



Local Area SEND Strategy and Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Consultation Survey

Welcome

Welcome to the Oxfordshire Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Draft Strategy 2022 – 2027 and Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for SEND Consultation Survey.

This survey offers you the opportunity to give your views on both the draft Local Area SEND Strategy (Section 1) and Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for SEND consultation document (Section 2), or you can respond only to one of these sections if you prefer.

Roadshows will be held online during the consultation, but if national and local guidelines relating to COVID-19 allow, in-person events may be considered. At these sessions, senior leaders will introduce the two SEND consultations, explain the proposals and answer any questions that you may have. To book on to an event please click [here](#).

Guidance on how to fill out the survey

We recommend that you read the document(s) you wish to respond to in advance ([Local Area SEND Strategy](#), [Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for SEND](#)). This is because the questions will ask you to respond to the content of these documents.

To assist you, links are provided within the survey to each document where the question refers to them and the page number for that specific part of the document is also listed. There is also a glossary within the draft Local Area SEND Strategy document on pages 19 to 21.

We estimate that it will take up to around an hour to read both the draft Local Area SEND Strategy and the Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for SEND consultation document, and then complete both sections of the survey. The survey consists of mainly 'closed' questions, where you select from listed options, but there are also opportunities for you to leave written comments to let us know your views in greater detail.

If you need to pause while filling out the survey, you can save the answers you have given and return later to complete your response.

We would like to thank you in advance for your time in completing this important survey.

Alternative formats:

We know that some people can't, or find it difficult to, take part in online consultations or need things in a different format such as large print, easy read, audio, braille or a different language, to have their say.

If you, or anyone you know needs a printed copy of the survey or consultation documents in an alternative format, or help with sharing their thoughts, please email: consultations@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call Oxfordshire County Council's customer services team on 01865 792422. Please note the council's customer services team are unable to answer any detailed questions about the consultations, but they can take your details and ask an appropriate member of staff to get in touch.

This consultation will close on 10th March 2022.

Following consultation, we will consider all feedback given, and this will inform Oxfordshire County Council's system reform for SEND, and the final Local Area SEND Strategy. Any changes proposed in response to feedback received will be considered by sector leads prior to formal sign off by the council and the local NHS.

About You

We are interested in the views of a wide range of people and organisations. Therefore, to help us analyse the results of the consultation, we would appreciate it if you would tell us a bit about yourself. This data will only be used in relation to this consultation and will only be shared with organisations, including Westco Communications, that are assisting the council with this consultation. For more information, please view the council's privacy notice online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/privacy-notice.

1. Are you responding to this survey as a..? Please tick one option only.

- Parent carer of child with SEND living in Oxfordshire (GO TO Q5)
- Parent carer of child with SEND living outside of Oxfordshire (GO TO Q5)
- Child or young person with SEND living in Oxfordshire (GO TO Q8)
- Child or young person with SEND living outside of Oxfordshire (GO TO Q8)
- Other young person (GO TO Q8)

- Oxfordshire resident (GO TO Q11)
- Member of the public living outside of Oxfordshire (GO TO Q11)
- Professional (Education) (GO TO Q4)
- Professional (Health) (GO TO Q4)
- Professional (Social Care) (GO TO Q4)
- Representative of a group or organisation (GO TO Q2)
- Other (please specify, AND THEN GO TO Q11)

Type of Organisation

PLEASE ONLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION IF YOU ARE RESPONDING ON BEHALF OF A GROUP OR ORGANISATION

2. Please tell us the type and name of the organisation and your role within it:

- Oxfordshire County Council Education
- Social Care
- Health
- Mainstream Primary School
- Mainstream Secondary School
- SEND Primary School
- SEND Secondary School
- Resource Base
- Early Years Education

Further Education

Parent Support Group

Other (please specify):

3. Name of organisation and role:

Name of the group or organisation you represent:

Role

Professionals

PLEASE ONLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION IF YOU ARE RESPONDING IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY.

