



Guidance

Timeline for non-maintained special schools: mandatory

Updated 19 January 2015

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Spring term 2015

UPDATED

January 2015: pupils

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The [0 to 25 SEND code of practice](#) came into force in September 2014. Schools must:

- publish their [special educational needs \(SEN\) information report](#) from September 2014
- review and transfer pupils on School Action (SA) or School Action Plus to SEN support by September 2015
- record SA or SA Plus pupils who have been reviewed and require additional support under the 'SEN support' category in the January 2015 school census – schools should still record those pupils not yet reviewed under the SA/SA Plus categories
- record newly identified SEN pupils not requiring [education, health and care \(EHC\) assessment or plans](#) as receiving SEN support in the census
- include pupils with EHC plans in the census - local authorities must consider all new requests for statutory assessment under the EHC assessment

Resources to help schools to implement the changes are available through the [SEND Gateway](#), including [a short guide to the SEND code of practice for schools](#).

NEW

January 2015: pupils

Schools must complete and send their school census return to DfE between 15 January and 11 February 2015.

The school census is a statutory collection. We use data from the school census to determine how much funding you will receive. [Guidance on submitting your school census return](#) is available.

NEW

January 2015: governance

We are updating and amending the [Education \(Non-Maintained Special Schools\) \(England\) Regulations 2011](#).

We will lay the new regulations before Parliament in March 2015, and they will come into force on 1 September 2015.

We will update guidance for non-maintained special schools and will make it available before the new regulations come into force.

NEW

April 2015: pupils

Statutory requirements in the [Children and Families Act 2014](#) relating to [young offenders with SEN come into force](#). 'Home' English local authorities (LAs) will have a duty to keep an education, health and care (EHC) plan for every child or young person (under 19) moving into custody, and review it on release. Detained young people and their parents will have a right to request a new EHC needs assessment. Where appropriate, LAs should start the assessment process while the young person is in custody. If the child or young person had an EHC plan before being detained, or was assessed for one during the detention, LAs must arrange appropriate special educational provision while they are detained.

Education settings, youth offending teams and those in charge of secure establishments must co-operate with the home LA to ensure it fulfils these duties and to support assessment processes. They must follow and consider the SEND code of practice when making decisions.

We will set out these requirements in supporting regulations and chapter 10 of the [revised SEND code of practice, drafts of which we published for consultation in October 2014](#).

Autumn term 2015

NEW

September 2015: curriculum and qualifications



Sixth forms should note that students taking one-year GCSE English or maths courses in September 2015 must be enrolled on one of the existing GCSE courses. Those starting 2-year courses in September 2015 or any course in September 2016 must enrol on the new GCSE course. From September 2015 full-time students who hold a grade D GCSE in English and/or maths must be enrolled for GCSE English and/or maths as a condition of that student's place being funded. The Education Funding Agency (EFA) has [published guidance on maths and English conditions of funding post 16](#).

NEW

Autumn 2015: curriculum and qualifications

Awarding organisations will publish new A level specifications based on published subject content in:

- ancient languages
- dance
- drama and theatre
- further mathematics
- geography
- modern languages
- music
- mathematics
- physical education (PE)
- religious studies

These will be first taught from September 2016, with the first A level examinations in summer 2018 (AS level in 2017). Schools choose specifications, contact awarding organisations and plan for these new qualifications.

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