

# 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 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 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. Further 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, education settings 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. Ensure that assessments and reviews involve the right people and are completed on time.
3. Ensure that assessment and review reports, including Education, Health and Care Plans are person-centred, specific and understandable.
4. Ensure that children and young people receive the support they require to make progress towards their identified outcomes and ambitions.
5. Embed the Graduated Response across education, health and care to provide timely early intervention and whole school inclusive practices.
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, mediation, Tribunal appeals and Ombudsman outcomes to improve practice across the whole SEND system.

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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, support and education for children and young people supported by the Transforming Care Partnership that is based on a fuller understanding of their 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 the gaps identified in the 2021 SEND Sufficiency Review, 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 make progress and fulfil their potential - academically, emotionally and socially.
2. Children, young people and families will report that they can access the right support at the right time from the right people.
3. More children, young people and families will tell us that education, health and care services are improving.
4. Our children, young people and families will tell us that they trust services across education, health and social care.



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