

This paper has been written to update the Inclusion Taskforce about progress in relation to SEND Reviews as we approach the mid-point of the 2020/21 academic year.

Overview

In the 2019/20 Inclusion Task Force programme (see diagram on the right) we included both school requested SEND reviews and targeted SEND reviews. The overview of the targeted review is below.

In 2020/21 this approach was developed further to also include the SEND Peer Review Programme (working with Whole Education and David Bartram). This programme provides supported SEND peer reviews for 30 schools (this year) in addition to up to 10 enhanced targeted reviews (reviews with follow up support).



It should also be remembered that many schools have also continued to undertake school requested SEND reviews, either independently or through the Learn Sheffield subscription. This shift in school behaviour complicates the ITF programmes but is key to the long term objective that SEND review becomes an established aspect of school improvement activity.

Finally, we also have an entitlement to additional DfE funded support from Whole School SEND. Tim and I have met with them and planned a secondary school focussed project for approximately four schools. The recruitment of this is complicated by the factors above.



Your review will include an **on-site visit** and a **written report** with clear **recommendations** on next steps.

A Targeted SEND Review is commissioned when Learn Sheffield identifies there is a need to improve how your school provides for learners with special educational needs and disabilities. The review findings will help you improve your SEND provision and strategy so you can help learners to achieve excellent outcomes.

The review is focused on 7 key areas:

- Intent
- Implementation
- Impact
- Identification
- Provision Mapping
- Working with learners and families
- Effective use of teaching assistants

Your reviewer will normally **return after an agreed period** of time to **review progress with the recommendations**.

Whole Education – Peer SEND Network Programme 2020/21

The programme (with the original timeline) is on the right. This timeline has been adjusted due to lockdowns and it will now launch on Tuesday 23 February.

This will mean that the programme will conclude at the end of the autumn term of 2021.

If funding is in place for a further cohort in 2021/22 we will have to make a decision about whether to overlap the next cohort in order to complete cohort 2 in July 2022.

The ongoing Covid situation has made recruitment much more challenging than it would be in more normal times. Many schools have been reluctant to take on the programme due to the level of commitment and some have accepted places and then withdrawn.

For future planning it is also worth noting that some schools and academies had already planned activity (via Learn Sheffield subscription or elsewhere) when this was launched (in October 2020) – so the timing of the next offer is crucial. Similarly the cross over between schools for this programme and the Making the Difference (overcoming disadvantage) also removed several likely recruitments.

The current list of recruited schools is below:

1. Beck
2. Stocksbridge NI
3. Coit
4. St Catherine's
5. Mundella
6. All Saints
7. Notre Dame
8. Sheffield College
9. Windmill Hill
10. Whiteways
11. Greenhill
12. Valley Park
13. Nether Edge
14. Lydgate Infants
15. Lydgate Juniors
16. Ecclesall Primary
17. St Annes
18. Halfway Junior
19. Nether Green Junior
20. Sheffield Inclusion Centre
21. Hinde House (secondary phase)
22. Fox Hill



Action - this leaves 7-8 places to complete the full complement of 30 schools. If colleagues in the steering group can suggest possible schools (or would like to get involved themselves now that it has been delayed) then this would be extremely helpful. It may be that some schools or groups of schools who had previously not put themselves forward may be interested now.

Alongside recruiting to these remaining places we need to create the triads of schools. This includes deciding on the lead schools and the approach to grouping settings that are not mainstream primary or secondary settings (colleges, PRU, IRs, etc.).

Some of the schools have signed up specifically to work together alongside a lead school – the two Lydgate schools, the two Mercia primary schools (Valley Park and Nether Edge) and the two catholic secondary schools are examples of this.

This must be completed asap so that all schools can prepare for the launch session and complete the required tasks.

Targeted SEND Review Programme 2020/21

This programme has been more reactive than planned so far this year, adjusted to the circumstances.

Review work and follow up has taken place in two schools:

- Meynell – picking up the work that was agreed last year but paused due to Covid. This work has involved Ian Read and Fiona Rigby alongside David Bartram.
- Clifford – following specific issues that had emerged and were then compounded by an inspection. The work has (to date) involved Jane Townsend alongside David Bartram but is now beginning to involve the locality in the follow up support.

Action - further schools can be considered for this programme and ITF colleagues may wish to make additional suggestions.

Whole School SEND (DfE funded) Programme 2020/21

The outline plan with Whole School SEND is for them to run a programme with four secondary schools. The recruitment challenge on this follows the pattern described earlier:

- 3 secondary schools, Sheffield Inclusion Centre and Sheffield College are signed up to SEND Peer Networks.
- 2 local secondary MATs and one secondary school (7 schools and a college in total) are engaging with David Bartram as part of their Learn Sheffield subscription.
- Currently 6 further secondary schools are engaging with Making the Difference.
- This leaves 14 schools – who have already decided in most cases not to undertake the above.

Action – SB to approach the MATs not involved above and any others not previously approached.