

SEND Hub Networks



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Hub Networks across West Sussex

Autumn Term 2015

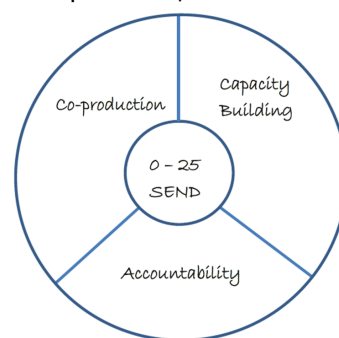
Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Hub Networks are partnerships of schools, parents, professionals and other educational providers who are working together to meet the needs of children and young people in their local area.

The majority of Hubs offer a combination of SEND training, guidance, advice, resources and signposting services. Although each Hub may have a different specialism to reflect local demand and capacity, all SEND Hub Networks share a common set of design principles:

Last academic year Hubs collectively:

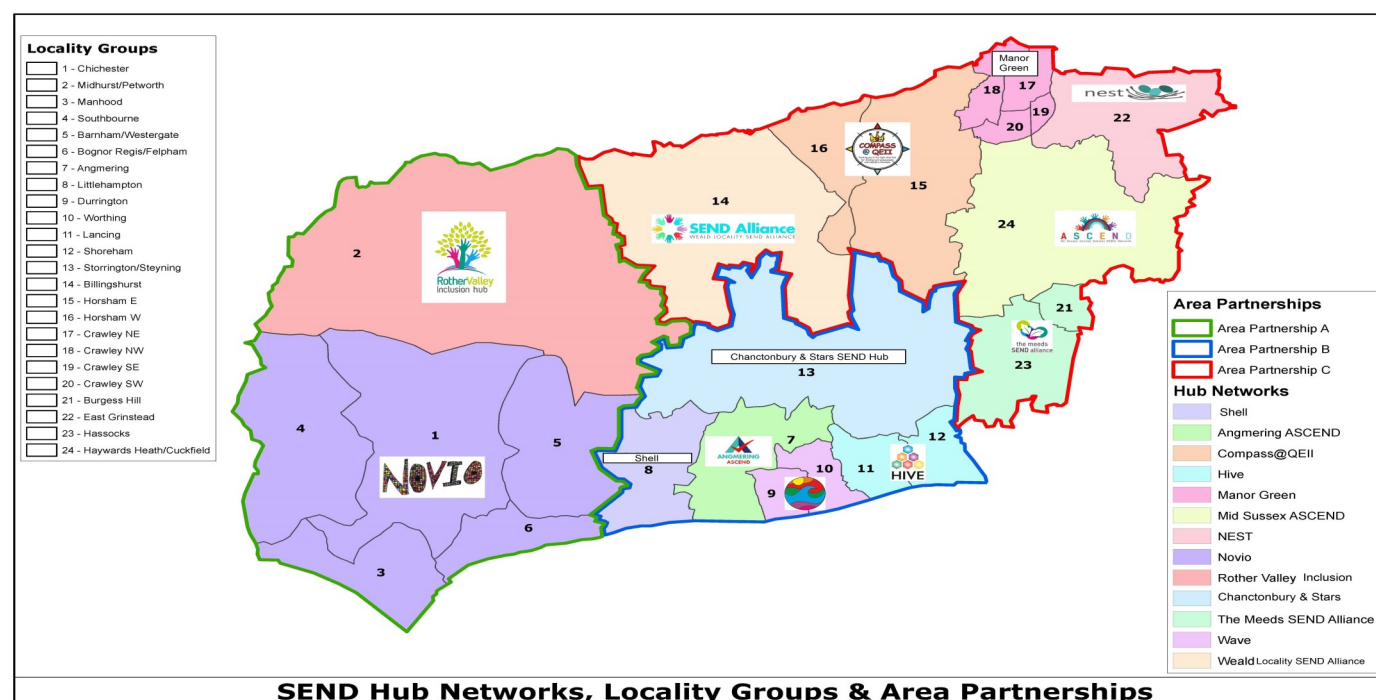
- Delivered 1628 professional training places;
- Responded to 210 bespoke support requests;
- Trained 340 parent carers .

