

Parent Carers Together Feedback Form

Name: Louise Middleton

Meeting description: SEND EET SPB

Where was meeting held: via Teams

Date of meeting: 11th February 2021

Start & finish time: 10:00 – 11:30

Any future meeting dates, if known: tbc

Feedback can be in any format; it should contain important points that came out of the meeting, your opinions, any related work that you think overlaps, action points that you might be involved with, any areas of concern. This will be shared with all PCT reps and committee.

Please email to bethcallis@parentcarerstogether.org.uk within 2 weeks of meeting

FEEDBACK & COMMENTS *(please use further pages if necessary)*

Julia Coleman – Chairing (BCP); Georgie Pinder (BC); Robyn Gough (BCP); Catherine Beater (CEC); Lyndsey Sloan (BCP); Adrain Gunner (SWARAC); Karen Taylor (Linwood CHI); Jo Bispham (BCP); Helen Lewis (BCP)

Siobhan Hann has been looking at 18+ Supported Internships in BCP Council – what long term support would be needed. Jobcentre and BCP College are looking at having placement coordinators in Jobcentres.

Julia shared the school attendance presentation. In Jan there were 5912 Keyworker children in schools, by Feb this had risen to 7914.

95.4% of settings were offering places to vulnerable children.

By 2nd Feb – there were 10 positive Covid cases resulting in 337 students having to self-isolate. By half term this had risen to 21 positive Covid cases with 346 students needing to self-isolate.

It was reported that none of these were student to adult transmissions, but that staff were picking up the virus in the community (supermarkets etc).

Winchelsea hoping to re-open on 23rd February, 2 other special schools on reduced timetables.

How are schools going to support students when re-open, given that some have spent a year out of school. What measures in place to support those anxieties that may arise from being in a busy environment, engaging with school life, following rules.

There are measures in place (some schools have engaged with the MHSTs) and there are resources available to support students mental wellbeing as they return to schools. If parents have concerns about how their child may cope then it is advised to speak to the class teacher in the first instance. Schools are aware that some

students will experience difficulties re-engaging, and are aware that for some a part-time timetable may be the best route initially, gently building up to full-time attendance.

Linwood are operating a Recovery Curriculum – aiming to build up children and young people’s stamina to return to school full-time. It was agreed that the language around ‘catch-up’, ‘lost generation’ etc was not helpful to students or their parents. It needs to be more positive, this language is too emotional and will give the impression of failure.

BCP want to have an online Apprenticeship Show in May – it has been harder to engage with young people (14-16) than with their families.

There needs to be a coordinated effort to engage with young people, especially those at risk of being NEET. Information needs to include the benefit of returning to, or staying in education (curriculum needs to be re-designed to accommodate different learning styles).

It was reported that low level MH difficulties and SEMH needs not being addressed in all aschools.

AG reported that schools have been given a direct phone no. for CAMHS and EP Support.

At 18 people offered Steps to Wellbeing – *however it needs to be recognised that this should not be a one size fits all approach, it has been reported that young people can be trapped in a never ending cycle of Steps to Wellbeing courses with no progress being made. We also briefly mentioned that parents have been required to do ‘parenting classes’ before they can gain access to the Development & Behaviour Pathway.* HL – secondary schools are engaging with parents via video, webchats (evening and weekends) and more projects are coming on board.

SR – adult education (19+) there has been a conflicting response to opportunities, people unsure of their priorities.

BCP looking to put together a range of activities for NEETs, more to follow.

Southern University are putting together a package of next steps – no details yet.

CB spoke about online events being held – CAS on 20th May – this is being organised through CEC funding. Dorset Hub are also putting on evening events for parents to support young people with education, employment & training choices.