

SEND Transformation Update

January 2024

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Updates:

- Development of the Education Health Care Team
- Development of SEND support
- Progress on school placement
- Reaching out
- Development around 14-25 offer and Preparing for Adulthood
- Other achievements

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Development and transition of the Education Health Care Team

- In the last year we have increased the establishment of the EHCP team by 1 Senior, 1 Case Worker, 6 Assistant Case workers with the aim of reducing caseloads from over 450 to 350 per worker
- We are currently recruiting on fixed 1 year basis 1 x case worker and 2 x Case Co-Ordinators to ensure we can complete all the review work
- All staff are now permanent staff, bringing much needed stability to the team and allowing them to build meaningful relationship with families and schools – all schools have a named linked case worker, and all children are linked to a case worker
- The team has moved fully onto the Liquid Logic system so that all work is correctly recorded on the child/young person's electronic record, and to support improved data reporting (ceasing the use of standalone spread sheets)
- Review of the phone and email system to improve response to calls and enquires from parents/carers and schools
- Weekly data tracking meetings to support improved performance
- Team have undertaken a range of mandatory and specialist training as part of the upskilling of the team - the team are due to undertake the IPSEA legal training next

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The biggest shift in the team has in separating out the 2 key functions of the team, establishing 2 groups of staff who then have a specific focus and protected time:

NEW ASSESSMENTS TEAM

- Responsible for carrying out the statutory assessment
- Responsible for meeting statutory deadlines and issuing a EHC plan within 20 weeks.
- Issuing a Draft EHC plan and liaising with parents/carers and professionals.
- Responsible for quality assurance of EHC plans.
- Responsible for chasing professional advice.
- Responsible for keeping communication with parents/carers/young people.

REVIEW TEAM

- Responsible for carrying out Annual Reviews and amending/ceasing & maintaining EHC plans following the review.
- Responsible for requests for change of provision, change of funding, personal budgets following Annual Reviews.
- Responsible for phased transfers for Primary Admission, Year 6 transfer to High School and Post-16.
- Responsible for liaising with parents/carers and professionals and supporting with permanent exclusions and placement breakdowns.

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Impact of changes

Timescales for new assessment has consistently improved – 2 years ago our average 20-week compliance was 27%, last year it was 52% and this year it is 72%

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Number of EHC Plans issued, excluding exceptions	47	37	40	38	40	28	54	37	33	43	37	22
Number of these issued in 20 weeks	23	25	33	33	29	18	32	31	24	32	34	21
% in 20 weeks	49%	68%	83%	87%	73%	64%	59%	83%	73%	74%	92%	95%
Cumulative % in 20 weeks for 2022	Same as above % in 20 weeks	57%	65%	70%	71%	70%	68%	70%	70%	71%	72%	73%
Total number not completed and over 30 weeks	1	5	3	2	4	5	2	3	1	1	0	0
Total number not completed and over 52 weeks	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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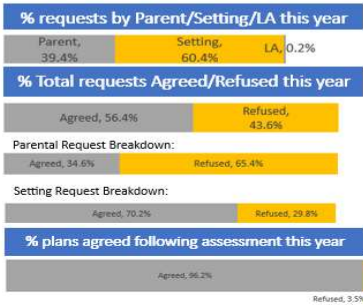
Impact of changes

- We are on track to have 100% compliance for all phased transfers to be completed this year – this means updated EHCPs for all children moving into primary, secondary and college/post 16
- We now have in place a QR code for all young people/parents so they can notify us of options re. phase transfer
- All Annual Reviews are now being tracked so that we can ensure attendance by an officer for all key annual reviews
- This year we will be able to report on the compliance of Annual review being updated with the 4 week timeline

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EHCPs Monthly Scorecard – 1st December 2023



This Month's figures
November 23

Number of EHCPs Issued this month
37 (-5 FROM PREVIOUS MONTH)

20 weeks compliance % this month
92% (UP FROM 76% PREVIOUS MONTH) ↑

Number of Requests received this month
56 (-2 FROM PREVIOUS MONTH)

Number of Plans Ceased this month
20 (UP 8 FROM PREVIOUS MONTH)

This scorecard is updated Monthly on the 1st of each month.

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Feedback

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A parent shared that her lived experience was really great and that you as her Case Officer was really responsive, returned calls and emails swiftly – she really could not praise you enough and she wanted the other parents to know that her experience was positive and different.

A parent has used the Bury EHC Service for one of her own children because she lives in Bury and her child needed an EHC Plan. She was very complimentary of the support and service provided to her own child from your service. Well done all.

The EHC plan was really well written and reflected the child well.

