

**S.E.19 SEND Regional Network**

**Preparing for Adulthood Group: LA and Provider Forum**

**Wednesday 19th May 2021**

**14.00 – 16.00**

**Notes of meeting**

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| **Organisation** | **Attendees** |
| Abingdon & Witney College | Joanne Milsom |
| Activate Learning | Vronwyn Hutch |
| BCA | Emma de Goede |
| Bracknell Forest LA | Christina Skipper |
| Bucks College Group | Stephanie Young |
| Buckinghamshire College Group | Nicola Ellis |
| Chichester College Group | Eileen Darby |
| Chichester College Group | Jane Ragless |
| Community Greater Brighton Met College | Jane Grealish |
| East Sussex LA | Lucy Butler  |
| East Sussex County Council Careers Hub | Henrietta Still |
| EKC Group of FE Colleges | Jo Campbell |
| Guildford and Merrist Wood College / Activate Learning? | Christina Hart |
| Hadlow & West Kent College - Group Head ALS | Karen Richardson |
| Hampshire County Council | Toni-Marie Leaf |
| Hampshire LA | Catherine Smith |
| Hampshire LA | Deborah Copeland |
| Havant & South Downs College | Debbie Collinson-Bolles |
| Oxfordshire CC | Jan Bailey |
| Plumpton College | Phaedra Tanghe |
| Portsmouth LA | Amanda Percy |
| Portsmouth CCG | Tracy Fisher |
| PortsmouthLA | Sharon Willis |
| Royal Borough f Windsor and Maidenhead | Joanna Safa |
| Sheiling College | Mike Gamble  |
| Sparsholt and Andover College | Liz Wilson |
| St. John's College | Karen Grist |
| St John’s College | Simon Charleton  |
| Treloar School and College | Kelly Proudley |
| Windsor Forest Colleges Group | Pam Richardson |
| Wokingham LA | Lynn Lee  |
| **National Bodies/ Reps** |  |
| Association of Colleges | Gemma Baker |
| DfE SEND PfA Unit | Ian Turley |
| DfE 16-19 FundingUnit | Rachel Mallaband |
| SEND Advisor, S.E. Region Lead) | Liz Flaherty  |
| South East Network of Parent Carer Forums | Andrew Howard |
| Mott MacDonald Regional Support Officer  | Julie Huggins |
| National Association of Specialist Colleges | Ruth Perry |
| NDTi/PfA lead and SEND Leadership programme lead | Julie Pointer |
| S.E.19 SEND Network Co-ordinator | Tracey Maytas |
| ????? | Joanne Milsom |
| AoC | David Holloway |
| Careers and Enterprise Company | Gerogina Angele |
| Careers and Enterprise Company | Penny Daly |
| Career and Enterprise Company | Kelly? |
| ????? | Stephanie Young |
| ????? | Mary Campbell |
| ????? | Emma Hanson |
| CY EPA | Terri Rutherford |
| ????? | Adeana Robinson |

1. **Welcome and introductions**

Co-Chair Paul Morrison (West Sussex County Council) commenced the Forum with a welcome to all in attendance.

**2. Actions / Matters Arising from Last Meeting**

No matters arising.

**3. Describing FE for learners with SEND; a shared generic descriptor**

Ruth Perry (Natspec) provided an update on the progression of the development of the ‘What Can College Offer Young People With SEND’ document, followed by a broad overview, highlighting the advantages of the different college types to SEND students and their parents.

Ruth explained the content within the document is agreed and the intention for today’s forum is to discuss the suggestions raised about the document and to obtain document sign-off.

Document suggestions: -

* Adding the SE19 logo to the document.
	+ It was agreed that the SE19 logo should be placed on the document, with room for another logo if desired.
* Link the document to the SE19 website/college websites.
	+ A suggestion that the Local Offer page and the South East Sector Led Improvement Programme page may be suitable locations to upload the document.
* Document format change from Natspec to SE19.
* Involve SEND students to format the document eg. Adding photos.
* Colleges owning the document and making it more relative to themselves.
* Video/audio versions using BSL interpreter or easy read.
	+ Julie Pointer (NDTi/PfA lead and SEND Leadership programme lead) suggested the Business Support Team could do this but is unsure about timeframes for task completion.

Ruth summarised that the document is to be made available to all in a Word document to format as required –Ruth Perry to recirculate once all amends have been done.

**4. Careers Enterprise: SEND Specific Offer**

Penny Daly (Enterprise Co-ordinator) introduced Georgina Angele (Regional Lead SE) to provide an overview of ‘The Careers and Enterprise Company’ – Georgina to share PowerPoint

The Careers and Enterprise Company was created by government to better prepare young people for their working life. SEND provisions are now part of the Company’s wider network and the Company’s work is aligned to the Department for Education’s (DfE) careers strategy.

The aim of Careers Enterprise is to better connect with employers, training providers and organisations that provide additional training to the education system to help young people make better informed decisions about their pathways beyond education.

Georgina shared a link allowing individuals to sign up to their termly newsletter – link on PowerPoint.

Georgina shared a video of Beck and his take on the impact of collaborative working with SEND students – link on PowerPoint.

Henrietta Still (Enterprise Co-ordinator) spoke about ‘ICan’, which is an initiative that brings together Key Stage 4 (KS4) students, with an additional needs, who felt their needs were not met at mainstream careers events. Case studies are available online for inclusive events, link is <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ican-virtual-careers-event-2021-group-1-evening-session-tickets-151605796017>

Henrietta updated that she will be running this year’s ‘ICan’ event virtually and explained how this will be presented.

