

Schools Forum Budget Working Group – High Needs Task Group

How could we improve Early Years provision to prevent later underachievement (and cost)? Sue Sharp			
In scope: Early identification and intervention for children with SEND			
Out of scope:			
Recommendation	Notes	Required	Cost
Designated Educational Psychology time for Early Years	<p>Currently EPs only conduct statutory assessments for EY children.</p> <p>Identification and intervention of SEND in EYs would be improved by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. including an EP in the EY Review Panel monthly multi-agency meeting; 2. including EP assessment in some CDC multi-disciplinary assessments; 3. including an EP view during transition into YR (summer term) 	EP time – one day per week	
Increase Child Development Centre Assessment Places and outreach to localities	<p>Re-shaping the current CDC ‘Opportunity’ group to become an assessment group (potentially increasing assessment places at CDC from current 10 per term to 22 per term), Current MDA to remain focused on assessing social/communication difficulties/ SLD/ASD.</p> <p>Greater use of outreach services (possibly including assessment sessions in localities/Children’s Centres)</p>	Multi-agency development work with CDC team	neutral
Increase of COSI (Communication and Social Interaction) group places and mainstream outreach for children with ASD	<p>Need identified at EY Review Meeting – number of children with diagnosis of ASD increasing. Currently 15 on waiting list for Sept16 with only 5 places on offer.</p> <p>Concerns raised by EY leaders and managers over lack of places and specialist outreach</p> <p>Children with a diagnosis of ASD would be accessing appropriate early</p>	<p>5 additional COSI places to be made available(2x half day sessions)</p> <p>Specialist outreach into mainstream settings for those not accessing a COSI place(1x half day)</p>	

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	intervention and developing social communication skills	Minimum 0.3 fte specialist teacher	
Re-start SaL advice clinics at Children’s Centres	<p>Waiting lists for initial SaLT appointments can be up to a year currently, in some areas of the County.</p> <p>The advice clinics gave parents earlier access to a SaLT – usually within 4-8 weeks. Appropriate ideas and strategies for intervention could be given.</p> <p>Referrals more appropriate (therefore fewer inappropriate referrals increasing the waiting list)</p>	<p>SaLT (or SaLT assistant)</p> <p>0.4 fte</p>	
Parent Support Preventative work/intervention with families who don’t meet the Families First criteria – particularly in relation to children with challenging behaviour	<p>Concerns raised by EY leaders and managers about attachment /behaviour and lack of support for children and families unless at high risk.</p> <p>Increasing numbers of SPORT referrals for children with SEMH difficulties – often rejected as not seen as ‘medical’</p> <p>Currently offered Solihull or Triple P parenting courses, input to the home from Health Visitor Community Nursery Nurse or a Homestart volunteer.</p>	<p>Capacity for family support through Children’s Centres</p> <p>Under-5’s CAMHS service</p> <p>PIP project (Making psychotherapeutic support available to all families who are struggling to form a secure attachment with their baby)</p>	