

# Welcome to SEND in Enfield

Newsletter, Issue 1, Autumn 2024

**Peter Nathan – Director of Education**

*As the Regional SEND Lead in the London Area, I am passionate about raising standards for children and young people with SEND. I bring together 33 London Local Authorities to share best practice and liaise with the Department for Education. This is so we can improve the SEND system for children, young people, their families and educational settings. My team and I are proud that 97% of Schools in Enfield are currently Ofsted graded Good or Outstanding, with 23 of these schools now with a specialist SEND provision.*



November 2024

Welcome to the first SEND Partnership newsletter for parents and carers. Communication is very important to us. We want to provide you with updates to the Local Area SEND Offer and deliver information on any new areas of work we are focusing on.

Each term we will set out a series of frequently asked questions and will include a **'You said, we did'** section in response to your feedback on the SEN Local Offer. We hope you find this newsletter useful and also welcome suggestions for future editions and frequently asked questions (FAQs):

 [SEN@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:SEN@enfield.gov.uk)

## See our response to your

### FAQs

#### Why has my child's EHCP not been updated after their Annual Review?

The SEND Code of Practice advises that EHCPs should be amended when there are changes to outcomes and associated provision. It is therefore, not expected that the EHCP is amended on a frequent basis.

#### Why didn't I get my first choice of school?

On most occasions the Local Authority is able to provide you with your preferred school. However, in the event that we are unable to, we are still under a legal duty to comply with your preference and name the school or college in the EHCP unless:

- It would be unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of the child or young person, or
- The attendance of the child or young person would be incompatible with the efficient education of others, or the efficient use of resources.

**SEND Code of Practice Paragraph 9.78 onwards**



## SEND and Curriculum Inclusion Newsletter

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***"Together we are capable of making a difference for our community"***

As Head of SEND and Curriculum Inclusion in Enfield, I hold responsibility for the coordination of the SEND partnership and work closely with the Director of Education, Peter Nathan who Chairs the SEND Board. Together, we work hard to ensure all Local Offer services are available to meet the needs of our children, young people and their families.

Together with my SEND leadership team, we maintain SEND service delivery including special school places, commissioning partner specialist services, working with our health colleagues and working with our schools to ensure that children and young people with SEND have the opportunity to make positive progress in their learning and life skills.

**Barbara Thurogood – Head of SEND & Curriculum Inclusion**

# Who We Are & What We Do

## The Senior SEND Leadership Team



### The Statutory SEND Service **Zulkifl Ahmed – SEND Service Manager**

Zulkifl Ahmed MBE, has dedicated over a decade of his career working with children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). He is honoured to have been awarded an MBE for his services to education and young people in the Queen's New Year's Honours at the end of 2021.

Prior to working for SEN Services across the country, he worked in the legal profession as a Barrister, where his work allowed him to advocate for children and young people with SEND, ensuring they received the support they needed to thrive. Now as SEND Service Manager in Enfield, Zulkifl's work focuses on ensuring the SEN service is operationally meeting its statutory requirements. This includes managing the team that produce EHCPs and Annual Reviews and working with schools, families and young people to ensure that together, we find solutions to challenges. His mission is to break down barriers to inclusion and challenge prejudices, to ensure that every child in Enfield has the opportunity to succeed.

Zulkifl and his team work hard to ensure that the Enfield SEN service has one of the lowest numbers of tribunal cases in London! To further improve this part of the service, the team have successfully recruited, Esther Maynard, the SEND Team Tribunal Lawyer. Esther is a permanent member of staff to the team. She has a background in parent advocacy, education law and has worked in SEN for over 20 years.

### Early Years SEND Team

#### **Julia Hide – EY SEND & Nurture Manager**

Julia has worked across the mainstream Primary sector for 30 years as EY Phase leader, Nurture Group Teacher and SENCO. She joined the LA in 2015 as EY SEND Team Manager, leading Enfield's successful Nurture Group provision which supports the inclusion of children with SEMH in their mainstream school and enables personal, social and academic progress. She also leads Enfield's EY Area SENCO team, where she champions the importance of high-quality, inclusive early childhood care. Julia is an Associate Member of the Association of Education Advisors and an Attachment-Aware Trainer.

