

# YSWD and Themes (September 22 - January 23)

#### **Themes**

- Withdrawal of funding from Action for Carers to support families with DLA and PIP applications
- Transport Action Card
- No contact from case officer FVS survey
- Short Breaks Parents are not able to find adequate short breaks and activities for SEND children. Awaiting evaluation response for next steps
- Support for parents mental health
- Masking Hold an event for schools to understand this
- Lack of provision such as the Halow project for YP particularly in the east of the county

### Questions

# How do you know if your child has PDA and how do you get a diagnosis?

This can be managed through the paediatric referral where any ASD assessment may be undertaken.

PDA is a component of autism and so would be identified through an autism diagnostic assessment if apparent.

What if school says they are fine in school but have meltdowns and suicidal ideation at home?

For suicidal support, parents or young person can contact the crisis line on 0800 915 4644, or if you have speech and hearing difficulties you can send a SMS text to 07717989024, for text support for people with hearing difficulties, dial 18001 0800 915 4644 from your text phone or smartphone app.

For mental health support, you can also attend the GP for a referral to our Access and Advice team

Whether diagnosed with ADHD or Autism or not, parents can contact the Neurodevelopmental helpline on 0300 222 5755 (freephone) 7 days a week, 5pm-11pm

Safe havens can be accessed daily either in person or virtually-

Safe Havens: Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (sabp.nhs.uk)

Parents are very concerned at the long term MH affects of masking due to fear and anxiety what support is available?

The local authority is in the process of developing their EBSNA resources (Emotionally Based School Non Attendance). The current information available can be found here:



Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA) | Surrey Local Offer

## What advice and training are SENCO'S given about applying for EHCP's?

All SENCOs have access to the LSPA (as do parents) for advice and guidance, however formal qualifications coming online at level 3 and 4 for new to role SENCOs

#### What are the current waiting list for ASD and ADHD assessments?

The system has changed across Surrey to ensure that the priority is addressing the young person's needs in the first instance rather than a reliance of waiting for a diagnostic assessment for needs to be met. It is acknowledged that a variety of other causes can lead to the appearance of neurodevelopmental traits and with support, these traits do pass. For others, a diagnostic assessment may be required. If there are a variety of needs, we would therefore encourage discussing these needs with the School Based Needs team or primary health worker in the first instance to help meet these needs. If there is still a concern, parents and teacher fill in an assessment of need form together to identify the current needs. This then gets sent to <a href="https://docs.new.org/noedle.nee

Will Surrey fund a private EP due to the current shortage of LA ones and waiting lists?

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If parents have commissioned private EP, OT and SLT reports will these be accepted as part of the EHC needs assessment?

Information about the current position can be found on the local offer website.

Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments: Parent Carers update | Surrey Local Offer

Complaints procedure- can the LA refuse to escalate a complaint to stage 2 even if the parent is unsatisfied that it has been addressed by stage 1?

The local authority should followed it's published complaints policy. Where 'additional information' is required at stage 1 then this may be provided prior to escalation. If this situation was to occur please refer to the published policy

How we deal with your complaint - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk)

Tribunals so far ahead what is the LA doing to resolve issues at the earliest opportunity?

The LA will always offer a way forward meeting and mediation where possible. Surrey County Council would always look to resolve any disputes over an EHCP at the earliest opportunity.

Speaking up for the families of children & young people with additional needs in Surrey

www.familyvoicesurrey.org ⋅ ⋈ contact@familyvoicesurrey.org ⋅ 🖀 01372 705708



What support is there for children who do not get found a suitable reception place for example if a child needs a specialist placement and there is not one available. Who is responsible for this? Who should be supporting the family?

The local authority would be responsible for providing the support the child requires in order to meet needs as outlined in their EHCP.

What support is available for Children/young people who are finding it hard to accept their diagnosis? And what support is available to parent carers post diagnosis to help them explain it to their child?

Recommendations should be added to all diagnostic assessment reports regarding further support. Clinicians also send out post diagnostic support packs with the report. If this has not been received then they can contact the neurodevelopmental team.

Downs Syndrome - why is support not readily available in the early stages?

Support would be provided through the early intervention fund (EIF) in early years or the ordinarily available provision for school aged children as developmental needs are identified as the child grows.

Health visitors are available to do standard health checks and would complete a statutory SEN notification (SSN) - Health needs will be managed appropriately as they become apparent.

What information is available about the Transition team as parents don't know who they are or what they do or that they need to contact them at 14+

Information about transition can be found on the Local Offer website:

Who are the Transition Team and how can they support me? - Surrey County Council (surrevcc.gov.uk)

Your transition guide to local post 16 education options and support services - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk)

What do parents do if the school does not recognise the need to assess ASD/ADHD and refuses to do a referral?

Even if the school does not see a need this is helpful information for the neurodevelopmental team as important to get a holistic picture for the young person. Also, to best support the young person, it is important to have information in both environments so that the most suitable interventions can be put in place. For example, it may be that the young person is masking at school but would benefit from support there too. Schools have a legal responsibility to complete referral forms where concerns have been raised.