

# INCLUSION UPDATE

## MARCH 2026

### OUR INCLUSIVE VISION

At Longdendale High School, inclusion is not a separate provision or a single room – it is embedded in everything we do. We believe that **good teaching for students with SEND is good teaching for all**, and we are committed to removing barriers so that every student can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Our approach is underpinned by our core values of *Respect, Resilience and Aspiration*.

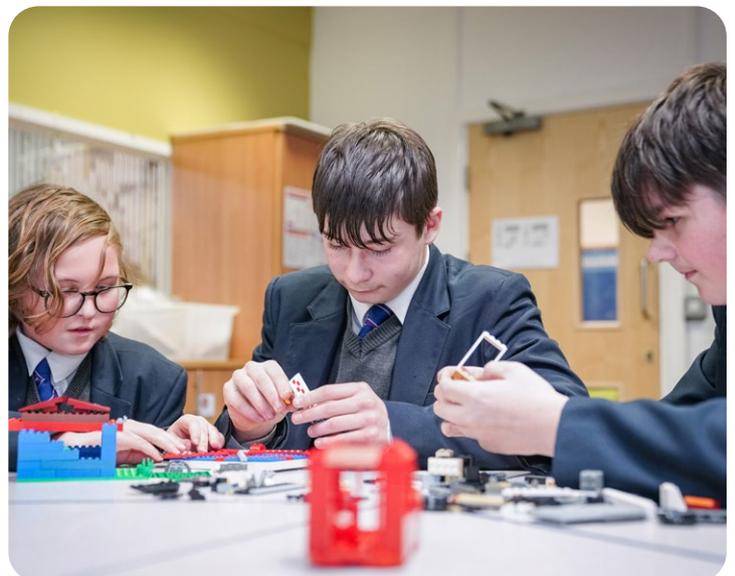
### BRICK-BY-BRICK INTERVENTION

Parents may have noticed that Longdendale recently advertised an appeal for donations of any unwanted Lego sets to support interventions in school. Previously our inclusion team have offered Lego Therapy intervention as one of our SEND provisions, however we are now moving away from this terminology, and the provision will be renamed Brick-by-brick. This intervention focuses on play-based social development, moving away from a deficit-based model of autism.

The intervention is led by a trained adult with a group of 3-4 students over the course of a half-term. Each week students take it in turns to take on different roles within an adult led social activity. Students are supported to develop their speech and language skills, social communication skills, problem solving and resilience.

If you would like to donate any spare or unwanted Lego sets, we would greatly appreciate any donations.

Do you have any  
spare LEGO sets?



## EVERY CHILD ACHIEVING AND THRIVING

On the 23rd of February 2026 the government released the schools white paper *Every Child Achieving and Thriving*. This is available to view here or by scanning the QR code below:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/every-child-achieving-and-thriving/every-child-achieving-and-thriving-html-version>



The white paper is **not a new law**. It is a document that sets out the Government's ideas and proposals for changes they would like to make to reform the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) system in England. It is important to note that at this point in time SEND law remains unchanged.

Some of the main proposals in the white paper are:

All schools will have to create an individual Support Plan (ISP) for every child with SEND that clearly sets out the help that a child will receive. It is hoped that introducing ISPs will reduce the reliance on lengthy EHCP processes.

Earlier access to support by identifying needs faster and providing quicker support through "Targeted" and "Specialist" tiers.

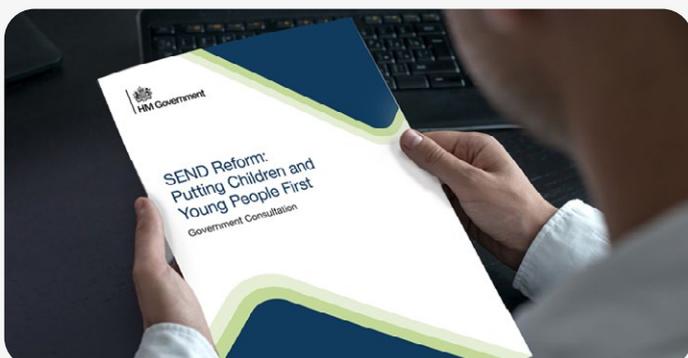
Extra funding will make services like speech and language and small group teaching easier to access.

