

Education Bulletin

For all professionals involved
in education and SEND
in the local area



NHS
Sutton
Clinical Commissioning Group



Our Vision

We are collectively ambitious for our children and young people. Together we want to provide them with the best chances to achieve their best outcomes in life whatever their starting point and prepare them effectively for adulthood.

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Introduction from Nick Ireland, Acting Strategic Director of People Directorate



I am delighted to be rounding off the last of the Education Bulletins for this academic year - sorry it's quite a big one! As I am sure colleagues from across the Local Area will agree, it has been a busy year and I hope you all find some time over the school holiday period for a well-earned rest.

Overall, parents and pupils in Sutton continue to enjoy outstanding educational opportunities in the Borough. Of Sutton's schools that were inspected this year, 93% of our schools were rated good or outstanding (most recently with Cheam Park Farm Primary School receiving an 'outstanding' grading). We saw improvements in the percentage of pupils in the early years achieving a good level of development over the last year which is very positive, improvements in key stage 1 in reading, writing and maths and Key stage 2 results dropping back slightly but still remaining well above the national average - Key stage 4 results to come! Well done to all schools for their hard work and for continuing to make Sutton a great place to live and bring up a family.

But academic results alone do not define the value of a system so it's also been great to hear about the work schools have been doing to support our young people in other ways, whether that be Overton Grange and Robin Hood Junior school being awarded the 'Supporting Young Carers in Schools Award' or Matthew Warner of Cheam Common Junior Academy becoming the Borough's first winner of the Active School Hero award (see below).

There isn't space to celebrate every success here, and there are many many more that could be cited, but I want to thank all colleagues in schools and in partner organisations from across the local area for the work that you do for our young people. If you have a success you want to share, I would encourage you to pop it in an email to educationbulletin@sutton.gov.uk and we will share it with the wider education community in the Borough via this bulletin.

Of course, as well as celebrate successes we must also be mindful of the work we still

have to do to improve. The Local Area has now delivered many of the actions in our SEND Written Statement of Action (WSOA), and it is encouraging that our Ofsted monitoring visits show us we are moving in the right direction. However, this is just the start. Parents rightly challenge us to be better and we will do everything we can to continue to improve as quickly as we can. Ofsted will 'revisit' us any time from September onwards and whilst I expect it to be every bit as challenging as the first inspection, I believe the Local Area is in a much better place than it was 12-18 months ago. Again, I want to thank colleagues from across the Local Area for the work that you have done, and will continue to do, to address the weaknesses identified by the SEND inspection. Our progress is the result of our combined efforts so we need to keep focused on what we need to do - and make sure we do it!

Looking to the year ahead, we will be opening the new Harris Academy Sutton building in September - the country's first 'passivhaus' secondary school, working with the DfE on the delivery of a further secondary school, we will be moving forward with the next steps on our WSOA, the High Needs Block Review and convening the first of the Sutton Education Partnership meetings from September to help deliver that review. We need to do all of this while keeping an eye on national developments such as the next steps for the Timpson review, SEND funding call for evidence, the Comprehensive Spending Review, the introduction of the new Ofsted framework, a new prime minister and possibly a new Secretary of State and much much more!

Have a great and well deserved holiday/break when it comes,

Nick

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Articles

1. Update on Progress Against the WSOA

Representatives from a range of sectors of the Local Area have been meeting every three months with the DfE and NHS England to review the work we have been doing on our Written Statement of Actions (WSOA). In the last meeting in June we presented a series of slides to review where progress has been made as well as identifying the areas where we still have work to do. Colleagues may be interested to review these slides which can be [downloaded here](#).

Although most of the 27 actions agreed have been completed and some solid foundations have now been established, we know there is still more work to be done. However, it was encouraging that our colleagues from the DfE and NHS England noted the improvements that the Local Area has already made. Their collective summary of the meeting was:

"Partners round the table have a clear, common and realistic understanding of strengths, progress and the priorities for development. There is a process of more robust analysis and use of data. Some of the areas being progressed are about medium and long term culture change and adjusting expectations. Leaders are committed to the journey of improvement and are using a range of approaches to support this. There is demonstrable progress in joint leadership and ambition as well as operational aspects such as timeliness of assessments. The designated health team is working closely with the SEND team and early impact is also being seen from service changes with more focus on early intervention. Partners are aware that there is more work to be done to collect evidence of impact at the individual child and system level as well as continuing to develop engagement with families, schools and staff across the partnership".

