

SEND News Bulletin

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of the SEND News Bulletin where you will find information and updates from a range of national and local service providers and support teams. We encourage you to read and share with relevant colleagues within your school.

You may have read in the news about growing concerns over school funding and support for children with SEND. The f40 campaign is calling on government to take action, pressing for fairer funding, stronger SEND support in mainstream schools, and greater investment in early intervention and specialist provision. A short [briefing note](#) is available with more information about the campaign and the key changes being sought.

We're looking forward to seeing many of you at the face-to-face SENCo Network Locality meetings on 16th March (North) and 23rd March (South), 1:00-4:00pm. If you haven't yet booked your FREE place, please visit the [CPD Portal](#) for booking details. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for continuing to champion SEND and Inclusion in your school or setting, we really do recognise the work being undertaken to ensure children and young people with SEND and their families receive the best possible experiences and outcomes.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and restful half term break next week.

Kind regards

Helen Harris

Learning & Teaching Adviser, SEND/Inclusion

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National News & Updates

Guidance on restrictive interventions, including use of reasonable force, in schools

On 18 December, the Department for Education updated [guidance on use of reasonable force in schools](#).

Headline changes in the guidance, which is effective from 1st April 2026:

- Recording and reporting – now statutory (p.14-18)
 - Schools to record and report to parents/carers each significant incident in which a staff member uses force on a pupil, including any incident involving the use of seclusion or restraint.
 - Record incidents (in a bound and numbered book or electronic recording system). Minimum requirements
 - Report incidents to parents/carers as soon as practicable after the event, ideally on the same day as the incident.
- **Clarifications on terminology**, such as ‘seclusion’ and ‘significant incident’ (p.5).
- A new section on **seclusion** – ‘a non-disciplinary intervention involving keeping a pupil confined to a place away from others and prevented from leaving - should only be used as a safety measure to protect others from harm when a pupil is experiencing high levels of emotional or behavioural dysregulation.’ (p.8).
- **Fostering a 'culture of continuous improvement'** through pupil and staff support.
- Considerations for pupils with **special educational needs and/or disabilities** (p.11-12).
- **Guidance for governing bodies and proprietors** on regularly reviewing and interrogating data and ensuring that the school’s procedures for recording and reporting are complied with.

Please note for the purpose of this guidance, references to *schools* means all schools whether maintained, non-maintained or independent (including academy schools and alternative provision academies), maintained nursery schools and pupil referral units.

Funding to Help Children and Young People Reach Their Full Potential

Schools, community groups, clubs, societies and other not-for-profit organisations based and working in England can apply now for grants of up to £5,000 for projects that help to improve the education and development of children and young people (between the ages of six and 22 years) in England.

The funding (most grants are for less than £2,000) is for the cost of specific, relatively small-scale projects that might not happen at all or would only happen on a lesser scale without the support of the funder.

Projects can be educational, cultural, sporting or other activities but particular consideration will be given to those that help the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people.

For more information including eligibility criteria and details how to apply, please visit:

www.bluesparkfoundation.org.uk

Applications are currently being accepted for work in early spring 2026.

Guidance on disability duties – Council for Disabled Children

The Council for Disabled Children has recently uploaded [a webinar onto YouTube for schools on their disability duties](#). This complements three sets of guidance on disability duties from July. [See guides and training packages for schools on the disability duties in the Equality Act for more information](#).

The Department for Education commissioned the materials to support inclusive practice and to help disabled pupils achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes.

Local News & Updates

Local Area Partnership update: Vision, Commitment and Outcomes

Over the past 8 months the Co-production Officers have been meeting with children and young people in Worcestershire to ask them important questions about life and future goals. Amy and Chanika asked 'What does a good life look like?', 'What is your one key message to leaders?' and 'What makes you happy?'. From these and other questions the participation/ co-production vision, commitment and outcomes have been created.

- The vision is what we would like to achieve for young people with SEND
- The commitment is how the staff within organisations will work moving forward.
- The outcomes will form the foundation of the SEND offer from the Partnership moving forward. As the SEND strategy is being rewritten through 2026, they will underpin service expectations.

We are going to be asking services/ schools and organisations to sign up and commit to following the 'we will' commitment statements. We can then expect a way of working that involved children and young people with SEND.

