

Inclusion Keeping in Touch

14 July 2026 8 am
Virtual via MS TEAMS

All information is correct at the time of sharing

AGENDA

- SEN Reforms
- The next 3 years
- CoS Updates
- PRG Evaluation
- Next academic year

SEN reforms - updates

Kent Plan submitted to DfE in good time – 19th June 2026

CATIE – 2023 – 2028. [Countywide Approach To Inclusive Education \(CATIE\) - KELSI](#)

This will be reviewed to support 2029 onwards. Four key areas

1. School led system
2. Additional support and intervention with engagement and integration
3. Broader joined up offer of support
4. Transition

What the Government expects

- Universal offer
- Experts at Hand
- Local Sufficiency
- Stronger Partnership Accountability
- Better Outcomes
- Financial Sustainability

Local Area Starting Point

Kent local area already Strong inclusion infrastructure, established partnerships, existing governance, countywide strategies, co-production arrangements and sufficiency planning.

- SEND Strategy
- Countywide Approach To Inclusive Education (CATIE)
- Mainstream Core Standards
- Continuum of Need
- Starting Strong
- Family Hubs
- Professional Resources Group (PRG)
- Communities of Schools (CoS)
- Balanced System
- PINS
- This is Me
- SEND Sufficiency Plan
- SEND Quality Assurance
- Joint Commissioning arrangements

Over the next 3 years the focus will be...

- Embedding the CoS model in line with national reforms
- **PRG** - Developing mainstream capability by considering our plan for Experts at Hand. [Experts at Hand & Local Authority SEND Transformation Fund: funding for local authorities 2026 to 2027 - GOV.UK](#)
- Embedding the Continuum of Need and Provision as a framework for Inclusion
- [Kent Continuum of Need and Provision - KELSI](#)
- Developing the strategic role of the SENCO
- Working with schools to understand proposed funding changes from 2028/2029 - [Inclusive mainstream fund for schools: methodology 2026 to 2027 - GOV.UK](#)

Communities of Schools in action – Vision to reality

- Total Health Excellence 1 & 2 (Kristina Yates & Fiona Steer)
- Total Health Excellence PCN have contacted KCC to work with their local schools regarding attendance.
- An initial meeting has taken place between KCC Education, Family Hubs and PCN.
- Information shared from PCN regarding an increase in children not attending school and being home schooled.
- Letter being sent to schools next week and will start to feed into communities next academic year.

Strategic Developments

Key Milestones Timeline – Communities of Schools (CoS)

Early work: April 2023 Principles agreed; August 2023 CATIE Strategy CYPE Key Decision; November 2023 to January 2024 Locality Model Public Consultation; August 2024 Chair role agreed / CYPE Key Decision proceed with Locality Model / Proposed Community groupings to CYPE DMT

