

South Gloucestershire Council's 0-25 Service Structure Changes: May 2018 update

Since April 2018, South Gloucestershire Council's 0-25 Service has undergone some changes in structure. This document describes what has changed, what the changes mean and also includes a structure chart and details of how parents and carers will find out who your named SEND Case Coordinator is (if you don't already know).

What has changed?

The council's 0-25 Service started in 2014 and was responsible for meeting the statutory processes for children and young person who had a statement or an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan).

The 0-25 Service is made up of the following five teams. All the teams were previously part of Integrated Children's Services within the council's Department for Children, Adults and Health:

- **The 0-25 Education Team** (for children and young people with EHC plans). The 0-25 Service Education Team has a statutory role within the Local Authority. Its purpose is to co-ordinate statutory processes under The Children & Families Act 2014 and The Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2015, and other associated legislative frameworks. This includes making decisions on EHC needs assessments, issuing EHC plans and ensuring annual reviews take place so that monitoring and planning focuses on the child or young person's needs and progress.
- **The 0-25 Children with Disabilities Team (age 0-18)** has several functions, including to provide information, advice and support to children, young people, their families and carers to enable children with disabilities to enjoy and achieve social inclusion. This team of social workers has a duty to safeguard vulnerable children and young people and to assess need, develop plans and provide services where appropriate. It then reviews these plans regularly to ensure that outcomes are being achieved.
- **The 0-25 Adults with Disabilities Team (age 16 – 25)** is a team of social workers that works with disabled adults who have an EHC plan and are aged 16-25 and their families, to meet their social care needs.
- **The 0-25 Occupational Therapy team** works with children with complex needs primarily from 0-18 years old at home and in short break settings. The team carries out assessments, implements plans and provides equipment/adaptations as well as undertaking reviews to support disabled children and their families to live safely and independently in their own homes.
- **The 0-25 Transition team** offers short term assistance and advice to young people and adults up to 25 with a range of needs including learning, physical and sensory disability who have an EHC plan. The team assists with: planning for good health; assisting young people and adults into further education, employment and training; helping them to develop friendships and relationships within their local community, and assisting them to have and maintain a place of their own.

On 1 April 2018 the 0-25 Education Team was moved to Education, Learning and Skills, which is also within the Children, Adults and Health department. This Director's decision was made due to the following factors:

- the joint local area SEND inspection in South Gloucestershire (November 2017)
- the views we gathered from parents and carers, people working with children with SEND and partners through the co-production of the SEND strategy 2018-23.

Why have the changes been made and what does it mean for me and my child?

The 0-25 Education Team move to Education, Learning and Skills will help align its work and the support it provides more effectively with all education settings.

The 0-25 Education Team and the other 0-25 Service teams work closely with each other to ensure services for children with SEND are coordinated and well met.

We still have much work to do, but this change is part of the 0-25 Service's commitment to helping ensure continuity and person centred planning for children and families so that we work towards the SEND Strategy 2018-2023 vision:

Enabling children with SEND to achieve their potential and aspirations in a caring and supportive community.

How you will find out who your named SEND Case Coordinator is:

If you don't already know who your named case coordinator is, you will be informed as part of the assessment and annual review process. Once the allocation model has been finalised, we will be letting educational settings and electively home educated parents know the named SEND Case Coordinators for every child with SEND who has an EHC plan.

0-25 Integrated Children's Services and Education Team Structure

See the structure chart below, together with the following descriptions:

Integrated Children's Services and Education, Learning and Skills are both part of the council's Children, Adults and Health Department.

Integrated Children's Services is led by Sonya Miller, Head of Service, and is responsible for a full range of services for children and young people, including Early Intervention & Preventative Services, Children's Social Care and Specialist Services.

Education, Learning and Skills is led by Helean Hughes, Head of Service, and is responsible for all educational services in South Gloucestershire, including Adult and Community Learning.

The 0-25 Service is designed to meet the needs of children and adults with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan). All the 0-25 Service teams will continue to work closely with each other and with our colleagues in the health service to ensure joint decision-making between health, education and social care.

0-25 Integrated Children's Services and Education Team Structure

