

SEND and Inclusion

Establishment of Locality based SEND Hubs 22 May 2020

Information for Schools and Settings

1. As you are aware the local authority has restructured its central SEND and Inclusion teams to create 4 SEND multi-disciplinary Hubs that will operate across all localities in North Yorkshire. The individual Hubs will cover the following localities:
 - Selby
 - Scarborough, Ryedale, Whitby and Filey
 - Hambleton/ Richmondshire
 - Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon and Craven
2. The teams will operate from a main base and a number of satellite bases so that there is a presence across each geographical area.
3. The teams are made up of a range of professionals including SEN Caseworkers, specialist teachers, SEND specialists, practitioners, educational psychologists together with speech and language and occupational therapists.
4. Recruitment to the posts within the Hubs is nearly complete and we are confident that all Hubs will be fully staffed by September 2020. We have created hub diagrams detailing the names and contact numbers of staff who have been appointed to date for your information. We will update this again in preparation for September. Please click on the appropriate attachment to view the posts in your area.

Impact of COVID 19 on the establishment of the Hubs

5. COVID 19 and the national lock down has delayed certain aspects of the establishment of the functions of the Hubs, due to many staff being re deployed to support other pressures across the local authority.
6. The Service is experiencing pressure in terms of back logs of statutory assessments and annual reviews as well as having to pause support for individual children in schools and settings, and finding alternative ways to offer support. Therefore, over the remainder of the summer term when the schools begin to re-open to a wider number of children and young people we will be prioritising:

- Planned hand overs of children currently receiving outreach support from the EMS
 - Statutory assessment processes including the issuing of EHC Plans and annual reviews
 - Triaging of new referrals received from schools requesting support and undertaking any necessary observations and screening required, albeit some of these may be virtual at this time. Timescales of support will be agreed with schools.
 - Oversight and support for phase transitions to a new provision in September (e.g. transition into primary school, transition to secondary school)
7. The Hubs will still be accepting referrals although consideration will need to be given as to how the service provides support during this period of social distancing. We are exploring a range of different options.
8. Staff are still able to undertake visits to schools to complete work that cannot be undertaken remotely. Visits will be undertaken in accordance with school protocols for visitors to the school.

Children receiving support from EMS

9. Plans are underway for the managed closure of the enhanced mainstream schools that are decommissioning from the end of August 2020.
10. Prior to the lockdown, we had already initiated discussions with Teachers in Charge to identify transition arrangements for children receiving support from the EMS, with the intentions of transferring those children that still require support to the Hub team. We will also be ensuring we undertake the necessary introductions to parents and carers in the remainder of the summer term.
11. Transition plans are underway for children receiving in reach support; some children will progress into specialist provision; others will return to the mainstream with support from the hubs.

Which children and young people will receive support from the hubs?

12. As detailed in the referral form and guidance, all referrals for children and young people must meet the following criteria in order to receive a core service;
- The child or young person is resident in North Yorkshire, or receiving education in a North Yorkshire educational establishment
 - The child or young person is in the age range 0-25 years
 - The request has been discussed with parents/carers and signed consent has been obtained from those with parental responsibility or from a young person themselves, where they are considered to be competent and are over sixteen years of age
 - The child or young person has *SEND* and staff in school require further specialist support and training to apply appropriate interventions to meet need
13. Consideration and weighting will also be given to children with specific vulnerabilities as highlighted in the referral form.

Core Offer of Support from the Hubs

14. Support from the hubs will include:
- A named key worker to act as a point of contact for the school and family and to co-ordinate plans for intervention

- Multi-disciplinary screening of their particular needs
- Evaluation of the child/young person's view of their needs and the support they receive
- Discussion with and advice to families, liaising with other agencies as necessary
- Specific advice and intervention to support parents and school to meet the child's needs and achieve their potential. This may include:
 - Intensive observation in school and if appropriate at home
 - Development of an intervention plan based on identified needs
 - Modelling of interventions and coaching to develop further skills in adults to support the child
 - Support in target setting, planning and differentiation of curriculum
 - Training the team around the child in understanding the child's specialist needs
 - Regular direct teaching of specific skills and techniques
 - Follow up by the keyworker at the next transition point to ensure consistency and effective planning of transitions
 - Written evaluation of the planned programme of support and future recommendations
 - Follow up after a specified period to ensure progress is continuing

15. Children attending targeted provisions will have an offer of specialist support from the hubs as an integrated part of their placement.

Telephone and Skype Surgeries for Schools

16. Informal contact with the hubs is always welcome. Children who are known to the hubs will all have a keyworker allocated, so contact will usually be with them in the first instance.

17. For those children not yet known to the hub, or for more general queries, each hub will advertise its arrangements for schools and settings and parents/carers to make contact for advice and guidance.

18. This may be specific sessions for drop in consultations, phone or skype surgeries as well as anytime email contact.

19. Final arrangements will be communicated before the start of the new term in September.

Additional hub services

20. The hubs may also offer a range of other approaches such as:

- Holiday clubs and groups
- Parent training and information sessions, in partnership with SENDIASS
- Conferences, seminars and CPD networking opportunities including SENCo networks
- Opportunities for schools and settings to purchase additional support via the Traded Offer from the service. This may include additional training and interventions for children who do not meet criteria, or for whole school groups

Referral Process

21. Referral forms are available on the hub pages on CYPs.info, and should be returned to inclusiveducation@northyorks.gov.uk.

22. Before a referral is accepted by the Hubs we will require completion of a form which outlines the needs of the child, assessment, support and intervention schools have already

provided. Prompts as to what is required are detailed for each area of need are on the form and in the accompanying guidance.

23. Allocation meetings are held on a weekly basis and you will be contacted no later than 10 working days of the date of your referral.

Please note – there is NO CHANGE to the process for statutory assessment and EHCARs should still be submitted as currently to the SEN email address:
sen@northyorks.gov.uk

What happens if a referral is not accepted?

24. If a referral is not accepted, guidance will be given as to why it does not meet criteria- this may include advice on further assessments, interventions or activities which are required to be completed before referral would be accepted.
25. Challenge to this decision, or request for further detail can be made to the referral panel via Inclusiveeducation@northyorks.gov.uk. If not resolved, a Hub Manager from a different locality will provide an independent review of the decision.

SEND WEBINARS

26. In order to ensure everybody is fully informed of the changes to SEND and Inclusion from September, we intend to hold a number of webinars towards the end of June to ensure that there is opportunity for schools and settings to raise any questions or seek clarification, before the end of the school term.
27. Further details will be announced in the next few weeks via the Red bag

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