We are creating different ways of hearing about the three key elements. We will have a booklet, a visual, videos and more. They will be available on the website when each method is completed. [Co-production and how to get involved \(SEND\) | Worcestershire County Council](#).

We enjoy working with all organisations with young people (0-25) with SEND. If you want to have a visit from us, or would like to find out more then please email SENDco-productionteam@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Co-production Updates

[Please find the third edition of the Voices Newsletter here.](#) This has been co-created with children and young people with additional needs and/or disabilities. There are PDF and word versions to ensure they are accessible to everyone. We have also attached a co-production updates document to keep everyone informed about our current and upcoming plans.

We are very excited to also share a recent article which was produced by Christian Wilson, a Voices United member! Link to the fabulous article here: [University of Worcester Graduate Champions Inclusivity for Disabled Young People in Worcestershire - University Of Worcester](#)

Children and young people can get involved with us by:

Joining the Voices network which could include:

- completing surveys and questionnaires
- sometimes meeting with co-production officers or services to share their views
- sending voice notes, emails, videos, photos, drawings to explain their views
- sending information on topics of interest for a SEND newsletter

Joining the Voices United Forum which involves:

- meeting monthly online or in person
- sharing views and opinions in a group context
- attending meetings with services in Worcestershire

How you could help grow and develop this even further:

- The co-production officers would love to come and visit more schools and settings to engage with a diverse range of young people and get them involved in projects. Please get in touch with sendcoproductionteam@worcestershire.gov.uk to organise a visit.

If you know of a young person, up to the age of 25, who might be interested then please direct them to either:

- our webpage [Co-production and how to get involved \(SEND\) | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- our Facebook page: [Voices United Worcestershire](#)
- our email: SENDCo-productionteam@worcestershire.gov.uk
- or fill in this form: [MS Forms: Working with the Co-production Officers](#)

Change Programme Updates

The DfE published an interim evaluation report on the Change Programme last week [Evaluation of the SEND and AP change programme - interim evaluation summary](#). This report highlights the feedback that has been gathered and in particular notes the benefits of the AP Outreach, ELSEC and approaches to establishing Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision.

As Phase 3 of the Programme continues in Worcestershire, we can report that:

- Over 350 children have received support through the AP Outreach programmes being delivered by our AP schools across the Authority
- 39 First and Primary schools are being supported by Children's Speech and Language Therapy Services with a bespoke offer through the Early Language Support for Every Child workstream
- 40 school and SEND Leaders from 27 of our schools have been working with the University of Worcester and WCC to refine and review the Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision guidance to ensure that there is a shared understanding and definition for OAIP across the Local Authority
- Stakeholder engagement with SEND leads is underway to begin to plan and build resources to support the Local Inclusion Support Offer; a guide to support available within the Local Authority
- The Assistive Technology Lending Library steering group have selected three partners to work with, this information was shared at the SENCo Network meeting on 2nd February, a recording of the meeting is available. We will be in touch with details of a launch of the library in which our partners; Dolphin, Scanning Pens and Clicker will share details of the resources available for schools via the Lending Library.
- The Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools project is drawing to a close; our 31 Primary and First PINs schools have been asked to submit their proposals for their Bespoke offer of support by Friday 6th February; [PINs Bespoke Offer – Fill in form](#) and we very much look forward to the PINs celebration event on 12th March at Worcestershire County Cricket Ground.
- Perryfields Primary PRU has launched the Alternative Provision Specialist Taskforce for Primary

schools in South Worcestershire. The APST is a multi-disciplinary team that meets to identify, sign post and allocate support to pupils who are experiencing barriers to learning and can be accessed through Perryfield's Outreach Team.

- The Wyre Forest Multi-Disciplinary Team prototype; a collaboration of Severn Academies Education Trust, Health and WCC colleagues working together to identify early intervention opportunities, sign post and provide support for children experiencing disruption to learning and has launched

Ordinarily available inclusion provision update

Following the work with both cohort of Change Makers, a revised definition of what inclusion means in Worcestershire has been created (see below). We welcome further comments and views, via email at: loland@worcestershire.gov.uk

Every child and young person in Worcestershire has educational opportunities with support that enables them to achieve, grow and belong. To make this happen in a caring environment that values emotional well-being, schools should meet everyone's needs, including those of their staff. Children and Young people learn together despite their differences, and strengths and uniqueness of individuals are recognised.

