Dear Colleagues

Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25 in Somerset Schools

We are committed in Somerset to all local children accessing local education provision and promoting inclusive practice in teaching. As part of our ongoing efforts to embed the SEND reforms throughout Somerset and in response to the feedback received from some schools, we are pleased to provide you with some support in the form of quick reference information sheets.

Included in this information pack are:

1. Sheets which set out the requirements and responsibilities of the Headteacher, SENCO and SEND Governor in relation to SEND
2. SEND Casework team profiles – insight into team members and the wide variety and depth of experience that they bring
3. A flow chart to help all school-based workers to understand the process for applying for support beyond the school, academy or setting – it may be that you need to tailor this to your setting, but it could form the basis of a conversation
4. CYPP outcomes – how our priorities in Somerset meet the needs of our children and young people with SEND and their families/carers' needs
5. “What can I expect from my child or young person’s education setting?” leaflet for parents (available to print further copies on the Local Offer)
6. The letter I sent to all schools on 13 December 2017 about using the Early Help Assessment in schools – available on iPost (IPOSTID-2-6152)
7. SENDIAS information leaflet – for more details please contact the service using details found within the leaflet
8. Support Services for Education (SSE) leaflet – for more details please contact the service using details found within the leaflet
9. Integrated Therapy Services leaflet – for more details please contact the service using details found within the leaflet
10. Instructions to access the SENCO management file
11. SENCO Forum leaflet – for more details please contact the service using details found within the leaflet

Whilst many of you will be clear on your roles and responsibilities and the services available and are already having a positive impact on children with SEND in your
setting, this information pack will provide clarity around updated, agreed processes. It could also be used to support anyone new to their role, or new to an education setting.

You should have received a copy of the Core Standards poster last summer. If you require additional copies or a replacement, please email childrens improvement@somerset.gov.uk with a request. The Core Standards poster is also available on iPost (IPOSTID-2-6159).

I hope that you find these documents useful. All of them are available on Professional Choices.

A training offer is currently being devised for schools and academies; more information will be available in the summer term.

Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure that every child in Somerset achieves well above expectations and is not held back by their social and personal backgrounds, special education needs or disabilities.

Yours sincerely

Julian Wooster
Director of Children’s Services