



Trafford SEND Pathfinder – Where are up to?

January 2014

Trafford became Pathfinders in October 2011. Since then, Trafford have worked closely with professionals, schools and parents to develop a new Education Health and Care Plan Assessment and Plan. We received funding from the Department of Education and Department of Health to do this. We were asked to test out the new plan with families and the table below shows how we are doing in terms of the number of plans we have completed.

Summary of Cases

Age Band	Families Recruited	Families Starting the Assessment / Planning Process	Families with completed plans
0-3 Years	6	6	5
4-11 years	20	20	18
12-15 years	16	16	13
16-18 years	6	6	5
19 - 25 years	0	0	0
Total	48	48	41
SEND Type 1: Cognition and Learning Needs	24	24	22
SEND Type 2: Behaviour, Emotional and Social Development Needs	5	5	3
SEND Type 3: Communication and Interaction Needs	14	14	12
SEND Type 4: Sensory and/or Physical Needs	5	5	4
Total	48	48	41

From September 2014, Statements will cease to exist – they will be replaced by Education Health and Care (EHC) Plans.

In Trafford we now have two SEN Caseworkers working with families to create EHC Plans. Since last month, 2 more families have agreed to have an EHC Plan instead of a Statement, and 4 more families have had EHC plans agreed.

All children and young people who are new to the system (that is, they do not have a current statement of SEN) and who live in the North of the borough will be given the choice of an EHC Plan instead of a statement. Children in the South will also soon have this option. Trafford are also looking to convert existing statements to EHC plans, and we are working out the best way to do this. Whilst the government say that there will probably be a period of around three years available to make these conversions, Trafford will aim to convert the majority of cases within the first twelve months from September 2014.

We have made changes to our EHC Plan template, taking on board feedback from the Department of Education, and the Caseworkers who are working directly with parents and families on the plans.

In order to keep parents involved, we have set up a group that meets every half term and looks at the developments and provides an opportunity for parents and professionals to work together to develop and improve what we are doing. The next meeting will be held on 7th February 2014. Please register your interest by using the email address below.

If you have any comments or questions, please direct them to SENDpathfinder@trafford.gov.uk

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