



CHSWG

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Saltisford

Present:

Bridget Hughes, Ann Robey, Andy Roach, Jane Carter.

### 1. Apologies

Action

John Atkins, Elizabeth Roche, David Heap, Joanne Davis, Veronica Roscoe, Carolyn Dando.

### 2. Minutes of last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017

- Earlier today Denise Newman and Amanda Tivey delivered training to the County Health Visiting Team to clarify respective roles and suggest helpful models of working. We await feedback as to how this has gone.
- Local Offer: the Local Offer workstream is in the process of making significant changes following feedback from Young People and Parents; we now have colour!

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send>

Ann to send JC and Ross Caws the updated Hearing text to be included.

AR

### 3. LA/IDS Update

JC shared an LA Update paper (see attached). Discussion about

- Increase in EHC Plans
- The need for all statements to have been transferred to EHCPs by 31/3/18 and the pressure on SENDAR. Andy described his experience of the transfer review as a parent and reported very little difference over an annual review.
- The WlnCKS development in encouraging Early Years' settings to develop more effective inclusive practice was welcomed. The strategy was seen as a way of enabling more children to attend their local community setting.

JC circulated copies of the Vulnerable Learner Training Brochure, which advertises all the courses available to schools across Warwickshire. The HAT has run two courses and had over 20 delegates at each with excellent delegate feedback.

Claire Sunderland has now left, which has left a gap in terms of Educational Audiology. Karen Wright, however, has agreed to undertake the training next year. Angie Wootten is leaving at Christmas, which will be a considerable loss to the Service, given her experience, expertise and links with the University.

Although Little Ears is well supported, "Ear we go" has fizzled out; Ann is looking to kick start the group, possibly with a trip to Drayton Manor. She is hoping to attract so of the children and young people seen less frequently by the team. Ann is going to look at applying to the Coop Community Fund for a grant. Andy suggested a joint trip with the NDCS would enable us to access funding. Ann expressed concerns that families / young people who feel less affinity with those with more significant hearing loss, may not engage as well. AR to consider

AR

further.

#### 4. New born screening – Quarter 1 report

Targets more than exceeded. Bridget to send report to be included with the minutes.

**BH**

Concerns raised about the impact of Jo's absence on performance from this quarter onwards in the south.

#### 5. AOB

- SEND Voice: Andy is getting electronic copies and would like to contribute. Items for SEND Voice can be sent to JC or direct to Laura Musgrave: [lauramusgrave@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:lauramusgrave@warwickshire.gov.uk)
- Andy raised concerns about WCC's change of provider for BSL. JC to ask John to write to Strategic Commissioning to ask about the process, who was involved (e.g. which service users) and how ultimately decisions were made. Andy is concerned about how the change had been communicated to users. Current users of the service have expressed concerns to Andy about lack of continuity of provision, e.g. they are used to working with a particular interpreter, who knows them well.
- Concern raised about the lack of a health contribution to EHCP assessments; this is being noted not just locally but regionally and nationally.

**ALL**

**JC/JA**

#### 11. Future Meetings

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018, SB1 CR1 GF, 3.00pm-4.30pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018, SB1 CR1 GF, 3.00pm-4.30pm

**ALL**

## LA Update – October 2017

On 26 May 2017, Office for National Statistics published data from the 2016 calendar year on SEND at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statements-of-sen-and-ehc-plans-england-2017>

### Number of Statements & EHC Plans

Warwickshire reported 3,260 live statements of SEN or EHC plans in January 2016. This makes Warwickshire the 19<sup>th</sup> largest local authority out of 151 in terms of the number of statements and EHC plans. Previous data reports from the school census have shown Warwickshire to be just above the national average on statements of SEN or EHC plans per head of school population at 3.1% (national average 2.8%).

Across England there has been an 8% rise in the total number of statements of SEN or EHC plans compared with 2015. There has been a 12% rise in the West Midlands with a 10% rise in Warwickshire.

