

SEND Hub Network Local Offer

For parents/carers, children, young people and other professionals.

For each question there is a set maximum 250 word limit.

1. What does your SEND Hub Network do?

- *What is the key purpose of your SEND Hub network and how does it contribute to better outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families? What are the typical activities or support that you offer?*
- *Do you have any limitations on the amount of time your service will support a child or young person? Do you provide any on-going support?*

 is an emerging SEND Hub Network for East Grinstead and the Surrounding Area. National expectations and provision for SEND and vulnerable people is changing rapidly at present and many decisions have yet to be taken beyond the local area that will impact on provision in the locality.

 will be emerging in this climate: maintaining an awareness of national and local authority developments and adapting local plans to accommodate those developments as they arise.

The outcomes that the Strategic Group have in mind are : to offer children and young people with any special educational needs or disabilities aged 0 – 25 years greater inclusion into the community, improved life chances and greater opportunities for personal fulfilment.

While  does not support children and young people directly at present, it is likely to do so through commissioning services in the future. Currently support is offered to families and professionals through signposting, training events, workshops and collaborative thinking.  aims to be solution focused but is not an arbitration service.

2. Who leads your SEND Hub Network and what areas does it cover?

- *Which geographical areas does your SEND Hub Network cover? Do you have a lead school / setting? Who are they? **Which schools/colleges are members of your SEND Hub? If not already a member of your SEND Hub how can schools become a member?** What other partners are strategic leads?*

The Strategic Group leads  with Governance provided by the directors of East Grinstead Group of Schools Community Interest Company. There is no specific lead school or setting;  is a collaborative service that works in partnership with EGGs and families. All children and young people and their families that live or are educated within East Grinstead and the surrounding area are welcome to access  services.

At present membership is limited to EGGs members who contribute funds to the hub.

In the coming year  will be looking to develop links and partnership with other provision providers from Education, Health and Social Care, with a view to developing more effectively co-ordinated services. This is likely to depend on the impact of the new Children and Families Act which comes into force in September 2014.

3. Who does your SEND Hub Network provide for?

- *What types of need and age ranges do you cover? What are the eligibility criteria to use your service?*
- *Are there any types of disabilities that you do not provide for?*

See 1 & 2 above

4. How can I access support from the SEND Hub Network?

- *Can I make direct contact myself (as a parent carer, young person) or would there need to be a referral from someone else and if so, who?*
- ***What support can I access as a school /setting member of the SEND Hub?***
- *Do you charge for the service and if so, what are the costs? Can a parent carer use their personal budget to pay for the service or to add to the service?*
- *Are there any waiting lists and if so, how long are they?*

At present, families are able to make initial contact with  through the Special Needs Leader at their child's school. Similarly, EGGs schools can contact  through their own SENCO. Other interested parties are encouraged to contact any Special Needs Co-ordinator of any EGGs School.

Contributing EGGs Schools are: Ashurstwood Primary School, Baldwins Hill Primary School, Blackwell Primary School, Copthorne CE Junior School, Crawley Down Village CE School, Estcots Primary School, Fairway Infants School, Halsford Park Primary School, St. Mary's CE Primary School, St. Peter's RC Primary School, The Meads Primary School, Turners Hill CE Primary School, West Hoathly CE Primary School, Imberhorne School, Sackville School.

Some services and events are provided free of charge and others will be provided at cost. Details are made clear on enquiry or in promotional material.

The  website www.nestsend.org.uk and newsletters offer updates on  activities as well as signposting to other services. Our newsletter is published at least 3 times per year and is circulated to every family with a child educated in an EGGs school as well as on the  website and other local outlets.

5. How are decisions made about who can use your service?

- *How are these decisions made and who makes them? How will I know the reasons behind their decisions? How will you help me understand them? How are parent carers and young people involved in decision making?*

 actively encourages families to become involved. Parents are represented on the Strategic Group.  works in partnership with EGGs schools to support families to work in a solution focused way.

The Strategic Group consider ideas, suggestions and requests. Criteria for moving forward include: availability of services, affordability, quality of provision, balance of services and equality of access.

Currently,  does not provide support to children or young people directly. The hub is able to signpost to services and may offer advice and training.  is building a bank of resources available for loan including books and small equipment. Information will be available on the website (www.nestsend.org.uk)

6. How do you communicate with service users and how are they involved in decision making/planning?

- *What are your usual methods of seeking the views of service users? Do you use any specialist communication system e.g. signing? What leaflets and information do you have?*
- *How does the service communicate with parent carers whose first language is not English? How will I know how well my child or young person is doing? Do you offer any parent training or learning events?*

In the early developmental phase  has carried out a SEND audit of all EGGs schools and also devised a survey for families that can be completed at Survey Monkey. In addition to this, members of the Strategic Group and EGGs SENCOs take opportunities to talk with families and gather more information about SEND provision, needs and dreams in East Grinstead and the surrounding areas. Using the information gathered,  is developing policies and a programme of activities and services.

In the near future, similar information gathering will begin from other provision providers including pre-schools.

 addresses accessibility issues on an individual basis and endeavours to meet individual and group needs.

7. Is your service fully accessible?

- *How accessible are your online services to users? A welcome statement may be useful such as "please feel free to contact us in advance to discuss your specific needs and we will work with you to resolve any access issues as far as possible."*
- *If you have a building space, is it fully wheelchair accessible? Have there been improvements in the auditory and visual environment? Are there disabled changing and toilet facilities? Do you have a changing places facility? Is this about an overview of the settings within the Hub?*
- *What support is there for a child with additional needs in general areas eg waiting rooms? How will my child or young person be able to access all of the activities of the service and how will you assist him or her to do so?*

We welcome feedback about our online service on our website. Users are also welcome to contact  to discuss any matter of SEND interest. SENCOs in all EGGs schools are also available to offer a personal response or refer matters arising to .

 is not based in any one building at present but venues for  events are usually local schools or meeting rooms. Wherever possible, physical access for those with SENDs is actively considered. In the exceptional situation where physical access is limited, this is made clear before the event.

Service users with other disabilities that may need particular provision are welcome to contact  for advice in advance.

8. What training is available and what have the staff supporting children and young people with SEND had or are having?

- *This should include recent and future planned training and disability awareness. Are there any specialist staff? Do any other services work closely with yours?*
- *Are there specialist staff working at / in partnership with the Hub and what are their qualifications?*
- *What other services does the setting / school/college access including health, therapy and social care services?*

 does not directly employ any staff at present. The Strategic Group is drawn from the local schools community and parent volunteers.  funds are used to cover the essential expenses for this. EGGs SENCOs are experienced in supporting a wide spectrum of SENDS including dyslexia, ASD, Hearing and Visual difficulties, Speech and Language, Down's Syndrome, cerebral palsy etc. In future, as part of the commissioning and partnership process, it is anticipated that Health and Social Care specialists will work in co-operation with  to develop more effectively co-ordinated services. In the light of information gathered recently e.g. Family Survey, Audit of Need in schools etc. particular training needs are being explored and the Strategic Group will be more able to prioritise needs and commission appropriate training.

Much of the awareness raising about the new legislation has been undertaken by  in collaboration with West Sussex Parent Carer Forum and EGGs SENCOs have already requested and received training in Coaching Skills through .

9. Who can I contact for further information?

- *Who would be my first point of contact if I want to discuss something about my child/young person? **Parent? Professional?***
- *Who else has a role in my child's/young person support? Who can I talk to if I am worried? Who should I contact if I am considering whether child/young person would benefit from the service?*

See 4 above