



Pack 6

Education Services

Down Syndrome Act 2022:
draft guidance





Department
of Health &
Social Care



Down Syndrome Act 2022: draft guidance

What services should do to support
people with Down syndrome



What education services should do



Education is about learning. This might be at places like nurseries, school or college.



All children and young people should have a good education.

What people with Down syndrome need

People with Down syndrome are more likely to need support with things like:

- Learning, understanding and remembering new things.



- Reading words and understanding numbers.





- Communicating.



- Being able to see information clearly. Things like small writing or busy pictures.



- Moving around. Things like sitting and walking.



- Writing and drawing.



- Being able to hear what is happening in the classroom.



- Remembering new information and following instructions.



- Getting enough sleep. If children are tired, this can affect their learning.

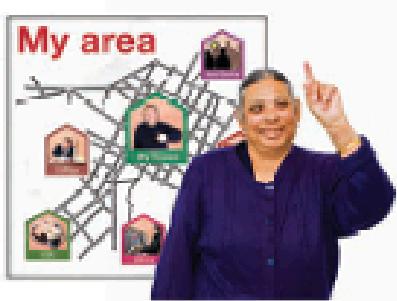


- Feeling things in a different way. Things like bright lights, sounds and being touched.
This might make some people feel very stressed.

What services should do to support people with Down syndrome

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Services should have a list of children and young people in their area who might need extra support to learn.



Services should make sure people know what support they can get in their local area.



Services should work together with young people and families and carers to plan support services.



Families and carers should have their say about what the best support looks like.



Schools should have plans and rules for supporting children and young people with **SEN**.



We say children who need extra support to learn have **special educational needs**. We call it **SEN** for short. We say it like this: **sen**



Schools should have someone who makes sure that young people with SEN get support at school.



Schools should work together with young people and their families and carers to make an **education, health and care** plan, if needed. It is called **EHC** for short.



An EHC plan says what help a young person needs. It lists:

- A child or young person's education, health and care needs.
- How these needs will be met.
- How to support them in the best way when they go to school or college





An EHC should be checked every year to make sure it is working well.



- Make sure children and young people learn about sex and healthy relationships.



Colleges should support young people with SEN to think about their future. This might be things like:



- Doing more learning.



- Living independently.



- Being healthy.



- Taking part in their local community.



Universities must treat young people fairly.



Youth justice teams

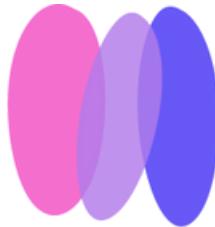
Youth justice teams work with children and young people who are in trouble with the law.



They must make sure that children and young people still have support for their SEN.

National Down Syndrome Policy Group

CHANGING THE NARRATIVE



Department
of Health &
Social Care



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Tell us what you think



This survey is for:

- People with Down syndrome and their families and carers.
- People with similar conditions or a learning disability and their families and carers.

It is now your turn to complete the draft guidance survey on Education Services.



People with Down syndrome have already said they think that it is important for all teaching staff to have special training about Down syndrome.



Because teachers do **not** get special training about Down syndrome:



The needs of children with Down syndrome may not be spotted early enough.



The right support may not be given.



Children with Down syndrome might not learn well.



If teaching staff did have special training on Down syndrome it would mean:



Better support for learners.



Children with Down syndrome learn in the right way.



They are included and do well in school.



There is space at the end of this pack for you to share what you think about this.



To remind you, this is what people with Down syndrome have said before about why special training is important:



It helps make sure learning needs are not missed.



People with Down syndrome should be treated fairly in education and not be limited.



People with Down syndrome should be included at school.

What education services should do



Part of the draft guidance tells you what support people with Down syndrome should get from education services.



You can read about this first in the easy read draft guidance. It is on pages 25 to 31.



Question: Does the draft guidance make it clear what support people can expect to get from education services?



Yes



No



I don't know



Question: Do you think we need to make any changes to this part of the draft guidance?



Yes



No



I don't know



If you ticked yes, please tell us what changes we need to make. Write your answer in this box.