



Department  
for Education

# Special Educational Needs and Disability

- British Association for Supported  
Employment

Wednesday 10 November 2021

# SEND Review

- The SEND Review is committed to finding ways to:
  - improve the outcomes of children and young people;
  - support mainstream education to fulfil their responsibilities; and
  - Make the system more sustainable financially.
- Recognise Review is urgent and a priority, and must ensure proposals respond to significant feedback received.
- Based on feedback, there is broad agreement that:
  - early intervention and support should become more of a reality;
  - the universal offer should be clearer to everyone; and
  - funding and accountability systems should be changed to ensure that this offer is delivered.
- Must say something about implementation
- Expect to publish proposals for public consultation in first quarter of 2022

# SEND System Challenges

These are what we have been told are the challenges in the SEND system for schools and colleges:

There are **misaligned accountabilities and perverse incentives** to identify children as SEND and therefore in some instances request an EHCP

There is a **lack of shared understanding/ a common framework** in which education, health and social care providers understand and prioritise children with SEND

There is a **lack of high quality SEND training** and understanding of SEND by the workforce

**Needs are not always identified** early enough causing the right services to not be in place quick enough, consequently needs develop and become more complex and costly

Poor levels of inclusivity mean **experiences of the system are negative** and therefore there is a lack of confidence amongst parents that their child's needs can be met in ordinarily available provision

**Funding is stretched** and not always used in an efficient and effective way

The quality of SEND support is largely **dependent on where children and young people live**

The current **structure and culture** within schools and FE does not effectively support children with SEND

# SEND Spending

- Spending Review in October 2021:
  - £2.6 billion over the next three years for school places for children and young people with SEND, more than tripling current capital funding levels to over £900 million by 2024-25.
  - Additional £4.7bn for the core schools budget by 2024-25. This settlement includes an additional £1.6bn for schools and high needs in 2022-23, on top of the funding we previously announced. We will confirm in due course how this additional funding for 2022-23, and for the two subsequent years, will be allocated for schools and high needs.
- Ongoing internal discussions about details of SEND funding.

# What else?

- Skills Bill working its way through Parliament. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading in the Commons on 15 November.
  - Local Skills Improvement Plans
- Strengthening the Supported Internship programme
  - Refreshing the guidance
  - Development of a QA framework by the Education and Training Foundation.