

Wolverhampton SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024

Easy Read





This is an easier to read document of the **Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy**.

Some words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the blue boxes.

Some words are in [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to other websites which have more information.

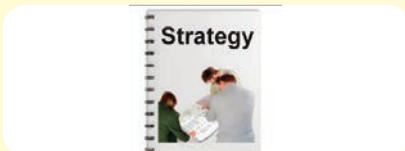
We call special educational needs and disabilities **SEND** for short.



This document was written by the **SEND & Inclusion Partnership**.

The **SEND & Inclusion Partnership** is a group of people who make decisions about local services for children, young people and young adults aged 0 to 25 with special educational needs, disabilities and in **alternative provision**.

Alternative provision helps some children and young people who need extra help to stay in their mainstream school, or it provides another place for them to learn that will suit their needs better.



This **strategy** tells you how we plan to make support and services better for children and young people and their families.

A **strategy** is a plan to make things better over the course of a few years



In this strategy, when we talk about children, young people and young adults we mean:

- children, young people and young adults aged 0 to 25 who have **SEND** and
- children and young people who are in **alternative provision** or **additional provision**

We say a child, young person or young adult has **special educational needs and disabilities** if:

- They have a learning difficulty or a disability and
- They need special educational provision where they learn, such as in nursery, school or college

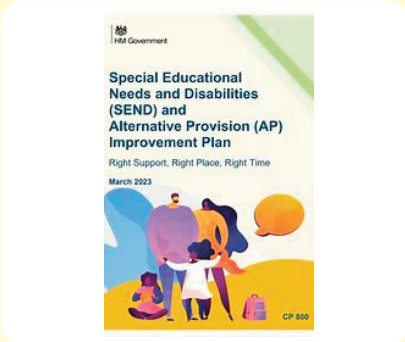
We say **inclusion** when we mean that:

- we want to make sure everyone is treated kindly and has the same chances and
- we do not want anyone to be left out or made to feel different because of who they are



The strategy will focus on:

- Making sure children, young people and young adults have the right support, in the right place and, at the right time.



We reviewed the [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) and Alternative Provision \(AP\) Improvement Plan](#)

This says how the **government** plans to improve support and services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and in alternative provision.

We have used this to help write our strategy.

The **government** is a group of people who make decisions for a country.

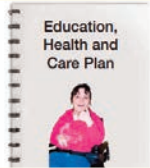


Very importantly, this strategy has been made by listening to the views of children, young people, young adults, their families and the people who work with them.

SEND in Wolverhampton



There are 8,881 children, young people and young adults in Wolverhampton receiving some support with special educational needs and disabilities.



2,035 of these had an **Education, Health and Care Plan**.

An **Education, Health and Care Plan** is a plan which sets out what help is needed and how to provide it for children and young people and young adults aged 0-25.

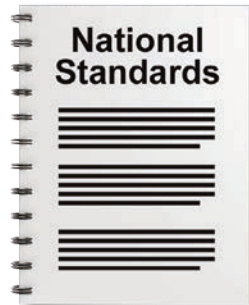
We call this an **EHCP** for short.



There are 5 **priorities** we want to work on.

Priorities are the most important things we want to do.

Priority 1: We will set standards for the support children and young people should receive



We will make sure services and support in Wolverhampton work in the same way by using the **National Standards** for SEND and Alternative Provision.

The **national standards** will explain:

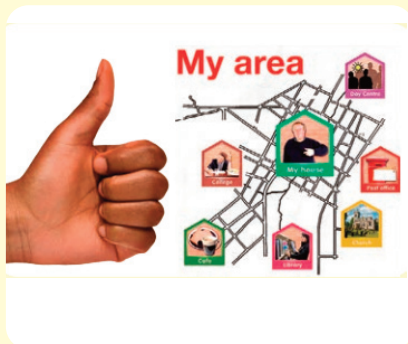
- what support is available
- which organisations should provide it
- which organisations should pay for it



We will work together with children, young people, young adults, their families and other people to write these standards and make sure they are fair.

This means children, young people and young adults will get the right help at the right time.

How we will do this



We will do this by:

- having help for children, young people, and their families before they are **diagnosed**.
- making sure places where people live and go to school are safe.
- helping everyone know how and where to access services by checking what is needed by families.
- helping everyone know about short breaks, education health and care plans, personal budgets and alternative provision.



Diagnosed is when someone finds out the name of an illness or condition that they have.



