

SEN Capital Funding Consultation

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Local authorities must ensure there are sufficient good school places for all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities. The Government has committed £215 million of capital funding to help local authorities create new school places and improve existing facilities for children and young people with SEN and disabilities, in consultation with parents and providers.

This funding is:

- intended for the children and young people with education, health and care (EHC) plans for whom the local authority is responsible.
- to support local authorities to invest in provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities aged 0-25 to improve the quality and range of provision available to the local authority.

WHERE ARE WE NOW

Torbay aspires to create a well-planned continuum of provision from birth to age 25 that meets the needs of children and young people with Special Educational needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families as set out in our SEND Strategy.

Torbay's Current Context and Performance

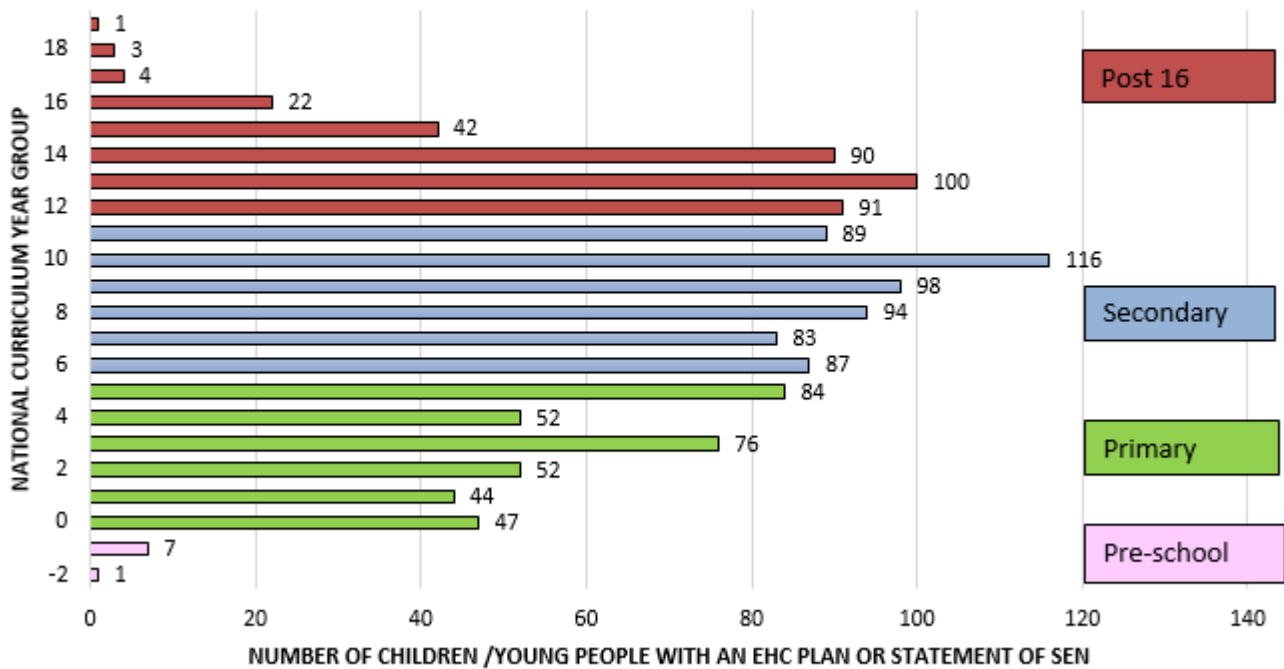
There are currently 26,745 children and young people under the age of 18 living in Torbay (ONS mid-year 2015). 20,055 children and young people attend state-funded schools in Torbay (January 2016 school census).

Torbay has a high proportion of children and young people with Statements / Education, Health and Care Plans. This equates to 4.4% of the pupil population compared to 2.9% nationally. This figure includes all types of schools including free schools and independent schools (school census 2016 as reported in Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT))