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Sep 24 to Aug 25	Launch page on Kelsi	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	Chair recruitment	Chair recruitment	Chair induction & training	Chair induction & training	Chair induction & training	<u>Induction Meetings</u>	<u>Draft Continuum of Need & Provision published</u>	Locality Model strategic group	Chairs KiT	Locality Model strategic group
				Locality Model strategic group			Locality Model strategic group	Induction Meetings			Community groupings finalised	
	Launch structure – Socialisation Meetings					<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	<u>Finance FAQs published</u>			Mock meeting videos available	Locality Model strategic group	
	Locality Model strategic group		Locality Model strategic group		Locality Model strategic group		<u>Summary of mainstream funding top-up changes published</u>	<u>Kent Notional Budget Guidance published</u>	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	<u>Updates to Finance FAQs</u>	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	
	Role play exercise			<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>								
Sep 25 to Aug 26	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
	Official Launch	Locality Model strategic group	Chairs KiT	Moderation exercise (1)	Moderation Report (1) drafted / governance	Chairs KiT	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	Chairs KiT	<u>Budgets for 26/27 published</u>	Steering Group	Chairs KiT (including incoming Chairs)	Annual Progress Report (1) drafted
	<u>Guidance and templates go live</u>		Locality Model strategic group	<u>Progress Report 1 published</u>	Steering Group (relaunched)	Guidance review	Steering Group	Progress Report 3 drafted / governance	Recruitment of new Chairs		Comms Plan review	Moderation Report (2) drafted / governance
	Locality Model strategic group		Progress Report 1 drafted / governance			Progress Report 2 drafted / governance		<u>Request form changes</u>	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>		Moderation exercise (2)	
	<u>Maps available</u>	Provision Maps launched	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>						Progress Report 4 drafted / governance		Progress Report 4 published	
<u>Online Request form goes live</u>	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	<u>Request form, save function goes live</u>		Steering Group			<u>Schools Notional Budgets for 26/27 published</u>	<u>Schools KiT, Inclusion</u>	Templates updated			
Sep 26 to Aug 27	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
	Annual Progress Report (1) governance	Annual Progress Report (1) published	Chairs KiT	Dashboard review	Determine Special School and PRU engagement	Chairs KiT	Chairs Oversight Group	Chairs KiT	Budgets for 27/28 published	Chairs Oversight Group	Chairs KiT	Annual Progress Report (2) drafted
			Chairs Oversight Group	Schools KiT Inclusion								CoS PRG mtg (professionals)
	Moderation Report (2) published	Schools KiT Inclusion	CoS PRG mtg (professionals)	Moderation exercise (3)	District & Kent Provision Maps published	Dashboard review / build	Dashboard review / build	Dashboard review ends	Moderation Report (4) published		Moderation exercise (5)	Moderation Report (5) drafted / governance
	Operations Manager recruitment	Dashboard review starts	Dashboard review	Operations Manager in post	Moderation Report (3) drafted / governance	Schools KiT Inclusion	Moderation exercise (4)	Moderation Report (4) drafted / governance	Progress Report 6 published		Progress Report 7 drafted / governance	
	Steering Group	Explore Voice of the Child	District & Kent Provision Maps developed	Progress Report 5 drafted / governance	Progress Report 5 published		Progress Report 6 drafted / governance	Progress Report 6 drafted / governance	Schools Notional Budgets for 27/28 published			
	Synergy updates – governance	Update Provision Maps	Steering Group	Proposals for Voice of Child – governance	Steering Group	Moderation Report (3) published	Schools KiT Inclusion	Steering Group	Schools KiT Inclusion	Steering Group	Schools KiT Inclusion	Progress Report 7 published
	Update Provision Maps											
Updated Guidance published												
Sep 27 to Aug 28	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
	Annual Progress Report (2) governance	Annual Progress Report (2) published	Chairs KiT	Moderation exercise (6)	Moderation Report (6) drafted / governance	Chairs KiT	Chairs Oversight Group	Chairs KiT	Budgets for 28/29 published	Chairs Oversight Group	Chairs KiT	Annual Progress Report (3) drafted
	Moderation Report (5) published		Chairs Oversight Group	Progress Report 8 drafted / governance	Progress Report 8 published	Moderation Report (6) published	Moderation exercise (7)	Moderation Report (7) drafted / governance	Moderation Report (7) published		Moderation exercise (8)	Moderation Report (8) drafted / governance
	Steering Group	Schools KiT Inclusion	Steering Group		Steering Group		Progress Report 9 drafted / governance	Progress Report 9 drafted / governance	Progress Report 9 published	Steering Group	Progress Report 10 drafted / governance	Progress Report 10 published
			Schools KiT Inclusion		Schools KiT Inclusion	Steering Group	Steering Group	Schools Notional Budgets for 28/29	Schools KiT Inclusion			

Welcome to new chairs!

Chair	School/Trust	Position	CoS Allocation
Charlotte Casey	Culverstone Green Primary School - Golden Thread Alliance	Headteacher and SENCO	Maidstone Central 1
Charlotte Speed	Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys	Assistant Headteacher & SRP Lead	Mid Kent 1
Claire Henry	Maypole Primary School - Inspire AM	SENCo	Sevenoaks 1
Craig Smith	Herne Bay High School	Senior Assistant Principal Inclusion	CARE Kent 1
Jamie Graves	Westlands School	SENCO	Herne Bay
Katy Jackson	Mersham Primary School/Rolvenden Primary School	SENDco/Senior Leader	Folkestone, Hythe and Rural 2
Rachel Butcher	High Halden and Woodchurch Primary	Inclusion Leader	Tunbridge Wells 1
Shern Viridi	Maypole Primary School	Headteacher	Malling 2
Stella Coulson	Wittersham Church of England Primary School	Headteacher and Inclusion Leader	Dover Town 1
Steve Payne	Swale Academies Trust	Executive Partner/HT	Deal and Sandwich 2
Tara Deevoy	Lower Halstow and Newington CEP Schools Federation and Nursery	Executive Headteacher	Athena
Warren Chambers	Bromstone Primary - Thanet Endeavour Learning Trust	Assistant Head Inclusion	Folkestone, Hythe and Rural 1

