



National SEND and alternative provision implementation board: terms of reference

Purpose

The Board will provide essential challenge, advice and support on the delivery of the National SEND and alternative provision (AP) Improvement Plan to enable Ministers to take informed decisions to improve children's outcomes and parents' and carers' experience of the SEND and AP system by:

- taking full account of the views and needs of children and young people with SEND and in AP, and their parents and carers
- ensuring it operates in a way which fosters co-production with children and young people with SEND and in AP, and their parents and carers
- using expertise and knowledge to advise on the delivery and implementation of the SEND and AP Improvement Plan and how this impacts end users
- drawing on the latest data, evidence and evaluation to provide insight into the current performance of the SEND and AP system
- ensuring the SEND and AP Improvement Plan stays current and adapts to broader social changes and new challenges
- a productive and collaborative environment of listening and transparent feedback

Board members will both advocate and champion the reforms to the SEND and AP system collectively and help lead change in their sectors.

Membership

Membership of the Board has been determined using the following key criteria:

- Coverage of a broad range of interests and expertise relevant to SEND and AP, and links across to other related key programmes across education, health and social care.
- Ensuring that the views of children, young people, parents and carers can be directly represented and the impact of changes on them remain central.
- Senior leadership, to better secure buy in from sector partners to improvements.
- Operational and practical experience to help ensure improvements are deliverable and effective.

Where possible, members will set aside any organisational or personal interests in order to drive transformational change at the national system level.

The Board will be chaired, jointly, by the Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing at the Department for Education (Claire Coutinho) and the Minister for Mental Health and Women's Health Strategy at the Department of Health and Social Care (Maria Caulfield).

The Board will interact, as appropriate, with other stakeholder groups established by government which will focus on specific areas of work to support progress with delivering the Improvement Plan.

Timing and frequency of meetings

Meetings will be approximately every 3 months.

The first meeting will be on 6 June 2023.

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