

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) in Sutton Self Evaluation 2025/26



The Sutton Context



South West
London
Integrated
Care System



Context of the Local Area

Introduction

Our Self Evaluation of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) in Sutton provides an overview of the work that is being delivered across the Local Area including key areas of strength and areas of development. It has been written and agreed by partners from across the Local Area.

It is broken down into two main themes:

- How the local area SEND partnership arrangements impact on the experiences and outcomes of children and young people; and
- How the local area SEND partnership works together to plan, evaluate, understand and develop the SEND system, SEND services and alternative provision in Sutton.

The self evaluation informs our [SEND and AP inclusion Plan 2024 - 2027](#) which is overseen by the multi-agency Sutton SEND/AP Partnership.

The self evaluation was originally co-produced through a series of workshops, discussions and submissions from the relevant SEND/AP stakeholders across the Local Area Partnership (LAP) in 2023/24 with annual updates which are shared through the Sutton SEND Partnership and People Committee.

Local Context

The London Borough of Sutton is a community where people thrive. We've built strong relationships across public and community sectors and are proud of our stable, committed workforce who are ambitious for our children.

An LGA Corporate Peer Challenge praised Sutton as a "well-performing council" with a "good record of delivery", and "engaged workforce", and a healthy organisational culture. The report highlighted our strong relationships between staff and leadership as a critical factor for success.

Read more here:

- [Position Statement](#)
- [Feedback report](#)

Our commitment to residents is what drives us, and we are proud to have recently received a 'good' rating across the board for our Children's Services in our latest ILAC inspection.

We know ourselves well and are defined by our friendly, open culture.

Context of the Local Area



214,525 residents, 62,120 children and young people 0-24 - our under 15 population has significantly increased in the last 10 years (16%)



80 different languages, 28.2% residents from Asian/Black/Mixed ethnic backgrounds



2,673 children and young people with an education health and care plan (EHCP)



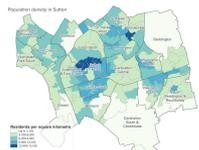
608 children open to short breaks at Tier 2 and a further 71 children are accessing short breaks at Tier 3 or 4.*



17.8% of primary school aged pupils are eligible for Free School Meals, whilst 18.4% of secondary school aged pupils are eligible for Free School Meals



29% of children with education health and care plans receive travel assistance in Sutton



77% of resident children with an EHCP SEND attend a setting in the Borough



333 children and young people are electively home educated (6% EHCP or SEN support)

Context of the Local Area



56 mainstream schools, 4 special schools, 2 AP providers, 2 x FE colleges, 316 early years settings, 1 Adult College



98% of schools in Sutton Good or Outstanding (new inspection framework pending)



40% of children with an EHCP attend mainstream provision



1,300 Specialist / AP school places in the Borough - 40% increase since 2015



7 Children's Centres, 4 Family Hubs across the Local Area



Over 90 parks
8 Libraries



1 x acute hospital 1 x specialist Cancer Hospital, 1 x Integrated Community Provider



21 GP practices working in 4 Primary Care Networks

Local Area SEND Partnership

Our [Vision Statement and Charter](#) reflects our commitment to children and young people with SEND and their families and states:

“We are **collectively ambitious** for our children and young people. Together we want to provide them with the best chances **to achieve their best outcomes in life**, whatever their starting point, and to **prepare them effectively for adulthood.**”

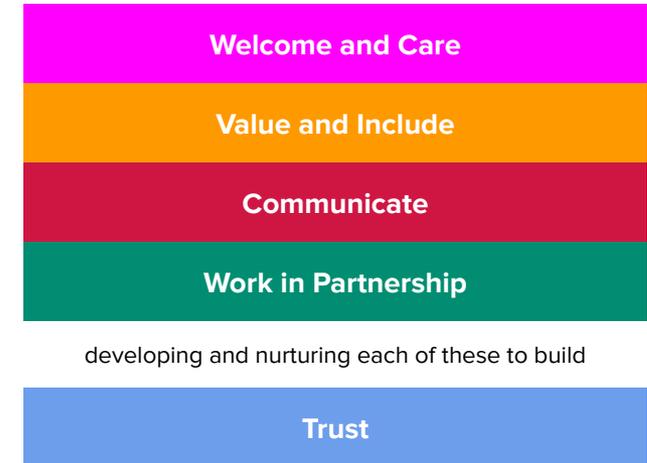
Sutton Council commission [Cognus](#) Limited to provide [28 statutory and non statutory education services in Sutton](#) including the SEND service, Therapies team and Educational Psychology. Cognus Limited is a ‘Local Authority Trading Company’ that was established in 2016. The company trades services and reinvests surpluses back into education services in the borough. It is governed by an independent board with a diverse skillset including headteacher reps.

Our (2020-2023) [Ambitious for SEND](#) priorities were updated in 2024 with a new [SEND and AP Strategy 2024/27](#) approved by the People Committee and Sutton Place Partnership Board in September 2024.

SEND has played a key role in the Start Well/Live Well programmes of the [Sutton Health and Care Plan 2022-2024](#). The Health and Wellbeing Board have commissioned a refresh of the Plan (2025-2028) to include SEND as a dedicated chapter with three overarching priorities - (i) local offer - improving awareness, and the experience, of accessing support (ii) children’s therapies - supporting timely and easier access to the right services and (iii) neurodevelopmental pathway pilot - moving towards a needs led rather than a diagnostic led model.

The Sutton Place Partnership Board, (via the Transformation and Delivery Group) and the People Committee have oversight of arrangements and outcomes for children and young people with SEND and holds the Sutton SEND Partnership to account for the local area SEND Strategy (refresh currently in development).

