



June 2021

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

*Keeping stakeholders, parents and carers informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme.*

### **SEND Strategy 2021-2023**

We have begun work to revise the current SEND Strategy that is due to run until June 2021. The new three year strategy will be an innovative and ambitious local area SEND strategy for Dudley and will describe the steps that all organisations and partners will need to take in order to deliver the improved lives and outcomes we are all working towards for our SEND children and young people in Dudley.

Children and families will be at the heart of the strategy and it will cover the 0-25-year age range and will align closely with the early help strategy and the preparing for adulthood strategy.

To ensure successful development of the strategy we have set up a robust governance structure to provide oversight of the process, approval of the revised strategy and co-ordination of its sign off and launch. At the heart of this will be the SEND strategy governance group with representatives from partners, parents/carers and other stakeholders and this group has held its first meeting to agree the Terms of Reference.

Co-production is at the heart of the strategy development and to facilitate this, representatives from the Parent Carer Forum (PCF), health, social care, early years providers, schools, post 16 providers and other stakeholders have been asked to join four themed working groups. Each group has been tasked with examining a theme, identifying opportunities to develop arrangements around the theme and reporting back to the governance group with a set of proposals.

The four themes are focused on:

- Improving Joint Commissioning and engagement arrangements
- Improving the quality of EHCPs and related processes
- Improving the SEND support offer made by Dudley's schools



- Developing specialist provision and related approaches

The first meeting for each group were held week beginning the 24th May 2021 with further meeting dates set for June and July 2021, by which time we plan to have completed the revised draft strategy with the formal launch in September 2021.

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