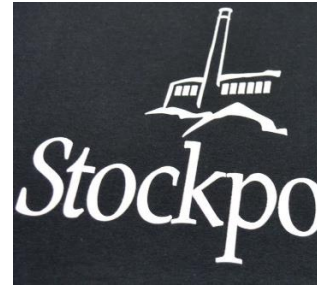




Voluntary Virtual Network Bulletin



Headlines from the SEND Improvement Board March 2019

Stockport agrees values and principles for working with children and young people with SEND and their families

Stockport has now published the values and principles suggested by parents and carers following the inspection. It has committed all professionals in Stockport to work to these values and principles. These are:

- Child/ family-centred
- Trustworthiness
- Treat all partners as equal
- Honesty
- Mutual respect
- Compassion and empathy for the 'lived experience'
- Development of mutual understanding
- Actively listen
- Open communication
- Involve
- Solution-focused
- Working together/ team work
- Personalise
- Non-judgemental

You can find these on the Local Offer at

<https://stockport.fsd.org.uk/kb5/stockport/fsd/service.page?id=EA0r-8q9gRM&familychannel=999> .

What you said . . . What the local area is doing

More information about action since the September 2018 SEND inspection is now available on the Local Offer pages at

<https://stockport.fsd.org.uk/kb5/stockport/fsd/site.page?id=TowHtGA4q7o> . Called "SEND Improvement Journey", there are eight tiles giving details of what has been happening.

There you can find

- headlines from the Parent/Carer Listening Events held in November and December;
- ideas from parents and carers about what should be in a Co-Production charter, gathered at the January Focus Groups;
- the statement of values and principles (see above);
- the approved minutes of the SEND Improvement Board.

Some tiles are still empty as Stockport is waiting for Ofsted to approve its Written Statement of Action. This is the document showing how the local area will tackle the key weaknesses which the inspection identified. The Improvement Board and its workstreams will carry out this work once it is approved. Some of it will be short-term and done quickly and other parts are expected to take at least a year.

Once Ofsted has approved the Written Statement of Action, it will be published on the Local Offer and we expect even more work to begin on making improvements. Stockport has also promised a wider SEND strategy, which we expect it will begin producing once the WSoA has been approved.

A picture of the SEND population . . .

Stockport has promised to improve things in future for children and young people with SEND and their families. But to measure improvements, we first need to know what things are like now across the borough.

Stockport has been putting together a Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA), a picture of the health, educational achievements and social care support of the whole 0-25 SEND population. It also shows things like how many young people with SEND live in different parts of Stockport and what matters most to parents and carers. All the data is anonymous. The draft JSNA has now been published and is out to consultation at <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/policy-performance-and-reform/send-jsna-report-consultation/>. The closing date is 9th April. Please respond to the consultation so Stockport can confirm the JSNA and it can start to be used as a measure for improvements.

. . . and the lived experience of families where there is SEND

Since November, PIPS has been talking to parents and carers who have agreed to share their experiences of services and support between 2014 and now. Their stories are poignant and often harrowing but give a vivid picture of the lived experience of families. PIPS has been writing these stories down and has shared the completed ones with Stockport professionals. Stockport has committed to analyse the stories to help them see the root causes of problems. It will then use the findings to help improve services.

It's not too late for you to give your story! All names are anonymised to protect individuals and families and nothing will be sent to Stockport without your approval. If you'd like to give your story, then please contact paul.harper@pipstockport.org as soon as possible.

I want to get more involved in improving things for children and young people with SEND – how can I do this?

If you're a parent/carer of someone 25 or under with SEND, you can offer to be a representative on a workstream. These meet during the day, roughly every two weeks or monthly. Email cathy.lyall@stockport.gov.uk to say you're interested.

The Voluntary Virtual Network Bulletin is not an official publication of the council or the CCG. It's written by Paul Harper, the Improvement Board parent/carer representative, and views in it are personal.