



Weekly Snapshot From EFF

Week ending- 29/11/2024

You said:	We did:
Mid Essex – at a Home Start SEND session in Halstead for families of children under 5, families reported different levels of SEND support depending on the pre school provider – some were very supportive, others discouraged the family from enrolling their child.	This will be fed back at the next Mid Essex Quadrant meeting in December, and also at the next Mid Essex Start Well meeting in mid-December
Mid Essex – reports on the Graffiti Wall of long wait times for Needs Assessments for children about to start school – this impacts on the parents’ choice of school	This will be fed back at the next Mid Essex Quadrant meeting and the Start Well meeting, both in December
South – GW feedback on being unable to find a definitive list of provision to support Deaf families in looking for nurseries, childminders, schools, etc. The information was not available in one place or as a list and isn’t easy to find.	<p>We looked at the Local Offer and found that concise information was not produced when searching Deaf/Hearing impaired and searching each term produced different results on the website.</p> <p>If you click this link it will take you to a list of Schools with Deaf/HI provision Search for support, groups and activities Essex Local Offer To find this list we clicked the ‘Find Local Support’ tab, then from the ‘special needs’ drop down we chose ‘Deaf/Hearing loss’ and then from the ‘support type’ drop down we chose ‘Schools with extra support’.</p> <p>If you or your child has a special need or disability or English isn’t your first language, please contact the Family Information Service on fis@essex.gov.uk who offer free and impartial advice to parents about finding childcare, funded early education entitlement and other family services for 0 to 25 year olds.</p>



	We have contacted FIS this week to find out whether they hold information on nurseries and childminders that support Deaf/HI and other SEND families and are waiting for a response.
West Essex – Families waiting on JADES pathway feel like they are just left to wait the 2-3 years, with no contact or support	Jades team are starting a newsletter to send out to all families waiting diagnosis, with updates on wait time, and support while they are waiting
In North East Essex a common theme being raised by parents and carers is that support for children/young people in secondary school is lacking which is having a detrimental impact on the child/young person.	<p>(Examples such as lack of movement breaks or access to Hubs even when part of the child/young persons ECHP or One Plan).</p> <p>We will raise this with the SEND Quadrant Manager for Education and ask how secondary schools have been engaging with the new ordinarily available document (link below).</p> <p>Ordinarily Available: Inclusive Teaching Framework (all pupils) Essex Local Offer</p>

In other news.....

- Kiri presented, along with HCRG, at the East of England PINS show case event. It was a chance to update everyone about the PINS project in Essex, celebrate our success and look at what we wish the legacy and future of the pilot to be. We also heard from other regions on how they are approaching the project.
- You can find out more about this project here [Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools \(PINS\) project | Essex Family Forum](#)
- Claire met with the Engagement Facilitators from Mid Essex to explain what we do and how we can work together to ensure families have all the information they need about SEND services
- Kate attended a number of PINS coffee mornings this week along with some community events. Kate made some new local connections at the events and looks forward to getting in contact with those people and will forward any feedback onto the Graffiti Wall over the next couple of weeks.
- Stacey attended the ASD steering group meeting for West Essex. Discussed accessibility for the Kids autism hub support, and content for the new Newsletter.