

# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Newsletter

## Introduction – Marion Neuman

I am a Speech and Language Therapist and Audiologist by profession and have been a frontline clinician for over 20 years. At the beginning of my career, I worked across a range of services with adults and children in South Africa. Since moving to England, my direction moved predominantly to children and young people within the NHS. As an NHS employee, I have worked with Central London Community Healthcare, East London Foundation Trust and North East London Foundation Trust. Drawing on the best ideas from across London I have been involved in several Service development initiatives and quality Improvement projects.

Within my previous role as Clinical Team Lead in Barnet I was involved in the service redesign, bringing together the Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy services to form an Integrated Therapy Team.

More recently, I have faced the greatest challenge yet with the COVID 19 Pandemic. Always with an eye on innovation for the service and how to best support children and families in the community, the new project involved setting up teletherapy, online workshops and virtual drop-in sessions to facilitate support within COVID safe restrictions.

In my new role as Head of Integrated Therapy, I am looking forward to further enhancing the service, taking it on to the next level working with children, young people, parents, carers, health and education within Barnet.



## Little People, Big Emotions

### *Supporting SEN children with emotional regulation*

On Wednesday 26 January our Early Years SEND Conference took place and it was wonderful to see over 200 people attend.

The conference was for Barnet parents/carers and professionals working in Early Years and was an opportunity to learn more about how we can support children within the Early Years, particularly focusing on understanding and supporting children's emotional regulation for those with special educational needs.

We had some valuable and informative workshops on:

- Emotion Coaching Educational Psychology Team
- Practical activities to support children's emotional regulation Barnet Early Years Team and Beam
- Supporting sensory regulation - Children's Integrated Services
- Understanding and supporting behaviour as communication Educational Psychologist Team
- Signposting Barnet organisations, teams and resources Community Organisations

**Joann Moore**  
Early Years SEND Advisor



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## Ofsted SEND Inspection

Following our OFSTED and CQC (Care Quality Commission) joint area SEND inspection which took place between 17 - 21 January 2022, the feedback letter from Ofsted and the CQC highlights the excellent work that has been achieved to realise the intentions of the SEND reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014. The letter from Ofsted and the CQC can be found here ([LINK](#)).

Inspectors spoke with children and young people with SEND, parents and carers, and local authority and NHS officers. They visited some schools and an FE college and spoke to leaders, staff and governors about how they were implementing the SEND reforms. Inspectors looked at a range of information about the performance of the area, including the area's self-evaluation framework (SEF). Inspectors met with leaders for education, health and social care. The inspectors reviewed performance data and evidence about the local offer and joint commissioning arrangements. Inspectors were able to see evidence of good and effective partnership working, including excellent co-production work with our parents, and most importantly great outcomes for our children and young people with SEND.

Areas for improvement include access to therapies (particularly speech and language therapy and occupational therapy), reducing waiting times for an Autism diagnosis and shortening the waiting time for CAMHS appointments. An action plan is being developed, led by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to address these issues and drive forward the necessary improvements.

**Dr Helen Phelan**  
**Director, SEND & Inclusion**  
**LBB & Barnet Education and Learning Service**

## Further Developments of Specialist SEND Provision in Barnet

The number of children and young people in Barnet with an Education, Health and Care Plan has increased by 22% over the last two years. Given the fact that many of these children have complex special educational needs and/or disabilities there has been a significant expansion in specialist provision in Barnet to meet the growing demand. It is worth noting, that for the majority of children and young people with SEND including those who have an EHC Plan, they will have their needs met in mainstream schools and children and young people with SEND in Barnet achieve really well.

All of the special schools in Barnet have expanded, with the development of satellite provision (on a mainstream site but run by a special school) for most of the special schools, and we have opened a currently consulting on proposals to open an Annex for Northway special school to enable the school to take children from 5 to 18 years. If the proposals are agreed, the Annex will open in September 2022.

Plans are also well under way for the opening of a new special free school in September 2023. The Windmill special school will be for learners aged 5 to 18 years with a diagnosis of Autism and have an Education, Health and Care Plan. When full, it will offer places for 90 children and young people whose autism is the main barrier to their learning.

For the latest news as it develops, see [www.thewindmillschool.org](http://www.thewindmillschool.org). In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact [tw@bsentrust.org](mailto:tw@bsentrust.org).

**Dr Helen Phelan**  
**Director, SEND & Inclusion**  
**LBB & Barnet Education and Learning Service**





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## Barnet Children's Integrated Therapy service

The Barnet Children's Integrated Therapy service provides children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities with speech and language therapy, health and social care, occupational therapy and physiotherapy in schools and children's centres, clinics and their homes.

