

SEND conference 2019

Background

Barnet launched its first annual SEND Conference in April 2017 and on 20 June 2019, our third annual SEND Conference took place with over 150 attendees (the majority of attendees were parents/carers of children and young people with identified SEND).

Barnet's annual SEND conference for Barnet parents, carers and professionals was jointly organised by education, health, social care and representatives of the Barnet SEND parent/carer community. The conference was developed to ensure the Barnet community have an opportunity to gain greater awareness of SEND developments, structures and services in Barnet from key professionals and senior leaders across education, health and social care, as well as an opportunity to network with parents and professionals.

Feedback on the conference

Using a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), delegates were asked to rate the conference.

	Average score	% scoring 7/10 or higher	% scoring 8/10 or higher
Attending the Barnet SEND Conference was a positive experience	8.1	83%	75%
The conference was relevant and appropriate for the audience	7.8	78%	67%
The information was presented clearly and effectively	7.5	70%	57%
There was helpful information that can positively impact my own child's learning/development	7.2	71%	47%
I would value more events/training on SEND issues	9	95%	85%
I would recommend to parents and carers (of young children and young people with SEND	8.4	85%	76%

Area for open feedback:	What you said about it	What we will do in response
The most positive aspects of the conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guest speaker was informative and spoke from experience The opportunity to speak to parents and professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for parent/carers to hear from other parents/carers in the next conference Review the format of the conference to

		accommodate more interaction time between parent/carers and professionals
How the conference could further be improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting the whole team, like the social care presentation Making the presentations more accessible (e.g. shorter, less jargon, fewer words on slides etc) and focused on the needs of parents Opportunities for more interaction with professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the format of the conference to accommodate more interaction time between parents/carers and professionals Provide guidance to speakers on factors which might improve the accessibility and usefulness of their presentations for parents/carers Provide more practical information and strategies for parent carers to use at home
What you would value more training or conferences on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transitions and post-18 provision, services and support Autism, particularly in girls Mental health difficulties and accessing support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share this feedback with the transitions workstream¹ who will consider how best to share their work on improving transitions Share this training need with relevant internal teams and senior managers
Any other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speakers should pitch their presentations with the parent audience in mind It is a good conference and was well received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide guidance to speakers on factors which might improve the accessibility and usefulness of their presentations for parents/carers

Feedback on Barnet services

What is going well?

- Identification of needs in education.

¹ The SEND workstreams are multi-disciplinary groups, which include representatives from the Barnet parent-carer forum, which look at specific areas of weakness and develop new plans and provision to improve Barnet's SEND services. Information on these workstreams is provided on the [Local offer website](#).

- Health services as viewed by respondents are generally effective and support families well.
- The 0-25 Service in Social Care is viewed as generally effective.

What needs to be improved?

- More opportunities for co-production.
- More accessible information on SEND for parents/carers and families.
- Better information for parents/carers on how to access services for children and young people with SEND.

Using a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), delegates were asked to rate their experiences of SEND services in Barnet.

	Education	Health	Social care
The needs of children and YP with SEND are identified early by Barnet services	5.1	4.5	3.7
Families with C/YP with SEND are well supported by Barnet services	4.7	5	3.9
There is clear an accessible information on how to access Barnet SEND services	4.7	4.3	3.5
Barnet SEND services are effective	5	5.1	4.4
There are effective opportunities for coproduction with Barnet SEND services	4.5	4.5	4.1

Area for open feedback	What you said about it	What we will do in response
The most positive aspects of SEND support in Barnet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people involved – staff are trying their best, listen and work in partnership • Additional Resourced Provisions and pre-school team • Once needs are identified / plans are in place support can be good – but this process takes too long • Changes to short breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support and develop our specialist local provision • Continue to review decision making processes through the SEN EHCP workstream • Involve parents/carers in monitoring the short breaks provision
Key gaps of challenges with regards to SEND in Barnet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication – parents are not aware of changes/options for support (this was the main feedback) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop our Local offer website in response to the consultation to ensure it provides accessible and useful information



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions to adulthood and between educational provision • SEN support and knowledge in mainstream schools • “Drop off of the grid” when children reach 19-25 – for therapies, CAMHS, health and social care • Waiting lists are too long – for ASD diagnosis, CAMHS, therapies • Gaps in therapies provision • Lack of provision for some types of needs 	<p>for parents, young people with SEND and professionals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the range of ways we communicate with our communities • Share this feedback with the transitions workstream to inform the development of transitions processes and practice • Work with the therapies provider to address gaps in provision • review the ASC diagnostic pathway – with the aim to reduce waiting times • Work with the CAMHS transformation board to increase opportunities to access mental health provision • Review local specialist provision and commission new provision as needed • Work with SENCOs to identify gaps in mainstream school knowledge around SEND and how to support needs effectively
<p>Any other comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for listening and learning • Share early signs of autism with parents 	