Every person in all educational communities is respected as an individual and experiences a sense of belonging as well as being seen, heard, and acknowledged in all of our educational environments. Through quality first teaching, adaptive practice, appropriately planned learning objectives, a personalised curriculum, and other reasonable adjustments to enable full access to the wider curriculum to develop their 'softer skills', all children and young people in our settings have their needs met. This enables every child and young person to advance through their curriculum which meets the needs of their aptitude, ability, or SEND to enable them to take part in their schooling experience as a whole.

Transitions Website and Poster

Transitions between schools are pivotal moments in a child's educational journey. As part of the Delivering Better Value programme, we have produced a [poster summarising valuable activities](#) schools can undertake to support positive and effective transitions. The poster also links to webpages offering a wide range of resources for school leaders, teachers, pupils, and parent carers.

Although the main focus is the transition from primary to secondary school, many of the suggested activities support other transition points as well.

Further resources will be added as new and emerging practice develops across the county.

Find out more at: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/improving-schools-and-settings>

New mailing list: SEND News and Updates

We're pleased to share our refreshed SEND newsletter with you, for sharing with your families: [SEND News and Updates - February](#)

This edition includes information about:

- Our visit to Wyre Forest School
- ADHD and Autism Right to Choose for under 18s
- Autism West Midlands webinars for parent carers
- SENDIASS drop-in sessions in Wychavon
- Extra staff in our SEND Quality Assurance Team
- Updates from Voices United, our forum for children and young people with SEND

The newsletter is aimed at parent carers and practitioners and includes updates about services for children and young people with SEND, as well as progress against our improvement plan.

This replaces the email updates that signpost to our [SEND Improvements page](#).

You can sign up to receive future updates here: [sign up to our SEND mailing list](#).

New ADHD referral form for children and young people in Worcestershire

Please see below information from Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust regarding a new ADHD referral form. Please cascade this to your teams.

As part of the ongoing development of a new ADHD service for Herefordshire and Worcestershire, we are introducing a single, streamlined referral form for all children and young people across the area. This updated form replaces the previous more complex version, which required multiple sections to be completed by parents and schools. The new form is shorter, clearer, and easier to complete, helping ensure referrals are made consistently and reach the right team quickly — improving continuity, fairness, and efficiency for families, schools, and professionals.

Key changes

Referrals must now be made by a professional, such as:

- School staff (e.g. SENCo, teacher, educational psychologist)
- School nurse
- Social care professional
- Family support worker
- GPs

Parent/carer self-referrals are no longer accepted. However, parents and carers remain an essential part of the process, and their views should be fully included in the information provided by the referrer.

Why schools are often best placed to refer

Schools observe children in structured settings over time and can provide detailed evidence of how difficulties affect learning and functioning. We therefore encourage schools to take the lead where possible.

Important information for referrals

To help us triage and assess appropriately, please include specific examples of how the child shows:

- **Inattention** (e.g., difficulty sustaining focus, easily distracted)
- **Impulsivity** (e.g., acting without thinking, interrupting, difficulty waiting turns)
- **Hyperactivity** (e.g., excessive movement, restlessness, talking excessively)

It is important to describe how these behaviours impact the child across different settings — for example, at school, at home, or during social activities.

New assessment age alignment

To make things fair and equal across Herefordshire and Worcestershire, we are lowering the minimum assessment age in Herefordshire to 5 and a half years, matching the age currently used in Worcestershire. This means more children will be able to access assessments at the same earlier age across both counties.

Important note regarding referrals for 17-year-olds

Due to unprecedented demand on our services, we want to be transparent about some current limitations. Unfortunately, anyone referred at age 17 is unlikely to be seen before they age out of the children and young people's service. We recommend that young people aged 17 who are seeking an ADHD assessment speak to their GP about alternative assessment options and support available through adult services. We appreciate your understanding as we work hard to meet the needs of all children and young people across the region.

Next steps

- The new referral form can be accessed online via: [Children's ADHD referral form](#) (replacing the form dated June 2024)
- Please discontinue the use of any previous referral forms. Ensuring that all local copies of the form and any associated guidance for ADHD referrals are updated on your systems.
- Please share this update with relevant teams and partners

Thank you for your continued support in helping us streamline the ADHD assessment pathway and ensure children and young people are referred efficiently and fairly.