- **Local accountability:** Hubs are managed and developed by schools and their partners;
- **Co-production:** Although each Hub is led by a school, their role is to co-develop an active partnership which supports mainstream education settings in meeting the SEND needs of children and young people;
- **Capacity Building:** Training and up-skilling of those working with children and young people with SEND across the 0—25 age range.



WSCC has been supporting the development of SEND Hub Networks through the use of Dedicated Schools Grant funding. Last financial year, each Hub received a grant of between £7K and £10K to develop a sustainable structure and pilot its support offer.

During 15/16 Hubs were invited to apply for DSG funding, released through a collaborative commissioning process. Successful applicants were awarded project grants of between £1K and £15K (total funding allocated £100K), the impact of the funding will be evaluated in the summer term. Many schools and localities have recognised the positive impact their SEND Hub Network is making and have also chosen to provide additional funding from their locality or own school budgets.



Nest



Nest is our SEND Hub Network for East Grinstead and the surrounding area. We offer:

- Training & resources to our schools and parent/carers;
- Advice and guidance to staff and parent/carers;
- Signposting to relevant groups and agencies.

Last academic year we worked with our parents to develop a "Parent & carer dream" which enabled us to focus on what really matters and this has become the foundation for our activities.

Parent Carers have joined our

strategic group and together we have delivered courses in Team Teach, Boxhall, coaching, self-harm, and Maths to our schools.

This academic year NEST will be focusing on speech and

"This has been the most empowering experience I have had in recent years. So refreshing to work strategically alongside parents." Deputy Head

language and mental health. We have successfully gained funding from West Sussex to assist with our SALT project which will focus on Reception

and Class 1 children.

NEST will also be looking at how we can respond to the huge demand from our teachers for assistance with mental health within all year groups.

NEST is also subsidising Maths training for our schools and will be putting on training for Team Teach and an ASC training session for teachers.

For further information check out www.nestsend.org.uk or email: enquiries@nestsend.org.uk

"I now feel I have a voice" Parent

Shell

The schools in the Littlehampton Locality started the process of creating a SEND Hub Network in March 2015.

In the following four months we achieved the following:

- Raised the profile of the existing SENCO group and its excellent work providing support and advice across all eleven schools;
- Held a SEN Planning Day at which all schools and the West Sussex Parent Carer Forum were represented to agree how additional resources should be used for

maximum benefit;

- Produced an updated Special Educational Needs Handbook for all Teaching Assistants working in the locality;
- Began to design our new website to provide a resource for parents, classroom staff and SENCOs.

For 2015/16 our aims are:

- To launch our new website before Christmas;
- To provide training for teachers and TAs on

various aspects of SEN to raise their awareness of certain conditions and to equip them with additional skills to help SEN children in the classroom;

- To enable regular access to specialist advice for SENCOs.

For further information on Shell please email: littlehampton.locality@gmail.com

West Sussex Parent Carer Forum

The development of SEND Hub Networks Hubs across West Sussex has been supported through the West Sussex Parent Carer Forum. Co-production with parent carers at both a strategic and operational level is at the heart of development activities. Further information on the work of the WSPCF can be found on the website: www.wspcf.org.uk



Chanctonbury and Stars SEND Hub

We are pleased to announce that our SEND Hub (Chanctonbury & Stars) is up and running. Our Hub Action plan was agreed and our focus is initially:

"Building Capacity for Early Identification and Development of interventions in our Schools in line with the new SEND Code of practice".

All locality Heads have received our first progress update and Action Plan to share with SENCOs.

Hub funding has enabled us to purchase a number of resources and SEND assessment materials for our schools to use.

