



Minutes of Dacorum Area DSPL Board Meeting
Date: Wednesday 22nd March, 9:30am
Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Hemel Hempstead

Present:

Carole Hassell - DSPL8 & Partnership of Dacorum Schools Manager (Chaired)
Hayley Yendell - Head, Heath Lane Nursery
Angela Hughes - Head, George Street Primary School
Lorna Elkes - Head, Little Gaddesden C of E VA School
Kate Marrs-Gant - Special School Headteacher, Woodfield School
Karen Rudman - Deputy Head of Family Support Service, InspireAll
Patricia Walker - ISL Area Manager, St Albans and Dacorum
Su Hurren – SENDIAGO, Ask SALI
Pauline Paul - Parent Representative
Ruth Mason - DSPL8 SEND Lead
Ashley Fabray - DSPL8 & Partnership of Dacorum Schools Support Officer (Minutes)

Apologies Received:

David Fisher - Head, Kings Langley School and DSPL Dacorum Lead (Chair)
Richard Haynes - Head, Hobbs Hill Wood and DSPL Dacorum Operational Lead
Katharine Ellwood - Head, Greenway Primary and Nursery and DSPL Dacorum Operational Lead
Sue Dyer - Head, Hobletts Manor Infant & nursery School
James Shapland - Head, Ashlyns School
Allan Maher - Head, Nash Mills C of E Primary School
Sara Lalis - Head, Dacorum Education Support Centre (DESC)
Tim Jordan - Deputy Headteacher, The Hemel Hempstead School
Gareth Styles - Post 16, West Herts College
Melanie Flay - Principal Educational Psychologist (West)/Strategic Lead (ISL)
Kate Hudson - Parent Representative

Agenda Items	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and Introductions CH chaired the board meeting on David Fisher's behalf, and introductions were made; Su Hurren has joined the board in her new role as SENDIAGO for the Ask SALI team and Karen Rudman has re-joined the board to cover Kayley Johnson's long term sick leave.</p> <p>2. Matters Arising from minutes of previous meetings 07.12.2022 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting and all actions have been completed.</p> <p>Minutes were approved by the DSPL Board as presented.</p> <p>3. Finance</p> <p>a) Local School Partnership Budget 2022/23 & 2023/24 b) DSPL budget 2022/23 & 2023/24 c) PoDS budget 2022/23 & 2023/24</p> <p>The LSP contract has been signed by the banker school and the DSPL contract has only just been received. The budget information will be carried forward to the next board meeting.</p> <p>4. DSPL/PoDS Managers update & SEND Lead update: CH/RM presented a PowerPoint presentation on the DSPL8 update and a copy will be circulated</p>	



with the minutes. The following comments were discussed:

- CH requested schools to complete the LSP survey to give feedback on the services. The link to the survey is on page 9 of the presentation.
- LE commented on the Families First data on pages 6-7 and suggested as the Dacorum figure is much higher whether our area could offer support to other areas with a potential financial gain for our area, which could be used to support LSP funding past 2024. CH & RM explained the areas are managed differently with different models and therefore the data might not be comparative. HCC are currently considering funding options and DSPL will provide a further update when this is available.
- RM has been discussing V-SEND in SENCo clusters and there is an issue around setting readiness and what this looks like for settings. The board discussed mixed messages on V-SEND as to whether it is expected as schools have not received this message and understand it to be voluntary. RM explained part of the SEND Lead role is to implement V-SEND training and support and PP shared in a recent Impower case study meeting parents and SENCo raised concerns about not knowing where the information was going, and the understanding was V-SEND will be statutory for schools. CH & PW will raise this in the DSPL Strategic meeting.
- AH raised whether Early Years LHNF applications could be prioritised as it's a long time for children starting in September to the completed 2 cycles of APDR. PW shared there are changes coming to the early years funding with a positive announcement soon.

