

**OXFORDSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD**  
**SEND Performance**  
**February 2023**

**1. Item for Information or Decision**

*For Information*

**2. Purpose of Report**

*As requested, to provide an update on:*

- 1) SEND Employment Forum grant**
- 2) SEND Framework**
- 3) Delivering Better Value**
- 4) Education Health Care Needs Assessments**

**3. Recommendations/ Actions/ Decisions for the Children's Trust**

*For information only.*

**4. Impact of the Work**

*To improve the experiences of children, young people and their families with SEND in Oxfordshire*

**5. Financial, training or resource implications**

*(These are for the Children's Trust)*

If you have any queries or comments about this report before the Children's Trust meeting, please contact:

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***Full Report Overleaf***

## **SEND Update**

### **1) SEND Employment Forum grant**

In December 2022, Oxfordshire were awarded a national Department for Education (DfE) grant to build capacity in the Supported Internships programme locally. The aim of the two-year programme is to increase the number of Supported Internships and provide more young people with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with the skills to secure and sustain paid employment. The focus of this grant is the development of an Oxfordshire SEND Employment Forum, bringing together representatives from colleges and local small and medium size businesses who are hosting or are interested in hosting placements for supported interns.

Initial activity has included the establishment of a multi-agency, multi-sector Steering Group to map out stakeholders and develop a draft Terms of Reference for the SEND Employment Forum, including a dedicated forum for young people. The creation of a training tool to be delivered county wide, engagement with a range of employers across the county and mapping out an action plan to cover the duration of the two-year programme. As the first month of the project comes to a close, updates are limited but will be presented in future papers.

### **2) SEND Framework**

The SEND team are leading on the development of a new SEND framework which brings together the Early Intervention and Prevention offer from across the local area (Education, Health and Social Care). The framework will include various tools to support schools and settings in taking purposeful action in meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND.

The first step has been to produce an Ordinarily Available Toolkit, 'Ordinarily Available', describes the entitlement of pupils in Oxfordshire mainstream schools – the Local Offer. This will assist schools in developing their provision for pupils with SEND

to be more consistent in the majority of schools. The OAT launched on 1st Feb and will be located on the schools' intranet page. *(Please see OAT attached in separate document)*.

To support the work with schools, a SENDCO helpdesk has launched this month, this is for working SENDCOs run by SENDCOs. The helpdesk will aid the roll out the universal support offer and support SENDCOs, (often at full capacity in schools), to reinforce and maintain their access to tools, knowledge, and resources to support them in their roles in school.

SEND Live event takes place on March 9th, a day of practical workshops for SENDCOs, class teachers and inclusion leads. The event will hope to offer networks and further groups, following the conference, on key topic areas to embed learning and develop further practice.

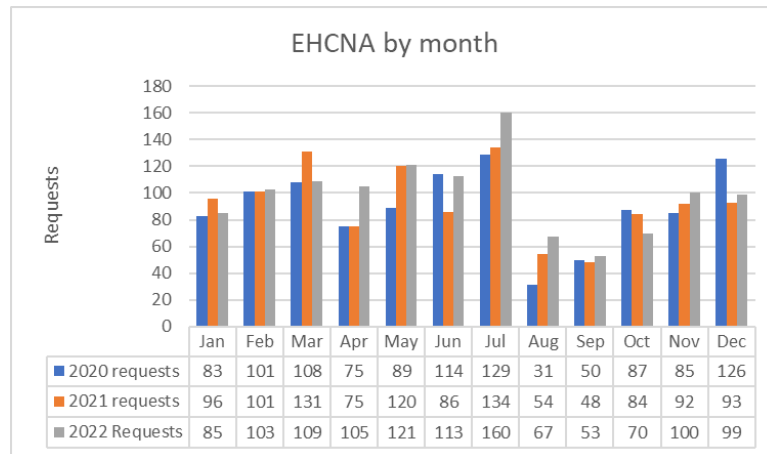
### **3) Delivering Better Value**

The Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme is commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) and is supporting 55 Local Authorities (LAs) to identify the highest impact changes that each can make to better support their children with SEND locally and develop plans to implement those changes. It is also hoped that the work will contribute to a wider evidence base that will be fed back to the DfE to inform future national reforms.

Following a review of the data and finances a deep dive case study review and collation of feedback from school leaders, parents, and carers, a grant application was submitted to the DfE at the end of January to put a dedicated early intervention offer in place. We found out on the 9<sup>th</sup> February that we have successfully secured the grant.

#### 4) Education Health Care Needs Assessments update

There continues to be an increase in demand for Education Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNAs) month on month as shown in the figure below.



In July 2022, the timeliness figure for meeting the statutory deadline on these assessments was 7% which dipped to 1% in October 2022. A dedicated programme of support was implemented in September 2022 and in December 2022, timeliness had increased to 11% in month.

In July 2022 there were 777 on the incomplete assessment monitoring spreadsheet, in January 2023, this had reduced to 518 on the incomplete assessment monitoring spreadsheet.

220 Final EHC plans were issued in the first 6 months of 2022 and through putting this programme of support in place we issued 461 Final EHC plans in the last six months of 2022 – this equates to +50% increase.

The Educational Psychology Service has also developed a priority list to ensure that the most vulnerable children have their assessments undertaken as timely as possible.

Working on the timeliness of EHCNAs is ongoing, furthermore, the Department for Education (DfE) will be updated monthly.