

Annual Survey Results

I attach, along with this report, a copy of the anonymised results from the short Annual Survey that Suffolk Parent Carer Forum produced earlier this year.

With the forum being newly formed, it was devised to act as a benchmark for us to refer back. We had, however, wanted to see if there had been any improvements since the Independent SEND Review, conducted by Lincolnshire County Council, detailed the recommendations for action in September 2021.

The survey ran from: Monday 17th January 2022 – Sunday 13th February 2022

We received a total of 136 responses, 10 were disregarded: 1 due to all identifying data being withheld so we were unable to identify that there were an SPCF member and 9 due to being repeat responses when the parent carer had identified as only having 1 child with SEND.

The remaining 126 responses were used to make the following report. Some questions had multiple choices and parents were asked to 'click all that applied' which is why all the responses do not add up to 126.

The percentage total also doesn't always add up to 100 because the percentages were rounded to a whole number with no decimals.

The summary points taken from the results are as follows:

- Attempts to increase parent carer representation in the 0-4, 17-18 and 19-25 is required.
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Anxiety are the biggest difficulties our children and young people (CYP) are facing.
- Mainstream settings hold the highest percentage of children with SEND in Suffolk.
- Support within the classroom is the most required by our CYP with a high percentage also needed support during lunch and break times.
- CYP are frequently left out by peers and suffer from bullying.
- 76% of CYP have an EHCP in place and only 12% feel there is no need because they are supported within the setting.
- 55% of our parent carers are happy with the EHCP plan in place for their children.
- 40% of CYP were not involved in producing their EHCP when they were capable to do so.
- 18% of CYP are receiving 'All' of the provision detailed on their EHCP and 16% are receiving 'None' of it.
- 60% of Annual Reviews/Transition/Final Drafts are not completed on time.
- 40% of parent carers felt that their setting met their child's needs 'most of the time'.
- 55% of parents were satisfied in some degree with the monitoring of their CYP's needs and 31% are dissatisfied.
- 27% of parent carers feel that communication between Education services and professionals work 'Extremely not well' together.
- 61% of parent carers feel involved in setting education targets and outcomes for their CYP.
- 26% of parents had seen a decline in education services and provisions over the last 4 months with 18% having seen an improvement of some kind.
- 66% of parent carers felt their transition/preparing for adulthood experiences had been poor or very poor.

- 59% of parent carers were able to access health/medical professionals or services if needed.
- Of these, 43% felt that it was in an unacceptable timescale.
- When setting health targets and outcomes, 47% of parent carers felt extremely or somewhat involved.
- Equaling the same as the Education counterpart, 27% of parent carers feel that communication between Health services and professionals work 'Extremely not well' together.
- 37% of parents were dissatisfied in some degree with the monitoring of their CYP's needs and 34% are satisfied.
- In the last 12 months, 13% of parent carers had seen an improvement in the medical services their CYP accesses.
- 24% of families are supported by a Social Worker.
- 58% of families receive the Activities Unlimited Short Breaks offer.
- When trying to find out information on services 44% of parent carers had some difficulties whilst 21% were able to access easily.

From the results we can see that there are certain areas working well and improving for some families, which is wonderful to see. However, there are still a lot of families who are experiencing great difficulties and for some of them, their experiences are deteriorating.

We want to ensure that **all** families have a great experience and that CYP are given the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential. This is why the role of the parent carer forum is so vital. When families feed back their experiences, whether good or bad, we can use this feedback to coproduce services and strategies which will benefit all families, children and young people across Suffolk.

We would like to thank the parent carers who took the time to complete the survey, we know how precious your time is and we really appreciate you choosing to use your time to assist the forum.

Suffolk Parent Carer Forum Management Committee