Thank you to our outgoing chairs

- Ann Marie Middleton
- Justine Brown
- Vic Ashdown
- Kate Luxford
- Stella Schâringer
- Kris Lasslett
- Elizabeth Pateman
- Lindsay Roberts

Clerking Allocation updates

Name	CoS 1	CoS 2	CoS 3	CoS 4	CoS 5	CoS 6	CoS 7
Sirin Janes	Malling 1	Malling 2	Tunbridge Wells 1	Tunbridge Wells 2	Tunbridge Wells 3	Swanley & Rural	
Tracey Bradley	ABC	Athena	Maidstone Central 1	Maidstone Central 2	The Ridge	Weald 1	Weald 2
Michayla Rapley (new clerk will be in place academic year 26-27)	Ashford Rural	Canterbury N1	CARE Kent 1	Mid Kent1	Mid Kent 2	Mid Kent 3	
Hannah Smith	Dartford Central	Dartford Model	Garden City 1	Garden City 2	Gravesend Alliance 1	Gravesend Alliance 2	Gravesend Central
Sarah Finch	Dover Town 2	Total Health Excellence E1	Deal and Sandwich 1	Ramsgate	Canterbury S3	Margate	
Stephanie Mellor	Ashford Medical Partnership	Folkestone, Hythe and Rural 1	Folkestone, Hythe and Rural 2	Canterbury N2	Total Excellence W2	The Marsh	
Rachel O'Donoghue	Deal and Sandwich 2	Dover Town 1					
Paul Newton	Sheppey	Sittingbourne 1	Sittingbourne 2	Sittingbourne 3	Whitstable	CARE Kent 2	Herne Bay
Justine Smith	Sevenoaks 1	Sevenoaks 2	Sevenoaks 3	Tonbridge 1	Tonbridge 2	LMN Care	

Escalation Process

- Escalation may occur when there is:
 - persistent non-compliance with CoS processes
 - failure to provide required information
 - inequitable or inconsistent decision-making
 - ineffective use of funding, or
 - relationship breakdowns within CoS
- The CoS model is built on professional trust, collaboration and voluntary participation; schools are expected to resolve issues locally wherever possible
- Where this is not possible, a three-stage escalation process applies:
 - Stage 1:** Referral to the Chairs Oversight Group for advice and resolution
 - Stage 2:** Escalation to the CoS Steering Group if the issue remains unresolved
 - Stage 3:** Use of the KCC Complaints Procedure where resolution cannot be achieved through CoS governance arrangements

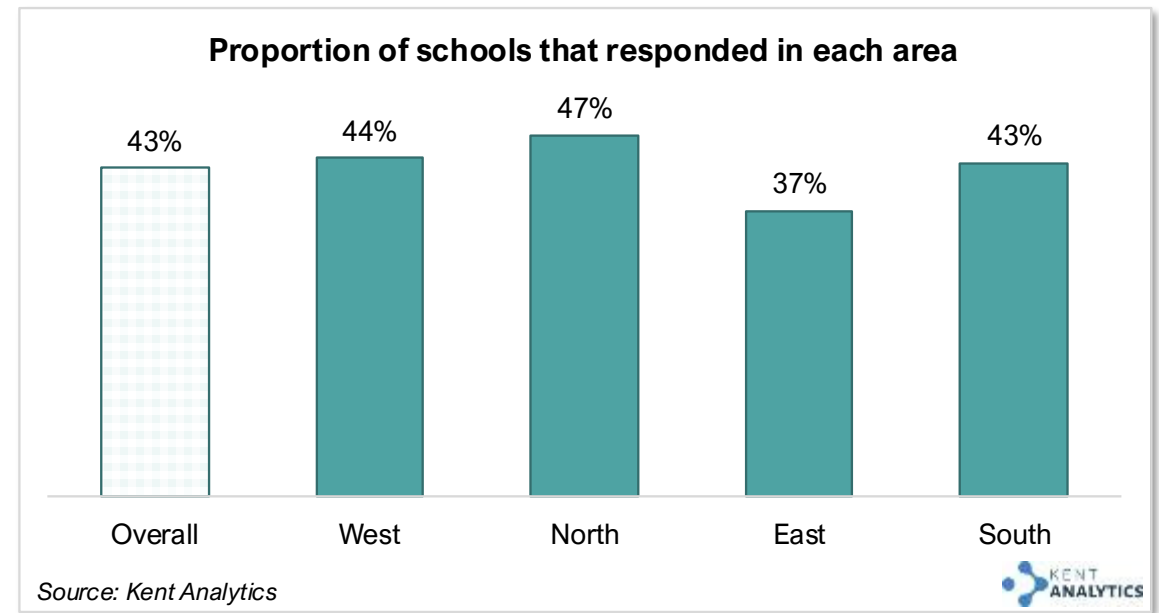
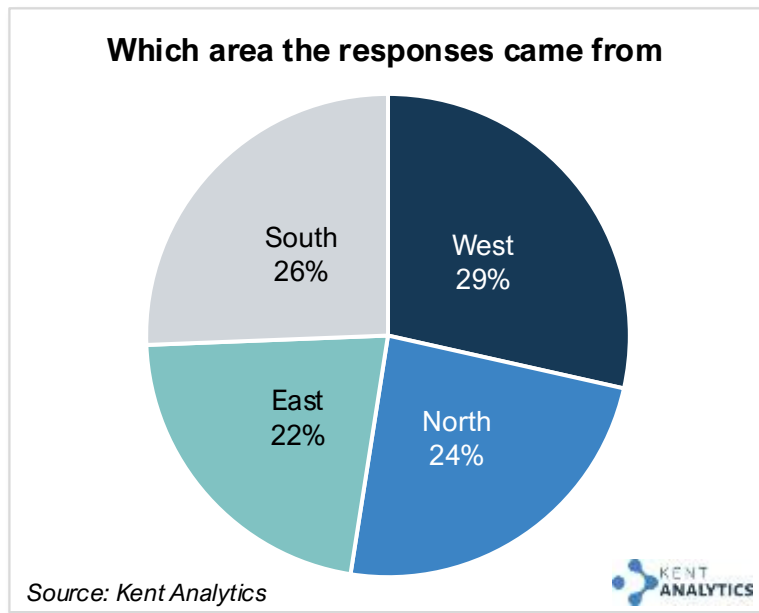
PRG School Feedback Survey – Summary of findings

