



NW SEND Regional Network Newsletter

July 2022

The network is keen to provide support for children, families and practitioners. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any queries you may have. If you would like to be added to the newsletter circulation list, just send an email to the address below.

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NORTH WEST EVENTS

20.7.22 1 – 4pm Connecting Care for Children, Young People and their Families. MS Teams

Greater Manchester Children's and Young People's Health and Wellbeing Stakeholder Forum

<https://www.events.england.nhs.uk/events/greater-manchester-childrens-and-young-peoples-health-and-wellbeing-stakeholder-forum>

Reducing Health Inequalities for CYP workshops:

19.9.22 10 – 11 Oral health

6.10.22 10 – 11 Young carers

7.11.22 10 – 11 SEND Autism in schools

Please contact england.nwcyp@nhs.net if you would like to attend any of the above. The workshops are open to North West health and wider partners, commissioners, local authority colleagues, public health teams, ICS members, voluntary and community groups, and research partners.

OTHER EVENTS

Contact Early Years Workshops for Parent Carers

Toilet Training

Children with additional needs may not be ready to start toilet training until they are older. This workshop will help you to understand when they are ready and how to start.

Thursday 7 July 10:00 am [Book now via Eventbrite](#)

Encouraging Positive Behaviour

Gain a better understanding of why young children with additional needs behave the way they do. Learn ways to handle difficult situations in a calm, stress-free manner. Explore ways of supporting and encouraging your child and how to get support and help.

Tuesday 12 July 7:30 pm [Book now via Eventbrite](#)

Helping your young child sleep

During the disruption of Covid-19, it can be extra challenging to manage young children's sleep patterns. This online workshop gives the opportunity to hear other parents' experiences, learn new strategies and share as much or as little of your story as you wish.

Wednesday 6 July 10:00 am [Book now via Eventbrite](#)

All Age Workshops

<https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/workshops-and-events/workshops/all-ages-workshops/>

4 – 9.7.22 Coproduction week

[National Co-production Week | SCIE](#)

7.7.22 Co-producing Accessible and Inclusive Family Hubs – On-line, free conference

[National Conference: Co-Producing Accessible and Inclusive Family Hubs | Training | Anna Freud Centre](#)

13.7.22, 9.30 – 4 How We Can Support Early Years and Primary School Settings to Develop Language Provision (for EPs and SALTs)

Aspen Psychology Language Specialist, Dr Ioanna Bakopoulou

Training Educational Psychologists and Speech & Language Therapists in evidence-based methods they can use to support schools to create communication-supporting classrooms, as well as approaches and strategies that can be used in primary school settings to support the development of language and communication skills of all children aged 4-11 years.

If you would like to find out more, the link is:

[Supporting Spoken Language - Aspen Psychology Services](#)

To book a place, the link is: [Book a place - Aspen Psychology Services](#)

14.7.22 10.30 – 12.30 Autism and ADHD, an on-line workshop

To book <https://autismahandsonapproach.co.uk/ADHDworkshop/>

15.7.22 nasen Live 'Inclusion by Design, Vox Conference Centre, NEC, Birmingham

[nasen Live 2022 | Nasen](#)

8.9.22 National Conference: Co-producing Accessible and Inclusive Family Hubs

This is a free on-line conference

[National Conference: Co-Producing Accessible and Inclusive Family Hubs | Training | Anna Freud Centre](#)

1.11.22 Kidz to Adultz North

Manchester Central

8.11.22 Autism a Hands on Approach ONLINE Conference

To book www.autismahandsonapproach.co.uk/conference/

CONSULTATIONS

DfE consultation proposing changing the law on reviews of Education Health and Care plans

The Department for Education has launched a [consultation](#) on the actions that a local authority should have to take if it proposes to amend an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan following a review meeting.

They believe that the principal audiences for the consultation paper will be:

children and young people with EHC plans and their families

- organisations representing children and young people with SEND and their families
- LA SEND officers
- any early years setting, school, college or other setting attended by children or young people with an EHC plan
- educational psychologists, health professionals, social care professionals and others involved in the review of EHC plans

Some of the key points relating to the consultation are set out below.

Detail of the consultation

Local authorities have various duties over when and how they must review an individual's Education, Health and Care plan. In the SEND and AP Review Green Paper DfE said that they intended to change the timescale for the issuing of proposals for amending plans following annual reviews. The consultation is available at

[Reviews of Education, Health and Care plans: proposed timescales - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#).

