

# ROTHERHAM PARTNERSHIP

## SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) STRATEGY



# INTRODUCTION

Rotherham is ambitious for all children and young people to achieve their potential and have the best start in life. The Rotherham Partnership Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy recognises that children and young people have different strengths and needs and that services and provision need to be differentiated so that all children and young people have their needs met and experience success.

This strategy is a partnership strategy because in Rotherham we recognise that for children and young people to achieve their potential then all services need to work together with parents, carers, children and young people being equal partners and their voices heard at all levels when planning and developing a SEND Strategy. The SEND Strategy is overseen by the Place Board in recognition that SEND is an area of responsibility for all partners in Rotherham.

In Rotherham we have developed Four Cornerstones which we believe are essential for ensuring that good practice in working with children, young people, parents and carers is achieved these are:



We recognise that when these values are integrated into practice then trust is developed and progress in achieving outcomes for children and young people is made; without trust systems, partnerships, organisations and families cannot work together effectively and meaningful partnership work cannot be achieved. This strategy was developed following a series of Voices Events including focus groups, workshops and events held throughout October and November 2019.

# OUR VISION AND OUTCOMES

In Rotherham our strategic leaders for integrated place-based priorities share the vision that services and organisations should support people and families to live independently in the community, with prevention and self-management at the heart of our delivery. Our SEND Strategy therefore starts with a conversation with our population, parents, carers, children and young people about how best we can support them to achieve this.

On 13th October 2017 Rotherham held its first VOICES event. Young people, parent carers, leaders and front-line practitioners from health, education and care services including the private and voluntary sector, schools and settings, came together. The event provided an opportunity to identify areas of strength when it comes to experience of SEND and co-production, as well as suggestions for further development, were highlighted.

Over the next two years partners continued to work together to create a Rotherham VOICES Action Plan: Co-production is Everyone's Business. The aim of the action plan was to embed a culture in Rotherham in which front-line practitioners, administrative and support staff, organisational and strategic leaders, and commissioners, work together to ensure that children and young people, parent carers and families are equal partners in decision-making that affects their lives at all levels (individual, organisational and strategic).

*Two commitments were made:*

**Make our relationships stronger**

**Make communication more honest, open and accessible**

*Three priority areas were identified:*

**Believe**

**Get Me Help Quicker**

**Make Transitions to Adulthood Better and Plan Them With Me**

These priorities were revisited at the workshops, focus groups and at the Voices Day that took place throughout October and November 2020. This strategy reflects the feedback that was captured. These priorities are recognised as informing a number of strategic projects within Children and Young People's Services and Partnerships with a number of organisations and partnership delivery groups responsible for ensuring that these priorities are delivered.



# AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT: VOICES PRIORITIES

Areas for Development: Voices Priorities	Strategic Oversight	Responsible Individual
<p>Listening, involving and believing children, young people, their carers and their families</p>	<p>Workforce development Programme linked to SEMH Strategy.</p> <p>SEMH Strategy reporting to SEMH Strategic Implementation Board</p> <p>SEND Strategy reporting to SEND Board</p> <p>Integrated Care Partnership Workforce Enabler Group</p>	<p><b>Jenny Lingrell</b> Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG)</p>
<p>Resources to sustain and develop the voice of young people in the way they would like it to happen</p>	<p>Strategic audit of children and young people's voices (to include LAC Council, Different but Equal Board; EHCP Audit findings; SENDIASS Annual report; POET survey) reporting to SEND Board to identify where children's voices are evident within their planning and where they are absent and identify next steps and resources.</p> <p>Further joint work to identify how arrangements can be aligned between Place Board partners.</p> <p>SEND Strategy reporting to SEND Board</p>	<p><b>Sue Wilson</b> Head of Performance at RMBC</p> <p>Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG)</p>



