



**Nadhim Zahawi MP**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Chief Executives and Directors of Children's Services  
Lead Members for Children  
Local Authority SEND leads

25 January 2018

### **Additional funding for supported internships and implementation of the SEND reforms**

I am delighted to have been appointed as the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families, and I look forward to working with you.

It is already clear to me that local authorities and their partners, including families, are committed to the SEND (special educational needs and or disabilities) reforms and working hard to fully embed the new SEND system; and to bridge the gap for some of our most vulnerable young people between education and employment.

I was therefore pleased that my predecessor, Robert Goodwill, announced on 30 November 2017 an additional package of support for children and young people with SEND. This included £29 million to support local authorities and their partners to continue pressing ahead with implementation of the reforms to the SEND system beyond the end of the transition period; and £9.7 million to establish local supported internship forums and train more job coaches. Further information about the forums and job coaches is available here:

<https://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/downloads/supported-internships/setting-up-a-local-supported-internship-forum-and-training-job-coaches.htm>.

I am now pleased to confirm the funding each local authority will receive:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-reform-funding-for-local-authorities>

I know that local authorities are working hard to complete the transfer of Statements of SEN to Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans by 31 March 2018 and I want to thank you and your colleagues for your continued focus on achieving this. We want everyone to benefit from the new system as soon as possible, and I want to stress the importance of producing a good quality EHC needs assessment and plan, and of working closely with families throughout the process.

It is particularly important that transfer reviews for Year 6s are completed by 15 February, and that transfer reviews for all school leavers with a Statement of SEN are completed by 31 March. This includes those who turn 19 and those who move from secondary school to an FE college.

Thank you again for your commitment to improving services and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zahawi', with a stylized, flowing script.

**Nadhim Zahawi MP**  
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