Action – CH & PW to raise the issue around V-SEND training whether it is statutory or voluntary for schools

CH &PW

5. DSPL updates

a) Autism sub Group

The sub group minutes were pre-submitted and please read the update on the presentation slide page 25. The Autism & Wellbeing currently has 44 attendees booked. RM has met with Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 1 & Early Years to look at specialist provision in mainstream schools and what the issues are, what works well, and how DSPL can support settings. RM has requested guidance from HCC for the £2k schools received per term to support these children.

b) Emotional Wellbeing & Behaviour sub group

The sub group minutes were pre-submitted and please read the update on the presentation slide page 24. CH shared the Mental Health Kitemark has been reviewed. RM shared the HCC commissioning service are currently looking at EBSA and what is needed. The SEND School Family Workers recently hosted a face-to-face EBSA Coffee morning, which was well attended.

c) Early Years Sub Group

The sub group minutes were pre-submitted and please read the update on the presentation slide page 26. HY suggested as there is a lot of overlap with the targets across all the sub groups for all Chairs of each sub group to meet to look at the strategic plan and agree which targets should be assigned to which sub group; all agreed this would be good idea and CH will share the proposed targets with the Chairs and AF will email all the sub group action plan minutes.

The SEND Best Practice Event took place this week and it was a good session; RM has requested feedback.

RM shared this sub group is a good multiagency group with good links to Public Health and access



<p>to their data; which highlights 200 Dacorum children with early years SEND needs.</p> <p>d) School Family Worker sub group</p> <p>The sub group minutes were pre-submitted and please read the update on the presentation slide page 23. CH shared the sub group would like Mental Health Support Team Manager to join the sub group, however they currently have a vacancy for a Manager.</p> <p><u>Action- CH/AF to email the DSPL proposed targets and sub groups action plans to all the sub group chairs</u></p> <p>6. ISL Update</p> <p>PW presented a PowerPoint presentation on the ISL SEND SAS update and a copy will be circulated with the minutes. The following comments were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a significant overspend in the in the HNF block and as SEND SAS is part of the HNF block they have a savings target to meet; PW has been tasked with repurposing the service and redirecting services within SEND SAS. RM asked where DESC sits with children with an expanded profile and PW clarified this work will not be duplicated, ESC and Outreach will continue. Hero Slim is working on aligning services and linking to the graduated response. It is currently in consultation process and announcements should be made in April. <p><u>Action – AF to circulate a copy of the presentation with the minutes</u></p> <p><u>Action – AF to send a copy of the quick queries flyer with the minutes</u></p> <p>7. Phased Transition update</p> <p>RM circulated the paper on Phased transition prior to the meeting and explained the ongoing issues. Secondary SENCo's have requested a meeting with ISL to discuss plans for next year and are currently waiting for a date. The board discussed this and agreed with the current pressures and RM will provide a further update in the May Board meeting.</p> <p>8. Woodfield Outreach Service</p> <p>KM-G presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Woodfield Outreach Service and a copy will be circulated with the minutes. The following comments were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The service is working with Secondary Schools; however further work is to be done for a Secondary offer• Most of the training is now face to face. CH has a meeting with the Outreach Manager to discuss the training offer for next year. PW suggested linking with SEND SAS to ensure there is no overlap and aligning the Woodfield Outreach training with HAT and TAB training. RM also suggested considering offering training in the Tring/Berkhamsted area.• Discussed the referral process and if the right services are being accessed at the right time and KM-G suggested the option of having one point of referral, which is then forwarded to the correct service. PW will take this back to her team and suggested a meeting with CH & KM-G to discuss this and the training offer.• KM-G commented that the DSPL8 board has always been very supportive, and AH shared she has received good feedback from her staff who attended Woodfield Outreach training. <p><u>Action – CH to arrange a meeting to discuss training offer and referral process with KM-G, PW, CH, Sharon Coubray, Mandy Goode & Michelle Turner</u></p> <p><u>Action – AF to circulate a copy of the presentation with the minutes</u></p>	<p>CH/AF</p> <p>AF AF</p> <p>CH AF</p>
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9. Family Centre Service Offer

KR presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Family Centre Service Offer and a copy will be circulated with the minutes. The following comments were discussed:

- RM shared DSPL funding has been offered to provide transport to families where this could be a barrier to attending Early Years support sessions
- After the Health visitor checks any concerns can be raised by SEND champion, social care, Self-referrals and Health visitor contact line
- Health visitors have a clear SEND pathway and are using a new speech and language assessment: ELIM
- KR recommend for schools noticing younger siblings with early needs to pass on the details of the Health Visiting Team. KR is also happy to come and talk to schools.
- RM suggested having a more central location for the SEND Café to make them more accessible and KR will feed this back to her team.

Action – AF to circulate a copy of the presentation with the minutes

AF

10. AOB

None

Dates for Board meetings 2022-23:

Day	Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday	17/05/2023	9:30am	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School
Wednesday	12/07/2023	9:30am	Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.40am.