

Local offer: Health Framework

Changes to services for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities

The government is transforming the system for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN), including those who are disabled, so that services consistently support the best outcomes for them.

South Gloucestershire Council is working to develop a service for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities from birth to age 25 and their families. This will improve their journey through life and also meet the legislative changes of the Children and Families Bill (2013).

The council's vision is for *every child and young person with a special educational need or a disability to be given the best chance to succeed in life by enabling them to maximise their potential at school and college, and to move successfully into adulthood.*

Timeline

March 2014 Engagement report published

Sept 2014 Phased implementation of service changes begins

The Local Offer

Under the new law, local authorities are required to publish a local offer of support and services, including health provision and education, for all children and young people with additional needs. This is so that parents and young people can easily understand what is available to them and how to access it.

South Gloucestershire's local offer will be available on the council's website and is being developed in collaboration with young people, parents and carers.

Information from Health Providers

The attached list of questions is designed to help health providers review and provide links to their information to include in the local offer in a helpful, consistent and comprehensive manner.

The questions below have been developed with our parent and carer forum who have provided details of the type of areas they want answered. Health providers may wish to also add additional links to useful resources they have developed.

Please can you review your online information and consider the questions below to either provide direct links to your supporting information for us to include in the health section of the local offer or where this is not yet available please provide a response that we can publish in our frequently asked questions and we can then work together to develop and improve the information over time.

Contact:

If you need any further guidance please contact:

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Local Offer – health framework for individual health providers

Building on our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment the local offer must include information about health care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities. This should include:

- speech and language and other therapies such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy and services relating to mental health
- services assisting relevant early years providers, schools and post-16 institutions that support children and young people with medical conditions
- health and care provision commonly accessed by children and young people with SEN such as wheelchair services and community equipment, children's community nursing
- Portage, continence services
- Palliative and respite care and other provision for children with complex health needs
- Other services, such as emergency care provisio
- Provision for children and young people's continuing care arrangements (including information on how these are aligned with the education health and care planning process locally)
- Provider Response – how are transitions in health currently handled?
- Support for young people when moving between healthcare services for children to healthcare services for adults.

Frequently asked Questions (from the parent/carer's point of view)

1. Details about the service - what is the service for?
2. How do you identify the particular healthcare needs of a child or young person with special educational needs or disability?
3. What criteria must be satisfied before children and young people can access this service?
4. How do you decide whether my son or daughter meets these criteria?
5. How do I access your service for my son /daughter?
6. Who can refer to your service?
7. What are the approximate waiting times for your service?
8. Does your service offer appointments within the home, phone appointments, school etc?
9. What would I expect from the first appointment?
10. How long do appointments last?
11. Can you recommend anything I should bring with me for a first appointment, such as a diary?
12. Will you see parents on their own at appointments?
13. If I would like a second opinion what would I do?
14. What are the waiting times for equipment?
15. How do you support children and young people with special educational needs moving from children's services to adult's services? (if applicable)
16. How do you assess and review progress towards agreed outcomes, and how are parents, children and young people involved in this process?
17. How do you assess the effectiveness of your healthcare provision - and how are parents, children and young people involved in this assessment?
18. How do you consult with parents and/or children and young people about their needs?