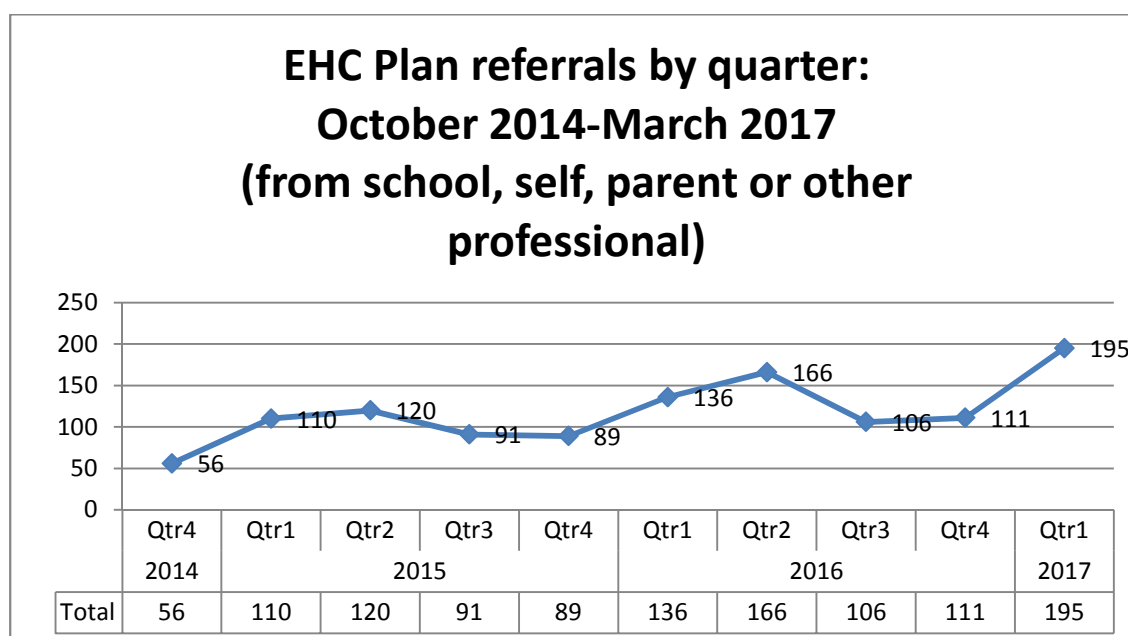
### EHC plans issued within 20 weeks

Over the calendar year 2016, Warwickshire recorded 31.7% of EHC plans issued within 20 weeks of referrals. The national average was 56%, with the West Midlands average 63%. During 2017 the percentage of EHC plans issued within 20 weeks has improved to 47%, however with current capacity we will struggle to significantly improve on this.

Over 61% of conversions of statements to EHC plans have been finalised, but there are only two terms to go to complete the remaining plans.

Currently, there is no intention to change the statutory target of March 2018, the DfE are monitoring figures monthly.

