NOTTINGHAM CITY
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE: SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES (SEND) LOCAL AREA REVIEW – INSPECTION PREPARATION

DATE: 30 JANUARY 2020

1. SEND LOCAL AREA REVIEW (LAR)

- The SEND LAR is an inspection of how all partners in Nottingham City effectively:
  
  1. **Identify** children and young people with SEND
  2. **Assess and meet the needs** of children and young people with SEND
  3. **Improve outcomes** for children and young people with SEND
  4. **Lead, manage and govern** arrangements for SEND in the local area

- The ‘local area’ is the geographical area of the local authority.

- The inspection will look at the contribution of all partner agencies (in particular education, health and social care) AND will consider children and young people who are resident in that area but receive their support outside of that area.

- The inspection will be conducted by inspectors from Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

- We will have 5 days notice before the inspection starts. The inspection will last for 5 days. The inspection team will:
  
  1. Look at how agencies work together in partnership.
  2. They will meet with groups of partners to get their views.
  3. They will undertake visits to settings and providers.
  4. They will speak to children, young people, parents and carers.

- The inspection leads to a published report that will give an assessment judgement about how well the local area is performing and identify areas for improvement. The report may require the local area to consider actions it should take in light of the report and prepare a formal ‘statement of action’.

- Safeguarding - how children with SEND are helped and protected so that they are kept safe.

- Request information about children and young people who have SEND who are:
  - Children in need
  - Children who have a child protection plan
  - Children looked after and care leavers
  - Subject to youth justice services
  - Eligible to adult care services
• Look at any relevant serious case reviews and their outcomes

2. OVERVIEW OF INSPECTION THEMES IDENTIFIED IN PUBLISHED OUTCOME LETTERS

• Implementation of the SEND Reforms from 2014 to now
• Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Strategy
• Joint commissioning arrangements
• Child and parent voice, co-production
• Local offer
• Outcomes and data – improvements
• Exclusions – schools
• Quality of EHC plan - assessments and reports
• SEN Support
• Post 16 opportunities – destinations and independence
• Health involvement and evidence of effective multi-agency work
• Inclusive leisure opportunities

3. LAR PREPARATION

• Nominated Officer identified
• Local Area self-evaluation in place since 2016 - annually reviewed
• Created Improvement Plan from issues/risks
• Draft set up presentation
• Reviewed evidence library
• Bite size briefings – published 7
• Review of developments in Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and joint commissioning arrangements
• Data dashboard created for Children’s Integrated Services & SEND
• Practice Improvement Days undertaken with Children’s Social Work teams, IROs, Early Help, Targeted Family Support Team, CAMHS
• Portfolio Holder Briefings with Education, Children’s Social Care, Adults & Health
• Constructive meetings with Health partners
• Meeting with Adults Social Care and alignment with Whole Life Disability Strategy
• Head Teacher Briefings
• Agenda item at termly SEND Accountability Board meetings
• Regular strategic meetings with Corporate Director for People (Children & Adults) and partnership leads
• Positive meeting with DfE SEND Advisor

4. ISSUES AND RISKS IDENTIFIED FROM SELF-EVALUATION

• Overview from the partnership to track and report on outcomes for children and young people who have SEND
• CCP restructure
• Exclusions
• KS4 & 5
• WLD - Transition Assessments
• Preparing for Adulthood Employment Pathway

5. ONGOING PREPARATION AND WORK

• SEND strategic meetings with Corporate Director for People (Children & Adults) and partnership leads to ensure issues are shared and addressed
• SEND Accountability Board meeting
• Develop partnership outcomes framework to track outcomes for children and young people with SEND
• Draft Employment Strategy
• Meeting with Clinical Commissioning Partnership
• Ensure all providers and staff are fully briefed and prepared for the SEND LAR / inspection by end Jan 2020 at the latest
• Re-issue bite size briefings including additional briefings on joint commissioning and health