June 2026

Background

The Professional Resource Group (PRG) school feedback survey was shared with 567 schools in Kent and was live between Wednesday 3 June and Friday 19 June. It received a total of 242 responses, which is a response rate of 43% of schools. The largest proportion of responses came from West (29%) and the smallest from East (22%).

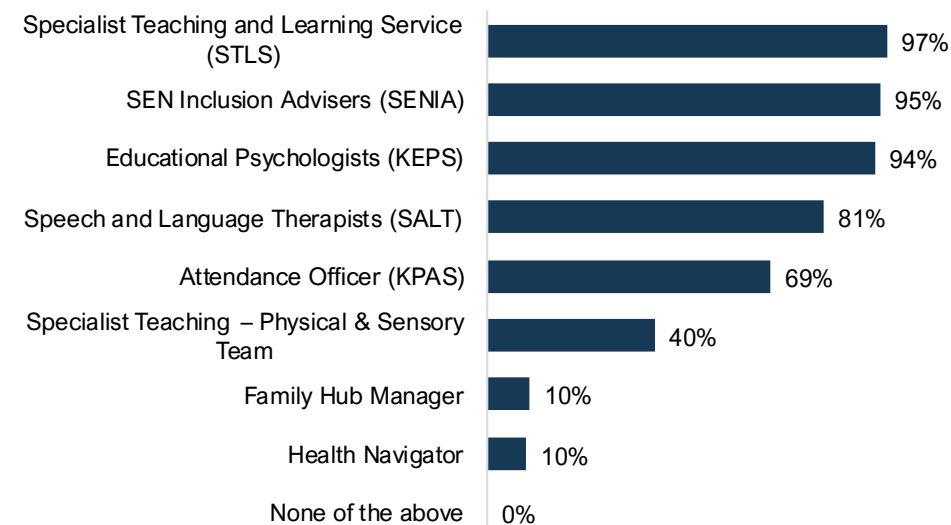
The charts below show what proportion of responses came from each area of Kent and what the proportion of schools that responded from each area.



PRG services accessed

- The PRG services that had been accessed by the highest number of schools in the last year were:
 - Specialist Teaching and Learning Service (STLS)
 - SEN Inclusion Advisers (SENIA)
 - Educational Psychologists (KEPS)
- The services that had been accessed by the lowest number of schools were:
 - Family Hub Manager
 - Health Navigator
- Most schools (84%) reported to have accessed between four and six services in the last year.

