



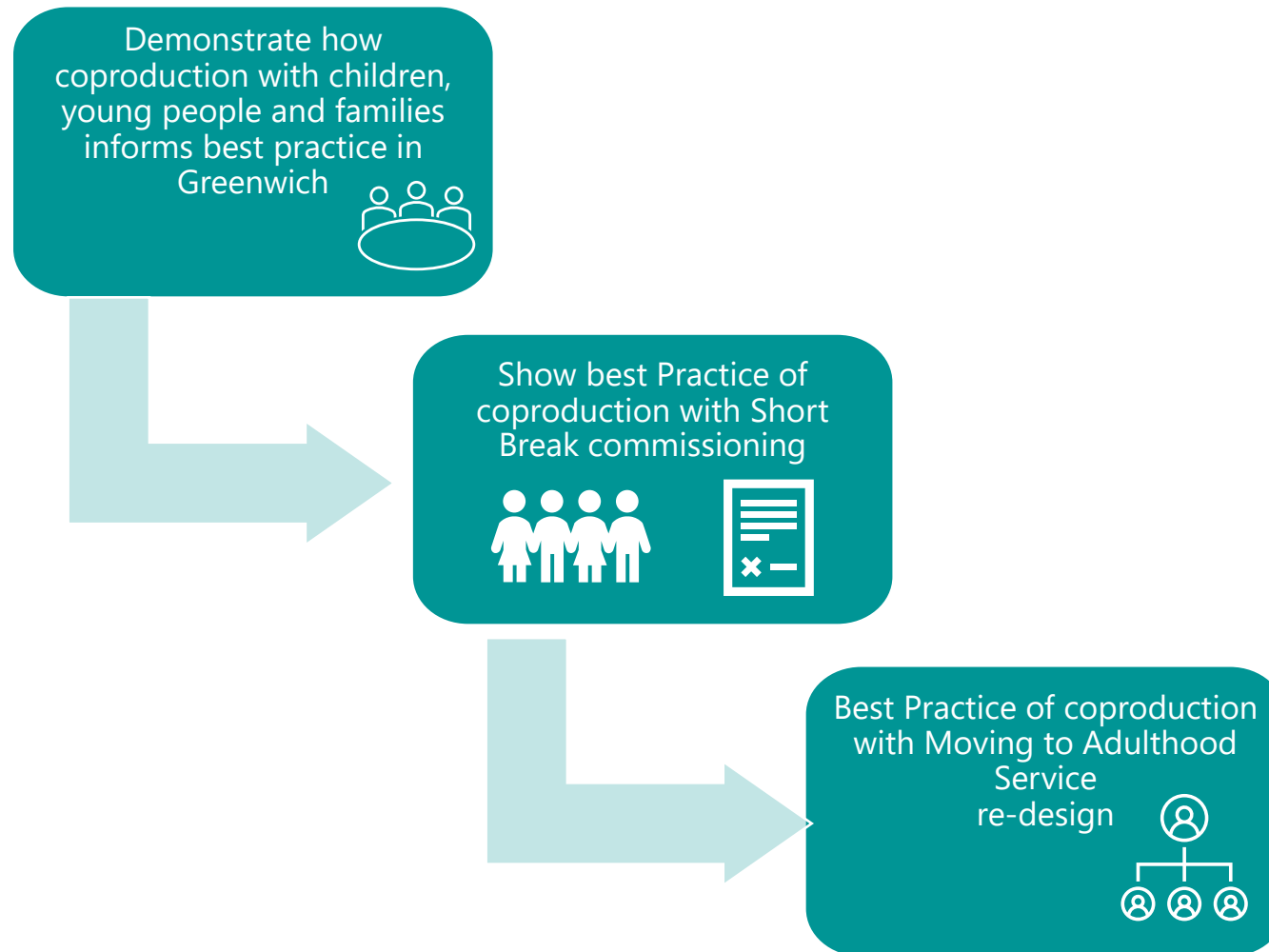
**Supporting Better Outcomes of Children and Young People
through Co-Production**

**Florence Kroll
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Royal Borough of Greenwich**

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AIMS OF THE SESSION

Reflecting on the National Care Review, Our Local Area SEND inspection and local reviews our strong themes of practice are our insight and influence work with children and families and our partnership approach.



CHILDREN'S SERVICES VALUES



Children, young people and families are at the heart of everything we do.



We are honest, compassionate and respectful.



We listen, learn and do things better



We promote diversity, celebrate difference, challenge discrimination and oppression.



We work together, with children, young people, families/carers and our partners to bring about lasting change

ACE (ACTION, CHANGE, EQUALITY)

In line with the values that we have developed, co-produced and implemented at all levels of Children's Services, the involvement, participation and co-production with children and young people is at the heart of how we work and everything we do.



[Ace Hello Hello Video 3 Minute](#)

ACE (Action, Change and Equality) groups lets children and young people tell Greenwich Council what is good and what could be made better. ACE helps to shape and improve services for children with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities.



SUPPORTING BETTER OUTCOMES

In line with the values of Children's Services, we put our children and young people at the heart of everything we do including service development and do this by:



CO-PRODUCING SERVICES

Ensuring the voice of children and young people, as well as their parents, are used to shape our services has become standard in how we design our internal services and how we commission provision.

This helps demonstrate the impact children, young people and families had on the commissioning and development of the service. Both of these are published on our Local Offer for transparency.



We coproduce the service specification to ensure it meets the needs of our families through consultation and involvement in Commissioning Steering Groups. We do this through consultation with groups of parents and direct input into commissioning steering groups.

We ask providers to submit specific responses to questions or important areas identified by children and young people. These responses should be accessible and demonstrate how they can support and/or adapt their approach to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND.

