

Derbyshire County Council

SEND & Inclusion Strategy

2026 to 2031



Derby and Derbyshire
Integrated Care Board



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Derbyshire's SEND & Inclusion Strategy 2026 to 2031

Foreword

Cabinet Member for Education and SEND
Simon Mabbott

Every child and young person in Derbyshire deserves to feel included, listened to and supported to achieve their best. This SEND & Inclusion Strategy sets out our shared commitment to improving experiences and outcomes for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families.

This strategy has been shaped by the voices of parents, carers, children, young people and professionals. It recognises what is working well, where change is needed, and the importance of inclusion as a shared responsibility across education, health and care. By working together and focusing on family help and partnership, we want to make sure families can access the right support at the right time, without having to struggle to be heard.



Introduction

Derbyshire is ambitious for every child and young person with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We have strong foundations to build on, including strengthened early intervention through the Inclusion Support Advisory Service (ISAS) restructure, the introduction of Neurodiversity Hubs, improved partnership working, and an Inclusion Framework that supports consistency and inclusive practice across the county.

We are working towards a Derbyshire where every child and young person feels they belong, is valued for who they are, is safe, and has access to the right support at the right time. This commitment reflects Derbyshire's belief in nurturing aspiration, promoting inclusion, and ensuring that every child can follow their dreams and thrive within their community.

Despite these strengths, children and young people are growing up in a landscape that is increasingly complex. Demand for SEND support continues to rise, needs are becoming more complex, and many families experience pressures that affect wellbeing, attendance, and access to services. National reforms set out expectations for improving outcomes, strengthening inclusion, and ensuring every child receives timely support. This strategy responds directly to these challenges and opportunities.

This strategy has been developed in the context of national reforms and expectations, including the White Paper, Every Child Achieving and Thriving. The white paper sets out a national ambition to improve outcomes, strengthen inclusion, and ensure that every child receives the right support at the right time. Our local strategy builds on these principles and sets out how Derbyshire will deliver this vision in practice.

The previous local area SEND Strategy covered the period 2020–2023 and provided an important foundation for joint working. Since then, we have strengthened our understanding of local need through a fully updated Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and are undertaking a comprehensive overhaul of our Self Evaluation Framework (SEF). The local area SEND inspection provided valuable independent insight into what is working well and where further improvement is needed across the system. In response, partners have developed and are delivering a Priority Improvement Plan (PIP) to drive sustained SEND system improvement. This refreshed SEND & Inclusion Strategy brings together that learning and improvement activity and is fully aligned with the Preparation for Adulthood Action Plan 2026–2029, ensuring our priorities reflect current challenges, emerging needs and our shared ambition to improve outcomes for all children and young people with SEND in Derbyshire.



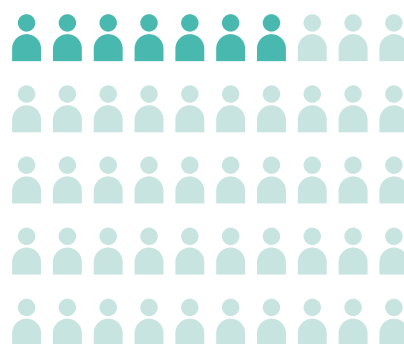
Local Area Context and Statement of Need

Derbyshire is a large and diverse county, with a mix of urban and rural communities and a wide range of education, health and care provision. Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are supported across early years settings, mainstream schools, special schools, alternative provision, further education providers, health services and community based support. The majority of children and young people with SEND are educated in mainstream provision, supported through SEN Support or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), with a smaller proportion accessing specialist or enhanced provision.

Derbyshire supports children and young people across more than 400 education settings, alongside a range of health and commissioned providers delivering community paediatrics, therapies, neurodevelopmental pathways and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) provides a detailed picture of local population need, patterns of service use and emerging trends, and underpins the priorities set out in this strategy.

Growing Demand, Complexity and Local Pressures

Demand for SEND support in Derbyshire has grown significantly in recent years. **The number of children and young people with EHCPs has increased to over 10,000, a rise of more than 150% in five years, and more than 14% of pupils now receive SEN Support in education settings.** Attendance for pupils with SEND remains a significant concern, with persistent absence affecting more than one in three pupils with EHCPs and around 29% of those receiving SEN Support. Rates of suspension and permanent exclusion for children and young people with SEND are higher than national averages, and too many young people with SEND experience poor outcomes at key transition points, including over 8% of those aged 18 and over being not in education, employment or training (NEET).



