

Item 3b

SEN Action Plan Update

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3 May 2019

Overarching Aim

To have the right local provision to meet the special educational needs of individual children and young people within a sustainable funding envelope.

Programme Workstreams

Educational psychology
service capacity

Parental confidence

Communication
including Local Offer

FE sector and post 16
provision

Statutory assessment
process

Preparation for
Adulthood

Independent school
placements

Outcomes

Pre-school settings,
mainstream schools and
college inclusion

INMSS data (updates in red)

- Total forecasted budget for 2018-19 of £41.7m
2018/19 outturn was £41.0m
- 875 children out of 9,284 with EHCPs (9%)
842 out of 12,000 with EHCPs (7%)
- This is a 60% increase from 2013-14 while special school numbers increased by 30%
- 48% of these CYP have ASD as their primary need
- 23% of these CYP have SEMH as their primary need
- Total of 71% have either ASD or SEMH.

Independent Placement Panel (April 2019)

OUTCOME	£'000	Number to date
Agreed	£10,309	345
Decline	£8,678	222
Additional information required	£4,894	132

Need type	%
ASD	50
ASD with SEMH	3
SEMH	26
PD	4
PMLD	2
C&L	3
SLCN	4
SLD	6
VI with PD	2

Analysis of Independent Special School Placements

Main need types requesting INMSS placement:-

- ASD with behaviour including high levels of anxiety
- SEMH with complex mental health issues

Reasons why needs can not be meet by local provision:-

- M/S, SRPs and Special schools can't met needs due to complexity
- Special schools don't have capacity

Analysis of Independent Special School Placements

- Average cost of INMSS day placement:- £36k
 - By need type:-
 - ASD = £36,233
 - SEMH = £38,502
- Average cost of special school day placement:- £17.5k
 - By need type:-
 - ASD = £19,041
 - SEMH = £16,572
- 13 independent special schools take £21m of the budget at an average cost of just over £40k per place

Analysis of Independent Special School Placements

Reasons for requests for additional funding:-

- Child requires 1:1 adult support in a special school or SRP
- Staff pupil ratio would be unmanageable with extra pupil
- Child has a high level of need and is awaiting specialist or change of placement

What we are doing – reduce spend

- Continue to scrutinise independent school placements and funding requests to identify causes which will in turn inform future actions and the Kent Commissioning Plan
- We are having more challenge and negotiation with independent schools (INMSS) arounds breakdown of costs
- We are using our purchasing power to negotiate block funding
- Our INMSS contracts now stipulate financial penalties i.e. For low or non-attendance of pupils

What we are doing – reduce demand

- Met with platform providers to tender a Local Offer which we can then co-design with parent/carers and YP to reflect graduated response to needs and manage expectations
- Working with KSENT to identify ways to support mainstream schools to meet needs without Statutory Assessment (SA)
- Identifying opportunities to provide training to other professionals to understand SA process

What we are doing – right provision

- The Kent Commissioning Plan (KCP) for future developments reflects growing demand and needs of CYP with SEN as identified by the panel
- Increase special school places for 2019-20 to 4,546 from 4,130
- Government funded special free school approved for the Isle of Sheppey
- Develop specialist resourced provisions (SRPs) where required in line with KCP. Place numbers increased to 1,044 from 959 for 2019-20
- Look at ways to support mainstream schools to build capacity to meet needs – an area of concern identified by Ofsted/CQC

Service Review

Review completed and new streamlined processes for statutory assessment went live on 29th April.

This should impact by;

- Managing the demand
- Improving communication
- Improving quality of EHCPs