Henrietta also discusses her role with the Careers Enterprise as a co-ordinator focussing on supporting SEND schools in meeting the gaps benchmarked in the framework as well as pathways for post-16 SEND students.

Henrietta shared the Careers East Sussex website for useful documents about resources and initiatives for SEND schools.

Penny Daly discussed the partnership Careers Enterprise has with Talentino, who are a careers advice company and how they trained the Careers Enterprise co-ordinators on SEND. Penny and Henrietta have created masterclasses to cascade their learning to a local level. Penny talked about Woodlands Mead school who have embedded a Jobs Club to help students from year 7 map out and identify careers they may want to pursue when they leave education.

Kelly (Career and Enterprise Company) introduced herself as the education sector manager for inclusion and discussed ‘My Skills, My Future’ and how it has developed and evolved to include support for SEND students. Further information can be found by Googling ‘Resource Directory Careers’. The website details My Skills My Futures’ aims and how the programme is designed to cater for different groups of students and career pathways.

**5.** **DfE PfA Policy & Finance Update**

Ian Turley(DfE SEND PfA Unit) provided an update on PfA during COVID and despite the associated challenges, SEND students had adapted well to the new working practises.

Ian updated that the SEND Review is likely to be published in June. The Review will look back at the reforms in 2014 and an assessment of what has worked well following the changes as well as where issues have appeared and anything that may need changing. Ian explained that PfA is the golden thread and needs to work from a much younger age.

Ian updated how the pandemic has affected Support Internships but as the pandemic has progressed, there have been success stories about support internships being made available in the health sector and a potential to increase opportunities in the logistics sector.

Ian explained that there is an agreement for students who were unable to complete internships last year to complete these in the next academic year – the steps for this can be found in the guidance along with how funding can be secured. Those who are over 25 years old and cannot return to complete their internships will receive support from the DWP. Ian updated that he is working closely with Access to Work, trying to overcome barriers and helping them better understand the journey of support internships.

David Holloway (Senior Policy Manager – SEND) asked how colleges access information about the high needs provision allocation. Ian and Rachel to find contact for this and forward to David.

Simon Charleton (St John’s College) asked whether it was possible to better navigate the decision-making process of the NHS to obtain final sign-off for support internships. Julie Pointer explained there is a contact within the NHS’ Learning Disability and Employment Programme (LDEP), who may be able to help with regards to this query.

Karen Richardson (Hadlow & West Kent College - Group Head ALS) asked for information about the extension of funding for learners who are having to repeat the year due to COVID disruption. Rachel updated there is no planned extension of funding for this – COVID disruptions is not classed as an exceptional circumstance, as all have faced this challenge and the funding is not there to accommodate this. However, at a local level, individual providers are at liberty to provide funding for repeat learning within the ruling of exceptional circumstances. Rachel suggested to consult the 1619 Funding Regulations for further information.

**6.Task and Finish Groups – updates, key learning and next steps**.

**Group A –** Ruth Perry updated that the group has shifted focus from their original aim of ‘defining continuing progress’ to considering situations to which EHCP should normally be ceased or maintained from age19 and beyond. Scenarios and illustrative examples have been gathered. Content includes ways of working that are likely to reduce conflict about ceasing plans. Ruth Perry also updated about a short discussion held with the legal charity IPSEA about case law in this area. The plan for the final meeting is to approve the nearly finished document and handover these for the next meeting.

**Group B –** Paul Morrison updated that the group is undertaking two actions.

1. Formulate a systems map of the ideal process for joint working to enable transitions out of education and into future adult life.
2. Identify timeline and key points for joint working to provide a graduated transition from education to social care. Currently a social care officer from West Sussex is assisting the group with this.

**Group C –** Gemma Baker (Association of Colleges) updated that the group has identified:

* What the problems are with regards to PfA outcomes being evident in EHCPs – A solution for this is that it needs to be more centred around the individual.
* There may be a PfA training need.
* The aim for the final meeting is to look at a PfA pathways tool for schools, colleges and local authorities to use so that all are aligned, with the hope that this promotes schools, colleges and local authorities to work better together. Looking to source some good examples of PfA EHCP’s.

**Group D –** Paul Morrison updated that the group has concentrated on identifying timelines and opportunities for joint planning between local authorities, specialist colleges and general further education colleges to feed into a strategic planning document and identifying opportunities to develop the practice. There have been discussions about what the future planning would look like.

**7. AOB**

Ruth updated that there is still time to apply for the NATSPEC agency partnership project. This is a joint project between AOC and NATSPEC to bring specialist projects together to look at ways of collaborating to achieve better outcome for young people with SEND. Closing date is Fri 21st May.

1. **DONM**

September 2021 – TBC.

1. **Actions**

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| **Action** | **Owner** |
| Julie Pointer suggested the Business Support Team could do this but is unsure about timeframes for task completion. | Julie Pointer |
| Tracey Maytas to add the SE19 logo to the ‘What can college offer young people with SEND’ document - Ruth Perry to recirculate. | Tracey Maytas/ Ruth Perry |
| Georgina Angele to share Careers Enterprise PowerPoint | Georgina Angele/ Tracey Maytas |
| Henrietta Still to share ‘I Can’ webinar | Henrietta Still |
| Ian Turley and Rachel to find contact for Higher Needs Provision and forward to David Holloway. | Ian Turley/ Rachel |
| Julie Pointer to provide Simon Charleton with LDEP contact | Julie Pointer |