

# Joint Strategic Needs Assessment



Quarterly Newsletter / Issue 19

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## Do you want to know more about Special Educational Needs & Disability in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames?

*Read on for more information about work to support children and young people with SEND*

Welcome to the nineteenth issue of the JSNA Newsletter - a rolling publication produced by Public Health that describes the local picture of special educational needs and disability (SEND) for infants, children and young people aged 0-25 years in Richmond upon Thames.

A child or young person has special educational needs if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. The Children's and Families Act 2014 introduced major changes in the system for children and young people with SEND. The vision of these reforms is of a system which joins up help across education, health and care, from birth to 25; with a focus on outcomes, improved relationships with parents, greater engagement with children and young people, and improved transition to adulthood.

These changes included replacing School Action and School Action Plus with Special Educational Needs (SEN) support, which is a school/college-based category for those who need extra specialist support within their education provision. If more support is needed than is available through SEN support, an education health and care (EHC) plan may be required. EHC plans replace SEN Statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments.

Other key changes include: a new SEN Code of Practice; a requirement for local authorities and schools to publish a local offer; enabling children, young people, parents and carers to be involved in influencing decisions made about their education; the ability for local authorities and health services to offer services through a personal budget to children and young people with an EHC plan; and a 0-25 service which prepares young people for adulthood, including independent living and employment.

If you would like to contribute to future editions of this JSNA newsletter please get in touch with us at [jsna@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:jsna@richmond.gov.uk). We will gladly receive and consider your feedback, data, information and intelligence for future newsletter publications. The next newsletter will have a focus on homelessness.

**Anna Bryden and Anna Raleigh**  
Joint Acting Directors of Public Health  
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

## National and Local Strategies

*The importance of supporting SEND services in Richmond upon Thames has been acknowledged in influential national and local strategic documents, including:*

- *Children and Families Act 2014*
- *Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21*
- *Richmond's Achieving for Children (AfC) SEN strategy 2016-2019*

## Richmond's SEND services

Providing children with long-term health problems and disabilities, and their families, with appropriate and effective support services is an important public health responsibility of local councils and their partners. Such services seek both to provide necessary everyday support to overcome health problems and disability to enable access to educational and social development, and to optimise longer term outcomes and opportunities.

This is likely to bring substantial long-term economic benefits to education, health and social care organisations, and the wider economy.

A needs assessment has been undertaken to consider comparative historic and current data on population characteristics potentially influencing need for SEND services, levels of SEND services and outcomes for children and young people. Where data allows, findings are presented comparing Richmond with Wandsworth, Kingston, London and England; over the period 2010-2015. This needs assessment will be published in the near future.

The report is intended to inform local policies, strategies, service developments, commissioning plans, and practice; including Richmond's Achieving for Children (AfC) SEN strategy 2016-2019.

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## Snapshots

### *Population characteristics influencing SEND needs*

- A variety of population characteristics influence the level and nature of SEND needs. These include a wide range of personal and family characteristics and disabilities.
- **Children in need:** Richmond has lower levels of children in need than other areas. However, in Richmond a higher proportion of those in need appear to have disabilities (28%). The most common types of disability among children in need are learning disabilities (51%), autism/Asperger syndrome (34%) and mobility problems (25%).
- **Child protection:** Richmond has lower levels of children subject to child protection plans than other areas. However, rates have risen in recent years.
- **Disability living allowance:** Comparatively fewer children and young people in Richmond receive Disability Living Allowance (1,110 in 2015).

### *Children receiving SEND services*

- **State Primary Schools:** As of January 2015, there were 342 (2.1%) pupils with SEN statements and 1,343 (8.1%) receiving SEN support, a total of 1,685 (10.1%). Over the period 2010-2015 the percentage of SEN statements has risen very slightly and there has been a small decline in the percentage of pupils receiving SEN support services.
- **State Secondary Schools:** As of January 2015, there were 286 (3.6%) pupils with SEN statements and 1,014 (12.9%) receiving SEN support, a total of 1,300 (16.5%). Over the period 2010-2015 the percentage of SEN statements has remained steady and there has been a substantial decline in the percentage of pupils receiving SEN support services.

### *Needs of Children receiving SEND services*

- **State Primary Schools:** The most common primary SEN needs in primary schools are: Speech, language & communication (292 pupils); specific learning disability (263 pupils); moderate learning disability (246 pupils); social, emotional & mental health (211 pupils) and autistic spectrum disorder (129 pupils).
- **State Secondary Schools:** The most common primary SEN needs in secondary schools are: Specific learning disability (385 pupils); social, emotional & mental health (276 pupils); moderate learning disability (125 pupils) and speech, language & communication (120 pupils).
- **Special schools:** Almost all pupils have one of the following primary SEN needs: Moderate learning disability (102 pupils); autistic spectrum disorder (48 pupils); social, emotional & mental health (17 pupils) and severe learning disability (17 pupils). The largest increase over 2010-2015 was seen in children with autistic spectrum disorder.

### *Outcomes*

- **EYFS:** Levels of Early Years and Foundation stage learning development classified as 'good' are substantially lower among children receiving SEN support (10%) compared to those receiving no SEN services (68%) in Richmond schools.
- **GCSEs:** Attainment of 5+ A\*-C grade GCSEs is lower in children receiving SEN services (SEN support=41%, Statements=21%) compared to those receiving no SEN services (84%) in Richmond schools. Over the period 2010-2014 attainment levels have declined both in children with SEN statements and receiving SEN support.
- **NEET:** Levels of young people (aged 16-17) not in education, employment or training are higher in those who had a SEN statement when leaving school or with a Learning Disability Assessment (LDA) (19%) than those receiving no SEN services (8%). Compared to other areas, the difference is larger and has widened over the period 2013-2015.

## What next?

### *Future needs assessments*

Throughout the year short topic-based reports are published on the Local Authority's website, enabling key messages to be shared with local partners. Topics that are planned for future JSNA reports and newsletters include:

- *Child sexual exploitation*
- *Community access to Sport & Leisure*
- *Health visiting*
- *Homelessness*
- *The Richmond Story 2016-17*

Look out for our newsletters and have a look at some of the resources we have highlighted below. All health needs assessments and quarterly newsletters are available via: [www.richmond.gov.uk/jsna](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/jsna).

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## Further resources

- *Achieving for Children – Our SEN Strategy 2016/19*  
[See papers for Health and Wellbeing Board - Thursday, 26 May 2016 4:00 pm](#)
  - *The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2016*  
[http://www.richmond.gov.uk/annual\\_public\\_health\\_report](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/annual_public_health_report)
  - *Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21*  
[www.richmond.gov.uk/joint\\_health\\_and\\_wellbeing\\_strategy](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/joint_health_and_wellbeing_strategy)
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## Contact us

If you have any topics or issues you think the JSNA team could analyse, or if you would like to get involved in any of the work currently underway, please email us at:

[\*\*jsna@richmond.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:jsna@richmond.gov.uk)