**14% of pupils
now receive SEN
Support**

Derbyshire faces a number of interconnected challenges, including its rural geography, workforce recruitment and retention pressures, and rising levels of emotional and neurodevelopmental need. Outcomes and attendance vary across the county, and demand for specialist places remains high. This increasing demand places sustained pressure on the high needs budget, highlighting the importance of financial sustainability, effective sufficiency planning and a system wide focus on family help and inclusive practice to ensure support is delivered in the right place, at the right time.

Despite These Challenges...

Derbyshire has strong foundations on which to build further improvement. Early intervention has been strengthened through the restructure of the Inclusion Support Advisory Service (ISAS), providing clearer pathways and more targeted specialist support to education settings. Neurodiversity Hubs have been introduced to offer community based advice, connection and practical support for families, particularly while waiting for assessment or diagnosis.

Alongside this, clearer structures are now in place to strengthen family help through more coordinated working across Children's Services, enabling support to be better aligned across education, inclusion services and children's social care. This more joined up approach supports effective identification of need, shared understanding of families' circumstances and timely intervention, reducing duplication and helping services to work together around the child and family.

A co-produced Inclusion Framework, aligned to the Ofsted inclusion toolkit, is supporting more consistent inclusive practice across schools, and partnership working across education, health and care has strengthened, supported by improved governance and clearer accountability. Engagement with Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV) and youth participation networks has increased, ensuring that lived experience is shaping service improvement and strategic decision making more directly.

Together, these developments provide a strong platform for the next phase of SEND system improvement and set the foundation for the priorities and actions outlined in this strategy.

Our Vision:

**Every child and young person is
able to follow their dreams, be
valued for who they are, be safe
and know they belong.**



Turning Our Vision into Reality

In Derbyshire, we share one clear goal: to make sure every child and young person with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can live their best life. We want every young person to feel safe, happy, and healthy and to know they belong.

Everything we do is driven by this shared commitment. We believe every child and young person should be valued for who they are, supported in their learning, and connected to their community. By working together with openness, honesty and shared accountability across education, health and care, we will help them to follow their dreams, grow in confidence, and achieve their full potential.

Your Voice

This strategy has been shaped through extensive co-production with children, young people, families, professionals and partners across Derbyshire. Central to its development has been a commitment to listening to lived experience and using this insight to drive meaningful and sustained improvement.

The Local Area Partnership was supported by the Department for Education funded Research and Improvement for SEND Excellence (RISE) programme to develop the outcomes and priorities within this strategy. The RISE partnership provided challenge, support and evidence informed approaches to help partners reflect on system strengths, identify areas for improvement and agree a shared direction for SEND improvement across Derbyshire.

A series of co-production workshops, facilitated by the Council for Disabled Children, brought together representatives from Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV), health and social care, schools and SENDCos, early years settings, the Inclusion Support Advisory Service (ISAS), educational psychology and the SEND Service. These workshops focused on lived experience, current challenges within the system and what meaningful improvement should look like in practice for children, young people and families.

In addition, insight from DPCV surveys and engagement activity has been fundamental in shaping both the strategic priorities and ongoing improvement planning. Feedback from parents and carers has informed understanding of what works well, where families experience barriers or delay, and what changes would make the biggest difference to confidence, consistency and trust in the SEND system. This evidence continues to inform improvement activity through clear feedback loops and a commitment to learning from experience.



DPCV also facilitated a series of Values workshops involving parents, practitioners and members of the Derbyshire Youth Inclusion Forum. These sessions identified the core partnership values that should underpin SEND and inclusion work in Derbyshire, including inclusion, family help, transparency, respect and shared accountability. The values developed through this process are directly reflected in the vision and priorities set out in this strategy. An engagement and participation charter is being developed to formalise this commitment and to strengthen ongoing co-production and accountability across the partnership. The charter will set out how children, young people and families will be involved in strategic decision making and service transformation, and how continuous feedback loops will be used to demonstrate how lived experience directly informs improvement, including clear “you said, we did” reporting.

The draft priorities and indicators of success were subsequently shared with SENDCo networks and voted upon, ensuring that the final framework reflects collective professional judgement, frontline experience, and the voices of families. This collaborative process has ensured that the strategy is rooted in what matters most to those who use, deliver and support SEND services in Derbyshire.



Our Priorities

1. Belonging, Relationships and Community

Every child and family feel included, connected, and supported within their community and education setting. We aim for safer, stronger, and more inclusive communities.