ADHD and Autism – Right to Choose for under 18s

Every patient in England has the right to choose an alternative NHS commissioned provider of health services:

- At the point of referral or
- Where the waiting list for the referred service is longer than 18 weeks

Right to Choose applies to autism and ADHD assessments for children under the age of 18 years.

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire has published some [information for parent carers about Right to Choose](#), which includes a list of the accredited Right to Choose providers.

New email addresses for 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service

Please be advised of changes to generic email accounts for 0-19 Public Health Nursing service so there is one mailbox for the 0-19 age range in each locality rather than split 0-5 and 5-19.

Bromsgrove	WHCNHS.0-19PHNBromsgrove@nhs.net
Malvern	WHCNHS.0-19PHNMalvern@nhs.net
Redditch	WHCNHS.0-19PHNRedditch@nhs.net
Worcester	WHCNHS.0-19PHNWorcester@nhs.net
Wychavon	WHCNHS.0-19PHNWychavon@nhs.net
Wyre Forest	WHCNHS.0-19PHNWF@nhs.net

Emails which would normally be sent to WHCNHS.HVAdmin@nhs.net and WHCNHS.SHNAcessandResponse@nhs.net should now be sent to WHCNHS.0-19PHNOpenDoor@nhs.net.

Connect to Work

Connect to Work is a new funded supported employment programme designed to help people with health conditions and additional barriers progress or remain in employment. The programme provides up to 12 months of tailored, person-centred support, working alongside individuals to build confidence, develop employability skills and remove practical barriers to work. Support is flexible and shaped around the needs of each participant, recognising that pathways into employment are not linear and progress looks different for everyone.

An individual may be eligible for Connect to Work if they:

- Have a disability or long-term health condition (including physical or mental health)
- Are currently out of work or at risk of losing their job
- Are aged 18 or over (some 16–17-year-olds may also be eligible)
- Have the right to live and work in the UK

The programme also supports people who may need [additional or targeted support](#)

Referrals can be made either by self-referral or professional working with people aged 18+. Find out more about [Connect to Work](#) and use our [Referral form](#)

If you are working with someone who would benefit from personalised employment support or have any other questions you can email ctw@worcestershire.gov.uk

Autism West Midlands Webinars

PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR PARENTS, CARERS AND STAFF parents/carers and staff

Autism West Midlands are delivering a series of autism awareness webinars taking place from January to March 2026. Topics include autism and anxiety, behaviours, teenage brain, sensory differences, communication and support.

These online webinars are open to parents, carers and professionals across Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Booking is open on EventBrite or individuals can email the Autism West Midlands inbox to book a space via: herefandworcs@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

Please download the webinar flyer from [Google Drive](#) and share with parents and carers in your school communications and with individual parents plus staff.

Hereford & Worcester Dyslexia Association

The [HWDA February 2026 Newsletter](#) is now available to download via the HWDA website. Please share as widely as you can.

SENDIASS launch brand new FREE SEND Webinars for parent carers

As part of the Worcestershire Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) project, [SENDIASS](#) will be delivering three brand new FREE webinars for ALL local parent carers.

The new webinar topics requested by Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum include:

- A Guide to SEND
- How to have an effective meeting
- Introduction to dyslexia

These webinars will run throughout January and February 2026 and will include a daytime and evening session for each. Places are already available to book here: [Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools \(PINS\) | SENDIASS](#)

All SENDIASS training workshop and webinar dates for the spring term are available here: [SENDIASS Training and Events](#)

SENDIASS launches new programme of support in Wychavon

FOR INFORMATION AND SHARING WITH FAMILIES IN WYCHAVON

Our [SENDIASS](#) team have launched a new community-based programme, *SENDIASS Connects Wychavon*, designed to make Special Educational Needs and Disabilities information, advice and support easier for local families to access.

Running from January to March 2026, the programme will offer free training workshops, specialist advice drop-ins for parent carers, and youth drop-ins for children and young people with SEND. Sessions will take place in community venues across Pershore, Evesham and Droitwich.

SENDIASS recognises how important it is for families to receive support locally, and this pilot aims to bring guidance, information and practical help directly into communities. It is hoped that similar programmes will be rolled out across other districts in the future.

