



# **SEND Review in England – how could it affect deaf children?**



# Session Presenters

**Justin Cooke**

Government Relations and Partnerships Advisor

**Beccy Forrow**

Campaigning and Activism Lead

**Carla Rose-Hardman**

Head of Family Engagement

# Where are you now?



# Aims of the session



**Understand what the  
Government's plans for a  
new SEND system in England  
might mean for deaf children**

**Share your views on the education support that every deaf child should be entitled to**

**Know what to do next  
and how to have your say**

# What's happened so far?

- The Government acknowledges that the SEND system doesn't currently work well and support varies too much.
- SEND review and Schools White Paper published in March this year.
- Bold ambitions...“ensure that every child and young person has their needs identified quickly and met more consistently, with support determined by their needs, not by where they live.”
- Nothing set in stone - still time to influence the review
- Expect a delivery plan this Autumn



# What is the Government suggesting?

- Setting nationally consistent standards for SEND and alternative provision.
- Digitised EHCP process and template.
- Mandatory mediation.
- A national framework of banding and price tariffs for high needs funding. (EHCP Plan funding).
- Ofsted inspections focus on experiences of children and young people with SEND.

# What does this mean for you and your child?



## Areas for cautious optimism

- National standards – will include “best practice in reasonable adjustments for disabled children.” Could mean teachers get the basics right for deaf children
- Improving careers guidance for young people with SEND
- Strengthening the checks when a child is aged 2. We’d like involvement from Teachers of the Deaf in these checks

# What does this mean for you and your child?



## Areas where we would like the Department to do more

- There was little in the review about Teachers of the Deaf and the role of specialist education services for deaf children. A missed opportunity not to reverse the decline
- Making sure that teacher training covers SEND. Deaf young people have told us that classroom teachers need better deaf awareness and we think that initial and ongoing teacher training needs to be strengthened.

# What does this mean for you and your child?



## Areas of concern, where we need to see the detail

- The Department has suggested setting up new local SEND partnerships to create inclusion plans for each area including a list of approved local schools (special and mainstream).
- Given the low number of deaf children will these plans account of their needs?
- Will this be used to limit parental choice?
- Mandatory mediation

# Focus on... national standards



- Aim to give more consistency in the “provision, processes and systems” for children and young people with SEND.
- Apply across education, health and care – from age 0-25.
- The only deaf specific legal requirements now are:
  - 1) that qualified Teachers of the Deaf should be consulted when undertaking a statutory assessment for an Education, Health and Care plans for a deaf child
  - 2) that teachers of classes of deaf children should hold an additional teaching qualification in deafness.

# What should they include?

We want to see national standards which are:

- Deaf-specific.
- Allow some flexibility for children's individual needs.
- They should enable the right support for deaf children.

For us to support the standards, they must not:

- Narrow existing legal rights and limit parents' rights to appeal.
- Lead to any reduction in existing support or a 'race to the bottom'.

# Time to chat

What would great support look like for deaf children?

We'd like you to discuss in your break out groups what support you think all deaf children should be able to get. In the early years, at school and then from age 16 into adulthood.

These discussions will help us draw up what we think should be specific to deaf children in the 'national standards'. What support should be in place across England for deaf children?

This is about improving support – we won't endorse any version of the national standards that dilutes or weakens existing rights.

# Feedback

Our facilitators will share your thoughts and ideas – if you see a great idea that you like let us know in the chat so we can see the most popular ideas



# What's next and how can you have your say?



- Government consultation closes 22 July
- Youth Advisory Board petition – can you help them get to 100,000 signatures for better deaf awareness in school?
- E-action – email your MP and local media
- Read our consultation guide before you respond – lots of handy tips and information on each of the questions
- Thank you for your views on the National Standards – we'll be using your thoughts and ideas in our consultation response

**Any questions?**



# Our Helpline

Call

- Freephone 0808 800 8880

Email

- [helpline@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:helpline@ndcs.org.uk)

Live chat

- [www.ndcs.org.uk](http://www.ndcs.org.uk)

BSL Video Relay

- Support with a range of issues

Website



**Have we met  
our aims  
today?**



**Understand what the  
Government's plans for a  
new SEND system in England  
might mean for deaf children**

**Share your views on the education support that every deaf child should be entitled to**

**Know what to do next  
and how to have your say**

# After this session

**Feel free to  
email us with  
any feedback**

**We'll email you to  
see what you  
thought and share  
links**

**Have a look at other  
online sessions**