

Achieving Joined-Up, SMART, Flexible Outcomes

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Why is it hard to be SMART?



Challenges of Writing SMART Outcomes?

- It's a hard skill to learn
- We're concerned we can't deliver any guarantees
- Don't want to raise false expectations
- Worried about being able to put in place the right level of provision to support
- Some Parents may have “unreasonable” expectations
- Some Children/Young People may have “unreasonable” expectations

Woolly Outcomes....



- "If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague!"



Edgar Argo

Why SMART??

- To clearly manage expectations!
- To know when you have achieved the Outcome (or not)
- To be really clear that the young person knows what they are agreeing to achieve
- Young people are more likely to achieve, especially if they can visualise/picture what success looks like...

Key Components to a good Outcome...

Other than SMART:

- Usually longer term: more than 12 months to a key stage or adulthood
- Linked to the Aspiration
- Clear and simple, ideally written in the 1st person since it should be person-centred
- Holistic
- Framed Positively
- Not based around Provision
- Based on what we can control and influence
- Something that everyone can clearly visualise
- Can clearly demonstrate what “Difference/Benefit” is expected

**Long
Term
Aspiration**

**Outcomes = Overall
Change: Benefit or
Difference**

**Short Term Targets =
Stepping Stones**

**Provision = How/What
should be put in place**

Evidence/Measures/Measurements

Developing an Outcome...

- By the time I'm.....(age or key stage)
- I can/ have learnt the skills to/ am maintaining/ am doing.....

Questions:

What would success look like?

How will you know when it has been achieved?

A SMART Outcome...

“By the time I leave Primary school, I have learnt the skills to take turns in class room activities, without support”

What you can see & measure to know when you have got there..

Flexible Outcomes?

To pass *at least* 4 GCSEs by the time
I'm 16 or 17

or

To be able to ride a bicycle
with *some support* by the
time I'm 12

3 Points of Flexibility



Time



Provision/Strategy



Level of Difficulty

If something is not Achievable?

Then don't agree to it!!

- Should have open, honest, transparent conversations
- For the LA to make the final decision as to what goes on the EHCP

Joint Outcomes...

Aspiration or Outcome?

YP aged 16 with a BMI of 12, poor feeding, gastro problems/reflux & inflammation of the oesophagus

Young Person: “It doesn’t hurt to eat, so I can enjoy my food”

Parent: “ I want him to put on weight”

SMART Outcome....

“By the time I’m 19, I’m eating comfortably and have put on around 2 stone”

Potential Outcome areas...?

By the time I'm xxx

- School – “I’m eating all my food from my lunch box at school **3 or 4 times a week**”: - maybe monitoring food intake during the day and level of comfort ensuring all food in lunch box is eaten
- SALT/Feeding team – “I’m comfortable chewing and swallowing different types of food”: feeding/reviewing chewing with getting used to different textures in the mouth
- Gastro team – “My eating is pain free **most of the time**”: – ensuring potential gastro problems/reflux are being managed
- Dietitian – “I’m eating a **more** balanced diet”: ensuring optimum nutrition and calories are being consumed
- Parents – “I’m eating balanced healthy meals and snacks daily”;- parents ensuring monitoring intake, making notes of what’s consumed and child’s response, preparing lunch box for school

**“It’s hard to fail, but
it’s worse never to
have tried to
succeed”**



Theodore Roosevelt