



Greater Manchester

Bury Local SEND Reform Plan

Schools Forum Update

Bury Local Partnership Maturity Assessment

Bury SEND Data Template

Bury SEND Reform Plan



The Local SEND Reform Plan

March 2026



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Bury Local Partnership Maturity Assessment

Pillars	Assessment
1. Co-production with parents and carers and children and young people	Emerging*
2. Effective system leadership and governance	Developing
3. Accurate understanding of needs and experiences of children and young people through effective use of quantitative and qualitative data	Developing
4. High quality service delivery at universal, targeted and specialist levels to promote inclusion	Emerging
5. Positive feedback: Education providers Health services Social care / Local Authority	Emerging Developing Developing
6. Skilled and organised workforce across local authority, education settings, health and social care	Developing
7. Targeted and judicious use of resources including place planning, sufficiency and use of capital	Developing

*Changed from Developing to Emerging following SIAB members' feedback (6).



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Bury SEND Data Template



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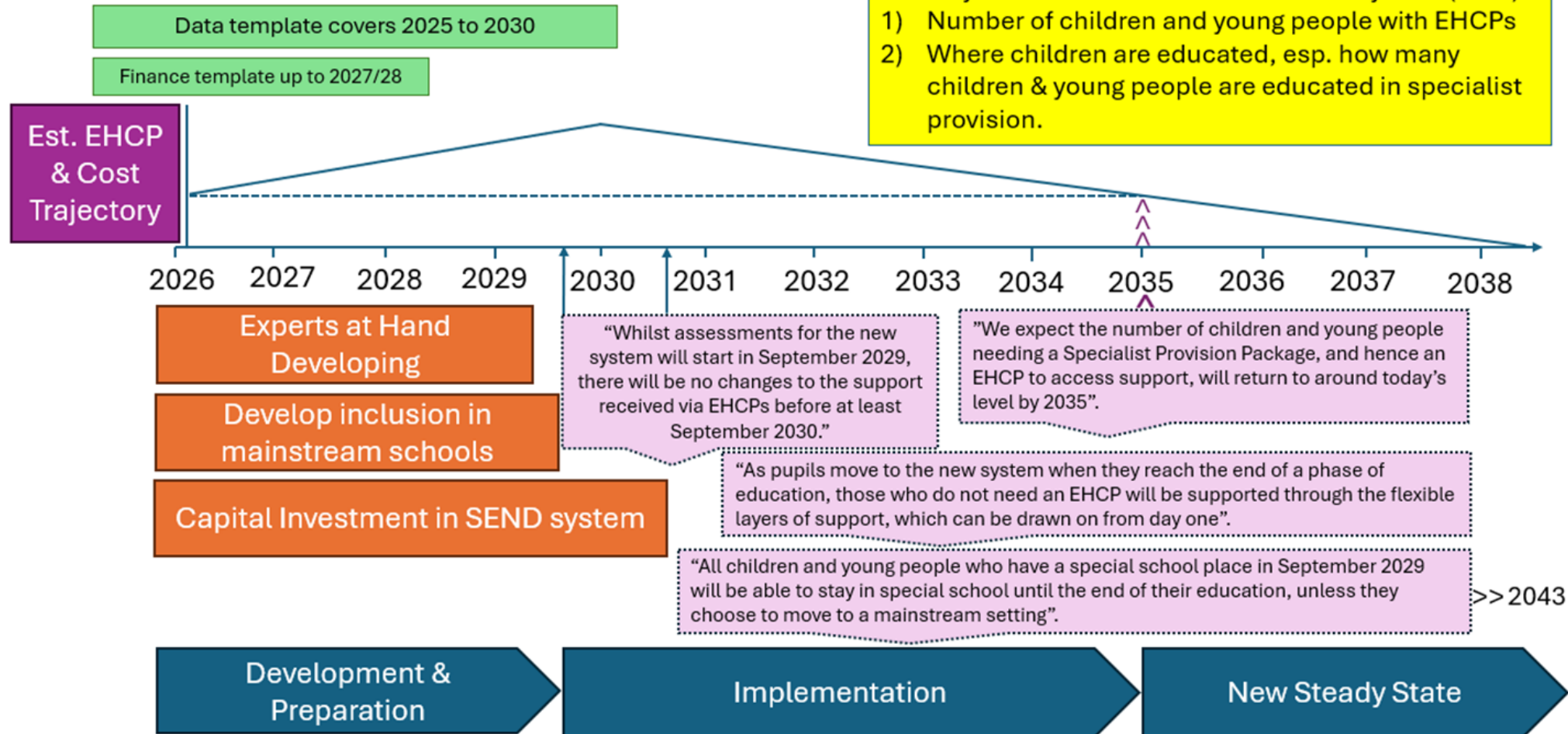


