

SEND

Newsletter

SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS AND
DISABILITY
0-25 IN
KNOWSLEY

ISSUE 2 APRIL 2018

SEND 0-25 Flourishing and achieving; becoming fulfilled and purposeful adults

KNOWSLEY SEND 0-25 STRATEGY



KNOWSLEY SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

The Knowsley Supported Internship Programme launched in September 2016 and offers work experience opportunities across a range of council services. Eleven adults who have learning difficulties or disabilities joined the programme in 2016 and nine have subsequently secured paid employment, with the other two participants pursuing volunteering and training opportunities.

Due to the success of the programme, the council welcomed a further intake of ten adults onto the programme from September 2017. They are working in a range of council services including Grounds Maintenance, Environmental Services, Administration, Catering and Security.

The programme provides invaluable work experience, knowledge, skills and qualifications as well as boosting confidence and social skills. Participants are mentored by council staff as well as attending weekly training sessions around employability, literacy and numeracy, run by tutors from Knowsley Community College. To find out more about the Knowsley Supported Internship Programme contact Llyr Owen on 0151 443 2574 or email siadmin@knowsleycollege.ac.uk

In September 2017, a wide range of partners, representing education, health and social care, met to discuss what we need to do next to improve outcomes for children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEND.

There was agreement on five main priorities - these are:

- Joint working across all SEND services and providers
- Co-production of activities and services to support children and young people with SEND and their parents / carers
- Improve education, health and care outcomes for children and young people with SEND
- Ensure that all young people with SEND make a successful transition into adulthood
- Continue to improve the quality of Education, Health and Care Plans

We will use this newsletter to keep you updated on the work around these priorities. Everyone has a part to play and you will be involved in this work - every contribution is important and will make a difference to the children and young people in Knowsley who have SEND.

Pupils at Altbridge have designed a poster that will ensure children and young people themselves know about these priorities - and so that they can be involved in the work we do.



HOW ARE WE DOING?

All Statements of SEN are due to be either transferred to EHCPs (if appropriate) or ceased by the April 2018.

Nationally many local authorities are not going to meet the deadline for transferring Statements of SEN to EHCPs. Authorities with particularly high numbers of statements are struggling the most.

Here in Knowsley we will have transferred over 1,000 Statements and approximately 50 will be outstanding. These will be completed by May 2018.

This has been a challenging task and staff have worked very hard to achieve this.

The national journal 'Children & Young People Now' has published an article on this issue, highlighting the problems regularly seen by Ombudsman investigators including:

- failing to involve parents and young people properly in the decision-making process
- not gathering sufficient evidence to inform decisions, and
- a lack of proper forward planning when young people move between key educational stages.

These findings reflect the pressure to complete the exercise in a relatively short timescale given the numbers involved. This pressure has generally affected quality nationally. We seem to have had positive feedback for the most part and have made every effort not to compromise quality.



THRIVE

a new way of commissioning and delivering CAHMs

THRIVE is a new model for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMs), helping children and young people to thrive and support is provided that is **T**imely, **H**elpful, **R**espectful, **I**nnovative, **V**alues-based and **E**fficient.

In order for children and young people to thrive - we see them as:



Under the THRIVE model, children and young people get the support they need, at the right time, to help them thrive.





A family fun day arranged by the Knowsley Parent Carer Voice

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 2018 - 2019

Knowsley's Public Health team has launched their new Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing programme, which will run until July 2019.

The Emotional Wellbeing Programme aims to improve skills within the workforce and local families so that children and young people can be better supported to build resilience and improve their mental health.

The first stage of the programme includes Emotional First Aid training for school based staff, early years practitioners and youth workers and this will be followed up with post training support to help embed the learning into day-to-day work.

There has also been an investment into more support for parents - the Family Learning team will be delivering free training that includes Triple P and Youth Connect 5 courses over the next 12 months.

There will also be work carried out that helps Knowsley develop a whole school approach to supporting children and young people with their mental health and wellbeing; creating a more preventative local system.

The work has been designed to complement existing local priorities in education and children's services and to also help us prepare for service changes and initiatives that might come out of the national transformation of children and young people's mental health services.

For further information and for details of how you might be able to access the support on offer please contact Patrick Goodison in the Public Health team on 0151 443 2047 or by email patrick.goodison@knowsley.gov.uk

CO-PRODUCTION WITH NOT TO

Services and providers must work closely with parents / carers in developing and reviewing services, provision, policies and plans - this is called co-production. A good way to make sure we all have the same understanding of what this means is to think of this as "no decision about me without me" and that everything we do is 'with' not 'to' people who use our services - children and young people with SEND or their parents / carers.

