022, 10% more than the previous year and 61% more than five years ago.

3.The number of requests for new assessments has increased

There were 114,457 requests for new assessments during 2022, 23% more than the previous year and 69% more than five years ago.

4.The timeliness of the issue of new plans has decreased from 59.9% to 50.7%. Prior to this year, there has been little change over the last five years, with rates around 58-60%

New toolkit for parents and carers

A guide for parents and carers to make financial decisions for a young person who lacks mental capacity which was published. You can access using the link below.

[Making finance decisions for young people: parent and carer toolkit](#)

The aim of the toolkit is to help parents understand:

- what lacking mental capacity means and the decision-making principles
- the changes to decision-making when a child reaches adulthood
- the relevant route for you to make financial decisions on behalf of a young person, including how to access a Child Trust Fund
- if the young person is under the age of 18, how to prepare to make financial decisions when they reach adulthood



A resource for young people produced by young people

Healthwatch Oxfordshire have supported the making of podcasts by Oxfordshire Youth on mental health, invisible and visible disabilities and Neurodiversity. [Our podcasts - Healthwatch Oxfordshire](#)

New CDC resource: Ofsted and CQC Area SEND Inspection Local Area Readiness Checklist

Based on work undertaken with a local area, CDC have published a new resource aimed at supporting local areas to prepare for Ofsted and CQC SEND inspections. The resource takes the form of an inspection checklist, which is a simple tool that will support local areas in gathering and preparing all the relevant information that will be requested during a SEND inspection. The checklist is based on the new SEND inspection framework and handbook.

The checklist sets out the information that the inspectors will request to enable them to get a sense of a local area's SEND arrangements and practice, as well as assist them in selecting children and young people's cases for tracking, and the further information they will request about those selected. Inspectors may request some or all of the information for monitoring inspections. The checklist also sets out the high-level timeline for sharing information.

To access the checklist click ['download'](#).



CDC Workshop for SEN case managers

Advance notice of a workshop to be held by the CDC as part of the RISE contract, The workshop is intended for SEN Case Managers (SEN Operational Leads). There are two priorities:

- Building an emotionally resilient case team
- Developing networks (national) for SEN Managers building upon what exists in some regions (e.g. our Operational leads group)

The SE workshop will be on **Tuesday 17th October 2023** (10-12.30)

There will be more information from the CDC shortly.

FORWARD DATES FOR SE19 SEND NETWORK MEETINGS

Please check with chairs/facilitators for any meeting dates that do not appear below

Meeting Group	SE19 SEND Forum	SE19 Strategic Leads	SE19 EHCP Operational Leads Group
Meeting Focus	To share information and best practice/innovation from the region and beyond from all agencies involved in SEND.	To provide opportunities for peer support and sharing of information to strategic leaders of SEND in SE19 LAs.	To provide opportunities for peer support to managers of operational teams responsible for producing EHCPs.
Who attends	The forum is open to all those involved in SEND working for, or with, the region. It is jointly presented by LA and Health.	SEND Strategic Leaders – Director/AD/Head of Service	SE19 Operational Managers (EHCPs)
Lead contacts	Co-Chairs – Sheelagh Sullivan (SE19 SEND consultant) and Adeline Gibbs (NHS) Facilitation: SDSA	Chair - Julia Katherine, Surrey Facilitation: SDSA	Chair - Karen Spencer, West Sussex Facilitation: SDSA
Time	Wednesday's 12-1:30pm	Wednesday's 12-1:30pm	Thursday's 12-1pm
Dates	11th October 13th December 14th February 24th April 12th June	27th September 15th November 24th January 13th March 15th May 3rd July	7th September 5th October 9th November 7th December 18th January 21st March 11th April 23rd May 20th June 18th July

Network Meetings

Please contact Ellen Atkinson and/or Nick King for dates of other network meetings; ejatkinson@me.com / Nick@nmkconsultancy.co.uk

Inclusion group

20th September 2-3.30pm

22nd November 2-3.30pm

24th January 2024 2-3.30pm

14th March 2024 2-3.30pm

Group agreed there should be a regional survey to check how inclusive practice is being encouraged and who leads. Hope to have membership from across the region from LAs and relevant stakeholders from education. Planned before the end of summer term. Buckinghamshire leading.

Preparing for Adulthood forums;

12th October 10-2pm

14th December 10-2pm

8th February 2024 - 10-2pm.

High Needs Funding Group and Commissioning Group

September 2023

January 2024

March 2024



THANK YOU

We are keen for colleagues to share best practice in the forums. If there is anything you would like to share at future forums, please do let us know on the contact details below;

Sheelagh sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com

Becky becky.smith@sdsa.net

Finally, a big thank you to all who have attended, contributed, and generally supported the SE19 SEND network in the last academic year. We value your support and hope it has been useful. We look forward to seeing all again in the new academic year.

Meantime, have a wonderful summer!

Sheelagh Sullivan
SE19 SEND Network Programme Lead

