

19 November 2018

Letter to be circulated to parents and carers by Rochdale local area – **PLEASE NOTE EXTENSION TO ONLINE SURVEY**

Revisit to Rochdale from 3 December to 5 December 2018

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will carry out jointly a revisit of your local area following the previous inspection that took place between 19 and 23 September 2016. The revisit will evaluate how effectively leaders have addressed the areas of serious weakness detailed in the written statement of action (WSOA). During the revisit, Ofsted and CQC inspectors will be keen to speak to as many children and young people and their parents and carers as possible, specifically about the weaknesses identified in the WSOA.

Inspectors will reflect on the weaknesses outlined in the WSOA and will evaluate:

- whether the identification of children with SEND in mainstream schools has improved since December 2016 and whether their needs are being better met
- whether the identification of children with autism has improved since December 2016 and their needs are being met
- whether children at the SEND support stage are doing better at school
- whether children with SEND and their families who face significant challenges are getting the help and support they need
- how well Rochdale's local offer is known and if it has improved in the last two years (the local offer is a local area's publication of all services they expect to be available across education, health and social care to help support children and young people with SEND and their families).

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

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

The inspectors will gather the contributions of parents and families through an online survey and a face-to-face open meeting. The focus of the online survey and open meeting will be set by the inspectors and will be based on weaknesses outlined in the WSOA.

1. Parents and carers who would like to take part in this survey can follow this internet link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RochdaleRe-VisitLASEND/>. The survey will open at 12 noon on Monday 26 November and will close at 11.00am on Tuesday 4 December.

Parents and carers can submit their contributions via the online survey using the link provided above.

2. An open meeting, which will focus on the areas identified in the WSOA, will take place on Monday 3 December. This will take place at 7 o'clock (pm) at Rochdale Parent Carers Voice, True Serenity, 2nd Floor, Blue Pit Mill, Castleton, OL11 2YW. Parents and carers can contact their local Parent Carer Forum to request details of how to be part of the discussions between parents and carers and the Ofsted/CQC revisit team.

Details about the local area SEND revisit will be available on your local authority's website and distributed through the local area's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Information gathered during the revisit

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

If you wish to know more about how we use the information, please see our privacy notice relating to LASEND on our website. If you have any concerns about our use of personal data, please email informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk and/or the CQC at information.access@cqc.org.uk.

Information on Ofsted's and the CQC's privacy notices is available on the links below:

<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>

While we recognise that many parents and carers may have views on their experience that extend beyond the focus of the WSOA, we would like parents and carers to understand that the focus of the inspectors during the revisit will only be the serious weaknesses identified at the previous inspection. The revisit team will consider how well leaders have addressed each of the areas of serious weaknesses detailed in the WSOA. We will not be able to follow up or comment upon individual cases.

You will find information on local areas' duties towards children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities on the Department for Education's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>.

Yours sincerely

Ian Hardman
Senior Her Majesty's Inspector