We will continue to meet with representatives from the DfE and NHS England until our Revisit (reinspection). Revisits normally happen within 18 months of the agreement to a Local Area's Written Statement of Action, so for the Sutton Local Area, this will be at any time from September until February 2020. We will of course keep you updated - so, as many readers of this article will be involved in the Revisit, do keep an eye on the Bulletin.

2. WSOA feedback from the Local Area

Whilst the feedback in the monitoring meetings with Ofsted and the CQC is important, we need to understand if the Written Statement of Action is having any impact with families and young people on the ground as well as the professionals that support those families. We are mindful that surveys take precious time to complete so as part of our WSOA Communications and Engagement Plan we have tried to bring together the range of surveys into one place to ensure as far as possible we join them up. This includes the following:

- EHCNA Survey - a survey of families that have experienced EHC needs assessment process
- Local Area Professionals Survey - a survey to gauge how well our vision, the code of practice, identification of needs, outcomes is understood by professionals in the Local Area.
- Education Bulletin - how many subscribers, how many people read the bulletin and open rates
- Parent Carers Survey - a survey run by the Sutton Parents Carers Forum to assess parents views on a range of Education/Health and Care related matters.
- SIASS Survey - to assess how well the Sutton Independent Advice and Support Service performs based on feedback from users

- Local Offer Survey - to assess how effective the Local Offer is for users and how it could be improved in the future - this survey

[A summary of the results of each of the surveys carried out to date can be found here.](#)

For more information please contact kieran.holliday@sutton.gov.uk

3. Feedback from the National SEND Conference in June 2019

A 'Sutton Local Area team' made up of Local Authority Officers, Cognus staff, Headteachers and SENCOs attended the National SEND Conference in June 2019. Some of those attending have fed back the following:



We attended keynote speeches from [Andre Imich, DfE Sen and Disability Professional Advisor](#) and [Gaynor Roberts, Ofsted Senior HMI for London Region](#), who discussed some of the local and national challenges and opportunities for supporting those with additional needs.

One of the key messages was the importance of having a robust SEN support model to meet the predictable needs of children and young people in educational settings. This goes hand in hand with supporting SENCO's and a whole school ethos of developing outstanding inclusive practice. A range of good practices from both primary and secondary provisions were shared in the subsequent workshops.

Following the conference, a working party was developed to ensure the learning and range of resources will be disseminated. The actions will be integrated into the work of the HNB review, VPP workstreams, Senco forum and other relevant networks to ensure a consistent local area approach.

During August members of the working group will be researching and connecting with other local areas identified as exemplars of good practice to bring any relevant learning back in to the Borough. The action plan and next steps will be communicated in subsequent bulletins.

For further information, please contact Helen Gasparelli, Head of Inclusion on helen.gasparelli@cognus.org.uk, Jane Morgan, Head of SEN Support on miranda-jane.morgan@cognus.org.uk or Nicholas English, Principal Educational Psychologist on nicholas.english@cognus.org.uk

4. Early Help, Change Up Project - Preventing School Exclusions



The 'Change Up' Project is part of the Local Authority's Early Help offer to provide a range of bespoke interventions for children and young people at risk of exclusion and/or beginning to experience issues that might escalate without further intervention.

The project aims to support children and young people from Year 5 to Year 8 who are experiencing social, emotional or mental health (SEMH) difficulties at school which are impacting on their engagement with learning. The project consists of a series of options that can be used as standalone interventions or combined into a coordinated package of support and include: Whole Family Support, Restorative Support, Step Forward programme (targeted off site support through a 6 week enrichment programme), Specialist Advice and IDM

Project Support.

To find out more detail about the interventions offered, check out our [Change Up Bite Size Briefing](#)

The briefing will also detail how the fortnightly multi-agency 'Re-think' meetings work where we discuss cases and agree on suitable intervention and support, as well as help you identify children that can access the programme using our eligibility indicators.

Requests for support can be made NOW ready for our go live date on 1st September, using the '[Early Help Request](#)' online google form. The first 'Step Forward' off site programme will begin week commencing 4th November 2019.

To find out more information about Early Help, our [EHAT \(Early Help Assessment Tool\)](#), the services we offer and our [Restorative Family Coaches](#), please click on the related links which will take you to the appropriate Bite Size Briefing.

For more information please contact Kat Edwards on 020 8770 4128 or earlyhelp@sutton.gov.uk

5. Visit to Nonsuch Primary

Councillor Marian James, the Chair of the People Committee, and Councillor Jenny Batt, Deputy Chair and lead for Education, visited Nonsuch Primary School recently and met with Heather Young, who became the new headteacher in January this year. Nonsuch Primary is a one form entry school and is one of the member schools of the Sutton Education Trust (SET), a cooperative trust of seven schools across the Borough.

