











# City of York Local Area SEND Partnership

**Operational Plan 2023-2025** 

#### Introduction

This operational plan covers the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25 and focuses on the operational delivery of the Local Area SEND Strategy, 2021-25. The operational plan is a partnership document which outlines the actions the partnership will take over the next two financial years to deliver the ambitions outlined in the SEND Strategy. The plan has been developed through joint partnership (co-production) with parents and carers.

The actions in this operational plan build on and embed the progress made on delivering the priorities in our written statement of action and the delivery of the Safety Valve agreement.

This operational plan focuses on actions which are to be delivered by joint partners across education, health and care and we recognise that partners will have organisational plans which sit alongside this partnership plan. This plan however provides the overview of the joint commitment to delivering the ambitions outlined in the SEND Strategy, 2021-25.

The Strategy will be reviewed in 2025 and between 2023 and 2025 work on the operational plan will respond to the government's SEND and AP Improvement Plan in order to develop the local area inclusion plan.













#### Governance

The SEND Partnership Board will hold partners to account for the delivery of the actions in this operational plan. The SEND Partnership Board will receive progress reports on the actions taken as will the local Place Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board. Progress reports will also be shared with the ICB executive, City of York Council's Executive and Corporate Management Team, the York Schools and Academies Board and Schools Forum.

### **Our Vision**

That York is an inclusive city which delivers the best start in life for all children and young people with SEND. Our ambition is to deliver services (public, community and voluntary sector) which are delivered in an integrated way at the right time, from the right places and that all of our children are able to live their best lives in York.













### The SEND Strategy, 2021-25

The SEND Strategy describes our priorities as a local area partnership. The priorities are:

- 1. Voice the voice of children and young people is paramount
- 2. Sufficiency the right support is in place in the right place at the right time
- 3. Early Intervention children and young peoples needs are identified at the earliest opportunity
- 4. Transition effective transition is secured so that young people are able to live the best adult lives they can

Central to the delivery of the strategy is our co-produced SEND outcomes framework. Young people, parents and carers have told us that the most important outcomes for children and young people to achieve are:

- I am healthy
- I have a choice and am heard
- I am safe
- I achieve my goals
- I am included
- I can overcome challenges and difficulties on my own or with support
- I am becoming independent













Delivery of these outcomes is the way in which we measure the success of our actions as a local area partnership.

### **Local Area SEND Inspection Revisit**

The local area SEND inspection revisit took place in November 2022 and captured the progress that partners had made on addressing the 4 areas of significant weakness that had been identified by Ofsted and the CQC in December 2019. Ofsted and CQC judged that the local area had made sufficient progress in addressing the areas of weakness which included:

- Leadership and governance of SEND in the local area
- Joint commissioning
- Co-production
- The quality and consistency of education, health and care (EHC) plans

As a local area partnership, we have worked hard to improve in all 4 areas, however we are not complacent and recognise that there is still much to do to realise the ambition outlined in our SEND Strategy.

The development and implementation of the local area operational plan will provide the framework for the evaluation of the impact of the SEND Strategy but will also drive the continuation of our SEND Improvement journey between 2023-25.













Work will continue to embed the progress made on delivering the priorities outlined in the written statement of action. In the area of leadership and governance a specific focus will be placed on improving the footprint of social care within our improvement journey. This will include:

- Regular representation from social care at the SEND Partnership Board
- Senior leadership of SEND through the appointment of a Designated Social Care Officer within the Children's Social Care Senior Management Team
- Improvements in the quality and consistency of social care advice in education, health and care plans as evidenced through audit
- Continuous development of integrated working across education, health and social care













## Priority 1: Voice: the voice of children and young people is paramount

| Action                  | Impact                       | Owner                    | Completed by  | Status (January 2024)    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1.1 All partners have   | The voice of children and    | City of York Council     | December 2023 | <mark>In progress</mark> |
| received training on    | young people is              | children's services      |               |                          |
| the effective gathering | consistently being used by   | Health commissioners and |               | Case audits are          |
| of voice                | all partners to inform       | providers                |               | capturing                |
|                         | decision making and          | Education providers      |               | improvements in the      |
|                         | service delivery and         |                          |               | voice of children and    |
|                         | improvement                  |                          |               | young people.            |
|                         |                              |                          |               |                          |
|                         | 90% of Children and young    |                          |               |                          |
|                         | people who have              |                          |               |                          |
|                         | participated in voice        |                          |               |                          |
|                         | activities feel listened to  |                          |               |                          |
|                         | and report that they find it |                          |               |                          |
|                         | easy to share their views    |                          |               |                          |
|                         | and can see how their voice  |                          |               |                          |













