

Sheffield Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Statement of Action, April 2019

Summary

In November 2018 there was an inspection of how the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Reforms (set out by law in 2014) have been introduced in Sheffield.

Inspectors came to Sheffield and spoke to children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They asked about the support they receive in and out of school. The inspectors also spoke to parents, carers, school staff, people working at the local authority and NHS staff. They visited different schools and health services. The inspection found that things were not working as well as they could and children and young people's needs were not being met in the best way possible. It found that improvements are needed in seven main areas. These included:

- Transition points – where young people move between services and into adulthood
- Waiting times for specialist equipment and health support
- Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans)
- How needs are being met in mainstream schools – although there is some very good practice, this is not happening everywhere
- Communication with children, young people and families, and between services

An action plan has been produced to describe how improvements will be made and by when. Organisations in Sheffield – including the council, health services, schools and Sheffield Parent Carer Forum – worked together on the plan.

Sheffield City Council and Sheffield's Clinical Commissioning Group (which plans local healthcare services) are responsible for the plan.

Ofsted and the CQC, which carried out the inspection, will come to Sheffield within 18 months to see if enough improvement has been made. We expect this to happen around October 2020.

Some of the actions will happen quite quickly but others will take more time to complete. What we want to achieve overall is all children and young people with additional needs getting the education, health and care support they need, to help them reach their goals and lead a happy and full life.

We will provide regular action plan updates to explain what progress is being made. Please sign up to our SEND newsletter at www.sheffield.gov.uk/sendinspection if you would like to receive these.

A full copy of the Written Statement of Action is also available at the above internet address.