2. Being Heard, Respected and Valued

Children, young people, and families are genuine partners in decision-making. Their voices shape services and influence outcomes at every level.



3. Being and Feeling Safe

All children and young people with SEND are kept safe from harm and feel secure at home, in education, and in their communities.



4. Opportunities, Achievement and Preparation for the Future

Every young person has access to high-quality education, training, and employment opportunities that prepare them for adulthood and independence.



5. Being and Feeling Supported

Support is easy to access, timely, and effective. Families receive early help and clear information without having to fight for it.



6. Being and Feeling Healthy

Children and young people enjoy good physical and emotional health, with joined-up services that provide early and coordinated care.





Priority 1

Belonging, relationships and the community

Every child and young person should feel they belong at home, in education, and in their community. They are supported to make positive choices, achieve their goals, and be proud of who they are. Families feel valued and connected to local support networks, and communities are inclusive, safe, and welcoming for everyone.

We will work together so that:

- More children are safely reunited with their families, and fewer need to come into care.
- Children in care have stable homes and lasting relationships.
- Inclusive practice and attendance improves across all phases of education, and there are fewer suspensions, exclusions, or part-time timetables.
- Families are involved in decisions about their child's education and feel valued by schools.
- Fewer young people are NEET (not in education, employment, or training) and more take up supported internships or apprenticeships.
- Antisocial behaviour reduces as young people feel a stronger sense of belonging and take part in positive activities.
- Communities are safer, more connected, and supportive places for families to live.

By strengthening relationships and belonging, we will build communities that give every child and young person a sense of purpose, connection, and pride.



Priority 2

Being heard, respected and valued

Children, young people, and families are partners in shaping their support. They feel confident that decisions are fair, transparent, and based on what they need. Their views make a genuine difference, services listen and respond, and there is trust and respect at every level of the system.

We will work together so that:

- Children and young people feel their voices are at the heart of their Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
- Families experience coordinated support across education, health and care, only needing to tell their story once, with information shared appropriately between professionals to reduce duplication, frustration and delay.
- Complaints are reduced because decisions are clearer, more consistent, and focused on the child's needs.
- Health, care and education services regularly ask for and act on feedback from families and young people.
- Families know where to go for information and support, such as the Local Offer, DIASS, Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV), or Neurodiversity (ND) Hubs and find these services helpful.
- Decision-making and commissioning across education, health, and care is joined up, consistent, and needs-led.

By listening, communicating clearly, and working in partnership, we will make sure every child, young person, and family in Derbyshire feels heard, respected, and valued.



Priority 3

Safety (being and feeling safe, at home, in education and in the community)

Children and young people with SEND are safe and feel safe in all aspects of their lives. They are protected from harm, supported when they experience difficulties, and confident that the adults around them will help keep them safe. Families, schools, and services work together to prevent risk, promote wellbeing, and build strong, trusting relationships.

We will work together so that:

- There will be a reduction in incidents that place children and young people at risk of harm, and an increase in those who report feeling safe at home, at school, and in their community.
- Fewer young people will enter the youth justice system.
- While ensuring that all children and young people receive hospital care whenever needed, we aim to reduce the number of preventable injuries or unsafe situations through early identification, timely interventions, and strong multi agency coordination.
- We use data to understand the causes of injuries or unsafe incidents, enabling earlier identification of need and more effective multi-agency support, which in turn reduces the number of incidents that lead to hospital treatment.
- Educational settings will be places where children and young people feel safe, included, and respected. There will be a reduction in incidents of bullying and unsafe behaviour.
- More young people will be in education, employment or training
- Those being home educated will be regularly monitored.
- The proportion of children and young people with SEND who are subject to a Child Protection Plan will be monitored to ensure that safeguarding concerns are identified early and that appropriate, needs-led support is provided.
- Incidents of domestic abuse within families of children and young people will be monitored to ensure early identification, effective intervention, and coordinated multi-agency support.
- Incidents resulting in children and young people requiring hospital treatment due to injury or unsafe situations decrease because of early identification, effective interventions, and coordinated multi-agency support.

By improving partnership working, listening to children and families, and building stronger links between education settings, health, and local services, we aim to make Derbyshire a place where every child feels protected, valued, and safe.



Priority 4

Opportunities and experience, achieving, hope and preparation for the future

Every child and young person with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Derbyshire should have the chance to achieve their goals and look forward to a bright future. We want all children to develop confidence, skills, and independence, and to be proud of what they achieve in early years, school, college, training, or work.

