

## SEND Transformation and Compliance Team update – May 2020

Welcome to the second SEND T&C team update. During this time when we are unable to meet with our partners, hold our workstream meetings, or attend the Partnership Board, we want to keep in touch with you with what we are doing.

For further updates on what we have been up to as team, please visit our [new team page](#) on the Local Offer website. We will be keeping this updated with everything our team is working on through this time.

### Key team achievements:

- Keeping families updated with the latest developments throughout Covid-19
- Improving our coproduction and engagement through the use of surveys, including:
  - A survey on our [Short Breaks offer](#)
  - A survey for CYP on creating an Outcomes Framework. This survey is now at its half way point and the top 8 outcome statements have been collated. The **closing date for this survey is 08/06/2020**. We currently have **32 responses** and hope to double this! The interim review and links to the survey can be found [here](#) on our Local Offer.
- *Thinking Big* virtual session of Local Offer and SEND T&C work
- *AWARE* virtual session on Personal Budgets
- Progressing how we share SEN data across the Local Area (between the Local Authority and the CCG)
- Final amendments to a statutory guide on Personal Budgets. This is currently with our colleagues in Social Care and Health.
- Developments made to the Local Offer website using valuable feedback received from key stakeholders
- Collating and analysing key stakeholders feedback about the Local Offer, website usage data and developments made over the last year. This will all be included within the Local Offer Annual Report 2019/20.
- The launch of our new SEND slogan logo – SEND:No Limits
- The launch of our revised Local Offer logo



## **Jane Hall**

*I am continuing to support the Local Authority emergency response to schools and vulnerable children and families during the Covid-19 lockdown, being one of the Strategic links to schools in BD13 BD14 BD15 and LS29.*

*Myself and my team have a weekly virtual team meeting where we share updates on the work we are doing, agree how we will progress our key areas of priority work and make sure that we keep moving forwards on implementing the SEND Reforms in Bradford with our partners, parents and children and young people. It's great when we see the outcomes of our co-production work like the new logos above.*

*I've attended a number of virtual meetings with partners across the Local Area to keep up to speed with local and regional developments and attend a fortnightly regional SEND meeting with colleagues from other Local Authorities (LA), the DfE and NHSE where we share good practice, issues and activities affected by Covid-19. I have recently shared some of the great work we are doing in Bradford during lockdown. I also have a fortnightly meeting with partners from Health (CCG) and Bradford Parents/Carer Forum to ensure that we keep a joint focus on SEND Partnership priority areas and readiness for the SEND Inspection - whenever that might now be!*

*I am currently supporting a number of Commissioning activities including the re-tendering of the SENDIAS Service contract, review of LA Speech and Language Services and Regional review of the White Rose SEND Framework.*

*I have management oversight of the work of the SEND Transformation and Compliance Team and am working closely with my team on our transformational SEND activities (see below) and also with other Strategic Managers within Education, Health and Social Care.*

## **Josh Wadsworth**

*Throughout lockdown I have continued to work closely with members of the SEN team, Social Care and our Parent Ambassadors.*

*The SEND Assessment Team and I have developed Bradford's Personal Budget guide that is in its final sign off stage and should be able to be uploaded onto the Local Offer in June 2020. This work is part of the wider review I have been carrying out surrounding the Personal Budget content on the Local Offer and will therefore sit alongside the newly developed [SEN funding page](#) and the [Personal Budget - One Minute Guide](#). I also shared these pieces of work during an AWARE virtual session on the 30<sup>th</sup> April, answering questions and gathering feedback and suggestions.*

*As a team we have worked collaboratively with colleagues in Social Care to review our Eligibility Criteria for Social Care support. This has involved: producing a [referral form](#) for parents and professionals to access support from the CCHDT, the creation of a [Short Breaks page](#) on the Local Offer that clearly states the eligibility criteria and how to request a Short Break and updating other content on the LO that refers to Social care support.*

*The parent ambassadors have helped Bradford Council review the newly produced One minute Guides by ensuring that these are clear and will be useful to families and professionals in the future, as well as identifying areas that should be addressed, our most recent being the [SEN Support](#) one minute guide.*

