**SEND Inclusion Service – Supporting children with SEND in the Early Years**

**November 2019**

**Background**

* 1. An amount of £2.7m has been identified from previous Early Years underspend of the DSG that Schools Forum have agreed should be reinvested into Early Years particularly around supporting children with SEND to access their education.
  2. There was an intention as part of the agreement that the investment should lead to a reduction in expensive external placements for children later in their lives.
  3. Activity should therefore be linked to an “invest to save” model.
  4. The SEND Inclusion Service are overseeing the spend of £1.7m of the overall £2.7m budget.

1. **Outline of Proposals**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Project Name | Amount of Funding | Brief Outline of Project |
| **ISEY**  **Enhanced Funding** | £500,000 | This proposal will provide additional ISEY/enhanced funding for the period 2019/20 allocated across the four localities, to support children with SEND without the need for an EHCP.  The approach supports:   * the wider local authority’s new way of working that many learners’ needs can be met without the need for an EHCP. * that for children in the early years, early and preventative approaches are crucial for ensuring successful transition into school. |
| **Workforce and Family Development** | £100,000 | This proposal builds on developing further cohorts of early years practitioners to be trained to the national SENCO award Level 3 and to support in the delivery of sector-led SENCO specific networks.  Co-production with families and professionals, this proposal includes the development and delivery of a suite of training modules to support families in the management of their child’s special educational needs for children with communication difficulties. |
| **Early Years Locality Teams** | £500,000 | This proposal sets out to develop a locality team network specifically for practitioners in the early years to offer professional development, including consultation led approaches, drop ins and networks for practitioners with key SEND professionals across the city. The multi-agency team will promote inclusive practice, ensuring children are prepared for transition into school.  The team will include joint working with Birmingham Forward steps, health visitors, paediatric nurses and therapies. |
| **Early identification an intervention** | £200,000 | To compliment the roll out of the WellComm project, this proposal seeks to support settings in the early identification and intervention of children with SEND. In particular, the approach will develop strategies and practical activities to support children who require additional help and intervention.  The team will develop a bank of resources for settings as part of the approach and support settings in implementing the approaches. |
| **SEND Early Help – Family Support Workforce development** | £200,000 | The development and implementation of a family support workforce, with specific knowledge of the EY sector and services, seeks to support families in each of the 4 localities, parallel to the role of those within the school model. |
| **Transition** | £200,000 | The proposal being developed sets out to ensure lead professionals work closely with settings and schools to ensure the most appropriate placement and transition process is put in place to achieve effective outcomes and reduce the high number of children who move to specialist provision within Key Stage 1. |
| **Total Resource** | **£1.7m** |  |

**Contact Officer**

Nichola Jones

Assistant Director for SEND and Inclusion

[nichola.jones@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:nichola.jones@birmingham.gov.uk)

Tel: 07525 659575/ 0121 303 6587