

Implementation of SEND Bandings/Ranges in Hartlepool 2016

Background

On 7 July 2016 Schools Forum were informed an independent consultant would be appointed to undertake a review of SEND provision across Hartlepool to help us all to address the growing overspend from the High Needs Block of funding. The aim of this was to:

- Develop a comprehensive set of new bandings and descriptors appropriate for use across all special schools, ARPs and mainstream schools for children and young people in Hartlepool
- Undertake a review of the bandings and monies committed to support children and young people in Hartlepool who access provision
- Review the provision offer and access arrangement available in the maintained primary special school and ARP bases to assess what support the schools are able to provide.
- Work collaboratively with schools, EPs and other partners to develop a formalised admission and entry criteria.

Current position

- To assess ranges and level of needs of young people, Anne Hayward SEND Consultant and Sarah Mincher SEND Team Manager have made a number of visits into mainstream schools, special schools, the PRU and those schools with ARP bases.
- A small working group of headteachers and SENCOs has been established to look at the SEND ranges and to agree on their implementation.
- A pilot study on the effective use of the SEND ranges in special schools and additionally resourced provision is taking place.
- Half-day conference for headteachers and SENCOs held 10 November 2016 to launch draft SEND ranges.
- The need for individual provision maps has been identified. Support sessions for schools to complete these provision maps have been scheduled as below –
 - 5 January 2017 - 09:00-12:00, CETL – mainstream schools
 - 5 January 2017- 13:00-16:00, CETL - mainstream schools
 - 6 January 2017- 09:00-12:00 , CETL - mainstream schools
 - 6 January 2017 - 13:00-16:00, CETL - mainstream schools
 - 11 January 2017, CETL – drop in clinic for ARPs and special schools

Next steps

To allow for modelling across the draft banding ranges to take place we need the support of schools to complete provision maps and identify which banding ranges each young person should be assessed at. The provision map we are adopting is used by both Stockton and Durham and will be used by all Tees Valley local authorities in the next 6-12 months. The timeline for this process will be as follows:

- Following Schools Forum on 9 December 2016 an email will be sent to all schools which will include children and young people currently identified as receiving financial support, draft SEND ranges and a provision map for completion.
- Mainstream schools receiving IPS funding need to complete a provision map and identify the appropriate banding range for each young person. If it is not possible to complete this for all learners, we would expect to receive a sample cohort. In order to have an accurate picture we need as many completed returns as possible by **13 January 2017**. Sessions to support schools in completing the provisions maps are identified above.
- ARPs and special schools initially need to identify a banding range for each young person and complete a sample of provision maps, by **13 January 2017**.
- From **16 January – 31 January 2017**, Sarah Mincher and Anne Hayward will moderate the provision maps and bandings, which will include visits to school.
- From **1 February – 24 February 2017** the local authority finance team will carry out a financial modelling exercise.
- In March 2017 a report will be presented to Schools Forum on the new SEND banding ranges along with the financial modelling implications. A phased approach will begin from September 2017.