Short Breaks gives children, young people and young adults the chance to enjoy fun activities and to socialise with friends. It also gives their families 'a break' and helps them to improve independent skills by going out with a **Personal Assistant**.

A **Personal Assistant** is someone that can work with you to help you be as independent as possible.



A **personal budget** is an amount of money the local council can pay to the child, young person, young adult or their families instead of arranging services for them.

The amount of money in the personal budget is decided by the local council after getting a needs assessment to work out:

- what kind of care and support is needed
- how much it will cost
- how much the child, young person, young adult or their families are able to afford

How we will know this is working



Children, young people, young adults and their families use the support available and tell us it was good.



Children, young people and young adults will have good EHCP's. Which are easy to understand and make sure they have the right support at the right time.



Children, young people, young adults and their families will tell us that they feel:

- happy
- safe
- that they are included in their local community and
- that they are able to learn and feel they belong

Priority 2: Preparing children and young people for change and for adulthood



We want to make sure children, young people and young adults are supported as they move from parent and toddler groups, playgroups, and nurseries, to school, and into college or training.



We also want to make sure they are supported as they move into university, apprenticeships or work.



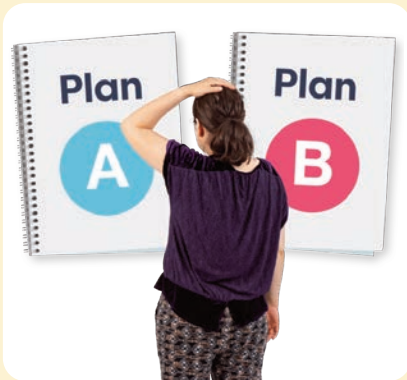
We want to be clear about what will happen so children, young people and young adults can plan for their future.



This means that:

- children, young people and young adults are ready for any changes.
- children, young people and young adults have help to be as independent as they can be.
- children, young people and young adults feel they belong and are wanted.

How we will do this



We will do this by making sure:

- children, young people, young adults and their families know what choices they have to allow them to plan for their future as soon as possible.
- children, young people and young adults are supported as they move from early years, to school, to college and/or to training.
- young people and young adults will know where they will be able to work or train when they finish school.
- young people and young adults will have choices about where to live and have help to live independently, when they are ready.
- children, young people, young adults and their families know about fun things to do in Wolverhampton that are easy to join in with.



To live independently young people and young adults will:

- have help to live in their community and have the same choices as others.
- have the support they need to do this.
- not be made lonely or kept apart from other people.
- use the same local services as other people.

How we will know this is working



We will be able to see how children, young people and young adults progress until they become adults and by what they do when they are adults.



Children, young people and young adults will have good EHCPs which are easy to understand and make sure they have the right support at the right time.



Children, young people and their families will tell us that they feel:

- healthy
- happy
- safe
- that they are included in their local community and they are in control of their life and feel ready for adulthood

Priority 3: People who work with children and young people



All children, young people and young adults might need different support to help them do their best.

We will work together to have better training and advice for people who teach and support children, young people and young adults in nurseries, schools and colleges as well as those who provide health services and people who offer a range of support in the rest of the community.

Some children and young people might need support from **specialists**.

Specialists are people who know a lot about a subject or are an expert in something such as speech and language needs. We want more children and young people to get specialist help when they need it.

How we will do this



We will do this by:

- working well together to make sure children, young people and young adults can get the health, care and education services they need.
- helping people to understand what support should be available to disabled children, young people and young adults and who is responsible for providing it.
- talking with children, young people, young adults and their families, sharing information, and asking for their ideas.
- making a place where everyone works well together and does a good job.



We will do this by:

- sharing information with children, young people, and families to get their views about services.
- asking children, young people, and families for ideas to make services better.
- working together with children, young people, and families to improve our services.
- checking that services are good and working together to make them even better.
- working together to give training to help people who work with children and young people to understand their needs better.

How we will know this is working



Services will tell us about the help they offer and know how to work well with children, young people, young adults and their families.



Children, young people and young adults will have good EHCPs which are easy to understand and make sure they have the right support at the right time.



Children, young people, young adults and their families will tell us that they feel:

- their voice is heard
- supported
- they are included in their local community and
- they are in control of their life.

Priority 4: Wider support for children and young people



Sometimes children, young people and young adults need other help to support their learning such as health and care.



We want to support them to get all of this help more easily.

We can do this by improving the way different services work together.

We will work with education, social care and health staff to make sure children, young people and young adults can get the services they need.

We want families to know how to get support.