Full details, including booking links for all sessions, are available at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/SENDIASSconnects

Please share this information with families who may benefit.

Programme overview

Pershore – Pershore Riverside Centre

- Guide to SEND: 11 February, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Transitions Training: 12 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins: 20 January; 25 February; 16 March (10am–2.30pm)
- Youth Advice Drop-in: 19 January (10am–2.30pm)

Evesham – Evesham Library

- Guide to SEND: 26 February, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Transitions Training: 19 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins: 27 January; 3 March; 26 March (10am–2.30pm)
- Youth Advice (YPA) Drop-in: 9 February (10am–2.30pm)

Droitwich – Droitwich Library / Workpays (Victoria Square)

- Guide to SEND: 6 February, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Transitions Training: 6 March, 10.30am–12.30pm
- Advisor Drop-ins (Workpays): 2 February; 23 February; 11 March (10am–2.30pm)
- Youth Advice (YPA) Drop-in: 18 March (10am–2.30pm)

SENDIASS Free Transitions Training for parent carers

[The SEND Information, Advice and Support Service \(SENDIASS\)](#) have developed a new Transitions Workshop.

The free workshop, [Supporting your child to cope with change \(Transitions\)](#), is aimed at parents and carers of children and young people with SEND who will be transitioning into another phase of education within the next few years.

SENDIASS are looking for schools that would be interested in hosting this workshop for their families and would be happy for families of other schools to attend.

If you are interested in this opportunity for your setting, please complete the [SENDIASS Training Request Form](#) and the SENDIASS Training and Development Officer will be in contact to confirm details.

Exploitation & Online Safety Session for Parents and Carers

West Mercia Police are offering a free online session for parents and carers to help them better understand the risks of exploitation and online safety for children of all ages. Please help us promote this important opportunity to the families you work with.

Hosted by: West Mercia Police

Format: Free online event

Who it's for: Parents, carers, and guardians of children and young people

This accessible and informative session will help parents and carers build confidence in recognising risks and supporting their children to stay safe. It will cover:

- **Spotting the signs of exploitation** and knowing when something isn't right
- **How to keep children safe online**, including practical steps families can take
- **The influence of online personalities and influencers** on children's thinking, behaviour, and self-image
- **Useful, easy-to-follow safety tips** that parents and carers can use straight away

[Online safety \(Child exploitation\) session for parents and guardians Tickets, Fri 6 Mar 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

The session is suitable for those caring for children of any age and will provide reassurance as well as practical guidance.

Training And Professional Development Opportunities

Teaching Assistant Apprenticeships

Aspiration Training continue to deliver a range of apprenticeship programmes available to schools in Worcestershire. Aspiration Training deliver the Teaching Assistant Level 3 apprenticeship, which has been successfully delivered for several years under an Ofsted Good rating. The programme is available to both new recruits and existing staff. They also deliver the Teaching Assistant Level 5 apprenticeship, including a SEND pathway, which is particularly beneficial for schools supporting pupils with additional and complex needs, and for staff progressing into more specialist or senior roles. They also continue to deliver Early Years and Adult Care apprenticeships from Level 2 through to Level 5.

Aspiration Training offer a free recruitment service, including DBS checks and robust candidate screening, to support schools looking to recruit apprentices and ensure the right candidate is matched to the role. For more information on the full apprenticeship offer, please contact Tina Booth at tbooth@aspirationtraining.com or visit <https://www.aspirationtraining.com/>

TIAAS training Programme for 25/26 new webcast added to the Level 1 offer

How do we engage families through trauma informed practices webcast?

During this 45-minute webcast we will explore meaningful family engagement through the lens of trauma-informed practices. Participants will learn how to effectively engage families and foster investment in their child's success using a trauma-sensitive approach.

The webcast will also include exploration of frameworks created to provide a trauma-informed approach, practical real-world strategies to support and discussions around our own biases as practitioners.

Cost: Free as this is part of Level 1 of the Virtual School TIAAS training programme

Schools / settings can either book per person or the main lead and then share links accordingly.

