

Somerset Parent Carer Forum

Weekly update



Welcome back we hope you had a nice half term break. This week involved a lot of meetings that involved preparation for OFSTED and CQC. This has allowed agencies to be reflective on what is happening within the Somerset area and plan how to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

CONFERENCE ON SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION NEEDS

Two representatives attended a conference on Speech, Language and Communication needs of children and young people. The conference reviewed the recommendations made in the Bercow 10 years on report. Lots of examples of how the development of speech can be supported within a school environment.

The conference also discuss provision to support children and young people with a diagnosis of Autism or who are likely to be on the spectrum. At the conference training from the Autism Education Trust was launched and this will be rolled out to the education settings across Somerset.

LOCAL OFFER

Somerset Parent Carer Forum representatives met with the children's commissioning team to discuss the future development of the Local Offer.

Now we have an easier platform to use we need to ensure it is maintained and that good quality information is made readily available for families in Somerset.

HEALTH SEND MEETING

We attended the second monthly meeting with the SEND health team from the CCG and its providers. The group outlined areas that they felt would be beneficial to review.

The forum raised the fact that many families find it difficult to find out how to access the help they need and it was agreed a piece of work will be undertaken to make sure pathways are published on the Local Offer.

AUTISM EDUCATION TRUST

Just before the summer holidays Somerset arranged to be able to deliver the AET training to educational settings. The AET website also contains lots of resources for schools and there is a sections for parents.

www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk



Short breaks statement

Work continues on the short breaks statement using feedback from parent carers via the survey and events held earlier in the year. Once the statement is ready it will be shared for feedback, hopefully January 2019.



Coffee morning Yeovil

We also ran our monthly coffee morning at Oaklands Primary School. We were joined by the transport department allowing for parents to discuss any concerns and questions directly. The last group for this year will be Friday 14th December 10-12.