I have been very satisfied with the support that our Caseworker has given us, how fast the EHCP process was carried out and the phone calls with updates.

Parent feedback saying how impressed she is with the EHC team and the EHC process from start to finish, especially wonderful communication.

I would like to point out that since my contact from October, I have been treated with respect and communication has been great.

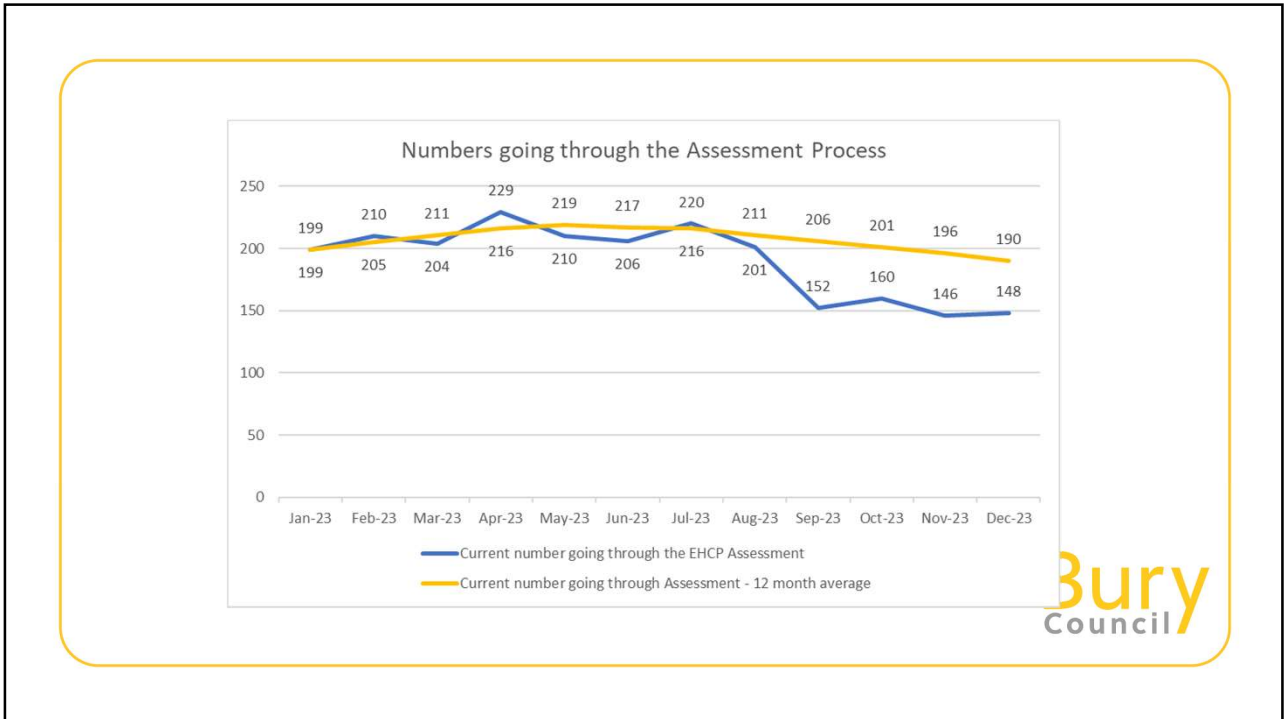
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Number of EHCPs

