Cornwall’s Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Update Summer 2019 No. 25

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To view previous SEND Updates, please visit our website.
Latest News

Special Free School for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)

Cornwall Council’s bid to establish a new special school for children with special educational needs (SEN) has been successful. As part of a national initiative with the Department for Education (DfE) this will increase the range of education provision in Cornwall.

The special free school will provide 65 places for children, aged from 5 to 16, who have Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs and education, health and care (EHC) plans.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/specialfreeschool

Capital Developments

Central government has allocated each Local Authority additional funds for buildings that will increase the number of places for special educational needs (SEN) and/or improve the facilities and accessibility for pupils with SEN. To draw down the funding we in Cornwall have identified developments for at least 24 schools. Plans range from purchasing buildings and bespoke extensions to modernising accessible toilet facilities. Once proposals have been agreed by the Department for Education at the end of May Cornwall will be able to draw down £3.2m over three years.

For more information about the SEN Capital Grant

Together for Families

From April 1 2019 health visitors, school nurses and specialist speech and language therapists from Cornwall Foundation Trust have joined with Council Services in the Children, Schools and Families directorate, to form an integrated directorate called Together for Families.

Read the official press release on the Cornwall Council Website.
Latest News Continued

Access to Work

Access to Work is a Government grant scheme, which aims to support people that have a long term disability or health condition get back to work. Those eligible must be 16 years or older, be in or about to start paid employment and have a disability or health condition that affects their ability to do their job or travel to work.

The Ambitions Project team now have a web page that provides easy-to-use information for those wishing to learn more about Access to Work to support young people they work with.

Updated Speech and Language Therapy Service Referral Form

Following a recent audit of referrals, the Speech and Language Therapy Service form has been updated and now asks for more descriptive and qualitative information. The additional information will help to clarify who the service needs to see and who they could offer an alternative response e.g. help-line call, signposting or activity packs. Please provide as much information as possible and delete any old forms.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub

Updated Local Offer Pages—preparing for adulthood

Preparing for Adulthood is the five steps and four pathways to help young people see and realise their aspirations for the future. Take a look at our updated SEND Local Offer pages which are particularly aimed at Young People.

www.supportincornwall.org.uk/youthlocaloffer

Don’t have access to a computer? Then please call Family Information Service they can look information up for you. Tel: 0800 587 8191
Success Stories

Update on Cornwall’s SEND Priorities

For more details on the below, please see the [Cornwall’s SEND Strategy Communication and the Local Offer](#)

Ongoing co production and development of the Cornwall’s SEND Local Offer through engagement with families and young people is enabling us to develop clear communications which underpin all aspects of activity to support children and young people with SEND and their families.

- **SEND Local Offer**: Monitoring our webpage data shows that the landing pages on the [home page](#) are regularly viewed.
- We have had positive feedback about our updated [youth pages](#).
- SEN File continue to develop: increasing numbers of page views throughout 2019 confirm these pages are a popular source of advice and guidance.
- Subscriptions to termly [SEND Updates](#) continue to increase - feedback confirms people find these a useful source of information.

**Elective Home Education (EHE)**

Actions impacting positively on increasing the level of support in place for EHE families who have children with SEN, regarding accessing an education setting include:

- EHE Service members routinely discuss and update SEND information at all contact points with families and young people to ensure that returner’s needs are considered and communicated back with School Admissions, Pupil Placement Manager, Schools and Pre-college placement.
- EHE Co-ordinators actively working alongside the Statutory SEN Service on integration support for EHE children and young people with educational health and care (EHC) plans transferring to schools.
- EHE children and young people are being directly supported and signposted in order to access secondary school-age immunisations catch up clinics within their localities, and similarly those aged 5 to 11 for Nasal Flu vaccinations.

**Preparing for Adulthood**

An increasing number of organisations are involved in the delivery and supply of Supported Internships in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

There is a rising number of young people accessing Supported Internships in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic year</th>
<th>Number of supported internships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-16</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>60 plus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Success Stories Continued

Identification of SEN

Accurate and timely identification of children and young people’s special educational needs (SEN) is fundamental to improving both the support and outcomes for children and young people and their families.

- We have worked with colleagues in health to improve our lines of communication when sharing information on young children who are known to health services and have special educational needs.
- We continue to ensure that children recorded as ‘SEN Support’ with complex needs are followed through to ensure timely requests for Education, Health and Care needs assessments. The number of Plans issued has increased and we are now closer to the national average for the Early Years Foundation Stage where we recognise that these needs have previously been under identified in the past.

There is significant variation in the numbers of children and young people who are identified as SEN in schools. To improve this there has been regional moderation with secondary SENCOs. This has led to activity to support schools with either a significantly high or low number of pupils who have been identified with SEN. The identification of need is now more in line with other schools with similar needs nationally.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)

We have delivered training to 1200 people on how to identify, support and seek additional advice for young people who are at risk of or are currently self-harming.

Our new guidance document to support school in supporting children and young people is being used widely by school, GPs, social care and community nurses. Page 34 is particularly helpful for parents/carers.

Training about SEMH was delivered to Initial Teacher Training (ITT) students within Cornwall.