|   | is used by the local area partnership.  |                           |              |   |
|---|---|---------------------------|--------------|---|
|   | The voice of children and young people with SEND is evident in all education, health and care plans.                          |                           |              |   |
|   | Audits of plans show that 90% of pre-16 plans and 95% of post 16 have outcomes which are clearly linked to the child's voice. |                           |              |   |
| 1.2 Review and improve<br>the local offer to ensure<br>that it is accessible, up to<br>date and relevant. Model<br>this on the Live Well York<br>approach | 85% of Children, young people, parents and carers surveyed report that they feel better informed about the local offer.       | City of York Council (LB) | January 2024 | Completed The Local Offer website is now live |













| 1.3 Develop and publish 'easy read' one-page guides to support children and young people, parents and carers to navigate the SEN systems across education, health and care | The local offer is evidenced in 90% of all new EHCPs. Children and young people, parents and carers feel better informed about local services and decisionmaking processes. There is a 60% reduction in complaints about communication issues. | City of York Council (LB) Health Social care SENDIASS | September – December<br>2023 | Completed A series of one page guides have been uploaded on the new local offer web pages. |
|--|--|---|------------------------------|--|
| 1.4 Provide training on the  | The voice of young people  | Preparation for Adulthood                             | Training workshops           | In progress  |
| Mental Capacity Act and  | post 16 is paramount in the  | team  | delivered and repeated       |  |
| the rights of the young  | EHCP and annual review   |   | throughout 2023-24 and       | Training workshops   |
| person at 16   | process. 90% of post 16  | (includes education, health                           | 2024-25                      | are taking place   |
|  | EHC plans have outcomes  | and care)   |                              |  |













|  | directly informed by the young person's voice.  |                                     |                   |  |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | Preparation for adulthood is better understood by parents/carers.   |                                     |                   |  |
|  | 90% of parents/carers surveyed feel that they are better informed about what happens when an EHC plan ends. |                                     |                   |  |
| 1.5 Broaden the<br>membership and reach of<br>the Parent Carer Forum | The number of parents/carers attending meetings and events continues to increase. Engagement with the       | York Parent Carer Forum<br>SENDIASS | Ongoing 2023-2025 | In progress  Monthly meetings have been established between CYC, health and the PCF to |













| Parent Carer Forum         |  | support the        |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| doubles by March 2024.     |  | development of the |
| The Parent Carer Forum is  |  | forum.             |
| developed as the strategic |  |                    |
| convenor for parent/carer  |  |                    |
| voice groups across York.  |  |                    |













## Priority 2: Sufficency: the right support is in the right place at the right time

| Action                      | Impact                       | Owner                        | Completed by            | Status                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2.1 The Integrated data     | The SEND Partnership Board   | The SEND Partnership         | On-going                | In progress           |
| dashboard continues to be   | is holding delivery partners | Board                        |                         |                       |
| developed and is being      | to account through analysis  |                              |                         | The SEND partnership  |
| used to inform decision     | of the integrated data       |                              |                         | board receives a data |
| making and commissioning    | dashboard.                   |                              |                         | report at every       |
| across education, health    | The data dashboard           |                              |                         | meeting.              |
| and care                    | demonstrates how the         |                              |                         | Next step is to link  |
|                             | outcomes framework is        |                              |                         | the indicators to the |
|                             | being delivered across the   |                              |                         | outcomes framework.   |
|                             | local SEND partnership.      |                              |                         |                       |
| 2.2 Community based         | Joint commissioning of       | City of York Council All Age | Financial years 2023/24 | In progress           |
| support for children, young | community- based support     | Commissioning Team           | and 2024/25             |                       |
| people and families         | is evidence informed and     |                              |                         | The re-commissioning  |
| continues to be developed   | outcomes based.              | Health commissioners         |                         | of autism social      |













| based on learning from the | The quality and sufficiency |                      |                   | prescribing is        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| implementation of the      | of community -based         |                      |                   | underway and being    |
| Autism Hub. This will      | support continues to        |                      |                   | informed by parent    |
| inform the development of  | improve through the         |                      |                   | voice.                |
| SEND support through the   | community and voluntary     |                      |                   | The development of    |
| family hubs.               | sector and development of   |                      |                   | the SEND support      |
|                            | family hubs.                |                      |                   | through the family    |
|                            | Parent/carer voice shows    |                      |                   | hubs has been         |
|                            | that 85% of parents         |                      |                   | scoped.               |
|                            | surveyed know where they    |                      |                   |                       |
|                            | can access support from     |                      |                   |                       |
|                            | community -based services,  |                      |                   |                       |
|                            | including family hubs.      |                      |                   |                       |
| 2.3 The Learning Support   | 90% of schools and other    | City of York Council | September 2023 to | In progress           |
| Hub model will be          | partners including parents  |                      | March 2025        | The Year 1 evaluation |
| evaluated and further      | and carers report that the  |                      |                   | report has been       |
| developed to support the   | Learning Support Hub        |                      |                   | written. This shows   |
| graduated response based   | model is having a           |                      |                   | 100% satisfaction     |
|                            | measurable impact on        |                      |                   | rates.                |













