

The SEN team has worked in a joined-up way with other council services to share data/information, gathered through engagement with young people including:

**All Age Autism Strategy** – co-produced with autistic people and their families, including autistic children and young people and parent carers of autistic children and young people. This was developed by Herefordshire Council, Worcestershire County Council, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care System and West Mercia Police. People's views were sought through a series of workshops, facilitated groups and an online questionnaire.

**SEND Engagement and Participation Framework (Appendix 4)** – co-produced with the Parent Carer Forum, PCV Herefordshire and taking into account children and young people's views. At a Holiday Activities and Food fun day, children and young people voted for their top 3 priorities for the framework which directly influenced the hierarchy of the priorities in the action plan.

**SEND & AP Strategy** – co-produced with Parent Carer Voice and Herefordshire and Worcestershire Integrated Care Board (ICB). Children's voices were included in the strategy from the start, with their views gathered (sometimes via their parent carers) through surveys, face to face conversations, online polls, feedback forms and people's lived experiences.

**Quality of Life SEND Survey** – the mainstream survey carried out in 2021 was not accessible to children and young people who attended a specialist setting. The service worked with Public Health, Parent Carer Voice and the specialist settings to redesign the survey to meet the needs of the children at each setting. This enabled children and young people with SEND in specialist settings to access the survey and tell the team what life is like for them. The outcomes from both the mainstream and specialist surveys influence the team's work on a daily basis, with initiatives including supervised tooth brushing and the Healthy Schools programme being implemented in partnership with Public Health. Further work in this area is planned for early 2025 and this will continue to directly inform the team's work moving forward.

**Annual Parent Carer Survey** - the team coproduce an annual survey with its parent carer forum which included a range of questions about how their child's voice was heard and acted upon by professionals and the services that they access. The team analysed and reported on the results of the annual parent carer survey to all our partners in the SEND Partnership to ensure parent carer voices, on behalf of their children and young people with SEND, influence and help shape services. An example of where this survey has been successful is within the Early Years SEND team, where waiting lists for a speech and language assessment were very long and causing anxiety and concern for many families. The Early Years SEND team took this feedback to a collaborative group of health professionals and have redesigned the pre-school speech and language referral pathway so that families can now access a drop-in clinic and have their needs identified more quickly.

**Youth Employment Hub (YEH)** – a new YEH has opened recently which was created through co-production with young people. Young people were involved from the very start right through to the opening of the building and had a say in all aspects of how the service would be run and what the environment would look like, down to picking the paint colour for the walls in the hub. Young people will continue to influence how the YEH develops as they have an established group who will remain involved on a regular basis through a 'youth council' style set up.