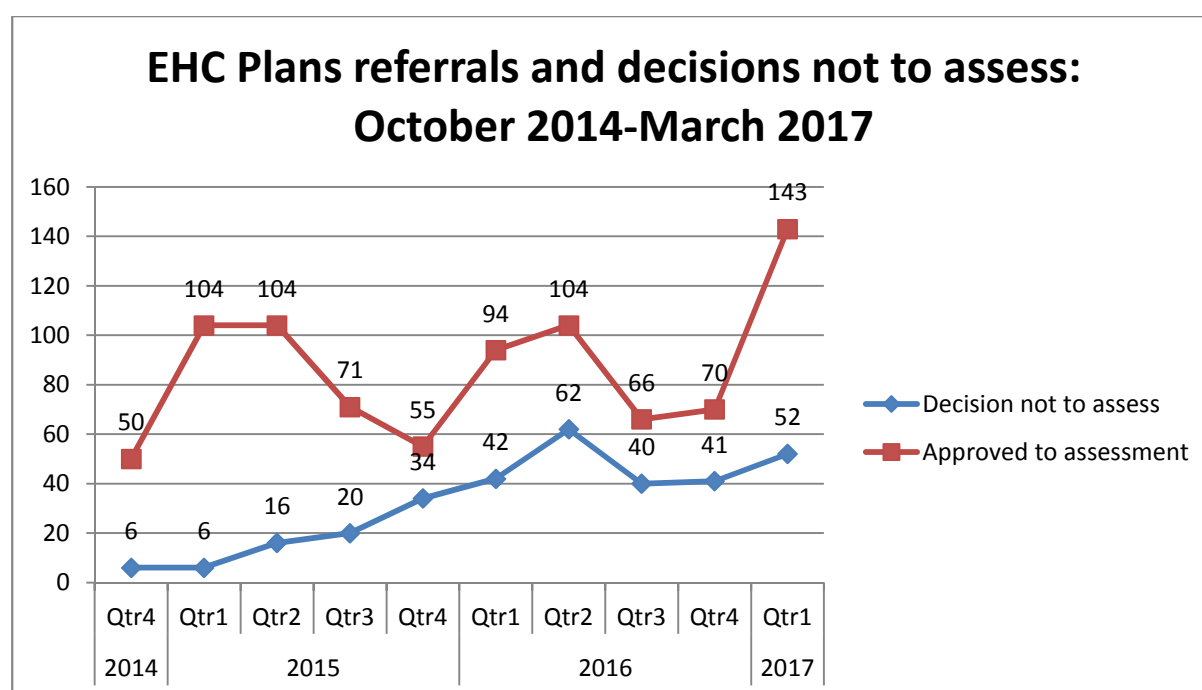
### Referral trends since the SEND reforms



The data confirms a trend of an increasing number of referrals for EHC plans. Between January and March 2017, 195 referrals were received for EHC plans, higher than any other quarter since the SEND reforms in September 2014. This also represents a 43.4% increase on the number of referrals received in quarter 1 in 2016.

### EHC Plan Referrals and Decision Not to Assess

Not all referrals will result in an EHC plan. Over the period October 2014-March 2017, 73% of referrals have progressed to assessment whilst 27% have resulted in a decision not to assess. The SEND Provision Matrix was launched in April 2015 to ensure that decision-making was transparent and consistent. In 2016, 36% of referrals resulted in a decision not to assess. Comparison with national data is not straight forward, but at estimate puts the national average at 24%.



