

# Local Area SEND Inspection

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**Title:** Local Area Inspection of SEND

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**Intended audience:** Internal  Partner organisations  Public  Confidential

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## Purpose

Warwickshire is preparing for a Local Area Review (LAR), which will assess the impact and effectiveness of services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This update follows previous communications notifying local area children and young people workforce partners, stakeholders and providers of the pending inspection, which will be carried out jointly by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Ofsted. For the purpose of this inspection programme the "local area" will include Warwickshire County Council and Public Health, Warwickshire CCG, NHS, healthcare providers, early years' settings, schools and further education providers.

The framework for the Local Area SEND inspection and the inspectors' handbook was initially published 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-framework>

Following previous communications pertaining to the Local Area SEND inspection, this update provides a summary of the inspection framework and an outline of the week long inspection process.

## Focus

Inspectors will pay particular attention to gathering evidence about how needs are identified and met for groups of children and young people whose specific circumstances require additional consideration, as set out in the Code of Practice. This will include:

- children looked after
- care leavers
- children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities and social care needs, including those who have a child in need or a child protection plan
- children and young people educated out of area
- children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities who are educated at home
- children and young people in alternative provision
- children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities who are in hospital
- children of service personnel
- children and young people in youth custody or secure accommodation.

## Before the Inspection

In planning for the inspection, the lead Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) and the CQC inspector will consider all available evidence to develop an initial picture of the local area's performance in fulfilling its responsibilities. The lead HMI and CQC inspector will develop initial hypotheses and key lines of enquiry informed by analysing:

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- outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in national assessments
- attendance and exclusion information
- data relating to the identification of special educational needs at special educational needs support and education, health and care (EHC) plan levels
- information about the destinations after leaving school, including about young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- performance towards meeting expected timescales for statutory assessment
- inspection reports for the local area, its services and providers
- the published local offer
- the local authority short break statement
- schools' and nurseries' published special educational needs information reports
- the joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA)
- the joint health and well-being strategy
- special educational needs and disability strategic plans devised and used by the local area
- the level of appeals to the First-tier Tribunal (Health and Social Care Chamber) (Special Educational Needs and Disability), including cases resolved prior to tribunal hearing
- complaints to Ofsted and CQC
- any relevant serious case reviews and their outcomes
- performance information published by the DfE and DoH
- commissioning and performance data on delivery:
  - of healthy child programme (previous 12 months)
  - of school nursing service (previous 12 months)
  - on neonatal screening programme
  - on 0–25 services for child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy (to include commissioned care pathways and specialist arrangements for children with SEND).

The lead HMI and CQC inspector will also review additional information such as:

- any evaluation from service users and how these have influenced commissioning and changes to service delivery
- data about initial and health review assessments for children looked after who have or who may have special educational needs and/or disabilities
- pathways for referrals to health services for assessment, including CAMHS, therapies, child development centres and associated performance data
- statistics on health attendance and input into EHC assessment and review meetings
- specifications for local area services, including those for young people aged between 16 to 25
- guidelines on transfer of responsibility.

## **Notification of the Inspection**

The inspection can take place at any point in the usual school term time, with 5 days' notice received.

Typically four inspectors will be on site for 5 days.

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Inspection Week Programme (typical programme based on learning from other local area SEND inspections carried out to date)

Day	Meeting/ Focus
<p><b>Monday meetings (central)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview and scene setting in the Warwickshire area</li> <li>• Warwickshire Parent/Carer Forum (WPCF)</li> <li>• Personal Budgets and Integrated Personalised Commissioning</li> <li>• Therapies Focus Group 0-25</li> <li>• Early Years (0-5)</li> <li>• Impartial Information Advice and Support: Local Offer, IIAS, Independent Support and Short Breaks</li> <li>• Designated Medical Officer Role</li> <li>• Early identification and early intervention – SEN Support in education establishments (0-19) data and progress</li> <li>• Education, Health and Care assessment and plan pathway and outcomes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday meetings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Health meeting</li> <li>• Early identification (0-25 years)</li> <li>• Post 16, further education, preparation for adulthood and employment pathways</li> <li>• Looked after children and health</li> <li>• SEN home to school travel</li> <li>• School nursing focus group</li> <li>• EHCPs and the Youth Justice Team</li> <li>• CAMHS 0-25 service</li> <li>• Attainment data</li> <li>• Warwickshire area self-assessment framework and SEN strategy</li> <li>• Local provision and local need</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education setting visits: Wednesday and Thursday</b></p> <p>(Settings to allow 3 hours per establishment when scheduling: Attended by a single Inspector - Ofsted Lead Inspector or LA Ofsted or CQC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 x Early Years</li> <li>• 3 x Primary</li> <li>• 2 x Secondary</li> <li>• 2 x PRU/Special</li> <li>• 2 x Post 16</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday meetings</b></p>	<p>Senior officer and key partners verbal feedback (ahead of formal written feedback to follow post regular Ofsted/ CQC quality assurance proceedings)</p>

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## **Post-Inspection**

Inspections are intended to be constructive for local areas as well as hold them to account. Where a written statement of action is required, the DfE, working with the DoH and NHS England where relevant, will seek to engage closely with the local area to provide appropriate challenge and support to bring about the necessary improvements identified by the inspection. After a period of time, usually around 12 months after the publication of the inspection report, the DfE will advise the Minister on progress delivering the improvements. In exceptional circumstances, this may include a recommendation to Ministers for a further inspection by Ofsted and CQC. Under section 20(1) of the Children Act 2004, Ofsted and CQC must inspect a local area when requested to do so by the Secretary of State for Education, in accordance with the terms specified in that request.