



Better together for Children...



Walsall Council

MAY 2014

Children’s Services – Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Changes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities from September 2014

Walsall prepare for changes as outlined in the Children & Families Bill

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Welcome to our 3rd newsletter giving you updates about our preparations for the changes to services for Children & Young People with special educational needs.

We have a busy summer term ahead getting ready for changes in September 2014.

- We have a training programme starting in June
- We will finalise our paperwork and statutory assessment process combining multi-agency processes and eligibility criteria.
- We will collate draft Local Offers and place on the Family Information Service website for consultation with parents
- We will draw up an action plan to convert all existing statements to Education Health & Care Plans over a 3 year period.
- We will be discussing the process for personal budgets (more information will be available in our July newsletter)

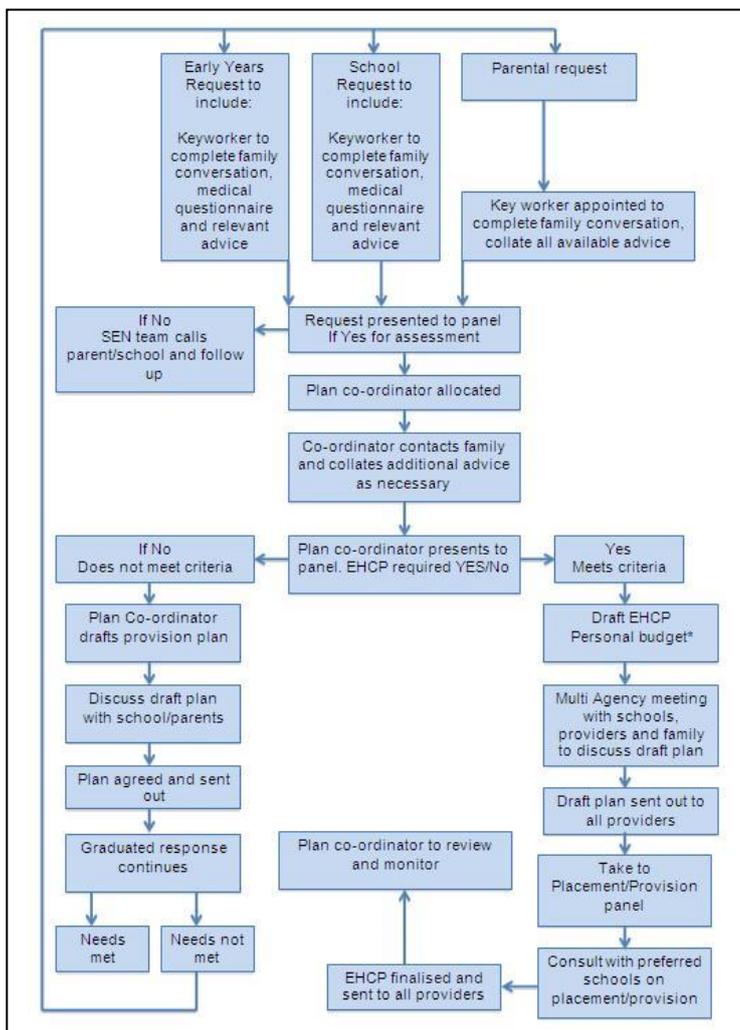
We will be training front-line staff across Education, Health and Social Care throughout the months of June and July.

Our Workforce Development Team will produce an ongoing training programme starting from September for new staff and those not included in the June/July training.

SEND Training and Development Programme	
1.	SEN reforms – what will change? Explaining the changes/process to other stakeholders (ie schools/prospects)
2.	Understanding Provision in Walsall – eligibility, processes, the local offer, roles and responsibilities
3.	Getting better at Engagement (Children and parents)
4.	Introduction to Whole Life Planning – Principles/Practice
5.	Plans for children and young people – The Walsall EHCP -making it person centred – linking to personal budget.
6.	Personal Budgets – Introduction and principles
7.	Using the Resource Indicator Questionnaire (RIQ) - training for core staff re using the RIQ
8.	Preparing parents and young people for the changes -Training to develop the capacity of service users (nb transition to Adult Services). Use of advocates
9.	Using a person centred approach – The Walsall Way of working
10.	Key working within the new SEND process
11.	Train the trainers (PCP/keyworking) (contractual repayment of fees if leaving employment)

EHCP Assessment Process

The Statutory Assessment Process for Education, Health & Care Plans will be 20 weeks. The draft process below is currently being considered. Schools have volunteered to start piloting our new Request for Assessment paperwork and we will make any changes necessary after these pilots or when the SEN code of practice is published.



