

SEND Strategy Update



Making Changes Together Autumn Conference 25/1/21

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What I Will be Covering

- Background and Context
- An Overview of the Vision and Aims
- The Action we are Taking to Make it Happen



Durham SEND Background and Context

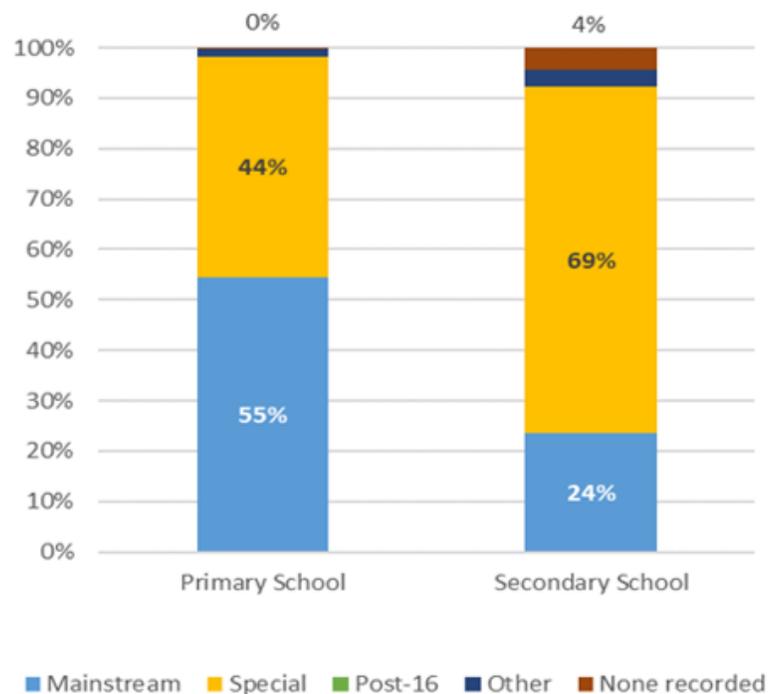
Nov 21

- 3,921 children and young people in County Durham aged 0-25 with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) (Oct 21)
- Of these children and young people, 2,512 (64%) are school age pupils
- 10,137 pupils attending County Durham schools are supported through a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support Plan (Oct 21)
- These numbers have increased each year since the introduction of the SEND Reforms (2014)

Durham SEND Background and Context - Nov 21

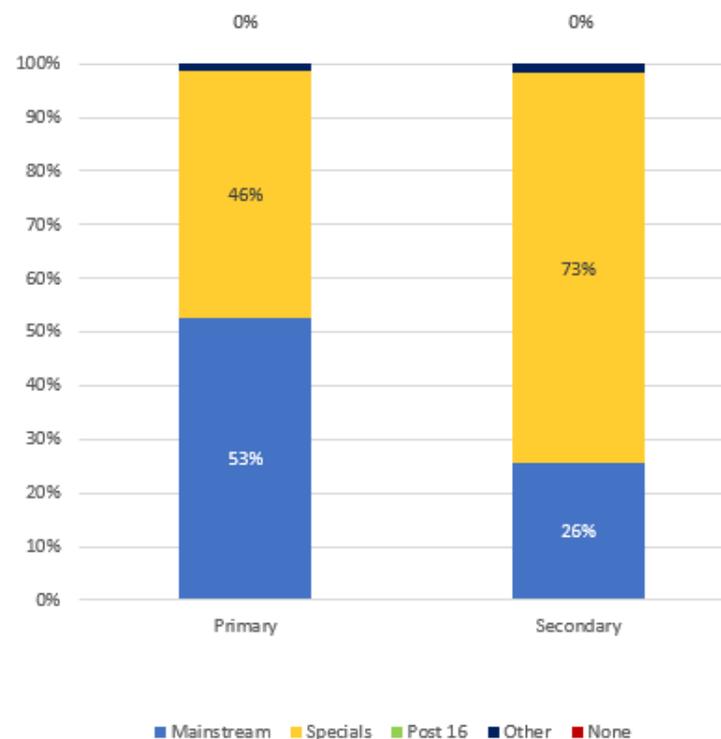
Placement of school age children with an active EHCP

(Jan 2021)



Placement of school age children with an active EHCP

(Oct 2021)



A slightly lower percentage of children with EHCPs in primary are now having their needs met in their local mainstream school.

A slightly higher percentage of children with EHCPs in secondary are now having their needs met in their local mainstream school.