DfE are consulting on whether local authorities should:

- have an additional four weeks after review meetings to finalise any changes they propose to a plan. (A March 2022 High Court judgment has clarified that the current duty on LAs is to do this within four weeks of the review meeting); and
- have to circulate material for a review meeting a week earlier than currently.

They believe that these proposals will benefit children, young people and their families, at the same time as delivering a more workable process.

The consultation closes on 12 August.

Green paper: SEND review: Right support, right place, right time

In March the Government published the [SEND Review: Right support, right place, right time](#), a consultation on the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision system in England.

The government's green paper SEND review: right support, right place, right time sets out the changes it proposes to make to the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) system in England. The government is seeking views on the proposals. There is also a separate summary covering the SEND and AP green paper and responding to the consultation, which explain the proposals and can be shared with parents and carers, children and young people to explain what the SEND review means for them.

Published 29 March

On 9 May the Department for Education published accessible versions of the green paper, including:

- a full British Sign Language version to support those who are deaf or have a hearing impairment
- an easy-read version to support those with learning disabilities
- a guide to help children and young people with SEND or those in alternative provision to understand the green paper and respond to the consultation

The department is committed to ensuring the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper and consultation process is fully accessible.

On the day of publication, the department provided a 'request alternative formats service' to provide everyone the opportunity to engage with the green paper and consultation, this

includes provision of Braille, audio and other language translations. They apologise that a full range of accessible resources was not available from the first day of the consultation. The consultation period has been extended by 3 weeks, to 22 July 2022, to ensure everyone has the opportunity to take part in the consultation.

All resources are available on gov.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-review-right-support-right-place-right-time>

OFSTED AND CQC CONSULTATION ON SEND INSPECTIONS

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have launched a consultation on a new joint framework for inspecting provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The new framework will look at outcomes for children with SEND, according to the consultation document.

The **new framework** is aimed at broadening inspections to examine whether local area partnerships are identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND, but also to assess the impact on their lives and outcomes, according to the inspectorates.

The new framework will focus on the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND, including those in alternative provision (AP).

Local authorities will be evaluated on how they commission, use and oversee such settings, according to the consultation document.

Other key areas included in the new framework are:

- Introducing an ongoing cycle of inspections and three distinct inspection outcomes.
- Carrying out engagement meetings in all areas.
- Strengthening Ofsted's response where there are concerns through monitoring inspections and/or early re-inspections.
- Promoting continuous improvement for all by requesting visible action plans following full inspections.
- A greater push to gather evidence from children and young people with SEND and their families directly, as well as from area leaders, practitioners, and settings.

Under the new framework, inspection teams will include inspectors from education, health and care "so that there can be a deeper understanding of how effective joint working is in a specific area", the document adds.

Ofsted's chief inspector Amanda Spielman, said: "The past two years have been challenging for all of us, but the pandemic was particularly hard for the most vulnerable in society.

"In that time Ofsted has continued to engage closely with the SEND sector, including bodies representing children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers. That has allowed us to develop and refine the proposals for a new framework.

"I welcome responses from the sector whether that be parents, carers or children and young people themselves to help us shape our plans further. Working together, we can ensure that every child gets the best start in life, whatever their background or needs."

The consultation, will run until September 11, as part of a range of engagement activities Ofsted and CQC are carrying out across the sector as well as with children and young people, parents, and carers, according to the inspectorates.

[A new approach to area SEND inspections - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-review-right-support-right-place-right-time)

OFSTED CONSULTATION ABOUT A SEPARATE JUDGEMENT ABOUT CARE LEAVERS WITHIN THE INSPECTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CHILDREN'S SERVICES (ILACS)

Ofsted propose to:

- Introduce a separate new judgement within ILACS: "The experience and progress of care leavers"
- Review and update the existing evaluation criteria to ensure they are relevant and reflect what good looks like for care leavers

- Introduce the new judgement once all local authorities have had at least one ILACS inspection outcomes.

The consultation runs until 29 July 2022. Responses will inform Ofsted's updated arrangements which they aim to introduce from January 2023.

