

Inclusion Summit Special Local Area Newsletter



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

4th

Edition

Dec 2019

In this newsletter

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- ★ The SEND Participation Event
- ★ Preparing for Adulthood Events in 2020
- ★ The SEND Poetry Competition - Winner
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The Inclusion Summit 2019

The second Inclusion Summit was held on 24th September 2019, which provided a fantastic opportunity for professionals in education, health and the voluntary sector to come together with parents and carers to discuss the journey of how we are coming together to make the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead a positive beacon of inclusion for children and young people aged (0 to 25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities.



The Summit was co-produced with Parents and Carers in Partnership (PaCiP), Achieving for Children (AfC), East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group and SENDIASS.

The day had a great turn out of 183 people in attendance, representing parents and carers, educators from Early Years, schools and colleges, services from health, the local authority, AfC and the voluntary sectors.

The Summit also showcased over 20 exhibitors in a Market Place giving the attendees the opportunity to understand what partner organisations offered. Some examples of those who had a stand at the Market Place were Family Action, Healthwatch Windsor Ascot and Maidenhead, Number 22, Ways into Work, The Autism Group, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust and the Local Offer.



This year we were delighted to introduce David Bartram OBE as our guest speaker for the Summit. As a specialist SEND consultant, David has visited and worked with over three hundred schools working collaboratively with London Challenge, the National College and the Department for Education (DfE). He was Director for SEND at the London Leadership Strategy, advisor to the Mayor of London's education team and currently provides support to a range of teaching school alliances and local authorities on the strategic development of SEND provision. David has sat on a number of SEND consultations at the DfE and gave oral evidence at the Public Bill Committee on the Children and Families Bill. He has also spoken at a number of SEND conferences including The Academies Show, NASEN, TES SEN Show and international conferences in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, India, South Africa, Poland and Ethiopia. David has led outstanding SEND provision in London schools for over fifteen years and in 2013 his department at Lampton School won the Inclusion Award at the National Business Education Awards. David was awarded an OBE for Services to Education in the 2016 New Year's Honours list.

David was very pleased to be asked to present at our second Summit and his speech was very well received by those who attended. During

David's presentation he spoke about three key themes for inclusion: Future, Deliver and Engage. For the theme Future, David asked the audience what their vision is for inclusion and what did they want to change. When speaking about how we Engage, David asked if everyone knew what their role was when engaging with children and young people, their families and stakeholders and what evidence and research we used in order to help us do this. The last theme David spoke about was how do we Deliver inclusion. How do we as individuals ensure that things get done and do we need to think about what systems and process we need to have in place in order to improve inclusion. **86.3% of the attendees that provided feedback said that David's presentation was excellent.**

The Inclusion Summit 2019



During the Summit, there were presentations on the local context and the Annual Trend Report from Kevin McDaniel, Director of Children's Services RBWM, Debbie Hartrick, Designated Clinical Officer SEND and Janette Fullwood, Head of Children, Young People and Families from NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Chair of the Parent Carer Forum (PaCiP) Liz Kelsall and Kelly Nash, AfC's Area SENCo, discussed the ways in which the community can successfully implement the Inclusion Charter which was launched in September 2018 and what the journey has been so far with implementing the Charter within the borough.

Areas highlighted on how we can improve inclusion were relationship building, listening and communication and staff training. This culminated in a presentation by the Girls Policy Forum to capture the voices of young people within the borough. They highlighted that inclusion was not prominent enough in school life and with small changes the well-being of children and young people could easily be improved during their school day.

Helen Huntley, AfC's Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Consultant, School Improvement and Fenella Reekie, Headteacher, Cookham Dean CE Primary School discussed how the borough has created an audit tool which focuses on the "Leadership of Inclusion" which would then award schools in the future with an accreditation called 'The Inclusion Mark'.

This would be based on schools demonstrating good practice of inclusion. Helen and Fenella discussed that during the Summer Term, two schools took part in this audit for the trial of accrediting The Inclusion Mark and the feedback was positive.