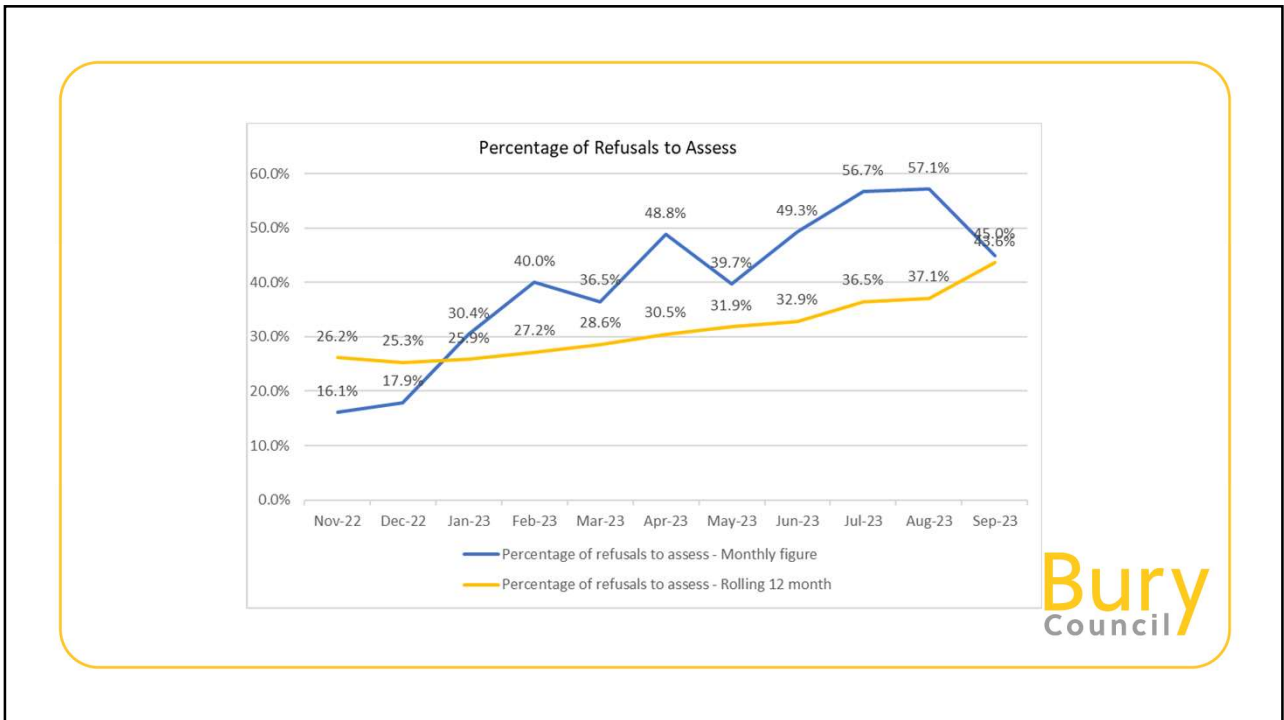
- We recognise that the number of EHCP requests remains high in Bury (15th highest in England – see data on next slide)
- Links to effectiveness of SEND Support Offer
- Need to identify needs early and trigger the right support
- Focus to date has been on the development of a strong SEND Support Offer
- Cultural shift from a medical model of disability to a social model – focus on removing the barriers, not trying to repair or fix the disability

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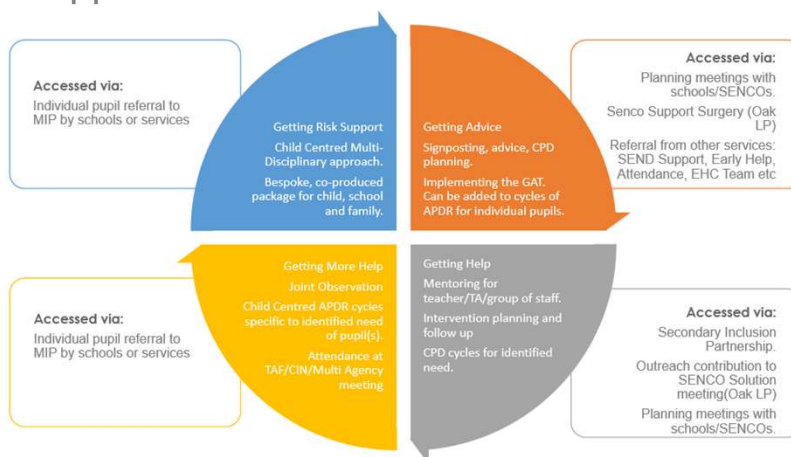
SEND Support - Outreach

- Education restructure completed September 2023 - remodelled support to schools
- Creation of a new Outreach Team – 1 team manager, 1 senior, 6 Outreach workers and 4 outreach assistants
- The role of the team is to support settings, schools and colleges to support children and young people with SEND at SEND Support - reducing the need for seeking an EHCP
- Staff contracts changed to work from term time only to 52 weeks – providing full year support for parents
- Recruited to 5 of the posts with remaining recruitment due to be completed by end of January
- Speech and Language Therapist will be within team in addition to Occupation Therapist – significant shift from previous offer which was teaching staff only. DfE Adviser noted this as an ambitious and creative step.

