

SEND NEWS SPLASH

ISSUE TWENTY
FEBRUARY 28TH 2020

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Don't forget to attend the full service launch of the Swindon Trailblazer Mental Health Support Team Service on Thursday 12th March at the STEAM Museum, Swindon.

[To see the full flyer for the event please click HERE](#)

PHONING US IN!



To call the SEND team dial 01793 464641

Lines are open Monday- Thursday 8-5pm and on Friday 8-4:30pm. Lines are closed on bank and national holidays and at all other times.

**VISIT THE SEND
LOCAL OFFER
BY CLICKING
HERE.**



PHASE TRANSFERS FOR STUDENTS WITH EHC PLANS

In order to ensure that the transition from primary education, secondary education and post 16 institution level is successful, including from post-16 institution to post 16 institution, we need to make sure that the new school is aware of any additional needs that the child or young person may have within specified deadlines. This is to make sure that as soon as they start, a plan is in place.

All parents/carers are asked to provide a preference for their child's next school. Parental confidence in mainstream is low with 78% of requests received asking for specialist provision. Discussions about this have been ongoing with parents and providers to ensure needs can be met in the school allocated. This has included developing an outreach model delivered by specialists into the mainstream sector whilst also increasing our specialist provisions capacity. Comments received from parents and children's current and receiving schools have included:

"this is morally and ethically the right thing to do"

"could we have a current student's sibling rather than them going to special school allocated now we have a peer group?"

"this really bridges the gap"

"what a great opportunity"

"so thrilled to have this available"

"excellent idea to meet the needs of the children, fantastic"

"I'm happy as I had been told our only option was special school"

"I would like my child to stay in mainstream this year rather than going to special school, is that possible?"

93.8% of EHC plans for primary and secondary transfers have been issued by 15th Feb which is a significant improvement from 2019. Of these, 55.5% have been allocated mainstream and 44.5% have been allocated specialist provision which is broadly in-line with the national picture.

The SEND Team are now working on the phase transfer Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans that need to be issued by the 31st March (secondary school to a post-16 institution and post-16 to post-16) deadline. There remains a low response to educational preferences received from this cohort and therefore further work is planned with Swindon SEND Families Voice to consider improving how we engage with families to understand preferences for post-16 transitions for 2021/22.

Quality Assurance data will continue to be collected on the quality of Annual Reviews, consultation responses and EHC Plans. Surveys, mediation and Tribunals will be used to collect data to measure levels of satisfaction, which will inform the long term sufficiency plan and any areas of development.