

# SENDMatters

MONTHLY UPDATE

Issue > April 2019

## Welcome to the latest issue of the SENDMatters Monthly Update

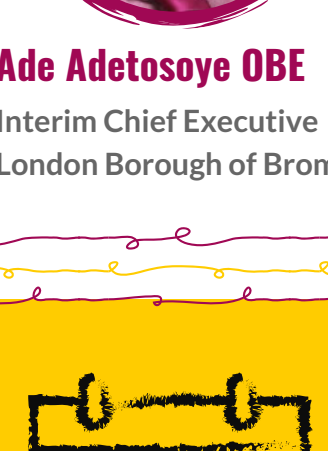
Our SENDMatters Monthly Update is designed to give you that latest news and update from the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reforms happening across Bromley right now.

We cover a range of exciting developments and key local events.

As part of our continued work to enhance our local services, support and provision across the borough, we are pleased to announce the launch of SENDMatters Live! - a new Q&A session with the leadership of both the Council and health services.

We're also proud to launch our new 'SEND Network Champions' scheme - please do consider joining this exciting new scheme.

Our next issue will be circulated at the end of May - see you then!

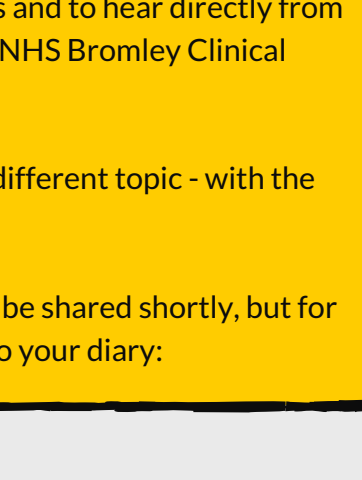


**Ade Adetosoye OBE**  
Interim Chief Executive  
London Borough of Bromley

### ENGAGEMENT

## SENDMatters Live!

hosted by Ade Adetosoye OBE



Save the date!

These Q&A sessions will be jointly facilitated by the Council, NHS Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group and Bromley Parent Voice. They will be an opportunity to ask about the issues that are affecting our families and to hear directly from the leaders of both the Council and NHS Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group.

Each monthly event will focus on a different topic - with the first event focusing on Inclusion.

Information about how to book will be shared shortly, but for now, pencil the following details into your diary:

Date: Friday 24 May 2019

Time: 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Venue: Bromley Central Library, High Street, Bromley BR1 1EX

### ENGAGEMENT

## SEND Network Champions

The Bromley SEND Partnership is creating the role of SEND Network Champion across all organisations and settings within the borough - including parents and carers

We are looking for committed and enthusiastic people to:

- Drive an understanding of the key SEND statutory duties within their area
- Work with partners including those that work with children and young people who have SEND and their parents and carers
- Be the point of contact to share information about SEND
- Act as a signpost to the Local Offer

### What are the benefits?

- Opportunity to learn from and with a team of committed SEND professionals and families across the borough
- Being up to date with information and new developments within the SEND arena A chance to network across the borough
- Personal development/Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Children and young people and their families are confident that services for SEND are of a consistently high quality across the Local Area

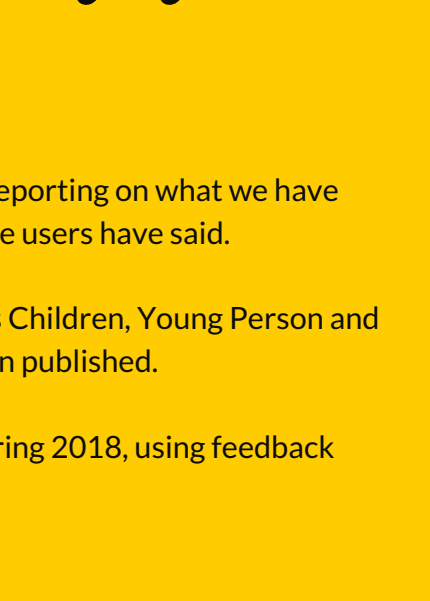


### Are you interested in becoming a SEND Network Champion?

1. Have a chat with your line manager or if you are parent contact Kay Moore, our Children, Young People and Parent SEND Lead, on [kay.moore2@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:kay.moore2@bromley.gov.uk) for more information
2. Email Sara Groenli, SEND Project Co-ordinator, [sara.groenli@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:sara.groenli@bromley.gov.uk) identifying your name, role and a brief explanation of why you are interested

Reply by  
Friday 10th May

Successful applicants will be invited to the launch of the SEND Network Champions event on Thursday 4th July (pm)



### ENGAGEMENT

## 'You Said, We Did' SEND Engagement Highlights report for 2018

In March 2019, the SEND Governance Board adopted Better Together, our framework for improving how we ask for, collect and use feedback from children and young people and their parents and carers.