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Conceptualising & Modelling System Transformation

Two Key Drivers for the cost of the SEND system (HNB):
1) Number of children and young people with EHCPs
2) Where children are educated, esp. how many children & young people are educated in specialist provision.



Modelling for the Local Reforms Plan Data Template

- Early modelling using a regional tool based on trend data from 2022 showed spiralling number of EHCPs (over 4,500 by 2029, current figure 3,125). This was discounted and modelling was based on more recent trend and granular analysis of post-2024 patterns (a period of more robust local area practice & process)
- Our revised modelling still shows an increasing number of EHCPs (3,600 by the end of 2027 and 4,045 at the end of 2029) & therefore increasing cost.
- Cumulative deficit (not allowing for HNSG payment) expected to reach £43m by the end of 2027/28
- Why are we modelling increasing numbers of EHCPs and growing cost?
 - Cost is driven by the number of EHCPs and where children are educated. Spend locally and nationally has spiralled as more children have needed specialist provision and maintained special school capacity has been exhausted, driving significant growth in the Independent Special School sector.
 - As part of the reforms roll-out Secretary of State has committed to:
 - Children with an EHCP in mainstream school will only move to the new ISP beginning from 2030 once the new inclusive mainstream system has been fully built, and only then as children naturally move between phases, like from primary to secondary
 - Every child who has a special school place in 2029 will keep it if they want it until they finish education
 - These two commitments mean that change will be gradual and very unlikely to be seen in financial modelling before 2030.
- Assuming HNSG payment as per formula for the deficit in 2025/26, our modelling suggests a residual £25m DSG deficit at the end of 2027/28. How these deficits will be handled nationally is a key unanswered question.



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Building Blocks of an Inclusive System

Strengthening inclusion across education settings– organising places and provision to meet as many needs as possible, as close to home as possible, with all settings and providers moving towards a shared understanding and consistent practices around inclusion.

System leadership, local partnership collaboration and co-production– putting in place the enabling conditions across a local area that ensures planning and provision reflects the local area & is joined up, including strategic co-production with parent carers and children and young people.

Access to specialist support and local placements – improving collaboration between settings and deploying expertise from a range of specialist and expert sources, to support schools and settings to meet the needs of children and young people earlier and locally.

Encouraging inclusive culture & behaviours – using funding and shared accountability towards a system that works for children and families while achieving value for money.

- What is working well?
- What are the risks?
- What needs to change?
- How will all stakeholders help deliver the 3-year vision?

