

# High Needs Banding Consultation

Easy Read Version



# Current System

3 Broad Categories  
Not 'Needs Led'  
Not reflective of the actual support  
being delivered in the classroom



# Early Support and the Graduated Approach (GA)

- SEN Support starts before plan is issued when a CYP is first placed on the SEN register
- Need to focus on getting early intervention and the Graduated Approach (GA) right
- The GA was developed with the Educational Psychology & SEND Support Services reviewing what support is needed for every type of SEN and the
- For each type/level of need defined:
  - What support should be provided?
  - What staffing ratios are required?
  - What level of staff training is needed?



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# 2 Key Documents:

## Graduated Approach Communication and Interaction (Autism Spectrum Condition)



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SEND Banding Matrix



# Review of how the money is allocated-the High Needs Funding

- The council uses a local formula called 'The High Needs Funding formula' to allocate money to give to schools and settings to support CYPs with additional needs.
- Stoke-on-Trent SEND services, schools and other partner services have worked together to review how we allocate money so that it is child-centred, needs based, transparent, equitable and affordable.



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# Proposed Changes:

- To move from the 3 current levels of funding to 5 levels (with 3 ranges) for 8 primary categories of need.
- Plus an additional level 6 across all categories of need.



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# Proposed New Ranges

- Every area of need divided into 5 levels
- Level 1 is Quality first teaching
- Each Level is further divided into 3 ranges:-
  - **Low** – Match 1 or 2 of descriptors
  - **Medium** – Match 40-50% of descriptors
  - **High** – Match Most of descriptors



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# Detailed Criteria to determine Banding

Each individual range level is backed up by a detailed set of criteria used to describe and evidence the additional needs of the child or young person.





# Banding Levels

## SEN Needs Banding Ranges

C&L - range 2 LOW	C&I SLCN - range 2 LOW	C&I ASC - range 2 LOW	SEMH - range 2 LOW
C&L - range 2 MED	C&I SLCN - range 2 MED	C&I ASC - range 2 MED	SEMH - range 2 MED
C&L - range 2 HIGH	C&I SLCN - range 2 HIGH	C&I ASC - range 2 HIGH	SEMH - range 2 HIGH
C&L MLD - range 3 LOW	C&I SLCN - range 3 LOW	C&I ASC - range 3 LOW	SEMH - range 3 LOW
C&L MLD - range 3 MED	C&I SLCN - range 3 MED	C&I ASC - range 3 MED	SEMH - range 3 MED
C&L MLD - range 3 HIGH	C&I SLCN - range 3 HIGH	C&I ASC - range 3 HIGH	SEMH - range 3 HIGH
C&L SLD - range 4 LOW	C&I SLCN - range 4 LOW	C&I ASC - range 4 LOW	SEMH - range 4 LOW
C&L SLD - range 4 MED	C&I SLCN - range 4 MED	C&I ASC - range 4 MED	SEMH - range 4 MED
C&L SLD - range 4 HIGH	C&I SLCN - range 4 HIGH	C&I ASC - range 4 HIGH	SEMH - range 4 HIGH
C&L PMLD - range 5 LOW	C&I SLCN - range 5 LOW	C&I ASC - range 5 LOW	SEMH - range 5 LOW
C&L PMLD - range 5 MED	C&I SLCN - range 5 MED	C&I ASC - range 5 MED	SEMH - range 5 MED
C&L PMLD - range 5 HIGH	C&I SLCN - range 5 HIGH	C&I ASC - range 5 HIGH	SEMH - range 5 HIGH
P&S PM - range 2 LOW	P&S HI - range 2 LOW	P&S VI - range 2 LOW	P&S MI - range 2 LOW
P&S PM - range 2 MED	P&S HI - range 2 MED	P&S VI - range 2 MED	P&S MI - range 2 MED
P&S PM - range 2 HIGH	P&S HI - range 2 HIGH	P&S VI - range 2 HIGH	P&S MI - range 2 HIGH
P&S PM - range 3 LOW	P&S HI - range 3 LOW	P&S VI - range 3 LOW	P&S MI - range 3 LOW
P&S PM - range 3 MED	P&S HI - range 3 MED	P&S VI - range 3 MED	P&S MI - range 3 MED
P&S PM - range 3 HIGH	P&S HI - range 3 HIGH	P&S VI - range 3 HIGH	P&S MI - range 3 HIGH
P&S PM - range 4 LOW	P&S HI - range 4 LOW	P&S VI - range 4 LOW	P&S MI - range 4 LOW
P&S PM - range 4 MED	P&S HI - range 4 MED	P&S VI - range 4 MED	P&S MI - range 4 MED
P&S PM - range 4 HIGH	P&S HI - range 4 HIGH	P&S VI - range 4 HIGH	P&S MI - range 4 HIGH
P&S PM - range 5 LOW	P&S HI - range 5 LOW	P&S VI - range 5 LOW	P&S MI - range 5 LOW
P&S PM - range 5 MED	P&S HI - range 5 MED	P&S VI - range 5 MED	P&S MI - range 5 MED
P&S PM - range 5 HIGH	P&S HI - range 5 HIGH	P&S VI - range 5 HIGH	P&S MI - range 5 HIGH

Range 6 - 3/4 range 5 high



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# Level of Support

- More Bands
  - And more variation within bands
- The focus is on getting the provision right in section F of the EHC Plan
- Funding will be based on need
- Schools clear on what's expected at every step
- Document is also a clear reference for EHCP panel when making decisions on funding
- Type of support and staffing described for every level of need



# Consultation on the new guidance document for SEND and high needs funding arrangements for CYPs with special educational needs and EHCPs

- We are asking for views on proposed changes to the High Needs Funding arrangements for children and young people (CYP) with additional needs.
- The High Needs Funding formula is the local process that is used to allocate funding that the council receives from the government, for schools and settings that support CYP with additional needs in the city of Stoke-on-Trent.
- Stoke-on-Trent SEND services have been working with Stoke-on Trent schools and partner services to review the current approach to High Needs Funding arrangements.
- The overall aim of developing a new approach for allocating the funding so that it is child-centred, needs based, transparent, equitable and affordable.



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# Aim of the New Guidance Document

The proposed new draft guidance document (Stoke-on-Trent SEND Banding Matrix Guidance and banding document) aims to:

- Help schools and settings to effectively identify and meet the needs of CYPs with special educational needs.
- It provides a banding model which identifies CYP by their **primary area of need** and **level of need**. The banding will identify the level and type of support a CYP needs in school and this will inform the level of funding that will be provided to the CYP school for CYP with more complex needs who have an EHCP.
- The higher the level of need the greater will be the funding.

The funding schools receive for CYP with an EHCP will transfer to the new model from 1st April 2024 if the model is agreed. Changes to a CYP EHCP banding will occur via the annual review process.



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# Who is the document for?

- The document will mostly be used by SENCOs in schools and other professionals.
- Once finalised the funding matrix will be available on the local offer for everyone to look at.
- This will allow everyone to see the right level of support required for their children



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# Have your say

- Before the Stoke-on-Trent SEND Banding Matrix Guidance and banding document is finalised we want to hear your views and invite you to have your say by completing the online questionnaire on our Local offer website: <http://localoffer.stoke.gov.uk/>  
(Click Here)
- **The closing date for responses is midnight on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

