



Section 2: Voices that Matter

The voice of the child/young person & parents

Pupil Voice

Pupil voice or 'the voice of the child' refers to involving children/young people in the decisions being made about their learning, by listening to their views.

There are huge benefits to involving children in decisions about how to meet their needs within educational settings. These are outlined in 'The Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs' (1998) and the 'Special Educational Needs and Disability Order' (SENDO) (NI) 2005 and **The Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (NI) 2016**.

Parent/Carer Voice

Your voice as parents/carers is essential in creating a positive learning environment. Educational staff working in close partnership with parents/carers is the best way to support your child's learning and emotional wellbeing. It is important that the parent(s)/carer(s) and child/young person are involved in target setting. For more information, please view **The Personal Learning Plan (PLP) Guidance for Parents and Guardians | CCEA** leaflet, created by the SEND Implementation and Development Team and CCEA.

Education Authority SEN Local Impact Team

The SEND Local Impact Team provide support to schools, parents/carers, children, and young people on a range of special educational and medical needs. The SEN Local Impact Team deliver extensive programmes which aid schools in their responsibilities in supporting children and young people with SEN and medical needs. General advice and guidance on Special Educational Needs can be accessed through **Special Educational Needs (SEN) | Education Authority Northern Ireland (eani.org.uk)**.