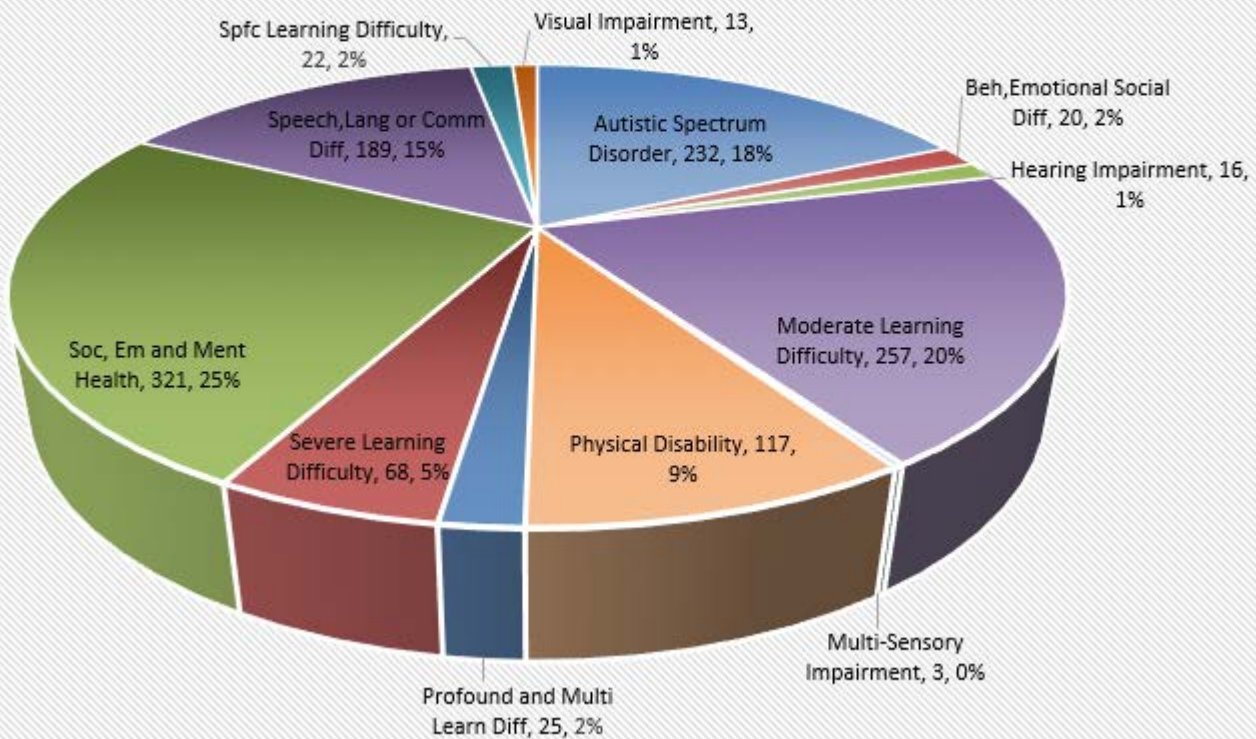
The SEND legislation covers the age range 0-25 years. The total number of Torbay pupils with EHC Plans / Statements is 1134 (as of 30/1/17). The following charts demonstrate the number of pupils with either an EHC Plan / Statement by age band and the primary identified need.

This document can be made available in other languages, on tape, in Braille, large print and in other formats. For more information please contact 01803 208260

EHC plans and Statements by national curriculum Year groups and phases



EHC plans and Statements of SEN by Primary Area of Need



Current Provision and Accessibility

Children and young people in Torbay may attend mainstream early years settings, schools or colleges or specialist provision such as mainstream schools with enhanced resource provision or special schools. In a diverse provider landscape the local area must exercise a range of roles and remain committed to the inclusion of children and young people.

In addition to mainstream provision the LA has developed a number of enhanced resource provisions that are delivered by mainstream providers. These include the following:-

- Preston Primary School (Autistic Spectrum Condition)
- Barton Academy (Speech & Language Therapy)
- St Margaret's Academy (Hearing Impairment)
- The Spires College (Hearing Impairment)
- Brixham College (Autistic Spectrum Condition)

The number of children presenting with additional needs is increasing both locally and nationally. Torbay has taken action to commission additional placements with existing schools, colleges and special schools within the local area. The current capacity of providers to expand the offer further is limited; this is compounded by the demographical demand to create more provision at all phases.

