

North East Lincolnshire SENDAP Quarterly Newsletter

July 2026



WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN SEND SUPPORT ACROSS NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

This quarter's update highlights progress across SEND reforms, partnership governance, children and young people's voice, inspection readiness, and key subgroup activity, all with a continued focus on improving outcomes for children, young people and families.

Welcome to the NEL SENDAP Newsletter!

SENDAP Partnership Board Meeting – 15 July 2026

The SENDAP Partnership Board met in July to review progress across the local SEND system and agree next steps for partnership improvement.

Across the partnership, senior ICB roles will be changing due to the government direction on NHS staffing reductions. Continued strong partnership working will ensure this transition is smooth and mitigates impact on children, young people and their families.

From January 2027, the SENDAP Board will be changing in response to government requirements. The Board will meet six times per year, strengthen representation and revise its agenda structure to build forward planning over the year.

A strong focus remains on listening to children, young people and families. The Parent Carer Forum reported increased engagement through school coffee events, partnership meetings and the SENCO survey, while also highlighting ongoing concerns about the EHCP Hub. Young people's voice continues through YPAG, with further work planned to bring together intelligence from across the wider SEND system and strengthen the partnership's "you said, we did" approach. We acknowledge that the voices of children and families are continually gathered, however it is important that we collate these together to provide a cohesive and complete picture to further inform our work.

Performance updates highlighted positive progress in areas including access to equipment, wheelchairs and speech and language therapy. Demand remains high for neurodevelopmental support and CAMHS, and recovery action plans continue to support oversight of services where performance, demand or complexity require focused attention.

There has been significant progress on the projects for Support While Waiting and Early Alerts. Work is underway to strengthen the information available to families while they are waiting for support, including the development of a refreshed Local Offer webpage, which can be accessed here: [SEND Local Offer - NELC SEND Local Offer](#) and clear signposting through waiting list correspondence. Early Alert arrangements are also being explored through the Child Development Centre multi-agency assessment pathway, with a focus on identifying needs earlier and ensuring families can access support at the right time.

SUBGROUPS

Joint Commissioning

The Joint Commissioning Group focused on the Foetal Alcohol pathway. While some work is being taken forward centrally by the ICB, further local work is needed to confirm leadership, strengthen prevention activity and ensure children and families receive support based on presenting needs rather than diagnosis alone.



Preparing for Adulthood



The Preparing for Adulthood Group will refocus its work on the beginning of the statutory process in response to parent feedback. Ongoing health pathways will continue to be explored through the SPACE Forum and other local events.

The Parent Carer Forum has reviewed and endorsed the Preparing for Adulthood Protocol. A draft Preparing for Adulthood Data Dashboard is being developed, and the Avalon Group is due to launch in September.

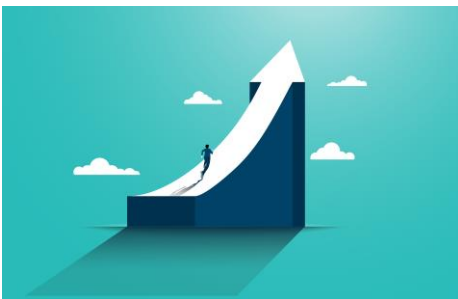
Education and Inclusion Capital Programme Board

The Education and Inclusion Capital Programme Board have several significant capital projects are underway, including the opening of the Emerald Hub RSP.

Further projects are being scoped, including potential building purchases. Capital planning will be aligned with the SEND reforms plan, local need and the system's capacity to deliver future developments.



SEND Reforms



The SEND reforms plan has been shared across a range of groups, boards and forums and has been well received. Local interest is focused on cluster funding, capital development and the continued development of the Experts at Hand model.

Once the plan is approved in September, regular updates will be brought to the Board, with a highlight report suggested to support oversight. Work on Ordinarily Available Provision / Inclusive Mainstream Practice (OAIP)

continues, with engagement taking place through the SENCO Forum, health professionals and wider partners over the next 12 months. The Short Breaks pilot remains open.

Alternative Provision

Significant partnership work is underway to strengthen Alternative Provision. The aim is to meet need earlier and provide more holistic support around children and young people, rather than focusing solely on placement. Partners will be asked to consider what they can commit to as part of a multi-agency approach, aligned with the expectations set out in the DfE pilot materials.



INSPECTION PREPARATION

Preparation continues for the expected Area SEND Inspection. The partnership have regular monthly meetings to report on progress around workforce, voice, audit, data and performance. The Children's Assurance, Partnerships and Evaluation Team at NELC work with colleagues within the council and partners from the ICB and HCP to ensure the document bank and Annex A documentation is updated routinely.

Storyboards and Workforce Preparation

A number of storyboards are being developed across the partnership on key cross-cutting themes of which staff should be able to narrate under inspection circumstances. Workforce Information Sessions have been scheduled across the partnership for staff to attend online to be updated on the various storyboards, along with key headlines from the SEF development and SEND Reforms Progress. Following these sessions, the storyboards will be shared with attendees and we ask that staff disseminate these across their teams. The dates of the scheduled workforce sessions are:

7 September 15:00 – 16:00

10 December 15:00 – 16:00

7 October 11:00 – 12:00

14 January 14:00 – 15:00

11 November 14:30 – 15:30

9 February 11:00 – 12:00

We hope to see you there for as many sessions as possible! If you have any queries please contact cape@nelincs.gov.uk