### ECASS & Therapies in Enfield: Partnerships with Health & verbo

#### **Cigdem Alkan – ECASS Service Manager**

Cigdem has 17 years post qualifying teaching and leadership experience in mainstream school settings, leading in Inclusion, SEND and EYFS. Cigdem is the Local Authority Strategic Lead for Speech, Language and Communication Provision. She manages the ECASS team who deliver speech and language provision to children and young people being educated in Enfield schools, ensuring evidence-based strategies are cascaded effectively across schools to help raise standards in teaching and learning. Cigdem's role primarily includes partnership working with NHS Health managers on joint work-streams. In partnership, Local Authority & Health Services provide universal, targeted, specialist and statutory speech and language provision to children and young people in Enfield. Together with NHS colleagues and educational settings, the teams work hard to ensure that Enfield children and young people receive high quality speech & language provision. The partnership continues to work hard in addressing service improvement requests promptly. Cigdem is passionate about using research to bring principles into practice. Her mission through early intervention is to support all schools in raising the attainment and progress levels of all learners.



## SEND Celebrations

### SEND Team Successes:

The SEND Department are delighted to announce that their Principal Educational Psychologist and Head of Service Strategic Lead for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Suzy Francis received an MBE in recognition of her exemplary service to SEND in Enfield. Suzy can be seen in the picture which was taken at Buckingham Palace where she received the honour from Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.



Suzy said, "I am blessed to have had a career that I enjoy and am very proud of the work we have done and continue to do together".

### SRP Successes:

"Pupils with SEND typically access the same ambitious curriculum as their peers. Pupils in the additional resourced classes, Sunbeam and Moonbeam, receive a well-sequenced curriculum. They secure the knowledge they need to be successful as well as embedding important life skills." Galliard Ofsted Inspection Quote

### ECASS & Phonics:

This year 92% of schools that had ECASS input were above the London average for 32+ in their phonics scores.

## Specially Resourced Provisions & Designated Units

### **Sarah Kennedy – SRP & Unit Manager**

Sarah has worked in a range of schools as a SENCO and Deputy Headteacher in Hackney and Barnet. She joined the Enfield SEN Team in 2022 as SEN Advisor, supporting schools with developing inclusive practice for children and young people with SEND. This year, Sarah will be working closely with Enfield's Specialist Provisions.

As a local authority, Enfield is committed to developing Specially Resourced Provisions and Designated Units (there are currently 23 provisions), so that fewer children and young people are educated out of borough. We are proud to welcome West Grove Primary school, a new arrival into our Specialist Provisions family, from September 2024.

## Schools SEND Advisory Service

### **Smeeta Modasia – SEND Adviser**

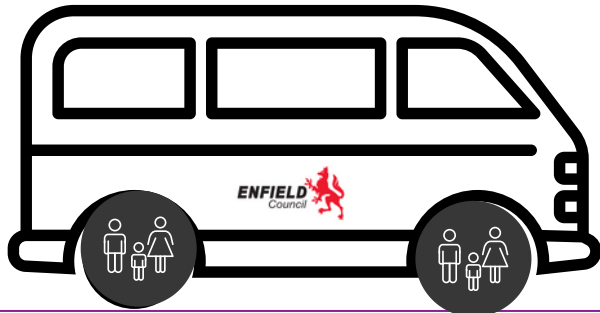
Smeeta has worked in the education sector for over 20 years. She was previously a SENCO and Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion in an Enfield Primary School. Smeeta is an assessor for the Inclusion Quality Mark. She uses her expertise in SEND to support schools and settings to develop provision for children and young people with SEND. Smeeta leads on training through SENCO Networking Events and coordinates the Local Authority's SEND Professional Learning programme. The Local Authority has recently published a parent/carer version of Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP) which gives parents and carers a bite-sized version of the school's publication. It is designed to support parents in their discussions with schools and outlines the provision that the local area expects to be made available to support the inclusion of all children and young people with SEND in all mainstream schools.



