

Southwark Children's and Adults' Services – Education

Parents and Young Peoples Consortium

Meeting Minutes: 15th July 2017

In attendance:

- Cara Jones (SIAS and Local Offer Manager)
- Kwame Ocloo (Youth Learning Network)
- Haroona Malik (Parent)
- Nicky Rolfe (Parent)
- Rejoyce Da-Silva (SPCC)
- Sarah Caffery (Visual Impairment Teacher)
- Elliot Duffy (Continuing Care)
- Bel (Sickle Cell and Young Stroke Survivors)
- Sandra Lempkowska (Southwark Parent Carer Council)
- Olukemi Oyenuga (Ibi) (Southwark Parent Carer Council)
- Carol Sweeny (SEND in the Experts)
- Abu Bangura (SEND in the Experts Lead (16-25))
- Teresa Fiveash (SEND in the Experts)
- Elaine Walters (Principal Young Peoples' Librarian)

Item 1: Introductions & Newcomers

Item 2: Library Services for SEND :
Elaine Walters- Young People's
Principal Librarian

- Elaine Walters (Libraries Development Manager for Children & Young People) visited the Consortium to address issues raised in meeting 1 about young people with SEND accessing Libraries and what services are available to them.
- There are volunteering opportunities for young people aged 14+ at Southwark Libraries.
- There are story telling sessions for young people with additional needs where they use additional props. Badbooks deliver propos and training for these special sessions. Young people receive stickers, keyrings and prizes for participating.
- Southwark Libraries have books of different formats, ones made for touching

and feeling.

- There are books available for children with Dyslexia in the parent/carer section
- Parents can email book recommendations for the Library to the Elaine.
- Parents are concerned that at the moment there are no special areas for young people with special needs.
- A suggestion was made for ear defenders and a separate room for those with sensory needs.
- Booked aimed at individuals who have a sibling with needs was recommended.
- The library has a general supplier but can go outside of the supplier to purchase additional books.
- Queries around the summer reading challenge only going up to the age of 17 were raised. Elaine established that the age is only the general reading age and that older young people can participate if they wish.
- There is a book group for people with needs 2-3 of them.
- Parents requested for coloured over-lace to be available at libraries. Without it young people may get dyslexia-headaches or won't read books.
- Complaints were made about library staff not being trained for dealing with young people with SEND.
- Solution was presented for running a bespoke Cygnet programme for Library staff. A half day of training is preferred.
- Parents would prefer an allocated IT spaces for young people with SEND.
- A suggestion included welcome to the library sessions for young people with SEND.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A special area for young people with needs should be made a priority. • An idea to have parent volunteers in libraries was put forward. • A suggestion was a survey for parents to ask and find out if this is feasible. • More tailored books are needed aimed at people who are living with someone with special needs. • The idea of parents as volunteers was well liked, and SIAS can help with the training (Cygnet) • The ages that the library sessions are aimed at is the level of reading rather than age based. • A suggestion was made to get staff from Bede house to come in and do session on training.
<p>Item 3: Proposed Southwark Disabilities Hub</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed disabilities hub will provide information and advice for young people aged 18+ • Parents suggested that those managing the Disabilities hub will need to be trained in SEND. • The panel be open to tender and offered ½ million to run it. 2 people from the Consortium will be able to help with the panel and help choose who will be chosen to run it. • Parents suggested the Hub will need to have Skype, phone and satellite drop-ins.
<p>Item 4: Vision Statement</p>	<p>The Consortium were asked to select their preferred slogan. The results are as follow:</p>

	<p><i>'Where Children and young people with SEND have opportunities that meet their needs'</i>7 out of 12 members</p> <p><i>'Where children and young people have with SEND have the same opportunities as everyone else'</i> 4 out of 12 members</p> <p><i>'where there are equal opportunities for all children and young people with SEND'</i> 1 out of 12 members</p>
<p>Item 5: Transport Consultation</p>	<p>Feedback was requested on the taxi service for young people with SEND survey.</p> <p>Comments made on the survey and the taxi service are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents did not like that the escorts have to go via the organisation to send a message to the parent if something goes wrong. Parents prefer that the escort has the parent's direct number. • Parents agreed that escorts should have additional training to manage young people with special needs • Parents suggest that the escort's behaviour and attitude towards young people should be taken in to consideration during the recruitment process. Escorts attitude should be included in the policy. <p>When the provider's contract ends next year two Consortium members will have a chance to go on the panel.</p>
<p>Item 6: AOB</p>	<p>The Council are giving every school an additional £5k. Thoughts are needed from the Consortium on what it should be spent on. Comments were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools should be made aware that it is not part of their standard income. • Autism Awareness days, different types of awareness days such as HI, VI or something bespoke to the school <p>Future things to think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Miguel will be attending a future

	<p>meeting to discuss changes to the 0-25 pathway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Terms of references will be refreshed• Parents will be trained on how to be on tender panel.
<p>Item 7: Next Meeting: 11:30-1.00pm 12 September 2017</p>	