

SEND Board Newsletter: Update and Feedback

The SEND Partnership Board is a meeting to implement and oversee the SEND strategy for Salford. This is a shared partnership approach with representatives from health, education, children's and adults social care, voluntary sector, parents and carers, elected members, and the wider council. We aim to support and improve services so that all children with SEND can reach their full potential in Salford, and it is co-chaired by Melissa Caslake, Executive Director of Children's Services, and Cathy Starbuck, Director of Education and Inclusion. Below is a brief summary of the topic areas that were covered at our latest SEND Partnership board which took place on 9th April 2024. We hope you find this update useful. Please send any feedback or if you have any ideas to nicola.robbs@salford.gov.uk



Agenda	Key Points
Voice of the Child	<p>We started the meeting with a Voice of the child item - Sarah's Stammer Story STAMMA</p> <p>We try and start every meeting with a young person's voice, this reminds us why we are all there and what we are trying to achieve – it's about real children and young people not paperwork. It is also really important to understand what it is like for young people with SEND in Salford.</p>
Focused Item: Bee Well data	<p>The board received a report on the latest Bee Well data. It focuses on young people's views on hope & optimism for the future, discrimination and good places to spend free time. The input focused on the views of young people with SEN in comparison to their peers.</p> <p>If you would like to read further information on this then you can follow this link; BeeWell-GM-Headline-Findings-202324.pdf (beewellprogramme.org)</p>
Focused Item: CAMHS Neurodevelopmental Waiting List	<p>The board had an input from our CAMHS lead and we reviewed our approach to reducing waiting times and a workshop has been set up for May to discuss further. We know that some children and young people are waiting for a neurodevelopment assessment for far too long. We discussed what to do about this. Camhs are finding it very difficult to recruit the right staff to undertake this work, and especially since the pandemic more children have been referred. We all agreed that the system needs to operate differently but also that we need clear actions in the short term to try and resolve the difficulties for families. The SEND board will revisit this at every meeting and check progress against agreed actions to tackle this challenge.</p>
SEND Scorecard	<p>We reviewed our SEN Scorecard in some detail. One highlight is that this quarter we have seen a strong improvement in EHC plans that have been finalised within 20 weeks. Our current performance is that 70% of assessments for education, health and care plans are being completed within the 20 weeks' time line. At the end of last year we were at 50%. This however still means that 30% of families are waiting beyond the agreed time line for a completed EHCP assessment so there is more to do to build on the</p>

	<p>improvements. The Board thanked all staff who are involved in supporting this assessment process.</p>
<p>Parent / Carer Forum Day</p>	<p>The PCF shared the feedback they had received following the information event held in March for families and stakeholders;</p> <p><i>"Thank you for a very welcoming and informative event"</i></p> <p><i>"Such a good day thank you all for you hard work and time it's definitely paid off"</i></p> <p><i>"Thanks for today was really happy with the professionals today I got some advice I was looking for my girl. She was really happy with face painted and also her balloon."</i></p> <p><i>"Thanks for a fabulous event today. Managed to get the info and advice I was seeking. As you can see she was thrilled with her face painting. Thanks for having us!"</i></p> <p><i>"A brilliant event again this year. Really helpful and took lots of info from it. Thank you to all involved. Well done guys for setting it up and running it!"</i></p> <p>Overall it was a very positive event for families and staff. Thank you to everyone especially Viv at the Parent Carer Forum for organising and assisting to make this event such a success.</p>
<p>SEND Inspection</p>	<p>We are preparing for a SEND Inspection, so we look at what other areas are doing to learn from any good practice. Haringey have recently received a positive inspection outcome, so the board discussed some of the learning and positive practice.</p> <p>https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50243302</p>