

Expressions of Interest for Staffordshire Enhanced District Inclusion Support (SEDIS) Model – Lichfield and Staffordshire Moorlands Districts.

Introductory Information

1. Expressions of Interest

- 1.1 Staffordshire County Council (SCC) is inviting additional expressions of interest (EOI) from educational settings to develop a Staffordshire Enhanced District Inclusion Support (SEDIS) Model in the Lichfield, and Staffordshire Moorlands districts. This is the third round of EOIs for this initiative.
- 1.2 Applications are being sought to cover all key stages of education and to enable coverage across all districts.
- 1.3 Expressions of interest will be especially welcomed from partnerships of mainstream educational settings in collaboration with special schools and Pupil Referral Units. A base in the district to provide In Reach provision will be required. Some limited capital funding may be available to develop bases for In-Reach provision to increase placements in the school.
- 1.4 Applications will not be considered from independent/private schools, Specialist post 16 providers and Training Providers.
- 1.5 Applications must be submitted from the Lead Provider who will be leading the SEDIS model. The SEDIS Model will be led by a Lead Provider/Recipient which will be a school. The Lead Provider/Recipient will work in partnership with other professionals to develop the SEDIS teams. SEDIS teams will be comprised of professionals from educational settings, Pupil Referral Units and input from Health practitioners (e.g. speech and language). Local Authority Officers may support this work (e.g. Educational Psychologists and Specialist Support Team).

2. Background

- 2.1 SCC has been working with our partners over the last 24 months to develop a Strategy for Special Provision that ensures equality of access to education which meets the individual needs of our children and young people in their local community to give them the best start in life and a chance to achieve their potential.

The Strategy for Special Provision has been informed by the conclusions drawn from a detailed gap analysis of current need and existing provision and the views and ideas of representatives from Health, Social Care, educational settings including Pupil Referral Units, The Virtual School, FE Colleges and parents and carers.

2.2 The Strategy comprises two major components:

2.2.1 A pre-statutory Staffordshire Enhanced District Inclusion Support Model (SEDIS) to provide mainstream educational settings with the resources and support to deliver the graduated response.

2.2.2 The creation of additional provision in Staffordshire Special Schools based on a detailed analysis of need.

2.3 This document relates to the application process to deliver the SEDIS model.

2.4 SCC are working separately with Staffordshire Special Schools on proposals to create additional provision.

2.5 Our aspiration in Staffordshire is to ensure all children and young people are educated in their local community with the right support at the right time. The SEDIS Model will be based on evidence-based practice, removing barriers to inclusion in mainstream educational settings by building capacity and confidence and providing a personalised and tailored approach to addressing a child or young person's additional needs.

3. The SEDIS Model: Enhanced Outreach and In-Reach Provision

3.1 SEDIS provision is first and foremost a model of proactive early support for children and young people as well as a way of developing sustainable capacity in mainstream educational settings. SEDIS is not a process of 'last resort' prior to exclusion, placement breakdown or a primary method for creating evidence for a request for an Education Health Care Needs Assessment.

3.2 The Model will offer both outreach and in-reach provision. The majority of children and young people will receive outreach support only whilst remaining at their home setting.

3.3 Outreach support will involve the educational setting that is seeking support receiving additional and enhanced specialist support to develop their capacity to meet the needs of children and young people. Outreach is also designed to develop the capacity of the educational setting that is seeking support to meet

the needs of all children in their setting in the future.

3.4 In some circumstances, despite high quality Outreach support, the child or young person may require specific support that is away from their educational setting. Where this is the case, an In-Reach placement will be offered.



3.5 The SEDIS model is for all children and young people aged 0-25.

3.6 Support is needs based rather than diagnosis led. A request for SEDIS may be made to seek support for a range of reasons, including the following:

- Addressing challenges with cognition/learning, social emotional, social communication, speech and language and social interaction needs that present a barrier to learning and the development and maintenance of relationships
- Understanding and addressing sensory issues that may be impacting on the child or young persons' engagement with and access to the curriculum
- Challenges with mental wellbeing i.e., anxiety, panic attacks, depression
- Supporting educational setting engagement and challenges with school attendance
- Support to understand and meet unidentified special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Preventing placement breakdown and school exclusion

4. Funding Arrangements

4.1 The Lead Provider/Recipient will be paid an annual payment which will be to support an agreed number of children and young people with both outreach and in-reach services at any one time.

4.2 Information provided below is for **illustrative purposes** and exact payments will be outlined in the Payment Schedule following contract award.

To provide an example the table below (Table 1) sets out **indicative numbers** of children and young people and the local authority's financial contribution.

Table 1 – Local Authority Contribution

Provision	Cost	Detail
Outreach Support	£45,000	To support 15 children and young people with SEDIS outreach at any one time.
In-Reach Placement	£50,000	To support 5 children and young people with a SEDIS in reach placement at any one time.
Total contract value	£95,000	To support 20 children and young people with SEDIS provision at any one time.
Exact numbers each SEDIS Provider will be expected to work with will be confirmed upon award, as this will vary depending on how many children and young people the district support at any one time and requirements for outreach and in-reach provision.		

4.3 Payments from local authority contributions will be paid quarterly in arrears.

4.4 The table below (Table 2) sets out school contribution amounts.

Table 2 – School Contribution

Provision	Cost	Detail
Outreach Support	£30.00 per session	Schools will contribute £30 per session for outreach. (Each session will be a minimum of 2 hours – some children may require more than one session per week)
In-Reach Placement	£50.00 per day	Schools will contribute £50.00 per day for in-reach, this will be capped at £1,500.
*During the planning stage of the EAPDR cycle the team around the child will confirm the duration and amount of support required for each child or young person, this will then determine the school contribution.		

4.5 Prior to the child or young person being referred for SEDIS support the referring school will sign a school contribution form which will outline the level of contribution required from the school.

4.6 School contribution payments will be paid directly to the Lead Provider/Recipient.

4.7 The Lead Provider of the SEDIS model is responsible for collecting school payments and dealing with any disputes/issues that arise.

5. Application Process

5.1 The application and decision-making process will involve 3 stages:

1. Evaluation of expressions of interest received by Evaluation Panel
2. Interviews with applicants successful at Stage one
3. Feasibility studies for projects requiring capital works.

6. Further Information

The following documents have been included:

1. Service Specification – this outlines the SEDIS model to be delivered.
2. Expression of Interest form – this form must be completed for an application to be considered.
3. Evaluation Decision Matrix – this provides information on how the Expression of Interest form will be evaluated and decisions made on successful applications.
4. Legal Agreement – this is an **example** of the agreement to be entered into to deliver the SEDIS model. The final agreement will be developed when the details of the SEDIS Provider and delivery have been agreed and finalised.

In addition, for any capital works awarded capital funding an additional document will be required. The type of document will depend upon the ownership of the premises. If the recipient owns the premises, a licence for works given to the County Council will be appropriate. If the County Council owns the premises but has granted a long-term lease to an academy, a development agreement between both parties will be necessary.

7. Application Process

The closing date for Expressions of Interest forms to be received is: 28th February 2025

Completed Expressions of Interest forms should be sent to:
Educationcommissioning@staffordshire.gov.uk