



Children and Young People's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Promise for County Durham

Introduction

The eXtreme group is recognised by the SEND Strategy and Accountability group as a representative voice for children and young people with SEND living in County Durham.

Facilitated by Investing in Children, the group work together to share their views and to identify how services can make positive changes based on the experiences of children and young people with SEND.

The eXtreme group completed their own independent review, and as a group, came together to look at key themes that they would like to see prioritised.

The eXtreme group have subsequently developed a young people's charter the Children and Young People's SEND 'Promise'. This is a revision of the two existing charters previously in place with the Local Authority and the former Primary Care Trusts, providing one document for all organisations and services within the local area, for children and young people with SEND.



North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group
Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group





Children and Young People's SEND Promise for County Durham



Education

We promise to provide a high standard of education that is fun and engaging in a safe learning environment.

We promise to provide the best support from qualified staff so that young people can succeed in education.

We promise that all young people are fully involved and prepared during transitions in education e.g. moving from secondary school at the end of year 11 to college or an apprenticeship.

We promise to provide young people with choices within education to support the goals and aspirations of children and young people.

We promise to provide young people with choices to take part in fun and challenging sports and activities within education.



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County Durham Children and Families Partnership



Investing in Children



Durham
County Council



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Health

We promise to treat all children and young people with respect and to listen to the needs of the individual.

We promise to provide training to all staff to support children and young people with SEND, so they can access the best possible health care, including providing children and their families with information on the best place to go to meet their needs.

We promise to fully involve and prepare children and young people during the transition from children and young people's health care services to adult health care services.



County Durham Children and Families Partnership





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Activities/Leisure Provision

We promise to provide quality leisure provision with qualified, experienced support staff to meet the individual needs of children and young people in County Durham.

We promise to offer children and young people the opportunity to choose activities that they would like to engage in.

We promise to fully involve children and young people in the planning and reviewing of leisure activities in County Durham.

We promise to provide leisure activities that are accessible and affordable to all children and young people in County Durham.



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Respite Opportunities

We promise to involve young people in making decisions about their respite care.

We promise to support young people to achieve their personal goals and to develop a greater level of independence.

We promise to provide an environment that is safe, challenging, stimulating and fun for all young people that access respite care.

We promise to give young people a choice of who they would like to work with, either one to one, or the organisation that provides their respite.





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Transport

We promise to discuss home to school transport options with families to help support children and young people to access education.

We promise to support children and young people to become more independent by providing training for them to travel on their own, to their education and leisure activities.



County Durham Children and Families Partnership





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Children in Care

We promise to fully involve children in care with the opportunities to make decisions that affect their lives in line with the Local Authority's 'Our Promise to You' document which includes:

- To treat you with respect as an individual.
- To find you the best available home where you feel safe, cared about and treated well, for as long as needed.
- To help you stay in touch with friends and family like other young people not in care.
- To take what you say seriously by listening to you and trying to act on what you say.
- To involve you in any decision, plans and changes that affect you and your future (your Social Worker, Independent Reviewing Officer and Carers will make sure that this happens).



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Employment

We promise to provide an education, training and work experience to prepare young people, so they are ready for employment.

We promise to support young people to achieve their aspirations by providing access to meaningful employment opportunities.

We promise to provide an accessible work environment inclusive to young people with SEND.



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Access to Information

We promise to fully involve children and young people in the development and review of all Education Health and Care Plans or Support Plans.

We promise to make information and advice accessible and available to all children and young people and their parents and carers.

We promise to work in partnership to enable children and young people and their families to access services without having to retell their story time and time again.



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Having a Voice

We promise within any service, to listen to the voices of children and young people, ensuring services continue to make improvements based on the experiences of the children and young people.



County Durham Children and Families Partnership



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