



# THE SEDCO SPOTLIGHT

## #1

### Inclusive Insights

Supporting SEDCO's in schools and colleges

## CRITERIA FOR SEND

Welcome to "SEDCO Spotlight", a newsletter tailored specifically for SEDCOs in education. Our aim is to equip SEDCOs with valuable insights, resources, and best practices to navigate the complexities of supporting students with diverse needs. In this edition, we delve into the essential aspects of SEND criteria and categories of need, a fundamental understanding of which is required to effectively support students in all educational settings.



Medical long-term impairment encompasses enduring health conditions such as chronic illnesses or physical disabilities, requiring tailored accommodations and support to ensure students can access education while managing their health needs. Similarly, diagnosis criteria involve students with a diagnosis of specific conditions or disorders impacting their learning or behavior, such as autism spectrum disorder or specific learning disabilities.

Disability criteria range from physical impairments to cognitive or sensory disabilities, requiring tailored accommodations and interventions to ensure equitable access to education. Students accessing specialist provision, whether through external agencies or internal support services within the school, require SEDCOs to collaborate with professionals and provide students with targeted interventions and resources to address their specific needs effectively.

# CATEGORIES OF NEED

Understanding the category of need for SEND students in a school community is paramount for SENDCOs for several reasons. Firstly, it allows for targeted and individualised support. By comprehending the specific challenges and requirements associated with each category, SENDCOs can tailor interventions, accommodations, and resources to meet the diverse needs of students effectively.

Secondly, understanding the category of need enables effective collaboration and communication among stakeholders. SENDCOs must liaise with teachers, support staff, parents, and external agencies to ensure cohesive support networks are in place for students. Clear communication about students' needs and the strategies that are effective for their particular category of SEND fosters collaboration and alignment of efforts, ultimately benefiting the students' educational experience.



Furthermore, understanding the category of need ensures compliance with legal requirements and frameworks. SEND legislation mandates that schools provide appropriate support and accommodations for students with SEND. By understanding the specific criteria associated with each category, SENDCOs can ensure that their school's provision meets the requirements outlined in legislation such as the SEND Code of Practice, safeguarding the rights and entitlements of students with SEND.

## COGNITION & LEARNING



- Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)
- Dyslexia

## COMMUNICATION & INTERACTION



- Autism (ASD)
- Speech & Language
- Verbal Tourette's

## SEMH



- ADHD
- Anxiety
- Depression

## PHYSICAL SENSORY NEEDS



- Sensory processing disorder
- Hearing/vision impairment
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Cerebral Palsy
- Physical Tourette's

**Sendco Tip:** Colour code your SEND List!



All sorted!

Update STAR map



More queries

More testing



Remove

Seek parental consent