We will work together so that:

- The gap in progress and achievement between children and young people with SEND and their peers narrows each year, supported by effective transitions across early years, education phases and into adulthood, and a stronger focus on life skills and independence.
- Children and young people with SEND attend school regularly, feel included, and have the same chances to succeed as others.
- Children and young people can access the right support in the right place at the right time, through an expanded range of high-quality local provision that enables more children to learn, thrive and achieve within their own communities, close to family, friends and support networks.
- More young people with SEND achieve qualifications by age 19, especially at Level 3 or above.
- More supported internships and apprenticeships lead to paid employment and independence.
- Children and young people take an active part in their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) reviews and feel that their voice matters in shaping their future.

By giving children and young people the right support, encouragement, and opportunities, we'll help them to believe in themselves, achieve their ambitions, and move confidently into adult life.



Priority 5

Support: Being and feeling supported

Every child, young person, and family should feel understood and supported. We want help to be easy to access, understandable, and available at the right time, without families feeling they must fight for it.

We will work together so that:

- Children's needs are identified quickly, and support is put in place early, especially within mainstream schools.
- Families feel confident that all education settings understand their child's needs and provide the right help.
- Fewer families need to request an Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessment as inclusive practice is embedded across all education providers and early intervention, and SEN Support meets children's needs effectively.
- Families know where to go for information, advice, and guidance. The Local Offer website is useful and easy to navigate.
- More parents, carers, and young people report that they receive helpful advice while waiting for assessments or support to begin.
- Attendance at, and awareness of, Neurodiversity (ND) Hubs increases, giving families better access to advice, connection, and practical help.
- Families and young people tell us that the support they receive matches what was discussed or agreed, and that it makes a positive difference.
- There is good access to peer support and opportunities for families to connect with and share experiences.
- The number of children waiting for special school placements, and those waiting longer than a year, reduces as needs are met earlier and more effectively.

By improving how support is identified, coordinated, and communicated, we will help families feel reassured, heard, and confident that they are not alone.



Priority 6

Being and Feeling Healthy

Children and young people with SEND enjoy good physical and mental health. They are supported to make healthy choices, access health services when they need them, and receive coordinated care that helps them thrive. Families experience joined-up advice and timely interventions that promote wellbeing from early childhood to adulthood.

We will work together so that:

- Children and young people are as healthy and active as possible and are happy.
- Families can easily get appointments and advice when they need them.
- Waiting times for health services are reduced.
- Fewer children need to go to hospital for mental health, self-harm, or other preventable conditions.
- Fewer young people experience obesity, start smoking or drinking alcohol.
- More children and young people attend regular health checks and routine appointments.

By improving how health support is delivered and accessed, we will help children, young people, and families live healthier, happier lives.

Measuring Success

What Success Will Look Like

By 2031, Derbyshire will be a place where every child and young person is able to follow their dreams, is valued for who they are, is safe, and knows they belong. Inclusion will be a clear and shared system expectation across education, health and care, with all partners taking collective responsibility for improving experiences and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

Families will feel confident that the support around them is timely, coordinated and rooted in the needs and strengths of their children. Children and young people will experience inclusive mainstream schools that are equipped and supported to meet a wider range of needs, alongside nurturing communities and services that listen, respond and work together.

We will see stronger belonging and inclusion across Derbyshire, with improved attendance, a sustained reduction in suspensions, exclusions and inappropriate part time timetables, and greater participation in education, activities and community life. Reducing exclusions will be a shared partnership priority, with mainstream schools, local authority services, health partners and families working together to provide earlier support, strengthen inclusive practice and avoid escalation wherever possible.

More children and young people will feel heard and involved in decisions about their lives. Decisions will be made transparently, consistently and respectfully, with families understanding how and why they are reached. Safety will improve through earlier identification of need, stronger multi agency responses and fewer preventable incidents.

Educational progress and preparation for adulthood will strengthen across all age groups, enabling more young people to move confidently into further education, training, employment, independent living and community life. Support will be easier to access and more effective, reducing unnecessary escalation and improving family confidence and satisfaction. Children and young people will also experience better physical and emotional health, supported by earlier intervention and more timely access to services.

Together, these changes will demonstrate that Derbyshire's SEND system is becoming more inclusive, more responsive and more accountable, giving every child and young person the chance to thrive.

