



# Special Education and disabilities Review

**Dated: 21 February 2022.**

## **SEND Review – perspective**

Over the last two years the **Medicines in Specialist Schools (MiSS)** as a national group of experienced Special School Heads and Executive Leaders have worked together to collate information for the government for the SEND review. As an active member of this group I am able to report on key recommendations:

- 1.** A NHS commissioning framework is required for children and young people with additional and complex health needs and disabilities when they are attending specialist education settings because of the cumulative clinical risk that is being managed there.
- 2.** Annual nursing needs assessments should be mandatory in specialist education settings to inform commissioning and workforce planning by both NHS Trusts and schools.
- 3.** Clarification of the legal status of clinical nursing care in specialist education settings is needed when it is outside the framework of NHS commissioning and funded directly from the school's budget.
- 4.** Delegation of clinical tasks by healthcare professionals to "support workers" in schools should require LAs to provide a robust delegation framework in line with forthcoming NICE guidelines.
- 5.** Training provided to special school staff to carry out these "delegated clinical tasks" must fit with the Nursing and Midwifery Council's professional standards and establish consistent expectations for this care across the country.
- 6.** Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) should explore how delivery of clinical nursing and paediatric therapy services in specialist education settings could be incorporated into the joint local area SEND inspection framework, so that commissioners of services and professionals working with the most vulnerable children can be held to account for the quality of care provided in these schools and settings.

Dr Kim Taylor OBE

Executive Head Teacher , Horizons Education Trust

c/o Spring Common Academy Trust, American Lane. Huntingdon. Cambridgeshire. PE29 1TQ

[exechead@horizons.org.uk](mailto:exechead@horizons.org.uk)