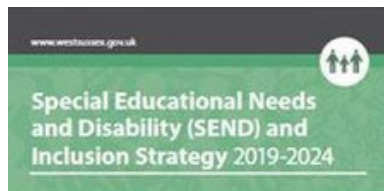




## Developing our SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2025-2030

### Working towards better outcomes for children and young people

By Claire Prince, Head of SEND and Inclusion



In 2025, we will be reviewing and refreshing our **SEND and Inclusion Strategy** as the existing strategy comes to the end of its five-year lifespan at the end of this year. Until then, our current strategy guides all our work, and we remain committed to achieving these outcomes with you and other stakeholders.



Please click [here](#) to read the current SEND and Inclusion strategy in full.

You may have been involved in some of the events led by Gemma Humphrey, SEND and Inclusion Adviser for Delivering Better Value, in the summer term. Gemma collated a huge amount of feedback from a wide range of attendees about what Inclusion means to them. We have used all of your feedback to create a statement to

summarise our **Vision for Inclusion** in West Sussex:

*In West Sussex, we believe in creating an inclusive environment, where all children and young people feel safe, belong, and thrive, with equitable access to learning and progress. We value and celebrate individual strengths, ensure everyone succeeds, and leave no one behind.*

*Our holistic, child-first approach focuses on meeting individual needs, fostering a listening culture, and providing the right support at the right time. We emphasise community, relational practice, and co-production, ensuring that every child and young person is valued, can access education in their local community and make meaningful progress, regardless of their starting points.*

Reflecting on the vision statement, I'm inspired by the focus on participation and belonging within local community provision. For me, this captures what we want for all our children and young people. We have a great opportunity at this time to work together to understand how we can effectively create environments for all our children and young people to participate and belong as valued members of their local communities.

There is a vast scope of work already underway that will be drawn upon over the coming months in the development of our approach: the work we are undertaking within our transformation programmes (as discussed in Nadia McGarry's article on improving outcomes through SEND Transformation); our [SEND Improvement Plan](#); and our engagement workshops to seek your professional opinion and feedback. We will also consider our local data on needs and outcomes, our High Needs Block funding pressures, and take inspiration from those local areas with

All of these elements will guide and inform the development of our new strategy. We will continue to align our work with our overarching Council Plan, seeking to keep people safe from vulnerable situations and helping all to fulfil their potential. As we move forward with our plans to change and improve the way that SEND and Inclusion provision is delivered in West Sussex, we have a unique opportunity to ensure we are committed to placing children and young people at the heart of all that we do. I'm looking forward to exploring how we can do this together.