Hampshire Local Area SEND Inspection – What You Need to Know

Information for Parents/Carers and Young People

What is the Local Area SEND Inspection?

A local area SEND inspection checks how well services in Hampshire support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Two organisations do the inspection. **Ofsted** (the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills), who inspect services providing **education** and skills for learners of all ages and **Care Quality Commission (CQC),** who ensure quality and safety of care across **health and social care.**

They look at how well schools, health services, and social care work **together** to help children and young people with SEND.

Who is Involved?

The **Hampshire Local Area Partnership** includes leaders from **education**, **health**, and **social care,** groups like **SENDIASS**, **HPCN,** and **voluntary organisations,** and **parents, carers, and young people** (including Hampshire Parent Carer Network (HPCN) and Hampshire SEND Youth Forum).

They all work together to plan and improve support for children and young people with SEND.



Hampshire County Council NHS Office for Health Improvement & Disparities HAMPSHIRE PARENT CARER NETWORK enabling voices to be heard Hampshire SENDIASS

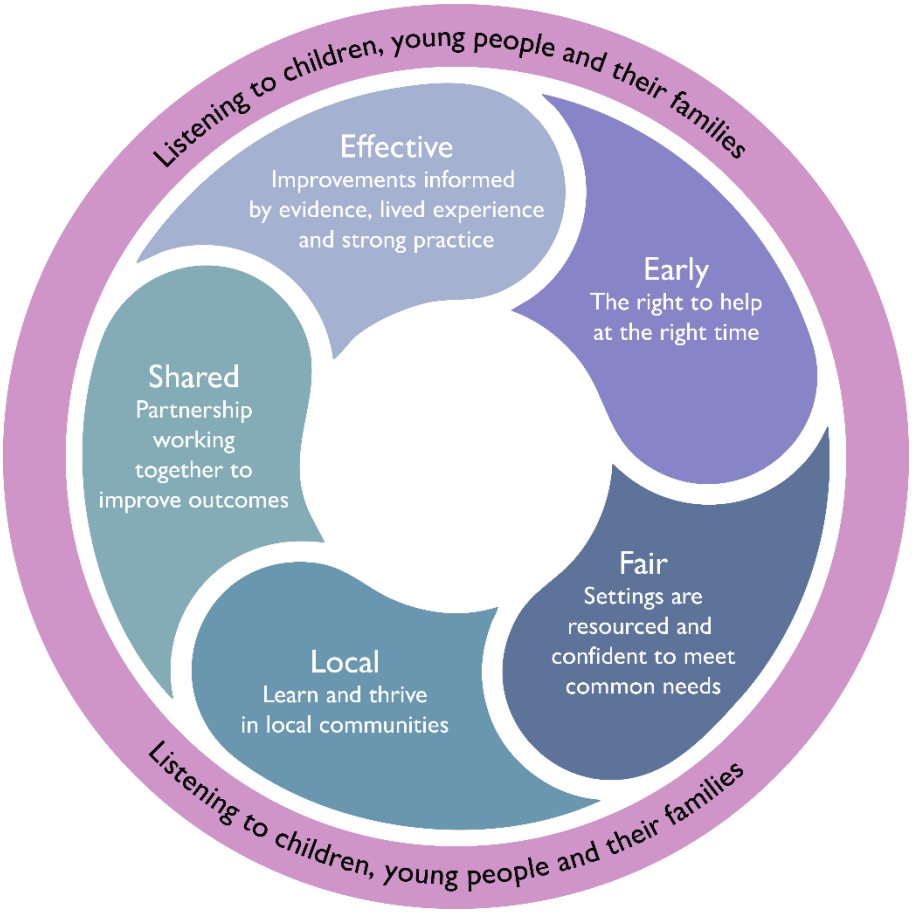
What Happened Before?

Hampshire had a SEND inspection in **2020**. The inspectors' said Hampshire was doing well, but some things needed to get better, like:

- Working better together.
- Reducing waiting times.
- Making sure support is the same across the county.

Since then, Hampshire has made changes including, improvement programmes and publication of a joint **strategy and action plan** sharing our commitment to working together to make things better.

Our Action Plan:



What Will Inspectors Look At?

Inspectors want to see if:

- Children and young people's needs are **spotted early** and **assessed properly.**
- Families can **help make decisions.**
- Support is given **at the right time.**

- Young people are **ready for their future.**
- Children and young people with SEND are **included** in their communities.
- Leaders are **working together** and **listening to families.**

What Happens During the Inspection?

The inspection takes **3 weeks**:

Week 1:

- Hampshire is told the inspection is starting.
- A **survey** is sent to parents, carers, young people, and staff. We will send this out to all our contacts and post it on our website (Family Information and Services Hub | Local Area Partnership - Hampshire).
- Inspectors choose six children/young people to follow closely. Professionals working with families will come and ask for permission to share information.

Week 2:

- Inspectors meet with leaders and staff online.
- They look at information from all the partners working in Hampshire.
- They talk to the six families chosen.

Week 3:

- Inspectors visit schools, health services, and care settings where young people with SEND might be accessing support.
- They talk to more people and gather evidence.
- At the end, they give feedback to Hampshire leaders.

What Are the Possible Results?

After the inspection, there are three possible outcomes:

Positive Outcome	Things are going well although some improvements may still be needed.
Inconsistent	Some things are good, but others need work.
Significant Concerns	There are problems that must be fixed quickly.

Ofsted and CQC will write a report and share it within 30 working days.

Want to Know More?

- Talk to your school, health worker, or social worker about their involvement with the Local Area Partnership.
- Find out more about the Hampshire's Local Area Partnership, including the current action plan and self-evaluation Family Information and Services Hub | Local Area Partnership - Hampshire.
- Visit the GOV.UK SEND inspection page, which includes videos explaining inspections Area SEND inspections: information about ongoing inspections - GOV.UK.
- Parents and Carers can also talk to the Hampshire Parent Carer Network (HPCN) Hampshire Parent and Carer Network.
- Young people can engage with Hampshire SEND Youth Forum to get more involved Hampshire SEND Youth Forum (HSYF) | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council.

05 August 2025