



Department
for Education

Residential special schools and colleges: the experiences and outcomes of children and young people

Independent call for evidence

Launch date 23 January 2017

Respond by 17 March 2017

Contents

Introduction	3
Who this is for	3
Issue date	3
Enquiries	3
Additional copies	3
The response	3
About this consultation	4
Additional information for children and young people and their families	5
Guidelines for responding	5
Respond online	5
Deadline	6

Introduction

Dame Christine Lenehan is seeking evidence on the experiences and outcomes of children and young people in residential special schools and colleges.

Who this is for

- people running or working in residential special schools or colleges
- children and young people who are attending, or have attended, residential special schools or colleges, and their parents/carers
- adults who have left residential special schools and colleges
- local authorities
- representative bodies from across the sector
- academics with an interest in special educational needs

Issue date

The consultation was issued on 23 January 2017.

Enquiries

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact the department:

- by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or
- by email: lenehan.review@education.gov.uk

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the DfE Ministerial and Public Communications Division by email: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the [DfE Contact us page](#).

Additional copies

Additional copies are available electronically and can be downloaded from [GOV.UK DfE consultations](#).

The response

The results of the consultation and the department's response will be [published on GOV.UK](#) in summer 2017.

About this consultation

The Minister of State for Vulnerable Children and Families has asked me to lead an independent review into the experiences and outcomes of children and young people in residential special schools and colleges, reporting in summer 2017. These children and young people are some of the most vulnerable in the country and I am delighted to have this opportunity.

The review will recommend the practical action that government departments and other agencies can take to support positive experiences and outcomes for these children and young people. Throughout the review, I intend to explore the following:

- the characteristics of the children and young people currently in residential special schools and colleges;
- how and why these children and young people come to be placed in residential special schools and colleges;
- the pattern of provision across the country and how it is commissioned and procured;
- what good quality support looks like for these children and young people, both pre- and post-placement (including the role of early intervention, family support and community services);
- the experiences and outcomes of these children and young people and their families, and how these can be improved;
- how schools and colleges are supported to meet the needs of these children and young people by all agencies;
- how effectively the workforce in residential special schools and colleges meets the needs of these children and young people; and
- destinations for these children and young people.

To ensure that this review is informed by as wide a range of views and evidence as possible, I am today launching a call for evidence, covering the areas set out above. I would like to hear from people working in residential special schools and colleges; children and young people attending residential special schools and colleges and their parents or carers; and children, young people and adults who have left residential special schools and colleges. I would also like to hear from local authorities, representative bodies from across the sector and academics with an interest in this area.

Please send responses to Lenehan.Review@education.gov.uk by 17 March 2017, along with any other enquiries about this call for evidence.

Dame Christine Lenehan

Director, Council for Disabled Children

Additional information for children and young people and their families

If you are a child or young person who is resident in a residential special school or college, we would be particularly interested in your answers to the following questions:

- What are the best things about living in a residential special school or college?
- What are the worst things about living in a residential special school or college?
- What are the staff who look after you like?
- What would you like to do after living in a residential special school or college?

If you are the parent or carer of a child or young person who is resident in a residential special school or college, we would also be interested in your answers to the following questions:

- How did you find the process of getting a residential place?
- Are you happy with your child's residential placement?
- Are you supported to keep in touch with your child?
- What outcomes would you like to see from this placement?

Guidelines for responding

To assist the review secretariat with their analysis of the responses, each submission to this call for evidence should:

- comprise a single document;
- be no longer than 2,000 words in length;
- include references for any evidence cited, where possible;
- state clearly who the submission is from, i.e. whether from yourself in a personal capacity or sent on behalf of an organisation;
- include a brief introduction about yourself/your organisation and your reason for submitting evidence; and
- link to published documents rather than reproducing their content.

For returns from children or young people we are happy to accept alternative formats, such as audio or video.

Respond online

Please send your responses to Lenehan.Review@education.gov.uk.

Deadline

The consultation closes on 17 March 2017.



Department
for Education

© Crown copyright 2017

This document/publication (not included logos) is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

To view this licence:

visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3

email psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

write to Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London, TW9 4DU

About this publication:

enquiries www.education.gov.uk/contactus

download www.gov.uk/government/consultations



Follow us on Twitter:
[@educationgovuk](https://twitter.com/educationgovuk)



Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/educationgovuk