



SEND Review: Right Support, Right Place, Right Time

On 29th March 2022 the Government published the long-awaited '[SEND Review: right support, right place, right time](#)'. This is the start of a consultation on the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) system in England.

The review has identified three key challenges facing the SEND and alternative provision system.

1. Navigating the SEND system and alternative provision is not a positive experience for too many children, young people and their families.
2. Outcomes for children and young people with SEND or in alternative provision are consistently worse than their peers across every measure.
3. Despite the continuing and unprecedented investment, the system is not financially sustainable.



The Government is now [seeking views](#) on the following proposals to reform the SEND and AP system.

- **New legislation for a new set of 'national SEND standards'** with the aim of creating consistent provision, processes and systems across the country. There will be standards on how to identify and assess children's needs, what sort of provision should be available in each area for different types of need, and how children with SEND should access support in mainstream schools.
- **New 'local SEND partnerships'**, to be led by local authorities, to assess the overall needs of children and young people with SEND in their area and plan the provision they need.
- **A standardised national template** for Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans.
- **New process for naming a school or college place** in a child or young person's EHC plan. Local authorities will offer parents a 'tailored list' of provision that is appropriate for their child's needs to enable them to express a preference, rather than parents being able to request any school as at present.
- **Emphasis on identifying children's needs early** and putting support in place at an early stage, with the aim of keeping children in mainstream settings and avoiding the need for EHC plans.
- **Introduction of a new SENCo National Professional Qualification (NPQ)** for school SENCos.
- **Plans to 'streamline' the redress process**, including the introduction of mandatory mediation before families can register a SEND Tribunal appeal with the aim of reducing the number of Tribunal appeals.
- **New National SEND Delivery Board** to hold to account all elements of the system for supporting children and young people with SEND.



- **Make alternative provision an integral part of the SEND system.** Ensure alternative provision is focused on early intervention.

The [consultation](#) closes at 23:45 on 1st July 2022.

Your views are really important to help shape the future SEND and Alternative Provision system, so please do engage with the consultation if possible.

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