

Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: SEND reform: implementation, support and widening provision

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th May 2014

Venue: The Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PE

Agenda subject to change



- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Meleri Tudur, Judicial Lead SEND, Ministry of Justice
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Reforming Special Educational Needs and Disability provision for children and young people**
Stephen Kingdom, Deputy Director, Special Educational Needs and Disability, Department for Education
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.20 **Putting Education Care and Health Plans into practice: challenges around integration and implementation**
How prepared are local authorities for the planned introduction of Education Care and Health Plans (ECHPs) in September 2014; what support beyond the SEN reform grant is needed? To what extent is the introduction of Education Care and Health Plans (ECHPs) likely to improve the coordination and effectiveness of support for children and young people with SEND; what lessons can be learnt from the pathfinder programmes? What are the practical and accountability challenges posed by 'joint commissioning' of provision involving local authorities, clinical commissioning groups, schools and other relevant organisations? What support will be available for young people who do not qualify for an ECHP but still have SEN and disabilities, particularly those who previously received a SEND statement? What steps can be taken to ensure a smooth transition between ECHPs and adult social care plans, or when an individual changes residence to another local authority area?
Douglas Silas, Principal, Douglas Silas Solicitors
Eirwen Grenfell-Essam, Chair, Network81
Nigel Utton, Headteacher, Bromstone Primary School, Kent and Chair, Heading for Inclusion
Meera Craston, Director, SQW
Jeannette Essex, Head of SEN and Disability, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 - 11.10 **Personal budgets and the 'local offer'**
How can parents be supported to understand their rights regarding their entitlement to use personal budgets or not? What support can local authorities provide to parents, carers, and young people to help them manage personal budgets, particularly in cases where there are concerns around the family's financial literacy? What information should local authorities provide about the 'local offer'; how can Government regulate the quality of information available to address its concerns that 'local offers' must not simply be a 'directory of services'? What kind of information would be most useful for parents in order to make sound judgements about the type of support to procure with their personal budgets? How will offering a choice of provision for SEND support affect the financial sustainability of services for acute needs, for which there might be little demand, and how disruption to services best be managed? For families who do not take up the option of a personal budget, how can local authorities and other organisations best work with them to ensure services are appropriate?
Andy Minnion, Director, The Rix Centre, University of East London
Janet Leach, Head of Service, Joint Service for Disabled Children, Enfield Council and Chair, Short Breaks Network
Jolanta Lasota, Chief Executive, Ambitious about Autism and Chair, SEND Consortium
Nicola Gitsam, Programme Manager, Preparing for Adulthood, National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)
Kay Moore, Parent Participation Officer, National Network of Parent Carer Forums
Lara Roberts, South East Regional Representative, National Network of Parent Carer Forums
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Meleri Tudur, Judicial Lead SEND, Ministry of Justice
- 11.15 - 11.45 Coffee
- 11.45 - 11.50 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Storey, Co-Chair, Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party Committee on Education, Families and Young People
- 11.50 - 12.05 **Post-16 support for young people with SEND - current provision and the impact of the Children and Families Act**
Alison Boulton, Chief Executive, The Association of National Specialist Colleges (Natspec)
- 12.05 - 12.55 **Extending support for 16 to 25-year-olds**
How will the extension of support for young people with SEND aged 16 to 25 affect local authorities, Further and Higher Education providers? What steps could Government take to encourage more employers and Further Education providers to offer 'supported internships'; what other options for support could be made available? What more could be done to raise the aspiration of young people with SEND, and their awareness of employment and further study options? How can university widening participation activity be targeted to further encourage young people with SEND to engage in Higher Education, and to improve retention once they have started a course? How can young people be supported in the transition to independent living, where appropriate, including support for managing their own personal budgets? Is there a need for greater clarity around provision for young people with SEN who are not in education, employment or training?
Dr Carol Tozer, Executive Director of Services, Scope
Peter Quinn, Vice-Chair, National Association of Disability Practitioners and Director of Student Support Services, University of York
Kathy Melling, Board Member, British Association for Supported Employment
Hilderbrand Pelzer III, Author, *Unlocking Potential: Organizing a School Inside a Prison*
Questions and comments from the floor with **Alison Boulton**, Chief Executive, The Association of National Specialist Colleges (Natspec)
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**
Lord Storey, Co-Chair, Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party Committee on Education, Families and Young People
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum