

# EARLY INTERVENTION AND STATUTORY ASSESSMENT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### National Curriculum / P Scales

- Q What support is available to determine P Scale levels for individual pupils?
- A Summary data for both P Scale and National Curriculum levels is shown in Appendix 5. Ongoing training will continue through SENCo cluster meetings and other development opportunities.
- Q How do I find out more information on P Scales?
- A As well as the local work, there is an excellent DVD produced, free of charge to schools, by QCA. Contact them on 08700 60615, quoting reference QCA/05/1559.

### Audits

- Q When applying for Statutory Assessment, do I need to submit any completed audits?
- A No, not initially. The audits are designed to assist schools in providing appropriate support for all pupils, whilst taking account of those individuals with additional needs.
- However, in some exceptional cases, audits may be requested by the SEN panel, to clarify how conditions for learning have been met if this is not already apparent from the evidence submitted.
- Q Will the audit duplicate information already held by school?
- A The aim of the audit is to ensure that the information is available. If the evidence is recorded in other documents, eg, the whole school behaviour plan, the audit should record this and signpost to the appropriate document.

### SIS

- Q Will SIS funding be transferable if a pupil moves during the course of an academic year?
- A SIS funding is disseminated on a formula basis and is not child specific. It may be useful for schools to build in some flexibility in the use of money in order to accommodate mid-year transfers, both from within borough and from out of borough.

- Q Some schools have only a small amount of SIS money and may not be able to provide for all needs. Are there any suggestions about a way forward regarding this?
- A The Local Authority is continually reviewing SIS and the way in which it is allocated. Savings made by producing fewer Statements will be re-cycled into funding streams for additional needs, such as SIS.
- Q What information is available about SEN funding in my school?
- A Education Department and individual school budgets are published annually in the Section 52 document, which is widely available. Information regarding SIS allocations and Statement funding is detailed separately on school budget statements. The SEN Assessment Team also holds this information.

### **Whole-School**

- Q What role does Ofsted play in evaluating SEN provision in schools?
- A Under the Ofsted Inspection Framework, the needs of 'at risk' groups have to be addressed. The Local Authority has a role in challenging schools and enabling them to continue to provide the best education possible.

### **Process**

- Q What process do I have to follow when submitting a request for Statutory Assessment?
- A Chapter 9 in the folder gives this information.
- Q How will Educational Psychologists work with IEPs?
- A This involvement will depend on the individual case, and priorities planned with the setting. The work will range from consultation regarding programmes, to direct work with the young person. In all cases, consultation regarding educational programmes will occur. Other support services will also work alongside schools in developing IEPs.
- Q I have concerns about the amount of time it takes to access external support, such as BST and EPS. Will this affect how pupils' needs are met?
- A It is envisaged that, over time, support services will be involved in more early intervention work, as the need for lengthy reports for Statutory Assessment reduces.

Q What happens to a pupil in a setting that is struggling to provide adequate evidence that appropriate conditions for learning have been met?

A Young people with clear severe and complex needs, who are not making adequate progress, will have a Statutory Assessment of SEN. If the case is less clear-cut, and there is no clear evidence concerning conditions for learning, additional evidence will be requested. Support services will help schools to respond to this request.

### **Other**

Q Is the Local Authority going to get rid of all Statements?

A The intention is to reduce the reliance on Statements of SEN and to re-cycle that finance into early intervention, eg SIS. However, Statutory Assessment for young people with severe and complex needs, who are not making adequate progress, will still occur.