

Questions from Countywide SENCO Forum 23.03.22 and 24.03.22

Q- There is so little reference to attachment and Trauma impact on presenting behaviours as well as little comment on the need for Nurturing schools in the SEN Green Paper.

A- Fortunately, in Kent, schools are able to access the Nurture UK/nurturing Kent programme, it is fully funded by KCC. All details are available at the following link
<https://www.nurtureuk.org/nurturingkent>

Q- There seem to be a number of agencies advising parents to apply for an EHC assessment which is likely contributing to the high number of EHC assessment requests coming from parents in Kent. What is being done about this?

A- KCC SEND Managers are looking at how CPD around this matter can be cascaded to services both within and external to Kent County Council. As you can imagine, it is a massive task to get this information out to such a wide variety of stakeholders. However, we have already started the discussions with partners within KCC and we will continue to try and find the best way to share good practice with our external partners.

Q- I think we need to move away from using the term 1:1 TA with parents. Parents worry that their child with additional needs will only progress in school with 1:1 support. If we talk to parents more about giving children specific interventions to help them to progress in specific areas, and then use the MCS it might help change mindset?

A- Thank you for this suggestion from one of our attendees. Sometimes, small changes in the language that we use can help to begin to alleviate fears. We are aware this isn't a complete solution but it is certainly a start.

Q- Is there an update on the HNF Review?

A- Kent now has a High Needs Working Group chaired by a Head Teacher. The group is reviewing the High Needs Block and current spend/overspend issues in preparation for review and a proposed way forward.

Q- Will the full set of slides be shared?

A- All slides should have been sent to you ahead of the session via The Education People's CPD Online team. If you did not receive them in advance, then please could you email roxy.abbott@theeducationpeople.org and include your name and the email address which you originally used to register for the session via CPD Online.

Q- What is SENIF?

A- SENIF refers to the Early Years SEN Inclusion Funding.