

Changes to SEND support in Nottinghamshire



This easy read tells you about the changes we have planned for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) support in Nottinghamshire.



These changes are to make support better.



We know that changes to SEND services can feel worrying and confusing.



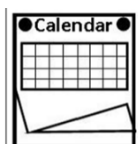
There is a lot of information about national reform and local plans, and information is not always clear.



The government asked all local areas to create plans to make SEND support better.



We hope the government will say we can do our plan.



The government should tell us this later this year.

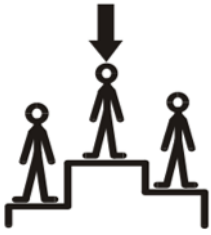


These plans will change how we support children and young people with SEND and their families.



We hope these changes will mean children, young people and their families will get the right support at the right time.

Listening to you



It was very important our plans were based on what local young people, parents, carers and professionals thought.

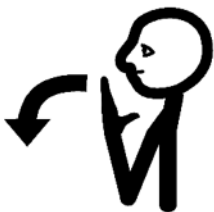


We wanted to know what people thought about how things are now, to help us decide what we should put in our plan.

Our survey



More than 700 people did our survey and told us what they think.



Thank you to everyone who did our survey.



The people who told us what they think were:



- 540 parents and carers.



- 81 children and young people.



- 148 professionals.

Themes from the survey



Lots of people told us similar things.
When this happens, it is called a **theme**.



We want to tell you these themes, and how we will try to make things better.

You told us: “Support comes too late.”



Families said they want support earlier, before small problems become bigger ones.



We plan to:



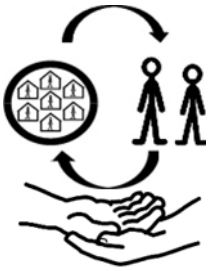
- Help people get more support earlier, without having to wait for official processes.



- Give people more access to specialist advice and support in mainstream schools.



- Hire more specialist staff to work in mainstream schools and educational settings.

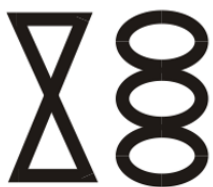


- Give better support to children and young people in their local communities.

You told us: “Mainstream schools need more support.”



Families told us that support can **vary** between schools.



Vary means that the support people can get is different depending on which school they go to.



We plan to:



- Publish clearer guidance about the support children and young people should be able to get at school.



- Make support more **consistent** across schools.



Consistent support means support that stays the same.



- **Invest** in training and development for staff working with children and young people with SEND.



Invest means putting money, time or effort into something.



- Help schools to get specialist advice earlier and more easily.

You told us: “Children and young people want to feel included.”



Children and young people said they want to feel that:



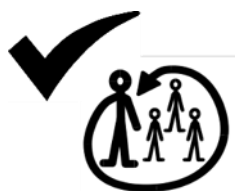
- They belong.



- They are listened to.



- They can take part in community and school life.



We plan to:

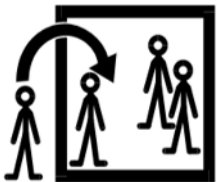


- Make sure that more young people with SEND want to be at school, by making

sure they are supported and have their needs met.



- Reduce suspensions and exclusions and better understand the barriers that stop young people from taking part.

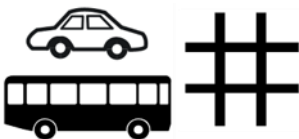


- Make sure every child can feel included and supported.



- Make sure we ask children and young people what they think before we make decisions.

You told us: “Support should be available closer to home.”



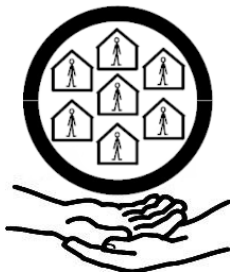
Families said that travelling a long way for education or support can be difficult.



We plan to:



- Offer more suitable provision close to home.



- Create more support for children and young people in their local area.



- Plan SEND provision better, so it is available where it most needed.



- Reduce the number of children and young people who are travelling a long way from home for their education.

You told us: “Communication needs to improve.”



Families told us they want:



- Clearer information.



- Better communication.



- A better understanding of what support they can have.



We plan to:



- Provide a good quality SEND Local Offer that we review and improve regularly.



- Help families to understand what support is available when, and how they can get it.



- Communicate and engage better with families.



- Provide better and clearer information, advice and guidance for families.

You told us: “Families want their voice to make a difference.”



Parents and carers said they want to know that their feedback leads to action.



We plan to:

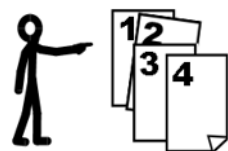
- Keep working closely with the Nottinghamshire Parent Carer Forum.



- Have better opportunities for children, young people and families to help us make decisions.



- Improve and develop our “You said, we did” updates. This means we will make them better.



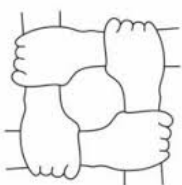
- Use what young people and families think when we are making decisions about services.

What happens next?



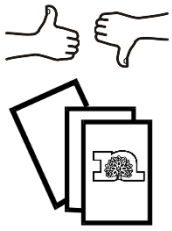
Listening to you

We will keep listening to children, young people, parents and carers.



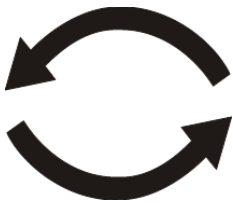
Working together

Everyone wants to work together to give children and families the best support we can.



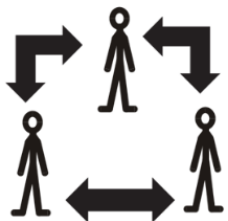
Our plan

Later this year the Department for Education should tell us what they think about our plan.



Making changes

- We are already making changes and this work will carry on.
- We will keep listening to what children, young people and families say to help us make changes.
- We will look at how different services and organisations work together.
- We plan to set up new teams of specialists who will support children in schools day-to-day.





We will regularly share:



- Updates on our progress. This means we will tell you how we are getting on with making the changes.



- Ways for you to get involved.



- How what you tell us is being used to help us make decisions.



We will tell you about these things through:



- [Our SEND newsletter.](#)



- [The Local Offer website.](#)



- Our social media.

How you can get involved



[You can sign up to get our SEND newsletter.](#)



[You can get involved in co-production, conversations and consultations.](#)



[You can read the Nottinghamshire local area SEND strategy.](#)

Links in this document

Sign up to our SEND newsletter

nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-

send/sign-up-for-updates-about-all-things-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities

SEND Local Offer: Your Notts Directory

yournottsdirectory.org.uk/send-local-offer/nottinghamshire

Get involved

nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/our-nottinghamshire-approach-to-participation/get-involved

Nottinghamshire local area SEND strategy

nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/nottinghamshire-local-area-send-strategy

For the standard version of this information, go to:

[Our plan to improve special educational needs and disabilities support in Nottinghamshire | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/nottinghamshire-send-reform>

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