

# TRANSITION OF STATEMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS TO EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLAN



01 September 2014

Dear Parent/Carer or Guardian

## **New Arrangements for Supporting Children with Statements of Special Educational Needs.**

You may have heard that from 1 September 2014 there will be a new system of assessing, and making educational provision for, children and young people with special educational needs. This means that the new 0-25 Educational, Health and Care plan (EHC Plan) will replace statements. I am writing to you to inform you about what these changes mean to you.

In order to support the changeover from the current system to the new system transitional arrangements will need to be put into place. This means that children and young people with statements will gradually be transferred over to the new arrangements. You do not need to do anything at this stage. The transfer process will take place over the next three and a half years and will be completed by April 2018.

To ensure that the changeover happens in an ordered way, children and young people will transfer to the new system at points in their education at which a significant review of the statement takes place. Priority will be given to children and young people transferring at key transition points such as transferring from early years setting to school, infant to junior school, primary to secondary school etc.

You will be contacted by your school when this is going to happen for your child/young person. This will give you an opportunity to talk to someone about what is involved. The EHC transfer review meeting will then be arranged by the school to discuss transferring your child's/young person's current SEN statement to an EHC Plan. This meeting will replace the annual review of statement. Until this happens your child/young person's statement will remain in place and will be reviewed annually in the normal way.

So what can you expect to be different at the EHC transfer review meeting? During the past year we have been working with parents, carers and representatives from education, health, social care to prepare for this new system. As a result of this the EHC Transition Pathway and EHC Transfer Review Meeting process has been developed and piloted with some families and schools in the city. The form on which we record this plan is different from a Statement and the usual annual review form but it will have all the information that we need to agree how your child's/young

person's needs and provision can be incorporated into the EHC plan. The EHC plan will have the same legal status as a statement.

The aim is that you and your child/young person will be much more at the centre of the process and your views on how, when and to what extent you would like to engage, are important and will be taken into account. This is called a person-centred approach and currently the annual reviews in some schools already ask questions and plan in this way.

The EHC Transfer Review Meeting will involve you, your child/young person, and the professionals who work with him or her. It will discuss the outcomes that are important to you and your child/young person. It will focus on your child or young person's progress towards achieving his/her objectives, reach agreement on the outcomes both short or long term and consider whether any changes that need to be made to your child/young person's needs or provision to be incorporated into the EHC plan. Within four weeks of the transfer review meeting we will inform you how we intend to proceed with transferring your child's/young person's statement into an EHC Plan.

I do hope that you find this information helpful in preparing you on what will be happening as we move into the new system in September 2014. A number of pupils and young people will be transferring to EHC plans during the 2014/15 academic year. I would welcome feedback from parents on their experience of the process. You can provide feedback via the local offer website. Your comments will enable me to review and refine the process and guidance.

If you require further information then please contact the SENCO at your school or alternatively please contact:



You can also follow us on Twitter @BirminghamSEND

If you require further information, please call: 0121 303 1888  
or email: [senar@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:senar@birmingham.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

Alex Mroczkowski

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