

### Contextual Information

School Forum established a process for the contract management and data requirements for Post 16 High Needs Learners as a mechanism for monitoring the outcomes coming from each provider. The mechanism was established to provide a greater amount of clarity and system reporting for the money spent within the higher needs budget. The process has been in place for four years.

The process currently in place is that providers have to provide a data collection form and a pathway plan for each learner.

The Data Collection Form is used to measure a range of financial, attendance and destination data to assist in monitoring 'value for money'. These are returned termly.

The information within the data collection form is used to: -

- Calculate an indicative cost per hour
- Calculate an average attendance % (non-completers are taken out of the term calculation) and completion %
- % of those progressing in education
- % of those achieving employment
- % of those becoming NEET
- % of those transitioning into Community Inclusion Services (adult social care day services)
- % of those transitioning into Independent Living

A Pathway Plan is submitted for each individual learner in the autumn term and then again in the summer term. Individual targets are set at the beginning of the academic year and outcomes are then tracked when results are known. As well as accreditation, targets could include examples such as finding part time employment, passing a driving test, completing a first aid course etc.

To ensure a level of consistency across all providers, the Post 16 Team review the targets set at the beginning of the year before 'signing' off the Pathway Plan. The completed Pathway Plan is then reviewed and RAG rated.

### A proposed new way of working:

The process designed and put in place by School Forum was necessary during the period where we were growing the post 16 opportunities and the pathways for young people were less defined.

The pathway plans, during this phase were an important part of ensuring that we were able to scrutinise and create opportunities that were meeting young people's needs. They also enabled an overview to be achieved at a time when the SEND code was being embedded within the post 16

landscape.

With no ways of working now being established we have reached a point where the information included within individual pathway plans is now captured at the point of an annual review and there is duplication required to produce both documents. Our internal SEND system has also been updated to capture the outcomes from annual reviews meaning that our CAPITA system will be able to report on outcomes through automated reports.

The work to produce pathway plans, could now become a distraction from the work we need to conduct to ensure that all annual reviews are conducted in a timely way, with quality information provided and robust decision making being taken. The annual review process is being reviewed and enables the Preparing for Adulthood outcomes to be consistently considered and tracked.

The data return and collection report is still required to ensure that the most up to date information is received on a termly basis and to enable important checks to be made.

### **Recommendation**

- The School Forum step down the requirement of post 16 providers to produce a pathway plan for individual pupils.
- The School Forum endorse supporting Post 16 providers in using the capacity to support the annual review process to gather the intelligence needed.
- The data produced from the process is replicated from the CAPITA Programme as it develops
- The Post 16 providers continue to provide the contextual pupil data sheet.