| on the ithrive model (getting more help)  | developing provision for children and young people with SEND.  The percentage of children and young people educated in mainstream settings and schools remains above the national average in academic years 2023-24 and 2024-25.  Case studies have been |                      |           |  |
|---|--|----------------------|-----------|--|
| 2.4 SEND Capital schemes completed to extend and develop sufficient school places to meet needs identified through SEND place planning assessment | developed.  Sufficient appropriate school places have been developed so that children are receiving the right support at the right time and in the right place.  | City of York Council | July 2024 | Completed  Capital works to develop additional ERP provision have taken place. |













|   | 94% of children with SEND achieve their first choice of school at primary/secondary phase transfer. |  |                | Capital works at Applefields and Danesgate have been approved and are being completed. |
|---|---|--|----------------|--|
| 2.5 Implement task and finish groups to review sufficiency of access to therapies in City of York.  | The local SEND Partnership has improved communication with parents/carers.                          | City of York Council Health Social Care (children and adults) SENDIASS | September 2023 |  |
| Develop joint protocols and pathways to be shared with parents/carers re: Speech, Language and Communication Therapy, Occupational Therapy and sensory interventions. | A 60% reduction in mediations and tribunals by 2025.  |  |                |  |













### Priority 3: Early intervention: Children and young peoples needs are identified at the earliest opportunity

| Action                   | Impact                       | Owner                 | Completed by   | Status             |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 3.1 Develop, publish and | A consistent and             | City of York Council  | September 2023 | Completed          |
| implement an Ordinarily  | transparent graduated        | (Effectiveness and    |                | The OAP document   |
| available provision      | response is in place across  | Achievement) and York |                | has been developed |
| document which supports  | the City.                    | Schools and Academies |                |                    |
| transition between       | Children and young people    | Board                 |                |                    |
| educational phases       | at SEN support receive a     |                       |                |                    |
|                          | consistent offer.            |                       |                |                    |
|                          | The plan do review cycle is  | Parent Carer Forum    |                |                    |
|                          | consistently used across all | SENDIASS              |                |                    |
|                          | settings and schools.        |                       |                |                    |
|                          | Parents and carers have      |                       |                |                    |
|                          | greater confidence in the    |                       |                |                    |













|   | consistency of mainstream education, particularly at points of transition. Attendance of SEN Support and EHC cohort improves and is at least 93% The percentage of children with SEN in mainstream settings is above national averages. A reduction in EHE and |   |             |                   |
|---|--|---|-------------|-------------------|
|   | EOTAS requests.  |   |             |                   |
| 3.2 Support the scale up of Early Talk for York (ETfY) to | Early identification and targeted intervention to  | City of York Council (Early<br>Years/Social Mobility) | August 2023 | In progress       |
| ensure that there is a city-                              | ensure that speech,  | Health Commissioning                                  |             | Scale up is being |
| wide implementation of the                                | language and   |   |             | implemented from  |
| approach (0-5).   | communication needs can  |   |             | September 2023.   |
| Scale up the use of the ETfY                              | be better supported in   |   |             | ETfY conference   |
| approach/principles to                                    |  |   |             | November 2023 to  |













| support children and young people 5-16 with speech, language and communication needs identified at SEN support | mainstream settings and schools. Attainment data shows improvement in outcomes for children identified at SEN support. A reduction in referrals to Speech and Language Therapy  Outcomes in Year 1 phonics are above national average for all pupil groups. |                                    |              | share outcomes and next steps |
|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 3.3 Develop a toolkit and implement training for   | Schools are more confident in supporting children with  | City of York Council (EPS service) | January 2024 | Completed                     |
| professionals, parents and   | anxiety around attendance   |                                    |              |                               |