From 1 February 2022, the Barnet Children's Integrated Therapy service is being provided by Whittington Health NHS Trust. We wanted to reassure you that there will be no changes to the service and children, young people and families will continue to receive the same speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy care, provided by the same staff in the same locations.

All scheduled and booked appointments will still operate as planned. You can now contact the service using the following details:

- 020 3316 8900
- [whh-tr.barnetcit@nhs.net](mailto:whh-tr.barnetcit@nhs.net)
- <https://www.whittington.nhs.uk/barnetCIT>

Over the coming months, Whittington Health will be investing in the service in order to make improvements. In particular, the focus will be on reducing waiting times for assessment and treatment and ensuring that services are more resilient.

Whittington Health NHS Trust aims to help local people live longer and healthier lives by providing safe, personal, coordinated care for the community they serve. The Trust already provides community services to Barnet patients as well as to over 500,000 people living in Islington, Haringey, Enfield, Camden and Hackney.

In its latest inspection report, the Care Quality Commission rated Whittington Health as Good overall and Outstanding for being caring. It found that its community services for children and young people had made considerable improvements in meeting target times for people accessing these services and that its staff provided individualised child-centred care.

If you have any questions about the changes, contact the service via the contact details given on the opposite page.

## Upcoming Events on the Local Offer

[Free Language  
Enrichment Programme  
for parent carers to  
support their child](#)



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## Solutions 4 Health SEND Offer

Solutions 4 Health (S4H) is the new provider in the London Borough of Barnet who will be delivering the Healthy Child Programme for all children 0-19 and up to 25 years for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) from 1 April 2022.

The team will consist of Health Visitors and School Nurses who will be the Lead professionals supported by a range of skill mix staff to include Community Staff Nurses, Community Nursery Nurses, Health Care Assistants and Oral Health Promoters.

S4H will have a SEND Lead who will work closely with schools, Children Centres, Early Help, Speech and Language Therapists, GP surgeries, Maternity and Neonatal Units and other stakeholders to ensure that children identified with SEND receive appropriate care and early intervention.

All health professionals working within the 0-19 (25) team are trained to assess children's developmental needs and milestones. Babies, children and young people with medical needs, potential or identified developmental delay will have a named Health Visitor and School Nurse and will receive an enhanced service.

Parents, carers or guardians can access advice from a Health Visitor or School Nurse or book appointments via the Duty Advice Line from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday on telephone number: 0800 246 5745. This number will be operational from 1 April 2022.

Parents can access additional support from their GP or NHS 111 services or NHS Choices: [The NHS website - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk). Parents can also arrange face to face appointments with an option to have a virtual contact if this is appropriate.

There will be a system in place to encourage parents, carers and young people to share their experiences of the service.

***Our friendly and approachable team are looking forward to working within the community of Barnet***



# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Newsletter

## Online T Level CPD for Careers Staff 5th July 3pm – 4:30pm

To provide insight into this new pathway, which will be available in Barnet from September 2023, and to bring up to date information and guidance on the future landscape to careers staff in our provisions, we are delighted to be able to facilitate an online CPD session.

We are confident it will provide relevant T Level information to colleagues involved CEIAG. The training will be delivered by Kevin Gilmartin, Post-16 Specialist, from the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) This event is free of charge.

The training will provide:

- An introduction to T Levels
- An awareness of the range of T Levels and their timeline for implementation
- An understanding of the key structure, content, assessment, awarding and grading of T Levels
- An explanation of what young people need to know and understand about T Levels, in order for them to be able to make effective and fully informed post 16 choices

Following the presentation there will be the opportunity to ask any follow-up questions.

Please look out for e-invite with further details including how to book your place or feel free to contact: Tracy Parrott, Senior Curriculum Adviser,  
[tracy.parrott@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.parrott@barnet.gov.uk)

## SEMH Teaching Toolkit

[Visit our Barnet Local Offer to take a closer look](#)

We are delighted to announce the launch of our SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) Toolkit which has been developed by our Inclusion Advisory Team in BELS (Barnet Education and Learning Service).

This is a practical new toolkit of strategies to support children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs in school.

The new Toolkit is divided into six main areas of need including: relationships and connections, sensory and the environment, language and communication, behavioural regulation, emotional regulation, and self-esteem. Within each of these areas, there are key practical strategies that can be adopted within the classroom to support children and young people.

The toolkit was recently launched and shared with our school community at our Spring term SENCO Conference. It can be used to support the development of universal provision across schools as well as a practical audit tool for classroom practice or offer approaches that can support individual children and young people.

