

DERBY'S SEND

LOCAL OFFER

Local Offer User Group Notes

Meeting Thursday 24 October 11am-12pm

Attendees:

Sally Morton (SM), Ozma Rani (OR), Claire Siddons (CS), Justine Uzzell (JU)
Charlotte Dolman (CD), Daniel Marson (DM)

What is the SEND offer in Family Hubs?

DM: How do we communicate the offer to parents. How are family Hubs represented on the Local Offer?

SM: Found it hard to locate on the Local Offer website and finally found it under health and wellbeing.

CS: Started by discussing the Early Support Group, a programme of support for families with children who have or might have social communication difficulties or autism. Working closely with health visitors during their regular check-ups, especially at the “2 year health and development review” when needs are identified.

DM: How does this link to the ND Hubs at the St James Centre?

CS: The Strategic Lead is making links. There is also a pack of advice given to parent carers attending the Early Support Group containing links to the ND Hubs. As well as attending this Group, parent carers can use the telephone service which is for personable and individual. Referrals come from health teams. As well as ages 2-4, this same Group has a 5-11 years old programme where needs haven't been picked up, usually social and communication difficulties presenting at both home and school. Parent carers can self-refer and so can the school. It's a parent carers only programme as most of the children are in school. This age range programme is most popular.

SM: what about children younger than 2 years?

CS: the programme has had some children a few months younger than 2. Possibly babies are taken through a different pathway via their GP. The programme also uses elements of 'Non-Violent Resistance' programme, looks at sensory needs, sleep

hygiene and school based anxiety. Also, there are one-off workshops led by Julie Fern for social and communication needs.

DM: Asked OR what she knew of Family Hubs.

OR: Yes she knew of Family Hubs and the ND Hubs.

DM: Was this via SENCO's?

OR: Yes, in primary school but not so much in secondary.

JU: believed primary schools advertised well.

DM: Asked JU if the parent carer forum now called 'Derby SEND Voice' was aware of Family Hubs?

JU: As the forum is still setting up, not sure but surprised if not.

CS: During the holiday Family Fun sessions, there is always a quiet space for children to regulate and some ASD only sessions were trialled. There are talks with external providers to explore sessions for ND children.

CD: why is the age range 0-19 rather than 0-25 years?

ACTION: CD to contact Strategic Lead for reason

CS: There is a Derby Signing Families Group for families with a deaf child and/or deaf parent in the Derby City area and surrounding areas linked closely with the Royal School for the Deaf Derby.

DM: Asked about the capacity of sessions and what happens if they are full.

CS: There are waiting lists. Parent carers will be offered 1-2-1 if they have genuine barriers to attending.

CD: Are the regular sessions full?

CS: No, there are places available.

CD: A series of posts about Family Hubs were shared on the local Offer Facebook page.

DM: Need to increase the awareness of the Family Hub offer with all SEND Officers. Also look at the website journey to find information about family hub.

ACTION: DM to speak with SEND Officers

ACTION: CD & DM to review the website

DM: Asked what else can be done to communicate Family Hub to parent carers.

SM: To share it with all special schools. Transport will be an issue for some parent carers.

JU: Will create some posts on the Derby SEND Voice Facebook page. Also highlight ion meetings and in schools.

DM: Beaufort School has a prominent display about Family Hub.

CS: Family Hub is meeting with schools to better reach parent carers as school is a trusted site.

CS left the meeting.

DM: Any further comments?

SM: Asked what's the topic for the next meeting?

DM: announced his departure from the council and didn't know who his replacement would be but assumed meetings would still take place.

CD: Possibly the next topic would be reviewing the Graduated Response.

DM: Thanked the group for their support and feedback over the years which has helped make tangible changes to shape the Local Offer.