Getting prepared for our Local Area SEND inspection

Ofsted

Care Quality Commission

Warwickshire County Council

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice

NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group

May 2021

Welcome

This briefing provides an overview of the Local Area SEND inspection and some of the work that is taking place to prepare. All Local Areas are subject to a Special Educational Needs and/or Disability inspection, carried out by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). This joint inspection will look at outcomes for children and young people in the local area across education, health and social care. It is anticipated that Warwickshire will receive an inspection from June 2021.

SEND inspection - what is involved

The inspectors will look at how the local area collaborates to meet the requirements of the SEND reforms (2014).

Overview of format:

- 5 working days notice given
- Inspectors working within the local area for 5 days
- Focus groups and school visits will take place on week 2 after notification
- Inspection will only take place during term time

Inspectors will look at how well local areas identify pupils with SEND, how their needs are met and outcomes for children and young people. As part of the collection of evidence, inspectors will visit a number of providers including early year's settings, schools, Further Education colleges, independent schools and health provision. This evidence gathering will add to the inspector's understanding of how all providers and agencies work collaboratively together. However, providers are not under inspection, as they are still subject to their particular inspection regime.

How else will schools be involved ...

- All schools are asked to send out a pre-prepared letter provided by the Local Authority, to parents of children/ young people with SEND with details of how to access a webinar The webinar is pre-recorded but will enable parents/carers to contribute their views to the inspection. The webinar provides further information for inspectors to base their key lines of enquiry on.
- The webinar will be available over an 8 day period from the start of the inspection.

SEND inspection - schools involvement

Schools will not be inspected as a result of the local area having a SEND inspection. If inspectors become aware of safeguarding concerns, additional enquiries will be made to ensure matters are dealt with appropriately. However, there will be requirements for selected schools to accommodate Ofsted inspectors:

- A small selection of schools will host inspectors and arrange focus groups with:
  - leaders and governors
  - a group of pupils (selected by the Lead Inspector)
  - parents/carers (of any children)
- Representatives on selected focus groups
- The Local Authority will be in contact with you to make the necessary arrangements

Ofsted / CQC inspection letters

The Word Cloud below, represents some of the key words within the inspection outcomes letters, produced by Ofsted and CQC. These words are taken from three local areas reports and highlight strengths.

If you would like more information on what Ofsted and CQC are highlighting within inspection letters, please use the following link: Post 23rd March 2017 click here.