Cllr James and Cllr Batt write:

The school had a lovely, community feel to it. We were able to visit the children in their classrooms and see them hard at work in their maths lessons. We were very impressed to see how quietly the Year 1 children were working!

We heard from Heather about her and the children's plans for their nature garden area which will become a great space to carry out outside learning activities and give the children the opportunity to learn about the ecosystem and develop an interest in nature. All of the children have had the chance to help out with transforming the allotment area and the Year 6 children are working on their leaving legacy - a new pond! The school are part of an initiative called SET in Bloom which encourages children to see the benefits that gardening can have in supporting good health and wellbeing. Tom Brake MP has agreed to come into all schools in the Trust to judge the gardening provision for children.

We also visited the Reception and Nursery areas where the children were enjoying the outside space at school. We heard from Heather about how they will be having their first intake of 30-hour nursery children starting in September. This will have a positive impact on pupil progress and supports working families.

We wish Heather, the staff and pupils the best of luck in transforming the nature garden and allotment and would love to come back and visit in the future to see the finished project.

If you would like Cllr James (left) and Cllr Batt to visit your school, please do email them on

marian.james@sutton.gov.uk and jenny.batt@sutton.gov.uk



6. Active School Hero

Congratulations to the LEO Academy Trust who have received the exciting news that a Matthew Warner of Cheam Common Junior Academy is the borough's first winner of the Active School Hero award.

This is a great achievement gained with a lot of hard work and therefore LEO Academy Trust want to share the news with our local community. They are excited to have an employee that is so dedicated to their pupil's health and wellbeing, getting children moving everyday and enjoying it!

The link to the press release can be found [here](#). For further information please contact Jasmin Gillhespy, LEO Academy Trust, on 020 8644 9055 option 2.



Updates and Notifications

7. Revised EHC Plan Templates now available on Sutton's Local Offer

Revised documentation to support the Education Health and Care Needs Assessment process are now available. These have been co-produced with representatives from schools/ colleges and the Sutton Parent and Carer Forum and have been published on the newly refreshed [Local Offer and can be found here](#).

They are now a very comprehensive suite of documents to support the process and include EHCP and Annual Review Template, request forms and advice forms. Training on the new forms will be made available during the Autumn term. If anyone is interested in this please contact caroline.boardman@sutton.gov.uk. These documents will be uploaded to a Key Documents and Policies page on our Local Offer shortly.

8. SEND Joint Working Protocol published on the Local Offer

In the February bulletin, we published the [SEND Joint Working Protocol](#): this is the document that explains how local area professionals will work together to identify, assess and meet the needs of children/young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities.

This document is published on the Local Offer website and we would encourage all professionals in the Local Area to familiarise themselves with this if they have not done so already.

Part of this document is a summary of roles and responsibilities from the [SEND Code of](#)



Practice. For ease of reference, we have put a standalone copy of this, together with the instructions for applying for an Additional Support Contract which can provide additional funding for a school to put in place specific strategies at SEN Support level, on the Local Offer website [here]

If you have any questions about the protocol please contact fiona.phelps@sutton.gov.uk or james.holden@swlondon.nhs.uk

9. Team Teach - Positive Behaviour Management Training

Attached is a flier from the Limes College for their termly Team Teach training. We hope that schools will have already seen this but there are a few places left at the beginning of term. Limes will be running another course in January 2020.

The Limes College can deliver bespoke courses on any form of Behaviour Management training on request from schools.

To book training please [fill out this form](#) or get in contact with Alison Lucas, Pastoral Leader, for further information - alucas1@suttonmail.org



10. Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Update

The LSCP local arrangements to implement Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 were published as scheduled on 28 June 2019 and apply from 1 July 2019. The document is available on this link: <https://www.suttonlscp.org.uk/lscp-local-arrangements.php>

Emergency Contacts



Sutton LSCP is requesting your support in providing emergency contact information for the purpose of supporting the Local Authority to notify serious child care incidents to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel in line with guidance published by the Department for Education. The details are also shared with Ofsted.

Under Working Together 2018, there is a duty to notify the local authority if it is known or suspected that a child has been abused or neglected, and the child dies or is seriously harmed:

- in the London Borough of Sutton; or
- outside England, who is normally resident in the London Borough of Sutton.

To ensure that the Local Authority can respond in line with the statutory requirements, the LSCP is collecting emergency contact details for all schools and other education providers in the London Borough of Sutton. If you have not already provided the details, we need you to provide these through the online form linked below:

[Key Education Providers Contacts form](#)

Any contact details submitted through this form will be held securely and confidentially by the LSCP and will only be disclosed for the purpose of the management of child deaths and serious injuries out of hours and during public holidays.