## **Luke Metcalfe**

*I am now 7 weeks into my post in the SEND Transformation and Compliance Team and although we were all confined to our home offices, there's still a great sense of team work, we have been having weekly video call Team Meetings and I've been introduced to a number of new colleagues across the council including Social Care Managers, Children with Complex Health and Disabilities Team Managers, School Improvement staff and Send Assessment Staff.*

*I have been working closely with Josh on One Minute Guides for the local offer providing quick easy to read information for Parents and Carers. We have also been working with the Social Care Service and Disabilities Service to update the information available on the Local offer on Short Breaks and other services available to children and families with SEND.*

*EHC Plans and the quality of these continues to be an important theme so myself, Joel and Josh have been doing some work around auditing EHC Plans and identifying any themes where further information is needed to ensure the Children of Bradford have robust EHC Plans in place and so that our Services and Health Services can meet your children's needs more effectively.*

*Last week Joel and Sarah attended an online event "Thinking Big" in which a number of Parents/Carers took part, we took a lot of feedback and queries away from this event so I have been collating the feedback and producing a "you said, we did" document that we will look to publish shortly. Its great to see so many Parents and Carers getting involved and asking some really useful questions that help us to direct our attention to areas that may need development or identify where there may be gaps in available information that is useful to Parents so I would encourage anyone to get involved with our online events or surveys, information on these can be found on our Local Offer.*

## **Sarah Pawson**

*Last week I was a guest speaker for AWARE's virtual support session. This was a live online session with parents and carers which was also recorded for those who could not join in with the session at the time. This session was a demonstration of the Local Offer website and included: What the LO service is and why we have one; what our statutory duties are and who has statutory responsibilities (LA and Partners) to provide information and content-updates/responses; co-production of LO, why we do this and how Bradford has done this; what we are doing on the LO site "News-Covid-19" to support families during Covid-19 as we know a lot of services are closed and will be a incredibly difficult time; and how to navigate the LO site.*

*I have been using valuable feedback received from families about the Local Offer, to further develop the Local Offer and its website. Feedback received from key stakeholders will reflect the developments made to the Local Offer website. Over the past week I have been collating and analysing at all the feedback and developments made over the last year, puling together all this information to share with families within the Local Offer Annual Report 2019/20 which will be published on the website for families to see what we have been doing.*

## **Joel Herbert**

*Since we entered lockdown, our priority has been keeping parents and carers updated with the latest guidance and legislation. I've been supporting on keeping the [Local Offer news pages](#) and our social media up-to-date to ensure parents and carers have the latest news surrounding*

*services at the moment. I have also been sending out between 1-3 emails a week to our parent carer groups and SEND parent ambassadors to ensure they are kept informed and able to cascade information to their groups. Last week, I took part in a virtual zoom session with parents and carers from 'Thinking Big' about the work of the SEND T&C team and also our response during Covid-19. You can view the presentation [here](#).*

*A key piece of joint working I've been working on with colleagues from Health and IMT is looking at our data sharing processes. This week, Mariam signed off the Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) which now allows us to share data on our EHCP cohort with Health Services. Our next steps are to ensure that as a Local Area we have a clear understanding of our EHCP cohort, what services they are currently accessing, and how we can improve these experiences. This will also link into the Outcomes Framework we are starting to develop with support from the Council for Disabled Children over the next two months.*

*I am also using this time to review our documentation, including the Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) which we hope to present to you in a revised format in the coming months.*

### **In summary...**

As a team we will be continue to work throughout the period. We are using this time to evaluate our progress so far as a team and look at how we continue to develop implementing the SEND reforms. There are lots of new things that we are currently working on and look forward to sharing these with you in future updates.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact us via email: [SENDTandC@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:SENDTandC@bradford.gov.uk)

And finally, this week has been Mental Health Awareness week and we have been promoting this through the [Local Offer](#) with the theme of Kindness. We hope you may find some of these links and resources helpful.

We wish you a restful and relaxing Bank Holiday weekend. Stay Safe.