A programme of training is being rolled out over this academic year to ensure our

Over 230 schools and settings have already received SEND support through a Hub.

schools have the knowledge and ability to use the resources effectively with our pupils.

Angmering ASCEND



This year we are taking a three tier approach to supporting our vulnerable children. A programme of support which targets identified children, their parent carers and school staff (including teaching assistants and other support staff) has been designed. Key themes include transition, team building, on-line safety and developing positive behavior.

Angmering ASCEND will also support its partners in disseminating good practice to develop a shared and consistent understanding of 'SEN Support' and 'Best Endeavours' in line with the Code of Practice.

Angmering ASCEND is particularly proud of the active parent carer group that has been developed with the

support of WSPCF over the last year. Over 40 parent carers have attended and their views are key to developing the support that Angmering ASCEND offers.

For further information have a look at our webpages.

www.angmeringascend.co.uk

Hive

Hive is the SEND Hub Network in the Shoreham & Lancing area.

We offer outreach, training and signposting services and also have a lending resource library.

We are particular proud of the support and positive feedback we have received



from the SENCOs in the locality and our multi-agency steering group with its Early Years and multi-agency partners.



This year we will be focusing on speech and language and emotional and mental health needs.

Our website contains further details:

www.adurhive.com

The Meeds SEND Alliance

The Meeds SEND Alliance is supporting schools in Burgess Hill and Hassocks through outreach, training, advice, resources and parent carer support.



Photo: 80 staff from 20 schools attending 'No Two Children are the Same' training with Fintan O'Regan.

Last year we were particularly proud of the training offer we provided for both Hassocks and Burgess Hill localities.

Over 18 group training sessions were organised in consultation with our member schools covering content such as Autism, Attachment, Team Teach, Makaton, Dyslexia.

"2 staff attended the ASC workshops and have introduced systems recommended. Parents are particularly pleased with the positive impact."

Hub Member School

We also continued to engage parent carers in the development of The Meeds SEND Alliance. Four parent carers regularly attend our strategic meetings.

The Meeds SEND Alliance is also able to offer outreach. Last year we delivered 25 hours each week of specialist one to one or small group Speech and Language support to 7 schools.



"I can only see the impact growing as we use the service more and more. It is great to be able to suggest areas where we need training and for that to be provided so cost effectively "

Hub Member School

This year The Meeds SEND Alliance is extending its outreach offer, widening its activities to support both the 0–5 year and Post 16 age range.

We are also embarking on a joint Hub project with Mid Sussex ASCEND to increase access to an Educational Psychologist.



Photo: Sensory Stories

For further information about the work of The Meeds SEND Alliance take a look at our webpages: www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk or email:

sendalliance@woodlandsmeed.co.uk or smiller@oakmeeds.co.uk

"The SEND Alliance has nurtured a real feeling of sharing resources and experiences."

Hub Member School

Mid Sussex ASCEND



The Mid-Sussex ASCEND hub targets support in three different ways:

- Continuing Professional Development for school staff to ensure more effective inclusion in the schools supported by our hub;
- Support for parents through a termly Parent Carer Forum and signposting on our website;
- The employment of professionals to support children and young people in schools.

Last academic year was a very busy year for Mid Sussex ASCEND, with the launch of our Employing Professionals

Project. We employed a Play Therapist, a Mental Health Worker and a Speech and Language Therapist. The work of these professionals was focused on the areas and year groups most in need according to the data collected from our schools.

The impact of the professionals has been very positive from the viewpoint of both schools and parents. Reflecting on the impact of the Speech and Language Therapist, a SENCo said "It's amazing. Very confident little girl now, in fact she came up to me in assembly this



morning and wanted to say something to the whole school, she's Year One. She would not have done that a year ago,". A parent said, "I've been really pleased with it, I thought it was excellent." Their involvement has resulted in the children and young people being more effectively included in mainstream classrooms, and schools have reported that it has reduced exclusions.

This year we are delighted to have secured funding to continue with the professionals project and we will also be working alongside the SEND Needs Alliance to jointly employ an Educational Psychologist to work across both hubs.

