

# SHROPSHIRE FOCUS ON SEND

Issue 3 Autumn 2017

News, Views and Information from the SEN Team

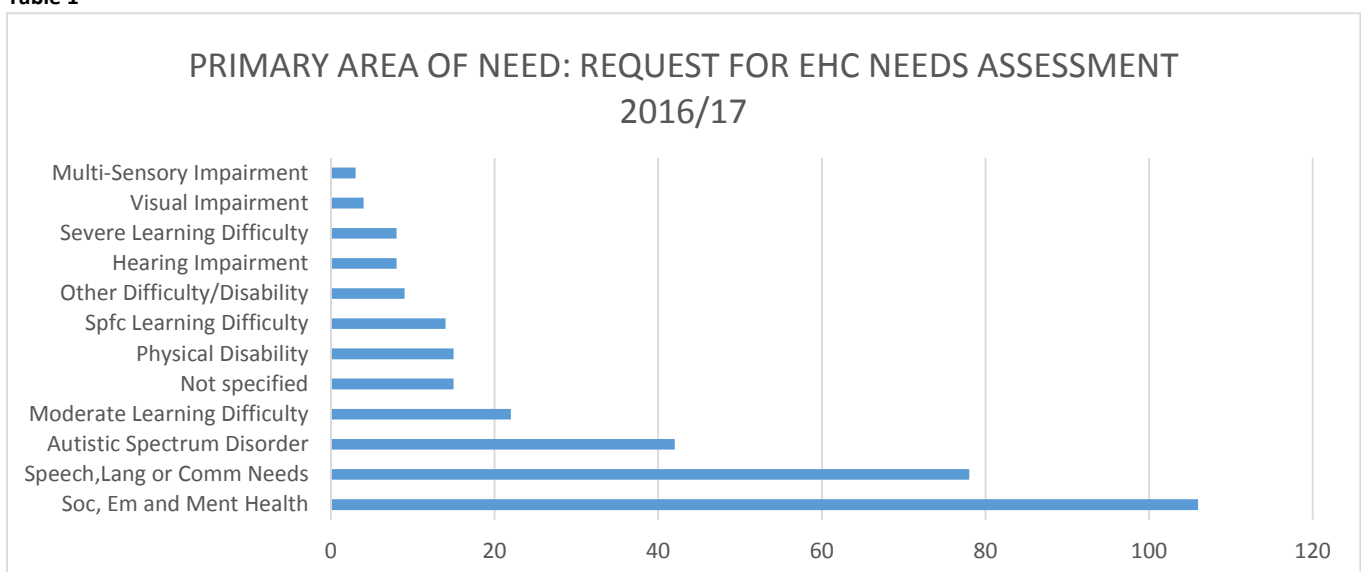
The government has recently announced its intention to ensure that children and young people in England are able to access support for mental health. On 4 December a green paper was published that outlined plans to increase mental health support and provide earlier access to services, with over £300 million funding available to take the proposals forward. Detail of the green paper can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transforming-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-provision-a-green-paper>; and details of the consultation at <https://engage.dh.gov.uk/youngmentalhealth/>.

Mental health is a significant concern in Shropshire; the highest number of requests for an EHC needs assessment in the last year (table 1) were for children and young people with special educational needs in the area of social, emotional and mental health. This recent announcement from the government is a positive step in the right direction and it important that the views of all are represented going forward. You have until 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 to complete the consultation. Please share widely and support children, young people and families to have their say.

In the meantime there is more about the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service in Shropshire on page 2.

It is reassuring to know that that there continues to be a commitment across all Shropshire schools to improve outcomes for Shropshire children and young people with SEN. Many schools have already undertaken the level 1 AET training and there has been much positive feedback. If you are interested in further developing your knowledge and skills in this important area please contact the CPD Team for information about tier 2 and 3 training. This training is particularly important as the majority of requests for an EHC needs assessment (table 1) submitted by schools over the last year have sought to provide additional support for children who present with challenging behaviour, many of whom have an Autistic Spectrum Condition or who display some of the traits of this condition.

Table 1



Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

The SEN Team have been collating feedback from the EHC assessment process over the last year and have introduced changes that aim to make the process more person centred. This includes providing opportunities for SEN Officers to meet with parents in the early stages of the assessment and to complete Section A (All About Me, All About Us) with the family. This means that it will no longer be a requirement for this document to be included with a request for an EHC needs assessment, instead we will be requesting a copy of the One Page Profile. The [Shropshire Local Offer](#) provides up to date information about how to request an EHC needs assessment or additional funding through a graduated support plan (GSP). Training sessions aimed at supporting SENCoS to make a request for additional funding through the GSP have been well attended. If you missed these sessions and would like to find out more, all training materials are available on the Local Offer.

Don't forget to book your place on the Spring SENCo networks. These are a great opportunity to keep up to date with all things SEN. In the meantime I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

The SEN Team

---

## The Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service (formally CAMHS)

'The Emotional Health and Wellbeing (EHWB) Service exists to help children and young people to be resilient and to have a positive sense of emotional health and wellbeing.