4. Please tell us the name of the organisation you work for (if applicable) and your role within it:

Role:

Name of organisation:

Parents and carers

PLEASE ONLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION IF YOU ARE RESPONDING AS A PARENT/CARER.

5. Does your child/young person have SEND?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

6. Does your child/young person have an EHC plan?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say
- Not applicable

7. What type of educational setting does your child or young person attend?

- Early Years
- Mainstream Primary
- Special Primary
- Mainstream Secondary
- Special Secondary
- Further Education college
- Other (please specify):

Children and Young People

PLEASE ONLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION IF YOU ARE RESPONDING AS A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON.

8. Do you have SEND?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

9. Do you have an EHC Plan?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say
- Not applicable

10. What type of educational setting do you attend?

- Early Years
- Mainstream Primary
- Special Primary
- Mainstream Secondary
- Special Secondary
- Further Education college
- Other (please specify):

Location

PLEASE EVERYONE ANSWER THIS QUESTION AND THEN GO TO Q12.

11. What is the location (district) of your home/organisation? We are asking for this information to be able to understand views across geographical locations.

- Cherwell
- Oxford City
- South Oxfordshire
- Vale of the White Horse
- West Oxfordshire
- Outside Oxfordshire (please specify district/location):

Consultation

This survey covers both the **Oxfordshire Draft Local Area SEND Strategy** and **Oxfordshire County Council's proposals for System Reform for SEND** and has a separate section for each. You can respond to both the sections, or only respond to one section, as you prefer.

Section 1: Local Area SEND Strategy

A 5-year draft Local Area SEND Strategy for Oxfordshire has been co-produced that outlines the vision and key priorities for improving the outcomes achieved and lived experiences of children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND.

The ambition is for all children and young people with SEND to have the right support and opportunities at the right time so that they go on to live rich and fulfilling lives at the heart of their communities.

To achieve that ambition, when there is an agreed approach, implementation plans will be published that support the delivery of this strategy.

The draft Local Area SEND Strategy sets out four priority areas:

- To develop a continuum (a broad range) of local high-quality provision and enable all services to be inclusive and deliver excellent outcomes for children with SEND, including building on existing good practice
- To enable children and young people with SEND to access opportunities that are important to them and for them
- To provide timely and equitable access to high quality services before, during and beyond statutory school age including education, health and social care
- To ensure that there is seamless and effective transition at all points for young people with SEND to access opportunities that are important to them and for them.

The questions in this section are a mixture of closed and open, and there are opportunities to leave comments in response to any of the five strategic objectives set out as well as at the end of this section. Please note, you will have the opportunity to answer questions and comment on the Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for SEND later in this survey if you wish to do so.

Before answering these questions, please read the draft Local Area SEND Strategy which can be found [here](#).

Local Area SEND Strategy

12. To what extent do you agree or disagree that having a Local Area SEND Strategy that involves all stakeholders will help to improve support and outcomes for children and young people with SEND?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Strategic Objective 1 - Improving outcomes for children with SEND (See page 11 of the draft Local Area SEND Strategy).

We are committed to the Local Area effectively discharging their duties under the Children and Families Act. We want the Local Area to be equipped to effectively secure high quality outcomes for children with SEND. High quality services that are accessed in a timely manner and at the earliest opportunity have a significant impact on outcomes for children, and lay the foundations for better life chances.

Priorities: The following priorities have been identified:

- Timely identification and assessment across the Local Area that leads to earlier intervention
- Development of meaningfully joined-up services and approaches
- Improved outcomes for children with SEND
- Increased expertise, competence and confidence of staff working to meet the needs of children with SEND

13. Thinking about Strategic Objective 1 and the priorities set out above, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
It is important that this is a strategic objective for the Local Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The stated priorities will deliver improved outcomes for children with SEND	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. If you have any comments about Strategic Objective 1, including any comments on any of the specific priorities for this objective, please write them here.