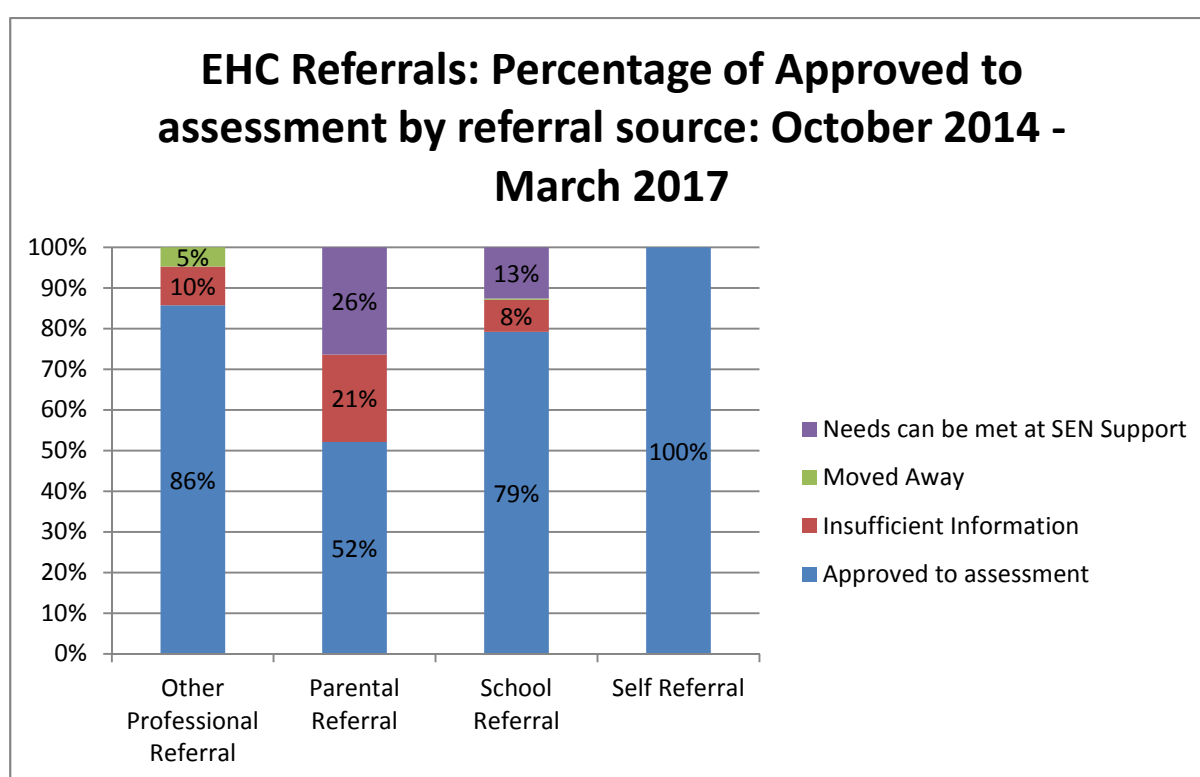
	2014	2015				2016				2017	
	Qtr4	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4	Qtr1	Total
<b>Decision not to assess</b>	6	6	16	20	34	42	62	40	41	52	<b>319</b>
<b>Approved to assessment</b>	50	104	104	71	55	94	104	66	70	143	<b>861</b>
<b>Total</b>	56	110	120	91	89	136	166	106	111	195	<b>1180</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	10.7%	5.5%	13.3%	22.0%	38.2%	30.9%	37.3%	37.7%	36.9%	26.7%	27.0%

The most common reasons for decisions not to assess are that needs can be met at SEN Support level (16%) or insufficient information (11%).

### Source of referrals

Of the 1,180 referrals received across the time period, 74% (875) are from schools, 24% (280) from parent or carers, 2% (21) from other professionals and less than 1% (4) self-referrals.

If we examine the percentage of referrals that are approved to assessment stage by referral source it shows that 79% (693) of school referrals progress and 52% (146) parental referrals progress.



A new Management Information System (MIS) went live on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and had taken up time over the past month (training, testing etc). A Business Case has been submitted corporately to increase the capacity of the SENDAR team.

### Early Years

In the **Early Years**, identification of special educational need is via 0-5 IDS team which includes health funded teams. During 16-17 104 children were supported through the Inclusion grant funding (maximum payment of £100 for 15 hrs).

There continues to be a trend of increasing complexity and co morbidity of need across the 4 broad SEND areas. The sector has with the LA established a quality mark scheme.

Dr Zoe Harwood, 0-5 Strategic Manager for the Integrated Disability Service, has been involved in researching pre-school inclusion for a number of years, with families and setting practitioners. More recently, as recommended by Warwickshire's SEND Programme Board and agreed by Cabinet (July 2016), there was a proposal to develop a quality mark around effective inclusion in early years.

Settings need to have a "Good" or "Outstanding" OFSTED grading. However, it is proposed that the inclusion award will not only celebrate good practice in conjunction with OFSTED, but will also raise the inclusive profile of particular settings when families are seeking high quality provision for children with SEND. Some parents working with Zoe came up with the "WIncKS" idea (Warwickshire Inclusion Kite-marking Scheme), which has now been adopted and the logo has been created! The child-friendly Warwickshire bear, winking and flying the inclusion kite, will be used to promote this initiative.



### **Warwickshire Inclusion Kite-marking Status (WIncKS) Award Winners: 2017**

Award winners had to demonstrate excellent "universal" provision, as well as:-

- What "targeted" provision can effectively be offered for children with SEND (that is "additional to" or "different from")?
- How do you communicate and work in partnership with families when their children have SEND?

