

0-25 Integration

Why do we need to change?

There are a number of reasons why we need to change the way we provide services for children and young people with additional needs.



The national 'Support and Aspiration' Green paper, which subsequently became part of the [Children and Families Act](#) , identified the following issues:

- Too many children/young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) have their needs picked up late
- Statements of Special Educational Needs and Learning Disability Assessments for those who have left school, do not focus on life outcomes
- Too many families have to battle to get the support they need
- When a young person leaves school, they enter a different world, often without a meaningful transition period.

The Act includes a new SEND Code of Practice. We have already laid the foundations in meeting the requirements but there is more work to do to fully meet the changes set out in the Support and Aspiration paper.

What are we doing?

The 0-25 Integration Programme is looking at how children's social care, adults' social care, education and health services can work more effectively together to better support families with children and young people that have additional needs.

By joining up service delivery and commissioning we will see improved outcomes for children and young people as they enter adulthood.

We will be looking at developing our workforce, reviewing the customer experience and existing services to ensure there is a smooth transition from children's to adults' services, as well as developing a commissioning strategy and commissioning delivery unit.

Desired outcomes

The 0-25 Integration program aims to create a Hertfordshire where:

- Resources are used fairly and effectively to ensure that people get the right support at the right time
- Parents have real choice over their child's education and the opportunity for direct control over support for their family
- Systems are clear so that professionals from different services and the voluntary and community sector can work together
- Children, Young People, their families and communities have much more influence over local services
- Preventative investment at the right time leads to reduced demand in specialist services thus freeing up capacity
- Children, Young People and their families are provided with accurate, accessible and transparent information
- Education, Health and Care work in partnership with children, young people and their families to support each child to fulfil their potential
- Families are provided with support that reflects all their physical and emotional needs.