

SEND Vision

A shared vision across education, health and social care services

"We want every child in Central Bedfordshire to enjoy their childhood and have the best possible start in life.

We want every child to do well in education, make friends and build strong relationships with their family.

As young adults, we want every young person to have the knowledge, skills and qualifications that will give them the best chance of success, so that they are prepared to take their full place in society as a healthy, happy, contributing and confident citizen." (Children and Young People's Plan)

Overarching Principles

- Co-production, working with parents/carers and young people to be a responsive service - Co-production at the heart of everything we do
- Early intervention and high aspirations for all children and young people – The right support at the right time
- Preparing for adulthood – Services supporting a child's journey into adulthood

Delivered through the following 6 themes:

Needs identified early with the right support at the right time

We will:

- Carry out regular needs analysis to establish current and future needs of children and young people with SEND.
- Identify needs early through all agencies including health visitors, school nurses, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) link workers, GPs, early years settings and schools
- Ensure support provided matches need – with adjustment in line with child development
- Further develop and build capacity in school to school support for SEND
- Integrate more specialist services in localities to support the child and family
- Ensure a clear understanding of the universal services provided and the pathways to more specialist support.

Success will mean:

- Children, young people and parents involved in process of assessing needs
- Services provided closely match needs
- Early identification, accurate assessment and intervention are routine
- Majority of needs met through universal services / early help services.

Specialist services are extending capacity across all services

We will:

- Further develop local SEND expertise amongst best practice providers of all types
- Clearly define referral pathways for specialist support and the Early Help Offer
- Develop a framework for the quality assurance of providers
- Define the role of special school nursing and therapy services – including training, support for education, health and care assessments, emergency and crisis support, and safeguarding
- Assure the quality and participation of health professionals in Educational Health Care Plans
- Co-locate specialist services, and ensure a streamlined approach through the development of area services.

Success will mean:

- High quality practice
- Parents and commissioners confident about the quality of services provided
- Accessible, joined up services.

Multi-use accessible accommodation supporting learning and independence

We will:

- Plan special educational, health and care provision using robust growth predictions and needs analysis.
- Ensure new and remodelled accommodation is matched to specific needs (with particular focus on the efficient and effective delivery of local services, specialist work, learning, life skills and promoting independence.)
- Plan for schools buildings to be flexible and accessible beyond the school day and across the year – allowing for multiple use by different agencies.
- Support young people in developing independent living skills and having a home of their own where possible.

Success will mean:

- Accommodation matched to specific needs
- Accessible schools – used to deliver a range of services by different agencies
- Confident, independent young people.

Joint commissioning for better outcomes through personalisation and integration

We are going to:

- Jointly commission services (between the Council and Clinical Commissioning Group) where possible
- Use joint commissioning as a means of enabling different partners across education, health and social care to work together to provide more integrated and personalised support.
- Use the Transforming Care Programme to drive a model of commissioning – with an emphasis on personalised care, support planning, personal budgets and personal health budgets.

Success will mean:

- Personalised and integrated support.

Local services complement the planned regional offer

We are going to:

- Plan to build capacity effectively - in partnership with local authorities in the region
- Ensure commissioned SEND services are clear about on how they fit into the overall area strategy.
- Develop a skilled and experienced specialist workforce
- Develop an integrated approach across Children's and Adult's services and across the region (through the wider health footprint) – so that the transition between services is not felt.

Success will mean:

- Central Bedfordshire is a leading provider of specialist services in education, health and social care (shared planning)
- Increased choice for families
- A skilled workforce - a powerful component in a regional and national offer.

Young people are supported in their aspirations and goals in preparing for adulthood

We are going to:

- Enable sufficient time for young people, parents / carers to engage in identifying the support and resources required to prepare a young person for adulthood
- Build on the Central Bedfordshire Preparing for Adulthood Strategy (14-25)
- Ensure everyone involved in supporting children as they approach adulthood is working together to help children reach their goals
- Support SEND children from the age of 14 to consider training, volunteering or paid employment opportunities, and work with businesses and charities to provide better opportunities
- Ensure voices are heard and young people, parents and carers are able to make decisions about their care and support.

Success will mean:

- Children prepared for adulthood
- Young people encouraged to have aspirations and achieving their goals
- Young people living healthy and fulfilling lives in their community.