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**Birmingham’s SEND Local Offer - *Innovate to Save Fund***

**1. Background:**

1.1 The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Offer Innovate to Save Fund (£1,400,000) supports our shared commitment to work with schools, educational settings and partner organisations to encourage and enable co- production and collaboration across local organisations, to work together to improve the outcomes for local children and young people with SEND.

1.2 With reducing income and increasing demand in the SEND policy area, it is clear in the future we will need to change how we work and what we are able to do. We will have to reduce what we do in some areas and stop what we do in others. We are looking for innovative applications, new ways of working, which support the preventative and Localism agenda.

1.3 Applications have been encouraged which help build organisation capacity, promote collaborative working and in turn reduce demand for statutory services or enhance service delivery but at lower cost. Both staff and communities were encouraged to come forward with their ideas.

1.4 The SEND Local Offer Innovate to Save Fund places greater emphasis on the need to demonstrate what return on investment will be achieved, including how any savings or benefits will be realised as a result of the proposed initiative. **Any initial Investment should in turn lead to a subsequent reduction in demand or cost for services provided by statutory agencies meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25.**

1.5 Any initiatives supported by the fund will need to demonstrate how they support as many of our local area SEND related priorities and strategic objectives as possible outlined below in addition to the award criteria

1. preparing children and young people with SEND for adulthood and independence,
2. keeping children and young people with SEND in local universal provision,
3. reducing the need for reliance on statutory EHC Plans and specialist provision/ resources
4. universal schools and settings capacity building through work force development and reasonable adjustments
5. improved use of technology to enhance performance and achieve efficiency savings through synergies
6. joint or integrated operational and/ or strategic commissioning, better customer experience, stronger local engagement and value for money.

1.6 The benefits and impact of the Innovate to Save projects include:

* Higher achievement among pupils who have special educational needs and disabilities.
* Fewer pupils in segregated provision – greater inclusion in the local community.
* Reduction in exclusions, children out of school and NEET population.
* Less pressure on high cost provision
* Better use of resources (including lower home to school transport costs).
* Increased confidence in mainstream schools.
* A more highly trained workforce
* Parents, pupils and school staff have better access to information and support.
* Better informed/evidenced developments and more targeted interventions.

