



## **SEND Review: Right support, Right place, Right time**

### **Green paper summary**

The 2022 [green paper](#) sets out the government's proposals to ensure that every child and young person has their needs identified quickly and met more consistently. This includes:

- **establishing a single national special educational needs and disability (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) system** that sets clear standards for the provision that children and young people should expect to receive
- **strengthened accountabilities and investment** that will help to deliver real change for children, young people and their families
- **creating a single national system** that has high aspirations and ambitions for children and young people with SEND and those in AP, which is financially sustainable

### **Chapter 1: The case for change**

**Acknowledging change to ensure that more children and young people are set up to succeed in a sustainable, less bureaucratic system.**

Key findings from the SEND review show that:

- too many children and young people with SEND are achieving poor outcomes
- parents and carers are facing difficulty and delay in accessing support for their child
- experiences of the SEND system lack a collaborative approach
- despite a more than 40% increase in high needs funding, local government spending is outstripping funding and the system is financially unsustainable
- children and young people with SEND and those in AP have consistently poorer outcomes than their peers
- there is inconsistency across the SEND system in how and where needs are assessed and met

### **Chapter 2: A single national SEND and AP system**

**An outline of what new national standards would cover, and how they would be delivered locally.**

There is a need for much greater consistency in how needs are identified and supported. Therefore, proposals include:

- a new national SEND and AP system that will set national standards for how needs are identified and met at every stage of a child's journey
- reviewing and updating the SEND Code of Practice to reflect the new national standards to promote nationally consistent systems, processes and provision

- establishing new local SEND partnerships, bringing together education (including AP), health and care partners with local government and other partners to produce a local inclusion plan
- introducing a standardised and digitised education, health and care plan (EHCP) process and template to minimise bureaucracy and deliver consistency
- supporting parents and carers to express an informed preference for a particular setting by providing a tailored list of settings to meet the child or young person's needs
- streamlining the redress process, making it easier to resolve disputes earlier, including through mandatory mediation, whilst retaining the tribunal for the most challenging cases

### **Chapter 3: Excellent provision from early years to adulthood**

#### **Expanding on how provision across the system will be improved.**

As a result of the SEND review, the green paper proposes to:

- increase total investment in schools' budgets by £7 billion by 2024-25, including an additional £1 billion in 2022-23 alone for children and young people with complex needs
- consult on the introduction of a new SENCo National Professional Qualification (NPQ) for school SENCos and increase the number of staff with an accredited Level 3 SENCo qualification in early years settings to improve SEND expertise
- improve mainstream provision, through excellent teacher training and development and a 'what works' evidence programme to identify and share best practice and early intervention
- fund more than 10,000 additional respite placements through an investment of £30 million, alongside £82 million to create a network of family hubs for accessible wraparound support
- invest £2.6 billion, over the next three years, to deliver new places and improve existing provision for children and young people with SEND or who require alternative provision
- set out a clear timeline that, by 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools (see NGA's [summary of the Schools White Paper](#))
- invest £18 million over the next three years to build capacity in the Supported Internships Programme to help ensure young people with SEND are prepared for higher education and employment
- strengthen the relationship between the SEND governor and the SENCo through the revised SEND Code of practice

### **Chapter 4: A reformed and integrated role for alternative provision**

#### **How this system will operate specifically for AP settings.**

The proposal is to create a national vision for AP enabling local areas to ensure that children and young people with challenging behaviour or with health needs get targeted support in mainstream settings, or access to time-limited or transitional places in alternative provision schools.

The proposals include:

- requiring the new local SEND partnerships to plan and deliver an alternative provision service focused on early intervention
- requiring local authorities to create and distribute an AP-specific budget to ensure a service focused on early intervention
- building system capacity for all AP schools to be in a strong multi-academy trust or have plans to join or form one
- delivering evidence-led services based on best practice, and open new AP free schools where they are most needed
- developing a bespoke performance framework for AP which sets robust standards, re-integration into mainstream education or sustainable post-16 destinations
- developing a new performance table for AP schools
- delivering greater oversight and transparency of pupil movements including placements into and out of AP
- launching a call for evidence, before the summer, on the use of unregistered provision to investigate existing practice

## **Chapter 5: System roles, accountabilities and funding reform**

### **Ensuring there are clear roles and responsibilities, alongside funding reform and robust accountability across processes and procedures in the system.**

All contributors within the system need to be clear on their responsibilities, have the right incentives and levers to fulfil those responsibilities and be held accountable for their role in delivery.

The green paper therefore proposes to:

- deliver clarity in roles and responsibilities with every partner across education and equip them with the levers to fulfil their responsibilities
- equip the DfE's new Regions Groups to hold local authorities and MATs to account for delivery for children and young people with SEND locally through new funding agreements
- provide statutory guidance to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to set out clearly how statutory responsibilities for SEND should be discharged
- introduce inclusion dashboards for 0-25 provision, offering a timely, transparent picture of how the system is performing at a local and national level across education, health and care
- introduce a new national framework of banding and price tariffs for high needs funding
- work with local authorities, providers and stakeholders to establish whether changes to the SEND Inclusion Fund or the current early years funding system more widely are needed
- consider whether £6,000 per pupil, per year remains the right threshold beyond which schools can expect to draw down additional high needs funding

- issue guidance to local authorities on how they should calculate their notional SEN budgets within their local funding formula
- work with Ofsted/Care Quality Commission (CQC) on their plan to deliver an updated Local Area SEND Inspection Framework
- update Compare School and College Performance (also known as performance tables) to support stakeholders to consider contextual information alongside their results data

## Chapter 6: Delivering change for children and families

### The plans for delivering the proposals set out in the green paper.

Plans will be designed recognising the context of the ongoing response to and recovery from the pandemic, and that different settings and areas of the country are at different stages of readiness.

The proposals are to:

- invest an additional £300 million through the Safety Valve Programme and £85 million in the Delivering Better Value programme, over the next three years, to support those local authorities with the biggest deficits
- task the SEND and AP Directorate within DfE to work with system leaders, health and care and the Department of Health and Social Care to develop the national SEND standards
- support delivery through a £70 million SEND and AP change programme to both test and refine key proposals and support local SEND systems to manage local improvement
- publish a national SEND and AP delivery plan
- establish a new National SEND Delivery Board to bring together relevant government departments with national delivery partners

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