This means we will make sure that:

- we know what children and young people need and that they get good support as soon as possible
- children, young people, young adults and their families feel they are involved and included in planning what they need
- we know the needs of children, young people, young adults in Wolverhampton and
- we use information about how services are working to make them better if needed.

How we will do this



We will do this by:

- making sure people know how children, young people and young adults can access services and where to go for help
- making sure people understand thresholds for services. A threshold is the point at which you are able to access a service.
- checking that the services and support are good and make changes if we need to

How we will know this is working



When EHCP's are checked they are good or outstanding.



We use the information we have to make good decisions.



We will check what is working well and what we need to do to make things better.

Priority 5: Making sure that money is used in the best way



We need to make sure that money for children, young people and young adults is used fairly so everyone can get the support they need.



We will make sure we:

- use money to provide the right support at the right time
- are clear on how to spend money to support children and young people well.

We plan to make sure this is fair for everyone.

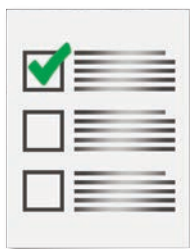
How we will do this



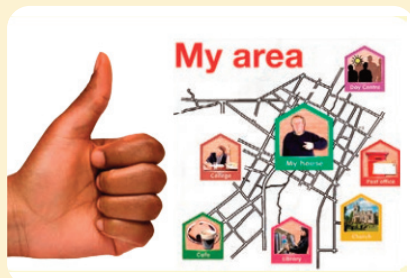
We will do this by:

- working together to make sure the services are what people need
- making sure services do what they say they will
- making sure that support is provided in the right place, at the right time

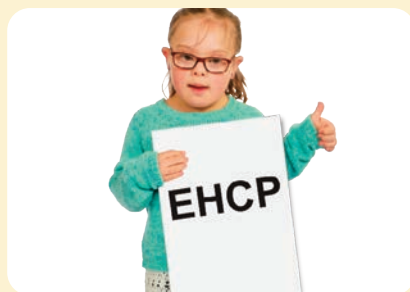
How we will know this is working



We will check service and make sure they are good.



Children, young people and young adults will be able to access services and support they need closer to where they live.



Children, young people and young adults will have good EHCPs which are easy to understand and make sure they have the right support at the right time.



Children, young people, young adults and their families will tell us that they feel:

- that their voice is heard
- healthy
- happy
- safe
- they are included in their local community
- they are able to learn and
- they are in control of their life and are prepared for adulthood.

Identifying Outcomes



Voice4Parents is our Parent Carer Forum and **HY5!** is our young people's SEND forum.

Voice4Parents and **HY5!** work with us to make sure we are listening to children, young people, young adults and families in Wolverhampton.

They do surveys and talk to people to find out what they need.

This helps us know what we need to do.



Children, young people, young adults, and families tells us if:

- their voice is heard;
- they are healthy;
- they are happy;
- they are supported;
- they feel safe;
- they are included in their local community and feel they belong;
- they are able to learn;
- they are in control of their life and are prepared for adulthood.



Information in our ‘SEND and Inclusion Partnership **Dashboard**’ tells us about our services. The **dashboard** tells us things like how many children have SEND and how quickly services are working.

This information is used in meetings to help us know what is good and what needs to be better.

We use this to check we are doing what we need to do.

How the strategy will be delivered



Wolverhampton
SEND Partnership Board

The **City of Wolverhampton Council** and **Wolverhampton Integrated Care Board (ICB)** work with other people and groups to provide services to children and young people with SEND from birth to 25.

Together we form the **SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board**.

The **City of Wolverhampton Council** are a group of people who make decisions about education and social care. The **Wolverhampton Integrated Care Board (ICB)** make decisions about health services.



The **SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board** will keep checking to make sure we are doing a good job.



Where we know we need to make things better we will put this into an action plan called the **SEND and Inclusion Improvement Plan**.

The plan will tell us what we need to do to make things better and when we will do this by.



The people that will help us to do this will include:

- social care
- education
- health
- community groups
- businesses
- children, young people, young adults and
- families.



We will tell you how well we are doing on the **Local Offer**.

The **Local Offer** tells you what support is available for children and young people with SEND in Wolverhampton: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/localoffer

You can get this information in large print, braille,
audio or in another language by calling 01902 551155
or emailing translations@wolverhampton.gov.uk

wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 551155

  [WolverhamptonToday](#)  [Wolverhampton_Today](#)  [@WolvesCouncil](#)

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