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SEND Support - Outreach



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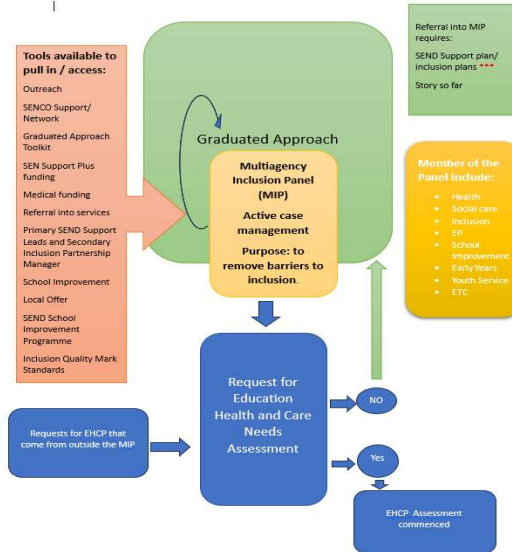
SEND Support - Multi-Agency Inclusion Panel

- New multi-agency panel (MIP) established to support the drive towards supporting children/young people at SEND Support
- Meets fortnightly
- Panel to review the current situation and consider additional support/training/intervention or recourse including some access to funding to meet need
- Aim that all children/young people are discussed at MIP before any request for EHCP needs assessment



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Making the Graduated Approach central and embedding SEND Support



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SEND Support - Graduated Response

We have developed a local SEND Graduated Response guidance toolkit to support Early Years settings, schools and colleges in Bury to confidently identify and support children and young people

The toolkit includes:

- **SENCO Best Practice:** covering SENCO role and SEND processes inc. EHC Assessment & EHCP processes
- **Areas of Need:** 'Top Tips' for an inclusive learning environment. Recommended interventions across each of the four broad areas of need: Getting Advice (whole class/school), Getting Help (small group) and Getting More Help (individual)
- **Getting Risk Support:** covering topics such as self-harm, exploitation, eating disorders, distressed behaviours
- The advice covers Early Years, School Age (KS1-4) and Post-16

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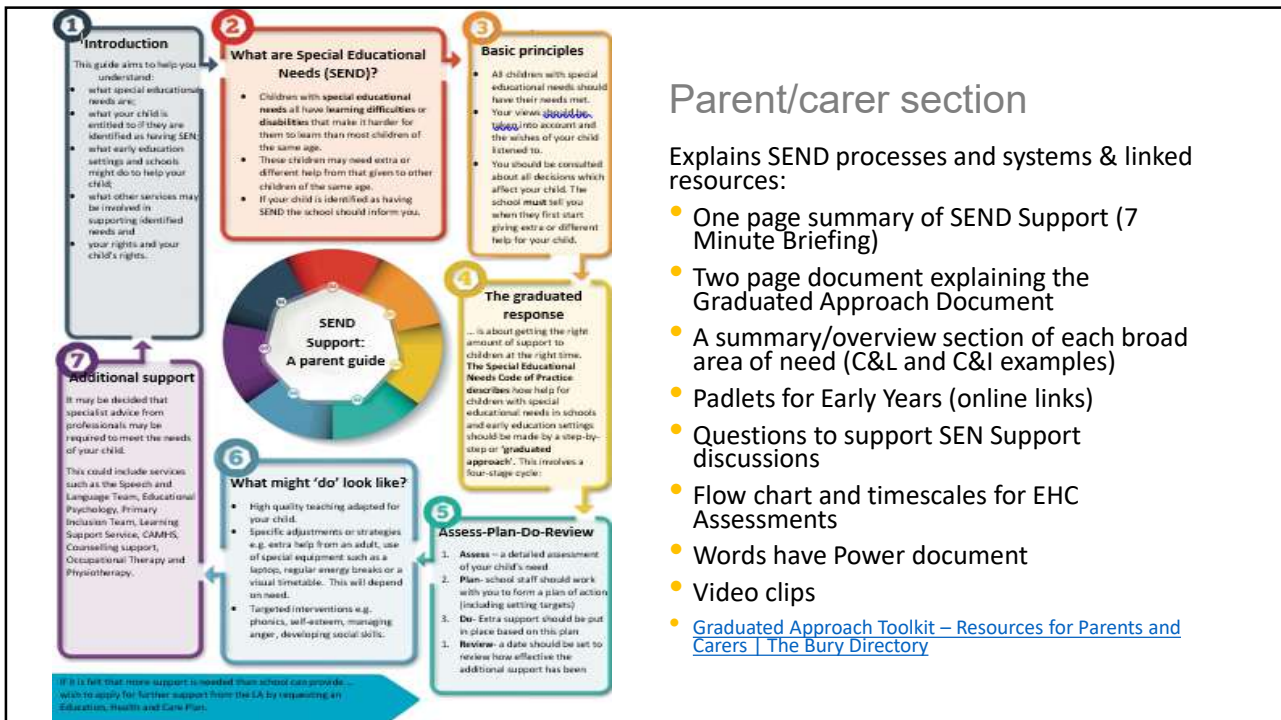
Graduated Response Toolkit