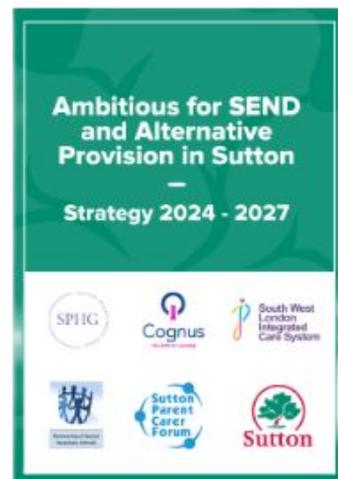
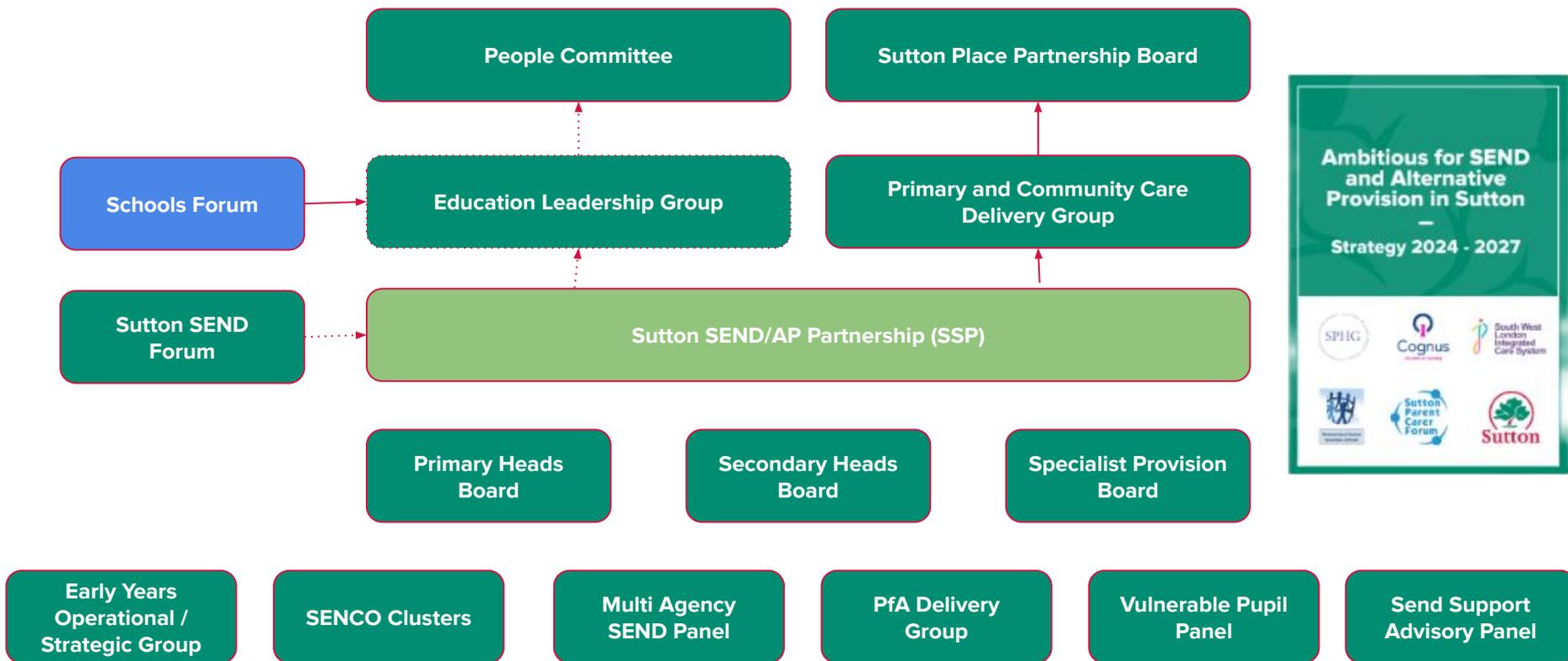
Our SEND Charter Principles are that we



Local Area SEND Governance

The local area multi-agency governance for SEND is summarised in this [Governance Map](#)

