



Department of
Education

www.education-ni.gov.uk

A New Plan to Help Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs

What will change between 2025 and 2030



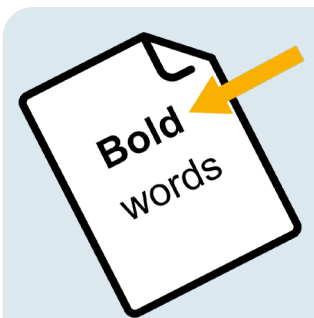
EasyReadNI



This is an Easy Read version of some hard information. It may not include all of the information but will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read information uses easier words and pictures. You may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker.



These are words that some people will find hard. When you see a **bold** word, we will explain it in the next sentence.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet?

- 1** What is this booklet about?
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What is this booklet about?



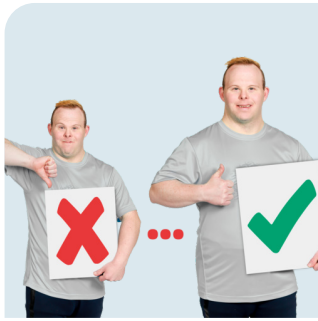
This booklet explains a new government plan.



The plan will help children and young people with **Special Educational Needs (SEN)**.



SEN means someone needs extra help in school with learning or daily life.



Reform means big changes to make things better.



This booklet tells you what will happen and how it will help.

What is the SEN Reform Agenda?

The SEN Reform Agenda is a big plan to:



Make education fair for all.



Help all children and young people do well in life.

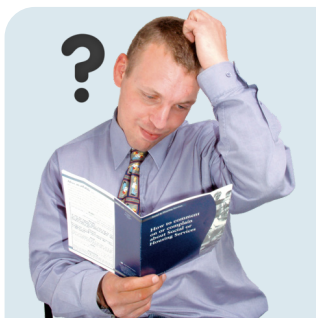


Give children and young people the right help at the right time.

Why is this needed?



Some children are not getting the help they need in school.



Parents and carers say the system is confusing and unfair.



We want to fix that and give children and young people the help they need to do well.

What Will Success Look Like?

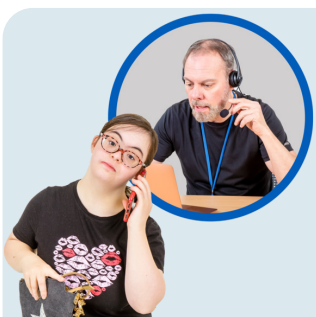
We want children
and young people
with SEN to:



Be happy in school.



Feel included.

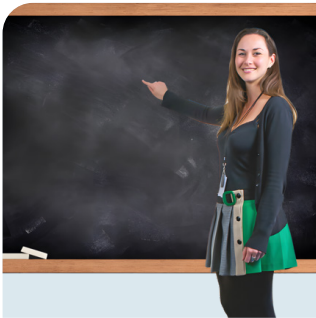


Get the right help to learn.

We also want:



Families to trust the system.



Schools to be confident and supported.



Services to work well and focus on helping children and young people.

What Will Happen?



A group will look at better ways to talk about **SEN**.



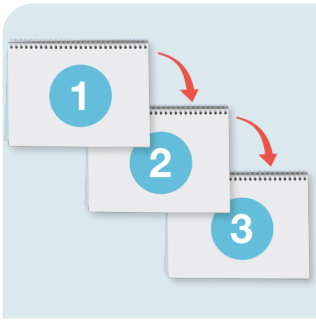
Getting support will be faster and easier.



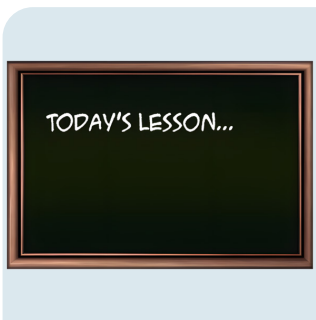
New plans for how we deliver special education.



More help for children and young people before they start school.



A new step-by-step system to give support.



Better support in mainstream schools.

Our Vision



Every child is happy, learning and succeeding.



That includes children and young people who need extra help.



New support teams will be set up. These are called Local **IMPACT** Teams.



There will be programmes to help with communication, emotions, play and behaviour.

This plan is based on 4 big ideas:



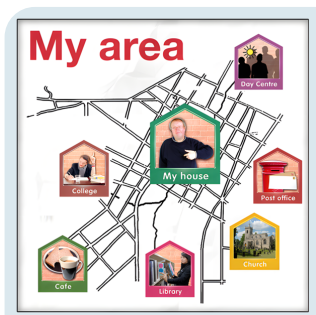
Right Support.



Right People.



Right Time.



Right Place.

Right Support



Children and young people will get the help that works best for them.



Teachers will get training and support.



Schools will be able to help children and young people earlier.

Right People



We want all staff to know how to help children and young people with **SEN**.



This includes teachers, assistants and health workers.



They will get training and work better together as teams.

Right Time



A new system will help track what children and young people need.



Children aged 0–4 will get support and so will their parents and carers.



Special centres will help children aged 3–6.



More help will be given in pre-school and early years.



Children and young people will get support with speech, language and communication.



Children will get support when they are moving schools.



We will help young people make good plans for when they leave school and move to adult life.

Right Place



Children and young people will get support in schools that suit them.

This could be:



A mainstream school.



A smaller class with extra support.



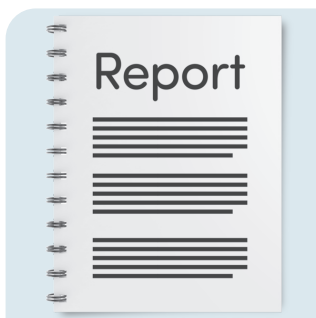
A special school.

Checking the Plan is Working

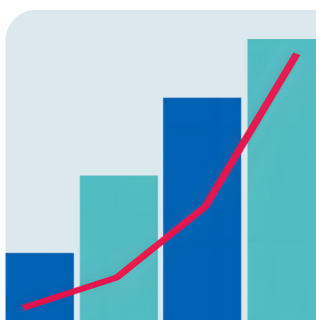


We will check that the plan is helping children and young people.

There will be:



Regular reports.



A team to check how things are going.



A chance for children, young people, parents and carers to share their views.

Need Help or More Information?



You can ask your teacher, parent or carer, or social worker to help you.



You can ask for this document in a different way or language.

For more information:

Contact the
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road, Rathgill
Bangor
Northern Ireland
BT19 7PR

Email: SENReform@education-ni.gov.uk