"Enfield Children & Young People Feel Valued & Visible"



# SEND Summer Road Shows – Meeting you, for your say...



## Helen Baeckstroem – SEN Improvement Lead

*Helen's role is to lead on service improvement to make sure we can meet your needs as well as be financially and legally compliant. To make sure we get this right, she also leads on the engagement programme so we can understand what you and your family currently experience and need. Helen manages the central team that give us our data and finance insights and works with the wider SEND Local Area partnership to support informed change.*

The SEND offer is both nationally and locally decided. We want to understand your experiences and hear your thoughts about ways to further improve the quality of the local SEND offer here in Enfield. We also want to work together to produce documents and plans.

To do this we have recently completed our annual self-evaluation of our SEND Local Area Offer (often also called a SEF) and would like to thank everyone who has given us feedback through the coffee mornings, questionnaires and through attending the wider engagement day.

It was great to get your thoughts and feedback, and these have informed the final report. A copy of this will be posted on the SEND Local Offer website.

Now we have identified future areas of development, we hope to work together with you to co-design the changes, so we make sure the results meet your needs.

**"We hear you. We see you. Your views matter."** The SEND & Curriculum Inclusion Team



## Summer was fun....

Over the summer we linked with the Enfield Youth Development Service, so we could come and visit SEND children and young people to learn more about what matters to them. Thanks to everyone who met us at:

- **Bell Lane** during the SEND specific Summer Uni day events (we visited on Monday mornings)
- **Joyce and Snells Estate** in the Mobile Youth Bus on Friday afternoons throughout August
- **Ponders End Youth Centre** on 05/08. This was linked with the Get Active programme.



Have your say on SEND...

Scan the QR Code to take part and share your experiences and ideas



**"It's not about what it is, it's about what it can become."** Dr Seuss

Upcoming opportunities to help us develop services for our families include:

- Communication Charter
- The SEND Self-Evaluation Event – just for families
- Outcomes Framework

If you would like to be involved, please contact, Helen via her email address: [Helen.Baekstroem@Enfield.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.Baekstroem@Enfield.gov.uk) or look on the SEND Local Offer website for more opportunities.



# Delivering Better Value in SEND

## Olivia Bray – SEND Programme Manager

*Olivia Bray is the SEN Programme Manager and is responsible for the delivery of Delivering Better Value. Olivia has previously worked in SEND improvement and prior to this, worked in primary education for 11 years.*

*A core value of Olivia's is partnership working and the importance of this, in supporting children/young people with SEND. She has shared that this will be a fundamental value to delivering the DBV programme and is looking forward to working closely with parents & carers.*

### DBV Engagement and Coproduction Opportunity

Parent/carer input into the delivery of the workstream objectives is invaluable to the success of the programme. Please use the QR code to have your say.



Enfield Council is working with the Department of Education (DfE) and Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) on the national SEND programme: **Delivering Better Value in SEND (DBV)**.

The DBV programme is grant funded by the DfE and aims to support local authorities and their local area partners to improve the delivery of SEND services for children and young people, whilst working towards financial sustainability.

Engagement with children/young people, families, education, health and social care colleagues has fed into Phase One of DBV, which supported understanding root causes of challenges, identified opportunities and outcomes the local area would like to achieve together.

The programme has identified six workstream areas. Click the video to find out more about the DfE Delivering Better Value SEND Programme.

## Delivering Better Value in SEND Programme

The Department for Education acknowledges the current challenges which local systems are experiencing in delivering special educational needs and disability services (SEND). The Delivering Better Value in SEND programme (DBV in SEND) is aiming to support local authorities and their local area partners to improve the delivery of SEND services for children and young people whilst working towards financial sustainability.