Sutton SEND/AP Governance



Our financial context



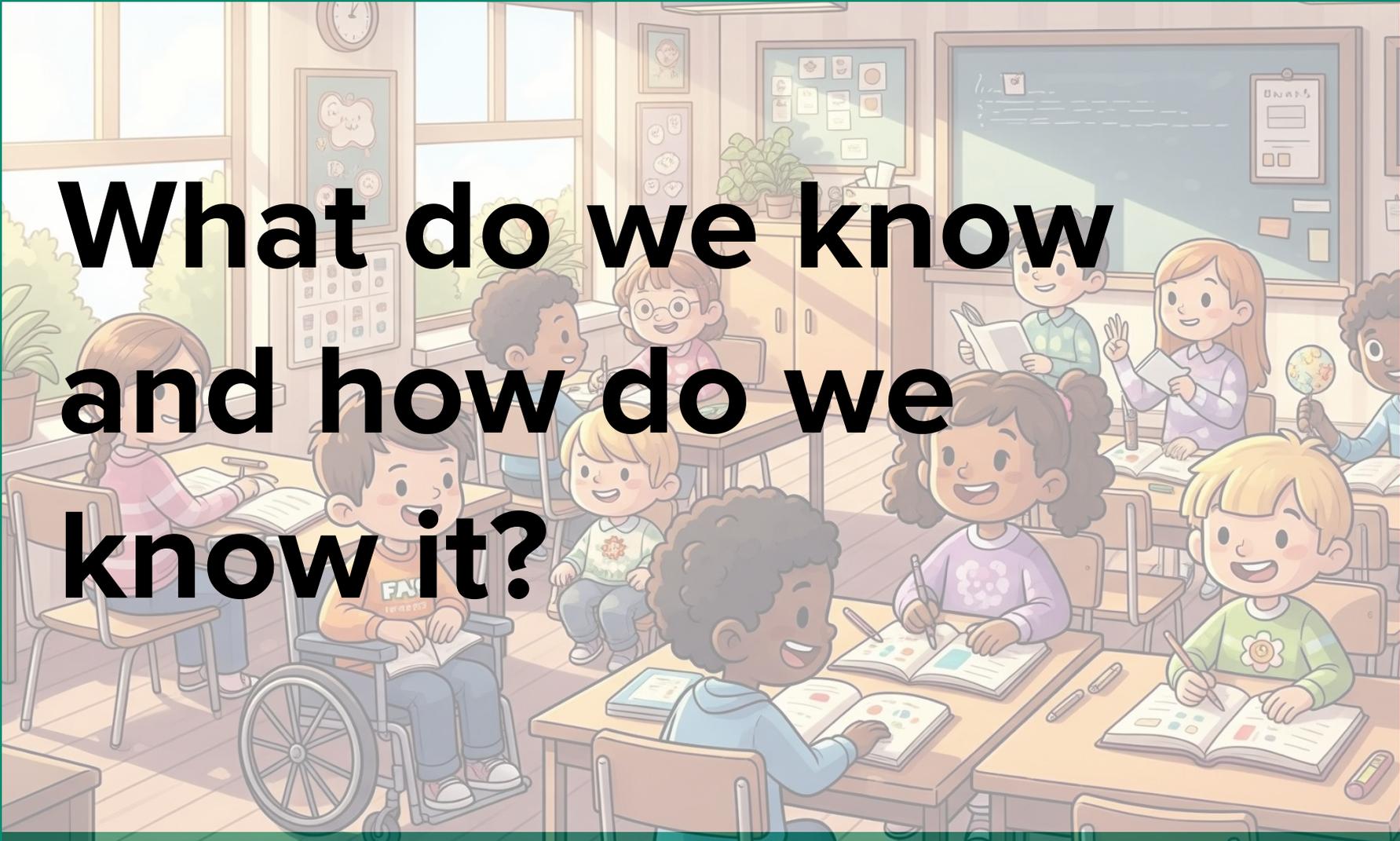
Overview

- Sutton's high needs system is currently financially unsustainable (in line with the national position)
- Sutton's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) went into deficit at the end of 2022/23 - almost entirely due to pressures on the High Needs Block.
- The rate of increase in EHCPs maintained has been driving overspends - Sutton maintained 2000 EHCPs in March 2022 - this has increased to 2673 - a 34% increase

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 (forecast)
In year position	-£2.9m	-£9.2m	-£11.9m
Cumulative position	-£1.4m	-£10.6m	-£22.5m

DSG Management Plan

- Sutton has not benefited from Safety Valve or Delivering Best Value funding support from Government and will require exceptional financial support in March 2028 if the statutory override is removed
- A DSG management plan was approved by Schools Forum in February 2025 which is being supported by two seconded headteachers from local schools (primary and secondary)



What do we know and how do we know it?



Local Area SEND Data dashboard Headlines

Password 'Dashboard'

- Initial requests for assessment in Sutton per 10,000 population are higher (96) than the London average (80)
- Needs are identified and often assessed in a timely way - but there are pressures on therapy assessments for over 5s due to increases in the volume of EHCNAs being requested
- Advice from Educational Psychologists, therapists, social care and health teams is generally timely with the majority provided within 6 weeks
- Following agreement to issue, Sutton has consistently issued EHCPs in a timely way operating above national and London averages for (at least) the last 6 years
- CYP with SEND achieve good outcomes (above national averages for EY, KS1 and KS2 and KS4, and post 16 AP learners in Sutton also achieve good outcomes
- Sutton has a lower % of CYP with SEND NEET at 16 and 17 and higher % of 19+ achieving Level 2 and 3 qualifications against national average
- Overall absence rates for SEND children in Sutton have been improving in recent years and are below national average rates but slightly above average London rates
- Rates of exclusions and suspensions for pupils with EHCPs in Sutton are lower than national averages - this has been an area of focus in recent years.
- Tribunals have reduced in successive years with the exception of 2024. Sutton now in line with national averages in terms of appealable decisions appealed; most appeals relate to requests to assess and contents
- The total number of young people with an EHCP accessing EHE or EOTAS provision has remained relatively stable
- The total number of young people supported with travel assistance has reduced in recent years following a review of the Council's Home to School Travel Assistance Policy and a focus on Preparation for Adulthood.

The impact of our arrangements for children and young people with SEND



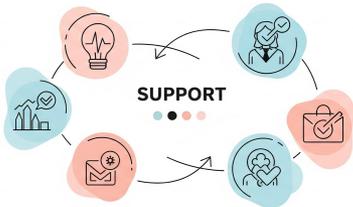
There are strong multi agency partnerships in the local area, including our local area SENCO clusters, Primary and Secondary Heads Boards, Education Leadership Group, Vulnerable Pupils Panel, SEND Support Advisory Partnership, Designated Safeguarding Lead Network, multi agency SEND panel, Mental Health Support Teams Mobilisation Group, Children's Delivery Board and our Sutton SEND Partnership Board.



