



London Borough  
of Hounslow

# Working together to improve our SEND & AP System

Ensuring all Hounslow Children and Young People reach their  
limitless potential

September 2025

**SEND** Local Offer

For more information on SEND, visit our local offer website at:  
[www.hounslow.gov.uk/send-local-offer](http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/send-local-offer)

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HOUNSLOW**

- We have been working hard to develop a system-wide inclusive approach to supporting Hounslow's children and young people with SEND which will align with the national approach. It will further align with the Hounslow's Children and Young People's Plan which highlights the Council's commitment and ambitions for children and young people living in the borough, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- Our Limitless Strategy incorporates an inclusive approach: 'Our ambition is for an inclusive, healthy and highly skilled workforce; good quality, well paid local employment; high performing and inclusive schools and opportunities to engage in lifelong learning for all'.
- Our ambition and passion has been recognised by Ofsted & Care Quality Commission during the Area SEND Inspection in October 2024, whilst recognising further work is required to ensure a consistent system.
- From September 2025, we will be launching a number of changes to improve the support and resources available to children and young people, from early years to early adulthood (25).

## **Enhancing the support available in Early Years:**

- All early year settings will receive a new notional payment from September 2025 to help them improve their spaces and upskill their staff.
- The Mainstream Inclusion Partnership (MIP) is being extended to Early Years, which is a simpler process ensuring that settings have easier access to additional support and funds.

## **Expanding the support and offers available for children with SEND in settings by:**

- We are relaunching our Mainstream Inclusion Partnership (MIP) with all our mainstreams schools. Following teacher feedback, we have improved our application process to support all settings being able to apply for additional support for children and young people with SEND, but without EHCPs.
- We are launching our SEND Employment and Participation Plan in September, which sets out the challenges based on what we currently know, and our priorities to improve Post-16 Participation and Employment for young people with SEND.
- Establishing Resource pathways in the mainstream, piloting our new Independence Hubs and Employability Hubs from September 2025, and exploring the establishment of Resource Provisions across the borough.
- Publishing the Alternative Provision Directory to support schools identify the appropriate setting for CYP.
- Investing in our workforce development offer to better support inclusive practice.
- Exploring opportunities with the NHS for better health integration

## **Improving our funding model for children and young people with EHCPs**

- We have improved our funding model for EHCPs through our new Top Up Funding Model, which will begin implementation from September over the next four years.

## **We have improved the Mainstream Inclusion Partnerships (MIP), by:**

- Extending MIP to our Early Year Settings, ensuring they have easier access to the support they need. The MIP will encourage Early Years settings to work closer together to share best practice and agree additional resource to support babies and children with additional needs.
- We have listened to SENCO feedback to improve and streamline the MIP application process, to ensure paperwork is not discouraging settings for applying for additional resource.
- Providing training to support all settings to implement the ordinarily available provision and make MIP applications.
- We will be working closely with parents/carers to raise the awareness of the mainstream inclusion partnership and what support it can offer their children.
- We are also reviewing the transition from early years to reception, with more information expected to follow on this in 2026.

- This autumn term, we will begin implementing our new Top Up Funding model, which has been designed to support inclusion for all children and young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan who both live in Hounslow and attend a Hounslow school.
- The new Top Up Funding model, which has been co-produced with colleagues from education, health and social care, uses a banding system that will profile the individual needs of the child or young person to enable accurate and needs based allocation of funding.
- Funding will follow the learner regardless of the educational setting, therefore the greater the complexity of need, the greater the level of funding.
- Funding rates have been reviewed and resulted in uplifted rates.
- The model will be transparent. CYP with an EHCP, will have a 'Descriptors of Need' completed and kept up to date to reflect current levels of need.
- This new model will be phased in over a four-year period, starting in Autumn 2025.
- Arrangements for individual students will be reviewed annually, via the annual review process.
- All staff are **invited to an event on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025** to receive more information and guidance on this new model.
- More information on this new model can be found on our Local Offer website.

The local authority will be establishing Resource Pathways across the borough in our mainstream schools, which will become the mainstream offer designed to support learners with SEND, whose needs cannot be met through ordinarily available provision (OAP) and the mainstream inclusion partnership alone. This will ensure learners have access to the right support at the right time throughout their education journey. To achieve this the LA have identified the need to create new provision across the borough and increase SEND places in the mainstream. These include:

## Resource Provisions

- Resource Provisions will be established across the borough in mainstream schools.
- These will be available in each locality, at each phase of a child's life, providing specialist support for their needs.
- Each provision will specialise in an area of need offering targeted, tailored support within mainstream settings and enable young people with SEND to access the national curriculum alongside their peers, in a dedicated space and remain on a pathway through inclusive education.
- Further, each Resource Provision will be supported through a sponsorship model, funded by the LA, partnering Special schools with the provisions for additional support, guidance and sharing of knowledge and expertise.
- Implementation will begin with Primary and Secondary, with further intention to exploring Early Years Resource Provisions.

## Employability Hubs

Employability Hubs are being established for Young People with EHCPs, aged 16 and over, with a direct pathway into employment that will offer:

- Young people exposure and work-based experiences and learning, with wrap around support, to build employability skills and behaviours needed to enter and successfully sustain in the workplace.
- A high-quality curriculum with embedded preparation for adulthood (PfA) life skills designed to empower them to lead healthier lives and achieve maximum independence, actively participating in their communities to live fulfilling lives.
- Destination planning and provide them with the support to enable them to secure and transition into their chosen destination, whether this may be supported internships, apprenticeships or direct employment

## Independence Hubs

Independence Hubs are being established for Young People with EHCPs, aged 16-24, providing a local pathway into independence that will offer:

- A learning environment for those with severe learning difficulties (SLD), profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and those with complex needs
- Education and training resources tailored to their needs and outcomes
- An inclusive, supportive, and dynamic environment where young people can develop independence, social skills, and life skills, preparing them for adulthood in their local community, in line with our PfA Outcomes
- Empowering them to actively participate and thrive within their college environment and transition into independence, living as independently as possible, in their wider local community

## Launch of Plan

All young people, including those with SEND are presumed to progress to good work and or meaningful activities when they transition out of education, which is possible with the right preparation and support. The Plan sets out key challenges based on what we currently know, and what young people, parents and stakeholders have told us. It goes on to set out:

- Key challenges based on what we currently know - need to do more to engage with young people, families and partners to understand the systemic barriers and longer-term solutions
- What that change will be with priorities for Post-16 Participation and Employment for young people with SEND as part of the Hounslow approach to PfA

Delivery has commenced with the development of provision such as the Independence and Employability hubs, improving ways of working, strengthening our services and ensuring young people and their families have access to the right information and guidance at the right time, for example the development of the Getting Ready for Work and Life Guide.

## Getting Ready for Work and Life (Preparation for Adulthood) Guide

This document is an all-inclusive guide for young people, and their families to understand the steps to preparing for life after education and how to plan early and navigate the transition process. It explains what to expect at each stage of the transition to adulthood and how education, health, and care services should work together to support young people every step of the way to ensure a smooth and positive journey into adulthood.



**Alternative Provision (AP) Framework will be delivered in a phased approach, that includes:**

- The AP Directory will be launched and shared with schools in September 2025
- Updated section 19 policy
- This supports schools to identify appropriate support/settings.
- A review of the Reintegration Protocol for Secondary Schools, which will be completed by 2025. This will be followed by a review of the Primary Schools.
- Development of a three-tier model that sets out the support for children and young people who require alternative education options, which will be available from April 2026.
- An updated commissioning offer
- LA Assured tuition service, LEAD, successfully launched and operating to support children unable to attend traditional schools