

SESLIP

South East Children Missing Education Group

Notes: 9th March 2022

Attending: Mike Stoneman (Portsmouth), Brian Pope (Hants), Debbie Bell (Oxfordshire), Hilary Alford (Kent), Andrew Parker (W Sussex), Melissa Perry (Wokingham), Gill Dunlop and Shirley Moneaunu (Reading), Farah Malik and Anjli Sidhu (Slough), Beth Armstrong (E Sussex), Rosie Gossage (RBWM), Christine Clark (Medway), Katy Daly (Bracknell), Simon Sims (Milton Keynes), Mark Keiller (Surrey), Bryn Roberts (Southampton), Linda Curtis (W Berks), Neil Stevenson (Portsmouth), Gavin Thomas (B&H), Chris Owen.

Apologies: James Fowler (Bucks).

	Item	Actions
1.	<p>Welcome & introductions</p> <p>Specifically, Mike welcomed James Catt from Studybugs who contributed to item 3</p>	
2.	<p>Notes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>Notes confirmed as being accurate record.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed medical needs audits would still be welcomed by Gavin for the project. Involvement by DWP: SEND network reports their good involvement in preparation for adulthood group. Safeguarding Network will report back after its meeting on 11th March. 	
3.	<p>Attendance.</p> <p>Sharing examples of practice and issues.</p> <p>Portsmouth, Brighton & Hove (BHCC), Wokingham and E Sussex shared examples of approaches they are employing to work with schools to improve attendance, where LA-wide or with targeted groups.</p> <p>Summary points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portsmouth and BHCC have both worked with Studybugs to develop a platform that provides 'on the day' information of attendance from schools in the LA. Once agreement has been reached with schools and they are clear how to upload their data, this has provided rapid, reliable data. This has enabled discussion of key issues with individual schools and the offer of support. Provides valuable information to front line practitioners in children's social care and early help about pupil's attendance. LAs cover core cost, which is a formula based on the number of schools in the LA. Schools can access other offers e.g. texting service for parents. BHCC continues to work with the Children's Commissioners' deep dive of missing children. Too early for definite conclusions, but it has helped the LA to 	

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	<p>have better information about other services working with target families, such as the youth service and voluntary orgs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme of work with gypsy, roma and traveller (GRT) communities (Wokingham) has prepared a programme for the year and includes engagement with communities, curriculum activities to better understand GRT culture and heritage and active monitoring of data. • Emotionally-based School Avoidance programme (East Sussex): building on work from other LAs, the LA has engaged schools and planned approaches with their public health teams. Approaches that promote more support for pupils with autism and anxiety, together with training for key school staff. • Measures that give evidence of impact and progress is a challenge. • For LAs that wish to follow-up with Studybugs, contact details are: James Catt, james@studybugs.com , 07856 868999. • In summary there is a post-pandemic attendance challenge, but primarily among more disadvantaged groups and families with poor attendance prior to covid-19. <p>Action: summary points to be fed back to AD Education Network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live / rapid attendance data can have a positive impact when combined with internal systems to enable sharing with teams working with the family such as early help and social care. ○ Targeted work that includes whole school approaches and cross-LA systems are best placed to make a difference. Community champions can be key, especially with GRT communities. ○ Flexischool approaches: Ofsted is taking a firm line on arrangements agreed by headteachers. It is viewed as a version of reduced timetabling. 	MS
4.	<p>LA staffing levels for CME</p> <p>Request was circulated to estimate comparable staffing levels on the basis of 'FTE per 10,000 pupils'.</p> <p>LAs either shared data at the meeting or in advance.</p> <p>Action: Chris to summarise shared estimates.</p> <p>If Bracknell, E Sussex, Hants & IoW, Medway, Slough, W Berks and W Sussex send their estimates to Chris these can be added to the summary.</p>	CO
5.	<p>BBB EHE Parents project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller research project approved by the AD Network. Seeking consultants or university researchers who would work with us <p>Action: MS, BP and CO to approach contacts we know. Other possible consultants: please email details to Chris ASAP.</p>	CO/MS/BP

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6.	<p>SESLIP CME / EHE Data Dashboard</p> <p>Appears to tell a story of EHE notifications plateau-ing, which was agreed by the group. CO has fed back a couple of concerns about how some of the CME data are being presented.</p> <p>Action: A few LAs to remind data colleagues to send data to daryl.perilli@brighton-hove.gov.uk .</p> <p>Bryn and Simon will also work with Daryl about their backdated data.</p>	BR / SS
7.	<p>Dates of future meetings</p> <p>27th April, 10am – midday: consider some issues from new draft behaviour guidance. Look at provision and support for refugee children.</p> <p>23rd June, 2pm – 4pm</p> <p>22nd Sept, 10am - midday</p>	All