



# Changing the law on special educational needs

- The Children and Families Bill will change the law for how disabled children and young people and families get the services they need.
- The Bill is going through Parliament so that it can become law. It has been through the House of Commons where MPs debated it and suggested changes and now it is going through the House of Lords.
- Parliament has the opportunity to improve the new law.



# What changes?

- Education, Health and Social Care services will have to work together better.
- Education statements will be replaced by an 'Education, Health and Care Plan'.
- Disabled young people will get a 'joint assessment' - instead of each professional who gives you support working out your needs separately they will work together so you only have to say what you need once.



# What changes?

- Each local area will have to publish a 'Local Offer' - what they offer to disabled young people where you live.
- Young people will be given a 'right to appeal'.
- School Action and School Action Plus will be changed.
- Disabled young people will have the right to apply for a 'Personal Budget'.



# Services working together

- People may need support from lots of different services.
- Currently services don't always work well together.
- The new law will make them work together more closely.



# Education, Health and Care Plans

- These will replace Statements of SEN.
- The new plans will give people more rights to support from different services.
- This will mean people like the local authorities and health authorities, working together to provide the right support when it is needed.



# Post 16 changes

- The Government will make sure the Education, Health and Care Plans cover young people aged 16-25 in school, further education and apprenticeships.
- Young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) may also get extra support.



# The Local Offer

- Services will have to say what is available locally and how people can get the services – this is the Local Offer.
- Parents and young people will have to be consulted on the Local Offer.
- The Local Offer will include information on education, health, care and services to help people as they become adults.



# New right to appeal

- Young people will be given a new right to appeal on their own, instead of parents having to appeal.
- There is a pilot of this, where some people are trying it out to see how it works.

# A new Code of Practice

- The Code of Practice is a document which tells services (e.g. schools) exactly how they should support children and young people with SEN.
- Because there is a new law there will also need to be a new Code of Practice.



# Changing School Action and School Action Plus

- The Government is going to make one SEN category which will replace School Action and School Action Plus.
- At the moment people get School Action and School Action Plus if they have SEN but they do not need a statement to get the support they need. But School Action and School Action Plus focus on the support needed instead of what young people want to achieve.



# Changing School Action And School Action Plus

- A single category will be simpler and help the education system focus on the impact of the support provided on each student instead of how support is given.



# Personal budgets

- Young people will have the right to request a Personal Budget.
- Local authorities must prepare a personal budget to meet a young person's Education, Health and Care Plan if it has been requested.

# Finally



We are still working on these changes so we need to hear from you now.

- Does all of this sound like a good idea to you?
- Does it make sense?
- Does anything worry you?
- Does anything excite you?