Educational outcomes in the local area are good for SEND/CLA and learners in AP, our schools and settings are almost all Ofsted rated good or outstanding under the old framework across mainstream and specialist provision and many have been highly praised for the support they provide to young people with SEND. Recent visits by our DCS and Lead Member / SEND Champion have yielded positive feedback from schools about SEND services in the Borough despite the systemic challenges faced by all, however this feedback is more mixed amongst secondary schools than primary.



Children and young people's needs are identified accurately and are assessed in a timely way (for example - through our [EY Operational Group](#) Academic Year to date we have supported 487 children with additional targeted SEND support funding); we have effective practice in early years and in school settings to identify and meet needs. Children that are new to the area and have a high level of need receive an EP assessment within 3 weeks.



We have effective programmes of support for young people with SEND and their families to receive the right support at the right time including our [Paving the Way](#) team where 96% of pupils make good progress as a result of the interventions in place. In addition our [A-plan pathway](#), [Therapeutic Hub](#) and our [Parenting Hub](#) provides strong support to parents of children with autism and additional needs. Outcomes from these services are strong albeit they are in high demand. We have introduced a new [SEND support advisory](#) Partnership to support young people that may benefit from earlier support or those CYP where the LA has not agreed to assess.



Leaders regularly track the **timeliness of advice** as part of the EHCP process and take action where timeliness has dropped. **The quality of Education Health and Care Plans is generally good** - we know this because of the rigorous quality assurance process that is in place within the SEND Service prior to issuing plans but also through the multi-agency QA audits we have undertaken in the local area

The impact of our arrangements for children and young people with SEND

We have a highly valued Portage service run by [Playwise CIC](#) that provides outstanding support to families with children 0-8 with complex needs. 98% parents have seen positive changes in their child having worked with Playwise - [read latest impact report here](#). Playwise have also coproduced with local area partners [PlayWise Support Passport - PlayWise Learning CIC](#) which is a good example of cross service working with impact.



PLAYWISE



We have a child-centred, holistic therapies offer in the local area with the vast majority of pupils receiving high quality therapy support in a timely way and with good outcomes (in 24/25 - 96% partially achieve, achieve or exceed their targets). Further work is underway to embed therapy practice through a network of SEND Champions in schools.

[Sutton Independent Advice Support Service](#) (SIASS) have recently implemented a [new service model](#) which has improved response times, alongside a refreshed website with a focus on building links directly with CYP, ensuring the service remains highly valued by parents. Where mediation takes place in the local area it is generally effective with good outcomes.



Since 2015, we have significantly increased the capacity of local specialist provision in the area and have a new ASD special school planned for September 2027, a new primary SEND base introduced in 2024. This has helped to manage reliance on high cost non maintained / independent provision though as state funded provision becomes saturated this remains a key financial risk in the local area.



We have invested over £6m over the last three years in supporting schools to create more inclusive learning environments (mainly in the mainstream sector) in order to support inclusive practices (i.e break out spaces, multi sensory spaces, outdoor inclusion classrooms, nurture provision); [Outcomes from the programme have been positive.](#)



We have improved our approach to Preparation for Adulthood introducing a number of supported internship and work experience programmes as well as a commissioned [Independent Travel Training](#) (ITT) programme; all promoted through an [annual multi-agency Preparation for Adulthood event](#) for young people with SEND. We have improved our approach to transition from CSC to ASC which is helping to prevent 'cliff edge' at 18 - recently recognised in ILAC inspection (June 2025).



The impact of our arrangements for children and young people with SEND



Waiting times for paediatric assessment, neurodevelopmental assessment (e.g autism and ADHD) and **CAMHS referrals** remain a key challenge in the local area which is recognised by local area leaders (albeit wait times in Sutton remain generally lower than the South West London average); advice, guidance and support for families is offered while they wait. A neurodevelopmental needs led “one stop shop” launched in October 2025, and this will support those waiting and we provide support for families during this time [Paving the Way workshop on ‘Managing anxiety through play’ 2025 – Cognus](#) and via [Infinity Support](#) integrated support platform,



Our previous Parent Carers Forum worked hard to ensure young people feel valued, visible and included in their communities - examples of their work include the well received [inclusive exclusive play spaces](#) for SEND families, SEND friendly play spaces in our parks, promotion of our Sunflower Lanyard scheme and Preparation for Adulthood events at the Sutton Life Centre. Our **new SEND forum** is in its infancy but was starting to work effectively with local leaders (recommissioning of short breaks, drop in sessions across schools in the Borough) and attending the SEND Strategic Partnership. Work remains ongoing with Contact to strengthen our parent carer arrangements in the local area.



Transitions remain a key challenge in the local area with noticeable increases in placement breakdowns and EHCNA requests in the Early Years and in Year 7 (for varying reasons). We have focussed this year on work with secondary schools to design a more collaborative process introducing a new Secondary Transition Panel to agree a fair approach to hard to place SEND placements.



We do not yet have sufficient high quality **wrap around provision that children and families with SEND can access** - we have made some progress on this but for many families this remains a gap in the local area.

We have worked to upskill our education workforce to ensure an holistic focus on support for those young people who are neurodiverse: [The Autism Leads in Schools training 2025 is in full swing! – Cognus](#) [Cognus Autism Support: Enhancing Autism Understanding Across Sutton – Cognus](#) and via [Infinity Support](#) training and events offer.

The impact of our arrangements for children and young people with SEND



Changes in Children and Young People with Disabilities Service (CYPDS) - **Numerous projects developed in response to 36% increase in demand for short breaks.** Parent / Carers and children and young people's views were sought as part of the re-commissioning of short break services. New [Early Years Support Pathway](#) booklet developed.



Improvements in the Transitions into Adulthood Process - All young people who are in receipt of a service as a child are transferred to the Transition Team, so each young person has the same experience.



