

# SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) Children's Strategy Group

## Terms of Reference

### Background

The SEND Children's Strategy Group is responsible for driving forward the transformation of health, education and social care services for SEND children and young people from birth to 25 years of age.

The Local Area's statutory responsibilities are laid out clearly in the Children and Families Act 2014 Part 3 and the SEND Children's Strategy Group monitors implementation and progress towards meeting these requirements which incorporates aspects with the Care Act.

### Aims

Monitor and evaluate the joint Kirklees SEND Children's Strategy and ensure this reflects the Kirklees vision for children and young people with SEND and their families.

## Purpose and Functions

### Objectives

The SEND Children's Strategy Group will work in partnership with our children and young people and their parents/carers to:

- Develop and oversee the statutory requirements of the Children & Families Act Part 3 – Special Educational Needs
- Oversee the joint commissioning activities in relation to services for SEND children, young people and their families.

### Governance and accountability

- The Group will report to the Kirklees Children's and Young People's Partnership Board (formerly the Children's Trust) and the Health & Wellbeing Board
- The Group is accountable for its work and its success in achieving outcomes to the parent organisations and the Council's Cabinet.
- Decisions of the Group will be understood to be collective and to be acted on by everyone unless individual members have made a fundamental objection and registered that their organisation would not support the proposal.

### Working arrangements of the Group:

The Group will drive forward the priorities of the joint Kirklees SEND Children's Strategy.

It will oversee:

- The work of the three focus groups delivering aspects across special educational needs development i.e. Child and Family Centred Approaches, Kirklees Local Offer and Preparing for Adulthood and will monitor and challenge performance and activities through highlight reports on priorities from each of the focus group Leads
- The work of the Integrated Commissioning Group, ensuring joint commissioning arrangements are in place
- The work of the Schools Strategic Co-ordination Board, ensuring sufficiency of specialist school places
- Oversight of the High Needs Review

## **Chair**

- The Chair of the SEND Children's Strategy Group will be the Head of Service – Education Safeguarding and Inclusion

## **Membership**

- The membership of the Group will be predominately the responsible partners as follows:
  - Head of Service – Education Safeguarding and Inclusion (Chair)
  - Senior representative from the Clinical Commissioning Groups
  - Partnership Commissioning Manager
  - Principal Educational Psychologist
  - Head of Early Intervention and Targeted Support
  - Joint Commissioning Manager across Council and Clinical Commissioning Groups
  - Senior representative for Adult Social Care
  - Senior representative for Children's Social Care
  - Parents/carers
  - Third Sector Leaders – Kirklees representatives (VCS)
- The group will invite additional members as required
- The group will meet quarterly or more often by agreement to report on aspects of work
- The group may establish and regularly review terms of reference and working arrangements for sub-groups for particular functions/tasks
- Professional and policy advice will be provided to the Group by the appropriate managers from the relevant agencies
- Changes to the terms of reference will be subject to discussion and agreement by the Group on an annual basis.

## **Accountability of members**

Members of the SEND Children's Strategy Group are:

- Responsible for reporting back to their respective representative organisations
- Attendance will be monitored. If attendance falls below 50% the chair will seek the appointing groups for an alternative group representative.

## **Quoracy**

The group will be quorate only if there is at least one representative from Health, Social Care and Learning.