The government will offer a wider legal entitlement beyond the ISP. This will see education, health and care (EHC) plans detail more intensive or complex support than schools can routinely provide.

The government has said that no child will lose effective support already in place:

- Children with EHC plans in mainstream schools will not be moved to ISPs until at least 2030. And this will only happen when moving between school stages (for example from primary to secondary).
- Transition for children with an EHC plan in mainstream settings who will be best supported in the future via an ISP, rather than an EHC plan, will only begin from 2030 once the new inclusive mainstream system has been fully built. This will only happen as children naturally move between phases, like from primary to secondary.

Families have until the **18th of May 2026** to share their feedback and views. We would encourage parents and carers to share their views regarding SEND reforms using the link/QR code below:  
<https://consult.education.gov.uk/send-strategy-division/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-firs/>



**HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES HERE**

# TAMESIDE SENSORY NEEDS TOOLKIT

Sensory differences can significantly affect a child's learning, behaviour and emotional wellbeing. When these needs are not recognised early, children can feel overwhelmed, dysregulated or misunderstood, and what may appear as 'behaviour' is often a communication of discomfort, anxiety or difficulty managing their environment. By improving shared understanding and consistency, we can ensure that children receive the right support at the right time. This half-term Tameside introduced the Sensory Needs Toolkit to families and schools.

This Sensory Needs Toolkit has been developed as part of Tameside's ongoing work to promote clarity, consistency and early intervention across Tameside. It is designed to support schools, families and professionals to better understand sensory needs and respond to them using a clear graduated approach. The aim is to build shared language, promote earlier identification and strengthen universal sensory-friendly practice across all settings.

The toolkit:

- Encourages early and accurate identification
- Offers practical strategies that can be implemented immediately
- Provides clear pathways from universal to targeted and specialist support
- Strengthens communication between home, school and services

Over the coming term there will be opportunities for further training for school staff, alongside opportunities for families. The toolkit is available on the Tameside Local Offer:

<https://tamesidelocaloffer.co.uk/sensory-toolkit-now-live/>



## WHAT THIS TOOLKIT IS FOR

**This toolkit is intended to:**

- ✓ Support schools and settings to recognise when sensory experiences may be impacting a child's learning, behaviour or wellbeing.
- ✓ Provide practical guidance on how to adapt environments, routines and expectations to better support regulation
- ✓ Promote consistent practice across settings using a shared language and graduated response.
- ✓ Support children with and without diagnoses by focusing on need rather than labels

## WHAT THIS TOOLKIT IS NOT

**This toolkit:**

- ✗ Is not a diagnostic or assessment tool
- ✗ Does not replace specialist assessment or advice
- ✗ Is not a requirement for a specific diagnosis
- ✗ Is not intended to be used solely as evidence for referral or statutory processes

Instead, it is a practice guide to support understanding, reflection and early action.

## WHO THIS TOOLKIT IS FOR

**This toolkit can be used by:**

- School staff (teachers, teaching assistants, SENCOs, pastoral and leadership teams)
- Parents and carers
- Professionals supporting children and young people across:
  - education
  - health
  - and community settings
- And Young people who wish to explore their own sensory needs!

## SEND EVENTS

The events, groups and organisations below may be of interest to parents/carers.