[Introducing a separate judgement about care leavers within the inspection of local authority children's services \(ILACS\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

NICE Advocacy Guideline Consultation 7.6.22 – 19.7.22

NICE has been developing a new guideline for 'Advocacy services for adults with health and social care needs'. You can find out about the guideline [here](#)

To respond to the guideline, you can register as a stakeholder [here](#)

SHARING PRACTICE AND INFORMATION ACROSS THE NORTH WEST

Warrington Speak Up have worked with the British Institute of Human Rights and Photosymbols to develop easy read postcards about key Human Rights. The postcards cover:

- The right to life
- The right to be safe from serious harm
- The right to liberty
- The right to respect for private and family life, home and contact
- The right to be treated fairly
- Real life stories where rights have and have not been looked after
- 'What it means' cards for hard words
- What to do if you are worried about your rights

[Easy Read Human Rights Postcards | British Institute of Human Rights \(bihr.org.uk\)](#)

Blackpool Better Start

Jo Smith, Community Engagement officer at the Blackpool Centre for Early Child Development lifts the lid on a project to involve local families in a grassroots funding scheme.

[How Blackpool Better Start are engaging families in an activity funding scheme | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

FOCUS: CO-PRODUCTION

Co-production describes a way of working together in which support providers and those in need of support are recognised as stakeholders and are part of the same decision-making process. The aim of co-production, as laid out in the New Economic Foundation's *Commissioning outcomes and co-production: a practical guide for local authorities*, is to create more effective services in partnership with people using those services.

Meaningful co-production prioritises the inclusion of children, young people and families whose views and ideas have not previously been heard; whose experiences of working with professionals haven't always been positive; or those for whom services are not easily accessible. Without the inclusion of families whose needs haven't been met, there is a risk of repeatedly designing services that do not meet the needs of some of the most marginalised families. A commitment to equality, through ongoing training and information sharing on the principles and practice of equity, diversity and inclusion, is key to good co-production.

The survey is anonymous and should not take more than 10-15 minutes depending on the amount of detail you share. The deadline to fill in the survey is **August 2nd, 2022**.

INFORMATION:

Special educational needs in England, Academic year 2021/2

This publication combines information from the school census (state-funded schools), school level annual school census (independent schools) and general hospital school census on pupils with special educational needs (SEN).

The publication includes breakdowns by type of SEN provision (either SEN support or education, health and care plan), type of need, age, national curriculum year group, gender, ethnicity, English as a first language and free school meal eligibility.

Local authority data on EHC plans is published in the [Education, Health and Care plans publication](#). That data covers all children and young pupil up to age 25 with EHC plans, and includes those not captured in this publication in non-maintained early years provision, further education, home education or not in education, employment or training.

[Special educational needs in England, Academic Year 2021/22 – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](#)

The Allied Health Professions (AHPs) strategy for England – AHPs deliver

This new strategy is for the whole Allied Health Profession (AHP) community: support workers, assistant practitioners, registered professionals, pre-registration apprentices and students. It is inclusive and reflects how AHPs work in multidisciplinary teams, so that those who identify as part of the AHP community working in a variety of health and care sectors can use it to continually improve and redesign services.

[The Allied Health Professions \(AHP\)for England: 2022 to 2027 AHPs Deliver](#)

What are health inequalities?

This explainer provides an overview of how health inequalities are experienced in England's population.

Health inequalities are avoidable, unfair and systematic differences in health between different groups of people. There are many kinds of health inequality, and many ways in which the term is used. This means that when we talk about 'health inequality', it is useful to be clear on which measure is unequally distributed, and between which people.

[What are health inequalities? | The King's Fund \(kingsfund.org.uk\)](#)

Simple reasonable adjustments can make a big difference

The NHS must make it as easy for disabled people to use health services as it is for people who are not disabled. This is called making [reasonable adjustments](#). Watch this [short film on Fazilla and Kareem's experience](#) of reasonable adjustments and pick up some simple tips about what you could be doing to improve people's access to health care.

The impact of a Dynamic Support Register

The [dynamic support register \(DSR\)](#) supports local areas to have a good understanding of their population of children, young people and adults with a learning disability and autistic people who are at risk of admission or going to other out of area placement. Watch [Ashlee's film](#) to see how the DSR has prevented her going into hospital and helped the people who support her to be more aware of the subtle changes in her behaviour

Social work with adults experiencing complex needs, NICE guideline

This guideline covers the planning, delivery and review of social work interventions for adults who have complex needs. It promotes ways for social work professionals, other care staff and people with complex needs to work together to make decisions about care and support.

