

29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Inspection of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough local area's effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of, and improving outcomes for, children and young people with SEND from 05 July to 09 July 2021.**

Dear Parents and Carers

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out jointly an inspection of your local area. The local area is the geographical area of the local authority. However, the responsibility of the local area for children and young people with SEND extends to those who are residents of the local area but attend educational establishments or receive services outside the local authority's boundaries.

The inspection will evaluate how effectively the local area:

- identifies the needs of children and young people with SEND
- meets the needs of these children and young people so that their outcomes and chances of participating fully in society improve.

Inspectors will be visiting your son/daughter's school, Newman School during the afternoon of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July. The views of parents and carers are an important part of the inspection evidence. If you are a parent or carer of a child or young person with SEND, we would very much like to speak with you during this visit.

- 1.** A meeting has been arranged with a member of the inspection team for 1 pm. It is expected that this meeting will last about 45 minutes. Please confirm with Newman School – Toni Smith at school (01709 828262) if you wish to attend so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Newman School will only be able to accommodate 8/9 parents physically at school or remotely by Teams; please respond by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 10 a.m. if you are interested in taking part. On Monday afternoon Newman will invite the identified parents and confirm the individual arrangements.
- 2.** Complete the online survey, details are provided below.
- 3.** Make available to the inspector on arrival the names and contact details of approx. 6-10 parents and carers who would be willing to speak to the inspector. The inspector can then use the time allocated to them to make the calls.

**How local children, young people, parents and carers contribute their views during this local area inspection?**

There are several ways in which children, young people, parents and carers from your provision can engage with the inspection process and contribute their views:

1. The inspection will include a survey of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough parents and carers of children with SEND. The survey is open from 12noon on Monday 28 June until 11:59pm on Tuesday 06 July 2021.

Parents and carers who would like to take part and share their experiences with the inspectors can follow this link to complete the survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RotherhamMetropolitanBoroughLASENDInspection/>

We strongly recommend that, before completing the survey, parents and carers watch the short video at the start of the survey which gives information about the inspection and what inspectors will focus on.

2. Parents and carers can email their contributions to [Lasend.support@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:Lasend.support@ofsted.gov.uk).

3. Details about the local area SEND inspection will be available on your local authority's website and distributed through the local area's Clinical Commissioning Group/s (CCGs). Information about how children and young people with SEND can share their views about the local area's effectiveness should be included in the local offer.

While we understand that many parents and carers may have views on their experiences that extend back several years, the focus of the inspection is on the effectiveness of the local area since the introduction of reforms in September 2014. We would also like parents and carers to understand that we will not be able to follow up or comment upon individual cases. The inspection team will consider all communication from parents as part of the evidence when evaluating the effectiveness of the local area.

4. During this inspection, the inspectors will collect information about children and young people in the area. They will be looking at local area records, speaking to area officers and leaders at educational settings, and speaking to children, young people and parents or carers. No names will be recorded, but some of the information collected may be capable of identifying a particular child, young person or adult. Ofsted and CQC will use this information to prepare their report, and for the purposes set out in their privacy notices. No information will be published that identifies any individual in the inspection report.

More information is available in the Ofsted and CQC privacy notices which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-privacy-notices/social-care-ofsted-privacy-notice#local-area-send-inspections>

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/privacy-statement>.

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Information on local area duties toward children and young people with SEND can be found on the Department for Education's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

Yours sincerely

Belita Scott  
Her Majesty's Inspector