[Find out more](#)

[Introduction video](#)



### Workstream Areas to Improve Outcomes for Enfield Children & Young People with SEND

**Workstream 1 – Early Years Offer:** Workstream 1 will focus on revising the universal offer of support for children under the age of 5 with SEND. As part of this focus, there will be a review of funding available for EY's settings to explore how settings could access funding to support young children with SEND.

**Workstream 2 – Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) Offer:** Workstream 2 will review the current universal, targeted, specialist & statutory SLCN offer and implement a revised model across the Local Area SEND partnership.

**Workstream 3 – Emerging Technology:** An emerging technology pilot will explore how technology can be utilised to increase independence & communication within the classroom and increase capacity for education staff.

**Workstream 4 – Graduated Approach & Quality Assurance:** This workstream will focus on quality assuring EHCPs and working with schools to provide support & guidance around provision for CYP with SEND. This workstream will additionally focus on embedding the graduated approach & universal offer, to enable more children and young people's needs to be met with provision outside of an EHCP.

**Workstream 5 – Preparation for Adulthood (PfA) Pathways:** Workstream 5 will work with schools and settings to enhance the PfA curriculum offer, to support CYP moving into adulthood. The workstream will work with colleges and the business sector to support young people moving into employment. Additionally, there will be a focus on developing the pathways for young people with complex needs to transition from education to Adult Social Care at the right time, to meet need and work on building parents/carer confidence, in the transition offer when a young person is leaving education.

**Workstream 6 – Transitions:** This workstream will develop Enfield's Transitions Policy and work with schools and settings to provide support and guidance on learning environments to support CYP to receive the right support at the right time to aid them with their next steps.

# Health Corner

## Health News



North Mid  
in the community



Sally Mordi - Designated Clinical Officer



Enfield's Health Visitors, School Nurses and specialist services (e.g., therapies teams) are now within the same trust and have moved to North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust. This will become the Royal Free Health Trust in the near future.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) remains with Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust (BEH MHT).



Barnet, Enfield and Haringey **NHS**  
Mental Health NHS Trust  
A University Teaching Trust

**"Somewhere inside all of us is the power to change the world."** Roald Dahl, Matilda

The screenshot shows the NHS North Middlesex University Hospital website. The navigation bar includes 'Our patient services', 'GPs & health partners', 'Get involved', and 'Our news'. The 'Our patient services' section features several tiles: 'Need advice on housing or finance? Visit our Community Advice Hub', 'Preparing for your visit', 'Your appointment', 'How did we do?', 'When you're here', and 'Leaving hospital'. There are also three tiles for children's services: 'My child is in the neonatal unit', 'My child is under 5', and 'My child is 5-11'. Below these are 'ABC Parents' (Achieving a Better Community) and 'School health service in Enfield'.

The North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL/ICB) are recruiting their Enfield team and will have a Start Well, Live Well and Age Well Lead, working with the Health and Local Authority Teams.

The Enfield School Health Service and Therapies teams are continuously working to improve communication, such as enhancing our website and creating a neurodiversity pathway. Our goal is to ensure that parents and caregivers are well-informed about the support available for their children, including health interventions for all children and young people with neurodiverse or neurodevelopmental needs. The full offer to meet needs is available to all, it is not dependent on a medical diagnosis.

Enfield School Health and Therapies with North Middlesex University Trust



**CLICK HERE**

for access to the North Middlesex NHS Trust Health Service webpage for more information about the School Health Service in Enfield.



## Enfield School Health & Therapies Service Working with Parents and Carers

We welcome working with parents and took part in the recent "Our Voice Presents: **Get to Know Health and Therapies Event**".

Parents/carers could ask a panel of health/therapy staff questions, attend a workshop on "Building a connection with your child" or "What you need to know about the GP Learning Disability Register and Annual Health Checks" and there was the opportunity to make an appointment to discuss an issue with a professional.

The Our Voice team reported that "Health had some great feedback from parents, who appreciated that they were listened to, and felt that their views and experiences were respected."