

Wirral SEND Partnership

Information Advice and Support Service

Offering impartial information, advice and support to children and young people (0-25 years) with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their parents & carers.

Do you want to know more about the Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Inspection?

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have been asked by the government to inspect local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling their new duties, relating to Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014. These duties came into force on the 1st September 2014 and place responsibility on the Local Area, which includes the local authority and health commissioners and providers, together with all of the early years settings, schools and post-16 further education sector, to **identify and meet the needs of disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs and or disabilities aged 0 to 25 years.**

Ofsted and CQC have held a consultation on their proposals for inspection over the last few months. They have had discussions with young people, their parents and carers, disability and special educational need support groups, local authorities and health groups about the most important responsibilities that should be inspected. These discussions have been instrumental in shaping the new SEND Inspection Framework and handbook.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-framework> and https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/519378/The-handbook-for-the-inspection-of-local-areas-effectiveness-in-identifying-meeting-needs-of-children-who-have-special-educational-needs-and-or-disabilities.pdf

What will you want to share with the inspectors when they visit our Local Area?

The views of children, young people, their parents and carers, disability and special educational need support groups; will be very important to the inspectors. The inspectors will want to know how identification and provision has improved outcomes for children and young people in the Local Area, since September 2014 and will ask **what differences have you noticed in your provision and support, that you feel are going to help you achieve your best possible educational and other outcomes.**

How will you be able to share your views with the inspectors?

The first inspections will begin in May 2016 and all local areas (152 in total) will be inspected over a five year period. The team of inspectors will be holding lots of meetings when they inspect the Local Area and they will want children, young people and their parents and carers to be represented at most of them. If you are unable to attend any of the meetings you could ask someone else to share your views on your behalf or take part in a webinar – a virtual, online meeting or fill in a form or email the Ofsted & CQC Local Area SEND Inspection Team.

All children and young people with a disability or special educational need and their parents and carers will be asked to share their views and experiences – this could be done as individuals or through relevant support groups, including Parent Participation Wirral. **Please let us know if you would like to be contacted when the inspection team come to Wirral.**