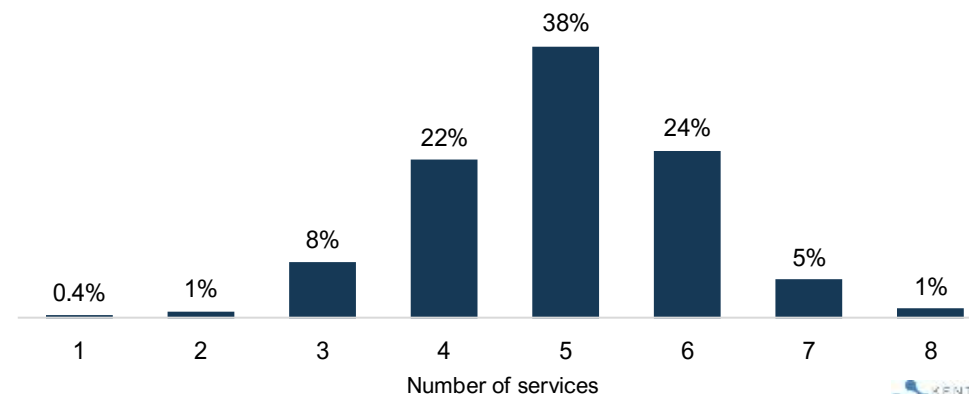
PRG services accessed



Source: Kent Analytics



Number of PRG services accessed

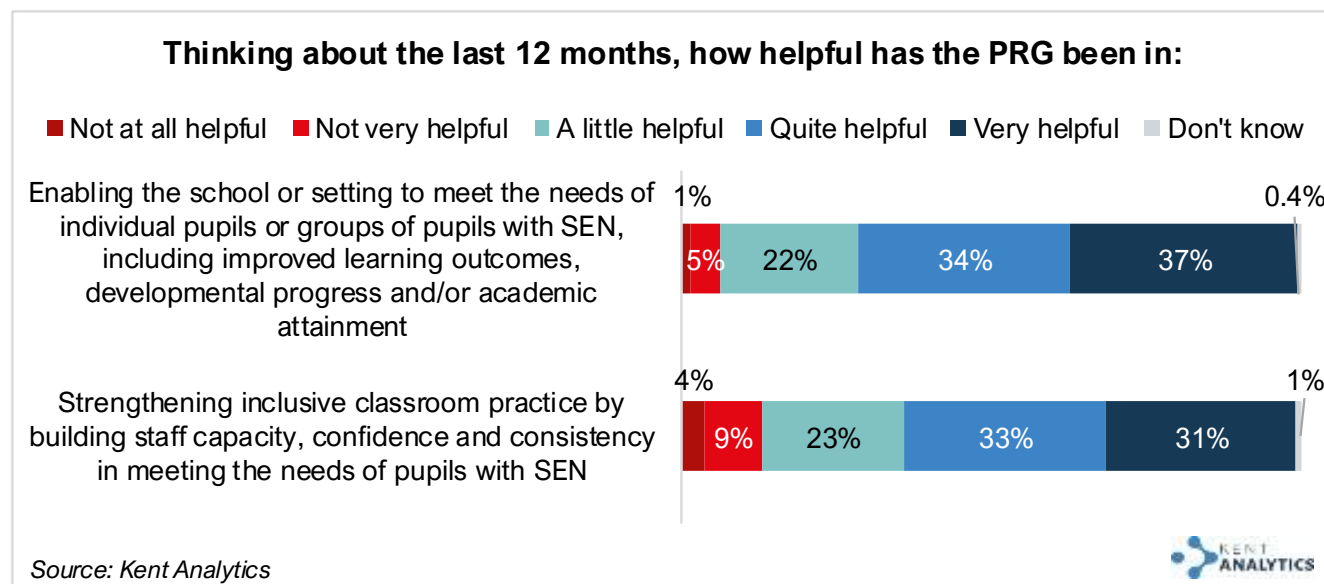


Source: Kent Analytics



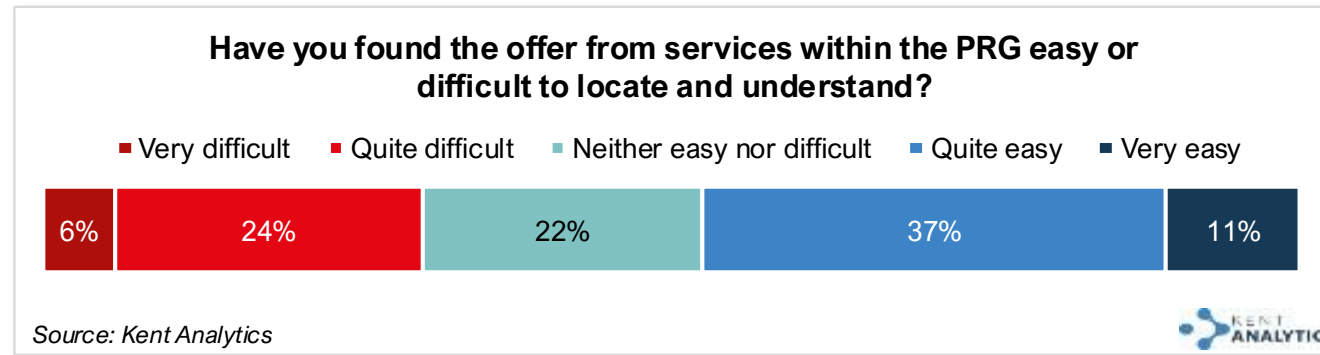
How helpful schools have found PRG

- In terms of enabling the school or setting to meet the needs of individual pupils or groups of pupils with SEN, including improved learning outcomes, developmental progress and/or academic attainment:
 - 71% said the PRG has been quite or very helpful
 - 27% said the PRG has been a little or not very helpful
 - 1% said the PRG has been not at all helpful
- In terms of strengthening inclusive classroom practice by building staff capacity, confidence and consistency in meeting the needs of pupils with SEN:
 - 63% said the PRG has been quite or very helpful
 - 32% said the PRG has been a little or not very helpful
 - 4% said the PRG has been not at all helpful



How easy it is to locate and understand the PRG offer

- When it comes to how easy or difficult the schools found the offer from services within the PRG to locate and understand:
 - 48% said it was quite or very easy to locate and understand
 - 22% said it was neither easy nor difficult
 - 30% said it was quite or very difficult to locate and understand



Summer Developments

- Updated Operating Guidance on Kelsi
 - Workstreams
 - Year R
 - Strategic role of the SENCO
 - Continuum of Need and Provision
 - Parents as partners
 - Funding guidance (pending national consultation)
 - Inclusion strategy
- Led and developed by SENCOs and school leaders

SEN and Inclusion Conference

Two half days – 22nd September and 14th October

- Hybrid model being discussed
- Face to face on an area basis.
