



Somerford Primary School

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18th March 2019

Dear Parents

I am writing to you as your child currently has an Education, Health and Care Plan from Dorset County Council (DCC).

You will be receiving a letter from DCC explaining that following the local government reorganisation on 1st April 2019, your child's EHCP will be transferred to Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Authority (BCP). Your SEN team contact will therefore also change and the letter will detail this.

We have been asked to reassure all parents of children with an EHCP that there will be no change to provision and nothing will change 'on the ground'.

However, I feel duty bound to inform you that BCP have a different model of funding EHCPs than DCC and the move to the new authority will result in a reduction of approximately £22,000 in funding per annum.

At Somerford we are very proud to have a comprehensive offer to support children with SEN and EHCPs such as a sensory room, TAs designated for speech and language support, Pastoral Care Workers, a play psychotherapist, a counsellor and so on.

Budgets are already close to breaking point in schools and a further reduction of this significant amount will undoubtedly have an impact on the provision we are able to offer moving forward.

The Governors, Helen Frampton, and her team will do all they can to continue to support your child's needs with ever diminishing resources and whenever possible will continue to lobby the government to provide more rather than keep cutting services and funding.

Your child's provision will be discussed in their Annual Review, but if you have any concerns in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Thorne (SENCo).

Yours sincerely,

John Stevens

Chair of Governors

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