

SENDMatters

MONTHLY UPDATE

Issue > March 2019

Welcome to the March 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.

In particular, we are very proud of the latest news about our Free Special School Bid for the borough. Find out about our event where potential sponsors can come along to hear about Bromley's ambitious vision and strategy to improve the opportunities for children and young people with special educational needs.

We hope you enjoy it!



Ade Adetosoye OBE
Interim Chief Executive
London Borough of Bromley

SCHOOL LEVEL SUPPORT

Headteachers SEND event

Developing whole school inclusive practice - a focus group for headteachers

Date: Tuesday 30th April 2019
Time: 9am to 12:30pm
Venue: The Warren

We would like to warmly invite you to an event at The Warren on Tuesday 30th April to share with you some key updates regarding SEND and to work in partnership with you to consider how we can support you as effectively as possible.

Central to the morning's activities would be a session to jointly plan a model of peer to peer support for headteachers and senior leaders in schools.

We do hope you will be able to join us.

To book your place please email melissa.castanha@bromley.gov.uk.

SCHOOL LEVEL SUPPORT

Nurture Group Network Meeting

Does your school currently have a Nurture Group provision in place or is interested in setting one up? If yes, we would welcome your input to the Nurture Group Network.

The vision for the group is to:

- support schools to develop and maintain quality Nurture Group provision
- encourage schools working together to support each other
- focus on and share broader issues around what good practice looks like
- ensure good outcomes for the children

The next Nurture Group Network meeting will be held on **Tuesday 30th April from 4pm to 5pm at Pickhurst Infant School.**

To reserve your place at this meeting (and to express your interest in being part of the Nurture Group Steering committee) please email sara.groenli@bromley.gov.uk.

IMPACT

Measuring Impact Survey

The Spring Term Measuring Impact Survey closing date is **5pm on Monday 1st April 2019**

To monitor the impact of our collective actions on the experiences of children and their families, we are collecting each term the views of young people, parents and professionals using a set of questions derived from the success criteria in the one year SEND action plan.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/sendreforms

The survey responses will be reported to the SEND Governance Board, which is leading the implementation of the SEND reforms, and will also be available on the local offer website, www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer.

LOCAL OFFER

The Local Offer has moved...

Bromley LOCAL OFFER.

The Local Offer website has been part of the Bromley MyLife website since September 2013.

Following the decision to close the Bromley MyLife website, the Local Offer now has a new home on the Council's main website.

To view the Bromley Local Offer website, go to www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

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.

ENGAGEMENT

SEND Engagement Framework

Engagement of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and their families, is one of our strategic priorities in Bromley for 2018-19 - and it remains a priority in the extended strategy for 2019 to 2022.

Engagement will form part of the Local Area SEND Inspection from Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

We want to put their voices at the heart of what we do.

It is important that we continue to build the momentum of this work and that we have a good overview of all the engagement activity which is taking place by collating the key messages and outcomes which emerge.

The Council, NHS Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group and Bromley Parent Voice have coproduced our SEND Engagement Framework 'Inform, Involve, Influence'.

This framework is for everyone and provides practical information to be used by professionals, families, children and young people to ensure that together we achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Bromley.

Download the SEND Engagement Framework from Monday 1 April 2019:

www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer

ENGAGEMENT

Bromley SEND Autism Partnership Group Enquiry

Find out the dates of the next stage of the Enquiry - **Focus Groups**

With over 300 individuals taking part in the recent survey, which closed on 15 February, the next phase of the Bromley ASD partnership Enquiry consists of two focus groups.

These focus groups are for everyone - young people, families and practitioners - who are interested in driving change for children and young people with ASD in Bromley.

The sessions will be facilitated by an independent professional and will take place at Bromley Central Library on:

Tuesday 2nd April from 10am to 11:30am

To find out more and/or reserve your place please contact Liz Lake by emailing liz.lake@bromley.gov.uk.

Who's who in SEND?

I manage the team of Educational Psychologists in Bromley who specialise in developmental, educational and child psychology. We work with schools, young people and parents to help understand a child's situation and respond to their special educational needs to maximise their potential and outcomes.

We cover from birth up to the age of 25 but most of our work is with early years and school age children.

We also provide training, consultation and interventions for schools and support the London Borough of Bromley around its statutory processes and in understanding how to meet the needs of children.

We are a traded and relatively small service (which means schools have to choose to purchase our service) so do not take direct referrals from parents, but most schools do opt to buy us in. If a parent feels that input from our service would be helpful they should contact their child's school.

SEND Mythbuster

Fact -

Schools have a budget to support children with special educational needs, this is referred to as the notional budget. This money is used to support children with SEN throughout the school by enabling them to access a range of interventions (both individual and group) and strategies to help them access their learning.

Schools use their SEN notional funding across the whole of the school to make provision for all children and young people who need extra help. The support can take many forms - some children and young people will need less help and some may need more and the vast majority will need support that comes to much less than £6,000.

www.bromley.gov.uk/localoffer

Bromley
THE LONDON BOROUGH

NHS
Bromley
Clinical Commissioning Group

A product of the Strategy, Performance and Engagement division