



# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Wolverhampton

**CYP Scrutiny Presentation**

**13<sup>th</sup> October 2021**



Wolverhampton  
SEND Partnership Board

**This presentation provides CYP Scrutiny Panel with an update on:**

- **SEND Leisure and YO Included! Easter and Summer Programme**
- **Ofsted/CQC Inspection of Local Area SEND support and provision**
- **School visit to Green Park School**

*‘Wolverhampton is an inclusive City where we work with children, young people, and their families with SEND so that they have a good quality **‘ordinary life’** and achieve their*



## OUR PRINCIPLES

We will underpin our work with the following key principles;



### CLIMATE FOCUSED

This recovery commitment is aligned to our climate change strategy 'Future Generations' and our target to make the City of Wolverhampton Council carbon – neutral by 2028. We are committed to delivering on the recommendations of our Climate Citizen Assembly and to upholding the promises we made when the Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019.



### DRIVEN BY DIGITAL

The city is at the forefront of digital infrastructure and innovation, Wolverhampton will be one of the first cities in the world to host a 5G accelerator hub making us truly a world leader in emerging technology. Now more than ever digital skills and connectivity are vital to ensure our residents can access services, interact with friends and family, and enter the job market.



### FAIR AND INCLUSIVE

We will continue to tackle the inequalities in our communities which impact on the opportunities of local people. The Council's 'Excellent' rated equalities framework is at the heart of our recovery commitment. No community will be left behind as we transform our city together.



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# Our vision and priorities – SEND Strategy



Informed by:

- 2019 SEND JSNA - [JSNA Video](#)
- Spotlight on SEND - Visioning Day
- Voice 4 Parents annual survey
- CitizenLab focus on exclusions
- Ordinary Lives White Paper
- SEND Health Review
- Changing Our Lives Quality of Life Review



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# Planned key actions – 2021-2022

- **Strategy Development and Implementation** – concerted multi-agency focus on co-production of overarching Joint Commissioning Strategy and all age Autism Strategy
- **Culture of Inclusion and Belonging Programmes** – build on current momentum of workstreams through agreed action plans to improve educational engagement of vulnerable learners through: support and challenge to promote inclusive practice; improving pathways and support for vulnerable learners; more effective and accessible assessment and review processes; a broader alternative provision offer
- **Support for mental health and emotional wellbeing** – CAMHS transformation; jointly commissioned emotional wellbeing service; Mental Health Support Team for schools trailblazer; a coordinated city-wide training offer
- **Enhanced social work expertise of SEND** – embedded SEND champions across social care via DSCO and SENDIASS
- **Preparation for Adulthood** – rigorous focus on transitions and collaborative planning towards post 16/19
- **Short Breaks review implementation** – ensuring fair access for families
- **Embedded SEND leisure offer** – building on successful HAF programme
- **Effective response to parent/carer/young people surveys** – listen, hear, act; embed tell it once
- **Procure more efficient and accessible IT SEND system** – to enable partners and parents to engage more readily in EHC assessment and review processes; to improve data and information collation and accuracy



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# Easter Activity, Sensory and Wellbeing Pack 2021



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- In summer 2021 SEND V4P worked with providers to organise and plan SEND appropriate activities, following the Easter Activity programme and feedback from Parent Carers
- V4P worked with the local authority, parents and young people in coproducing the summer programme which resulted in an exciting, accessible, fun offer with £60,000 being spent on SEND specific activities:
- 533 children and young people took part in the SEND specific leisure activities over 28 days
- 1740 places were allocated to a wide range of activities over these days including animal handling, environmental sessions arts and crafts, plus inspirational outdoor activities such as horse riding, outdoor pursuits which included orienteering, abseiling and fishing which are not usually seen as accessible to SEND children and young people.
- This gave access to opportunities for CYP to challenge themselves and to be able to try new things without pressure or judgment in a truly inclusive environment.

# A video of summer activities:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sq\\_MWqWwvbDMtcuFgOKP0qiEAsh9dwyt/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sq_MWqWwvbDMtcuFgOKP0qiEAsh9dwyt/view)



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## **SEND Local Area Inspection**

- Phone call received 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Submission of SEF and additional evidence by 16<sup>th</sup> September
- 4 inspectors on site (2 CQC, 2 Ofsted) 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September
- Additionally, 2 QA inspectors over the on-site week also reviewing evidence pre and post inspection
- Initial meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September with key colleagues across the Partnership
- Evidence gathered through focus groups, school visits, case file audits, online surveys
- 'Unofficial' feedback received on 24 September 2021
- Letter of findings expected by end of October 2021

# SEF Focus Areas of Work

- ***How the local area effectively identifies the needs of children and young people who have SEND***
  - Timeliness of EHCP's and Annual Review Backlog
  - Contribution to Assessment
  - Data
  - Informing Joint commissioning
  - ASD Pathway
  - Early Identification
  - Impact from Covid
- ***How effectively does the local area assess and meet the needs of children and young people with SEND?***
  - Engagement and co-production – the voice of children and young people
  - Working together for effective assessment and accountability
  - Coproduction and engagement with children, young people, parents and carers
  - Data management and sharing – The Hub
- ***How effectively does the local area improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND?***
  - Outcomes for children and young people with SEND
  - Transitions
  - Preparation for Adulthood
  - Tell it once, listening to families
  - Early Help
  - Short Breaks and Leisure

# SEND Local Area Inspection

## Key messages

- ✓ Warm welcome and excellent levels of engagement from officers, parents, carers, children and young people
  - ✓ School visits informative and enjoyable
  - ✓ The Local Area knows itself well, it's strengths and what needs to improve
  - ✓ Everyone is committed to SEND, it has a high profile in the Council and across the partnership with everyone passionate about improving outcomes for SEND children and young people
  - ✓ Special school settings provide excellent support and provision
  - ✓ Emotional Health and Wellbeing offer positive
  - ✓ SENDIASS and Outreach services provide excellent support to families and schools
  - ✓ Health well engaged through CCG and Designated Medical Officer
  - ✓ Healthy Child Programme well embedded
  - ✓ Multi – disciplinary wrap around support for Early Years (Gem Centre) highly valued and very effective
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- Variability and inconsistency in identification of SEND at statutory school age
  - Timeliness and quality of EHCP's and annual reviews
  - Strategic joint commissioning not clearly evident although happening operationally
  - Implementation of strategic plan for Co-Production
  - Inconsistencies in transitions (Early Years to starting school and Post-16/18)
  - Local Offer and information to ensure all stakeholders can gain and access the same information at the same time

- **Feedback from Scrutiny Members following visit to Green Park School**
- **General discussion and questions**

