



Self Assessment of our SEND Implementation

June 19

*A new approach to special educational
needs and disability*



Development of a Multi-Disciplinary Referrals Hub (CHUB – Children’s Referral Hub)

What was the issue

- Referrals were coming into individual teams and being actioned with limited awareness that other services were involved. This created additional appointments for families and repeated telling of their stories and potentially delayed outcomes as onward referrals were delayed until the child had been through for assessment.

Our Journey so far

- In spring 2017 Children’s Occupational Therapy (OT), Physiotherapy and Learning Disability teams began to meet fortnightly to discuss new referrals into each team, identify the needs of the child and agree which services were required and offer joint appointments for these where appropriate
- Then from 2018 further services have joined our meeting which now includes representatives from Paediatrics, Speech and Language Therapy, Clinical Psychology, and Public Health Nursing. There are further plans to include CAMHS and the Trust’s EHCP coordinator and to make these meetings weekly to further speed up the processes

What have we done?

- Devised new Multi-Disciplinary referral forms with more specific questions about the functional needs of the child/young person
- Developed a shared database to log referrals, discussions and outcomes
- New working practices have been established to better meet the needs of the child and young person. E.g. regular joint OT and Physiotherapy clinics. We also do occasional joint OT and learning disability clinics and OT will join the speech and language therapy run forum for children with ASD.

What difference has this made?

- Streamlining of working practices to ensure a smoother transition for the child and movement between services
- Information sharing has improved. This benefits the safeguarding of both our young people and our staff
- Practitioners are more informed regarding the availability and range of wider services available to children and young people, which enables appropriate signposting
- Where we have done joint working, families are only telling their story once and have appreciated only needing to attend one appointment and having the majority of their identified needs met within that session. This has also allowed the completion of joint reports which can form the basis of advice towards EHCP.

Areas for further action

- The child and young person's physical health needs are being well met within this forum but we need further support when considering their emotional and psychological health and well-being. Getting CAMHS involvement is a key area for future development.
- Using the CHUB forum to monitor trust's compliance with EHCP reporting and deadlines and triaging of information requests to ensure all relevant disciplines are contributing to the process

Immediate next steps

- We are currently in discussion with the Trust EHCP co-coordinator to facilitate their attendance at and contribution to these meetings.
- We have recently increased these meetings to weekly and need to support staff to attend these more frequent sessions.

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