



Weekly Snapshot from EFF

Week ending- 11/07/25

Essex Family Forum receives many comments through our online Graffiti Wall, at events and through our Family Champions. Although we are not able to address all of these through this snapshot, please be assured that all feedback is raised with services and issues that are shared repeatedly are being highlighted.

You said:	We did:
<p><u>Lack of Metal Health support</u></p> <p>We continue to receive feedback around the lack of mental health support for children and young people who are neurodivergent. The difficulty in accessing CAMHS and the appropriateness of what is offered.</p>	<p>We raised this with the service and have 2 meetings arranged to discuss this.</p> <p>One around mapping what is available with various staff from different services and a second with a CAMHS service manager and the manager of the mental health in school's teams to look at some work around the offer for neurodivergent young people. We will of course keep you updated on the outcomes of these meetings.</p>
<p><u>EHC Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>We receive regular feedback on the delays with EHC needs assessments.</p>	<p>Our EHCNA survey is continuously running in order to monitor any impact changes made by the LA are having for families.</p> <p>This week we have again chased the LA for a response to the first report generated from the survey and hope to have this soon to share.</p>
<p><u>Role of Inclusion Partners</u></p> <p>We recently received feedback from a parent support group that they would like to invite an Inclusion Partner to attend/host a workshop at one of their coffee mornings so that parents can get a better understanding of their role and how they can support parents/carers. They suggested focusing on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the Inclusion Team • What schools should be offering/what should be available to 	<p>We will contact the relevant team to find out if this would be something that could be organised and we will feed this back.</p>



SEND children and young people and their families.	
<p><u>Right to Choose</u></p> <p>We are aware of some confusion across Essex on the 'right to choose' pathways for Autism and ADHD assessment.</p>	<p>Due to recent changes, we have raised with the ICBs to provide clearer information on their websites and have escalated nationally. NHS England are looking into national webinars on the subject and are liaising with the NNPCF about what needs to be covered for families. We will keep you posted!</p>

In other news.....

- Stacey attended the Sparkles SEND Stay, play & learn session in Stansted this week. It is a great space for parents/carers to come along with their young children, connect with other parents, and get support and advice from the friendly staff.
- Claire met with Laura May of SEND Sensation this week (SEND Sensation are the Shortbreaks clubs and activities provider for Mid and North East Essex) - Laura is working on the revamp and update of the website and booking system and will be working with us to make sure the changes are family friendly. Laura is arranging some Parent voice online sessions to get some family feedback on their services.
- Sarah attended the North East Essex Neurodevelopment Oversight Group meeting and fed back comments/experiences of families accessing support and diagnostic services in this area.
- Sarah attended the Maze coffee morning in Mistley and spoke to parents and carers looking for support and information relating to all things SEND.

Please note: The Graffiti Wall and Snapshot is designed to give anonymised feedback and cannot be used to answer individual queries.

All EFF staff are part time and work on a flexible basis. If there are weeks when a quadrant does not appear represented in this snapshot, we are still working hard. Please bear this in mind.