Specialist Teaching during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Buckinghamshire Guidelines

Introduction
During the current Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak the Integrated SEND Service, Specialist Teachers will continue to support schools, settings, pupils and their families in order to achieve the best outcomes possible. However, due to current restrictions in place the nature of the service delivery may need to change. Support available will be decided on a case by case basis and in line with national guidelines.

We will continue to:

- Liaise with schools and settings regarding the needs of individual pupils;
- Provide advice and guidance on how to best meet the Special Educational Needs of individual pupils;
- Run advice sessions to enable schools to access advice and support on a range of issues;
- Provide statutory support for pupils with an EHCP
- Provide reports and attend annual review meetings – attendance may need to be through remote link up following social distancing measures;
- Receive new referrals and make contact;
- Provide and model strategies remotely to support school and parents in providing education at this time;
- Transition support for managing changes and in preparation for returning to school or a new setting once restrictions are lifted;
- Maintain a safeguarding duty to all vulnerable children and young people.

Additional services we may offer at this time include:

- Regular contact with families for pupils on our caseload;
- Where pupils are being educated away from a school setting we will ensure contact is made, and may include skype sessions to help the child or young person and their family manage the current circumstances;
- Differentiating work set by schools for pupils working at home;
- Signposting to relevant resources and online learning tools;
- Email advice and guidance – please contact your regular Specialist Teacher or sts@buckinghamshire.gov.uk if you do not have an assigned Specialist Teacher.

We will work on producing additional guidance and resources for schools and will update regularly with answers to any Frequently Asked Questions we receive. We understand that these are unprecedented times for schools and we want to endeavour to do all we can to support schools effectively and safely. We will update our support as necessary and in line with guidance from Public Health England and the Government.

1 Please note all guidance produced by the iSEND service in relation to statutory timescales and assessments are subject to change as further advice is provided by the DFE.