

Sector Leads and City Wide SENCOS

Sheffield City Council commissions Sector Leads and City Wide SENCOS in recognition of the importance of partnership working in an increasingly autonomous education system. The strength of our partnership working will impact on the ability to provide high quality education and support, particularly to our most vulnerable children.

Sector leads and SENCOS will be representative of Primary, Secondary, Special and Academy Trust Schools.

1. Sector Leads:

For academic year 21-22 we have 3 Sector Leads in place (1 secondary, 1 primary, and 1 primary SEND focus) each have 2 days a week of dedicated time.

Our Sector Leads have the following key elements to their role. Specific areas of work are developed and agreed over time with colleagues in Education and Skills and Commissioning in response to emerging need.

- Provide an advisory education expert role to SCC on key developments
- Support the development of strong and trusted working relationships between schools, SCC and wider health partners
- Provide clear messages to schools to enable good joint working
- Support SCC to develop a deep understanding of local need and context within the education system
- Orchestrate connections that will support our children and young people, particularly our most disadvantaged
- Support schools in their understanding of and engagement with system changes
- Develop consistency of practice across the city
- Support a shared model of inclusive practice
- Proactively challenge schools to be inclusive and engage with partnership working to champion the needs of vulnerable children and young people
- Share good practice across the city
- Support the locality model of delivery through support to Locality Leads

2. City Wide SENCOS:

a. Citywide SENCos supporting SEND processes across the city

For academic year 21-22 we have 8 City Wide SENCOS, each contributing one day a week to this work.

Key tasks include:

- Lead strategic planning and delivery of training, working closely with different agencies to achieve consistency and high-quality provision

- Keep up to date with and support the development of new practices / policies, and help to ensure an effective roll out
- Take a lead role in ensuring SSG moderation is consistent and that each round leads to improved practice
- QA /support the creation of My Plans
- Support schools to adhere to the Code of Practice and to implement the correct assess/plan/do/review for high priority pupils
- Support and challenge schools in order to influence their provision, processes and practice so that outcomes for pupils are as good as they can be
- Take a lead role in SEND reviews to improve provision in individual schools
- Offer to support schools during Ofsted inspections
- Liaise closely with all stakeholder groups e.g. parents, SENCOs, TAs etc.
- Work with agencies to effectively achieve the citywide outcomes required e.g., reduction in PX, good transition etc.

b. Citywide SENCOs for Autism in Schools Project – academic year 2021-2022

For academic year 21-22 we have 2 City Wide SENCOs with one day a week dedicated to this project.

The aim of the project is to improve the response in mainstream schools to the needs of pupils with Autism. This project has a focus on secondary and will work with 10 secondaries across the city. The project is based on two main components: developing parent and CYP forums and developing and delivering training to schools.

Citywide SENCOs in this role will:

- Work collaboratively with the school SENCOs/Tas, and children's engagement lead (yet to be appointed), "RCPCH & me" resources to establish CYP forums in the target schools
- Co-deliver a programme of online training on a new framework interlinking sensory, communication and emotional regulation needs. This framework will be developed by the Sensory Service, SALT and Healthy Minds teams.
- The City Wide Sencos working in this project will also have a role in cascading information and learning to the wider group and be part of the planning and development of how this learning is cascaded to other schools in the city.