It is for

Social workers, their supervisors and managers, and the organisations they work for
Healthcare, social care staff and allied health professionals who support people with complex needs

Social work academics, educators and practice educators

Adults with complex needs (including self-funders), their families or carers, and the public
It may also be relevant for people aged 16 to 18 with complex needs who have completed the transition from children's to adults' services

[Overview](#) | [Social work with adults experiencing complex needs](#) | [Guidance](#) | [NICE](#)

REPORTS

Voices of England's missing children

The findings of the Children's Commissioner's Attendance Audit, June 2022

This report identifies the key reasons why children are not in school and puts forward a blueprint to help make sure all children are in school, ready to learn, every day.

[News from the Children's Commissioner for England \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

The Times Education Commission report

Call for a radical reset of education with a 12-point plan to transform the schools system and unlock potential

[The Times Education commission](#) | [The Times and The Sunday Times](#)

Shared decision making from the perspective of clinicians and healthcare professionals

This report finds health care professionals are positive about shared decision-making – a way of working with patients to decide treatment options.

[Download.ashx \(patients-association.org.uk\)](#)

Implications of COVID on Early Childhood Learning and care

This study explores the implications of the COVID pandemic for access to and provision of early childhood education and care (ECEC) for 0–4-year-olds in England, and ways in which the ECEC system could be strengthened. It combines insights from qualitative and quantitative research, including: a systems mapping; a literature review; a survey of local authorities (LAs); analysis of a variety of national data sources; and, case studies involving qualitative interviews with parents, ECEC providers, LA staff and employer representatives. The data analysed was collected in 2020 and 2021.

[Implications of COVID on Early Childhood Learning and Care \(familyandchildcaretrust.org\)](#)

Sensory integration therapy for children with autism and sensory processing difficulties: the SenITA RCT

National Institute of Health and Care Research

This trial found that sensory integration therapy for children with autism and sensory processing difficulties did not demonstrate clinical benefit above standard care.

[Sensory integration therapy for children with autism and sensory processing difficulties: the SenITA RCT \(nih.ac.uk\)](#)

BLOG

How can SENDCos develop teacher practice?

The Education Endowment Fund's Gary Aubin explains the role SENDCos can play in improving teaching practice

[How can SENDCos develop teacher practice? | EEF \(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk\)](https://www.educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH / SHARE PRACTICE

The UK National charity for selective mutism, SMiRA, know that there is a proportion of people who have both autism and selective mutism, but there is very limited research on how common this is and there is no up to date information on the prevalence of selective mutism in secondary schools. They are searching for secondary schools to participate in a research project to try to answer these really vital and key questions.

SENDCos will receive free training in selective mutism (online, so no travel requirements) as part of the project.

More information is here:

[Promoting a better understanding of Selective Mutism and its relationship to Autism - SMIRA](#)

OTHER NEWSLETTERS:

Autism Newsletter:

[Autism Newsletter \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Early Childhood Unit, National Children's Bureau, bulletin:

[Latest news and information from the Early Years Sector \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Family hubs in mind:

[Family Hubs in Mind, June 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Foundation years newsletter:

[New blogs - writing in Reception & music in the early years \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

[Foundation Years Newsletter - June 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Mental health, learning disability and autism bulletins:

<https://mhlda.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/d/A02A03DC418909812540EF23F30FEDED/204745E813181C7063B21DE8DA818551?alternativeLink=False>

<https://mentalhealthlda.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/d/66DD6FBC0693F6E42540EF23F30FED/204745E813181C7063B21DE8DA818551?alternativeLink=False>

Nasen news:

[Cathy, here's your monthly SEND news and updates! ✓ \(ddlnk.net\)](#)

National Literacy Trust newsletter:

[Discover our Refugee Week resources \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

NICE news for health and social care:

[NICE News for Health and Social Care | June 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Ofsted news:

[Ofsted News - Issue 113 - June 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Schools in mind:

[June newsletter: self-care, support services and more \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Teacher Bulletin:

[Free, flexible and designed by teachers – what NPQs can offer you \(govdelivery.com\)](#)
[Teacher Bulletin: resources and information to support with cost of living pressures \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

The Centre for Youth Impact newsletter:

[The Centre for Youth Impact Newsletter: June 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Triangle's news:

[Triangle's June News 2022 \(campaign-archive.com\)](#)