The Inclusion Summit 2019

At the end of the Summit we asked for feedback, which is vital in helping us to shape our services. 40% of those who attended the Summit provided feedback, and there were common themes which emerged.

We asked ... What will you do differently from today to improve inclusion for children and young people in the local area? **Attendees said:**



| Parent/Carers | Health | Achieving for Children | Education | External/Other |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Engage in more dialogues with educational settings •Keep being involved/ proactive, work together with education, borough etc •Talk about inclusion more with my own children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use the Inclusion Charter as means to have discussions about specific adjustment/s required for a child or young person •Ensure I incorporate all aspects of Inclusion Charter when working with children and young people •Use the services from the Market Place and talk more to parents and schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get better at noticing inclusion in early help and challenging the gaps • Use the services in the Market Place to ensure our service is inclusive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reintroduce the Inclusion Charter •Continue to listen to parents perspectives •Involve the children and young people more so that their voice is heard in all the changes we make | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Think about adaptations that can be made in practice/ schools. Involve parents/ children and young people in inclusion •Promote the Inclusion Charter at every opportunity and spread the word •More engagement with parents/ families and children and young people |

On behalf of The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Achieving for Children, Parents and Carers in Partnership (PaCiP), East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group and SENDIASS -

Thank you to all of you who attended our Inclusion Summit. It gave 76.7% of you a greater understanding of what the journey of inclusion has been so far in the local area. The Summit was praised as being a great event, a good networking and information gathering opportunity and here's to next year!

To see more from the day including slides from the speakers and videos, visit the [Inclusion Summit](#) page on the [Local Offer](#).





SEND Participation Event

Local young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) came together, supported through their schools to attend a local event planned by Young Event Makers, who are local young people that are really passionate about helping other young people from schools really grasp the idea of participation and voicing change.

The event was facilitated by the children's charity Kids and the aim of the event was to gather feedback from SEND young people on how they'd like to shape services and policy decisions. A number of local professionals from across health and local authorities were also present to listen to views of the young people.

The event was hosted by NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group working in partnership with Bracknell Forest Council, Achieving for Children (Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead), Slough Borough Council and Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

A representative from the KIDS Children's Charity said 'It was a really productive event. The young people were really engaged and gave us some great constructive comments.'

Some of the key conversations for the sessions included understanding the barriers to getting involved, as well as accessing services and hearing from young people about what is important to them and how can they influence and be an active part of decision making in the future.

Issac Okine one of the Young Event Makers said 'I found the event so amazing and want to get involved in future events.'

The event also gave an opportunity for support staff/teachers from education and professionals from health and local authorities to exchange information and share best practice.

Janette Fullwood, NHS East Berkshire CCG Head of Children, Young People and Families said 'The event was a great example of partnership working across health, local authorities and education. It was so positive to see a range of SEND young people all actively taking part and being provided with a chance to offer feedback'

One of the teachers that attended said 'This is a fantastic event! The young people are really excited and enjoying the inclusivity. They would really like to be involved in any future events.'

Feedback from the event will be shared with key decision makers to improve young people's participation and ensure their voices are included locally.

The whole event was visually captured by Dr Penelope Mendonça, a graphic facilitator and cartoonist which illustrated what really matters to our young people in East Berkshire.

Inclusion Showcase: Cookham Rise Primary School



Sara Mahony SENCo & Deputy Headteacher of Cookham Rise Primary school told us about which key elements have helped them in building an inclusive school:

Internal communication is vital ***"we share information between staff regularly, their is a cohesive team approach, led by our Headteacher Helen Daniels. When it comes from the top down, the weight behind the message is that much stronger."*** Training is a tool to help you do your job better.

"Utilising regular training from SHINE, Education Psychology Service from Achieving for Children and Speech and Language specialists. This allows Cookham Rise deal with children and parents effectively."