When deciding what we need to do, our starting point is 'what is it like for children and young people and their parents / carers'? Are children and young people on-track to achieve good outcomes and their aspirations? We need to ask the people using our service before we start planning.

Knowsley is working with the Parent Carer Forum (Knowsley Parent Carer Voice) to develop a working agreement, setting out how we will continue to get better at co-production - what we will all do and how we will work together. We'll keep you updated on this in future newsletters.

To find out more about Knowsley Parent Carer Voice, visit www.facebook.com/knowsleypcv/, call 0151 549 1412 or email parentcarersvoice@knowsleycarers.co.uk

WHAT PARENTS/CARERS TELL US

The National Network of Parent Carer Forums looked at feedback from national conferences, regional meetings and national SEND surveys to find out what are the priorities and issues for parents / carers.

There were a number of common themes across the country and the report they submitted to the Department for Education in 2017 put these under three headings that are the Network association's current priorities.

- Co-production - we will embed the culture and practice of co-production with all of our key national partners and stakeholders by 2020
- Effective implementation of key policies and legislation - we will work with our key stakeholders to ensure that the implementation of key policies and legislation results in effective services for children and young people with SEND and their families
- Building the capability, capacity and sustainability of parent / carer forums - increase membership - local authorities to support parent / carer forums to function effectively

Nationally, the main issues that require improvement and development are:

- EHCPs - the quality of plans, engagement from colleagues in health and social care, advice that is written in a person-centred and outcome-focused way
- SEN Support (including exclusions) is an issue - the level of support available, the tendency for some schools to exclude pupils
- Joint commissioning - truly effective joint commissioning remains elusive in many areas
- Short breaks - with local authority budgets under pressure, these services are being cut in many areas
- CAMHS - in many areas access to CAMHS remains a major concern, in particular services being available in a timely way. Services often fall short of what families report they need
- Engagement and co-production with health - nationally this is often sporadic and ineffective

In Knowsley, parents tell Knowsley Parent Carer Voice much the same - access to short breaks is the biggest issue for parents.

MEET THE TEAM

In this and future newsletters, we will highlight key teams who are there to support you and your child / children. In this edition, we are featuring Public Health.

Knowsley's Public Health team works with local GPs, dentists and hospitals to help them identify, prioritise, and address health needs. The team is made up of three main areas - quality and health protection, health improvement and commissioning and strategy and intelligence.

The team ensure that a wide range of services are available for residents - from help to quit smoking, through to support around mental health, drugs and alcohol services, physical activity, early years and community health checks.

Some of these are particularly relevant for children and young people with SEND and we have recently commissioned a redesigned 0-19 years' service that supports the integrated delivery of public health services to children and their families to improve outcomes.

The 0-5 element is led by Health Visiting services whilst the 5-19 element is led by School Nursing services.

The 0-19 Programme aims to:

- help parents develop and sustain a strong bond with children
- identify health issues early, so support can be provided in a timely manner
- ensure children are supported in all child care, early years and education settings to develop physically, emotionally and socially
- support child health protection, immunisation and screening
- improve early intervention and targeted support for families with additional needs
- define support in early years and education settings for children with additional and complex health needs
- support additional or targeted public health nursing support for vulnerable children and their families, eg looked after children, young carers, children with special needs



WHO'S WHO



We have a new Local Area Nominated Officer (LANO)

Jill Albertina, Assistant Executive Director (Education), Knowsley Council

The LANO makes sure that the local area inspection team has all the evidence they need in order to evaluate how effectively we are implementing the 2014 reforms. This is on behalf of children and adult services for education, health and care. Jill will be the daily link with the inspection team and responsible for the co-ordination of meetings, interviews and visits.



Do you know what the Designated Clinical Officer (DCO) does?

Our DCO, **Helen Meredith, Chief Nurse, Knowsley Clinical Commissioning Group**, makes sure that health statutory responsibilities are carried out appropriately.

USEFUL SITES TO KEEP YOU UP-TO-DATE

Further information about the help and support available to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Knowsley, is available on the **Local Offer** - visit www.knowsleyinfo.co.uk to find out more. This includes information about education, play and leisure activities, funding, travel and housing assistance.

Regular SEND updates will also be published on www.knowsleynews.co.uk. You can also follow Knowsley Council on

 [@knowsleycouncil](https://twitter.com/knowsleycouncil) or like us on

 www.facebook.com/knowsley.council



CONTACT US

If you have any feedback on the services you are receiving or would like us to include information about a certain topic in a future newsletter, please tell us. You can email send@knowsley.gov.uk

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