

Wirral Council

Simone White Director for Children, Families and Education

PO Box 290 Brighton Street Wallasey CH27 9FQ

www.wirral.gov.uk

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your ref my ref Dir408/CSH service Children's Services tel 0151 666 4288 Please ask for Simone White email directorforchildrensservices@wirral.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

My name is Simone White, and I became Wirral's Director of Children's Services in March this year. I am writing about the Local Area Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Inspection which took place from Monday 27th September to Friday 1st October 2021.

The inspection examined the local area's effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of, and improving outcomes for, children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This included examination of a variety of Wirral settings including Children's Services, health provision and education settings, and was informed by the views and experiences of the children, young people and families who use them.

I wish to thank all of you who participated in the inspection, whether in person, over the phone or via the survey. I very much appreciate you sharing your experiences and views. This feedback greatly assisted the inspection team in identifying areas of strength and areas which need to improve.

Whilst I am unable to share any further information on the inspection until the findings are published in November, I want to make the following commitments to you on behalf of Wirral Council and its partners:

- We will pay close attention to what the inspection report tells us.
- We will acknowledge areas of strength, and we will pay great attention to areas that need to improve.
- Following publication of the report, we will provide opportunities for you to learn about the findings and how we intend to make any required improvements.
- We will work in partnership with children, young people, parents, carers, and families to improve continuing to share your experiences and views will be important to making meaningful progress.

I wish to assure you that I have the full support of our Lead Member for Children's Services, Councillor Wendy Clements, and Wirral's Chief Executive, Paul Satoor, as well as our partners in health and education. We will continue to work together ensuring that children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Wirral have every opportunity to thrive and fulfil their potential.

Once again, thank you to everyone who took part in the inspection process. I will write to you again, following publication of the inspection feedback.

Yours sincerely

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Simone White Director for Children, Families and Education