



North Somerset SEND Partnership

SEND Improvement Board Minutes

Tuesday 11 June 2024, 11.00am to 1.00pm

Present

Cllr. Catherine Gibbons (CG) Executive Member & Chair
Jo Walker (JW), Chief Executive, NSC
Anthony Webster (AW), Head of SEND, NSC
Kenton Mee (KM), Chief Executive for North Somerset Parents Carer's Working Together & Parent Carer Forum for North Somerset
Claire Bullock (CB)- North Somerset Parents Carer's Working Together & Parent Carer Forum for North Somerset
Pip Hesketh (PH), Assistant Director for Education Partnerships, NSC
Ed Bowen-Roberts (EBR), Headteacher, Baytree and Representative for Special Schools
Anna Clark (AC), Senior Performance Improvement Manager, Children's Services, ICB
Grainne Rogers (GR) on behalf of Lorraine McMullen
Mandy Plumridge (MP), SEND Manager, NSC
Hannah Batts (HB), Principal Business Intelligence Lead, NSC
Bally Nagra (BN), Head of Service for Children with Disabilities Service in North Somerset
Helen Caldwell (HC), Interim Head of Learning and Achievement, NSC
J Smith (JSm), Headteacher Clevedon School,
Riccardo Enoch (RE)– Strategy and Policy North Somerset Council

Apologies

Jane Antis (JA), Assistant Director, Children's Services, NSC
Dawn Newton (DN), Head of Front Door and Family Wellbeing, Children's Social Care, NSC
Rosie Shepherd (RS), Chief Nurse, ICB
Alison Stone (AS), Head of Children's Commissioning, NSC
Claire Shiels (CS), Director, Children's Services, NSC
Emma Brown (EBro), Vulnerable Children's Unit, Case Lead, DfE
Emma Bray (EBra), Headteacher Christ Church Primary, representing Primary Headteachers

Martin Hawketts (MH), Head of Service, Adult Social Care, NSC
Shane Devlin (SD), Chief Executive for Integrated Care Board for BNSSG
Emma Diakou (ED), Head of Business Insight, Policy & Partnerships, NSC
Georgie MacArthur (GM), Consultant in Public Health for NSC
Claire Bullock (CB), North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together
Jane Humphreys (JaH), Children's Improvement Advisor within the Local Government Association

Introduction

For this in-person SEND Improvement Board we visited two schools based in Clevedon. We spent 50 minutes at Baytree Special School and then moved to Clevedon Secondary School. At both schools the SEND Improvement Board had the opportunity to engage with pupils and staff to see how the schools supported pupils with SEND; as well as explore the young people's voice with the following areas:

- How children with SEND find activities outside of school?
- How children with SEND find school?
- What works for them?
- What do children with SEND want to do in the future?

Baytree Visit

Conversations took place on the tour of the school to explore how the young people communicated their choices and how the school supported them to become as independent as possible. A key part of this was showing that the Annual Review is a key tool for schools and families to engage with professionals to support transitions and planning.

The schools look to use technology to help support the young people to give them a voice. The school uses sensory opportunities to incorporate engagement into the curriculum. As the pupils get older, they also focus on life skills and developing these skills so they can transfer them to other settings with the aim of helping to feel like they belong.

The outside activities that pupils at Baytree were accessing, included:

- SENDCAS
- Private Hydrotherapy Sessions at Freeways Hydro Centre, Leigh Court
- Noah's Ark Zoo Farm (soft play sessions)
- Baytree School Holiday Club
- SEND Parks – Kingston Seymour (run by Yeo Valley Lions Club) and Castle Batch (run by WSM Town Council)
- Private horse-riding sessions (Urchinwood Manor)
- Private rebound therapy sessions (Boost Academy)
- Gympanzees
- SEN swimming sessions (Hutton Moor and Backwell)

- Respite stays at Charlton Farm
- Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at Hutton SEN pack
- Sensory rugby sessions delivered by Bristol Bears Community Foundation
- SEN Bike sessions at the Strawberry Line and Bristol Cycling Centre
- Direct Payment support workers to access wider community.

Clevedon School Visit

A video that Year 7 Bridge Class put together was watched by the group who then had the opportunity to ask the young people questions around their experiences at school and accessing services within North Somerset.

Bridge Class is a small Year 7 class set up so pupils who are three to four years behind can have a base where they are taught their main subjects by one teacher in a small class. From listening to pupils this, resulted in them feeling safe, able to engage in learning more and make friends.

It was clear from the conversations with the students that they felt part of the school community as they had good attendance and felt able to make friends in and outside of the Bridge Class.

Outside of school the opportunities to access clubs and activities was limited and was reliant on the young person or family finding out about clubs.

The SEND improvement Board then had an opportunity to speak with the Bridge pupils and discuss some of their schoolwork with them.

The SEND Improvement Board would like to thank both Clevedon School and Baytree School pupils for their time and for engaging so they could understand more about young people's current lived experiences.

Following the Board the professionals who attended the session were asked the following three questions:

- 1) What three things have you learnt from this session?
- 2) State three things you are going to do following this session.
- 3) What is the most impactful quote or story from your interactions with the young people?

Below is a summary of these comments, as well as agreed actions:

1) What are the things that you have learnt from this session?

- The potential at Baytree for outreach work to maximise use of the amazing facilities.
- The Year 7 and 8 pilot at Clevedon and the impact that is having on young people.
- Recruitment of teachers has been more of a challenge for Baytree than for their support staff.

- How the provision at Clevedon can be replicated across North Somerset Secondary Schools.
- How funding can be used in a creative way to support young people.
- Baytree have developed some fantastic bespoke personalised education and health care plans for their children with complex needs and have a positive process for co-production of these plans with parent/carers and key professionals (loved the visual examples of this yesterday too).
- How schools are creative in tailoring their learning to meet the needs of the individual

2) Things you are going to do following this session.

- Pursue a conversation about the potential at Baytree for outreach work to maximise use of the amazing facilities.
- Follow up a conversation with SV about JS's vision for a new school at Clevedon and what we can do to support e.g. additional funding streams.
- Find out more about the Year 7 and 8 pilot at Clevedon, clarify the impact that's having on young people and discuss whether another pilot is possible.
- Continue to support Inclusion in mainstream schools.
- Promote Good practice.
- Work with North Somerset Council to develop a formal structure for co-production and participation with parents/carers (we still need a follow up from the date in January) for regular reporting of themes arising.
- Share with health colleagues how important these interactions are and look at how we can build this into work outside of SEND.
- Consider with the team how we develop our engagement with children and young people
- Review current engagement / co-production groups and opportunities across BNSSG

3) Most impactful quote or story from your interactions with the young people?

- "I can cut with scissors without having a melt-down".
- "I like coming to school here but didn't at primary and used to miss some days".
- "I have friends here in my class and in my house group from across a number of years".
- "I can't stay for lunch as x missed this session because she was at gym, and I don't want her to feel alone at lunch time".
- We don't take many days off school - enjoy school.
- We have friends / attend School Rugby club.
- Video by the Young people was great.
- The activities which pupils at Baytree access outside of school and to hear why it was important for them to have access to things outside of school.

- To see and hear children who are thriving in the right environment for their needs and with a personalised education and healthcare plan - i.e. the child at Baytree having provision from Bristol Bears.
- I was also struck by their insights into how their parents had felt prior to them going into secondary school and how this had eased, knowing that they had settled well.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 - 10.00am to 12.00pm – Microsoft Teams

DRAFT