Kernow SENCO Conference May 2019

Earlier this month Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs) in schools across Cornwall attended the annual SEN Conference. This year focused on supporting children and young people with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, a priority recognised in the Education Strategy, the One Vision Partnership Plan and the SEND Strategy.

Click here to read more.
Reminders
Preparing for Transition

Review our Transition Guidance—it is important to plan early for transition, whether it is from class to class or setting to setting. Download our Guide to Transition Planning and check out other resources on our transition web page.

Find out about One Page Profiles—One Page Profiles are a vital tool used to promote understanding of a person and how best to support them in a wide range of contexts. Visit our One Page Profile web page for more information and useful templates.

Ensure staff are prepared and check training opportunities—it is important to make sure that staff in the new setting are aware of the child or young person’s needs and are appropriately trained. Information about staff training can be found on page x.

Useful Transition Resources

Early Years Inclusion Service Transition Top Tips
For guidance about planning for a child to move from an early years setting to reception class.

Year 5 and 6 Transition Planning Guide
This one page summary outlines the required support for year 5 students through transition to secondary school.

Preparing to Move to Post-16 Provision Transition Planning Guide
This one page summary outlines transition support for secondary school students, including important review meetings for year 10 students.

To download resources and further information, visit the transition web pages.
Reminders Continued

Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Reviews (Yr5 and Yr10)

EHC Plan reviews for children and young people transferring between phases of education must take place in the summer term, a full academic year before transfer.

A range of useful guidance about the EHC Plan or SEN review process, including details of how parents, children and young people can contribute to the review can be found within the SEN Review web pages.

Updating SEN Information Reports

Educational settings should check their SEN Information Reports are up to date in readiness for the new academic year. Visit our SEN Information Report web page for guidance.

Please ensure that your setting’s Cornwall SEND Local Offer listing has the correct link to your setting’s updated SEN Information Report.

www.supportincornwall.org.uk/localoffer

What does the Cornwall SEND Local Offer provide?

The Cornwall SEND Local Offer is a website that hosts information related to:

- Education
- Leisure and Transport
- Money Matters
- Health and Social Care
- Childcare and Early Years
- Youth Local Offer and Preparing for Adulthood

www.supportincornwall.org.uk/localoffer
What’s Coming Up?

Cornwall Careers Hub

The Cornwall Careers Hub is continuing to work with schools across the county, including the Special Partnership Trust schools, to develop their career and employability programmes. A key success criteria of employability is having the opportunity to access a range of encounters with the world of work including employer visits to school, trips to the workplace and work experience placements.

If you are an employer who would like to get involved in supporting students with SEND to find out more about jobs and industry and have a few hours to spare please email sarah.mccammon@cornwall.gov.uk for more details.

Cognition and Learning Conference

‘The memory light classroom - making it work for our quick forgetters’.

Guest speaker Neil MacKay will provide practical ideas on how to raise the achievement of students with issues around working memory and slow processing speed.

Friday 1 November 2019 at the Pavilion Centre in Wadebridge.

Booking now available via www.cornwalllearningonline.co.uk

Search for course code CALCONF19.
What’s Coming Up?

School Staff Training Opportunities

Booking details for upcoming training events, including SENCO networks are published in the SEND training directory within School Messenger. A secure login is required. School staff and Council staff only.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolmessenger

Trauma Informed Schools (TIS)—practitioner supervision

The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) have been commissioned to deliver supervision to TIS practitioners across Cornwall.

www.headstartkernow.org.uk/book-training

Other supervision and training offered by the EPS

Educational Psychologists also offer supervision to staff in a school or cluster of schools if they want to purchase this as part of their Service Level Agreement with the EPS.

A hard copy of the 2019-2020 Educational Psychology Service Brochure will be sent to every school and an electronic copy will also be available on the Cornwall Council, Educational Psychology Service web pages.
Stay Up-to-date with SEND Information

Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions

Check out our updated Guidance for Families on Cornwall Council’s SEN file webpage.

This document outlines what schools must do to support pupils with medical conditions. This document gives some useful helpful advice for parents.

Supporting young people who use AAC to access formal examinations at all key stages

The Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) team are working closely with colleagues around the UK as part of the AAC Exams Access Working Group. The group of professionals aims to develop guidance for parents and schools on how young people who use AAC can access formal examinations at all Key Stages. The work will include liaison with exam boards as well as with parents and schools. For more information please see the AAC Team webpage at www.cornwall.gov.uk/AAC

Supporting Pupils with a Disability

What must schools do to support pupils who have a disability?

Check out our updated Guidance for Families and download the useful Equality Act Flowchart from Cornwall Council’s SEN file webpage.

Cornwall Council’s SEN File

Cornwall Council’s SEN File is a valuable and extensive resource of information related to Special Educational Needs and Disability in Cornwall.

Key features include:

- Education Health and Care (EHC) needs
- Assessments and plans information
- SEN Support Services information
- Transition planning guidance
- Useful forms and guidance documents

www.cornwall.gov.uk/senfile
Thank you for reading the SEND Update

We value any feedback you have regarding the SEND Update.

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(send@cornwall.gov.uk)

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