

Council – 13th July 2023

Notice of Motion:

Improved transition planning for children and young people with additional needs.

This Council is working within key pieces of legislation to ensure that children and young people (CYP) are supported to have a 'good transition' to adulthood through statutory responsibilities and good practice guidance.

It is important to build on the work done to support transitions for those young people in need of ongoing social care support into adulthood, where a clear pathway is being developed.

One cohort of CYP who could require care and support for transition may include those who have an EHCP; however, young people without an EHCP who may have assessments and reports from external professionals and have accessed the graduated offer also need to be considered.

Many children and young people approaching transition who have additional needs but who no longer receive a statutory service, or who are educated outside of the school environment will need their transition considered, and a recognised process to access support for a 'good transition' to facilitate reaching their full potential and long-term success. This could include considerations around how this group of young people are linked to the right individual who can co-ordinate this transition planning at the most effective time.

We know that around 500 CYP are electively home educated (EHE) with only 2.4% who have an EHCP and around 12% who EHE for some of the following reasons:

Dissatisfactions with school concerning bullying and SEND, school attendance, risk of sanctions/exclusion, medical reasons and those who chose not to give a reason.

This motion calls on Southend City Council to:

1. To ensure that assessments and diagnoses made by a recognised professional(s) in Health, Education and Social Care are included as valid evidence in formulating plans for children with additional needs, and, in particular in relation to an EHA or EHCP.
2. To clearly identify which professionals would be recognised and what qualifications are required.

3. To ensure that any EHA or EHCP informs a post 16 transition plan for young people to comply with legal requirements post 16 and reviewed at age 18 to link with any needed adult health or social care services.

4. To develop a clear business case which identifies appropriate resource to meet the needs of those young people who do not fall within statutory legislation around transitions who might experience some difficulties and or requirements for reasonable adjustments. This would include, amongst others, those previously known to social care or early help. Those not on school role, those in education other than schools and those with additional needs or identified barriers to education employment or training, who wouldn't be picked up by any other statutory process.

Proposed by:

Cllr Tricia Cowdrey

Seconded by:

Cllr Maxine Sadza