| carers to spot early triggers | A reduction in the numbers  | City of York Council       |         |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|
| and early interventions to    | of severely absent children | (Inclusion Service)        |         |                  |
| support children and young    |                             |                            |         |                  |
| people who cannot attend      |                             | Specialist Teaching Team   |         |                  |
| school due to anxiety         |                             |                            |         |                  |
|                               |                             | CAMHS                      |         |                  |
| Jointly commission School     |                             |                            |         |                  |
| Reintegration workers to      |                             | Mental health support      |         |                  |
| work with children, young     |                             | teams                      |         |                  |
| people, families and schools  |                             | _                          |         |                  |
| to successfully support       |                             | Parent carer forum         |         |                  |
| children at risk of           |                             |                            |         |                  |
| withdrawing from school       |                             | SENDIASS                   |         |                  |
| due to anxiety                |                             |                            |         |                  |
| 3.4 Work with the Teaching    | There is greater            | Pathfinder Teaching School | Ongoing | In progress      |
| School Hub to continue to     | consistency across schools  | Hub                        |         |                  |
| develop SEND training         | in the implementation of    |                            |         | YSAB have        |
| programmes for teachers to    | ordinarily available        |                            |         | commissioned 2   |
| support the implementation    | provision in mainstream.    |                            |         | places for every |













| of quality first teaching and learning in mainstream schools.                                       | A reduction in requests for statutory assessment.  A reduction in EHE and EOTAS   |  |   | school to access Adaptive teaching training.   |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| 3.5 Work with education providers to develop neuro-diverse friendly settings, schools and colleges. | School attendance of neurodiverse children and young people improves.  Teachers and support staff feel better able to support neuro-diverse children and young people.  A reduction in suspensions and permanent exclusions | City of York Council York Schools and Academies Board York Schools Forum Autism Education Trust Health providers Parent Carer Forum Social care SENDIASS | Pilot settings/ schools worked with in academic year 2023-24  Extension of pilot 2024- 25 | In progress  Work with the ADHD Foundation is taking place during 2024. This is being launched with settings and schools on 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2024. |













| of neuro-diverse children |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| and young people.         |  |  |













# Priority 4: Transition: effective transition is secured so that young people are able to live the best adult lives they can

| Action                      | Impact                      | Owner                       | Completed by | Status                  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 4.1 Annually review and     | Evidence informed decision  | City of York Council Public | Annually     | <mark>In progess</mark> |
| update the SEND JSNA to     | - making is securely in     | Health                      |              |                         |
| inform sufficiency planning | place in the local area.    |                             |              |                         |
| and joint commissioning     |                             |                             |              |                         |
| this will include reviewing | The allocation of resources |                             |              |                         |
| the data that is being      | by the local area SEND      |                             |              |                         |
| collected to create a       | partnership is more         |                             |              |                         |
| meaningful evidence base    | effectively targeted.       |                             |              |                         |
| to inform strategic         |                             |                             |              |                         |
| planning, sufficiency       |                             |                             |              |                         |
| mapping and joint           |                             |                             |              |                         |
| commissioning               |                             |                             |              |                         |
|                             |                             |                             |              |                         |
| 4.2 Continue to develop     | Evidence informed decision  | Education                   | Ongoing      | In progress             |
| shared data sets and        | - making is securely in     | Health                      |              |                         |
| intelligence sharing across | place in the local area.    | Social Care                 |              |                         |













| education, health and care to support transition for individuals with EHC plans and to identify population level trends to inform joint commissioning. | The allocation of resources by the local area SEND partnership is more effectively targeted.   | SENDIASS                           |           | Enhanced focus on use of data to inform transition during 2023-24                     |
|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 4.2 All partners to ensure that preparation for adulthood outcomes are identified and recorded in all EHC plans from age 14.                           | Evidence from audit shows that 95% of post 14 EHC plans have preparation for adulthood outcomes that reflect the young persons aspiration's recorded by July 2024  Review and setting Preparation for adulthood outcomes are a mandatory | Education<br>Health<br>Social Care | July 2024 | In progress  PfA protocol has been developed and is being implemented during 2023-24. |
|  | part of the annual review process.   |                                    |           |   |













| 4.3 Co-produce and publish<br>the local area Preparation<br>for Adulthood protocol                      | Children and young people, parents and carers and professionals have a clear understanding of the preparation for adulthood pathway in York.  The transition from EHC plans is transparent and well understood by all partners and stakeholders. | Transitions working group                                 | December 2023  | Completed   |
|---|--|---|----------------|-------------|
| 4.5 Transition plans are developed and implemented for all young people with an EHCP from the age of 16 | Parents and carers understand the process of transition and plans can be ended at the right time to support independence outcomes.   | City of York Council<br>Preparation for Adulthood<br>team | July 2025      | In progress |
| 4.6 Improve pathways to employment through the  | Supported internships are fully developed as a   | City of York Council Skills<br>Team                       | September 2025 | In progress |

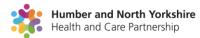












| implementation of the    | pathway to employment in  |  | Supported internship |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Supported Internship Hub | York                      |  | hub launch in        |
|                          | The number of young       |  | September 2023.      |
|                          | people accessing          |  |                      |
|                          | supported internships     |  |                      |
|                          | shows and annual increase |  |                      |
|                          | between 2024 and 2025.    |  |                      |