The EHWB service is delivered through a partnership of organisations which enables us to offer a wider range of services depending on how children, young people and their families choose to access services. The new partnership is able to deliver services based on the levels of need set out below:

- Getting Advice
- Getting Help
- Getting More Help
- Getting Risk Support

The EHWB Service consists of The Children's Society, Kooth, Healios and South Staffordshire & Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. New Drop-in and online services are available from The Children's Society, Kooth and Healios. The Young People and Families Mental Health Service is currently going through a wide ranging redesign programme looking at systems, access and structures. The new access arrangements will be in place from 4<sup>th</sup> December.'

Further information about this service and how to make a referral can be found on the Local Offer ([SENCo Spotlight](#)).

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

## Have your Say: High Needs Review for Shropshire

You will already be aware that Shropshire Council has commissioned a review of its high needs provision for learners with Education Health and Care Plans (“EHCP’s”). It is important that we gather the views of all stakeholders to inform the outcome of this review.

Initial analysis has identified:

- **Significant growth** both in Speech Language & Communication Needs (**SLCN**) and Autistic Spectrum Conditions (**ASC**). Although most of these learners can flourish in mainstream schools, there are increasing number who struggle in mainstream classrooms. With the right support they are able to access the mainstream curriculum, but not without extra help and the right environment.
- In Shropshire (as nationally) there is a trend of **increasing complexity of need** – children are presenting with higher levels of need, or with complex combinations of need that have not been experienced before, even by experienced specialist staff. More and more learners cannot adequately be described by a single category of need and many have a range of overlapping factors that impact on their learning.

More information, including the initial proposals can be found on the following webpage: <http://shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/high-needs-review-for-shropshire/>

We are working to tight timescales that will culminate in a plan for the development of specialist provision to be published on our website in March 2018.

### FEEDBACK

We recognise that this process must be shaped through co-production with a wide range of stakeholders including parents, carers, young people and education providers. We would be grateful for any feedback you can provide as this will play a significant role in shaping the final development plan. Please click on the link below to access a short online feedback form where you can share your thoughts on the proposal.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/shropshire-high-needs-review>

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

## Graduated Support Pathway

The majority of children and young people in Shropshire are able to access their education within a mainstream provision. Schools and colleges must use the resources that are available to them to ensure the necessary provision is made to support children and young people to overcome their barriers to learning. Occasionally the levels of provision required will exceed those which will normally be available to schools. Settings are now able to request additional funding for children at SEN support, through the 'Graduated Support Pathway'. This will ensure the delivery of timely, efficient and effective intervention for children identified as requiring additional targeted provision.



Since the introduction of the GSP in September 2017 we have received 27 requests for additional funding through this pathway. The panel meets every week to consider the requests and is therefore able to respond promptly with a decision.

Further information, including guidance, templates and training opportunities, is available on the local offer webpages.

| Additional Funding Request - for Office Use |              | Start Date     | End Date |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------|
| Amount Agreed                               | Level*       |                |          |
|   | £* per month | Evaluation Due |          |
| Case Co-ordinator                           |              |                |          |
| Case Manager                                |              |                |          |



Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

## All about me, all about us; Person-centred approaches in Shropshire



The Principles underpinning the SEN Code of Practice identify the importance of adopting person centred approaches when addressing the needs of children and young people with SEND. We would like to offer 'free' one-day, **Person Centred Approaches** training to practitioners working with children and young people within education settings.

**Person Centred Approaches are about how we work towards achieving co-production with children and their families:**

- Working with young people to understand what is **important to** them both **now and for their futures**.
- Having regard for the **views, wishes and feelings** of the child, and the child's parents
- Considering the importance of the child, and the child's parents, in **participating as fully as possible** in decisions, and being provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions
- Appreciating the need to support the child, and the child's parents, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help them **achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes, preparing them effectively for adulthood**

Bookings to be made through Shropshire CPD team, telephone 01743 254570 or email [cpd@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:cpd@shropshire.gov.uk).

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018  
Venue: Shrewsbury Training and Development Centre  
Trainers: Jessica Swire (EPS) and Garry Dean (SEN Team)  
Time: 09.00 – 16.00  
Course code: 73524T  
Cost: Free  
(Delegates to make their own lunch arrangements. Drinks provided)

Those attending the training are asked to complete a small task; 'Ask a friend or family member three things they like and admire about them.'

Also, it would be great if they could familiarise themselves with the personalising education website from Helen Sanderson.

<http://www.personalisingeducation.org/>  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/personalisingEduc?feature=mhee>

Please contact Garry Dean if there are any further questions.

[Garry.dean@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Garry.dean@shropshire.gov.uk) or 01743 254285

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

## Shropshire's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Inclusion Conference – Report

In July, the SEN Team arranged the first annual Inclusion Conference for school leaders, governors and practitioners. This turned out to be a very successful event with around 200 delegates attending. Those who attended were fortunate to hear presentations from the Department for Education as well as nationally acclaimed speakers on subjects around the topic of, 'Improving whole school performance through effective inclusion'. We would also like to thank representatives from Community College Bishops Castle who shared their own experiences and provided a Shropshire perspective on good inclusive practice and illustrated how, with the right ethos, adjustments can be made to ensure all individuals are able to engage positively in their learning.

