

My Life, My Rights Essex  
Local Area SEND Strategy  
2021

PAF Scrutiny Committee – 10  
th November 2021

# Methodology

## Overview

- A local area strategy that sets out our vision, aims and ambitions for the SEND System in Essex, how we will achieve them and how we will measure our success.
- The strategy includes:
  - Purpose/ Introduction
  - Our Pledge
  - Vision for SEND in Essex
  - The strategy test
  - Actions
  - Outcomes
  - Success measures

## Timescales

- **Consultation** March 2019
- **Further discovery work** throughout 2020
- **Draft strategy content** June – Sept '21
- **Design work** September '21
- **Governance** October '21
- **Launch** Late Autumn Term

# What do we need to improve?

- Equity: children, young people and their families do not experience equal access to a consistent, high quality range of educational support, health services and specialist provision. We want every child and young person to access the high quality support, services and provision that they need.
- Inclusion and equal access to opportunities: children, young people and their families have told us that they don't always feel included in their communities and that there are not enough opportunities available to them. We want every child and young person to feel included and to have equal access and opportunities as they move through each stage of their life.
- Ambition: outcomes for young people with SEND are not yet good enough. The percentage of 16 and 17 year olds who are NEET (not in employment, education or training) in Essex without SEND is 3.6%. For young people with an EHCP this rises to 8.4% and for young people who had SEN support the figure is 9.6%\*. We want the very best outcomes for every child and young person throughout their life.

Our vision is  
that every  
child and  
young person:

- is safe;
- has the best possible health and wellbeing;
- develops their personality, talents and abilities to the full;
- is connected to, and plays an active part in their local community;
- is able to live a full and meaningful life with independence and dignity.

Whatever their age, whatever their circumstances, whatever their unique characteristics and without discrimination

# The pledge

- As people who teach, support and care for children and young people, we will respect and fulfil the rights of all children and young people with special educational needs and disability in Essex;
- The best interest of the child or young person will always be our top priority in decisions and actions;
- We will listen to the views, feelings and wishes of children, young people and their families in all matters affecting them and take their views seriously;
- We will step in and take positive action to protect these rights; we will share where things have gone right and we will look at where things have gone wrong and make sure this doesn't happen again.

# The five strands of the strategy

- Every child and young person's views, feelings and wishes are always considered and taken seriously in all matters that affect them;
- Every child and young person has the best possible mental health and emotional wellbeing;
- Every child and young person's education & training should develop their personality, talents and abilities to the full;
- Every child and young person is connected to, and plays an active part, in their local community;
- Every child & young person has the education, care & support they need to lead a full & purposeful life with dignity & independence.