Governance and Accountability

Effective governance is essential to ensure that this SEND & Inclusion Strategy delivers meaningful and sustained improvement for children, young people and families. Oversight will be provided through a clear and robust governance structure, with shared accountability across education, health and care partners through the SEND, Improvement and Assurance Board.

How we will evidence progress

To demonstrate progress against each of our strategic priorities, we have identified a clear set of measures, indicators of success, and data sources that reflect what we want to achieve for children, young people, and families. These measures have been chosen because they are reliable, meaningful, and capable of showing both improvement over time and the impact of early identification, effective intervention, and strong multi agency working. Quantitative data, such as attendance, safeguarding activity, health outcomes, and inclusion indicators, will be complemented by qualitative insights from families, practitioners, and young people to provide a rounded picture of lived experience.

Each priority in the strategy includes the specific measures and indicators that will be monitored, and Appendix 1 brings together all associated evidence tables and governance and accountability arrangements in one place. This ensures transparency about how progress will be tracked and who is responsible for oversight. Appendix 1 therefore acts as our comprehensive evidence framework, supporting consistent monitoring, shared ownership, and clear line of sight across the partnership. If additional measures or data sources become available over time, they can also be incorporated into this framework to ensure our approach remains responsive and robust.



Appendix

How we will Monitor and
Evidence Success

Priority 1

Belonging, relationships and the community

How This Will Be Evidenced

Family Stability and Relationships

Measure: Children safely reunited with families

- Indicator of Success: Increase over time, showing strong family support and early intervention
- Data Source: Children's Social Care data

Measure: Children entering care

- Indicator of Success: Reduction year-on-year
- Data Source: Children in care (CIC) data

Measure: Stability for children in care

- Indicator of Success: Fewer home moves, increased stability and relationship continuity
- Data Source: CIC performance and review data

Measure: Family and carer feedback

- Indicator of Success: Families report feeling supported, included, and valued
- Data Source: Family engagement surveys

Belonging and Inclusion in Education

Measure: School attendance and engagement rates

- Indicator of Success: Increase in attendance for children with SEND
- Data Source: LA education performance data, ISAS visit records and Inclusion Framework audits

Measure: Suspensions, exclusions, and part-time timetables

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in numbers and duration
- Data Source: Inclusion and behaviour data

Measure: Family involvement in educational decisions

- Indicator of Success: Parents/carers report being informed and meaningfully involved
- Data Source: Annual SEND survey. EHCP (new and annual review feedback Invision)

Measure: School participation in inclusion programmes

- Indicator of Success: More schools demonstrating inclusive practice
- Data Source: Inclusion Framework evaluations

Participation, Community Engagement, and Safety

Measure: NEET Young People

- Indicator of Success: Reduction year-on-year
- Data Source: Post-16 tracking data

Measure: Apprenticeship/supported internship uptake among young people with SEND

- Indicator of Success: Increase year-on-year
- Data Source: Education and Employment Services and providers

Measure: Antisocial behaviour (ASB) levels among young people

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in ASB incidents
- Data Source: Police and Community Safety Partnership data – Youth Justice data

Measure: Participation in positive community activities (youth clubs, projects, volunteering)

- Indicator of Success: Increase in engagement and re-engagement rate
- Data Source: Youth Services and community participation data

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

- How It Will Be Used: Review inclusion, attendance, and family engagement trends
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: SEND Operational Delivery Group

- How It Will Be Used: Monitor SEND Performance data and partnership function
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Inclusion Support Services

- How It Will Be Used: Oversees school inclusion
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Safer Derbyshire

- How It Will Be Used: Monitors antisocial behaviour trends and youth engagement activities
- Monitored By: Derbyshire Safer Communities Board

Evidence Source: Data Dashboard Family Help and children's social care

- How It Will Be Used: Tracks family reunification and placement stability outcomes
- Monitored By: Children's Social Care Governance

Priority 2

Being heard, respected and valued

How This Will Be Evidenced

Quantitative Measures

Measure: Number of complaints and remedies relating to SEND services

- Indicator of Success: Reduction over time; fewer escalations to later stages or Ombudsman involvement
- Data Source: LA complaints data

Measure: EHCP feedback: children and young people report helping to create their plan

- Indicator of Success: Increase in positive responses indicating inclusion and understanding
- Data Source: EHCP feedback questionnaire (new and annual review) via Invision360 and SEND surveys

Measure: Patient/service user feedback from SEND-related health services (e.g. therapies, annual health checks)

- Indicator of Success: Increased numbers reporting they were listened to and treated with respect
- Data Source: NHS and provider feedback surveys

