
Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
Oversight Board Meeting held on 20th May 2021

Present:

Nina Sleight	Service Director Education, Early Start and Prevention (Chair)
Paul Castle	Service Director Environment and Transport
Neil Copley	Service Director Finance
Alicia Marcroft	Head of Public Health
Patrick Otway	Head of Commissioning NHS Barnsley CCG
Nick Bowen	Co-Chair Barnsley Schools Alliance
Nichola Smith	Primary Representative
Joshua Greaves	Deputy CEO of Wellspring Academy Trust
Amber Burton	SEND Strategy and Service Manager
Jill Bills	Business Improvement and Intelligence Lead
Leigh Roberts	Quality Assurance and Governance Officer: SEND (Minutes)

Apologies:

Darren Dickinson	Head of Barnsley Alliance
Lisa Loach	Programmes and Improvement Manager
Mel John-Ross	Executive Director of Children's Services (Chair)
Michael Potter	Service Director Business Improvement and Human Resources

1.0 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

- 1.1 The above apologies were noted and there were no conflicts of interest reported.
- 1.2 Nina was chairing the meeting on behalf of Mel who had sent her apologies as she was required to attend the Annual Council meeting.
- 1.3 Jill Bills was attending the meeting on behalf of Michael Potter.
- 1.4 Leigh Roberts was attending the meeting on behalf of Lisa Loach to take the minutes.

2.0 Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

- 2.1 The minutes of the 11th March 2021 meeting were agreed as an accurate record and there were no matters arising.

3.0 Oversight Board Action Log

- 3.1 The outstanding actions were reviewed, and updates were added directly on to the log during the meeting.
- 3.2 19.5.8 – item 12 on today's agenda. Report was circulated with papers. Action can be closed.
- 3.3 Actions 21.1.1, 21.2.1, 21.2.2, 21.2.3, 21.2.4 and 21.2.5 are all completed, and the group agreed that they can be closed.

4.0 SEND Improvement Group Highlight Report & SEND Improvement Plan

- 4.1 Nina presented the highlight report and update from the Improvement Group.
- 4.2 On the 8th March 2021 there was a full return of all pupils to schools and settings aligned with a national roadmap for the release of restrictions. The impact of this on children, young people and families has been monitored closely with support from across the system.
- 4.3 Key actions in the improvement plan have progressed at pace during this last period with continued momentum.
- 4.4 The Board discussed the progress made this period and the discussion points were noted.
- 4.5 The Board discussed the key plans and/or activities to be completed for the next period and the discussion points were noted.
- 4.6 Nina reported on the peer challenge noting that it was a positive experience overall.
- 4.7 Lots of areas of strength/good practice identified and areas for consideration/learning. Peer challenge is included on today's agenda to discuss further. **ACTION: NSI.**
- 4.8 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.

5.0 SEND Sufficiency Group Highlight Report

- 5.1 Amber presented the highlight report from the Sufficiency Group.
- 5.2 SEND Placement Sufficiency Strategy schemes progressed to approval/new placements agreed in response to ongoing demand for SEND school places.
- 5.3 The Board discussed the progress made this period and the discussion points were noted.
- 5.4 The Board discussed the key plans and/or activities to be completed for the next period and the discussion points were noted.
- 5.5 Amber also highlighted a number of key points which were noted by the Board.

6.0 SEND Joint Planning Group Highlight Report

- 6.1 Amber presented the highlight report from the Joint Planning Group.
- 6.2 Inclusion and support services have been working with schools/settings and this will continue to have a focus on wellbeing for the return to education in the near future.

- 6.3 Engagement and participation is benefiting from a more structured approach through planned activities that underpin delivery of the strategy.
- 6.4 The Board discussed the progress made this period and the discussion points were noted.
- 6.5 The Board discussed the key plans and/or activities to be completed for the next period and the discussion points were noted.
- 6.6 Amber also highlighted a number of key points which were noted by the Board.
- 6.7 The Board was asked to share any comments or questions which were considered and noted. **ACTION: AM.**
- 7.0 SEND Impact Group Highlight Report**
- 7.1 Amber presented the highlight report from the Impact Group.
- 7.2 The last period has seen intense working to start to deliver the commitments in the Engagement & Participation Strategy.
- 7.3 The Board discussed the progress made this period and the discussion points were noted.
- 7.4 The Board discussed the key plans and/or activities to be completed for the next period and the discussion points were noted.
- 7.5 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
- 7.6 The meeting was asked to share any comments or questions which were considered and noted. **ACTION: NSI, AB, NC.**
- 8.0 Highlight Report – Finance (including DSG Action Plan)**
- 8.1 Neil Copley presented the finance highlight report to the group.
- 8.2 The Board discussed the progress made this period and the discussion points were noted.
- 8.3 The Board discussed the key plans and/or activities to be completed for the next period and the discussion points were noted.
- 8.4 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board. **ACTION: NSI, NC.**
- 9.0 Building Capacity Across the Borough – programme board update**
- 9.1 Nina gave an update on the Building Capacity Across the Borough programme.
- 9.2 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
- 10.0 Monthly Performance Report**
- 10.1 Amber took the meeting through the monthly performance report that had been circulated with the meeting papers and encouraged the group to review the information shared in the report if they have not already done so. The report gives an overview of the results for various performance indicators up to the end of March 2021.

- 10.2 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
ACTION: AB, AS.
- 10.3 Nina thanked Amber for presenting the report, re-iterating that attendance data would start to be included in the report from the start of the new academic year 2021/22.
- 11.0 Workforce Development Plan**
- 11.1 Amber gave a verbal update on the current position of the workforce development plan.
- 11.2 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
ACTION: AB.
- 11.3 Nina added that this is recognised as an important piece of work which needs everyone to pull together and having support from the multi-agency is greatly received.
- 12.0 ASD Wait Times for 4-11yr old age group**
- 12.1 Patrick presented an update on the action from the log that had been requested some time ago when children and young people were experiencing delays in ASD assessments, adding that these had been increasing month on month and we had wanted to better understand the impact of this.
- 12.2 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
- 13.0 Sector Led Improvement Peer Challenge – SEND Local Offer**
- 13.1 Nina gave feedback from the peer review that had taken place between the 10th and 12th May 2021.
- 13.2 Nina wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone who had been involved in the preparation and the event including all teams taking part with meeting the peer panel.
- 13.3 A number of key points were highlighted which were noted by the Board.
- 13.4 Nina opened the floor for any comments or queries adding that the final report and findings will be shared with the board, all comments and queries were considered and noted. **ACTION: NSI, ACTION: AB, HR, LL, LR, ACTION: PO.**
- 14.0 SEND Oversight Board Forward Plan**
- 14.1 Nina reminded the group that the forward plan detailed the agenda items for future meetings adding that items discussed and agreed today will be added to the forward plan for a future meeting date and subsequent agenda.
- 15.0 Dates of Future Meetings**
- 15.1 Nina reminded the group that all dates of future meetings through to July 2021 were on the Circulation Dates paper that was shared with the meeting papers. The sheet also details the deadline dates for agenda item papers to be provided in order for them to be circulated in a timely way prior to each meeting and asked all to be aware of this when being asked to provide papers for future meetings.
- 15.2 The process of arranging SEND Oversight Board meetings for the 2021/22 academic calendar year will be underway soon.
- 16.0 Any other business**
- 16.1 There were no items under AOB, so Nina thanked everyone for their contributions and the meeting was closed.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Thursday 1st July 2021** from 14:00 – 16:00 and will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting.