

## What we're doing to increase and improve education provision for children and young people with SEND

These are the ten areas we're working on to ensure that children and young people with SEND have access to provision in early years, schools and further education.

<b>Enhanced Early Years</b>  <i>Making sure there are enough places in nurseries, preschools and childminders that can support children with complex needs.</i>	<b>Primary SEN Units</b>  <i>Creating SEN Units in mainstream primary schools to support children with communication and interaction needs.</i>	<b>Mainstream Autism Bases (MABs) and Enhanced MABs (EMABs)</b>  <i>Increasing the amount of suitable support in schools for autistic children.</i>	<b>SEMH Special School provision and Secondary SEND units</b>  <i>Creating SEND units in schools to support young people with Social, Emotional &amp; Mental Health (SEMH) needs.</i>	<b>Special Schools and Alternative Provision (AP)</b>  <i>Making sure there are enough special school places and different types of alternative provision to suit different needs.</i>
<p><b>What we've done:</b> Dingley's Promise opened an Enhanced Early Years setting in Droitwich that offers up to 15 nursery places for children with complex needs. (Feb. 2025)</p> <p>Dingley's Promise Worcester City provision opened, also offering up to 15 nursery places. (June 2025)</p> <p><b>What we're doing:</b> We are seeking tenders from existing and potential Early Years providers in other parts of the county, to deliver Enhanced Early Years provision (Jan 2026)</p> <p>Enhanced Early Years provision in place across the county (Sep 2026)</p>	<p><b>What we've done:</b> Honeywell Primary School (Worcester) SEN Unit is providing an additional 10 places (20 places in total) and extending its age range to Reception/KS1 and KS2 for pupils with Communication and Interaction needs. (Sep 2025)</p> <p>Matchborough First School (Redditch) established a 10 place SEN Unit for pupils with Communication and Interaction needs. (Oct 2025)</p> <p>St John's CofE Primary School (Kidderminster) will open a 10 place SEN Unit for Reception/KS1 pupils with Communication and Interaction needs. (March 2026)</p> <p><b>What we're doing:</b> Looking at options for supporting children with complex needs by creating additional SEN Units in all districts of the county (to open 2026/27)</p>	<p><b>What we've done:</b> Abbey Park Middle School MAB (Persore) expanded to become a Primary school MAB, with an increase in the number of places from 8 to 18. (Sep. 2025)</p> <p><b>What we're doing:</b> Projects agreed to create additional MAB places for 2026/27 at: - Beaconside Primary (Rubery) – increase from 8 to 12 places. Meadows First/Parkside Middle (Bromsgrove) – increase from 10 to 24 places. Dyson Perrins CofE Academy (Malvern) - increase from 10 to 16 places. Looking at options to increase the number of places at other MABs.</p>	<p><b>What we've done:</b> Unity Academy in Kidderminster is offering 30 places for primary-aged children with SEMH needs (Sep. 2024)</p> <p><b>What we're doing:</b> Finding out which Secondary age schools could deliver or host SEMH SEN Unit provision. 2026/27</p> <p>Looking at options to increase and improve access to SEMH Special School places in the South of the county. 2026/27</p>	<p><b>What we've done:</b> A total of 178 additional places were made available across eight special schools in Sept. 2024.</p> <p>Statutory consultation has been undertaken to increase pupil numbers at Regency High School and Wyre Forest School for 2025/26 academic year.</p> <p><b>What we're doing:</b> Looking at options to expand existing Special School places across the county. 2026/27</p> <p>Regency High School seeking to make a significant change to extend its age range to offer Primary Special School places. 2026/27</p> <p>Identifying options for Special Schools to run satellite sites, thereby creating additional places. 2026/27</p>

<b>Enterprise Academy – new Autism (ASD) Special Free School</b>  <i>Opening a new special school to support pupils who have an EHCP with Autism as their primary need.</i>	<b>Early Years and School Age Language Classes</b>  <i>Allowing more pupils to access Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) support in mainstream schools and settings.</i>	<b>Post-16 and Post-19 Provision</b>  <i>Improving the choice, options and what’s on offer for young people with SEND to access further or higher education.</i>	<b>Medical Education Provision</b>  <i>Offering stable and accessible support and education for pupils who can’t attend school because of their medical needs.</i>	<b>Mainstream School Accessibility</b>  <i>Allowing more children and young people with SEND to access the right support so that they can remain within mainstream schools.</i>
<p><b>What we’ve done:</b> Department for Education (DfE) announced in March 2024 that Macintyre Academies Trust will run the new Autism Special Free School in Malvern for pupils aged 5-19 years. This will provide 120 places when fully open, with capacity to expand to 164 places.</p> <p><b>What we’re doing:</b> Continue working with DfE and Macintyre Academies Trust on the delivery of the school and opening as soon as possible.</p>	<p><b>What we’ve done:</b> We commissioned 39 full-time equivalent Early Years places and 63 school-aged places for children who received support and part of their education from language classes in 2025/26.</p> <p><b>What we’re doing:</b> Working in partnership with Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust to transform this support and the services provided to reach more children within their local area.</p>	<p><b>What we’ve done:</b> Kidderminster College – WCC provided funding to create new life skills and sensory accommodation for Post 16 SEND students (SPACE – Safe Place and Calm Environment). Feb. 2025.</p> <p>HoW College in Worcester, with National Star College, opened a new course to support young adults with building independence and life skills. This provision increased from 5 to 12 places for Sep. 2025.</p> <p><b>What we’re doing:</b> Chadsgrove Specialist Independent College is expanding provision locally to support more Worcestershire young people.</p> <p>Looking at opportunities to create additional Post 16 provision for SEND learners across the county.</p>	<p><b>What we’ve done:</b> Improved accommodation at the Medical Education base in Redditch so more of the curriculum can be taught – including both inside and outside spaces.</p> <p><b>What we’re doing:</b> Find options for improving the facilities to deliver Medical Education in Worcester/Malvern and Wyre Forest.</p>	<p><b>What we’ve done:</b> In 2024/25, made five mainstream schools more accessible – including the installation of accessible bathroom areas, disabled WCs, ramped access and a stair lift. Provided SEND teaching space/nurture rooms at two mainstream schools.</p> <p>Added school accessibility information on the school admissions web pages to help parent carers better understand which mainstream schools will be able to support their child’s needs.</p> <p><b>What we’re doing:</b> Identify more mainstream settings that require adjustments to the accommodation and environment to support more children with SEND. Updating WCC’s Accessibility Strategy including Reasonable Adjustment guidance for schools.</p>