Strategic Objective 2 - Developing a continuum of local provision to meet the requirements of children and young people with SEND (See page 11 of the draft Local Area SEND Strategy).

There is a range of provision for children with SEND in Oxfordshire. It is essential that we develop more local provision so that more children have their holistic needs met within their own communities.

Priorities: The following priorities have been identified:

- Identify any gaps in the range of provision
- Improve multi-agency early intervention for children and young people with a range of needs
- Develop more local provision that can effectively meet the range of identified needs and demand

15. Thinking about Strategic Objective 2 and the priorities set out above, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements...?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
It is important that this is a strategic objective for the Local Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The stated priorities will enable the development of a range of local provision to meet the requirements of children and young people with SEND	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16. If you have any comments about Strategic Objective 2, including any comments on any of the specific priorities for this objective, please write them here.

Strategic Objective 3 - Good physical and mental health and wellbeing (See page 11 of the draft Local Area SEND Strategy).

We want healthy, happy children and young people who enjoy life. We will work in partnership with children and young people and their families to improve access to both the universal and specialised services they need.

Priorities: The following priorities have been identified:

- To empower children and young people with SEND and their families to share their lived experiences in order to better understand and support their health and wellbeing
- To provide meaningful, high-quality support that meets the holistic needs of the whole family
- To ensure that all children and young people with SEND can access seamless, joined-up services at the right time and in the right place.

17. Thinking about Strategic Objective 3 and the priorities set out above, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
It is important that this is a strategic objective for the Local Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The stated priorities will deliver good physical and mental health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. If you have any comments about Strategic Objective 3, including any comments on any of the specific priorities for this objective, please write them here.

Strategic Objective 4 - Improving post-16 education, learning, employment and training (See page 11 of the draft Local Area SEND Strategy).

All young people will have access to high quality provision in education, training, work experience, apprenticeships and study programmes that support them into meaningful, paid employment and provide them with skills for independent or supported living.

Priorities: The following priorities have been identified:

- Develop the range and choice of local post-16 SEND provision
- Develop a comprehensive range of aspirational pathways to sustainable, paid employment
- Improve the quality and accessibility of information about post-16 options for young people with SEND, and develop training and guidance for families, providers and employers
- Develop systems for collecting and monitoring outcomes data from post-16 education providers

19. Thinking about Strategic Objective 4 and the priorities set out above, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
It is important that this is a strategic objective for the Local Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The stated priorities will deliver improved post-16 education, learning, employment and training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. If you have any comments about Strategic Objective 4, including any comments on any of the specific priorities for this objective, please write them here.

Strategic Objective 5 - Positive move into adulthood for young people with SEND (See page 12 of the draft Local Area SEND Strategy).

All young people with SEND and their families should have a positive experience of moving into adulthood. We want young people with SEND to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to have choice and control over their adult lives.

Priorities: The following priorities have been identified:

- Information, advice and guidance available at key transition points so young people and families have the information they need to plan as early as possible
- Earlier identification of young people with SEND with timely assessments and support planning
- Improved partnership working with young people and families, Children's and Adults Social Care, health, schools and colleges focusing on young people's strengths and aspirations
- Improved social care experience for young people and families
- Better outcomes for young people with SEND in adulthood
- More young people with SEND living closer to home

21. Thinking about Strategic Objective 5 and the priorities set out above, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
It is important that this is a strategic objective for the Local Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The stated priorities will enable a positive move into adulthood for young people with SEND	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

22. If you have any comments about Strategic Objective 5, including any comments on any of the specific priorities for this objective, please write them here.

View of the five Strategic Objectives

23. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the five strategic objectives are clear and easy to understand?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

24. If you have any further comments about the draft Local Area SEND Strategy, please write them here.

Section 2: Oxfordshire County Council System Reform for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

This section of the survey is about Oxfordshire County Council's proposals for educational system reform for SEND, including the sufficiency of specialist educational placements, funding arrangements and access to focused Special Educational Needs (SEN) support.