DCO & DSCO - Investment in a DCO (Dedicated Clinical Officer) and a Dedicated Social Care Officer (DSCO) has improved partnership working for children with special educational needs and systems relating to Continuing Care. Multi agency engagement with SWL ICB colleagues has ensured better reviews of children with complex needs and funding is shared. The DSCO has implemented, following a pilot, for social care staff to attend annual reviews of EHCP's for any child who is open to short breaks & CYPDS.

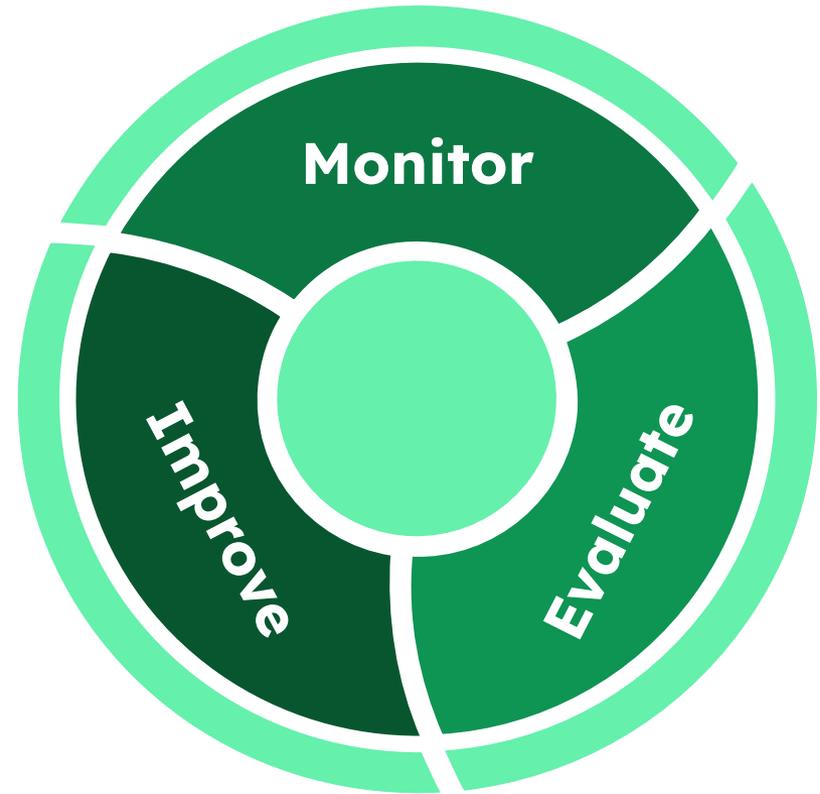


Bite Size Training - The DSCO also organises Bitesize training sessions working with partners on a range of themes to deliver the SEND support message, this includes themes such as continuing care, preparation for adulthood, ordinarily available provision, assisted travel, S117, short breaks, EHCNA social care advice, EHCP's.

SEND Quality Assurance Framework

The Local Area has a SEND Quality Assurance Framework comprising:

- Operational Quality Assurance process - Cognus operate an established QA protocol to ensure the quality of EHCPs prior to issue.
- Multi-Agency Audits: These audits involve representatives from Cognus, Health, Children's Social Care, and Schools, and they examine selected cases, focusing on areas agreed by the group and based on EHCPs already issued.
- Single-Agency Audits: single agency audits allow for a more focused examination of each agency's practices - these take place on a case by case basis and are often commissioned by the SSP.
- Practice Learning Fortnight: This dedicated period fosters ongoing professional development and knowledge sharing.
- Tracking Audits: Tracking selected cases in an inspection-style setting.



[Local Area SEND Quality Assurance Framework](#)

