



Special Educational Needs and Disability

Information about the Cornwall SEND Local Offer

2025-2026

Children and Families Act 2014

The Children and Families Act takes forward the Government's commitments to improve services for vulnerable children and support building stronger families. It underpins wider reforms to ensure that all children and young people can succeed, no matter what their background. The Act reforms the systems for adoption, children who are looked after, family justice and special educational needs.

The Government changed the system for children and young people with Special Education Needs (SEN), including those who are disabled. The Act extends the SEN system from 0 to 25, giving children, young people and their parents/carers greater involvement in decisions and ensuring needs are properly met.

What is the Local Offer?

The Local Offer was first introduced in the Green Paper (March 2011) to detail what local services are available to support disabled children and children with SEN and their families. This information outlines what is normally available in schools to help students with lower-level SEND as well as the options available to support families who need additional help to care for their child.

The Cornwall Local Offer provides parents/carers with information about how to access services in the area, and what they can expect from those services. It informs parents/carers and young people how school and colleges will support them as well as other professional agencies. The Local Offer helps families by gathering in one place, the information that they need to know in order to make informed choices about the support they receive.

The SEND Local Offer section of the Care and Support in Cornwall website is also a good resource for all professionals working with children and young people with SEND. **The Local Offer can be found through the following link:**

<https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/localoffer.page?newlocalofferchannel=0>