



All-Party
Parliamentary Group for
**Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities (SEND)**

Chair Olivia Blake MP
Vice chair Sally-Ann Hart MP
Secretariat provided by NAHT

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All-Party Parliamentary Group for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Inquiry Summer-Autumn 2020 Terms of Reference

The All-Party Group for **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)** has launched an inquiry into the impact that Covid-19 on children and young people with SEND during transition within educational establishments which will run from Summer 2020 to Autumn 2020.

The inquiry will aim to build the evidence base on the issue, but also to inform progressive and practical solutions within the education sector and wider community.

The Group will be hearing evidence, views and experiences from a variety of expert stakeholders as well as young people themselves.

The objectives of the inquiry are:

- To further build the evidence base of the impact of Covid-19 has had upon young people's mental health and wellbeing during transition
- To further build the evidence base of the impact that Covid-19 has had upon learning outcomes during transition
- To examine the impact that Covid-19 during transition has had upon children and young people with SEND specifically in relation to the social, emotional wellbeing within the community.
- To establish where the capacity and responsibility to address the impact of Covid-19 lies, whether this be with the Government, the sector, parents and young people themselves or a combination of all of these
- To make recommendations to Government on its role in mitigating and remedying the impact that Covid-19 has had upon children and young people with SEND during transition



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The inquiry is open to receive evidence under four broad topics, which will form the basis of at least four oral evidence sessions in Parliament (or virtually), from July to November 2020:

- Communication and interaction (oral evidence at [23 September meeting](#))
- Cognition and learning (oral evidence at [14 October meeting](#))
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties (oral evidence at [11 November meeting](#))
- Sensory and/or physical needs (oral evidence at [2 December meeting](#))

The APPG invites all stakeholders with relevant knowledge and expertise to submit evidence. In particular, we welcome the input of:

- Children and young people themselves (whether on their own initiative or coordinated through young people's organisations)
- Parents and guardians
- Professionals and voluntary sector workers who work directly with young people, including teachers and youth workers
- Professional associations and trade unions representing the education workforce
- Charities and NGOs that work with or on behalf of children and young people
- Academics and researchers involved in SEND
- Clinicians and public health professionals with expertise in SEND
- Government representatives from relevant departments, especially the Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Education.

The deadline for responses is 15 November 2020.

Please make written submissions by email to appg.send@naht.org.uk.