Joint Authority Support for Children, Families and Schools

Partnership Agreement between the Sensory Support Service (SSS) and educational settings

Service contact: sensorysupportservice@bristol.gov.uk 0117 9038441 / 2

We will

- Liaise with you about support planned for each child and young person (CYP) and its focus
- Carry out assessments specific to sensory impairment and provide advice, recommendations and inform you of useful strategies
- Identify training needs in your setting, around sensory impairment and signpost to training opportunities or provide it within your setting
- Contribute to statutory assessments and annual reviews
- Provide assessments, training and advice to ensure effective use of technology required
- Provide advice on environmental adaptations
- Liaise with parents/carers, key staff in setting including governors, if appropriate, and other agencies involved
- Where several pupils with sensory impairment are placed in a specialist setting (not sensory impairment specific), we will provide you a support allocation for each year.

We expect

- To be informed of a CYP absence, if we are visiting your setting to avoid any unnecessary travelling
- Time from key staff (SENCO, teacher, tutor, TA) to liaise during our visit or remotely afterwards (pre-arranged)
- Settings to invite us to annual reviews or multi agency reviews, giving at least 4 weeks' notice, where possible. Keep us informed of any changes.
- Settings to ensure ordinarily available provision is in place, to implement our recommendations to meet the needs of a CYP and liaise with us about any difficulties you may encounter
- Settings to ensure information provided by the service, is available to parents/carers
- Settings to make reasonable adjustments in line with the Equality Duty to provide an accessible environment and curriculum adaptations / resources, obtaining enlarged modified SATs/Exam papers and concessions as advised by specialist teachers from SSS
- Settings to ensure CYP access IT systems and WIFI as required so they can use personalised assistive technology and software, use accessibility features as default as required, including screen sharing technology laptop/iPad/Tablet to interactive/smart board in class, radio aids and sound field systems as advised by specialist teachers from the service
- Settings to purchase required resources and some small, standard technology such as iPads, laptops etc. as advised by specialist teachers from the service
- School to provide secure/safe storage area and with facility to charge technology for CYP.
- Opportunity for specialist teachers from the service or specialist TA to work with CYP in a quiet environment away from the classroom if necessary.
- Access to school facilities for comfort breaks

Where to find out more: www.bristol.gov.uk/sensory-support-service