The conference was concluded with an enlightening and inspirational presentation from Dean Beadle. Dean recounted his experiences of education as an individual with Aspergers Syndrome and provided some thought provoking, and often humorous, anecdotes about his own journey through the education system.

Feedback from those that attended was overwhelmingly positive:

"All the speakers were inspirational."  
(Governor)

"I have attended many, many presentations and conferences, today has been the most inspiring ever. I thank you very much" (Governor)

"I've learned loads!" (Post 16)

"What an amazing day...inspiring"  
(Teacher)

This year's Inclusion Conference will be held on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at Albrighton Hall.**

Final details will be circulated soon.

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

## SEND Advisory Visit

The local authority has recently hosted a visit from Steve Huggett; SEN and Disability Professional Advisor for the Department for Education. His visit was to enable him to gain a greater understanding of the progress that Shropshire has made since 2014, in the implementation of the SEND reforms, and to offer support and advice around the joint Ofsted/CQC local area inspections. There was an opportunity to provide contextual information around the data for Shropshire and to highlight some of the unique challenges we face in delivering high quality services and provision across such a large rural county.



Representatives from Education, Health, Social Care, PACC and IASS, were able to share their experiences and discuss the progress that has been made so far within the local authority and also to consider the areas that require further development and the steps needed to ensure continued improvement.

Following the discussions and questioning from Steve he concluded that:

---

*“Shropshire has made creditable progress in implementing the SEND reforms across a number of key areas. Its transfer of statements to EHCPS has been well managed and the LA is moving assuredly to the completion of this process. The wide ranging and active participation of parents/carers in operations and developments is impressive and will be of interest to other LAs.*

*There are major challenges ahead particularly in terms of funding and the needs of a rapidly emerging post 16 sector. Meeting these will be helped by officers and partners measured, constructive and practical approach to the implementation of the reforms.”*

*Steve Huggett (DfE SEND Advisor)*

---

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>

# SHROPSHIRE FOCUS ON SEND

Issue 3 Autumn 2017

News, Views and Information from the SEN Team

## Key Dates/Events

| Secondary SENCo network meetings |               |  |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Date                             | Time          | Venue                                    |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2018      | 13.30 – 16.00 | Shrewsbury Training & Development Centre |

## Secondary Agenda - Spring 2018

SEN updates – *Garry Dean*  
TMBSS Overview – *Greg Portman/ Lisa Bloomer*  
Supported Internships - *Tracey Newell*  
Nisai On-line learning– *Fiona Walker*  
Post 16 Transition – *Kelly Kubilius*

| Primary SENCo network meetings |               |                        |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Date                           | Time          | Venue                  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2018     | 13.30 – 16.00 | Mascall Centre, Ludlow |

|                        |               |  |
|------------------------|---------------|--|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> March | 13.30 – 16.00 | Shrewsbury Training & Development Centre |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March | 13.30 – 16.00 | Shrewsbury Training & Development Centre |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March | 16.30 – 18.00 | Shrewsbury Training & Development Centre |

## Primary Agenda - Spring 2018

SEN updates – *Garry Dean*  
TMBSS Overview – *Greg Portman/ Lisa Bloomer*  
Dyslexia (IDL/Ascentis) – *Jackie Holding (Not available on 7<sup>th</sup> March)*  
EYs Transition– *Sue Carroll*  
SSLIC– *Fiona Widger*

| Teaching Assistant network meetings |               |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Date                                | Time          | Venue                                    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2018       | 13.30 – 16.00 | Shrewsbury Training & Development Centre |

*Teaching Assistant Agenda to be confirmed*

Search **Local Offer Shropshire:**

Your One Stop Shop for services and information relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>



## Ask, Listen, Do – new concerns and complaints project

Tell us about your experiences – online survey 22 November to 12 January  
[www.engage.england.nhs.uk/survey/ask-listen-do](http://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/survey/ask-listen-do)



- Children, young people and adults with a learning disability, autism or both have a right to good care, like everyone else
- People and their families also have a right to say how they feel about this care and how happy they are with it
- From giving feedback to talking about a concern with staff, or making a written complaint to the organisation
- The law says organisations must listen to everyone equally and make reasonable adjustments for people's disabilities, so people and their families do not lose out
- When a complaint is about something that has or may cause harm to someone, this can become a safeguarding concern or a crime. This gives the organisation other duties to keep the person safe and to work within the law
- NHS England is working with the Local Government Association and others on this new project about concerns and complaints in health, education and social care



## Ask, Listen, Do commitment

### Ask



- The person, their family or advocate know how to give feedback, raise a concern or make a complaint
- The organisation asks people to do this
- Everyone knows when a concern or a complaint is a safeguarding or criminal issue, and what must happen

### Listen



- The organisation **really** listens to what has been said and understands what it feels like for the person

### Do



- The organisation does something positive about it in good time and tells the person what they are doing to put it right. The organisation learns from the concern or complaint and changes things so the service can improve