



Weekly Snapshot from EFF

Week ending - 7th March 2025

You said:	We did:
<p>Education Other Than in School/College - We have received queries around the provision of Education Other Than In School/College (EOTIS/C previously EOTAS) and what can be included in this package.</p>	<p>ECC have updated their information around this on the Local Offer here; Education Other Than In School and College (EOTIS/C) Essex Local Offer</p> <p>You can also click on the link below to find out their current position. Education otherwise than in school or college (EOTIS/C) Essex Schools Infolink</p> <p>If you require support around this, you can contact SENDIASS here EOTIS (Education Other than in School/College) Essex SEND IASS</p>
<p>Mid & South Essex Update – MyCareBridge ND Portal</p> <p>Some parents have asked for more information on the portal and how referrals work.</p>	<p>We have been working with the MyCareBridge team on communication to Parents/Carers on how MyCareBridge works, this has now been finalised and has been released. We will be sharing this via our Social Media next week</p>
<p>South – Transport – Emergency medication carrying/administration issues</p>	<p>We have requested a meeting with the Transport department where this issue, along with others, will be raised.</p>
<p>Local Offer Roadshows Update Feedback from parents in South said that the Roadshows lacked parent learning and engagement opportunities to support those who are either further along in the SEND process or have older children.</p>	<p>The Local Offer Roadshow across ALL four quadrants will include an opportunity for parents of those aged 0-25 to attend the following workshops in the morning session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADHD and co-existing conditions, run by ADHD+ Support • Helping your SEND child manage their big emotions workshop run by ACL



	<p>The afternoon of the Roadshow is aimed at those with children aged 0-5. You can attend workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language and communication development with the Talk, Listen and Cuddle (TLC) team. • Supporting sensory development with the Occupational Therapy (OT) Team. <p>You can book your places, find more information on how the day is split and the organisations attending here: Essex Local Offer Roadshows Essex Local Offer</p> <p>We also received a suggestion from a parent directing us an event that they felt would be beneficial to families in Essex. Essex Family Forum took this into consideration when arranging our recent event.</p>
<p>South Update – Short Breaks. Parents were unaware of the mainstream organisations available to them</p>	<p>Feedback indicated that parents weren't aware of other providers they can access via Short Breaks. After our last meeting, the Short Breaks team weactivity provider who has had inclusion funding or capital grants under the Short Breaks Strategy is now listed here: Capital Grants and Inclusion Funding Kate, it was one of the things you were not sure if was clear to families, and I agree.</p>
<p>NEE Update – Speech and Language support. Parents and carers have feedback that they have been unsure where to access speech and language support.</p>	<p>You can access a number of resources via the Essex Family Wellbeing Service (Speech and Language Therapy North Essex – Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service).</p> <p>You will also find information relating to in-person drop-in clinics for parents and carers of Pre-School children who have a North East Essex GP. They aim to provides easy access to the Speech and Language Therapy service without the need for a formal referral.</p>



In other news.....

- Stacey attended West Essex SEND Quadrant meeting on Monday. There was an update from the Autism Outreach Service. Due to such high demand, they needed to close the doors for a while but was great to hear they are back open for new referrals. They will be issuing a formal report in May on how the service is going and will be sharing some case studies. Have been hearing positive feedback about the service, and they try to adapt to demands and needs as best they can. They have also just been re-awarded the contract for the Key worker service
- Stacey has also still busy with PINS meetings this week.
- On Thursday EFF held their parent/carers engagement day. Thank you to all those that attended, it was great to share the day with you all. There will be more updates on what was discussed and answers to questions raised in the next couple of weeks.
- Claire attended a 3rd PINS meeting at Priory Primary school and helped them to plan how to provide parents/carers with regular coffee mornings/get togethers and what the content could be.

South PINS Update

St Joseph's, Margaretting and Stambridge primary schools have all completed their third and final meetings with Kate this week. Feedback discussions with staff included how to continue with parent engagement. It has been a pleasure meeting with parents and staff from all schools, and Kate looks forward to attending future coffee mornings with them, outside of the PINS project, as a FC Lead.

Please contact your SENCO for more information on any of the following:

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary on Canvey Island have an established termly coffee morning and Mrs Chisholm is looking at ways of incorporating the principles of PINS into these.
- Margaretting C of E Primary have struggled with parent engagement due to be a very small school. Kate discussed the possibility of a SEND newsletter with Mr Robinson, who has recently taken over as lead on the pilot from Mrs Smith. This would be aimed at keeping communication open between the school and parent carers. Content would look to support, signpost and be an outlet for the school to ask for any feedback or information. Staff will contact SEND parents to find out what they would like from both the newsletter and any future coffee mornings.
- Stambridge Primary have also struggled with parent engagement being a very small school with many working parents. Mrs Loveless has spoken with parents and investigated solutions that could fit around both the school and parent's needs. She initially raised the idea of a newsletter before Christmas, and it was a pleasure to hear that she has a parent rep on board, and they have jointly agreed a termly plan to get their



SEND parent newsletter and meetings off the ground. They have a lot of exciting ideas around the newsletter and the content of future parent meetings. Kate is looking forward to going back and attending their first meeting and receiving a copy of their first newsletter.