**2. Outline of Proposals**

| Project Name | Amount of funding | Brief Outline of Project | How the money is being spent |
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| Early Help Localities -SEND & Wellbeing | £400,000 | The project will develop integrated specialist teams of health and education professionals to work in the North, South, East and West of the city. The teams will be made up of educational psychologists, specialist teachers, therapists, parent liaison officers and primary mental health workers. The teams will support families and schools in the early identification of need, ensuring easy access to specialist help through locality forums. This means that school professionals and families can talk to their specialist team through a range of forums. | 2 x Speech and Language Therapists  2 x Occupational Therapists  4 x Primary Mental Health Workers |
| Early Help Localities - Assistive Technology Hub | £27,090 | The development of locality-based provision across the city sets out to build capacity to integrate and embed the use of appropriate assistive technology for pupils with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) and general learning difficulties. This provision would take the form of an Assistive Technology (AT) hub within a primary school in the North locality. | Assistive technology hardware and software, plus training/communication materials |
| Early Help Wellbeing | £100,000 | The project will develop school based ‘Mental Health & Well-Being Support Teams’ who will be trained in either ELSA or Thrive. These teams will be able to support children at early stages or at the onset of mental health/emotional difficulties and will form part of an Integrated Emotional Well-being & Mental Health Offer available to pupils presenting with SEMH difficulties. This offer will take the form of a coordinated and graduated multi-agency approach (education, health & care professionals) to meeting pupil’s mental health and emotional well-being needs. | 4 x Thrive trainers plus subsidised training costs for 30 schools  Training and supervision costs for 60 schools provided by Birmingham Educational Psychology service |
| Mental Health Training (Primary Schools) | £39,200 | This project with the Birmingham Education Partnership will work with a cohort of schools in the city to consolidate and build on existing knowledge and develop tools/resources for lower level work with primary children. | Development and delivery of training programme in Primary Schools |
| Early Help Supporting Families (Parent Link Officers) | £180,000 | This project focuses on developing Parent Link officers, based in the North, South, East and West of the city, working with schools and services to support parents and families of children and young people with special education needs have their needs met within their local communities as early as possible. Th project aims to improve communication channels and participation of parents, children and young people to avoid disagreements; and assist in the development of a range of inclusion support services including networks, parent workshops and consultation-led drop-ins with the local SEND team. | 1 x Parent Partnership Co-ordinator  4 x Parent Partnership Link Officers |
| Parent Carer Engagement Workshops – Transition | £36,150 | The focus of this project is in the development of Parent Carer engagement through a series of workshops and training to support and engage parent carers of young people aged 13 to 17 and 18 to 25 year olds. The project will help prepare them and their young people with transition at KS3 to KS5; support the focus on growing independence; prepare for the important preparation for adulthood discussions in Year 10, Year 12; and prepare for transition from young people to adult services. The project will also build links with local employers and other interested parties to explore opportunities to prepare for working life through a Special SEND Apprenticeship and/or prepare for adult life through volunteering and community engagement. | Recruitment of parent carer consultation assistants  Delivery of 5 work shop sessions to support parents of CYP age 13-17 years and 18-25 years  Development of a PFA apprenticeship database and pathway |
| Voice of the Child | £8,250 | This project will establish a SEND Students forum to represent Birmingham Schools, in order to encourage young people to inform and influence good SEND practise. Students will develop confidence and communication skills, feel valued and contribute to their community and prepare for adulthood. | Resources to recruit young people to participate in the forum and coordinate events |
| Special School Outreach | £200,000 | The project will pilot a special school outreach service for mainstream schools. The overall aim of the outreach support service will be to support schools in their provision for learners with complex needs, ensuring pupils gain access to a broad, balanced and relevant education, whilst having their exceptional needs met in an inclusive way in their local community. | 4 x Specialist School Teachers |
| Reviewing Independent Provision | £50,000 | This project will maximise and make best use of all our resources. In particular, to ensure all children in Birmingham are educated as near as possible to their local community. This project will undertake a review of independent schools currently commissioned to ensure the provision appropriately meets need and is good quality provision. | 1 x Specialist School Teacher |
| SEND Leadership & Review of Provision | £85,000 | This project will develop a group of SEND leaders in schools across all four locality areas. Through focused input around effective leadership from WWS, and mentoring and monitoring support from PSS and BEP, these leaders will work with identified schools in their localities, carrying out SEN reviews to identify common themes to inform implementation of shared projects across schools to improve the provision and practice around SEND. | Release time for leaders from schools to carry out SEND reviews in partnership with PSS and BEP, and time to develop and deliver agreed projects to improve practice. |
| SEND Coaching Model | £50,000 | This project focuses on the recruitment and development of 20 x SEND Coaching leads from best practice leaders and classroom teachers across the four localities. Working with SEND support services, the coaches will support schools/teachers in developing approaches to meeting the needs of all children and young people. | 10 x SEND Leadership Coaches and 10 x SEND Practitioner Coaches  Release time for coaching leads from school a day a week, and half termly monitoring and mentoring for group of coaches |
| Local Offer Website | £50,000 | This project will ensure that parents, carers and young people with SEND in Birmingham are able to access information about the offer Birmingham has to support their needs. This will be achieved through reviewing best practice from other local offer websites from across the country, and then working with colleagues from education, health and care to update the information on Birmingham’s Local Offer website in order to address the concerns previously raised by parents and carers who have reviewed the site.  This information will then be presented on a local offer website that is easy to navigate, up to date, useful and relevant to the users. | Release time for 1x admin assistant to support collation of information  Website designer to review/build user interface |
| Birmingham Children’s Partnership | £180,000 | Funding towards the Birmingham Children’s Partnership and the CYP Improvement Team. 5 key priorities are being pursued through 2019/20: SEND Improvement, Early Help, Contextual Safeguarding, Review of High Cost Placements, Primary School Exclusions. | Partnership CYP Improvement Team inc. - Transformation & Improvement Director, 4 x Improvement Managers, Business Analyst, Public Health officer, Finance Officer, Comms Officer |
| Access Arrangements | £5,779 | The project is developing In school testing at King Edward Five Ways school for access arrangements and creation of an access arrangements hub | Access arrangements training for 2x school staff |
| **TOTAL** | **£1,411,469** |  |  |