

# Schools White Paper – Key Direction

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- Shift to inclusive mainstream as default
- More children with SEND supported in mainstream schools
- High standards and inclusion go together
- Schools as community anchors

# What This Means Nationally

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- Reduced reliance on specialist placements
- Stronger accountability for inclusive practice
- Earlier intervention and graduated support
- Integration across education, health and care

# Leicester City Position

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- Inclusive mainstream already core to local SEND strategy
- Strong alignment with national direction
- Step change needed in pace, scale and consistency
- Focus on workforce, sufficiency and system leadership

# National Reform Timeline

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- 2026: Local SEND Reform Plans submitted (June)
- 2026–27: Year 1 delivery begins (early implementation)
- 2027 onwards: Expansion of inclusive mainstream reforms
- Later phase: Legislative change and full system implementation
- Key message: Implementation of the reform will begin this year

# White Paper Consultation

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- National Consultation on proposed SEND reform
- Closing date 18<sup>th</sup> May
- Feedback informing the final reform approach
- LCC response to the consultation being developed

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