Areas for Development: Voices Priorities	Strategic Oversight	Responsible Individual
Working in a person/ family-centred way	Workforce Development Programme SEMH Strategy reporting to SEMH Strategic Implementation Board. SEND Strategy reporting to SEND Board Integrated Care Partnership Workforce Enabler Group	<b>Jenny Lingrell</b> Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG)
Workforce development to aid better understanding of experience and to promote better responses	Workforce Development Programme SEMH Strategy reporting to SEMH Strategic Implementation Board SEN Strategy reporting to SEND Board Integrated Care Partnership Workforce Enabler Group	<b>Jenny Lingrell</b> Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG)
Communication	Integrated Care Partnership Communication and Engagement Group Local Offer Steering Group reporting to SEND Strategic Board.	RMBC/RCCG Communications Team.
Clearer pathways and thresholds – better joined up thinking	Review of service descriptions and content of Local Offer Local Offer Steering Group. SEND Strategy reporting to SEND Board	<b>Mary Jarrett</b> Head of Inclusion RMBC.
Developing the offer from mainstream schools	Workforce Development Programme SEMH Strategy reporting to SEMH Strategic Implementation Board SEND Strategy reporting to SEND Board	Assistant Director Education RMBC

Areas for Development: Voices Priorities	Strategic Oversight	Responsible Individual
<p>Reducing waiting times for neuro-developmental diagnosis (Neuro-developmental pathway re-design)</p>	<p>SEMH Strategy Delivery Group reporting to Place Board Autism Strategy</p>	<p><b>Christina Harrison</b> RDASH/<b>Jenny Lingrell</b> Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG) <b>Garry Parvin</b> Joint Commissioner RMBC/RCCG.</p>
<p>Understanding of, and response to, SEMH/ anxiety/autism (Neuro-developmental pathway re-design)</p>	<p>SEMH Strategy Delivery Group reporting to Place Board</p>	<p><b>Christina Harrison</b> RDASH/<b>Jenny Lingrell</b> Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion (RMBC/RCCG)</p>
<p>Increasing support to enable independence, including in paid employment</p>	<p>Preparation for Adulthood Board</p>	<p><b>Ian Spicer</b> Assistant Director Adult Services. RMBC</p>

We will measure how successful we are in making progress against these priorities by using series of outcome measures which reflect the need to measure the impact of strategic work on the lives of individual children, young people and their families.

Rotherham has developed four strategic outcomes which will form the basis of planning and measuring the successes for children and young people with SEND and ensuring that the priorities in this strategy are recognised and met.

Each outcome has a series of indicators and performance measures which will ensure that they create a meaningful understanding of the experiences and successes of children and young people with SEND in Rotherham and that the partnership is held accountable for the success of achieving these outcomes and begins to understand where progress is not being made and why, or where success is being achieved and should be shared and celebrated.

## The Four Outcomes are as follows:

**WELLBEING Outcome:** All children and young people in Rotherham with SEND to enjoy good physical and mental health

**Preparation for Adulthood Outcome:** All young people in Rotherham with SEND are well prepared and supported to exercise choice and control that enable them to enjoy fulfilling lives

**CYP and Parents Voice Outcome:** All Children and Young People in Rotherham with SEND and their families have their voices heard and this makes a difference to their experiences and outcomes

**Whole Child Progress: Promises and Commitment (Attainment) Outcome:** All children and young people in Rotherham with SEND have positive opportunities to make progress in a person-centred way

### Accountability and Measuring Success:

For each of the four outcomes a score card has been developed which will report to the SEND Strategic Board. A refined set of headline measures will be reported quarterly to the Place Board, who also receive a detailed spotlight update three times a year. These performance measures will encourage accountability across systems and organisations and increase operational accountability for achieving these outcomes.

The oversight for the Rotherham SEND Strategy is the responsibility of the SEND Strategic Board who meet bi-monthly. The SEND Strategic Board reports to the Rotherham Place Board.

This Strategy will be reviewed annually to ensure accountability for progress and outcomes for children, young people and their families.





**ROTHERHAM INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERS**

Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC  
NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group  
Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust  
Voluntary Action Rotherham