



SEN+D Reforms Newsletter

March 24th 2014 Issue 02

Information Updates

We would like to share with you regular Newsletters to keep everyone up-to-date with developments and give as many people as possible the opportunity to be part of the change ahead. Please share this newsletter far and wide to colleagues and families.

The SEND Reforms set out in the Children & Families Bill, for all children and young people who have a special educational need and disability (SEND) are;

- i. Extending the SEN system from birth to 25, giving children, young people and their parents/carers greater control and choice in decisions about provision
- ii. Replacing statements and learning difficulty assessments with a new birth to-25 Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan
- iii. Offering families the option of personal budgets when an EHC plan is implemented
- iv. Improving cooperation between all the services and requiring particularly local authorities and health authorities to work together
- v. Requiring LAs to involve children, young people and parents in reviewing and developing provision for those with special educational needs and to publish a 'local offer' of support
- vi. Publication of a new SEN Code of Practice and regulations covering the work of early years providers, schools and post-16 education providers, Local Authorities (LAs) and Health Authorities.

Children and Families Bill 2014

As you may know the Queen signed her name on the dotted line last Thursday 13th March, 2014 and the Children and Families Bill received Royal Assent. Children and Families ACT

There are a few particular clauses in it applying to personal budgets and direct payments however most of the key information will form part of the regulations (the next step) and then the Code.

This link is to the Young Person's Guide which may be useful as it will headline the key issues and provide information for young people you may be working with.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment data/file/189968/Young person s guide to the Children and Families Bill.pdf

Children and Young People Engagement

Work is taking place with the voluntary organisation Action for Children and Lincolnshire's Shadow Transition Board, a group of young people aged between 14-25yrs with a range of special educational needs, the School Improvement Team and Educational Psychologists Team to ensure we are engaging as much as possible with as many children as possible countywide.

Parent/Carer Events

There are a host of events county wide where we are encouraging families to be part of these developments and changes. The flyer can be downloaded here <u>SEND Events Flyer</u> You do need to book a place for these sessions, details on the flyer

Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan)

15 families have been identified to take part in the first trial of the EHC Plan (link given below). They have been randomly selected from the database of existing statements and checked to ensure all ages and complexity of need are covered. These families will be contacted by a key worker known to them to gain their consent. A further trial will take place once feedback has been received from the initial group.

Lincolnshire EHC Plan Draft 1

SEN Local Offer

Through research done by Lincolnshire Parent Carer Council with parents and the evidence gathered from National SEN+D Pathfinder Authorities, Lincolnshire decided to commission a company called Open Objects to support our Web-based SEN Local Offer

The first view of this will be available on-line 28th April 2014. Each school must also have their own school's Local Offer available on their school site. Workshops are taking place to support the expectations of the School's Local Offers.

To keep up-to-date with this agenda and LincoInshire's developments, please regularly check <u>www.lincoInshire.gov.uk/parents/support-</u> <u>and-aspiration</u> Here we publish our approved Project documents, together with any National documents of interest. Please sign-post colleagues and families to this page too

If you have any further queries, questions or would like to be further involved, please email SEND_Reforms@lincolnshire.gov.uk

May we also take this opportunity to sign-post you to:-

- Post 16 LLDD Conference (Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities)
 1st April Contact <u>MReader@cfbt.com</u> for further details
- 4All

Information for parents/carers of children and young people aged 0-19 with a disability and/or additional needs Personalised welcome pack and a 30 page colour newsletter 3 times a year

For more information and to receive a referral form please visit <u>www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/4all</u> or email 4all@lincolnshire.gov.uk

or call 01522 555517.

Dates and Updates in regard to the Children and Families Bill and SEN+D can be found in each newsletter