

# Wolverhampton Information, Advice and Support Service

Parent/Carer Workshop

25<sup>th</sup> May 2017

'Education, Health and Care Plans'



Elaine Westwood

# What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

*A legal document written by the Local Authority*

The purpose of an EHC plan is to make special educational provision to meet the special educational needs of the child or young person, to secure the best possible outcomes for them across education, health and social care and, as they get older, prepare them for adulthood.

*SEND Code of Practice (9.2)*

A Statement of Special Educational Needs  
will be replaced with an EHC plan

# What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

Legal Definition of an EHC plan Under section 37 (2) of Children and Families Act 2014

An EHC plan is a plan specifying:

1. the child's or young person's special educational needs;
2. the outcomes sought for him or her;
3. the special educational provision required by him or her;
4. any health care provision reasonably required by the learning difficulties and disabilities which result in him or her having special educational needs;

# What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

5. in the case of a child or a young person aged under 18, any social care provision which must be made for him or her by the local authority as a result of section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 (as it applies by virtue of section 28A of that Act);

6. any social care provision reasonably required by the learning difficulties and disabilities which result in the child or young person having special educational needs, to the extent that the provision is not already specified in the plan under paragraph (e). (3) An EHC plan may also specify other health care and social care provision reasonably required by the child or young person.

# What is an Education, Health and Care needs assessment?

- Is a detailed look at the special educational needs (SEN) of a child or young person, and the support he/she may need in order to progress in education or training
- Children, young people and their families must be asked to give their views
- 20 week process from the decision to carry out an EHC needs assessment
- Brings together information about attainments and rates of progress; SEN; what has already been done; the difference that support has made; physical, emotional and social development and health needs

# Where does the information come from?

- you
- the child or young person
- the setting or school
- professionals working with you



## 19 **Local authority functions: supporting and involving children and young people**

In exercising a function under this Part in the case of a child or young person, a local authority in England must have regard to the following matters in particular –

- (a) the views, wishes and feelings of the child and his or her parent, or the young person;
- (b) the importance of the child and his or her parent, or the young person, participating as fully as possible in decisions relating to the exercise of the function concerned;
- (c) the importance of the child and his or her parent, or the young person, being provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions;
- (d) the need to support the child and his or her parent, or the young person, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help him or her achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes.

# Help is available!

Information, advice and support must be available to families

**Why contact us?**

- Disability Single Assessment: "Advice given has ensured that the correct support is received."
- SEN Support: "A personal touch for the help, care and consideration you have all shown."
- Special Educational Needs Statement: "My child now appears happy to go to school and at the end of the school day."
- Learning Difficulty Assessment
- Educational, Health & Care Plan
- School Action

**How to contact us:**

The Information, Advice and Support Service will formerly be known as the Parent Partnership Service. The New Centre, Newcastle Lane, Wolverhampton, WV2 2PL  
Tel: 01902 556945  
Email: [iaa.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:iaa.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
Text: 01902 556945  
www.wolvesias.org

**Wolverhampton Information, Advice and Support Service**  
For special educational needs and disability

01902 556945  
[iaa.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:iaa.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
[www.wolvesias.org](http://www.wolvesias.org)

An Independent Supporter can help guide you through the process.



**Independent Supporter**

Supporting parents and young people through an Education, Health and Care needs assessment

**Independent support**

**Kids**

# Who can ask for an EHC needs assessment?

- you
- a young person over the age of 16 but under the age of 25
- A person acting on behalf of a school or setting - these are known as 'responsible body requests'
- Requests are made to the Local Authority
- Responsible Body requests should be done after talking with you first.

