Changes to the Inclusion Team

February 2021

Hertfordshire

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The Inclusion team had two responsibilities:-

- The Local Authority statutory responsibility for the Fair Access Protocol (The School Admissions Code, 2014)
- Managing the Local Authority statutory responsibilities for exclusions from school (Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, 2017)



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In September 2020, the Inclusion Team was formed

Incorporating: -

Inclusion Gateway Team and Inclusion Preventative Team.

The key aims of the newly formed Inclusion Team were:

- To enable new pathways to be developed within ISL to support schools.
- To ensure that partnership working between education settings, parents and the LA becomes more integrated, robust and effective
- Protect, champion and safeguard the entitlement of children who are at risk of being out of education due to their poor emotional wellbeing and behaviour.
- Coordination of integrated approaches in order to secure early, targeted interventions which lead to sustained quality outcomes for children and families



The Current Model:

- 5 Gateway officers (Primary and Secondary blended) – responsible for fulfilling the admission of children and young people who fall within the fair access team
- 2 preventative officers(East and West Split) responsible for fulfilling the counties statutorily responsibilities and exclusion prevention and admissions



Issues identified:

- The 2 functions of the Gate way and exclusion prevention teams are more interlinked then our current structures allow.
- The split in roles does not lead to effective accountability delivery of the inclusion agenda and risks running in two siloes
- Due to the large amount of movement in Secondary Schools with children at risk and fair access work means area officers are stretched
- Primary and secondary at-risk meetings in local areas means officers have reduced capacity to complete the functions across both phases
- Primary and secondary schools have very different processes and as such we are stretching officers by trying to get them to be experts in both phases



The New Model:

- 5 Secondary Inclusion Officers
- 2 Primary Inclusion Officers*

This redesigned team are jointly responsible for:

- Fulfilling the admission of children and young people who fall within the fair access team
- Fulfilling the counties statutorily responsibilities and exclusion prevention and admissions

*Primary team will retain responsibility for year 6/7 transition for pupil at risk or recently laced under FAP



Strengths:

- The team can begin to build specialisms, relationships and structures within the Primary and Secondary phases.
- The team can work in a more responsive less stretched way ensuring they can develop local area or phase ownership
- The team can more effectively quality assure and share good practice across the primary and secondary phases, leading to a greater understating of local services and thresholds for support
- The service can develop more robust succession planning and increase service/staff skill set to avoid siloed working
- Aim to provide a seamless and joined up approach for schools and families



Name	Area
Anjana Walia	Inclusion Lead Officer – Fair access
(Secondary DSPL 9)	Watford & Three Rivers
Florence Adigun	Inclusion Officer
(Secondary DSPL 3 &4)	Broxbourne and East Herts
Fatma Abdurahman	Inclusion Officer
(Secondary DSPL 5 & 6)	Welwyn, Hatfield and Hertsmere
Loraine Clancy	Inclusion Lead Officer - Exclusions
Secondary DSPL 1 & 2)	Stevenage and North Herts
Jacqui Elliss	Inclusion Officer
(Secondary DSPL 7 & 8)	St Albans and Dacorum
Victoria Blackford	Inclusion Officer
(Primary DSPL 1,2,3,4)	East Hertfordshire
Danielle Hewson	Inclusion Officer
(Primary DSPL 5,6,7,8,9)	West Hertfordshire
Atlanta Nolan	Inclusion Information Officer
(All DSPL's)	Across Hertfordshire

Access and Inclusion organisational Chart

