

Is the whole is greater than the sum of the parts?

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How should we best measure impact at a system level for children's services across the health and education systems in the UK?

WHEN? 15th November 2017 between 14.00 and 16.00
WHERE? The Research Beehive, Newcastle University, UK

This seminar will explore the challenges of evaluating change at system and operational level across education and health systems in the UK. The specific example that will be the focus of the discussion is the Balanced System[®], a framework, methodology and suite of tools that has been developed primarily around meeting the needs of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs but has been extended to consider other therapy areas including occupational therapy and physiotherapy as well as a specifically school based version leading to external accreditation. The Balanced System[®] has been used in over 30 local authority areas including a recent project funded by Scottish Government for AHPs in four health board areas. Over 60 schools are engaged with the Balanced System[®] Scheme for Schools across the UK.

The seminar will be hosted by Professor James Law and colleagues from the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences. Marie Gascoigne, author and developer of the Balanced System[®] will present the model and the key evaluation questions that are relevant across whole system strategic frameworks. Other contributors from the University will bring expertise from management, health and business research.

The intended outcomes of this seminar will include:

- To identify the challenges to developing an evidence base for models driving strategic change in services, to share specific examples of impact measurement and discuss their application to therapeutic and wider public sector services
- To consider the next steps to develop a systematic approach to measuring impact at a whole system level which can be reliably applied to end user outcomes

Further information and pre-reading will be made available in October to those who have registered interest. There will be no cost for the meeting. For more information regarding the Balanced System[®] see www.thebalancedsystem.org or email marie@bettercommunication.org.uk

To book a place please contact Ruth Daghish at ruth.daghish@newcastle.ac.uk