

SENCO FORUM – Autumn 2

Primary SENCOs

House Keeping



Agenda

- 2pm – 2:20pm

Children Missing Education CME (Elaine Bexley)

- 2:20pm – 2:30pm

General Update

- 2:30pm – 3:30pm

Executive Functioning (Sara Greene)

Children Missing Education

Elaine Bexley



Schools are asked to be aware and continue to raise referrals with Elaine for children who are missing from education.

Children who are missing from education may be:

Those who have been on a school roll and who move out of area (this includes both with and without confirmation from the family/new setting)

Those who move into the city are allocated a school space but do not attend

Phase transfers where the school expect a child to transition to them but they do not arrive

Those children of school age who are not on a school roll or registered as Electively Home Educated.

CME is not those with attendance concerns or school “refusers”.

There are particular concerns around SEND pupils as in some cultures CYP with SEND would not ordinarily be educated in a school and so some families do not know this is a possibility in the UK. There are also concerns around families who may choose to travel for medical treatment. In these circumstances it is for the setting to consider their level of concern and whether to refer the child as CME dependent on the level of confidence the school has on the family returning following medical treatment.

Elaine is happy to discuss concerns with schools as required, she can be contacted using the details below:

Email: Elaine.Bexley@hullcc.gov.uk

Tel: 01482 613967

Update

- Use of TA's across "bubbles"
- School Policies and the Local Offer
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Upcoming CPD opportunities
 - ❑ 14th January – Harmful Online content
 - ❑ 1st and 4th February – YGAM
 - ❑ 4th February – Spring 1 SENCO Forum

Use of TA's across "bubbles"

As the current national policy is to keep schools open regardless, it's probably inevitable that staff are going to have to cross bubbles. However, we do have one of the highest rates of Covid in the country, so from a controlling transmission perspective it is most definitely not a good idea.

If it *has* to happen because it's been judged to be in pupils' best interests we need to do it as carefully as possible to minimise both risk of transmission and also minimise the number of people who would be identified as close contacts if someone tested positive. There will also be occasions where it's never sensible – so with clinically vulnerable pupils or staff for example.

Basic principle is to do it in a way that would minimise spread of Covid. Some suggestions – won't all / always be possible but to aim for:
Try and keep a 48h gap between different bubbles, so if the TA tested positive, it would only ever be the one bubble that they'd been in during their infectious period. A week would be better but I guess that's not realistic
Low threshold for staying off if feeling off colour (and absolutely no 'it's just an asthma cough', 'it's just a cold' – stay at home and get tested!!)

Distancing between adults is key, as this remains the most likely route of transmission

Wherever it's possible to have the TA who's crossing bubbles doing a role where they can maintain distance from the children and other staff that would be better
Consider wider use of PPE for the TA

School Policies

An exploration of school policies took part at the end of the summer term in which I explored, SEND policies, SEND Information Reports, Behaviour Policies, Anti Bullying Policies, Admissions Policies and Accessibility Plans. A significant number of these were out of date, included incorrect information (such as wrong SENCO names or out of date links to the local offer). Please check your school website and the information that is available in relation to SEND. If schools would like more specific feedback please contact me directly.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

The [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) scheme [launched in September](#), and provides a free book each month to two year olds in Hull. It is hoped that through donations the scheme can be rolled out to three and four years olds as well.

This Christmas if you were thinking of giving to charity instead of sending cards then please consider this. There is a link to a news story and information on how to donate if people are interested. This link can also be shared via school platforms if you wish.

[Could you give the gift of reading this Christmas - Hull CC News](#)

Upcoming CPD

Virtual Briefing – Harmful Online Content

Thursday 14th January (14:00 – 15:00)

We are delighted to be joined in this virtual briefing session by Dr Ysabel Gerrard, Lecturer in Digital Media and Society at the University of Sheffield. Dr Gerrard sits on Facebook and Instagram's suicide and self-injury advisory board as academic contributor, her specialisms include the implications of harmful online content regarding self-harm imagery, suicide, pro-anorexia and cosmetic surgery advertising. Dr Gerrard's writing and research has featured in venues such as BBC News, The Independent, The Telegraph, ELLE and The Guardian.

Within this session Dr Gerrard will discuss the growing presence of secret telling applications on social media, how moderation of online content works and explore the circumstances of Molly Russell, a 14 year old schoolgirl in who tragically took her own life in 2017. Molly's father has spoken widely regarding the graphic images of suicide and self-harm recommended to her on Instagram and believes this to be the contributing factor in Molly's death.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-46966009>

<https://ysabelgerrard.com/inthenews/>

To confirm your attendance at this sessions please email education.safeguarding@hullcc.gov.uk with your name, role, setting and session you would like to register for. An agenda and Microsoft Teams joining instructions will be sent to you nearer the time of the session.

YGAM training - February 1st and 4th 2021. 1pm Registration information will be circulated nearer the time.

Spring 1 SENCo Forums – February 4th 2021. Secondary 9:30am – 11am,
Primary 2pm – 3:30pm
Focus will be on use of pupil voice and

Executive Functioning

Sara Greene

Evaluation

Please can you take a couple of minutes to provide feedback on todays session.



Share link in chat.