In Oxfordshire, the organisations that work with children and young people with SEND have a shared ambition that our county will be a place where all children are healthy, happy and achieving their potential.

The current educational outcomes for children and young people with SEND in Oxfordshire need to get better. Changes to the system are required to improve the educational experience and outcomes for children and young people with SEND across our county, as well as to operate within the available budgets.

The changes focus on more high-quality SEND education available closer to home, reducing reliance on out-of-county provision, improved educational outcomes for children through a clear range of educational provision and better partnerships between the council and schools. We want to know what you think.

Before answering these questions, please read the consultation document which can be found [here](#).

Reform of Top-Up funding arrangements for children and young people with an EHC Plan

To seek views on:

The key principles set out below, which are proposed to apply to a review of the various existing Top-Up funding arrangements to lead to a single, equitable Top-Up scheme from September 2022

The proposal to introduce a clear and consistent system for the individual allocation of additional Top-Up funding for children and young people with an EHC Plan

The key principles are:

- Be child- or young person-led rather than placement-led across mainstream and specialist settings, through early years to further education
- Be simple and proportionate, giving objectivity and equity in decision making
- Ensure that any changes are phased in gradually so that schools can appropriately financially plan for and implement them
- Deliver value for money

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 8 and 9 and then answer the questions below.

26. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for reform of Top-Up funding arrangements for children and young people with an EHC Plan?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

27. Do you have any comments or suggestions on Reform of Top-Up funding arrangements for children and young people with an EHC Plan (including alternatives that you think are applicable)?

Resource Bases as a core part of the range of provision

To seek views on:

Expanding from nine Local Authority-run Resource Bases, to more Resource Bases located within local mainstream schools across the county, allowing more children to access specialist support within their local school.

The key objective of this proposal is to ensure a better/richer child experience that includes more integration into the host school community. The provision itself will not fundamentally change; the change is that it will be the school that manages it. The anticipation is that Resource Base staff will transfer across to the host school and a formal staff consultation would be conducted should this happen.

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 9 and 10 and then answer the questions below.

28. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for Resource Bases as a core part of the range of provision?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

29. Do you have any comments or suggestions on Resource Bases as a core part of the range of provision (including any alternatives that you think are applicable)?

Sufficiency of specialist day placements in Oxfordshire

To seek views on:

Reaffirming the principles of special school place planning in Oxfordshire set out in the [SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2018-2027](#), to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of finite resources for the benefit of all children with SEND.

The council is seeking to reaffirm the following principles:

- To ensure Oxfordshire has sufficient school places to meet the needs of all children with special educational needs and disabilities within the county
- To ensure that provision is developed in the right place, at the right time, with the additional places targeted to address population growth and the identified increase in demand
- To support all Oxfordshire's mainstream schools to ensure they provide inclusive education and adopt a 'local first' approach wherever possible

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 10 and 11 and then answer the questions below.

30. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for sufficiency of specialist day placements in Oxfordshire?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

31. Do you have any comments or suggestions on sufficiency of specialist day placements in Oxfordshire (including any alternatives that you think are applicable)?

Enhanced Pathways within mainstream schools

To seek views on:

The approach described in the proposal to providing enhanced provision for SEND within local mainstream schools.

Proposal

All mainstream schools have the option to use additional funding flexibly. This would not be a fixed model with the approach individual schools take tailored to the needs of the children who attend and the context of the school.

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 11 and 12 and then answer the questions below.

32. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for Enhanced Pathways within mainstream schools?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

33. Do you have any comments or suggestions on Enhanced Pathways within mainstream schools (including any alternatives that you think are applicable)?

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Reconfiguring Requests for Additional Funding for Schools

To seek views on:

Reconfiguring who makes the decision for requests for additional funding for children who do not have an EHC Plan.