The SEND Code of Practice says:

A local authority must conduct an assessment of education, health and care needs when it considers that it may be necessary for special educational provision to be made for the child or young person in accordance with an EHC plan (9.3)

# What happens when the Local Authority receives a request?

- The decision whether to assess or not must be made within 6 weeks of receiving the request



- **SAM Panel - Statutory Assessment Moderation Panel**
  - is an advisory board to ensure transparency about the decision making process based on each child's individual needs
  - the decision to assess is made by the Local Authority
  - the panel simply advises

# Transition from Statements

- Children and young people who have a statement will be transferred to the new system by 1 April 2018.
- You, and your child will be invited to a **Transfer Review** meeting. School will set the date of the transfer review meeting.
- The Transfer Review requires the Local Authority to undertake an EHC needs assessment(single assessment) under section 36 of the Children and Families Act. This means seeking advice from a range of professionals as well as parents to consider the child's future progress and future provision.
- Reviews must be undertaken in partnership with you and your child and must take account of your views, wishes and feelings. In preparation for the review meeting the key worker within school/setting must work with you to complete and collate information contained in Section A of the EHCP



# Wolverhampton's EHC Plan includes

- Key Information
- One page profile
- Child/young persons family journey
- Aspirations
- Summary of strengths and needs
- Health and Social Care needs
- Action plan and **outcomes**
- Forward plan/monitor/review
- Resource plan to include all costs/personal budget
- Information used in plan



# Aspirations and outcomes



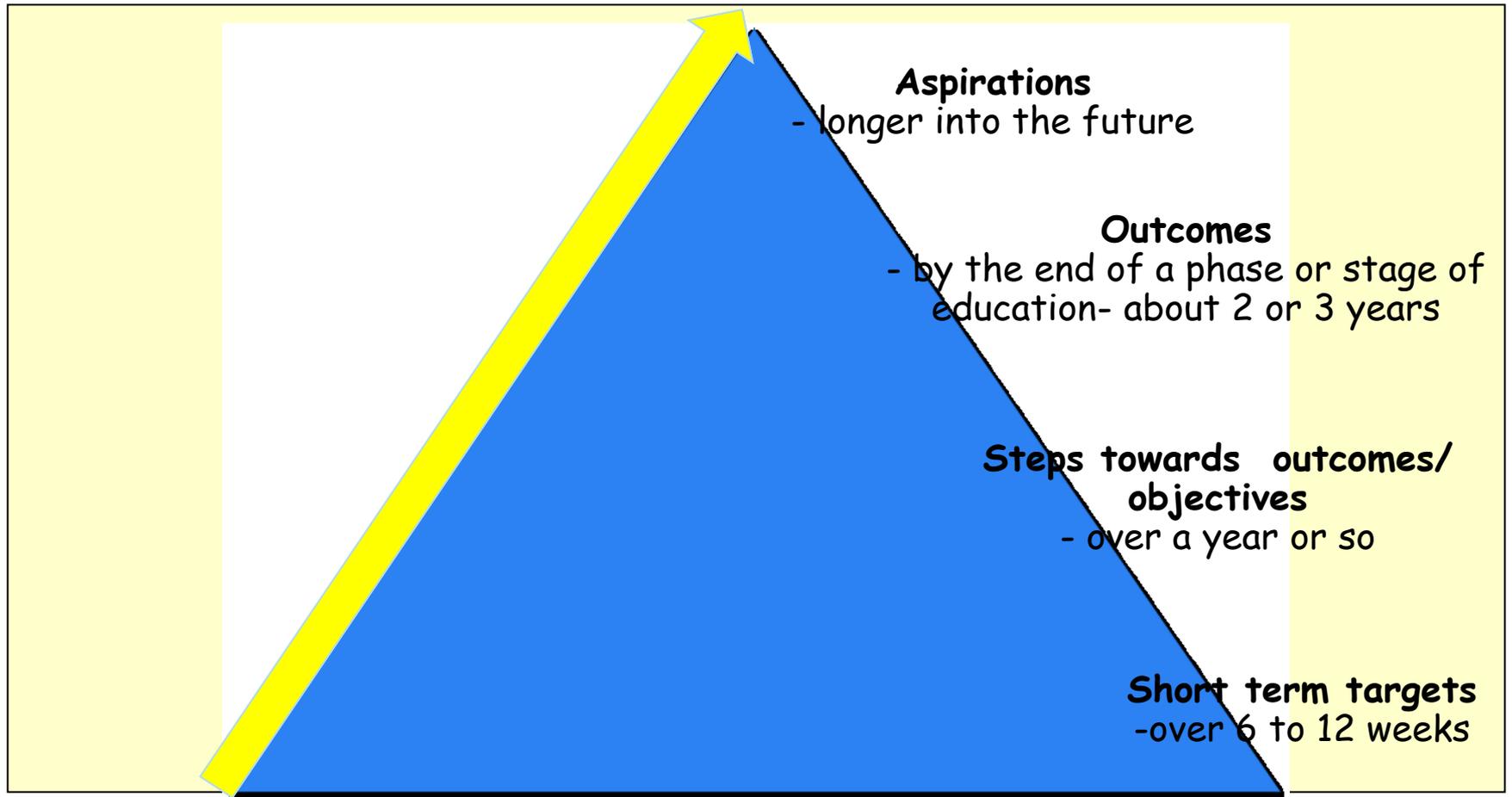
An **aspiration** is a dream, something you want to succeed in doing.