- Are you able to clearly describe how your inclusive ethos and commitment is demonstrated – not only in your written policies, but practically and on a daily basis?

Following an application and moderation process involving representation from parents and professionals, the first eighteen award winners received their certificates at Shire Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> September. These are:-

Little Willows, Leamington Spa

Alcester Nursery Studio, Alcester

Merrydays Montessori Nursery, Henley-in-Arden

Little Crofters, Stratford-upon-Avon

Tiny Toes, Rugby

Humpty Dumpty, Rugby

Knightlow Childcare Partnership, Rugby

Squirrels, Rugby

Atherstone Nursery School

Bedworth Heath Nursery School

Weddington Pre-School, Nuneaton

Claverdon Village Nursery

Westgate Pre-School, Warwick

Shipston Pre-School

Bizzy Tots, Clifton Rd, Rugby

St. Matthews Bloxham Nursery, Rugby

Stockingford Nursery School

Kingsbury 1<sup>st</sup> Pre-School

### **Vulnerable Learners Strategy**

Current priorities are increasing capacity in generic special schools and increasing our resourced provision.

All generic schools are involved in this sufficiency planning exercise with draft proposals to be shared in October 2017.



All special schools are involved in training this term to develop specialist nurture provision for KS1 and early KS2.

A number of mainstream schools are being visited this term about Resourced Provision and are not listed at this time due to the early stage of discussion.

## 1. Generic Special Schools



- Woodlands School
- Oak Wood Primary School
- Oak Wood Secondary School
- Brooke School
- Ridgeway School
- Round Oak School
- Welcombe Hills School

## 'Specialist' Special Schools



- **Exhall Grange School and Science College** – based in Coventry but County-Wide coverage
- **Discovery Academy** – Nuneaton – for learners with ASD and SEMH
- **Quest Academy** – [ultimate location Rugby] - for learners with ASD and SEMH
- **Arden Fields** – formerly River House – Henley – for learners with communication and interaction difficulties



## SEN Resourced Provision & Partnership Models

NAME AND LOCATION	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	AREA	OPENING DATE	PLACES	PHASE / KEY STAGE
Brooke Partnership @ Rokeby Primary – Rugby	Brooke School	Rugby	Jan 2016	7	Primary
Brooke Partnership @ Harris Secondary – Rugby	Brooke School	Rugby	Jan 2016	7	Secondary
Peter's Place - Trinity Catholic School – Leamington Spa	Trinity Catholic School	Central	April 2016	8	Secondary
Evergreen - Water Orton Primary – Coleshill	Water Orton Primary School	North	May 2016	8	Primary
Maple Class - Lillington Primary – Leamington Spa	Lillington Primary School	Central	Sept 2016	8	Primary
Middlemarch Junior School, Nuneaton - Resourced Provision	Middlemarch Junior School	Nuneaton & Bedworth	April 2017	8	Primary – KS2
The Haven - Stockingford Primary School, Nuneaton - Resourced Provision	Stockingford Primary School,	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Sept 2017	8	Primary

## Planned SEN Resourced Provision

NAME AND LOCATION	AREA	OPENING DATE	PLACES	PHASE / KEY STAGE
Outwoods Primary, Atherstone	North	2018	8	Primary
Studley Infants School, Studley	South	2018	8	Primary – KS1
St Mary's Studley Junior School	South	2018	8	Primary – KS2
Peter's Place - Trinity Catholic School – Leamington	Central	2018	8	Secondary
TBC	Rugby	2018	8	Primary

### Memorandum of Understanding for primary pupils at risk of exclusion

During 16 -17 the MOU was reviewed through the primary SEMH group and then the primary head teacher community were consulted. On the 4<sup>th</sup> April all primary phase head teachers had this letter along with the revised MOU:

*“Dear Colleague*

**SUBJECT:** *Commissioned support for primary pupils at risk of exclusion*  
**ACTION:** *To confirm agreement and embed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in school procedures*

