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26 November 2014

## Dear parent / carer

I am writing to you with information about how we in Norfolk will be implementing national changes to the law for children with SEN statements. As part of these changes, which include the Children and Families Act 2014, the government has asked us to transfer SEN statements to Education, Health and Care Plans over the next three and a half years.

I want to explain what this means for you and your son or daughter. The changes being made are intended to give you more choice and control about how your child or young person is supported. These changes will take time to put in place but be assured that in the meantime your child or young person's SEN statement will remain in place with all of the current legal protections.

We have enclosed an information pack to help you understand what will happen. In this pack you will find:

- A copy of a letter written by Edward Timpson, Minister for Children and Families
- Norfolk's timetable for converting SEN statements to Education, Health and Care Plans
- A leaflet explaining how you can access what is available to you locally (the Local Offer)

If you would like to know more about these changes you can talk to your child or young person's school or setting, SEND Partnership Service or your child or young person's SEN Co-ordinator, who is the person at Norfolk County Council that has worked on your child or young person's Statement.

Family Voice Norfolk and SEN Network will be running a series of events explaining the changes. Please visit the Care & Support section of Norfolk's Local Offer for details of these events www.norfolk.gov.uk/SEND.

The feedback we have received from parents who have worked with us on these reforms has been very positive. We hope that this new way of working will enable us to work together to provide the best possible outcomes for your child or young person.

Yours faithfully

Michael Bateman Interim Head of SEN