Working with children and young people and families



CYP are valued, visible and included in their communities

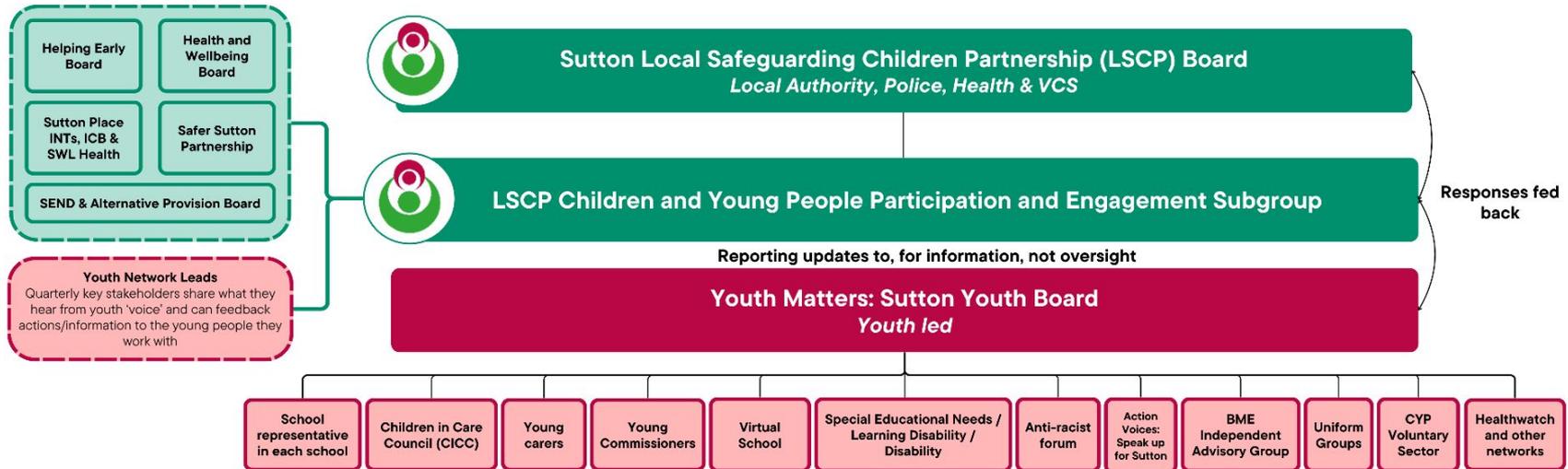
- Opportunities for inclusion through music - [Inclusive Music Making – Cognus](#) / [Autistic youth choir](#) - / [Open Orchestras - Accessible Youth Orchestras](#)’ [Sutton Supernova Singers – Cognus](#)
- A young person with SEND have co-presented at LBS People Committee (see 25th September 2025) and have been key in the development of our new [PFA Hub at the Sutton Life Centre](#)([Veira even did a rap to mark the occasion!](#))
- [Orchard Hill College hold awards](#) evenings and celebration assemblies to celebrate achievements of YP and Nickel Support Annual Awards Ceremony - these are supported by senior leaders in the local area
- Local area leaders continue to support and promote the [sunflower lanyard scheme](#)
- [inclusive exclusive play spaces](#) for SEND families, and SEND friendly play spaces in our parks,
- The libraries and heritage houses provide [regular SEN friendly and inclusive events](#) that can be accessed and enjoyed by all children and young people.
- Young People with additional needs supporting with local area initiatives - [Cognus Attendance Video](#)
- Paving the Way Warriors Group: [Paving the Way Warriors Group – Cognus](#)
- Our Local Offer Coordinator has engaged regularly with SEND young people in Sutton, through school visits and attending local SEND activities. Young people have supported the development of Local Offer content - [annual report here](#).
- Developing local area routes into employment - [Nickel Support Cafe staffed by young people with SEND](#), Sherwood Park training members of the cafe opposite the Hill site in PODD (the communication system used at the school), inclusive cafe planned at Robin Hood lane
- [Video created by Re-yon](#), a young person, at the 2024 Preparation for Adulthood event
- [Photo of Billy and Ben winning a Community Award for their 2023 video](#) of the Preparation for Adulthood event
- P16 Therapies support linked to PFA: [Post 16 Therapies Team continues to champion Preparation for... – Cognus](#)

Our Youth Engagement Framework

We have developed a three year [Children and young people's Voice and Influence Framework](#). Children and young people with SEND are an integral part of the framework.

The diagram below shows how all of the youth groups feed into the youth board, including Action Voices which is our local advocacy group for young people with SEND.

Local area leaders have worked with school councils from all Sutton's secondary schools to talk to young people about their priorities including young people with additional needs - most [recent agenda here](#).



Examples of how we actively engage with and work with children, young people and families

Care leavers interviewing for senior positions (DCS, AD)

Limes Family Support Group

Participation: Young Commissioners Youth Board

Participation: consultations Advocacy For All. Sutton consult with YP aged 12-25, running interactive workshops sending out easy read questionnaires and writing easy read, e.g. PFA, Short Breaks, LD start, travel training.

Young People involved in foster care recruitment

Parenting Programmes in the Borough including for families with Autistic CYP

Your Voice Matters Report 2024

Annual CYP PFA EVENTS

Playwise family events

Local offer You Said, we Did

Sutton YOUTH SUMMIT

Sutton Healthwatch - CYP mental health surveys

LD Strategy Conference

PEP YP voice "All about me" reviews
EP voice of the child in strat reports

School Awards Evenings

We contribute YPs views to the adult LD strategy delivery groups, so their voices are heard (age 18-25)

Customer Care and Complaints

CYP Attendance video

Sutton SEND Forum - Face to face and online engagement events (e.g. coffee mornings)

CYP helped contribute to design of local offer web pages

Cognus Family voice

Cognus SEND Coffee Mornings

Local offer Coordinator visits to Special Schools

Barnado's Your Voice Matters engagement work

Participation: Action voices group (AFA) core group - teaching self advocacy skills, helping YP make friends, feel valued and speak up about services (Speak Up Sutton)

CYP / engagement and involvement in awarding Short Breaks Contracts

SYC / Police Youth Newsletter

Parents Newsletters: CYPDS Family Focus Newsletter

Children and young people are valued, visible and included in their communities

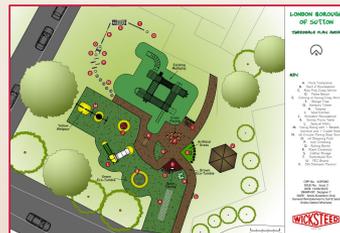
Our annual PfA events at the Life Centre (200 plus CYP in attendance)



Investing in inclusive playgrounds in the Borough (latest Fairlands Park improvements April 2024 completion)



Developing 'inclusive exclusive' play spaces for SEND CYP at Tweedale and the Grange - Easter completion



Our specialist providers organise regular awards evening to celebrate the achievements of our learners



Children and young people are valued, visible and included in their communities



A new Nickel Cafe will be opening at the Life Centre in November 2025. This will recruit young people to work in the cafe and attain qualifications to transition into hospitality work.

We are opening the PFA Hub in November 2025 and have undertaken various pieces of engagement work to understand what young people would want the hub to look like. This has directly fed into the colour scheme and zones within the space that we will be creating.

[SEND First Class: How groundbreaking partnership are rethinking SEND Support](#)

Action Voices has met with young people from Orchard Hill College to talk about what activities they would like to see at the Hub, and we are following up with the relevant organisations.