Should your details change, please submit a new form with updated contact details through the same link above. For any questions please contact the LSCP at suttonlscb@sutton.gov.uk.

11. Guidance on Infectious Diseases in Schools

Practical guidance for staff involved in managing cases of infectious diseases in schools and other childcare settings please can be found [here](#). It was published in March 2019.

For more information contact Claire Ridsdill Smith, Head of Public Health Integration, claire.clare.ridsdill-smith@sutton.gov.uk, 0208 770 6663

12. Kitchen Summer Social

Kitchen Social is a social initiative funded by the Mayor's Fund for London. It provides children from low-income backgrounds with a safe place to go during the holidays where they can socialise and get a healthy meal. Sutton Cultural Services deliver Kitchen Social at Sutton Central Library. It provides a free meal and a ticket to an exciting activity for children aged 11 and under during the school holidays.



The Registration Form can be downloaded [here](#)

For further information about Kitchen Social at Sutton Central Library please contact: lindsey.mcfarlane@sutton.gov.uk. For further general information about Kitchen Social: www.mayorsfundforlondon.org.uk/kitchen-social

13. Sad news from the SEND Team



The SEND service's own ray of sunshine, Lisa Hamnett, has passed away. Lisa was a SEND caseworker who did fantastic work for some of our most complex and vulnerable children and young people. She advocated for them and her passion and dedication permeated everything she did. She was also a wonderful colleague who brought energy and positivity into the service and everyone she came into contact. Lisa will be sorely missed.

Cognus will be gathering thoughts and sentiments in a Memory Book which we hope to present to her family in September. Any colleagues wishing to contribute please get in touch with the team via sen.team@cognus.org.uk

14. And finally a farewell to colleagues.....

Lastly, we would like to say a fond farewell to a number of Headteachers who are leaving us this term - Gordon Ironside, Viv Jones, Gerry Bennett,

Liz Morley and Liz Brailsford who are either retiring or moving on to pastures new (or both!).

Wishing you all the best on whatever it is that comes next!



Forthcoming Events



15. Sutton Schools Sports Partnership Celebration Evening 11 September 2019 5-6.30 at Hackbridge Primary School

Sutton Schools Sports Partnership would like to invite colleagues with an interest in sports to the 2nd annual celebration evening where they will be celebrating all the wonderful things that have happened in Sutton's primary schools during the academic year 18/19. It will be at Hackbridge Primary School from 5.00pm-6.30pm on September 11, 2019. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to Katie Miller, Partnership Manager, SPSSManager@carshaltonboys.org so we can have an indication of numbers. Everyone is welcome.

16. SEND Stocktake Day - 17th September, 2019 - 9.30am - 12.30pm - Salvation Army, 45 Benhill Ave, Sutton SM1 4DD

A reminder of the SEND stocktake day which will take place in the new term. This is a Local Area-wide half day session convened to review the progress we have made against our WSOA as well as the work that is still to do; an update on the High Need Block Review; the Sutton Education Partnership and further opportunity to prepare for

the Ofsted/CQC Revisit - if it hasn't happened already by then!

Please put the date in your diary - invitations were sent out a few weeks ago and this event is aimed at professionals working in the Local Area with an interest in SEND. Even if you haven't received an invite this is an open event and anyone who wishes to attend may do so. Further information on this will be circulated in the new academic year via this bulletin.

17. Health and Well-Being Conference - Save The Date: Wednesday 16 October 2019, 8.15am - 4.00pm, The Chaucer Centre, Canterbury Rd, Morden SM4 6PX

Health and Well-being is increasingly important in our everyday lives encompassing both physical and mental health. Come and join us for what promises to be a fantastic professional learning experience! Focused on Mental health in our school community with opportunities to network with colleagues, increase awareness of mental ill-health, understand some of the local resources available to support both you and your students and experience a variety of workshops designed to leave you feeling uplifted and inspired.

An Early Bird offer is available until 26 July - [see attachment](#) for more information about the agenda, speakers and content for the day.

Click here to book on <https://forms.gle/XTA7SnNigw1t29SV8>

For further information please contact Katie Miller, Partnership Manager, - SPSSManager@carshaltonboys.org

Did you miss the previous Bulletins?

You can download previous Education Bulletins [from the LBS website here](#):

If you have any queries or would like to submit an article for the next edition, then please contact educationbulletin@sutton.gov.uk

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