



Department
for Education

Special educational needs: transfer of statements of SEN to education, health and care plans, end March 2018

Ad hoc notice

May 2018

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Background to the transfer of Statements of SEN to Education Health and Care Plans

The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provisions in the Children and Families Act 2014 were introduced on 1 September 2014. By 1 April 2018, local authorities were required to have transferred all children and young people with Statements of SEN who meet the criteria for an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan, or have made a decision that it was not necessary to issue an EHC plan.

An EHC plan details the education, health and social care support that is to be provided to a child or young person who has Special Educational Needs (SEN) or a disability. It is drawn up by the local authority after an EHC needs assessment of the child or young person has determined that an EHC plan is necessary, and after consultation with relevant partner agencies. See the [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25](#) for more detailed information on the reforms.

Data on progress transferring Statements to Education, Health and Care plans

Background

Transferring children and young people from Statements to EHC plans has been phased from the introduction of the SEND reforms in September 2014 to end of March 2018.

During the last year of this transition period, the Department has collected monthly information from local authorities on the number of transfers of Statements of SEN yet to be completed. This has enabled the Department to monitor progress and to provide support and advice to local authorities where necessary.

This publication provides the position as at 31 March 2018, based on an early April data collection, and is the second and final release of data from this source to be published. It follows the previous release which gave the position based on the 1 March data collection, which is available here: [Statements of SEN transferring to EHC plans: 1 March 2018](#).

Data collection

In early April 2018, local authorities were asked to complete the following question giving their position on the number of Statements of SEN as at 31 March 2018, the end of the transition period.

How many transfers of SEN statements have yet to be completed ^[1] as of 31 March 2018?

^[1] 'completed' means an EHCP is in place, or a decision not to produce an EHCP has been communicated to the family.

Data summary and context

Data published in the National Statistics release based on the SEN2 return from local authorities shows that there were 236,225 Statements on 31 August 2014, at the start of the transition period.

The latest MI data collected in early April, shows that there were 3,873 transfers of SEN Statements yet to be completed as at 31 March 2018. This means that up to this date, 232,352 Statements (98.4%) have either been:

- a) Transferred to an EHC plan,
- b) Assessed and a decision made not to transfer to an EHC plan,
- c) Discontinued because they have left school at the end of compulsory schooling, or after, or
- d) Reviewed and discontinued as special needs being met without Statement or EHC plan or for other reasons.

SEN2 return: Data is collected annually from local authorities on the number of Statements and EHC plans in the SEN2 return. This information is published each year in May in a National Statistics publication. Further details about the SEN2 return can be found in the [Special educational needs survey 2018: guide](#).

Related publications

On Thursday 24 May 2018, the latest data from the annual SEN2 return will be published in a Statistical Release. The release will show the number of Statements of SEN and EHC plans as at 18 January 2018. The publication will include data at national and local authority level.



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