

SEND in the Specialists coalition welcomes Education Select Committee recommendation

The SEND in the Specialists coalition welcomes the Education Select Committee's recommendation of a SEND workforce plan to address shortages and build capacity across education, health, and care services.

We are particularly pleased that the Committee is calling for this to be a joint plan between the Department for Education and the Department of Health and Social Care. This mirrors the recommendation we made in our written evidence to the Committee. We are also pleased that the Committee has called for this plan to be developed urgently.

We urge the Government to act on the recommendation as soon as possible and stand ready to work with them to ensure the plan encapsulates the totality of the specialist workforce covering education, health, and care, across early years, school age, and post-16 settings. To make this a reality, it needs action across the whole workforce that children and young people with SEND rely on and that the SEND in the Specialists coalition represents. Examples include specialist teachers of children and young people with DLD, qualified teachers of deaf children and young people, teachers of children with vision impairment, and teachers of children with multi-sensory impairments, as well as educational psychologists, allied health professionals, and many more.

As we said in our written evidence, we hope the Government will work on this with external organisations and coalitions and children and young people and their families.

The SEND in the Specialists coalition

See our written evidence:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/136998/pdf/>