



# SEN & Wellbeing Newsletter

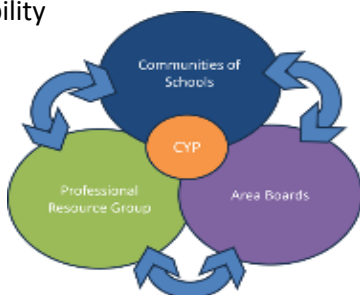
## Term 6 – KCC Changes to SEN provision

### The Localities Model for SEN support

As of September, **Kent County Council** are making changes in the way they provide support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). They hope that by making these changes there will be fairer access to support; a simpler system and better outcomes for children. These changes are part of bigger plans across the country to help children sooner using local resources.

Three groups are being created, with the Child or Young person (CYP) at the centre.

1. **Communities of schools** – We are in a group with 11 other local schools, including secondary schools. This group holds a small ‘community pot’ of funds which can be used to facilitate support for high needs SEN children across **all** of our schools.
2. **Professional Resource Group (PRG)** – An Inclusion Advisor, Educational Psychologist, Specialist teacher, Speech and Language Therapist (yet to be allocated) will be part of this group. The plan is that schools can seek advice from these professionals in a timely manner.
3. **Area Boards** – will provide governance and accountability for outcomes for children and ensure financial sustainability



### **Find out more about the Locality Model**

Kent PACT (Parents and Carers Together) will be hosting webinars for parents this term. The dates will be

- **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm**
- **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm**
- **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 11am**



You can register for these webinars directly on the links on the [KentPACT website](#).

If you have any questions for us we would be happy to share what we know so far.

### **What does this mean for my child?**

As KCC are in an interim period of change many aspects of this plan will not be in place in the coming academic year, but our SEND funding has been cut significantly. This will be a challenge for all schools, however we will endeavour to continue to provide support in the areas your child needs it most.



The main changes you may notice are that: The Specialist Teaching Service and LIFT (Local Inclusion Forum Team) meetings will no longer exist as they do now. – Individual cases may be discussed with the **PRG** instead and advice given to schools (though school visits are less likely)

High needs funding has stopped and schools have been given a reduced amount to cover the coming year, which will reduce further next year as the new system develops. This means there will be less opportunity for 1:1 support and more group support in place.

If your child has an EHCP they will be allocated a band by the Local Authority. This will determine how much support they get in school. Bands will be allocated by the end of Term 1.



### **Spotlight on Transition**

Your child will already know their new Teacher and TA. They will have **visited their new class** and had the opportunity to **share information about themselves** with their new teacher. They will have **received a new class booklet** with photos of the staff and the class. **Additional visits** may also take place for those that need a little extra.

The teachers too have had a **handover meeting** regarding all the relevant information about your child and any support they may need.

There is a lot of information for teachers to take in with a new class and inevitable period of adjustment but if you notice that anything that is not quite right in the first few weeks then please let us know so we can make any adjustments needed.

