



Middlesbrough Council

Special Educational Needs and Disability

Annual Review Proposal

June 2019



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1. Context

In 2014, a series of reforms were introduced, The Children and Families Act 2014, the new 'Special educational needs and disability (SEND) Code of Practice: 0-25 years (2014), updated in 2015 and associated regulations. These reforms changed the way children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) have their needs identified, assessed and how they are supported.

This document outlines Middlesbrough Council's approach to Annual Reviews. Supporting documents including the 'Guidance for Annual Reviews' and 'Guidance for Education, Health and Care (EHC) Assessments' are readily available by accessing the 'Local Offer' on: www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/localoffer.

Alternatively, please contact the SEND Assessment Team (0-25) duty line on: 01642 201831 for further information.

Since 1 September 2014 a pathway has been embedded for children and young people, who require an assessment of their Education, Health and Care needs. More information about the pathway is contained in: '*EHC Pathway Guidance* which can be accessed via the local offer website or by requesting a copy from the SEND Assessment Team (0 - 25).

The reforms are wide-ranging and make provision for:

- Children, young people and their families to be at the heart of the system
- Closer co-operation between all the services that support children, young people and their families (including joint planning and commissioning of services)
- Early identification of children and young people with SEND
- A 'Local Offer' for Education, Health and Social Care
- A single, coherent system spanning across educational settings and training providers
- Rights and more protection for 16-25 year olds accessing Post 16 provision
- Children and young people with complex needs, a co-ordinated assessment process that may lead to an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) as deemed necessary
- A clear focus on aspirations and outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities which anticipate the education, health and care support they will require and plan for a clear pathway through education into adulthood, including finding employment, independent living and increased participation.

Further information about the SEND reforms and the wide range of services relating to education, health and care can be found by visiting www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/localoffer the link to 'The Local Offer'.

2. General guidance on Annual Reviews for children and young people with Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans

From 1 September 2019, the SEND Assessment Team 0-25 will aim to support children, young people, families, education, respective health and care settings by providing Local Authority representation at scheduled annual reviews for Middlesbrough children and young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan who fall into the following cohort:

- Children and young people with an EHC plan educated out of area including those who are educated in residential, independent/ non-maintained settings
- Children or young people with an EHC plan entering or leaving youth custody
- All children in year 5 with an EHC plan to allow for enhanced transition
- All young people in year 10 with an EHC plan
- Young people in year 13 with an EHC plan

Annual reviews will be allocated on a time limited basis to ensure a greater volume of reviews can be attended by a representative from the SEND Assessment Team, as follows:

- Children and young people as per the Annual Review Schedule (P.5)
- 1 hour of time allocated to each annual review.

Over time annual reviews will convene within 12 months of the previous review of an EHC plan.

Informing parents and carers

A letter should be sent to parents or carers with a child or young person with an EHC plan on, or after 1 September 2019. This letter will provide a brief overview of the SEND reforms, the EHC plan 'Annual Review' process and details as to the timescale within which a child or young person's review meeting should be held. It will also contain information to signpost to other services where appropriate.

Once a date and time has been agreed for each individual child / young person's review, parents or carers will be informed and invited to attend. Parents and carers will be informed of the process in advance, and should be given a minimum of two weeks' notice.

Children and young people with EHC plans should be at the heart of any discussion that relates to their education, health and care needs, with an expectation that they have the opportunity to attend their annual review.

Informing educational settings and training settings

Middlesbrough Council's SEND Assessment Team 0-25 will issue a schedule during the summer/ early autumn term.

Please note: it may not be possible for an officer to attend in all circumstances and it may be necessary to spread reviews over the course of an academic year, in line with local authority, the school or college resources and capacity.

Educational settings will benefit from the information contained in the supplementary documents; *'Annual Review Guidance'*, the *'Guidance for Education, Health and Care (EHC) Assessments and the 'Transitions Guide.'*

Training and development

Specific sessions will be offered to education, health, care professionals families and other wider will continue to be rolled out throughout the year and will include:

- SEND events – co-delivered by Middlesbrough LA and Health
- Education, Health and Care workshops / events
- SEN Support workshops and the Graduated Response
- Guidance for Annual Reviews
- Tracked Change workshop
- Preparing for Adulthood Themes

3. Annual Review schedule for 2019-2020

The SEND Assessment Team will aim to have a SEND Case Officer in attendance for year 5, 10 and 13 annual reviews during the course of the academic year:

Annual Reviews based on year group for September 2019	Group descriptors	Transition period	Number of pupils	Further information about Annual Reviews	Total
NCY 10	All young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan	September 2019 – March 2020	73	Year 10 as of 1 st September 2019	218
NCY 13	All young people entering or in education/training with an Education, Health and Care Plan	September 2019 – March 2020	59	Year 13 as of 1 st September 2019	
NCY 5	All children with an Education, Health and Care plan	September 2019 – March 2020	86	Year 5 as of 1 st September 2019	

Please note: the timetable above may be re-scheduled at the request of parents, young people and educational settings.

4. Monitoring and review

The 'Annual Review Proposal' will be reviewed at the end of December 2019 to identify the number of meetings attended. The SEND Assessment Team 0-25 will measure any progress made on a monthly basis.

5. Sources of SEND information and advice:

SENDIASS	(01642) 608012
Middlesbrough Children with Disabilities Team	(01642) 579160
School Health	(01642) 352025
Parents4Change	(01642) 200526

<http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/localoffer>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

<https://www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk/a-guide-to-the-send-tribunal.html>

<https://www.iammain.org.uk/services/sendiasm/>

If you require further information about anything contained in this document, or have any questions about special educational needs in Middlesbrough, please contact the SEND Assessment Team (0-25) by telephone on: (01642) 201831 or email at: sen@middlesbrough.gov.uk

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