During the Preparation for Adulthood event in November 2024, the Children and Young People's Disability Service gathered feedback from around 100 young people about what they want in their new hub. Using a "PFA Wall," participants chose from a range of visuals and wrote their own ideas, with strong themes emerging. The top priorities included access to computers, a place to meet friends, and having music available. Young people also expressed a desire for a fun and comfortable environment with separate zones, as well as various leisure activities, opportunities to gain independence skills like cooking, and help with employment.

Our next PFA event will be on 12th November 2025

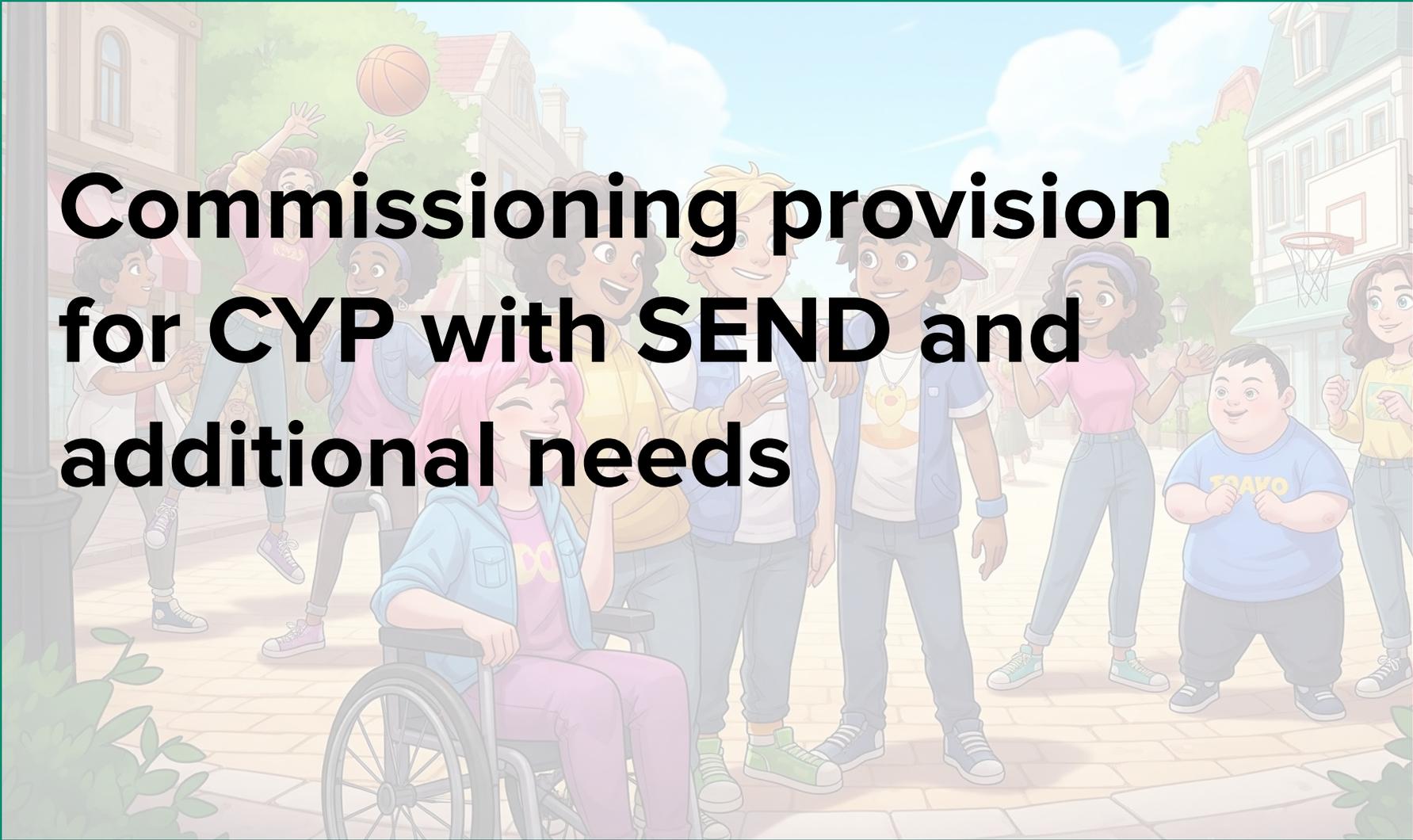


Developing a new Parent Carer Forum for Sutton

- A new Parent Carer Forum and steering group has been established in the local area supported by Contact.
- Representatives from the Steering Group are members of the Sutton SEND partnership and feedback the views of families that they work with.
- Areas of work that the Sutton SEND Forum have been involved in over the last 6 months include:
 - EHCP feedback for continuous improvement
 - Supported every child every setting work
 - Supporting Short Breaks Holiday provisions for complex children
 - Learning disabilities conference
 - Working with local area partners on Restraint policy in schools.
- Being a member of a Parent Carer Forum is demanding on parents of children with SEND who are volunteers. Work is ongoing in the local area to strengthen parent carer arrangements in the local area in partnership with the VCS sector.