- Each area of need is broken down into Key Stage 1-4 and covers
 - Identifying needs
 - Assessment tools
 - Top Tips
 - Overview of needs in this area (version for parents/ carers and for children and young people)
 - Getting Advice (whole class approaches)
 - Getting Help (group interventions)
 - Getting More Help (individual support)
 - Intervention overview (list of all interventions inc. cost and where to find further information)
- Also, additional areas within **KS4 and 5: Transition and Preparation for Adulthood**



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Parent/carer section

Explains SEND processes and systems & linked resources:

- One page summary of SEND Support (7 Minute Briefing)
- Two page document explaining the Graduated Approach Document
- A summary/overview section of each broad area of need (C&L and C&I examples)
- Padlets for Early Years (online links)
- Questions to support SEN Support discussions
- Flow chart and timescales for EHC Assessments
- Words have Power document
- Video clips
- [Graduated Approach Toolkit – Resources for Parents and Carers](#) | [The Bury Directory](#)

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SEND Support – Local Offer

- Central to ensure all parent/carers and professionals have access to the information they need around SEND every Local Authority as to have a Local Offer which is the single point for all information and advice is held
- Bury recognise that its Local Offer was not effective, difficult to access and navigate
- Working with Parent/ Carers and young people we have agreed a new format for our Local Offer and we are currently converting the existing Local Offer into the new version – this will be completed by February

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SEND Support – Disability register



To enable us to better communicate with Bury Parents/ Carers of children with SEND we have co-produced with Bury2Gether our Disability Register

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Progress on School placement

Aiming to increase our ability to ensure Bury children with SEND are educated within borough and reduce our dependency on independent schools

- New Special School Brookhaven is opening on 15th January 2024 – 80 places from September
- Millwood Special School extension is due to open in 2025 – this will provide 50 extra school places
- A new SEMH Secondary is scheduled to open in 2026

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Resource Provision

We are developing and extending our Resource Provision to reduce the demand on special school placements:

- Primary:
 - Chantlers (9 places 23/24, 3 places 24/25)
 - East Ward (12 places 23/24)
 - Higher Lane (9 places Jan 24, 3 places 24/25)
 - Our Lady of Lourdes (7 places Jan 24, 3 places 24/25)
 - Summerseat Methodist (3 places 23/24, 6 places Jan 24, 9 places 24/25)
 - St John with St Mark (9 places Jan 24, 3 places 24/25)
 - Woodbank (9 places Feb 24, 3 places 24/25)
 - Whitefield (9 places Jan 24, 3 places 24/25)
- Secondary:
 - Hazelwood High School (10 places Feb 24, 5 places 24/25)
 - The Derby High School (15 places 24/25)

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Reaching out – helping to make SEND everyone’s business

- June 2023 - second SEND Parent information day, next one scheduled for October 2024
- Our second SEND Practice Fortnight will be held in February 2024 – a 2-week period of training/showcasing the world of SEND
- Delivered whole service training on SEND
- Delivered SEND awareness for elected members
- In 2024 we will establish a SEND Workforce Development Board to support the learning and development agenda

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Development - 14- 25 offer and Preparing for Adulthood

- Outcome of 2023 Ernest Young review of post-18 provision was to develop 14- 25 offer in partnership with Adult Services
- Transition Board established and meeting regularly to oversee this work
- Tracker developed identifying all young people from age 14 who will need to be transferred across to Adult Services at 18
- New draft transition policy drafted and pending final approval
- Adopted the joint use of the “My Life My Way” assessment tool, now completed for all 17 years due to transfer to Adults to support transfer and shared planning
- We are currently recruiting to a Transition Co-Ordinator Post and 2 Adult Transition Workers

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Other Achievements

- Education Psychology Service (EP) - in the process of rebuilding Bury’s own EP service with the Deputy now in post and adverts out for permanent staff
- Autism in School Project - in year 2 of the project and have just recruited another 3 schools to join in the initiative. Key to the project is the joint work of the school’s Senior Leadership working with parents of children with SEND in their school
- SEND Strategic Partnership Board - now independently chaired to provide greater scrutiny
- In 2024 we will be overseeing the role out of Dyslexia Aware Quality Mark (DAQM) across interested schools in Bury as part of the SEND Offer

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Dynamic Support Register

- **Bury Dynamic Support Register developed in 2023**
 - Criteria for a referral to the DSR is clinical diagnosis of a learning disability and/or autism
 - An immediate risk of admission to a mental health ward or unit (immediate is defined as being expected to happen within the next 24-48 hours)
 - An immediate risk of placement breakdown (residential care or foster care)
- **Purpose of the DSR**
 - Reduce the need for hospital admission and or support discharge home
 - Reduce the need for a high-cost residential care placement and/or support discharge home

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