

REPORT TO: Children, Young people and Families Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 23rd February 2015

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Children & Enterprise

PORTFOLIO: Children Young People and Families

SUBJECT: Independent Living Skills

WARD(S) All

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To continue to review our provision for teaching and enhancing Independent Living Skills for Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in the Borough.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS: That:

- i) Members approve latest developments at Inglefields
- ii) Members support next steps in the review process.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In 2013, Jennifer John, the previous Divisional Manager for Inclusion 0-25, with a small group of Members and the Head Teacher of Ashley School, reviewed the local provision for Independent Living Skills in the Borough.

3.2 A report was produced that recommended that Inglefields be developed to provide a base for the students in Ashley 6th form to be given an opportunity to develop skills in this area. The report also recommended that we continued to review and develop this area of our provision in the Borough.

3.3 Since this last report the main focus of work for the Division has been to implement the Duty of the Local Authority for SEND reform under the Children and Families Act 2014.

3.4 There are however the following developments to report.

- The provision at Inglefields has opened supporting the innovative enterprise provision at Ashley 6th form.(a short presentation from a Ashley Student on its impact to be given to the Board)
- A Children's Commissioner has contacted every LA in the region to seek examples of other provision in the region. This

produced a nil response.

- Riverside College have invited a small group of members and the Divisional Manager to view their provision.
- The Divisional Manager for Inclusion 0-25 is working with Adult Social Care to develop seamless transition processes a part of the Preparation for Adulthood Agenda. This includes the development of Independent Living Skills as an extension to provision in schools and colleges. There is an opportunity for a Review group to look at Adult provision in other Regions.

NEXT STEPS

3.5

- To continue to work with Adult Social Care to ensure that there is a smooth and continuous transition from Childrens' provision into Adult Social Care.
- Continuing research into the approach taken by other local authorities regarding independent living skills across both Adults and Children's Services.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Helping to deliver the aims and objectives of Halton Children and Young People's Plan

4.2 Helping to deliver the Strategy for Learning and Achievement particularly Inclusion 0-25

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications at this stage.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

Ensuring provision meets need within the Borough as well as the locality Supporting Local Offer requirements set out in Section3 Children and Families Act 2014

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

To ensure young people with SEND have every opportunity to develop independence skills and to enable access to employment for young people with SEND wherever possible.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

To ensure that all young people in Halton have improved outcomes, in particular mental health and well- being.

To ensure that these particular young people develop skills to understand how to look after their own needs wherever possible.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**
To ensure young people have the skills to travel safely.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**
None

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Need to maintain, extend and further develop current provision to address increasing transport costs and costs related to out of borough placements.

7.2 Duty to respond to pupil and family voice to ensure that young people are given the opportunity to remain in their community.

7.3 Need to improve out comes for Children and Young People with SEND

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Ensure that Children and young people with SEND have their needs met locally and providing equal opportunities having regard to the Equality Act 2010

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Equality Act 2010	Rutland House	Anita Parkinson
Children and Families Act 2014	Rutland House	Anita Parkinson
Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs	Rutland House	Anita Parkinson