

Travel passports for children and young people with an Education, Health and Social Care Plan (EHCP)

Introduction

There has been discussions with the Sheffield Parent Carer forum. The 'tell it once' approach was discussed in a discussion (Department of Health- Future in Mind 2013).

Parents felt that the EHCP and travel needs were not linked up as closely as they could be. Parents felt like they were having to repeat their child/young person's story numerous times.

The impact

- The results I expect to see are that the Child or young person's travel needs are reviewed in line with the annual EHCP review.
- To implement the passport effectively we will have to continually review this with parents, carers, schools and other relevant services. Feedback will be important and we will involve parents and carers in creating the template for the passport when we are at that point.

Improvement methodology

SEND Reform- working together to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND.

'Tell it once approach' (Department of Health- Future in Mind 2013).

I will use PDSA cycles to measure the outcomes from the improvement project.

Leadership learning

- I involved the Special Educational Needs Team, Social Care, Transport and a project support officer in the council. So far I have learned the importance of supporting the group to remain on task and redirecting back to the Aims statement in terms of what we are trying to achieve. When multi-agencies are involved they can have their own agenda in terms of service improvement so it's important to chair the meeting effectively in order to focus on one task and improvement project at a time. I think the current COVID-19 pandemic is also impacting on current practice and how efficiently we can work and implement quality improvement considering the changing agenda in the NHS and Local Authority in terms of prioritization. I believe generally the pandemic has improved my leadership skills and how to support quality improvement during this time.

The approach

What we were trying to accomplish

To create an appendix (travel passport) to the EHCP for travel needs (this will include the health needs on transport).

What we measured to understand if our change was an improvement

We will measure the feedback from parents and carers.

The current baseline is that the EHCP review is separate to the transport needs review. This isn't working efficiently and creates a 'divide' between services when we need to look at a child or young person's needs holistically.

What changes we made / are making

We have met three times (health, education, social care and transport) as part of a project group. We set actions and meet around every 6 weeks. We are currently looking at the best way of designing and implementing the passport. The Parent Carer Forum will also be involved in this when we have a clearer understanding on what it will look like/

Next steps

- To review and continue the progress of the actions agreed in the last meeting around the practicalities of implementing the travel passport. This will be through the PDSA model.
- The next steps were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.