The framework commits us to reporting on what we have done in response to what service users have said.

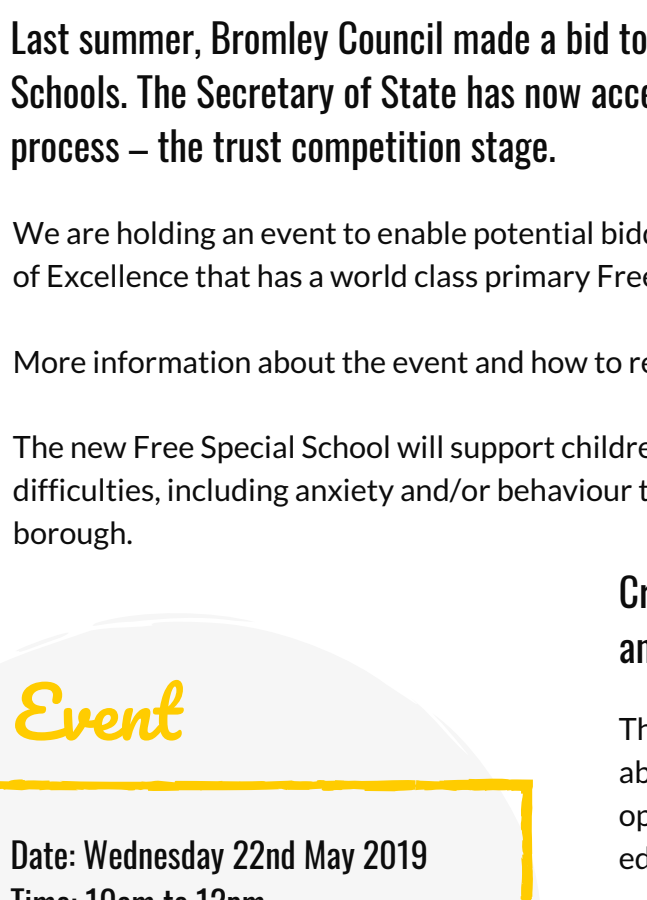
The first report by the Council's Children, Young Person and Parent SEND Lead has now been published.

The report captures activity during 2018, using feedback from:

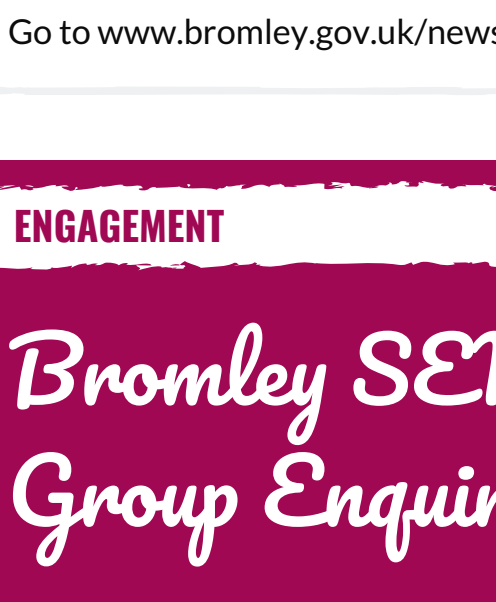
- children and young people
- parents, carers and guardians
- professionals across the SEND partnership.

You can access the report on the local offer website:

[www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer)



### SPECIAL SCHOOLS



## Reminder! Bromley Free Special School Bid

Last summer, Bromley Council made a bid to be part of the Government's new wave of Free Special Schools. The Secretary of State has now accepted our bid and we are progressing to the next stage of the process - the trust competition stage.

We are holding an event to enable potential bidders to find out more about our vision for a Multi-Agency Centre of Excellence that has a world class primary Free Special School at its core.

More information about the event and how to register can be found below.

The new Free Special School will support children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and associated learning difficulties, including anxiety and/or behaviour that challenges and be a vital resource for families in the borough.