Sutton SEND Forum
EMPOWERING PARENTS VOICES





Commissioning provision for CYP with SEND and additional needs



Commission services and provision to meet needs and aspirations of children and YP - Specialist and AP provision in the Borough

Since 2015 we have **increased the number of specialist school places in the Sutton by 30%, including:**

- The creation of a new special school on the Sherwood Park Hill site (2016)
- Creation and expansion of the Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) opportunity base at Avenue Primary School (2018).
- Expansion of Link Academy School (2021 onwards)
- Created the first Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) specific provision in the country at Link Academy (2022)
- Expanded Limes College AP from 140 to 180 places - strengthening outreach support to mainstream schools (2023)
- Expansion and then relocation of Carew Academy to purpose built new school (2025)
- Expansion of Sherwood Park School to a new site at Carew Manor, creating 25 places in 2025 and 24 in 2026.
- [Plans have been approved](#) for a new ASC special free school is planned for the Rosehill site (2025)
- Creation of a [new primary specialist Base](#) campus of Avenue Primary School at Wallington Primary Academy in partnership with Cirrus Trust
- Creation of a new ASD base a Overton Grange school (2025)
- Opening of a new vocational offer in Sutton to be run Limes for CYP at risk of exclusion (vocational pathway) - Sep 2025.
- We have also invested over £12m in specialist provision capital fund into mainstream schools to create inclusive spaces



Commission services and provision to meet needs and aspirations of children and YP - Alternative Provision



Limes and STARS are our main commissioned AP providers:

1. Limes College (Ofsted Good, 2024) is the commissioned to support pupils that are excluded or at risk of exclusion, Sutton Tuition and Reintegration Service (STARS) (Ofsted Outstanding 2024) provides education to pupils who are unable to attend school due to their health
2. Both providers are funded 'up front' based on a total commissioned number - Outreach is part of this commissioning arrangement
3. Commissioners oversee KPIs which are reviewed at regular termly AP commissioning meetings with both providers
4. Limes College makes use of two registered alternative providers, Just'Learn and Road 2 Success and we use Limes expertise to monitor, assess, and quality assure AP provision on behalf of LBS in the local area
5. We have addressed the issue of waiting lists in Limes by increasing the commissioned number of places, and are currently [recommissioning the provision at STARS](#)

Our plans - SEND and AP Strategy 2024-2027

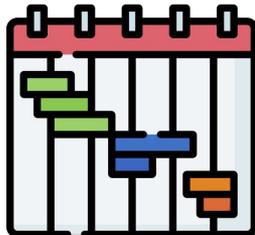
[SEND and AP Strategy 2024/27](#)



SEND and AP Strategy 24-27 - Year 1 summary

This [People Committee Report Annex A](#) document provides an update on our progress against our SEND and AP Strategy. Some key highlights are:

- **Priority 1: Earlier identification and more timely support.** We are strengthening support for children with SEND from an early age. Community nursery nurses are now assigned to pre-schools to aid in early identification. Specific funding is in place to help 487 children make a smooth transition from Early Years settings to primary school, a process further supported by the successful pilot of the PlayWise Support Passport. We're also proud to report that health advice in our EHCNA's consistently meets the six-week statutory deadline. Finally, our 'talk matters programme' has been highly effective, helping 96% of participating primary school pupils to improve their communication skills and narrow the gap with their peers.
- **Priority 2: Embed joined up and relational practice.** To better support families, we now have a directory of support live on the Local Offer website, making it easier to find SEND information. At Limes College, a new multidisciplinary taskforce has led to improved attendance and fewer behavioral incidents and suspensions. Our 'building stronger foundations' program, which provides trauma-informed training, has expanded to 34 schools. A new Post 16 SEND college and Preparation for Adulthood (PfA) hub is on track to launch in a limited capacity in October 2025. Finally, we've improved the transition to adult social care, with 90% of 16-17 year olds now having a jointly allocated worker, and supported internship placements have tripled since 2022.
- **Priority 3: Strengthen access to education for vulnerable pupils.** To better support vulnerable students, we've established new vocational programs at Limes College and NESCOL. We've also added more specialist school places at Carew Manor and Oakfield Base, with new SEND resource bases confirmed in mainstream schools. A new operating model at the STARS medical PRU is showing positive results, with nine pupils successfully reintegrating into their original schools. The roll-out of the StudyBugs platform is significantly reducing exclusions and suspensions, while the expansion of wraparound provision means it's available in nearly all mainstream schools.
- **Priority 4: Grow the voice and influence of children and young people.** A new, independent Sutton SEND Forum (SSF) has been established, actively participating in re-commissioning short breaks. A 'Voice and Influence framework' has been agreed, with a Youth Board developing the 'Youth Matters' logo, ensuring inclusion of children and young people with SEND through groups like Action Voices/Speak Up Sutton.
- **Priority 5: A more financially sustainable system.** A deficit recovery plan for the High Needs Block was endorsed, focusing on reducing the rate of overspend. "Every Child Every School" guidance for Ordinarily Available Provision has been drafted. A new SEND Support Advisory Partnership is rolling out to strengthen support at the SEND Support level. Specialist commissioning efforts include creating additional in-borough places at Carew Manor, Oakfield, and new secondary bases to reduce reliance on external Non-Maintained and Independent (NMI) provision. An NMI Officer has been appointed to scrutinise placements and costs.



SEND and AP Strategy 24-27 - Year 2 and Year 3 plans

Leaders continue to be ambitious for young people with SEND in the Borough

- Embedding and developing the [PfA hub at Life Centre](#)
- Ambitious plans for a [SEND family hub](#) as part of family first reforms
- Deliver New [Angel Hill Free School](#)
- Embedding new '[Needs-led model](#)' to be piloted in Sutton
- [LD Residential / Supported Accommodation Project](#)
- Therapies - joint working with health
- Difference Matters Project in Secondary settings
- Embed and develop [Infinity Support Hub](#)
- SEND Champions schools network
- Developing our plans in response to the Schools white paper and SEND Reform / NHS reform
- Develop proposals for a Cognus Education Centre for SEND children supported by tuition
- Improved use of SEND data at school level to improve accountability in the system and joint working practices
- [DSG Management Plan / SEND transformation work](#) to create a more financially sustainable system