Transforming SEND and Inclusion in Leicestershire

Round Table Discussions - October – November 2022
Follow-up from discussions with stakeholders

Context

Between 24th October and 4th November, the Transforming SEND and Inclusion Programme team hosted a series of 5 "coffee mornings."

These were follow-up discussions with key stakeholders who attended the main engagement event on 12th October and consisted of parents/carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, as well as education providers within Leicestershire.

What was the purpose of the sessions?

- For those that attended the main engagement event held on 12th October to give their feedback in more detail
- For key members of the programme team to share the proposed areas of activity (workstreams) within the programme
- To share the proposed format of design groups, including their purpose and how people can get involved

A summary of the information shared during the sessions includes:

Programme Aim: Leicestershire children and young people are supported by a system that is fair and transparent to get the right support at the right time throughout their education

Project breakdown: Key areas of work within the programme is split down into four project areas, and each project has a series of activity (also referred to as "workstreams"):

System Transformation: Inclusive practice in the system: The purpose of this project is to enable everyone involved in supporting children and young people to take action and give the right support where needed

Supporting workstreams include:
1. Support for Schools
2. Early Years
3. Inclusive Culture
4. Visibility of Inclusive Practice

Service Transformation: Decision making and ways of working
The purpose of this project is to ensure ways of working within Leicestershire County Council (LCC), allow us to understand the needs of children and young people and make transparent, needs-based decisions, with timely and clear communication around these

Supporting workstreams include:

1. Identifying needs
2. Decision to assess and drafting EHCPs (Education, Health, and Care Plans)
3. Setting type decision making
4. Confirming placements and sufficiency
5. Proactive reviews and ceasing plan

Digital and Performance

The purpose of this project is to ensure that across LCC and the wider system, we have accurate information about children and young people, and visibility of this allows us to make evidence-based decisions

Supporting workstreams include:

1. Data consolidation and access
2. Performance framework
3. Benefits monitoring

Communications and Engagement

Ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to work together to improve the offer available to learners and that everyone understands the part they play in making a difference.

This is an enabling project and is all about engaging stakeholders through change, improving communication with key groups, and ensuring joined-up programme communications.

Design Groups

A series of "design groups" are suggested as follows:

Design theme and theme Numbers

a. Service Transformation: Identifying strengths and the needs of children and young people (1)
b. Service Transformation: Provision based on need (new EHCPs, placements, and Annual Reviews) (2)
c. Service Transformation: Ensuring clear communication between the Local Authority and parents/carers throughout the process (3)
d. Inclusive Practice in Schools: Early Years and our support offer to education settings (4)
e. Inclusive Practice in Schools: Best practice and culture in schools (5)
f. Digital and Performance: Performance Framework, data & digital tools (6)
g. Communication and Engagement (7)

The programme wanted representatives for each design group to include:

- A Design Lead
- Parent/Carer representative
- Child/young person's voice
- School/ education setting staff
- Finance (the Local Authority)
- Head Teacher
- Support service staff

Those attending the sessions were invited to express an interest. This list has now been collated, and those who nominated themselves will be contacted by a program lead to join a group.

Aim of the design groups
The aim is for these design groups to generate ideas that will provide solutions to some of the key challenges that that programme hopes to address and to support the programme team to develop and test ideas.

What about those that want to get involved but can't join a design group?
Those that are keen to get involved in the programme but are unable to join a design group can:
- Share their ideas and views by emailing the programme inbox at: TransformingSENDI@leics.gov.uk
- Take part in future surveys
- Keep up to date with the latest programme information on our dedicated webpage

What's happening with feedback generated during the follow-up sessions?
Key feedback from the sessions has been shared with each project area and will be considered within the design activity. In addition, we will prepare and upload FAQs (frequently asked questions) to our web page; we will update these as the programme progresses.