

# High Needs Block Inclusion Project Project Overview

# Schools Forum, 12 June 2017

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Agenda Item

## **High Needs block**



- 2016/17 end of year £2.5m overspend (reduction from projected £3.8m)
- Nationally in the top eight of LAs using independent provision. In 2016/17 - 366 pupils costing £19.5m (12% of our young people 36% of total cost)
- Key groups in independent provision are higher functioning ASD and SEMH provision
- High Needs Project Board set up to oversee work required

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# **High Needs Project**



#### Aim

 To improve the quality and sufficiency of education provision and associated services supporting CYP with SEND and other vulnerable children in the most cost effective way in order to control and reduce the current HNB funding overspend.

#### **Objectives**

- Support mainstream schools and settings to develop their SEND provision
- Develop local specialist services to ensure sufficiency of places in high quality specialist provision across a continuum of needs
- Ensure CYP with SEND and their families / carers receive equitable support to meet the correct level of need and improve their outcomes in a cost effective manner whilst giving them a voice in developing services
- Promote inclusion in maintained schools, educating CYP 'closer to home', preventing exclusions and the need to move pupils into high cost placements
- Appropriate controls and monitoring in place to reduce the High Needs Block funding overspend with the longer term aim to bring within budget.
- Ensure the High Needs budget Medium Term Financial savings targets are delivered and are sustainable;



- 1. Case Planning and Review
- 2. Specialist Teaching Service
- 3. Independent Placement Commissioning
- 4. Sufficiency and Provision
- 5. Behaviour and Inclusion
- 6. Children with Medical Needs

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#### WS1 SEN Case Planning and review

 To review the assessment, planning and review processes and pathways to access the SEN element of the high needs block budget, ensuring we are assessing those with the most complex needs

### **WS2 Specialist Teaching Service**

Review the STS delivery model to establish a statutory,
core and traded service offer focussed on outcomes



## WS3 Independent School placements commissioning

 To have a more efficient and cost effective way of sourcing independent placements and managing provider relationship, demonstrating quality and value for money

## **WS4 SEN Sufficiency and Provision**

 To improve the quality and sufficiency of SEND education provision and specialist services by supporting mainstream schools and settings to develop their SEND provision across a continuum of needs

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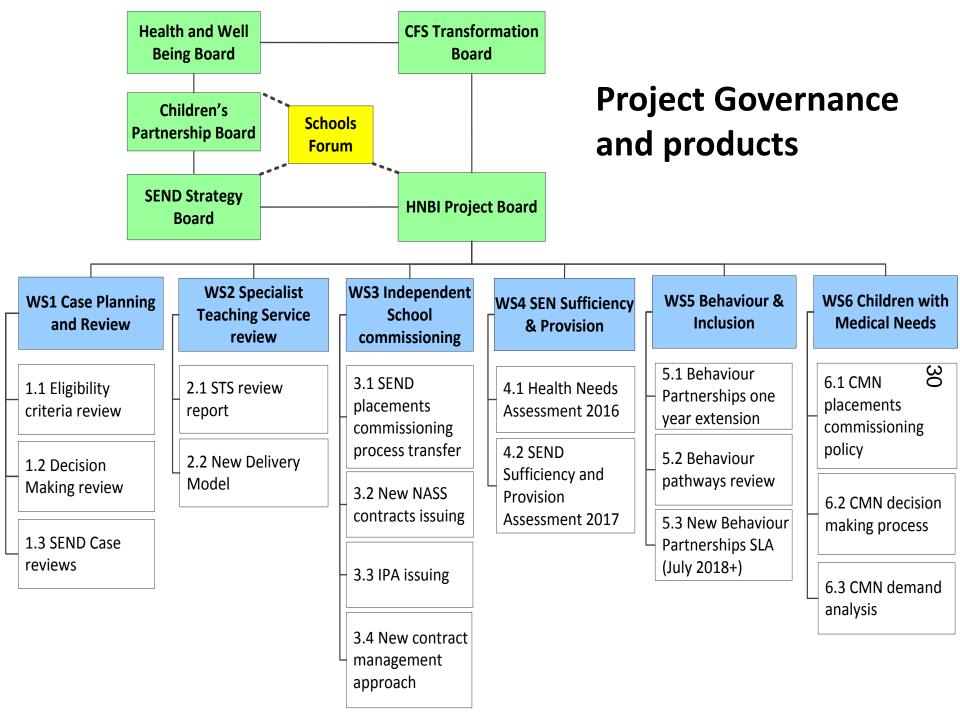


#### WS5 Behaviour & Inclusion

 To support the delivery of behaviour and inclusion support for vulnerable children within schools through strong partnership working, promoting inclusion in maintained schools, preventing exclusions and the subsequent need for high cost placements

#### WS6 Children with Medical Needs

 To analyse current and future demand for this cohort and improve the processes and methods of support for these pupils



## Progress to date



- HoS SEND recruited (starts June 2017)
- Interim HoS Education Quality recruited (starts w/c 29/5)
- SEND 'Voice' post under recruitment
- SEND 'request for independent placements' panel in place and meeting fortnightly
- SEND 'request for assessment' panel in place and meeting fortnightly
- EHC facilitators transferred to SENA team
- Additional SENA posts recruited to

## **Progress to date**



- Behaviour Partnerships extension approved
- Case reviews of pupils in independent provision at key transition points (provision cost reduced by £496k)
- Review of CYP in intensive outreach provision started
- Review of YP in specialist post 16 colleges started
- Draft SEND Strategy shared with board membership
- Initial comms messages via Headteacher meetings and Newsletter
- SEND Project Officer recruited (started w/c 27/4)

## **Progress to date**



- SEND development event and agreed steps to improve the quality of EHC assessment, plans and reviews
- Transition plan format under development, this will support improved transition planning
- PATH person centred training taken place (supports improved transition planning)
- New approach to case reviewing communicated (begins Sept 2017)
- Sufficiency and Provision high level data drafted
- 50% Independent School provider contracts returned

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## **Key Project Risks**



- Increase in parental challenge
- Greater financial pressure put on budget from increasing costs and / or non achievement of savings
- Judicial Review
- Lack of capacity across services to support project delivery
- Cabinet agreement not given for changes
- An increase in educational tribunals
- Reputational damage due to negative Media reporting
- Ofsted / CQC SEND inspection visit



## **Other SEND developments**

- SEND Board and Strategy
- Local Offer
- Short breaks
- Transition
- Health
- Social care
- SEN Transport

- Additional capital funding grant £2m over 3 years
- Inclusion Projects fund
- Develop resource provision<sup>™</sup>
   and hub and spoke model in
   localities but needs wrap
   around, SALT etc
- Inspection Preparation

# Any questions?

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