Building bridges and being transparent has helped with parent fears , ***"Staff meet with parents to capture their voice to move forward positively, discussing future objectives, training and and recently we have been planning a session with parents on a new book called 'My Hidden Chimp' which is about managing behaviour and emotion in children, these activities have helped us build a two way communication channel with their parents."***

Technological improvements within the school has benefited the staff and pupils, ***"teachers are able to share important documents, across the school, the database allows quick access to information that can help teach the child in the best way possible."***

A support network helps share ideas with fellow SENCo's. ***"The SENCo Partnership group has been a positive influence on myself and the upcoming Inclusion mark will be very helpful for schools and it is an excellent way to celebrate good practice and recognise the skill we have available within the school."***

Remembering that it is always about the child, ***"we make sure we show empathy, we try to understand the viewpoint of the parent, the child."*** Moving forward Sara is examining ways in which the school can improve well-being and understand emotional needs such as anxiety and find ways to help the children deal with it.

The Inclusion Mark: Update

We were delighted to launch the Inclusion Mark at the Inclusion Summit on 24th September. Since the summit there have been a number of requests from schools and educational settings to gain the Inclusion Mark. which is really encouraging. Headteachers and SENCOs have also showed an interest in being a part of the Accreditation Panel. If you are interested in taking part in The Inclusion Mark or becoming part of the Accreditation Panel, please do not hesitate to contact Helen Huntley via email - helen.huntley@achievingforchildren.org.uk



Spotlight on Laura Turner | Tribunal & Mediation Officer

How did you get into this role?

I have a wide experience of working with children and young people 0-25 years. The majority of my involvement surrounds working with young people with additional needs and disabilities. However, I initially started working with young offenders under early intervention services. I supported a wide range of young people that had additional needs within this service and it was this that largely shaped my transition into the SEND field. From there I worked within the charitable sector for Action for Children, supporting children and young people with SEND. I was a Project Worker within short breaks/respite, afterschool and weekend services before moving onto a London based Local Authority as a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Assessment Officer and then as an SEN Tribunal and Mediation Officer.

What do you enjoy about your role?

I find the role to be dynamic, challenging and always rewarding. The voice of the child is central in everything and it is paramount that each child and young person is given the right opportunities to reach their full potential. I hope to forge brilliant relationships with families, schools, colleges/further education providers and with key professionals.

What's your favourite book?

I love anything related to crime and punishment, psychological thrillers, life documentaries or you will find me reading children's books with my two little people!

Spotlight on Hannah Kennison | Senior Social Worker (Fostering)

What does your job involve?

In the Family Placement Team, we assess, support and supervise mainstream foster carers and connected carers; and complete special guardian and private fostering assessments.

What do you enjoy about your role?

I get to meet and spend time with lots of different people in my role - children in care, birth children, foster carers, extended family members, professionals, birth parents, and more. This is great because it helps me to get to know families and the wider network around them. Our team is also open to new and different ways of working. This means we often share and discuss different ideas from different frameworks and theories

Tell us a fun fact about yourself?

I love going to Cheddar Gorge! I've been about 5 times in the last few years. I enjoy walking around the gorge, looking at the scenery and most importantly, eating the cheese! I'm currently planning another trip for Spring 2020!

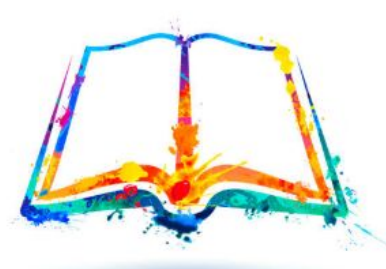
Find out more:

E: fostering@achievingforchildren.org.uk

W: Visit our [Fostering website](#)

Local Offer

Poetry Competition



In October 2019 The Children and Young People's Disability Service (CYPDS) announced a Local Offer Poetry competition for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities across the borough.