To find the course on CPD search 10657

Certification: Confirmation of watching the webcast will be updated at the end of each half term to provide data to Virtual School

Early Years Inclusion Training

We are bringing back our face-to-face training for some of our more practical sessions. Checkout Visual Support and Strategies and Resources to support children with SEND. You will have the chance to see and handle resources and ask questions. Sessions will be held at Worcestershire Cricket Club.

EY 10610 - Visual Support in the Early Years

To become more aware and confident in using appropriate visual support consistently to provide an inclusive communication environment for all children.

Audience: Early Years Staff / practitioners / SENCOs

Cost: £22 + VAT per delegate

Session code: 91987

3 March 2026 7pm - 8pm

EY 10611 - Strategies and resources to support interaction with SEN children

To be confident in identifying and understanding individual needs and using various strategies and resources to facilitate communication and social skills.

Audience: Early Years Staff / Practitioners / SENCO's

Cost: £22 + VAT

Session code: 91988

19 May 2026 7pm – 8pm

Book your place on the above training via [CPD](#) using your school CPD leader login details. Confirmations are issued at the point of booking and go to the delegate email provided. If your school requires support when booking, please contact the training team on **01905 844 420** or email workforcesupport@worcestershire.gov.uk

Resources

SEND Podcast

The SENDcast is a weekly podcast focusing on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). It is an effective way to keep up to date with policy changes, best practice and to improve your knowledge around SEN. The weekly podcast features a different guest or guests talking about a specific topic related to Special Educational Needs. [Listen to SENDcast](#)

New Resource for Parents: Autism Tooth Care Website

Hygiene and tooth cleaning can be a challenge for autistic children, so we're sharing a new resource for families – **Autism Tooth Care**. This website has been specially designed to support parents and carers of autistic children with practical advice and tools for oral health.

Why is this important?

Dental care can be challenging for many autistic children due to sensory sensitivities, anxiety, and communication differences. Autism Tooth Care provides clear, parent-friendly guidance to make toothbrushing and dental visits less stressful and more successful.

What's on the site?

- **Step-by-step strategies** for introducing toothbrushing routines
- **Visual supports and social stories** to help children understand what to expect
- **Tips for managing sensory challenges**
- **Advice for working with dentists** to create positive experiences

This resource is free and easy to access. Please share the link with parents and carers in your school community: www.autismtoothcare.com

SENCo Contact Details

Please ensure that we have the current email address (school/work based) for your school's SENCo/Inclusion Leader or SEND Team to enable them to receive ongoing communications including updates, information, Bulletins, and training opportunities.

Please email sread2@worcestershire.gov.uk if your SENCo/Inclusion Leader has a change of email address to ensure your school's details are updated. Thank you.

Shine A Light - Sharing Effective Practice

A big thank you to the staff and pupils at Wyre Forest School for welcoming us in to talk all things special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Officers from the county council and NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire joined the visit to hear directly about the outcomes children and young people with SEND want to see.

The team spent time chatting with pupils while they prepared lunches, made crafts and served customers in the local community café. Young people also prepared thoughtful questions for our Director of Children's Services, Adam Johnston, NHS Director of Operations, Jade Brooks, and Voices United forum members Matthew and Myah.

Questions covered everything from funding for adult services, transport to college and accessible sports clubs, to adding widgets to our websites - alongside some lighter ones about favourite football teams and fast cars!

Over the past few months, our Co-Production Officers have been working with Voices United Worcestershire (our forum for children and young people with SEND) and have gathered views from more than 400 children and young people about what matters most to them and what a 'good life' looks like.

From this, young people created the following outcomes:

- I feel welcome, included and part of a community where I belong
- I feel safe and supported
- I am listened to, understood and involved in decisions about my life
- I am helped to be healthy in my body and mind
- I enjoy life, have fun and am supported to reach my full potential

These outcomes will now be rolled out across the Local Area Partnership and sit at the heart of how we plan, develop and design services for children and young people with SEND. We know there's more to do, but we're glad to be working alongside our NHS partners, Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum and Voices United Worcestershire to make this happen.

If you're a young person and would like to find out more about Voices United, see how to get involved: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/SENDcoproduction.

If you would like to share effective inclusive practice and 'shine a light' on what is working well, please email Helen Harris at: hharris@worcestershire.gov.uk. We know that SENCOs find this peer support extremely valuable so please get in touch with your positive experiences, case studies or effective strategies or resources that have proven successful in improving the experiences and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.