

# Improving SEND Support in West Berkshire

Working together to make things better for children, young people and families

West Berkshire Council is working with schools, health services and local partners to develop a SEND Local Reform Plan for the next three years. This follows the national SEND Reforms White Paper published by the Government earlier this year. The Government's SEND White Paper, Every Child Achieving and Thriving, sets out national changes to make SEND support fairer, improve early help and access to specialists, and strengthen partnership working with parents by making the system easier to understand. All Local Authorities must submit their plan to the Department for Education by Friday 19 June 2026.

## Working with families

Families are central to this work. We will work closely with the West Berkshire Parent Carer Forum (WBSPCF), listen to children and young people and co-produce the plan with parents, carers, schools and health partners. Co-production means working with families, not doing things to them.



Working in partnership



Part of this approach will involve collaboration with parents at two in-person workshops to talk about the SEND Local Reform Plan, what you think is missing in the current West Berkshire SEND system, and hearing your views on what you'd like to see produced in the plan:

**1st May - Newbury Library 10:30am-12:30pm**

**7th May - Theale Library 10:30am-12:30pm**

Additionally, the WBSPCF will be hosting SEND Reforms online reflective sessions (use QR code to register or this link <https://bit.ly/WBPCF>):

**Afternoon - Mon 11th May 13:00-14:30**

**Evening - Mon 11th May 18:30-19:30**



## **What will the plan focus on?**

- Working with families and young people as equal partners
- Strong leadership and decision-making
- Understanding children's needs now and in the future
- High-quality support at the right time, with stronger early help
- Education, health and care working as one team
- A skilled and confident workforce to ensure needs of children and young people are met
- Making best use of resources and growing local support

## **Key dates**

**Spring 2026:** Planning, evidence gathering and co-production

**May 2026:** Draft plan shared for feedback

**By 19 June 2026:** Final plan submitted

**From Summer 2026:** Putting the plan into action

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