Measure: Transparency of decision-making panels (education, health, and care)

- Indicator of Success: Improved compliance with decision-making frameworks.
Terms of reference reviewed at least annually with stakeholder input
- Data Source: Governance and panel monitoring data

Measure: Number of families accessing signposted information and support (e.g. Local Offer, DIASS, Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice, ND Hubs)

- Indicator of Success: Increase in awareness and engagement
- Data Source: Local Offer analytics, DIASS, DPCV, ND Hub, Website analytics

Qualitative Measures

Measure: Family and young people's experience of being heard

- Indicator of Success: Families and young people describe a clear improvement in being listened to and influencing outcomes
- Data Source: Surveys, focus groups, and engagement events. EHCP feedback.

Measure: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board and service reviews

- Indicator of Success: Reports evidence co-production, feedback loops, and actions taken from lived experience
- Data Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board/ Health and Wellbeing Board

Measure: Practitioner and leadership feedback

- Indicator of Success: Increased understanding of co-production, transparency, and respectful communication
- Data Source: Workforce development surveys to be implemented

Measure: Case studies of needs-led, transparent decision-making

- Indicator of Success: Evidence of clear rationale for decisions and meaningful family involvement
- Data Source: Multi-agency audit programme QA board, Social Care reflective practice

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

- How It Will Be Used: Tracks satisfaction, accountability, and transparency measures
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Health and Wellbeing Board

- How It Will Be Used: Oversees feedback from health services and patient experience data
- Monitored By: NHS Derbyshire ICB

Evidence Source: DPCV (parent carer forum) and Young People's Voice representatives

- How It Will Be Used: Provide direct feedback to partnership boards and co-production groups
- Monitored By: DPCV / Youth Inclusion Forum

Evidence Source: Local Offer and Engagement Groups

- How It Will Be Used: Review accessibility, feedback loops, and quality of information signposting
- Monitored By: Local Offer Steering Group

Priority 3

Safety (Being and feeling safe, at home, school and in the community)

How This Will Be Evidenced

Quantitative Measures

Measure: Children and young people entering the Youth Justice System

- Indicator of Success: Reduction year-on-year
 - Data Source: Youth Justice Service data
-

Measure: Incidents involving children and young people (including missing, exploitation, or anti-social behaviour)

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in number and repeat incidents
 - Data Source: Police and Safer Derbyshire Partnership data
-

Measure: Hospital treatment resulting from preventable injuries (ages 0–14 and 15–24)

- Indicator of Success: A reduction in preventable injuries and unsafe incidents supported by early identification and coordinated multi agency intervention.
 - Data Source: NHS hospital episode data / Public Health England. Informed by analysis of the data across both age groups.
-

Measure: Safeguarding referrals and repeat referrals

- Indicator of Success: Decrease in repeat safeguarding concerns and greater early support engagement
 - Data Source: Children's Social Care data
-

Measure: Fixed-term suspensions and exclusions associated with unsafe behaviours

- Indicator of Success: Reduction over time
 - Data Source: Education data
-

Measure: Bullying and discrimination reports

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in reported incidents and evidence of swift, effective resolution
 - Data Source: School behaviour and safeguarding logs
-

Measure: Uptake of family help or targeted prevention services

- Indicator of Success: Increased early intervention and engagement
 - Data Source: Family Help data
-

Qualitative Measures

Measure: Family confidence in keeping their children safe

- Indicator of Success: Families report understanding risks and feeling supported by services
 - Data Source: Parent/carer surveys, focus groups
-

Measure: Practitioner confidence in multi agency responses to safety concerns

- Indicator of Success: Improved staff confidence and consistency in safeguarding practice
 - Data Source: Workforce surveys / safeguarding audits
-

Measure: Case studies of multi agency prevention and early intervention

- Indicator of Success: Evidence of timely, effective support reducing risk
 - Data Source: Multi agency case reviews
-

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: Youth Justice and Community Safety Board reports

- How It Will Be Used: Track trends, hotspot areas, and outcomes for young people
 - Monitored By: Safer Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership Board
-

Evidence Source: Public Health data reports

- How It Will Be Used: Monitors injury related hospital visits and targeted prevention work
 - Monitored By: Health and Wellbeing Board
-

Evidence Source: Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership annual report

- How It Will Be Used: Provides assurance of multi agency effectiveness
 - Monitored By: Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
-