For further details of our work click here: centralsussexschools.co.uk/ascendhub

Novio

Novio offers SEND support through staff training & development and by sharing information and advice. A programme of our latest courses can be found on our website: www.noviosupport.org.

A new website page for 16 – 25 year olds has recently been co-designed with young people to meet their needs. Please check out our website and let us know what you would like to see on there.

In the summer over 110 delegates attended Novio's training courses. This term sessions are being offered in Mental Health, Dyslexia and Social Communication.

"The strategies and tips given were useful as I can easily try & apply them"
School SENCO

Feedback from those attending have reflected the positive impact our support has made to their practice.

Novio is proud of the strong relationship it has with multi-agency partners.

Currently a 'good practice' guide is being developed with WSCC which will be used to support schools, professionals, parent and carers and young people during annual reviews.

Novio is also producing a training programme with parents which will enable parent carers to have a greater understanding of how their child's SEND can present itself and appropriate support strategies to try out.



Novio also continues to provide bespoke school to school support, this can be on a one off or on-going basis.

If you would like any specific support, please get in touch, we will be happy to help.

info@noviosupport.org.uk.

"This has been a very supportive process. Professional dialogue has enabled me to work alongside staff and parents towards better outcomes for individual pupils"
Primary School

Rother Valley Inclusion Hub

Families, Schools and services working together



Every child and young person matters in the Rother Valley

Last year our we were particularly proud of the way our Hub:

- Identified staff CPD needs and the expertise we already have within Rother Valley schools



Our top four priorities for this year are:

- Developing and implementing our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) strategy for staff including training and peer to peer support;
- Developing and implementing our parent and support strategy including parent survey, workshops and signposting of information through website;
- Working in partnership with Speech and Language Therapy Team to deliver and evaluate WSCC funded project;
- Monitoring and evaluating the impact of the RV Hub on children, families and staff.

- Established our brand and marketed RV Hub through website, postcards and network meetings for governors;
- Worked closely with SENDCo.



"The Hub looks like a really good one stop shop for us to use to find things out"

"The Hub will make us feel more connected to other people"

"It is good there is someone to contact if you want to ask something"

Feedback from SENDCos

Contact details for Rother Valley Inclusion Hub

Julie Burnett-Kirk

jburnettkirk@gmail.com

www.rvhub.org

The Rother Valley Inclusion Hub offers:

Support for families
e.g. website information, workshops, activities and resources

Support for school staff
e.g. website, training, peer to peer working and shared resources

Find out more at
www.rvhub.org.uk
or email us at
enquiries@rvhub.org.uk



"We have really felt the benefits both in terms of direct support and in the shifting attitudes of schools in accepting that school to school support.... It has opened up dialogue and helped to create a much more open and supportive network."

Compass @QEII

COMPASS had a great year 2014-15.

Our proudest achievement is our CPD programme in collaboration with the Millais Alliance offering introductory courses and further practical advice and strategies for supporting pupils in mainstream schools. The highest needs as identified by Horsham Schools are: Autism Spectrum; Social, Emotional and Behavioural Issues; Specific Learning Difficulties and Speech Language and Communication Needs.

"I have attended courses on Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and behaviour management. All have been very useful, covering basic theories, practical strategies and signposting useful websites and resources. Follow-up emails have been really appreciated with various helpful materials attached. It has also been useful to network with colleagues from different phases and schools."

Primary School Teacher

Autism was our focus in 2014-15, culminating in a three day INSET with internationally renowned Professor Gary Mesibov from North Carolina.



"I have learned different tactics to use and have better understanding of how people with Autism see things differently. I feel more confident in working with my pupils with ASC."

Secondary TA

This year our focus will be on Social Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH) .

A launch for this is planned for October 12th, when 5 Lead schools will attend a regional launch of The Well-Being Toolkit developed by SEBDA and The Nurture Group Network.