**Aspirations** are usually long term goals.

An **outcome** is the benefit or difference for someone made as a result of an intervention. Outcomes are not a description of service being provided.

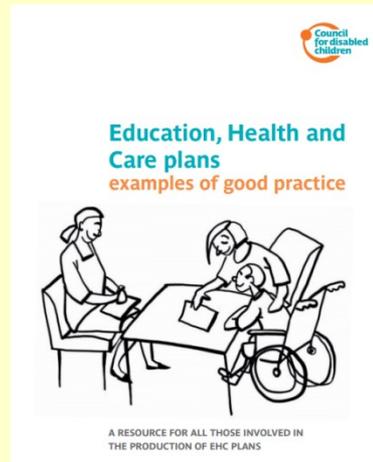
**Outcomes** will usually set out what needs to be achieved by the end of a phase or stage of education.

# Golden Thread



# Examples of good practice

The Council for disabled children has produced an exemplar guide with examples of good practice in all areas of an EHC plan.



<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachemnt/EHCP%20Exemplar%20Guide%202017.pdf>

# Points to remember!

- Make sure each special educational need is in the EHC plan so you can easily check there is provision to meet each need
- A diagnostic label does not describe need - the EHC plan must focus on the practical implications of any health conditions or impairments on different aspects of your child's life
- Information about social care need can come from a range of people
- Aspirations should be clear and easily identified in the EHC plan
- Outcomes should follow on from the aspirations in section A
- Provision should set out exactly what is going to happen, who is going to do it, what skills, qualifications or training they need, how often it will be available and when it will be reviewed

# Finalising the EHC plan

- When the assessment is completed you will either
  - Receive a draft
  - Receive a letter if you have been refused
- Draft Plan
  - You will be asked to review the EHC plan
  - Request a meeting to discuss the plan and like one
  - Request a particular provision



You can request a follow up meeting with the Local Authority, school and other professionals to discuss the plan (especially if you would like changes to the plan)

A Personal Budget is an amount of money identified by the local authority to deliver provision set out in an EHC Plan where the parent or young person is involved in securing that provision

# Requesting a particular school or setting

- This does not necessarily mean that the school or setting has to be different from the current one
- Parents and young people have a right to request that a particular school or setting is named on the EHC plan
- The Local Authority must agree to this request unless:
  - It would be unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of the child or young person or
  - The attendance of the child or young person there would be incompatible with the efficient education of others, or the efficient use of resources



# Annual Reviews

- An EHC plan must be reviewed at least every 12 months
- Meeting to discuss progress, consider whether outcomes and supporting targets are still appropriate
- Similar to EHC needs assessment all professionals should contribute and parental views and the views of the child /young person must be sought
- Within four weeks of the meeting the Local Authority must decide whether to keep the EHC plan as it is, amend it or cease to maintain it
- Sometimes a re-assessment maybe necessary
- Right to request an early review



# What if I disagree with any decisions?

- At any stage you can talk to the Local Authority to try to resolve the issue
- IASS can give you more information about your options
- You have a right to appeal to the SEN and Disability Tribunal on the following:
  - The decision not to carry out an EHC needs assessment
  - The decision not to make an EHC plan
  - Parts B, F or I of the final EHC plan
  - Decision not to amend an EHC plan or re-asses after an annual review
  - Decision to cease an EHC plan

If you wish to appeal you may only do so once you have considered mediation



# Questions and Feedback



## Future Workshops:

Support for children and young people in education

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 9.30-11.30

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 12.30-14.30

The key to positive communication

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 12.30-14.30

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 9.30-11.30