*Thank you to those of you who responded to the consultation. Your comments have been taken on board and a final version of the M.O.U. has now been approved by Warwickshire County Council Cabinet.*

*The document forms an important part of the generic ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ which covers a wider range of support services and defines the new relationship between schools and the Local Authority. This specific M.O.U. seeks to clarify expectations of primary phase schools who wish to access Specialist Teaching Support and where appropriate Link provision.*

*The M.O.U. is effectively a partnership agreement between schools and the Local Authority and sits alongside the SEND Matrix of provision document.*

*The document will be effective from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Please can you use read receipt as confirmation of agreement.*

*Currently open cases to the MOU can access additional funding through a small county fund. During the summer term we will be working through the Primary Steering Group for SEMH in developing proposals to increase this facility and will consult with you before the summer”.*

## **Outcome**

During 2016 – 17, 82 learners were supported through the MOU with 56 open cases at the beginning of September 2017. 17 being new cases.

The proposal for increased funding has been successful and the amount has increased from 34 K to 90K county wide.

During 2016-17 both the South and North experienced capacity pressures due to a combination of permanent exclusions in the sector (largely children not known to the service), delays in accessing new school setting and staff illness (North).

The Exclusions team have successfully developed an inclusion panel to increase the effectiveness of hard to place pupils and introduced Independent LA attendees at Governor Disciplinary Panels (GDP) who are trained SEND Expert Witnesses (SEW) for Independent Review Panels. This was to address concerns raised by head teachers receiving permanently excluded pupils and services that there was minimal evidence of implementation of the Code of Practice.

A summary report of the 6 primary permanent exclusions attended by the SEWs has provided evidence to support that view along with evidence that the governors in attendance demonstrated:

- Significant lack of understanding of process or purpose within meetings
- Significant lack of understanding of role with regards to vulnerable groups. Governors lacked understanding of Disability under the Equality Act 2010. As a consequence, this frequently led to inappropriate attitudes and comments being made about the individual.
- Significant lack of knowledge of Funding re. SEN / PP
- Conflicted between loyalty to Head and objective role within the process

Evidence re head teacher knowledge:

- Some head teachers do not appear to be fully aware of their statutory duties in relation to pupils with SEND with reasoning that contravenes the DfE Guidance (3.12) and is unlawful.
- Lack of knowledge of Early Help / IEP reviews or EHC / Statement requirements and the Code of Practice generally.
- Lack of knowledge re. the guidance on Perm. Exc of vulnerable groups
- Some Heads and parent appear to believe that Perm. Exc, will be the vehicle for the child to access Special School earlier than might be the normal situation when the opposite is true.

## **Response**

The Exclusions team are working closely with Guy Darvill (SEND specialist solicitor with Legal Services and Jane Carter (Professional Practice and Disability Manager in Vulnerable Learners) to provide the following.

- Updating guidance on the website to incorporate signposting to independent LA representatives (SEWs) and to Independent Review Panels.
- SENDIAS to provide greater support for parents faced with exclusion.
- Legal have issued guidance on the back of the new exclusions guidance from DfE which goes live in Sept.
- Jane Carter, Vince Quale governor services and Guy will design and offer a training programme that picks up on those areas that have been identified as areas of concern.
- Adjournment is recommended if there is concern about the capability of the GDP.
- An article will be published in Heads Up October. Outlining the legal and regulatory consequences of poor practice for the school of poor practice and signposting to support and training.

It should be noted that the 6 permanent exclusions is not representative of the primary community. The knowledge of headteachers attending EHC and admissions panels demonstrates wider SEND expertise.

## 2. NHSP Performance Report: Standards and KPIs (by Current Site)

From 01/04/2017 to 30/06/2017

Produced on 15/09/2017

### North Warwickshire

Babies eligible for screen	464	
Babies Screened	462	99.60%
Babies referred to Audiology	8	100%
Babies seen	7/8	87.50%