The entries are in and the community responded very well and the Local Offer inbox was filled with beautifully written poems. Honourable mentions go to students from Boyn Hill School, Manor Green School & St Ethelbert Primary, who provided thoughtful and enjoyable poems. We are pleased to announce the winner is: **Tommy Cobbold, Age 12.**

WINNING ENTRY

By Tommy Cobbold

"SEND* Local Offer Website: Helping You"

Do you live in RBWM?
Do you also have SEN?
Would you like to find out more?
Visit a website, that's not a bore?
Are you under 25?
Need some help, so you can thrive?

If this is true, then you just might,
Need our SEND Local Offer website!

**SEND means Special Educational Needs and Disabilities*



Local Offer: Mailing List & Inclusion Section

Mailing List

Subscribe to the Local Offer mailing list to receive email updates about services, events and news for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in RBWM.

To subscribe, please go to the [Local Offer Mailing List](#).



The Local Offer brings together information about services for children and young people (0-25) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families, helping you to see what services are available and how to access them.



Inclusion Section

A new section on the Local Offer has been created on Inclusion. Here you can find the Inclusion Charter, information from the 2019 Inclusion Summit and videos from schools about inclusion.

To have a look at the Inclusion page please go to our [Local Offer](#).

CONTACT US

E: local.offer@achievingforchildren.org.uk

T: 01628 685878

W: [Visit our Local Offer](#)

Preparing for Adulthood

Find out about
Employment
Independent living
Friends,
relationships and
community
Health

**Are you aged between 14 and 25 years old
with special education needs and disabilities?**

If so, we have exciting events with different
services to help you as you become an adult.



Friday 24 January 2020

Drop in between 10.00am and 2.00pm

Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF

Saturday 25 January 2020

Drop in between 10.00am and 1.00pm

Oakbridge Centre, Imperial Road, Windsor, SL4 3RU

Contact:

PfA Team - Children and Young People Disability Service

T: 01628 685878

E: cypds@achievingforchildren.org.uk

[Find out more via our What's On Calendar](#)

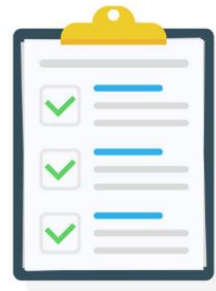


**achieving
for children**

Disability Register: Sign Up

The Disability Register is a list of children and young people aged 0 to 25 who live within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM) who have a disability and who receive, or may one day need to use the services from health, social services, education or voluntary organisations. The Disability Register will allow us to identify and plan for children and young people with disabilities and their families within the local area.

For more information on the Disability Register and how you can sign up, please go to the [Local Offer](#)



The Max Card: What is it?



The Max Card can be provided to children, young people and young adults (0 to 25 years), living in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, with additional needs, whether it is a physical, sensory, or a learning disability. The Max Card is a 'credit card size' card which can be shown to certain organisations as proof of your child or young person's disability. Families will also benefit from discounts at over 800 attractions nationwide. A full list of supporting attractions can be seen at [My Max Card](#).

For more information on how to apply for a Max Card, please go to the [Local Offer](#)



Everyone Matters

We believe that all children and young people in Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead, including those with additional needs, have the right to be included in local services, so they can thrive and reach their potential.

Inclusion Charter for children and young people

This charter sets out what all children and young people should expect when accessing services

| Services welcome and value all children, young people and their families to... | So you can.... |
|--|---|
| Make sure that you feel listened to and treated with respect | Have your say and feel safe |
| Work together to understand and support any reasonable adjustments that you may need | Belong to a community, such as your local school, leisure centre, club, etc |
| Talk with you and your family to help us understand your needs and solve problems together | Feel understood and helped to achieve your best |
| Speak to other professionals who support you, so you only have to tell your story once | Tell someone what you want to achieve and how we can help |

Understanding equality, diversity and inclusion (Equality Act 2010)



If you would like to provide feedback on this local area newsletter edition email

local.offer@achievingforchildren.org.uk