

Building on Better: Suffolk's SEND Strategy 2021-23

Our Vision

Working together, we will support all children and young people with SEND to meet their potential and to live active, healthy and fulfilling lives as part of their communities. Children, young people and their families will be listened to, included and empowered, and will have access to the right support at the right time from the right people.

Our SEND Priorities For 2021-23

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Priority One: Communication

We will:

1. Improve the Local Offer website, enabling easier navigation and search functionality for families.
2. Develop our communication strategy to increase accessibility and visibility for all users, including our use of multimedia communication.
3. Develop our work with the Young Person's Network to continue to improve the way we communicate with young people and ensure their voices are represented.
4. Promote awareness and understanding of SEND and SEN support services amongst families, practitioners and our wider communities.
5. Regularly seek feedback from families, young people and frontline practitioners on all aspects of our communication.
6. Keep young people, families and practitioners informed about the progress we are making across all our priority areas.

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Priority Two: The Child/Young Person's Journey

We will:

1. Make the SEND journey for children and young people, clear and understandable across education, health and care, from early identification of needs.
2. Embed the Graduated Response across education, health and care to provide timely early intervention and whole school inclusive practices.
3. Ensure that assessments and reviews involve the right people and are completed on time.
4. Ensure that assessment and review reports, including Education, Health and Care Plans are person-centred, specific and understandable.
5. Ensure that children and young people receive the support they need to make progress towards their identified outcomes and ambitions.
6. Strengthen SEND operational practice by developing key roles within Social Care and Health, working closely with SEND and Education leaders.
7. Review and learn from SEND feedback including surveys, complaints, compliments and comments, mediation, Tribunal appeals and Ombudsman outcomes to improve practice across the whole SEND system.
8. Transform the SEND Decision Making Panels and ensure capacity and capability within Inclusion Services to operate effectively.

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Priority Three: Commissioning and Services

We will:

1. Jointly review our SEND provision to understand demand, identify gaps and plan for future provision across education, health and care.
2. Increase the number of specialist education places available within Suffolk by completing the delivery of the current Suffolk SEND Capital Programme (2020-2024).
3. Complete our redesign of mental health services for children and young people and implement the new model.
4. Complete the development of the neuro-developmental pathway for children and young people and implement the new model.
5. Co-produce a new offer of Care, Education and Treatment Reviews, supported by the Transforming Care Partnership, that is based on a fuller understanding of children and young people's needs.
6. Extend the respite offer for under 18s to include children and young people with disabilities and challenging behaviours who are not currently supported by the Disabled Children's Team.

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Priority Four: Preparing for Adulthood

We will:

1. Embed high-quality person-centred planning as our approach to transition planning for children and young people with SEND.
2. Empower children, young people and their families to make informed decisions about transitions through good quality advice, guidance and support.
3. Extend the local learning offer for 16-25 year olds to address gaps identified in SEND Sufficiency, with a focus on quality, options and progression.
4. Develop our health offer to better meet the needs of 16-25 year olds, to achieve straightforward, family centred transitions, including for adolescent mental health and those supported by Transforming Care.
5. Develop our social care offer to include care planning and ensure straightforward transitions, taking account of mental capacity and new safeguarding guidelines.
6. Provide good employment/ self-employment support for young people with SEND and potential employers to extend the options leading into work.
7. Develop our Short Breaks for older young people and the support that enables them to develop their relationships and social skills.

What difference will we see as a result of this?

1. Children and young people with SEND will achieve by making progress academically, emotionally and socially.
2. Children and young people with SEND and their families will access services and their communities through the right support at the right time from the right people.
3. Children and young people with SEND and their families will tell us that early years, education, health and care services are meeting their needs.
4. Our children, young people and families will tell us that they trust services across early years, education, health and social care.



Suffolk Local Offer
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