



December 2022

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

*Keeping stakeholders, parents and carers informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme.*

### **New joint framework for inspecting provision for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) within a local area**

The Office for Standards in Education, Children Services and Skills (Ofsted) and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have (29 November) launched a new joint framework for inspecting provision for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) within a local area.

Beginning in January 2023, inspections will focus on whether local area partnerships are delivering improved outcomes and experiences for children and young people with SEND. Ofsted has also published a commentary about the changes to the framework by the Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman.

The new framework will consider how local area partnerships are going beyond fulfilling their legal duties to make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people with SEND – who were consulted on the proposals. Inspections will now also evaluate how councils commission and oversee alternative provision, given the large number of children and young people with SEND in this kind of provision.

A new cycle of inspections will be introduced, with the aim of strengthening accountability across the local area partnership and supporting continuous improvement across the SEND system. There will also be a programme of monitoring inspections for areas with systemic or widespread weaknesses.

Announcement: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/improving-outcomes-forchildren-and-young-people-with-send>

More information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/hmci-commentarypublishing-our-new-area-send-framework>