

Kent's Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 2021-2024

Summary of the Strategy



Background

The draft SEND Strategy:

- Builds on the work of the previous SEND Strategy, published in 2017, and has been jointly developed by KCC and the NHS in conjunction with children and young people, parents, carers and key stakeholders.
- Gathered views through co-production events in February 2020, parental survey results, PACT.
- Developed alongside the Written Statement of Action but goes beyond the inspection (from Ofsted and CQC) setting out priorities for the next three years.
- Once approved, this Strategy will support the inclusion of all children and young people in Kent alongside other key areas of work:
 - Schools and education settings are key partners in delivering transformation - Kent's proposed Inclusion Framework, support and Mainstream Core Standards
 - Kent County Council's (KCC) Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent (2020-24)
 - Kent's Approach to Joint Commissioning.

Our vision

Our vision for children and young people with SEND in Kent is that:

- They learn and grow by being well cared for, have their health needs met and lead happy, fulfilled lives
- Families can reach the right people at the right time to support their children in the way that they need
- Services work together with families to improve outcomes and the achievements of their children



How will we achieve our vision?

- Prevention is at the heart of the strategy.
- Supporting schools to develop high quality support for all learners means that the needs of children and young people will be better met.
- By supporting more children at a universal level, fewer will need SEN Support and more specialist services.
- For those children and young people who do need additional support, we will identify them quickly and ensure that the most effective support is put in place.
- Local communities also play a key role in the strategy enabling children and young people to play an active role in their community.
- We want those services to be delivered as close to home as possible and for them to support children and young people with SEND to be the best they can be.

Priorities

We have identified a programme of work for the next three years and beyond, grouping the work into five main priorities.

Priority 1	Improve the way we work with children and young people, parents and carers.
Priority 2	Ensure children, young people and their families have positive experiences at each stage of their journey including a well-planned and smooth transition to adulthood.
Priority 3	Identify and assess the needs of children and young people earlier and more effectively.
Priority 4	Improve education, care and health outcomes for children and young people with SEND.
Priority 5	Ensure children and young people with SEND are included in their local community.

Priorities

We are focussing on these areas because:

- Children, young people and families have told us that these are important to them.
- They support the work being undertaken as part of the Written Statement of Action.
- Analysis of our performance in these areas shows us that we need to do better if we are to improve outcomes for our children and young people with SEND.
- The updated SEND Health Needs assessment (2020) has highlighted the health inequalities we need to address in Kent.

People have told us:

There are areas of Kent, like Autism, who are really well supported...and then there are others...there's nothing, they are like black holes

Where I've had the best experience it's because we've built a strong relationship

People should respect my opinions and feelings more



Measuring Progress

- We will measure our progress against the Children and Young People's Outcomes Framework which was developed with families and reflects what children and young people told us was important to them.
- A set of indicators will sit underneath each outcome to measure progress. Feedback will be regularly collected from children, young people and their families and used to improve services and delivery.
- A detailed action plan will also be developed.



Find out more and tell us your views

- The full Strategy can be found online at www.kent.gov.uk/sendstrategyconsultation alongside supporting documents and the questionnaire for giving us your views
- Please tell us what you think
- The consultation is open from Wednesday 2 December 2020 to Thursday 4 February 2021
- If you have any questions, please contact sendstrategy@kent.gov.uk
- Alternative formats: if you require any of the consultation material in an alternative format or language, please email alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk or call 03000 421553 (text relay 18001 03000 421553)