Evidence Source: Quarterly SEND data review

- How It Will Be Used: Cross checks safety indicators for children with SEND
 - Monitored By: SEND Inclusion and Assurance Board
-

Priority 4

Opportunities and experience, achieving, hope and preparation for the future

How This Will Be Evidenced

1. Education Progress and Attainment

Measure: % of 19-year-olds with SEND qualified to Level 3

- Indicator of Success: Year on year increase
- Data Source: Youth DfE attainment data

Measure: Gap in attainment between SEND and non-SEND pupils

- Indicator of Success: Gap narrows over time
- Data Source: LA and DfE data

Measure: Progress of children and young people with SEN Support and EHCPs

- Indicator of Success: Improved outcomes across key stages.
- Data Source: School, LA and DfE performance data

2. Attendance, Inclusion, and Engagement

Measure: Attendance rates for pupils with SEND

- Indicator of Success: Gap in attendance between SEND and non-SEND pupils narrows
- Data Source: School census / LA attendance data

Measure: Persistent absence and unauthorised absence rates

- Indicator of Success: Incremental increase in attendance
- Data Source: Attendance and inclusion data

Measure: Exclusions and Part-time timetables

- Indicator of Success: Fewer exclusions and part-time timetables used only when appropriate and time-limited
- Data Source: LA inclusion and safeguarding data

3. Preparing for the Future and Employment

Measure: Number of young people on supported internships progressing into employment

- Indicator of Success: Increase year-on-year
- Data Source: LA and education provider data

Measure: % of young people with EHCPs in education, employment, or training (EET) at age 19+

- Indicator of Success: Increase year-on-year
- Data Source: LA and DfE participation data

Measure: Number of young people with SEND in apprenticeships or further education

- Indicator of Success: Increase in uptake and completion
- Data Source: Post-16 education data

4. Voice, Co-Production, and Aspiration

Measure: Children and young people's voice in EHCP annual reviews

- Indicator of Success: Increase in young people confirming they contributed to and understand their plan
- Data Source: EHCP issue/review feedback surveys (Invision360)

Measure: Family and young people feedback on preparation for adulthood

- Indicator of Success: Families and young people report feeling supported to plan for next steps
- Data Source: Engagement surveys / focus groups

Measure: Participation in youth voice and co-production groups

- Indicator of Success: More young people with SEND represented in strategic planning and service design
- Data Source: SEND Participation and Engagement records

Measure: Voice of young people at transition points

- Indicator of Success: Children and young people will share that they feel they receive the support they need in a timely manner to prepare for transition points and future ambitions
- Data Source: PfA Team

5. Local Sufficiency and Access to Provision

Measure: Percentage of children and young people with EHCPs educated within Derbyshire local provision

- Indicator of Success: Year-on-year increase in the proportion of children and young people whose needs are met within Derbyshire, close to home and their local community
- Data Source: Derbyshire EHCP placement and sufficiency data

Measure: Number of specialist places available across maintained, academy and post-16 provision in Derbyshire

- Indicator of Success: Increase in local specialist capacity in line with identified need
- Data Source: SEND Sufficiency Strategy and commissioning data

Measure: Average distance travelled to education placement by children and young people with EHCPs

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in average travel distance over time
- Data Source: Transport and SEND placement data

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

- How It Will Be Used: Oversight of attainment, inclusion, and preparation for adulthood outcomes across education phases
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Education Improvement and Inclusion Board

- How It Will Be Used: Track local authority and school-level progress on attendance, inclusion, and attainment
- Monitored By: Education Improvement Service

Evidence Source: Preparation for Adulthood Team

- How It Will Be Used: Monitor transition pathways and employment opportunities for young people with SEND
- Monitored By: LA and partner agencies (DWP, FE, Health)

Priority 5

Support: being and feeling supported

How This Will Be Evidenced

1. Quantitative Data

Measure: Proportion of children supported through SEN Support in mainstream education

- Indicator of Success: Increase, showing earlier identification and effective school-level support
- Data Source: Youth LA school census data/ Early Years SEND Data

Measure: Number and rate of EHC needs assessment requests

- Indicator of Success: Reduction over time as early intervention improves
- Data Source: SEND service performance data

Measure: Number of children waiting for specialist placements

- Indicator of Success: Reduction, with fewer waiting longer than one year
- Data Source: SEND placement monitoring

Measure: Awareness and attendance at Neurodiversity (ND) Hubs

- Indicator of Success: Increase in engagement and reach
- Data Source: ND Hub attendance and feedback data

