



London Borough of Lambeth

Special Educational Needs and Disability Service

Transition Arrangements for Converting SEN Statements and Learning Disability Assessments (post 16) to Education, Health and Care Plans

September 2014 – April 2018

Background

Under Part 3 of The Children and Families Act 2014 all Statements of SEN must be converted to Education, Health and Care Plans by April 2018 and all Learning Disability Assessments by September 2016. Guidance for undertaking this task is set out in the Department for Education's note *Transitional and saving provisions (made under section 137 of the Children and Families Act 2014) relating to part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (children and young people in England with special educational needs or disabilities) July 2014* and has been adhered to for the purposes of writing the transitional arrangements for the children and young people of Lambeth Local Authority with an SEN and/or disability.

All Statements of SEN will be maintained and converted to EHC Plans; no child/young person will lose the statutory protections because of the transition from one system to another. All LDAs will be converted to EHC Plans. During the transitional period (Sept 2014 – April 2018) local authorities must abide by the Education Act 1996 for Statements of SEN that have yet to be converted. Local authorities must abide by the Learning and Skills Act 2000 between September 2014 – September 2016 for LDAs that have yet to be converted (all LDAs must be converted by Sept 2016).

This document sets out Lambeth Local Authority's plan for converting SEN Statements and LDAs to EHC Plans. This will be a phased approach to ensure that conversions are carried out using a person centred approach capturing the most up to date and relevant assessment information about the child or young person. Parents/carers, children and young people will be at the heart of the process with their involvement being central to the development of each new EHC Plan.

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Service in Lambeth will take the lead on conversions by directing Early Years settings, schools and colleges on the target groups to be converted at each phase of the transition period. How to convert a Statement to an EHC Plan guidance will be provided for all settings. Statement/EHC Monitoring Officers and the

Lead Educational Psychologist for SEN will endeavour to attend as many conversion meetings as possible. The conversion meeting will take the place of the Annual Review meeting for that year. We have learnt from SEN Pathfinders and from our own pilot cases that the conversion process, when done in with a person centred approach, can take almost as long to complete as a new EHC assessment and plan. We have also learnt from parents taking part in our pilot cases that they have felt encouraged by the new process and happy that their child's strengths and needs have been fully identified. Lambeth SEND Service is committed to maintaining a high standard of conversion for all of our children/young people by ensuring that all conversions lead to better identification of need and a more rigorous approach to outcomes and setting provision to ensure outcomes are achieved. In this way we aim to send all of our children into adulthood prepared to take part in their community and to feel able to fulfil their ambitions in life.

Lambeth Local Authority Data: setting our baseline

As of September 2014 Lambeth LA had 1581 children/young people with Statements of SEN and/or LDAs.

A Phased Approach

PHASE 1 1st September 2014 – 31st August 2015:

- First cohort of Learning Disability Assessments (LDAs post 16) to be converted for young people continuing in further education or training.
- All children/young people in Year 11 (not just those continuing in further education)
- Children in nursery/pre-school due to start Reception in September 2015
- All Year 2, 5 and 9
- Children/young people leaving custody
- Children/young people moving from one local authority to another
- Children/young people transferring from a mainstream to a special school (or vice versa)

PHASE 2 1st September 2015 – 31st August 2016:

- Final cohort of Learning Disability Assessments (LDAs post 16) to be converted for young people continuing in further education or training.
- All children/young people in Year 11 (not just those continuing in further education)
- Children in nursery/pre-school due to start Reception in September 2016
- All Year 2, 5, 7 and 9 children
- Children/young people leaving custody
- Children/young people moving from one local authority to another
- Children/young people transferring from a mainstream to a special school (or vice versa)

PHASE 3 1st September 2016 – 31st August 2017

- Children in nursery/pre-school due to start Reception in September 2017
- All Year2, 5 and 9 children
- Children/young people leaving custody
- Children/young people moving from one local authority to another
- Children/young people transferring from a mainstream to a special school

PHASE 4 1st September 2017 – 31st March 2018

- Phase 4 becomes a period of time in which to convert all outstanding Statements of SEN.

Proposed Timetable:

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4*
	Sept 14 – Aug 15	Sept 15 – Aug 16	Sept 16 – Aug 17	Sept 17 – Apr 18
Nursery/Pre-School	Conversion	EHC	EHC	EHC
Reception	Statement	EHC	EHC	EHC
Year 1	Statement	Statement	EHC	EHC
Year 2	Conversion	Conversion	Conversion	EHC
Year 3	Statement	EHC	EHC	EHC
Year 4	Statement	Statement	EHC	EHC
Year 5	Conversion	Conversion	Conversion	EHC
Year 6	Statement*	EHC	EHC	EHC
Year 7	Statement	Conversion	EHC	EHC
Year 8	Statement	Statement	EHC	EHC
Year 9	Conversion	Conversion	Conversion	EHC
Year 10	Statement	EHC	EHC	EHC
Year 11	Conversion	Conversion	EHC	EHC
Year 12	Statement	EHC	EHC	
Year 13	Conversion	Conversion	EHC	
Year 14	Conversion	EHC	EHC	

Year 6*

Because these children are already a priority for the authority, almost all of the 132 pupils who will be secondary transferring in 2015 were subject to an annual review during the summer 2014 and the process to amend their SSEN is already underway in order to provide them with confirmed school placements by February 2015. Their Statements will now be transferred at annual reviews during the autumn of Year 7 and plans issued before the end of July 2016.

Communicating the Transition Arrangements:

- Parents/Carers will be informed by letter of the year in which their child is due to have their Statement of SEN/LDA converted

- Young people in post 16 education or training will be informed by letter (with copies sent to parent/carer) to inform them of when they are due to have their Statement of SEN/LDA converted
- These transitional arrangements will be published on the Lambeth Local Offer
- The transitional arrangements will be sent to all Lambeth Special Schools and discussed at an event planned for September 2014
- The transitional arrangements will be sent to Early Years Settings
- The transitional arrangements will be sent to all Lambeth schools
- The transitional arrangements will be sent to Lambeth College by the SEND Service
- An email link to this document will be sent to all of the independent special schools known to educate a Lambeth child/young person (by SEND Service)



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