

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Scrutiny Monitoring – 8 August 2024

| Date | Title | Action proposed | Action Taken | Progress Status |
|----------|----------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| 18/07/24 | Local Area SEND Inspection | 1) That, reflecting issues raised by the inspection about the visibility of some children with SEND, the number and percentage of elective home educated children with SEND is circulated to the Panel. | <p>Southampton currently has 650 pupils who are EHE. Our performance is comparable to our statistical neighbours. Ranging from 0.8% to 1.9% and we are 1.2% (Total in school population). We are above national, but by only 0.1%</p> <p>We are also in line with national for those on CiN and Child Protection Plans.</p> <p>Nationally, we saw a rise over lockdown, but Southampton continued stay relatively stable. But across the country more and more families are choosing to EHE and Southampton has seen this locally also.</p> <p>Of the EHE cohort in Southampton, 4% of the EHE cohort have an EHCP (29 Pupils) and 25% were SEN K (161 Pupils). This is broadly in line with the previous year.</p> <p>All pupils with an EHCP have an allocated EHE Home visitor that will work alongside the SEND Team.</p> <p>There is no requirement for parents to inform the school or us of their reasons and will often not share when asked. The main reasons cited by the families that were happy to give us this information were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissatisfaction with school due to bullying • Lifestyle/Philosophical choice • Mental health • Not getting preferred choice of school | |

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| | | | <p>There is a correlation between elective home education and the level of stability in a small number of schools. The local authority has met with all the headteachers.</p> <p>4 parents did state their reason was dissatisfaction with the school for SEND issues. 1x Primary and 3x Secondary. Feedback is always shared with the SEND service and the School Improvement Officer.</p> <p>If a child is allocated for case work, then the Home Visitor will talk through the experience with the family. Where there are concerns, this will be reported back. We review annually the numbers and reasons and in the autumn term will have conversations with schools, in some incidents we will visit and do a piece of work with them. This is normally when there is a high number or concerns over information/process.</p> | |
| | | 2) That, to help target activity aimed at improving uptake, analysis is undertaken of the mandated healthy child programme developmental checks to identify if there are any significant variations across the city, geographical or otherwise. | <p>Data to undertake this analysis has been extracted from the Solent systems including ethnicity, deprivation, electoral ward, EHCP and SEND status.</p> <p>Recognising this work has been undertaken and also that the dataset has not been designed to readily undertake such analyses, we are currently securing some additional analytical support to analyse and interpret this.</p> | Not complete – update will be provided at next scrutiny panel. |
| | | 3) That the issue returns to the agenda of the Panel in November to consider the SEND Partnership action plan developed in response to the inspection findings. | The service will make the necessary arrangements for November 2024. | Not complete – deadline November 2024. |
| 18/07/24 | Family Safeguarding Model | 1) That a Headteacher is invited to attend Operational Board meetings to enable feedback about the impact of the Family Safeguarding Model on school outcomes to be identified and recorded. | Chair of FSM operational board has identified head teacher representative. | Complete |

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| | | 2) That an update on progress implementing the Family Safeguarding Model is presented to the Panel at the 30 January 2025 meeting. | The service will make the necessary arrangements for January 2025 | Not complete – deadline January 2025. |