Measure: Visits and feedback on the Local Offer

- Indicator of Success: Increase in users and improved satisfaction ratings
- Data Source: Local Offer analytics and surveys

2. Qualitative Evidence

Measure: Parent and carer feedback on early identification and timely support

- Indicator of Success: More families report that needs are identified early and support is effective
- Data Source: Annual SEND surveys / forums

Measure: Children and young people's feedback

- Indicator of Success: Young people feel supported and heard in planning and reviews
- Data Source: EHCP review feedback. Mind of My own APP

Measure: Feedback on the usefulness and accessibility of the Local Offer

- Indicator of Success: Improvement in family and professional perceptions of clarity and relevance
- Data Source: Local Offer review survey

Measure: Family experience while waiting for assessment or support

- Indicator of Success: Families report that interim advice and support are available and helpful
- Data Source: SEND service user feedback forms/ Health services feedback

Measure: Parent/carers perception of support meeting expectations

- Indicator of Success: Families indicate that agreed support is delivered and beneficial
- Data Source: Co-production and engagement sessions

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

- How It Will Be Used: Oversight of support pathways, inclusion, and early intervention effectiveness
- Monitored By: SEND Partnership Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Education Improvement Service

- How It Will Be Used: Monitor SEND support quality, inclusion, and mainstream capacity
- Monitored By: Education Improvement Service

Evidence Source: Local Offer Steering Group

- How It Will Be Used: Ensures accessibility, responsiveness, and quality of information
- Monitored By: Local Offer Steering Group/ SEND Partnership Improvement and Assurance Board

Evidence Source: Neurodiversity Hubs Steering Group

- How It Will Be Used: Reviews feedback, attendance, and impact
- Monitored By: ND Hub Leaders and SEND Board

Evidence Source: Parent Carer Forum and Youth Voice/Network representatives

- How It Will Be Used: Provide regular feedback on experience, satisfaction, and improvement priorities
- Monitored By: SEND community engagement / co-production group

Priority 6

Being and Feeling Healthy

How This Will Be Evidenced

1. Quantitative Data

Measure: Obesity among children in Reception and Year 6

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in obesity rates over time
- Data Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)

Measure: Attendance at Accident & Emergency (A&E) or walk-in medical centres

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in avoidable attendances
- Data Source: NHS / ICB A&E data

Measure: Attendance at routine or necessary appointments, including annual health checks for children and young people with SEND

- Indicator of Success: Increased uptake of health checks and reduction of missed appointments
- Data Source: NHS and Primary Care data

Measure: Availability and waiting times for key health appointments (e.g. CAMHS, therapies, ASD/ADHD pathways)

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in waiting lists and improved timeliness of support
- Data Source: NHS / provider performance data

Measure: Hospital admissions for mental health conditions in under-25s with EHCP

- Indicator of Success: Reduction over time through early, community-based support
- Data Source: NHS hospital episode statistics

Measure: Hospital admissions due to self-harm for ages 10–24

- Indicator of Success: Reduction over time through preventative mental health work
- Data Source: Public Health and NHS data

Measure: Smoking and alcohol prevalence (including during pregnancy)

- Indicator of Success: Reduction in prevalence, reflecting positive health behaviour change
- Data Source: Public Health data / maternity service reports

2. Qualitative Evidence

Measure: Family and young people feedback on access to health services

- Indicator of Success: Increased satisfaction with accessibility, timeliness, and clarity of information
- Data Source: Annual SEND and Health surveys

Measure: Feedback from children and young people about emotional wellbeing

- Indicator of Success: More children report feeling supported and knowing where to seek help
- Data Source: School wellbeing surveys / health consultations?

Measure: Professionals report improved coordination between education, health, and care

- Indicator of Success: Evidence of joined-up planning and communication
- Data Source: Joint audits / SEND health partnership reviews

Measure: Case studies of multi-agency health intervention

- Indicator of Success: Demonstrate effective early support improving family experience or preventing escalation
- Data Source: ICB reviews

Governance and Accountability

Evidence Source: Health and Wellbeing Board

- How It Will Be Used: Oversees improvement in public health indicators
- Monitored By: Health and Wellbeing Board

Evidence Source: Derbyshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)

- How It Will Be Used: Monitors health service access, waiting times, and delivery of annual health checks
- Monitored By: Integrated Care Board

Evidence Source: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board

- How It Will Be Used: Ensures joint planning and monitoring of health outcomes for children with SEND
- Monitored By: SEND Improvement and Assurance Board