- Key speakers will be on screen – to be ‘broadcast’ countywide
- Workshops will be offered in each area setting – same workshop choices.
- Intended that there are initial workshops which cover the areas highlighted in the webinar feedback series
 - Funding and budgeting
 - EHCP processes
 - SEMH support
 - External services (PRG, OT, SALT)
 - Ofsted and inclusion frameworks

Countywide SENCO Forums 26/27

Term	SENCO Forum Tuesday	SENCO Forum Thursday
1		
SEN & Inclusion Conference Part 1	Tuesday 22 nd September 2026 09:00 – 12:00	
SEN & Inclusion Conference Part 2	Wednesday 14 th October 2026 09:00 – 12:00	
2	Tuesday 1 st December 2026 Primary 08:00 - 09:30 Secondary 15:30 – 17:00	Thursday 3 rd December 2026 Secondary 08:00 – 09:30 Primary 13:30 – 15:00
3	Tuesday 26 th January 2027 Primary 08:00 - 09:30 Secondary 15:30 – 17:00	Thursday 28 th January 2027 Secondary 08:00 – 09:30 Primary 13:30 – 15:00
4	Tuesday 16 th March 2027 Primary 08:00 - 09:30 Secondary 15:30 – 17:00	Thursday 18 th March 2027 Secondary 08:00 – 09:30 Primary 13:30 – 15:00
5	Tuesday 18 th May 2027 Primary 08:00 - 09:30 Secondary 15:30 – 17:00	Thursday 20 th May 2027 Secondary 08:00 – 09:30 Primary 13:30 – 15:00
6	Tuesday 29 th June 2027 Primary 08:00 - 09:30 Secondary 15:30 – 17:00	Thursday 1 st July 2027 Secondary 08:00 – 09:30 Primary 13:30 – 15:00

All term dates and times with links to register on the TEP website available on: [Kelsi: Countywide SENCO Forum Year 2026/27](#)



Thank You

Contact us

- CoS operational queries: cosadmin@kent.gov.uk
- (New) EHCP funding queries: hnf@kent.gov.uk
- Locality Model strategic queries (including for CoS, PRG, governance, etc): localitymodel@kent.gov.uk
- School Advance and CoS Overview Statement queries: schoolfunding@kent.gov.uk