Getting prepared for our SEND inspection

December 2019

SEND inspection—schools involvement

Schools will not be inspected as a result of the local area having a SEND inspection. If inspectors become aware of safeguarding concerns, additional enquiries will be made to ensure matters are dealt with appropriately. However, there will be requirements for selected schools to accommodate Ofsted inspectors:

- A small selection of schools will host inspectors and arrange focus groups with:
  - leaders and governors
  - a group of pupils (selected by the Lead Inspector)
  - parents/carers (of any children)
- Representatives on selected focus groups
- The Local Authority will be in contact with you to make the necessary arrangements

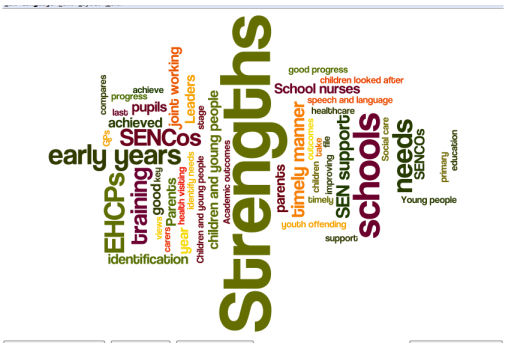
SEND Board

A multi-agency SEND Board has been established. A SEND strategy is available on line. The representatives for schools and will attended selected focus groups are:

Primary — Marie Waring

Secondary — Richard Cahill

Special — Janet Thompson / Rosalind Hopkins



Welcome

This briefing provides an overview of the SEND inspection and some of the work that is taking place to prepare. It is anticipated that Leicestershire will receive an inspection in the New Year.

SEND inspection—what is involved

Local areas are subject to a Special Educational Needs and/or Disability inspection. This will be a joint inspection, carried out by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The inspectors will be looking at how the local area collaborates to meet the requirements of the SEND reforms (2014).

Overview of format:

- 5 working days notice given
- Inspectors working within the local area for 5 days
- Focus groups and school visits will take place on week 2 after notification
- Inspection will only take place during term time

Inspectors will look at how well local areas identify pupils with SEND, how their needs are met and outcomes for children and young people. As part of the collection of evidence, inspectors will visit a number of providers including early year's settings, schools, Further Education colleges, independent schools and health provision. This evidence gathering will add to the inspector's understanding of how all providers and agencies work collaboratively together. However, providers are not under inspection, as they are still subject to their particular inspection regime.

How else will schools be involved ...

- All schools are asked to send out a pre-prepared letter provided by the Local Authority, to parents of children/young people with SEND with details of how to access a webinar The webinar is pre-recorded but will enable parents/carers to contribute their views to the inspection. The webinar provides further information for inspectors to base there key lines of enquiry on.
- The webinar will be available over an 8 day period from the start of the inspection.

Ofsted / CQC inspection letters

The Word Cloud to the left, represents some of the key words within the inspection outcomes letters, produced by Ofsted and CQC . These words are taken from three local areas reports and highlight strengths.

If you would like more information on what Ofsted and CQC are highlighting within inspection letters, please use the following links:

Pre 23rd March 2017 click here.

Post 23rd March 2017 click here.