REQUEST FOR A STATUTORY EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE ASSESSMENT

Before sending this request please ensure that all parts of the form are completed and any additional information listed below is included.

Attach copy of your Local offer and highlight what this child has accessed.

The parent and the school should then sign the form

	Included
Family Conversation (separate form)	
Medical Questionnaire (separate form)	
Child's Views (separate form)	
Educational Psychology report	
Sensory Report (HI/VI)	
Early Years SEN Report	
Speech & Language report	
Occupational Therapy report	
Physiotherapy report	
Social Services report	
Other reports (please specify)	

PERSONAL DETAILS OF CHILD/YOUNG PERSON

Child's Name:	Date of Birth:	Male:	Female:
Address:			
Postcode:			
Year Group:	Home Language:	Ethnic Origin:	

Local Offer update.....



Schools are all working on their draft local offers.

Services were invited to a workshop at the EDC to help them put together their local offers. We have a number of local offers from services and others should be with us shortly. These will be collated and will be published on the Family Information Services website and we will be asking parents/carers for feedback in order that we can evaluate the content.

All Services are currently compiling their draft Local Offer

Our frequently asked question leaflet has now been published. Please contact us if you have not seen a copy.

Please send your comments questions to:- senconsultations@edu.walsall.gov.uk

Parent Consultation Feedback

“You Said” 	“We will” 
<p>You wanted better services that support families/CYP at home and in leisure time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more facilities and better access to those we have - facilities for specific types and needs (e.g. ASD) more tailored respite 	<p>Review our current services and look at ways of improving and adding to these services. We have a number of agencies in Walsall that work with Adults and will look at the possibility of extending these services for children/young people. We will discuss with parents through the parent forum and groups to gain feedback of the types of services required.</p>
<p>You wanted more opportunities to meet other parents who have children with similar needs</p>	<p>The Walsall Parent/Carer Forum meets with parents and invites guest speakers to events. We will publish groups that currently exist and consult with parents on gaps. We will look at what opportunities schools have for parents to meet other parents who have children with similar needs.</p>
<p>A proper service for ‘Advocacy’ for CYP</p>	<p>The Children’s Society has an Advocacy service for children and young people who are in care, leaving care or who have a Social Worker. We will investigate the possibility of this to include children with SEN and disabilities.</p>
<p>The commitment of all professionals to listen properly to CYO and families and commit to developing a relationship based on trust. Better communication, returning calls and listening</p>	<p>The Children and Families Act 2014 will be implemented from September 2014 and has major implications to how services are delivered to children and young people who have a Special Education Need and/or Disability between the ages of 0 and 25. It will reform the system of support across education, health and social care to ensure that services are organised with the needs and preferences of the child and their family firmly at the centre, from birth to the transition to adulthood. We will ensure professionals are committed to involving all parents/carers and children and young people and have the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills.</p>
<p>To see that all services put children’s needs before budgets</p>	<p>The SEN reforms will ensure that the system of support across education, health and social care are organised with the needs and preferences of the child and their family firmly at the centre.</p>
<p>More information about what things are available in Adult services</p>	<p>Information about Adult services can be found at:- <u>http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/health_and_social_care</u></p>
<p>You wanted continuity and consistency</p>	<p>Training will be available to education, health and social care staff to ensure that services deliver a consistent message and we will work together to provide continuity across all services.</p>
<p>More information sharing, open and transparent information and everything accessible in one place, i.e. One Stop Shop/SEND walk-in and to act on parent consultation sessions.</p>	<p>We will be multi-agency working and sharing information. We plan to place the local offers for services on the Family Information Services website shortly for consultation. We will be continuing to look at information that is available and how best to make this accessible.</p>
<p>Not forced choices that don’t meet child’s needs</p>	<p>We will be adopting a Person Centred approach which will mean taking an holistic and personalised view of a child/young persons needs.</p>
<p>Parents want to tell their story once</p>	<p>The new Education Health and Care Plan will be written following consultation with all services involved with your child. A form will be available called “the family conversation” which will be your child’s story this will be completed with you and your child at the start of the process. This information will be shared so that you tell your story once.</p>
<p>More Team Around the child and person centred planning</p>	<p>Our Workforce Development programme will include training for person centred planning and will be available to staff who work in Children’s services across Education, Health & Social Care</p>