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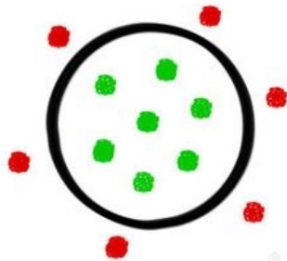
Bury SEND Reform Plan: Key Headlines

- A 3-year transformation to deliver a more inclusive, early intervention-focused and financially sustainable SEND system in Bury
 - Building on strong improvement over the past two years
 - Shifting to earlier identification and local support
 - Enabling more children to thrive in mainstream settings
- Visions and goals – a needs-led, inclusive 0-25 system where children and young people are identified early, supported effectively, and thrive locally:
 - Right support, right time, right place
 - Improved experience and confidence for families
 - Focus on outcomes that matter to CYP: safe, healthy, included, and heard

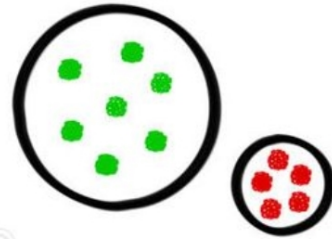
Inclusion Interventions v Inclusion Culture

BELONGING

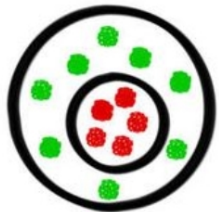
EXCLUSION



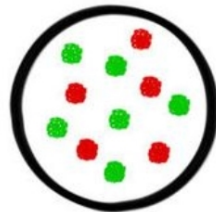
SEPARATION



INTEGRATION



INCLUSION



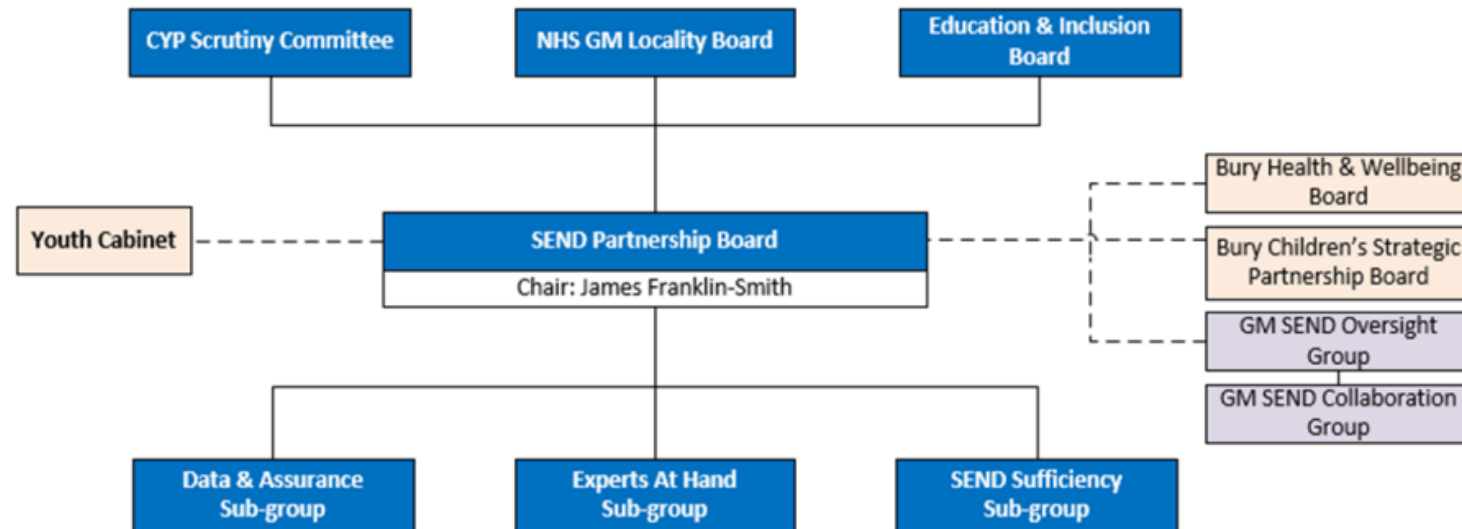
Difference between integration and inclusion



What Next?

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Bury SEND Partnership Governance - Proposed governance structure to be established in Q2



Key:

Informal links – information sharing (Bury)

Informal links – information sharing (NHS GM)

Formal SEND Governance Structure

Reports into _____

Working relationship - - - - -

