



Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College

Headteacher: Mrs Jan Liversage
B. Ed., Ad. Dip., B. Phil. (MSI)

NEWSLETTER 384

15th September 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

Statements and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans)

The Children and Families Act (2014) has identified a change to pull together the three providers for the most complex young people from the age of 0 to 25 years. This is to enable families and young people to be able to plan for the future and to ensure that all 3 services work together to create the best provision based on the information gathered.

We are in the early stages of this implementation so we will learn together about how to produce the Single Plan (you may have heard it called this).

It is important to say that not every young person with a statement will need an EHC plan, but it is fair to say that probably all the young people who attend Amwell View School will eventually have one. Some new children to the school may already have an EHC plan.

At this stage Hertfordshire intends to convert statements this year for those young people in years; **-1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11** and **14** to an EHC plan and it is for this reason that I am writing to you.

Those young people in years; **nursery, reception, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12** and **13** will continue to have a statement for this academic year. They will be converted in the academic year 2015/16. Your child will still have a statement of special educational needs and an Annual Review meeting will be held, just as you have experienced before.

For those pupils who are in the academic years; **-1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11** and **14** we will hold an EHC meeting in order to convert their statement to an EHC plan. We have 44 conversions to complete. Each EHC plan has been scheduled over the academic year, and I have allowed 3 hours per meeting which should give us plenty of time if we all work together.

It is really important that we manage this process as best we can and ensure that everyone is involved. So the date of the meeting will be communicated to all those who need to be invited. Everyone will need to produce their report, but you the parents will need to do your bit too. Section A is all about your child. It is essential that you try to complete this section in order to gain important and valuable information which will, from now on, be shared in a new way with all the parties that are involved with your child. If there is a date in the next academic year which is unsuitable then please let me know now so that we can arrange your meeting with this in mind.

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The EHC plan meeting may be attended by the school's named education officer. In our case this is Teresa Rozbicka. She will help us all to try to get this process right, or as right as it can be at this stage of the implementation. Other professionals will be invited and we do hope they will be able to attend. You have already received a letter from Debbie Orton explaining the process, but this newsletter will confirm the arrangements for this school.

So, in the meantime please can you get ready to be involved by thinking about your young person's likes and dislikes and all those people who are important to them. Letters will be arriving really soon to notify you of the dates that your meeting will be held whether it be a statement review, an EHC Plan conversion, or an EHC Plan review meeting.

When you receive your date, you will also receive an EHC Plan report, which will be set out slightly differently from previous years. You need to complete section A about your child and the family views and return it to us in advance of the meeting, so that we have time to read it and circulate it to other professionals.

As always we will try really hard to manage the change and help you through it. It will not affect your child's rights to special education provision but explain more fully the needs of your child and the ways in which those needs can be met by Health and Social care as well as Education.

I do hope that you understand the part that you will need to play and how important it will be for you to attend the planned meeting on the date specified. Please be prepared and ensure that you participate fully. This is new for everyone so we will have to learn together.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Liversage
Head Teacher

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