



Our SEND strategy

For 2026 to 2030



**Easy
Read**

Easy Read

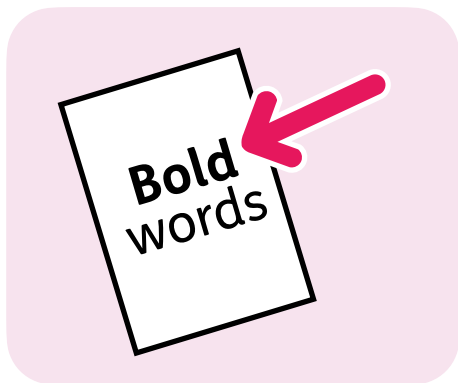


This is an Easy Read version of some information.

It uses easier words and pictures.



Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are **bold** to show they are important.



We explain bold words if they are hard to understand.

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What do you think about this Easy Read booklet?

Please fill in this survey to tell us what you think:

www.easy-read-online.co.uk/easy-read-feedback-survey

About this booklet



This booklet is from
West Sussex County Council.



This booklet is an Easy Read copy
of our plan for how we will support
children and young people with
SEND.



SEND stands for **S**pecial
Educational **N**eeds and
Disabilities.

We will support children and
young people with SEND aged
0-25 to learn and grow.

About our plan



Our plan is called a SEND Strategy.

To help us write our plan, we:



- Listened to what children, young people and their families want and need.



- Worked with and listened to other organisations and local groups, such as the **West Sussex Parent Carer Forum**, schools, colleges and the NHS.

The **West Sussex Parent Carer Forum** is a charity that helps parents who are also carers to have their voices heard.

We have written our plan together because we want West Sussex to be a place where all children and young people with SEND:



- Are listened to and cared for.



- Can take part in life in the same way as children without SEND.



- Have a bright and happy future ahead of them.

We want children and young people with SEND in West Sussex to:



- Be healthy and safe.



- Belong.



- Do things on their own where possible.



- Have dreams and goals for their future.

How we will work



We promise to work in a certain way.

We will:



1. Work with children and young people with SEND and their families when planning SEND services.



2. Always think about the needs of children and young people with SEND when making decisions that may affect them.

We will also:



3. Work to support children and young people with SEND early on in their lives.



4. Work well with other organisations and services to support children and young people with SEND.



5. Make sure children and young people with SEND are in a school or college that suits their learning needs.

Priorities



Our plan has 6 **priorities**.

Priorities are the most important things that we need to do to support children and young people with SEND.

Priority 1



Priority 1 is to provide children and young people with SEND with the right support at the right time.



Children and young people with SEND should be able to get the support they need across education, health care and social care.

We will work towards priority 1 by:



- Making sure all organisations and services that support children and young people with SEND work together.



- Offering training to everyone whose job includes supporting children and young people with SEND.



- Making sure children and young people with SEND get the support they need when they become adults.



- Collecting more information about children and young people with SEND.

This will help us to understand what children and young people with SEND need.



The **Local Offer** is a website with information about services that children and young people with SEND can use.



We will also work towards priority 1 by making the Local Offer easier to use.

Priority 2



Priority 2 is to make sure schools and colleges are meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND.

We will work towards priority 2 by:



- Helping children and young people with SEND who find it hard to go to school or college.



- Supporting children and young people with SEND who are in a school or college that does not meet their needs.



Our teams and services will help these children and young people go to a school or college that meets their needs.

We will also work towards priority 2 by:



- Lending out technology which helps children and young people with SEND to take part in learning in mainstream schools.



- Being clear about how **mainstream schools** should work to include children and young people with SEND.

Mainstream schools are the type of school that most children go to.

Priority 3



Priority 3 is to help children and young people with SEND get ready for adult life.

We will work towards priority 3 by:



- Helping young people with SEND get jobs after school or college.



- Supporting children and young people to make their own choices when they can.



- Making sure there are fun and local activities that children and young people can take part in during their free time.



- Making sure there is enough **Supported Living** for children and young people with SEND. **Supported Living** is when you get help to live on your own or with others.

Priority 4



Priority 4 is to plan and pay for SEND services carefully.

These SEND services should always meet the needs of children and young people with SEND and their families.

We will work towards priority 4 by:



- Finding out what services for children and young people with SEND are missing, and creating new services where needed.



- Checking that services already in place are still meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND.

We will also work towards priority 4 by:



- Creating more services that meet the needs of children and young people with SEND.



- Working with other organisations to plan services.

Priority 5



Priority 5 is to support the **mental health** of children and young people with SEND.

Mental health is the way you think, feel and behave.

We will work towards priority 5 by:



- Making sure children and young people with SEND do not have to wait as long for mental health services.



- Offering training to different types of professionals so they can better support children and young people with their mental health.



- Giving mental health support to children and young people with SEND earlier in life to stop mental health issues later.



- Finding more money to spend on services that help children and young people with health conditions that affect how their brains work and learn.

Priority 6

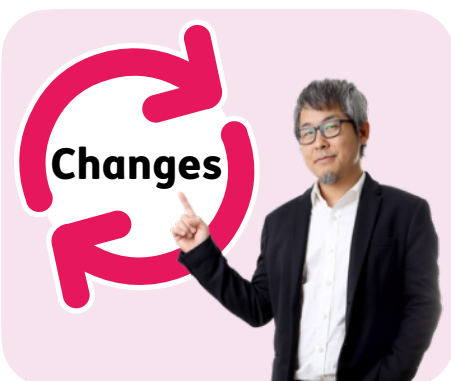


Priority 6 is to talk to and work with children and young people with SEND and their families.

We will work towards priority 6 by:



- Making sure children and young people with SEND and their families can tell us what they think about SEND services.
- Having a plan for when we will ask parents and carers of children and young people with SEND what they think about SEND services.
- Telling children and young people with SEND and their families how their thoughts have been used to make changes.



Checking the plan is working

We will check that the plan is working every year by:



- Looking at what children and young people with SEND and their families have said about SEND services.



- Collecting information about how services are working.



- Working with and listening to the West Sussex Parent Carer Forum, to help us understand the thoughts of parents who are also carers.

Find out more



You can find out more about our SEND strategy here:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/local-offer/information/about-send-and-local-offer/send-strategy-2026-to-2030/

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