

SEND Reforms

Newsletter 11

Useful Resources from NASEN

NASEN is the leading organisation which aims to promote the education, training, advancement and development of all those with special and additional support needs.

NASEN have provided some useful resources about improving SEND provision in school, in the form of YouTube clips. Take a look here: www.youtube.com/user/nasenonline

ASD helping hands and their new youth groups in Brandon and Lowestoft

ASD Helping Hands supports all service users affected by an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) regardless of age or at which stage of life they are at.

ASD Helping Hands has recently been successful in gaining funding from Suffolk County Council and Activities Unlimited to launch two new youth groups - One in Brandon and the other in Lowestoft. These are for young people aged 11+. For more information, visit the Access Unlimited website:

<https://www.access-unlimited.co.uk/send-reforms/latest-news/local-news/asd-helping-hands-and-their-new-youth-groups-in-brandon-and-lowestoft/>

Links and overlap of the Children and Families Act and the Care Act

On 1st April 2015, the Care Act came into effect and it has implications for all colleagues in Suffolk working with young people aged 14-25 with additional needs. Here are 3 relevant things you should know about the Care Act.

The Care Act 2014 states that:

1. Preparation for adulthood for young people with additional needs should start from Year 9 at the latest.
2. For young people with EHC Plans, their Transition to Adulthood Assessment should be incorporated into one of their annual statutory reviews of the EHC Plan.
3. CYP and ACS must cooperate for the purposes of transition to adult care and support.

If you would like to have any more detail about these 3 points or anything else Care Act related, please email adam.thorp@suffolk.gov.uk

The Council for Disabled Children has produced a factsheet on the links between the Children and Families Act and the Care Act:

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/548760/Care-Act-and-CFA-link-PFA-2014.pdf>

SENCo Conference 2015

Bright and early on 18th June, exhibitors and speakers arrived at Trinity Park for the annual SENCo conference.

This year the conference was supported by Oxford University Press who provided the key note speaker Lorraine Peterson. The focus for the day was to look at changing landscape of SEN and support staff to consider where they are on the journey. The second part of the day Lorraine outlined the new Ofsted framework and the implications for SENCo's. Raffle prizes were provided by a number of companies.

Feedback from the day;

"It was an excellent day all round. The displays were very useful, the workshops good and the speaker interesting with an excellent style of delivery".

"Course gave key information to raise awareness and therefore confidence level"

"It was good to have Lorraine's perspective on the Code and on the Ofsted impact. Her talk helped me to put things into perspective and review my current action plan as a result, with a clearer view of where it needs to be strengthened".

"Thank you for getting us all together - I really value these conferences."

If you have any suggestions for next year's conference please contact

Paula Groombridge on Paula.Groombridge@suffolk.gov.uk

SEND Reforms Working Group

The SEND Reforms Working Group continues to bring together representatives from the Local Authority and other agencies including parents to oversee the work of the Task & Finish Groups. The Local Authority Lead for the SEND Reform Working Group is Tony Sale, County Manager – SEN. tony.sale@suffolk.gov.uk

The Task and Finish Groups were established with identified Lead Officers responsible for developing a coordinated response to requirements of the SEND Reforms.

Local Offer	Lead Officer – Stacey Ford stacey.ford@suffolk.gov.uk
Workforce Development	Lead Officer - Mark Dimes mark.dimes@suffolk.gov.uk
Joint Commissioning	Lead Officer – Cheryl Sharland cheryl.sharland@suffolk.gov.uk
Personal Budgets	Lead Officer – Janet Cooper-Medrano Janet.Cooper-Medrano@suffolk.gov.uk
Local Authority ICT Applications	Lead Officer - Tracy Winwood tracy.winwood@suffolk.gov.uk
Moving into Adulthood	Lead Officer – Esmee Wilcox esmee.wilcox@suffolk.gov.uk

How can parents/carers get involved?

Suffolk Parent Carers Network [SCPN] is represented in overseeing the implementation of the SEND Reforms. As a parent/carer please feel free to use the contact e-mail address for SCPN for any queries and or questions.

suffolkpcn@gmail.com

How can schools get involved?

For advice, guidance and support for schools on the SEND Reforms please contact:

Paula Groombridge: paula.groombridge@suffolk.gov.uk

Schools can access information about the SEND Reforms at: www.suffolklearning.co.uk

The work to embed the reforms is ongoing. We will now be producing newsletters on a half-termly basis. We will be putting any urgent news on the Access Unlimited website so please check the website regularly for any updates.

<https://www.access-unlimited.co.uk/send-reforms/>

I hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful. Please do contact us with any queries or suggestions on sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk

Tony Sale

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Inclusive Services
Children and Young People's Services