



Richmond upon Thames

Joint Local Area SEND Inspection

**Written Statement of Action
February 2022**

SEND means Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities.



**achieving
for children**



LONDON BOROUGH OF
RICHMOND UPON THAMES



South West London
Clinical Commissioning Group

Our Vision



Every child and young person belongs to a local, inclusive community. They get the education, health, and social care support they need to develop their talents and skills. They live a happy, fulfilling life.



Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission

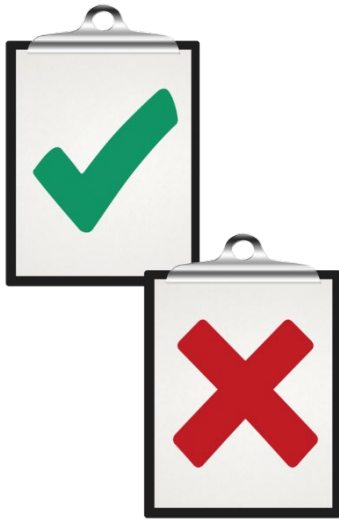
Inspectors visited us in June 2021. This was a *Joint Local Area SEND Inspection*.

Inspectors spoke with:



- children and young people
- local authority staff
- NHS staff
- Leaders in health, social care and education

They visited schools and colleges. They looked at a wide range of information.



Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission said:

- we are doing lots of things well
- we need to do lots of things better
- we must send them a *Written Statement of Action* about what we are doing to improve
- **we must improve our support for young people during transition**



Transition is the time from Year 9 onwards. Young people and their families start to think about:



- leaving school
- going to college
- getting a job or apprenticeship
- leaving home



We must get better at:

- Knowing what young people need
- Supporting them



This document is about the things we will do to improve transition.

The things Ofsted said are written in bold.



What young people need after they are 16 is not known soon enough.



- We will develop employment and volunteering opportunities for young people with **SEND**.



- We will support more young people with **EHCPs** to do apprenticeships, traineeships, and internships.



An **EHCP** is an Education and Health Care Plan.

Not all children and young people with SEND have an Education and Health Care Plan.



- We will look closely at what happens to each young person from year 9 onwards.

- We will listen to young peoples' views and aspirations.



- We will use information from reviews to make sure we have the right services ready for young people in the future.



- **Schools and colleges do not know enough about how to meet young people's needs.**



- We will train staff in colleges, so they understand SEND and transition. For example, training in autism and mental health.
- Educational Psychologists and Speech and Language Therapists will support young people with transition.

Young people do not get enough support with transition.



- Young people and families will get more support and accessible information about careers and transition.
- We will give young people the health and social care they need.

Annual reviews are better.

But parents are not told about the outcomes quickly enough.

Year 11 reviews need to be better at planning for when the person is 16+.



- We will make sure we do everything on time. For example, sending out information 2 weeks before the review meeting, and contacting parents after reviews.
- We will update the [Local Offer website](#).
- We will work with other organisations to help us plan for when the young person is 18.
- What young people want can change over time. We will train staff to adapt to this.
- Schools and colleges will report on their progress.

Objectives in EHC plans are not clear. They are not focused on independence.

An **objective** is something that the young person is working towards.



- We will train people who write EHCPs and school / college staff in **Holistic Outcomes**.

Holistic outcomes are about what the young person wants and needs. Parents and professionals should be involved. They should help with transition.



- We will make sure reviews are inclusive and focused on the young person.



- We will give schools and colleges a template to help them with writing holistic outcomes.

Health services must be more involved in transitions.



- We will make sure that young people aged 16-18 get the therapies they need.
- We will plan for when the young person is aged 18-25; this is still *transition*.
- We will make sure there are care and support services for young people who need them.
- Mental health: we will support young people who are changing from children's to adult mental health services.
- We will make sure that GPs, hospitals and other services are accessible for young people with SEND.

These groups will check that the things in our Written Statement of Action are happening:



- Voluntary and community organisations
- Children, young people, parents, and carers
- SEND Futures Plan workstreams
- SEND Partnership Board
- Education and Children's Services Committee
- Borough Committee
- The Health and Wellbeing Board



Easy Read by Clare Tarling
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