



## **This quick read summary is from:**

The voices of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Nottinghamshire report January 2023. This project was co-produced by Schools and Families Specialist Services and Integrated Children's Disability Service.



## **What did we do?**

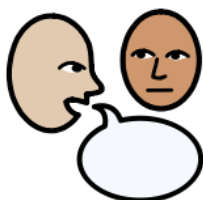
During the Autumn Term, we spoke to 280 young people with Special Educational Needs and /or Disabilities (SEND) across a range of settings in Nottinghamshire.

We asked them to tell us about their experiences and share their aspirations for the future.



## **Why did we do it?**

We wanted to gather young people's views and find out how they prefer to share them, to help us with any decision-making that affects them in the future.



## **What did young people tell us?**

Environments are better when young people are given:

- Time to enjoy extra-curricular activities
- Safe spaces in schools
- Calm and quiet classrooms
- The opportunity of working with friends in lessons
- Time to think

Relationships and communities are stronger when:

- Others demonstrate understanding
- Others listen
- Inclusion is a focus
- Social opportunities are arranged
- Differences are championed
- There are positive role models

Aspirations and opportunities can be realised when:

- A range of information is available and accessible

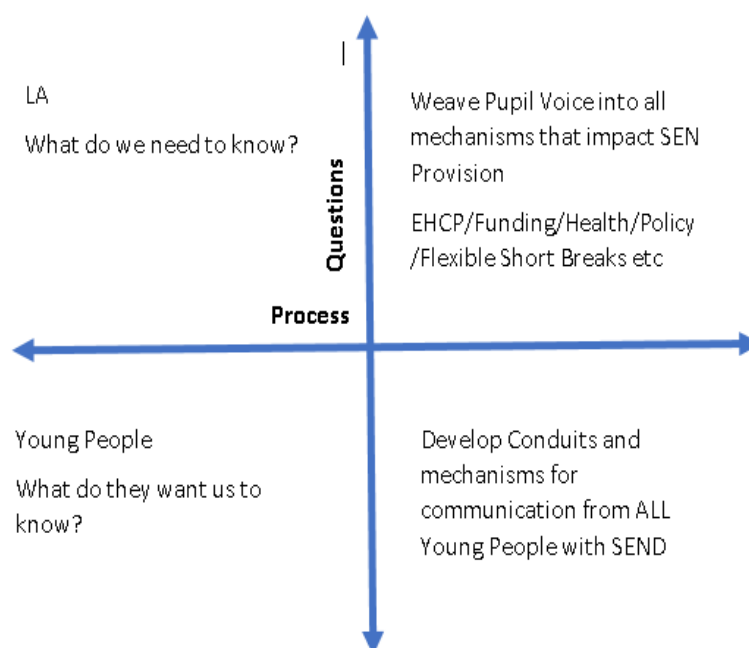
- Opportunities are made available
- Strengths are recognised
- Encouragement is given

### A positive self-image happens when:

- Relationships are strengthened
- Success is experienced and recognised
- Health is important
- The authentic self is celebrated (being allowed to be me)

### What next?

This is just the beginning; we want to hear more; we want to improve the ways we gather young people’s voices, and we want to ensure that what they say is routinely heard and acted upon.



We are looking to develop and establish groups of children and young people with SEND in education settings, who would like to develop SEND services across education, health, and social care in Nottinghamshire.

It’s also hoped that their views and wishes will inform their own school’s practice.

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