Proposals

- School leaders will develop local systems to fairly administer additional funding without an EHC Plan
- Replace the current, council-administered arrangements, with a locality-based, discretionary fund that groups of schools allocate, against agreed criteria based on need
- This will encourage professional challenge within localities about each school's local offer, with schools planning, allocating funds and sharing good practice enabling pupil inclusion without the requirement of an EHC Plan
- The arrangements for early years additional funding are unchanged

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 12 and 13 and then answer the questions below.

34. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for reconfiguring Requests for Additional Funding for schools?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

35. Do you have any comments or suggestions on reconfiguring Requests for Additional Funding for schools (including any alternatives that you think are applicable)?

Coordinated approach to supporting children with SEND at the earliest opportunity

To seek views on:

Establishing a coordinated approach (as described in 'proposals' below) to equip schools and families to identify need for SEND support at the earliest opportunity.

Proposals

The new coordinated approach comprises:

- Resources available online that are up-to-date and easily accessible, to ensure that families, young people and staff can access information to advocate for themselves. This will include review of the [Local Offer](#)
- Education settings will have a shared understanding and an agreement about what should be available to support all students

- Training will be mapped across the county and gaps will be addressed via a training fund.
- SEND Information, Advice and Support Services (SENDIASS) will receive additional funding to advise parents regarding early support and intervention
- Support and challenge for schools on inclusive practice
- A digital decision-making tool that supports school professionals to establish the most appropriate onward referral, should this be needed
- The proposed approach is designed to draw together and coordinate existing good practice while filling any identified gaps

Please read the full proposals and context on pages 13 and 14 and then answer the questions below.

36. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the proposals for coordinated approach to supporting children with SEND at the earliest opportunity?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

37. Do you have any comments or suggestions on coordinated approach to supporting children with SEND at the earliest opportunity (including any alternatives that you think are applicable)?

About You

We would like to know more about you so that we can understand more about our customers and residents, as it helps us to know if we are hearing the views of a wide range of people and communities. If you do not wish to provide any of this information, please select prefer not to say.

All information given is anonymous and is governed by the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

38. How did you find out about this consultation? (Choose all that apply).

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- NextDoor
- Oxfordshire.gov.uk website
- Email from Oxfordshire County Council
- Local news item (newspaper, online, radio, tv)
- Oxfordshire County Councillor / District Councillor
- Parish or town Councillor
- Local community news item
- Poster / information in local library
- Local community group / organisation
- Friend / relative
- Communication from local health service

Other (please specify):

39. What is your age? (Choose any one option)

- Under 16
- 16 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 – 74
- 75 - 84
- 85 or over
- Prefer not to say

40. What is your gender? (Choose any one option)

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say
- I use another term (please state here)

41. What is your ethnic group or background? (Choose any one option)

- Asian or Asian British (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or any other Asian background)
- Black or Black British (Caribbean, African, or any other Black background)
- Chinese
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups (White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, White and Asian, and any other mixed background)
- White (British, Irish, or any other White background)
- Prefer not to say
- Other ethnic group or background (please specify):

42. Data protection and privacy

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, we (Oxfordshire County Council) have a legal duty to protect any personal information we collect from you. Oxfordshire County Council is committed to open government and this may include quoting extracts from your consultation response in our report.

We will not however, disclose the names of people who have responded unless they have provided consent. For this purpose, we ask that you are careful not to disclose personal information in your comments – for example the names of service users or children. If you do not want all or part of your response to be made public, or shared with councillors, please state below which parts you wish us to keep confidential.

View Oxfordshire County Council's privacy notice online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/privacy-notice

Please use this space to tell us if there is any specific part of your response you wish to keep confidential:

Stay In Touch

We invite you to sign up to get regular email updates on news, events, and developments from across the county. This information will be kept separate to your answers to this survey.

43. Would you like to sign-up?

- Yes
 No

44. If you have chosen 'Yes' for at Q43', please provide your email address below, so we can contact you and send a link to our sign-up page where you can tailor which communications you receive: