

**31 January 2019**

Dear Parent or Carer

**Joint Re-Visit Inspection of SEND in the Dorset Local Area by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission 11 to 13 February 2019**

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out a joint re-visit of your local area following the previous inspection of services for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities that took place between **23 and 27 January 2017**.

The re-visit will evaluate how effectively leaders have addressed the 4 areas of serious weaknesses detailed in the Written Statement of Action (WSOA). It is important to note that we will only be looking at progress against these specific areas; summarised as:

- Education, Health & Social Care need to work more closely together.
- Education, Health & Care Plans need to be produced more quickly.
- Parents and Carers need to be more involved in decision making, and get better help sooner.
- The quality of what is being done needs to be better monitored and, if necessary, challenged to improve.

During the re-visit, Ofsted and CQC inspectors will be keen to speak to as many children and young people and their parents and carers as possible.

**How can local children, young people, parents and carers contribute their views during this local area re-visit?**

The inspectors will gather the contributions of parents and families through an online survey and a face-to-face open meeting. The focus of both the online survey and open meeting will be set by the inspectors and will be based on the WSOA. Parents and carers can engage with the re-visit process and contribute their views by either:

- **Completing the On-Line Survey.** Parents and carers who would like to take part in this survey can follow this internet link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/DorsetLASENDR-visitsurvey/>.

The survey will open at 12 noon on Monday **4 February 2019** and close at 12 noon on Friday **8 February 2019**.

or

- **Attending the Open Meeting.** An open meeting, which will focus on areas identified in the WSOA, will take place on Tuesday 12 February 2019, 1830hrs to 2000hrs at The Dorford Centre, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1RR. Full details of the meeting will be published on the DPCC website ([www.dorsetparentcarercouncil.co.uk](http://www.dorsetparentcarercouncil.co.uk)). Parents and carers are requested to use this website to book a place on the event.

Details about the local area SEND re-visit will be available on your local authority's website ([www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/OfstedSendRevisit](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/OfstedSendRevisit)) and distributed through the local area's Clinical Commissioning Group/s (CCGs).

### **Information gathered during the re-visit**

During this re-visit, inspectors may collect information about children and young people in the area. They may look at local area records, speak to area officers and leaders at educational settings, and speak to children, young people and parents or carers. No names will be recorded, but some of the information collected may identify a particular child, young person or adult. Ofsted and the CQC will use this information to prepare their re-visit outcomes letter, and for the purposes set out in their privacy notices. No information will be published that identifies any individual in the outcomes letter.

If you wish to know more about how we use the information, please see our privacy notice relating to LASEND on our website. If you have any concerns about our use of personal data, please email [informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk) and/or the CQC at [information.access@cqc.org.uk](mailto:information.access@cqc.org.uk).

Information on Ofsted's and the CQC's privacy notices is available on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-privacy-notice/social-care-ofsted-privacy-notice#local-area-send-inspections>

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement>

While we recognise that many parents and carers may have views on their experience that extend beyond the focus of the WSOA, we would like parents and carers to understand that the focus of the inspectors during the re-visit will only be the serious weaknesses identified at the previous inspection.

The re-visit team will consider how well leaders have addressed each of the areas of serious weaknesses detailed in the WSOA. We will not be able to follow up or comment upon individual cases.

You will find information on local areas' duties towards children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities on the Department for Education's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>.

Yours sincerely

Jen Southall  
Her Majesty's Inspector