**April 2026**

Call us: 0161 3031636  
Mon-Fri 9-5pm

<b>W/C 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>2/04</b> - Late Night Calls Open until 8pm! <b>3/04</b> - Bank Holiday
<b>W/C 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>6/04</b> - Easter Monday Bank Holiday <b>8/04</b> - Sleep Workshop 12:30-1:30pm ONLINE
<b>W/C 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>15/04</b> - Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30am St Peter's Children's Centre, OL7 0LL <b>15/04</b> - Drop in 12:30-2:30pm Ridge Hill Children's Centre, SK15 1EA
<b>W/C 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>21/04</b> - Drop in 12:30-2:30pm Flowery Field Children's Centre, SK14 4SQ
<b>W/C 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>29/04</b> - Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30am Greenside Children's Centre, M43 7RA




# Tameside Neurodiversity Hub

Tameside Neurodiversity Hub offers support for children and young people displaying behaviours indicative of neurodiversity, on the pathway to diagnosis or diagnosed.

Our dedicated team of Navigators can support young people or parents/carers of neurodivergent children. Navigators can support to give information and advice, through signposting, workshops and coffee mornings.

## How to contact us

Our dedicated phone line 0161 3031636

All our useful info and timetable:



Email us at [tamesidendhub@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:tamesidendhub@barnardos.org.uk)




## Let's Talk! Speech & Language Drop-In

FREE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES, A RELAXED SPACE TO ASK QUESTIONS  
EACH FAMILY CAN TAKE PART IN ONE DROP-IN SESSION WITH US

**ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ...**

- How your child plays ?
- Their talking or understanding ?
- Their milestones ?

**AT THE DROP-IN, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO...**

- Speak with a Speech & Language Therapist
- Get guidance from the Health visitor
- Enjoy the soft play together

**JOIN US...**

**Denton Wellness Centre**  
Thursdays (term time)  
9am- 11am

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SEND Reform: Putting Children and Young People First  
Government Consultation

Can't attend live? - request a recording

## Webinar: Schools White Paper – SEND reform proposals, the implications and next steps

**Date:** Monday 30 March 2026  
**Time:** 19.00 - 20.15

[WWW.IPSEA.ORG.UK](http://WWW.IPSEA.ORG.UK)

## SEND EVENTS

The events, groups and organisations below may be of interest to parents/carers.



Hampshire Child and Adolescent  
Mental Health Services

### New Strategy Based Films for parents/carers and Professionals New for 2026

**What is Emotionally  
Based School  
Avoidance**



**Risk factors for  
Emotionally Based  
School Avoidance**



**Tips for Emotionally  
Based School  
Avoidance**



**Thriving with  
ADHD in school**



**ADHD  
and sleep**



**Reframing  
ADHD**



**Girls and ADHD**



**ADHD – order out of  
chaos**



**Growing older and  
changing ADHD  
symptoms**



**The importance of  
sleep**



**Tips to support  
sleep optimisation**



To watch the  
videos, scan these  
QR codes

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES

We know that the strongest outcomes come from **close collaboration with parents and carers**. Families are involved in:

- Planning and reviewing support
- Sharing insight into their child's strengths and needs
- Regular communication with staff
- Decision-making around next steps and interventions

Your voice matters, and we value working together to support your child.

## LOCAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN TAMESIDE

Families may also find the following local services helpful:

### SEND & Education Support

- Tameside SEND Local Offer: [www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer)
- SEND Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS): [www.togethertrust.org.uk/community-support/sendiaass](http://www.togethertrust.org.uk/community-support/sendiaass)

### Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health

- Children and Young People Mental Health Support: [www.tameside.gov.uk/mentalhealth/children](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/mentalhealth/children)
- CAMHS Accessed via GP or school referral: [www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/mental-health-support/](http://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/mental-health-support/)

### Family & Early Help

- Tameside Early Help: [www.tameside.gov.uk/earlyhelpoffer/parent-carer](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/earlyhelpoffer/parent-carer)
- Tameside Family Hubs: [www.tameside.gov.uk/familyhubs](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/familyhubs)



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



ASPIRATION

## NEED SUPPORT OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about SEND support at Longdendale High School, please contact the SEND Team. We are always happy to listen and work with you.

Together, we will ensure every student feels supported, included and able to succeed.

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