	Jan 15	Jan 16	Jan 17	Approx Current Position
Coombe Pafford – Pre 16	201	204	200	206
Coombe Pafford – Post 16	23	30	50	50
Mayfield – Pre 16	134	147	156	197
Mayfield – Post 16	18	32	34	34
Mayfield – Chestnut Centre	22	28	31	35
Brunel Academy	56	56	56	56
Burton Academy	38	38	38	48
Preston – Autism Provision	16	15	16	17
Brixham – Autism Provision	16	18	18	16
Hearing Impaired Provision	8	7	7	9
Barton Language Unit	10	10	10	10
Independent/ Non Maintained Specials	34	36	31	46
Post 16 Placements	Data not held	51 (FE) 23 (Bespoke)	99 (FE) 25 (Bespoke)	100 (FE) + 25 (bespoke +)

The SEND reforms have required Post 16 provision to be developed further. Additional needs which require enhanced provisions are around students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Emotional, Social and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH).

The SEND Strategy provides the framework within which services can develop in an affordable and sustainable manner in the interests of Torbay children.

Participation is a key theme within the SEND Strategy, which also identifies Co-Production as a Priority area. We will ensure that parents, children and young people are involved in discussions and decisions about every aspect of planning, including making provision to meet local needs.

THE PROPOSAL

The additional trends which have been identified above require capital funding in order to allow developments to occur in these areas. The need to support mainstream schools (not special schools), private/voluntary and early years providers, to enhance their inclusive practices will allow the local area to meet these growing trends.

The following areas have been identified by the LA:

Special unit or resourced provision:	Enhanced provision at The Spires School for students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
	Additional provision to support students with at Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH) to be developed at a mainstream secondary school.
Pupil referral unit and alternative provision academy:	Expansion of Medical Tuition Service (MTS) to include Post 16 provision
Mainstream school or college:	Access grants available for mainstream schools (not special schools), private/voluntary and early years providers to submit bids.

Additional Information about each project

<p>Type of SEN or disability that project is designed to meet.</p>	<p>More details about the aims of the project. Beyond this further information can be listed in their strategic plan or directly on their local offer page.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social, Emotional and mental health difficulties 	<p>Project to create new places and added facilities to better support better pupils with Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans for emotional, social and mental health difficulties.</p> <p>Additional provision in a mainstream secondary school , bringing children and young people with EHC plans who are currently in bespoke packages back into the area and on role at a mainstream school.</p> <p>This investment is part of a wider package of investment to reduce children's travel times to other local authorities and support them to be independent in their own community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) 	<p>Project to create a new enhanced provision at the Spires school for children and young people with an EHC plan and diagnosis of an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).</p> <p>Improvement to current facilities.</p> <p>This investment is part of a wider package of investment to reduce children's travel times to other local authorities and support them to be independent in their own community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote inclusive practice for children and young people with SEND 	<p>Accessibility Funding (not for reasonable adjustments) to be made available on a bid basis for mainstream schools (not special schools), private/voluntary and early years providers. A clear evidence base of the need for additionality in the schools' Access Plan, or similar, will be required to secure a successful bid.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical/ Sensory needs • Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties (SEMH) 	<p>Expansion of the Medical Tuition Service (MTS) to include Post 16 provision for students with an EHC plan.</p>

THE NEXT STEPS

Local Authorities are required to complete and publish a short plan that sets out how they intend to invest their allocation, which is visible to parents, carers and other local groups.

The purpose of this consultation is to gather your views and inform the decision making process; it will run from 1st December 2017 to 31 January 2018. After that date all responses received will be collated and shared, and a decision will then be made whether to proceed with the proposal or not.

Timeline

By Wednesday 14 March 2018	Local authorities must publish the short plan on their local offer page
Summer 2018	Local authorities that have published the plan and consulted with parents, carers and young people will receive the first tranche of funding
March 2019	Local authorities should update and republish their plan to show what they have spent on so far
Summer 2019	Local authorities will receive the second tranche of funding
March 2020	Local authorities should update and republish their plan again
Summer 2020	Local authorities will receive the third tranche of funding
March 2021	Local authorities should update and republish their plan a final time, to show how all money was eventually spent

HOW TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS HEARD

We would like to hear your views on this proposal, please find attached a questionnaire which you can complete and return. This questionnaire can also be completed online, go to: www.torbay.gov.uk/consultation.

You can also send your views in by letter or email to the following addresses.

Letter:

Samantha Poston
Schools Capital & Planning Officer,
Schools Capital & Planning Team, TDA
3rd Floor Tor Hill House Union Street Torquay TQ2 5QW

Email: schoolscapital@torbay.gov.uk

If you would like additional copies of this document and response form, or require it in a different format or language, please telephone 01803 208260.

The closing date for responses is 31st January 2018

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