0-25 reforms of SEN and disability support
A guide for post-16 institutions
Our aim

We want all children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities to realise their full potential and go on to achieve the best possible outcomes in life, including independent living and finding paid employment.
Children and Families Act 2014
Some key reforms

• Putting children, young people and families at the centre
• Local offer of services
• Coherent 0-25 SEN support
• New Education Health and Care plans
• New focus on preparing for adulthood, including employment
New duties for colleges

FE colleges, sixth form colleges, 16-19 Academies and approved independent specialist colleges will have new duties under the Act:

• To co-operate with the local authority (a reciprocal duty)
• To admit a young person, where the college is named in their EHC plan;
• To have regard to the new 0-25 SEND Code of Practice; and
• (mainstream providers only) to use their ‘best endeavours’ to secure the SEN provision the young person needs.
The local offer

• Each local authority must publish a local offer.
• Provides transparency for local people
• Makes provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations
• Must include post-16 providers
• …and support preparing for adulthood
Education Health and Care Plans

- From 1 September anyone, including a post-16 provider, can request an assessment of education, health and care needs.

- Young people with EHC plans can ask for a particular college to be named in the plan.

- Final EHC Plan must be shared with institution named in Plan.

- EHC plans must be reviewed annually and, from age 13 (Yr9) must include preparing for adulthood.
19-25 year olds

- EHC plan must not be ceased simply because a young person is aged 19 or over
- Some young people with EHC plans need longer to achieve their outcomes and make transition to adulthood
- But not an automatic entitlement to 25
Transitional arrangements

From 1 September 2014:

• Young people with existing LDAs will transfer to EHC plans within two years

• Children and young people with statements will transfer to EHC plans within three and a half years

• No new LDAs issued from September 2014

• Young people need to understand the new arrangements
Study programmes and preparing for adulthood

• Create personalised study programmes to prepare students for adulthood

• Pathways to Higher Education and/or employment e.g. Supported Internships, Traineeships and Apprenticeships

• Support independent living - having choice and control over support and accommodation

• Enable full participation in society
Supported Internships

I think this is the most successful work placement scheme I have been part of. I am really proud of my interns. None of them have been off sick, they are never late, no one has dropped out and they have a great work ethic. (Hospitality and Catering Employer, who later took on one of his interns as an apprentice).

...given me the chance to carry out proper work... I don’t care about the cash I just like working, but it has got its uses... It has made me more independent and I am able to help out with finances at home.

Blackburn College ‘Get Set’ programme [www.blackburn.ac.uk/about-blackburn-college/facilities/get-set/](http://www.blackburn.ac.uk/about-blackburn-college/facilities/get-set/)
SEN Support in colleges

- Mainstream colleges must use their best endeavours duty to put appropriate SEN support in place.
- Support should be developed with the student
- Base support on evidence
- Keep support under review, planning changes together with the student
What colleges should do now

• Identify an overall lead to oversee implementation of the reforms.
• Tell your students and their parents about the reforms.
• Tailor study programmes for students with SEN or disabilities
• Consider workforce development needs
• Build stronger links with schools
• Develop partnership with local authorities

Support for FE Workforce Development
Further information and support

- ACETT FE Networks - [https://www.acett.org.uk](https://www.acett.org.uk)
- SEN Gateway - [www.nasen.org.uk](http://www.nasen.org.uk)
- Achievement for All - [www.afa3as.org.uk/areweready](http://www.afa3as.org.uk/areweready)
- Supported Internships - [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) search ‘supported internships’
Where can I find out more?

Visit the pathfinder website at: www.SENDpathfinder.co.uk

Download the Council for Disabled Children’s (CDC’s) resources: www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/sendreforminfosheet

For regular updates, sign up to receive CDC’s e-bulletin by e-mailing cdc@ncb.org.uk

Open letter to parents and factsheet: http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/546380/Open-letter-to-parents.pdf

Access the Preparing for Adulthood support materials: http://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/

The implementation pack for FE: bit.ly/1hcBfKG