

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 29th September 2015

SEND LOCAL AREA INSPECTION (OFSTED) 12 - 16 OCTOBER

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to inform Council Members about the SEND Local Area Inspection (Ofsted) which will take place from Monday 12th – Friday 16th October 2015.
- 1.2 The Department for Education has commissioned Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to inspect local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling their new duties in respect of the Children and Families Act 2014.
- 1.3 This is a **local area** inspection not a Local Authority inspection as successful implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014 will require joint working across all partner agencies as well as working with children, young people and their families.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 The framework for this new Ofsted inspection will be piloted with Bromley and two other local authorities over the next few months. Three broad elements have been identified for inspection and they are as follows:-
 - **Co-production** with parent/carers and young people individually and at a strategic level
 - Evidence that **outcomes** are being improved for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability (SEND)
 - Evidence of **joint working** across all partner agencies (both at a strategic level and at operational level)

2.2 Inspection Format

The key focus areas for the inspection will be as follows:-

1. The effectiveness of the area in identifying children and young people who are disabled and those who have special educational needs.
2. The effectiveness of the area in meeting the needs of children and young people who are disabled and those who have special educational need and in improving outcomes.

2.3 The Effectiveness in Identification

- The timeliness of the identification (ensuring there is no delay).
- The appropriateness of the intervention (evidence based).
- How the local area services across education, care and health engage with children and young people – the effectiveness of involvement and communication with others (joint working) as appropriate.
- How the local area services across education, care and health engage with parents and carers.
- The effectiveness of the coordination of assessment between agencies.
- The local area arrangements to ensure effective identification.
- Clear thresholds for access to services.
- Designated Health Officer responsible to coordinate health involvement.
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) responsible for health services required.

2.4 The Effectiveness of the Area in Meeting the Needs

- Evidenced in the outcomes of the interventions put in place – all local areas must know whether provision is improving outcomes.
- Evidenced by satisfaction by disabled children and those with special educational needs, and their parents and carers that their needs are met and in the progress they have made. What difference has it made to the child or young person?
- Local area arrangements to ensure needs are met and outcomes are improving effective identification.
- Evidence of a **Local Offer** of services (universal, targeted and specialist) across Education, Care and Health.

2.5 Format of the Inspection

2.5.1 This is a five day inspection with three inspectors attending. The Inspection Team will consist of one HMI, one CQC and a Local Authority SEN Lead/ Assistant Director.

2.5.2 The Team will spend 2.5 days interviewing staff and scrutinising data and information and 2.5 days visiting providers (3 early years settings, 2 primary schools, 2 secondary schools, 3 special schools and 2 colleges). They will also meet with parents and young people to gather qualitative feedback on the new processes in place.

- 2.5.3 A webinar will be organised to gain feedback from parents and young people who may not be available for interview.
- 2.5.4 Data that is scrutinised will consist of child files, (both central and other provider based), safeguarding, team meeting minutes, panel minutes, letters and other documents.
- 2.5.5 The Inspection team will review planning pathways (0-25) and progress in the transition of Statements to the new Education, Health and Care Plans.
- 2.6 **Outcomes of the Inspection**
- 2.6.1 Outcomes of the inspection will be shared with the Assistant Director (and the SEND Management Team) and respective partners on the final day of the inspection. This will take the form of a narrative judgement of their findings.