Most secondary age pupils with EHCPs are attending special schools.

Strategy Development Background

Our local strategy for children, young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) It will enable us to understand what we need to do together to make sure that children and young people with SEND are fully included in our communities, that we work together to achieve this vision, and what we can each contribute. This Strategy will:

- Inform and support what we do
- Enable us to understand when we are making progress
- Help to identify what else we need to do
- Promote inclusion in supportive communities at every step

It is also important that this new SEND Strategy makes sense for all stakeholders and has their support which is why each stage has been developed in collaboration with all those who are involved including:

Young People with SEND, Parents and Carers of Young People with SEND, School leaders and SENCOs and key Local Authority and Health Provider Trusts



Strategy Development Background

Driving the Need for a New Strategy

- Our current Strategy has ended
- Post Ofsted and CQC (Jan 2020) visit we have been managing SEND transformation and responding to COVID

The work that we done so far to develop the strategy

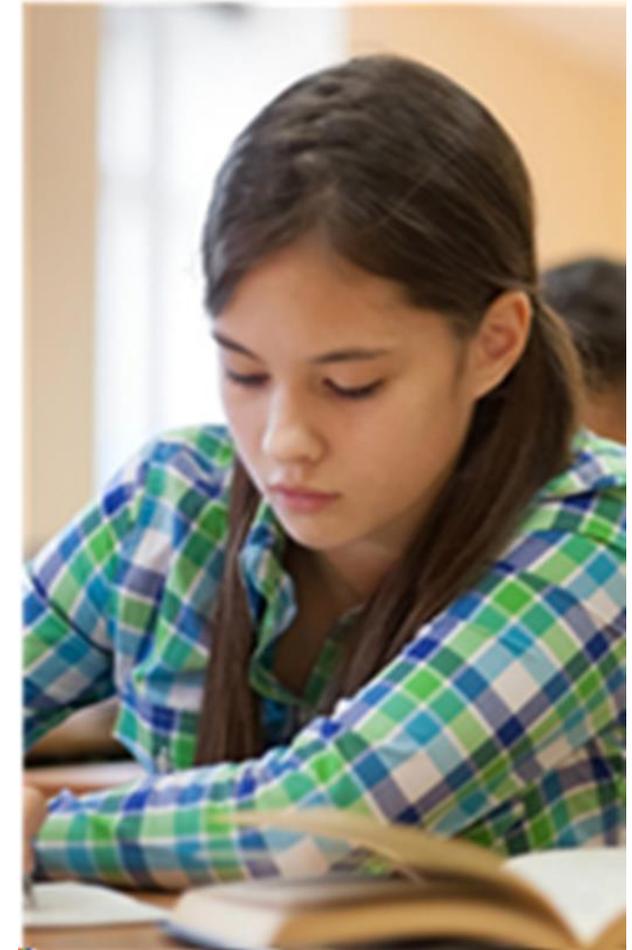
- Methodology – initial information, strategic aspirations, and Theory of Change modelling
- Stakeholder Engagement



SEND Strategy - Vision

Our Vision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities is the same as it is for all children and young people in County Durham: That they are safe and part of their community, have the best start in life, have good physical and mental health, and gain the education, skills and experiences to prepare them for adulthood

This strategy should be built on a foundation of strong relationships and clear and positive communication between children and young people with SEND and those who support them.



SEND Strategy - Aims

- Where possible, for all children and young people to attend their local school and education setting which understands them and is able to meet their needs
- To work closely with families to develop resilience and feel confident that needs are understood and met, and will continue to be met through all transitions
- To listen to what children and young people are telling us when supporting them and to support positive inclusion and develop their resilience and independence
- To identify needs in a timely way and have the right support available to meet needs at the right time
- For all education settings and their workforce to be confident in identifying and meeting needs, and to promote good health and wellbeing and inclusion
- To have a joined up offer of support available, which is appropriate to assessed needs



SEND Strategy – Focussing on Inclusion

- Being *present* in their education setting
- *Participating* fully in their educational community
- *Achieving* and making progress at a pace that is right for them
- Feeling that they *belong* in their community
- Working towards being as *independent* as possible



Next Steps

- The intention is for this strategy to inform the SEND provision and necessary transformation of this provision in all schools and other learning providers , local authority and health/care services
- To do this action planning through each part of the SEND Strategic Partnership is currently underway
- The SEND Strategy will be reported to both full Council at DCC and the CCG Boards in January 2022