

# **Advisory Board Meeting**

7<sup>th</sup> July 2010

## **May to July Co-ordinators report**

This is the first quarter of the new financial year, we are moving forward with the new team plan which was emailed to you in February, thank you to those who gave feedback it has now been passed. Another busy quarter all round special needs admissions appeals and exclusions.

Key Achievements: The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Market Place Event was held on 15<sup>th</sup> June it was a huge success with over two hundred families attending and quite a few visiting professionals from other authorities. There will be an evaluation to follow.

The Choice Adviser has been invited to be part of a national study looking at the impact choice advisers have had for families

The Parent Partnership Service (PPS) website rebranding is now complete in line with the exemplification of minimum standards "PPS Has own service identity, logo, colour, style, strap line, PPS maintains it's own website which is regularly reviewed" [www.leedsparentpartnership.co.uk](http://www.leedsparentpartnership.co.uk)

## **Requests for involvement were received from**

Sign post in the south requested information session on Parent Partnership Service

Pupil referral unit request Parent Partnership Parent Champion to be part of their consultation on parent carer and child views.

Swallow Hill Leeds West academy requested service involvement in their internal inclusion conference.

We were invited to give input into East Wedge partners forum.

We were invited to showcase at the Learning with Life Market place event. Looking at provision for 13 to 25 year olds and collecting data of services available.

CAMHS have requested training sessions to give them a greater understanding of the service.

We were requested to run information sessions for the new Special Educational Needs Case workers.

South Leeds Academy have requested information sessions for their staff re our service delivery.

Kinship carers requested training on service delivery, kinship carers are family members who take on the carers role.

## **Accommodation**

As you are aware Blenheim Centre is closing, we have now had the opportunity to view the lodge at Adams Court the lodge is very small and the accommodation is over three floors the team office space is over the top two floors with a small meeting room on the ground floor , there is very little storage however we will be able to use the basement in the main building. The move is due to take place during October half term to Christmas.

## **Budget**

Budget implications due to the new governments answer to the national debt have kicked in , all budgets are frozen no commitments or spend are to be made to any budget without executive team go ahead, nothing is getting passed vacancies are not getting filled all temporary contracts have ceased and no grant funded posts will continue after 31<sup>st</sup> March2010

## **New Government Implications**

### **The new government will launch a green paper in the autumn**

**Date:** 07 July 2010

Speaking at an Every Disabled Child Matters event yesterday Sarah Teather, Children's Minister, said:

We want to make sure that the most vulnerable children get the best quality of support and care. Children with special educational needs and disabilities should have the same opportunities as their peers. The system needs to be more family friendly so that parents don't feel they have to battle to get the support their child needs.

That is why I will launch a Green Paper in the autumn to look at a wide range of issues for children with SEN and disabilities. Before then I will be looking at the results of the Ofsted review of SEN we are expecting later this summer, in addition to the many reviews of SEN policy in recent years. I'll also be listening to the views of parents, teachers and organizations with an interest in this area.

The system needs to be far more transparent. We need to give parents more choice and involve them in the decision-making process. The Green Paper will also look at how to manage the transition beyond school so that young people over 16 can get the support they need.

**In my last report I informed you that Education Leeds will cease to exist from March 2011, I have no further information at this point in time.**

During the summer holidays the team are out and about in the community at fun days , gala's and the breeze events run by the youth service, the holidays are an opportunity to get out and meet parents and carers face to face. Have a great summer I hope you all get chance for a break.

Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October