



# **SEN+D Reforms Newsletter**

13<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Issue 05

# Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEN+D) Reforms Implementation Project for 0-25yr olds

The new Children and Families Act 2014 is now in place and will see better integrated support for children and young people with special educational needs and disability across Education, Health and Social Care for 0 - 25 year olds. We anticipate the new Code of Practice, which will lay out the legislative duty, is due to be published Nationally this June

The Revised Code has been published – link below - has not been laid before Parliament. We are told the legal line for schools and settings is that the core aspects relating them in the new guidance will not change from this point. Regulations are being laid before Parliament after the Easter recess, Personal Budgets regulations have already gone in. It is anticipated that once all the regulations are through, then the revised Code will be brought before the House of Commons to receive affirmative resolution. The DfE are operating within the legal timeframe for schools and settings requiring at least a terms notice to enable the revised Code to be applied from 1 September - this is largely owing to the core sections applicable to schools and settings will not change and as such this is acceptable to offer a revised Code at this stage

There has been a final Consultation, which has now closed, before we receive the 'actual live' Code of Practice which we hope to receive June/July.

New arrangements for SEND Pathfinder support

Leicester City and Nottinghamshire County Councils have been appointed to the Pathfinder Champion role for the financial year

2014-15. Their joint role is to co-ordinate support with us from other partners, including Early Support and Preparing for Adulthood, amongst other delivery partners and offers

There have been dates arranged for our Pathfinder champions to visit Lincolnshire to offer support in various areas including EHC Plans and Process, Person Centred Planning, Joint Commissioning, Strategic Collaboration, Advocacy and Mediation.

#### New - Mott MacDonald SEND Pathfinder Information Packs

The organisation Mott MacDonald have worked closely with the SEND Pathfinders over the last 2 years. They have now produced the 4<sup>th</sup> version of Information Packs Please see the link below

#### Children and Young People and Parent Engagement

Online surveys have been prepared for completion by Children and Young People and parents/carers to tell us about their journey, what works, what doesn't and suggestions going forward. Certificates of thanks are available for taking part in the survey. A separately focused activity will take place for the Draft EHC Plan. Also a support pack has been put together to promote co-production of the Local Offer and Transitions work streams.

All these activities have been cascaded through educational settings, the Project's Stakeholder Group and the Project's wider distribution group.

Action for Children and the Shadow Transition Board are preparing countywide events for Children and Young People aged 16+. There will be gift vouchers for those taking part in these events.

The locality county wide events are continuing until end July, where we are encouraging families to be part of these developments and changes. You do need to book a place for these sessions as it may be necessary to cancel if there are not sufficient numbers booked. The sessions are a mix between information sharing and updates, but most importantly an opportunity for everyone to share their experiences and make suggestions to help shape new developments. There will sometimes be table-top activities to get involved in if you wish.

This isn't the only way to get involved, we welcome your emails to SEND\_Reforms@lincolnshire.gov.uk or call 01522 550925 We are also busy collating feedback and questions from these events – see Frequently Asked Questions on our www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/support-and-aspiration web pages

## EHC Plan & Process update:

A revised plan has been sent out to families and professionals and is being showcased at coffee mornings and other events for feedback to be received. Young Inspectors have activities planned for spring break, feedback on the "All about Me" section of the EHCP could be incorporated into these.

#### **Personal Budgets:**

For families who have an EHC Plan to request if they wish. Final Regulations have been signed off by the Government. The working group are meeting to revisit the Lincolnshire proposal to ensure it is fully in line prior to then sharing wider.

#### **Transitions Planning:**

Meetings have taken place with SENCOs around protocols of transitions, Once agreement has been made as to whether this should be an integral or 'bolt on' part of the EHC from Year 9 onwards the work is ready to present to the Board.

## Local Authority Local Offer for SEN + D update:

The Local Offer is intended to improve information about the SEN&D services available to children, young people and families. It aims to pull information about available services into one place and make it easier for all families to find them. We are working towards a full launch of the Local Offer website on 1st September 2014. However, we have been working with stakeholders to coproduce the website, the result of which is now up and running. This website is the Family Service Directory and can be found at: <a href="https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fsd">www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fsd</a>

The Local Offer is part of this website and can be found by clicking on the Local Offer for SEN and Disability button or by going directly to:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/SENDlocaloffer

We would very much welcome your views on the site. You can do this by completing a short questionnaire. This will help with our developments over the summer ready for a full launch in September 2014. You can either click on the Tell Us link in the top right of the page or by going to:

http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/lincs/fsd/tell\_us.page

If you have any other queries regarding the site please contact <u>children\_information@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>

### Training & Learning Development update:

A programme for Learning and Development is being compiled to ensure all relevant staff are equipped for the new ways of working from September. Training has already commenced with Signs of Safety training.

• New documents available on our <u>Support and Aspiration web pages</u>:

#### Lincolnshire documents;

**Generic Project Presentation** 

National documents; SEN Code of Practice

Mott MacDonald Pathfinder Information packs - April

#### • Frequently Asked Questions

The SEN & D reforms <u>frequently asked questions</u> are constantly being updated to answer key questions from everyone involved in the project.

 For previous newsletters, up-to-date information and to share your suggestions and ideas www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/support-and-aspiration SEND\_Reforms@Lincolnshire.gov.uk
Or call 01522 550925 for the Project Team May we also take this opportunity to sign-post you to:-

• 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 <u>4all@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u> or call 01522 555517. Dates and Updates in regard to the Children and Families Act 2014 and SEN+D can be found in each newsletter