



SSV and NSN event

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Chair of SSV (Special School's Voice)

Chair of SEN SSAT

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New Bridge Group currently consists of:

- Hollinwood Academy (ASD specific school – 115 pupils)
- New Bridge School (generic secondary special school – 200 pupils)
- New Bridge Learning Centre (Post 16 – 110 students)
- Horizons (Post 19 – 60 young adults)
- Spring Brook Primary & Secondary (SEMH schools – 70 pupils)
- Future Finders Post-19 Supported Internship (up to 20 young people per year)
- Media Square- Home of Pathways, Pre Internship, Horizons and Future Finders
- 2 off site Pre-19 Supported Internships at Manchester Metropolitan University and Royal Oldham Hospital (10 students)
- Springboard Project – SEMH Free School to open in 2018.
- Hawthorns (Tameside) joining the MAT August 2017



1. “Keeping our eye on the ball” – who are our next generation?

- There has been a record increase in the number of children receiving additional support for special educational needs (SEN), with the figure rising by more than 30,000 in a single year. The number of children with an SEN statement or education, health and care plan has reached a new high.
- **Figures** published by the **Department for Education** show that at the end of January a total of 287,290 children had a statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care (EHC) plan in place, an increase of 30,975 or 12.08 % on the figure for January 2016 of 256,315. (Published 25 May 2017.)
- Non-maintained early years settings in the private and voluntary sector (3%) Mainstream school (63.3%) Special school (26.5%) Alternative Provision (AP) / Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) (1.9%) Further Education (5.3%)

1. Understanding the data – themes across the country

- In the last 10 years the numbers of children and young people with complex needs or life-limiting conditions has increased dramatically. Since 2004 there has been an increase from 49,300 to 73,000 children and young people, an increase of over 50%. (True Colours Trust and council for disabled children -May 2017)
- It used to be thought that boys outnumbered girls on the autistic spectrum by five or even 10 to one. But recent research suggests that there are, in fact, only two or three times as many boys as girls affected, with many girls missed because their autism manifests itself differently (Carpenter 2017)
- Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (?) – suggestion is as many children and young people with FAS will access the school system as we presently have with ASC as a Primary need? (Carpenter 2017)

2. Some of the negatives.....of the present system

- School leavers with additional needs are more likely to be NEET (not in education or training)
- Only 7% of young people with additional needs are in paid employment of 16 hours or more
- People with additional needs have higher levels of unmet mental health needs (36% of young people with additional needs as opposed to 8% of other children) - 41,500 children and young people with a learning disability or autism are currently on waiting lists to see a mental health specialist.
- People with additional needs are likely to be exposed to poorer health, poverty, poor housing conditions, social disconnections and overt discrimination
- More than 60% of those in prison have literacy levels that are below (old) Level 1 in reading

3. The difference we can make

What the data/research is presently telling us:

- [The National Audit Office](#) estimates that equipping a young person with the skills to live in even semi-independent housing could reduce support costs to the public purse by around £1 million.
- Supporting one person with a learning disability into employment could increase that person's income by between 55 and 95 per cent. <http://www.mylife.uk.com/> may 2017

We need to understand our challenge – more research

“There is no educational research happening. We're doing best-guess stuff in schools... there's no tried-and-tested methodology.”
Barry Carpenter TES 10.2.17



4. Our (nearly) free school

- Agreed within Cohort 13 – SEMH special free – differences between AP Free, special free and free schools
- Work involved – working with the DFE/EFA etc
- Our experience – working at risk – at the “mercy” of LA commissioners.
- Well worth the effort – prepare for the long haul!!



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