

Children's Hearing Services Working Group (CHSWG)

Meeting Notes

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Present

John Atkins (Chair, Parent Representative)
 Jane Carter (head of Teaching & Learning, IDS)
 Ann Robey (IDS Lead Consultant Teacher, Ed Aud)
 Claire Sunderland (IDS Teacher of the deaf, trainee Ed Aud)
 Lisa Smedley (SWFT *School Health*)
 Elizabeth Roche (NHS Warwickshire *Speech & Language*)
 David Heap (NDCS)
 Andy Roach (Parent Representative)
 Veronica Roscoe (SWFT *Audiology*)
 Joanne Davis (SWFT *NHSP*)

Apologies

Jordan Smith (Pupil Representation)
 Carolyn Dando (SWFT *Manager*)
 Theresa Bishop (SWFT *School Health*, represented by Lisa, above)
 Liz Lloyd (*NHSP, North*)
 Amber Vaggers (Physical Disability & Sensory Services)
 Amina Razak (Paediatric audiologist)

Item	Action
1 Welcome and Apologies Welcome to Lisa Smedley, representing SWFT <i>School Health</i> . Apologies as above.	
2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd September 2014: Matters Arising IDS holiday cover - Ann Robey told us she was looking at the possibility of leaving spares in the bases for parents to borrow as necessary.	
3 LA/IDS update Wendy has now left, interim manager is John Dixon. Pat Tate has put 'Vulnerable Learners Strategy' in place. This is out to consultation. New special school in North on Manor Park site - for ASD, Social/Emotional difficulties. Working group on Post 16 – many concerns. Discussion as to whether it is legal to set entry criteria, as many schools do, now that leaving age has been raised. Jane Carter has spoken to the 14-19 team who state that the duty is on the student to participate and engage, rather than the school	

<p>where they have been since Y7 to offer a post-16 place if they do not meet the admissions' criteria for VI form. Further information can be found at http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolleavingagechange</p> <p>David Heap to speak to Brian Gale, Director of Policy and Campaigns, NDCS about raising Post 16 issue at Special Education Consortium (SEC); John Atkins to write a letter to Tim Corkery of Warwickshire CC summarising our concerns.</p> <p>LA concerned about amount of spending on out of county provision for ASD.</p> <p>CAMHS has been redesigned.</p> <p>The consultation feedback on the Local Offer has been contradictory. Families commenting know the system already. DFE critical of many Local Offers, especially their websites but their 'good' examples of websites often don't display on mobile phones and small tablets, which is how most parents increasingly seek to access such information.</p> <p>Jane Carter and Ann Robey are part of Disability Access group. Acoustic adaptations to schools cost around £145,000 last year (£10,000/room). Concerns over diminishing budget have prompted looking at using acoustic 'baffle-type' ceiling tiles (costing less than £1,500/room) which can be taken down and moved as necessary, rather than the traditional fixed ceiling tiles.</p> <p>These new tiles being trialled with school in Kenilworth, Ann Robey to feed back with results.</p>	<p>DH JA</p> <p>ARobey</p>
<p>4. Letters sent to parents</p> <p>Veronica Roscoe stated that SWFT have already changed the format of their standard Hearing Test and Congestion letters and are working on making the rest clearer and more family friendly.</p> <p>Ann Robey to request template letter from Amina Razak for next meeting. Others to bring examples of letters sent out to parents.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>5 IDS Reference Group</p> <p>John Atkins commented that the SEND Reference Group has been slow getting going; but the LA lead officer, Hugh Disley, is aware of his (and CHSWG's) concerns. Hugh and his colleague Adrian Wells are hopeful that more and faster progress will be made in future. Involving Health Service colleagues in a meaningful way will be central to the Reference Group's success.</p>	

<p>6 School Entry Screening</p> <p>John Atkins introduced a letter from Public Health Warwickshire (previously circulated) reporting that School Entry Screening had currently been suspended due to concerns about quality.</p> <p>The Nottingham Hearing Biomedical Research Unit [NHBRU] at the University of Nottingham is currently investigating the effectiveness of school entry hearing screening through an Institute of Health Research funded project. This project is due to report in early 2015, and David Heap suggested that we need to wait for the Nottingham research as the outcome will direct national policy.</p> <p>Jane Carter met with Public Health to explain our concerns are over the process, having not been consulted, rather than the decision.</p> <p>Concern that in some areas, children will be missed, and maybe teacher training for Primary needs to focus on recognising the signs.</p> <p>Ann Robey commented that one school 'buys in' the School Screen. This could be a use of Pupil Premium funding, but VR commented that if more schools wanted to buy them in they would have difficulty staffing it.</p> <p>John Atkins to write to Heather Fortnum, NHBRU Project Lead on behalf of CHSWG.</p>	<p>JA</p>
<p>7 Reports of activities/AOB</p> <p>Joanne Davis on behalf of Carolyn Dando – audit of 8 month Targeted Follow Up. Largest group Family History – 26 in total, 17 attended TFU. SWFT feel it is relevant and they still have the capacity to continue with it, although screeners need improved training on what is relevant Family History. BCH also offer TFU but only to FH.</p> <p>David Heap talked about research on experiences of deaf young people at Manchester University. Universities are found to be failing to meet their needs. Results will be used to update support guidelines out next month. There is a report on the NDCS website at www.ndcs.org.uk/research.</p>	
<p>8 Dates of Next Meeting</p> <p>Meeting formerly planned for 12th May has been moved to 28th April, 3.15pm at Lancaster House.</p>	