### Event

Date: Wednesday 22nd May 2019  
Time: 10am to 12pm  
Where: Hawes Down Centre,  
Hawes Lane, West Wickham, BR4 9AE

### Creating a Multi-Agency Centre of Excellence for children and young people who have ASD and their families

This event will be an opportunity for potential sponsors to hear about Bromley's ambitious vision and strategy to improve the opportunities for children and young people with special educational needs.

You will have the opportunity to meet senior leaders from education and social care, as well as key partners in the CCG and our local parent carer forum.

The event is being held at the site we have identified for the free special school, which will form the core of our new Multi-Agency Centre of Excellence for children and young people who have ASD and their families.

If you would like to attend this event, please register your interest by contacting [peta.smith@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:peta.smith@bromley.gov.uk).

### Want to know more?

Go to [www.bromley.gov.uk/news/article/470/bromley\\_free\\_special\\_school\\_bid](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/news/article/470/bromley_free_special_school_bid)



### ENGAGEMENT

## Bromley SEND Autism Partnership Group Enquiry: an update

Over 110 parent and carers, young people and practitioners across education, health and social care attended two workshops at Bromley Central Library to work together to understand what mattered most to them around Autism in Bromley.

The open space discussions were grouped into key themes agreed by the wider group and time was given to consider what might be achievable if we worked together and to consider who else should be involved.

The information from the workshops will now be added to the results of the Autism Questionnaire (300 participants) to complete this 'Discovery Phase' of the Autism Partnership Project.

The next steps are to think about solutions to the current themes raised.

For more information on the Autism Partnership Project and for details on how you can be involved in the next stage please contact [liz.lake@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:liz.lake@bromley.gov.uk).

### SCHOOL LEVEL SUPPORT

## Bromley Nurture Group Network

Due to the increasing number of schools asking to be involved in the Nurture Group Network in Bromley, we have been able to split the half-termly sessions as follows:

**1. Bromley Nurture Network Strategic Leadership Group**  
Thursday 13th June 9:15 am  
Intended for senior leaders within education settings who are looking to set up a nurture group/improve their nurture group provision

**2. Bromley Nurture Network Practitioners Group**  
Tuesday 18th June 4pm  
Intended for professionals who run their Nurture group provision

To reserve your place at either Nurture Group session please email [liz.lake@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:liz.lake@bromley.gov.uk) clearly stating which session you would like to attend

### LOCAL OFFER

## Wanted! Local Offer Development Officer

Bromley Council and NHS Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group are currently recruiting for a Local Offer Development Officer - approx. £32k per year on a 12 month fixed-term contract.

Visit [www.bromley.gov.uk/jobsatbromley](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/jobsatbromley) - closing date is 3 May 2019!



## Who's who in SEND?

**Deborah Degnan**

- Role: Group Manager: SEN Statutory Assessment Team
- Location: Bromley Civic Centre
- Email: [SENAdmin@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:SENAdmin@bromley.gov.uk)

I am responsible for the Statutory Assessment Team within the Special Educational Needs Service. Our team is made up of 12 Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Co-ordinators, 2 Senior EHC Plan Co-ordinators and 3 administrators. We work together with everyone in the local area to ensure that children and young people who have SEND and their families are at the heart of everything we do and that their wellbeing and progress are at the centre of all decision-making. We work closely with the Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS), our local parent carer forum Bromley Parent Voice (BPV) and our colleagues in education settings, health and social care.

The core of our work involves carrying out and co-ordinating statutory assessments for children and young people in Bromley who have SEND aged 0-25. This includes:

- Deciding whether or not to carry out EHC Needs Assessments
- Carrying out the assessment process
- Deciding whether or not to issue EHC Plans once assessments are complete
- Working together with families and professionals to drafting and issuing EHC Plans
- Supporting the Annual Review process for EHC Plans
- Making sure children and young people are placed in settings and provided with the right resources to meet their needs

I chair the multi-agency decision making panel, which oversees the SEN Statutory Assessment process. I am responsible for ensuring the team produce good quality plans that reflect the aims, aspirations and outcomes desired by children and young people with SEND. I develop and review the processes within the team and am responsible for quality assuring all that we do.

I am passionate about making a difference for children, young people with SEND and their families and always want to seek ways to improve what we do together.

### Myth -

"My child needs to get a diagnosis of autism before the school can access any additional support or advice"

## SEND Mythbuster

### Fact -

Schools can access support and advice for any child with SEN, based on their presenting needs not a diagnosis

[www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer)

**Bromley**  
THE LONDON BOROUGH

**NHS**  
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Clinical Commissioning Group

A product of the Strategy, Performance and Engagement division