SHORT BREAKS SERVICE

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Short Breaks Service Offer

- Our coproduced **Short Break Provision** in Greenwich has been recognized as a strength for children and young people with SEND.
- The activities range from 'Stay and Play' sessions, Saturday clubs, to school holiday provisions where children and young people attend accessible sessions, enjoying meaningful activities whilst their parent carers have a break. There is a focus on accessing the community and developing independence to best **support lifelong outcomes** for young people with SEND.
- The Short Break model is a Core Offer where each child or young person with an EHCP has access to up to 100 hours of commissioned short break activities. These activities are accessible for a range of young people across targeted and specialist needs. This is a **jointly funded offer** from both Royal Greenwich Local Authority and the ICB.
- In addition to this Core Offer, children and young people who require specialist provision under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Person Act 1970 and/or Continuing Care provision due to complex medical needs, receive individual packages of care. Where required these are jointly commissioned and can be accessed as an integrated package of care. We have a **joint panel where decisions are made**, jointly chaired by Head of SEND social care from the LA and Head of Children's Integrated commissioning from ICB.

Funding

- For some young people this looks like a **joint personal budget** with funding contributed by the LA and the ICB where parents employ care support in line with their child's outcomes. For others, this can be a **jointly funded** Health Care Assistant from Oxleas providing support for the child in the family home, to allow the parents an opportunity to rest and benefiting from continuity of care with one provider for health and social care.
- These packages are informed by assessments which include the **voice of the child and parents**, shaping the offer of provision. We are in the process of developing a 'What a Good Social Care Assessment Looks like' joint pledge with the Disabled Children and Young People Service and the Greenwich Parent Carer Participation Forum. This is to increase transparency and consistency around what can be expected in an assessment.

CO-DESIGNING MOVING TO ADULTHOOD SERVICE

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Moving to Adulthood Service Pilot

- Following a successful pilot programme from 2020-2023, the Royal Borough of Greenwich has restructured its services to create the extended Disabled Children and Young People Service (DCYPS), supporting young people with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) who require social care support until they leave education. This can be up to the age of 25.

New Transition Service Arrangements

- Young people who have an EHCP and require adult social care support will remain in the new DCYPS until their EHC plan ends, better aligning the moving to adulthood point with the life stage of leaving education.
- This will prevent the cliff edge that some of our families have reported and will reduce the number of transition points for disabled young people.

CO-DESIGNING MOVING TO ADULTHOOD SERVICE

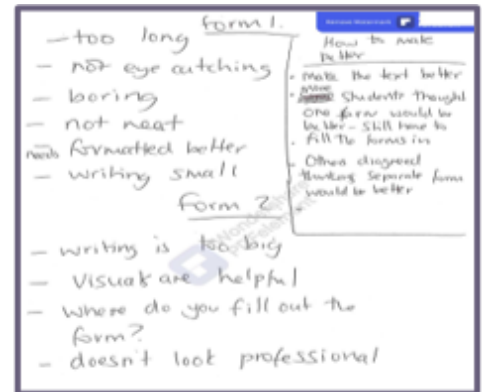
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Throughout the service review and pilot activity, children and young people were involved in decision making to redesign the transition process.

Our Greenwich **Action, Change and Equality (ACE)** groups were consulted on the previous assessment forms and we asked for feedback on how to make it better.

From that feedback, we created a more streamlined assessment that is accessible, easier to complete and allows more input from the young person to plan for their future.

We have reduced 3-4 assessments into 1 comprehensive assessment which is completed collaboratively with the young person, their family and social worker.



ACE group input into Moving to Adulthood forms

LEARNING FROM THE NATIONAL CARE REVIEW

The Quality and Safety Reviews undertaken in Royal Greenwich did not identify any widespread or systemic concerns about the safety or wellbeing of our children placed within residential special school settings.

RBG to consider what additional clinical oversight can be put in place to further strengthen challenge and oversight of children's care plans including SALT, OT, Physio and positive behaviour support plans. This is particularly key for settings with 'in-house' therapeutic provision on site.

RBG to consider a review of how these placements are commissioned and the contractual arrangements across education, health and care to improve consistency.

RBG to consider training across education, health and care staff around communication with disabled children. There was good evidence of this communication from the SW teams and other services would benefit from increased confidence in directly communicating with our CYP in these settings to ensure every opportunity to learn about the child's lived experience is maximised, particularly in relation to

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An extended review is now being undertaken for all children and young people with an EHCP in residential settings. There is also a cross-divisional Task and Finish group looking to embed the learning from the care review and strengthen practice across the system.

LOCAL AREA SEND INSPECTION FINDINGS

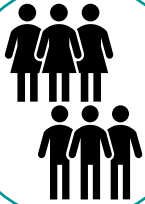
In May 2023, our Local Area Partnership SEND Inspection found that the local arrangements typically lead to positive experiences and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

The voice of children and young people, parents and carers is heard loud and clear in Greenwich. Members of the Greenwich parent carer forum are valued and listened to by leaders across the partnership. They said that they feel leaders walk with them on their journey. They are involved at all strategic and operational levels in the co-production (a way of working where children, families and those that provide the services, work together to create a decision or a service that works for them all) of services.

Children and young people with SEND and their families in Greenwich are front and centre of the local area partnership's work. Everyone has the best interests of the children and young people at heart. The culture is one of working together to secure the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

LEARN MORE...

Royal Greenwich has a wealth of information on these services for our children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.



ACE Groups

<https://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/service.page?id=pvC45cCMEIM&localofferchannel=0>



Short Breaks

<https://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=1YXLOYPJDFQ>



Moving to Adulthood Service

<https://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/advice.page?id=v6SLTdgVYTg>