

Update from

SEND&AP Change Programme



Newsletter April 2024

Welcome back to our second edition of the monthly newsletter! We're delighted to continue our journey of keeping you informed about the progress we're making in piloting the proposals outlined in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities & Alternative Provision (SEND&AP) Improvement Plan. As we dive deeper into the program, we invite you to join us in exploring the latest updates and developments. Together, we're embarking on an exciting path toward making a tangible difference for our children, young people, and families.

What's been happening?

REACH Webinars

This month marks the commencement of the live REACH webinars, an important part of their support package for local authorities during the Change Programme. We're pleased to announce that Portsmouth had the honour of presenting at the 'Visioning for effective Alternative Provision' webinar, where **Neil Stevenson**, Attendance, Admissions, Exclusions and Reintegration Service Manager, detailed Portsmouth's journey toward our successful Tier 4 model.

Blog - Introduction from Alternative Provision Commissioning Manager



I'm delighted to have joined PCC as Alternative Provision Commissioning Manager. I've always worked in roles that are centred around supporting young people.

Over the last 3 weeks, I've been meeting providers of alternative provision in and around Portsmouth. I've started compiling information ready to create an Alternative Provision Directory which will be accessible to schools and parents/carers once published. I've also been working on a Quality Assurance Framework which will help us ensure the organisations we're commissioning have everything in place to keep children safe and deliver excellent services.

Over the next few weeks and months, I'll be finalising the quality assurance framework and starting to use this with our local providers. I'm also really looking forward to meeting staff from local secondary schools to find out more about their experiences of referring students to alternative provision settings and to work with them to shape the offer going forwards.

I had a brilliant meeting with staff from Portsmouth Parent Voice where I learned more about their work and how integral they will be in supporting the development of our work in the alternative provision space.

I'll also be setting up an Alternative Provision Provider Group with the aim of encouraging collaboration and best practice sharing amongst our partners. And I'm getting to work on organising an Alternative Provision Conference on 10 July. Further information and invitations to follow soon!

Helena Kelsey, Alternative Provision Commissioning Manager (PCC)

Feedback Loop & Evaluation

We are committed to collaborating with the Department for Education and REACH to offer thorough feedback on all of the various reforms under evaluation. This month, we have conducted analysis on the National Inclusion Dashboard, Multi-Agency Panels, Strengthened Mediation and the Education Health Care Advice Templates. REACH is compiling this feedback and offering valuable insights throughout the process. We will ensure they are shared with everyone once they are prepared for wider distribution.

To find out more about the SEND&AP Change Programme please visit: [Portsmouth Local Offer](#)

*If you have any specific questions about the SEND&AP Change Programme or would like to provide feedback, please email:
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