Following this we will plan our own series of events (supported by CAMHs) to give mainstream staff the skills and confidence to support children and young people in this area.

We have also started a monthly parent drop in at The Needles Family Centre. We had a great, well attended meeting in July and plan to buy equipment to make visual aids tailored for specific children in future meetings.

COMPASS
Pointing you in the right direction for support for SEND

Parent/ Carers Drop-in group

COMPASS is the 'SEND Hub' for Horsham—supporting children and Young people with special educational needs and/ or disabilities and their families and carers

Please come and join us at our friendly, informal, group to provide support/ practical information and visual aids to support your child's learning and communication needs. Parents/ Carers and Personal Assistants all welcome

The group will be parent led and aims to develop in whatever direction is needed

NEEDLES CHILDREN & FAMILY CENTRE
Three Acres (off Blackbridge Lane)

SECOND TUESDAY in MONTH 10-12 am
Autumn Term - SEP 8th, OCT 13th, NOV 10th, DEC 8th

Contact Jane 01403 266215 or compass@queenelizabeth2.w-sussex.sch.uk

Website: compass-support.org

"X School accessed a range of different courses provided and found them all to be very practical and useful. Colleagues found the training on ASC to be particularly relevant and came away armed with useful strategies and approaches which, when put into practice, have really provided effective support for our pupils on the autistic spectrum."

Primary SENCo

The Weald SEND Locality Alliance

Working as The Weald SEND Locality Alliance has given our schools an opportunity to work with partners in our community to create new ways of supporting families of children and young people with SEND from birth - 25 years. We have already delivered some well-attended training events and developed a website which shares information on the support we provide and our training calendar.

This year we will be working on our sustainability and increasing the number of partners we work with, for example, we have recently welcomed a pre-school to our alliance. Our schools continue to support individual families and we will be working with Reaching Families to establish a parenting support group in Billingshurst.

Contact details and further information can be found on our website www.wealdsendalliance.org.uk



Manor Green Hub

Over the last year the Crawley Hub has established a group of participating schools who are supporting a number of initiatives within the area. Termly Inclusion Group meetings for primary and secondary school SENCOs have been well attended, and a wide ranging programme of SEN focussed training and development opportunities have also been delivered.

During 15/ 16 the Crawley Hub will be developing school based services to address the increase in Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing difficulties being experienced by children from late KS2 to KS4. The service has been designed by local headteachers and senior staff from 6 schools from the Crawley area.

The project will focus on three main areas: developing the capacity of the school workforce, group support for pupils requiring emotional support and access to mental health consultancy and assessment. The project will be developed in conjunction with health partners to ensure the work complements existing mental health pathways.

Other projects include a partnership with Think Family, WSCC and the Crawley CCG to co-produce preventative services for families with SEN and inclusion needs who are at risk of breakdown, and a 3 year WS Adult Services funded project to develop employment opportunities for SEN students and young adults by building links with the Crawley /Gatwick area business community.

The Hub will also be hosting its successfully established annual Autism day and is currently planning a Crawley based multi-agency SEN conference, in addition to providing resilience workshops for Yr 7 students and providing specialist Autism advice to local schools.

For further information on these projects or the work of the Crawley Hub please contact the Headteacher or School Business Manager at Manor Green College.



Wave

Wave is the SEND Hub in the Worthing and Durrington area led by Palatine and Oak Grove College. Last year our activities focused on specialist outreach and developing stronger working relationships with professional and community partners to give schools and settings a greater knowledge of who they could contact for support. During this year, Wave is keen to further develop its partnership with Worthing and Durrington schools to gain a greater understanding of SEND needs and how we can meet these together.

"Parent / carers are active and equal members of our Hub Steering group and together we are trying to get to the heart of real family issues so that [we] can respond effectively to actual, rather than assumed, needs. Schools are already having the benefit of greater insight into those needs and the solution focused approach is helping some families to approach issues with a different perspective." School based Hub lead