

# Children and Families Act 2014

Legal references on this page apply to England.  
Read archived page [here](#)

[Changes to SEN law will be introduced between 2014 and 2018](#) [New SEN Code of Practice 2014](#)

## Children and Families Act 2014

The Children and Families Bill became law in March 2014 and is now [the Children and Families Act 2014](#). [The first Commencement Order](#) covers family proceedings. [The second Commencement Order](#) variously 1st April, 22nd April, 13th May, 25th July and 1st September 2014 covers SEN and disability (but excluding young offenders), duty to support pupils with medical needs, childminder agencies, adoption, single family court, and free school lunches.

[Section 11](#) (Welfare of the child: parental involvement) came into force on 22nd October 2014 [Link](#)

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## Ofsted Role for SEN

<http://edyourself.org/ofstedsen.pdf> (2014) [Ofsted SEND consultation](#) Autumn 2015 for inspection from Spring 2016.  
Click [here](#) for Ofsted guidance on home education to inspectors, April 2015.

For a quick and accessible summary of the main concerns regarding the new SEN legislation click [here](#)

Very useful all-on-one page SEN and disability links from lawyer Steve Broach, June 2014 [here](#)

## New SEN Links Updated October 2014

The primary references for the new SEN legislation are the 2014 Code of Practice, the 2014 Regulations, the 2014 Order, and the 2014 Transition Guidance. The Code and the Transition Guidance are where you will find the big picture while the Regulations - in theory - will have the precise details. I have made notes on the Regulations [here](#) because the version on legislation.gov.uk is the original as made and does not include any changes. [Checklist of Regulations affected](#)

[New SEN Code Practice 2014](#)

[Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014](#) original-as-made on the legislation.gov.uk website, but with additional changes brought in via Transitional and Savings Provisions Order below

[Quick Reference Guide to Regulations](#)

[DfE Transition Guidance 2014](#) Statutory Guidance, includes table with dates for transition from statement or LDA to EHC Plan.  
[Quick Reference Guide to Transition Guidance](#)

[Transitional and Saving Provisions](#) (No. 2) Order 2270, 2014, a must-read in conjunction with SEN Regulations above.  
[Quick Reference Guide Transitional Provisions Order](#)

[New SEND Code of Practice](#)

[SEN Consequential Amendments Order 2014](#)

## DfE/Department of Health Sector Guides

[DfE SEND Guide for FE Providers](#) September 2014

[DfE SEND Guide for Schools and Alternative Providers](#) September 2014

[DfE SEND Guide for Social Care Professionals](#) September 2014

[DfE SEND Guide for Early Years](#) September 2014

[SEND Guide for Health Professionals](#) September 9th 2014

[Department Health Guidance Health Wellbeing Boards](#) September 2014. How health and wellbeing boards can support children with special educational needs and disabilities to get joined up care from local services.

## Steve Broach and Irwin Mitchell Fact Sheets and Template Letters

[Steve Broach and Irwin Mitchell Fact Sheets and Template Letters](#) Children and Families Act, August 2014

## EHC Plans

[Regulations](#) covering the form of EHC plans came into force on September 1st 2014. DfE has chosen **not** to introduce a single national template, but will share further best practice examples of completed EHC plans. A common labelling system has been

introduced in the Code of Practice and Regulations meaning that every EHC plan must contain specified sections that must be labelled with the same letter. [More](#)

How soon will statements be replaced by EHC Plans? Click [here](#) for a brief guide

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## Direct Payments and Personal Budgets for SEN

[More](#) including Direct Payment FOIs

## Home Education

[Home education and special needs website](#)

Home education was discussed in the Lords on [January 7th 2014](#) [October 30th 2013](#) and [October 23rd 2013](#)

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## Pathfinders and the Local Offer

To learn more about the proposed new Local Offer for children and young people with special needs, click [here](#) Read about Pathfinders' activities [here](#)

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## Changes to Family Law from April 2014

As of [April 22nd 2014](#) the new Family Court will deal with family proceedings which would previously have been heard in magistrates' courts. Contact and residence orders are replaced by **child arrangements orders**. [This link](#) explains how cases are split between the Family Court and the High Court. You can find a summary of the main changes [here](#) Read more about the changes [here](#) Legal references all on one page [here](#). More about [Mediation Information and Assessment Meetings](#) NB as explained [here](#) "the much debated provisions in the Children and Families Act 2014 (CFA 2014), s11 providing that 'unless the contrary is shown, that involvement of that parent in the life of the child concerned will further the child's welfare' **doesn't yet have a commencement date**.. See also [Jordans family law update](#)

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## Useful Links SEN

[Children and Families Act 2014](#)

[Ipsea webchat on SEN changes](#)

[Briefing on the SEN changes](#)

[Briefing on SEN Reforms](#)

[Funding home educating families 2014-15](#)

[Local Offer](#)

[Independent SEN Champions 2014](#)

[SEN Tribunal Statistics](#) 3600 SEN appeals, 30% conceded by LAs

[Archived page as pdf March 13th 2014](#) when Children and Families Bill became law.

## Related Edyourselves Pages

[Children and Families Act](#)

[SEND Code Practice 2014](#)

[Guide to SEN and Disability Regulations](#)

[EHC Plans 13+](#)

[Home Education and SEN](#)

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## Link Reference

This article is <http://edyourselves.org/articles/candfact2014.php>. The following links to other websites are contained in the article, displayed as citations to aid you in printing the document.

1. here [http://edyourselves.org/candfact2014\\_archived.pdf](http://edyourselves.org/candfact2014_archived.pdf)
2. Changes to SEN law will be introduced between 2014 and 2018 <http://edyourselves.org/articles/newcode.php#transition>
3. New SEN Code of Practice 2014 <http://edyourselves.org/articles/newcode.php>
4. The second Commencement Order <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents>
5. Link <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/section/11>
6. Ofsted SEND consultation <http://edyourselves.org/ofstedsen.pdf>
7. here <http://edyourselves.org/articles/socialservices.php#ofstedguidance>

8. here <http://www.specialneedsjungle.com/children-families-act-concerns/>
9. Checklist of Regulations affected <http://edyourself.org/articles/SENDregs.php>
10. Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/1530/contents/made>
11. Quick Reference Guide to Regulations <http://edyourself.org/articles/SENDregs.php#transitionorder>
12. Quick Reference Guide to Transition Guidance <http://edyourself.org/articles/newcode.php#statguide>
13. Transitional and Saving Provisions <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2270/made>
14. Quick Reference Guide Transitional Provisions Order <http://edyourself.org/articles/SENDregs.php>
15. New SEND Code of Practice <http://edyourself.org/articles/newcode.php>
16. SEN Consequential Amendments Order 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2103/contents/made>
17. Steve Broach and Irwin Mitchell Fact Sheets and Template Letters <http://www.irwinmitchell.com/personal/protecting-your-rights/social-healthcare-law/the-children-and-families-act-2014/factsheets-and-template-letters>
18. Regulations <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/1530/regulation/12/made>
19. More <http://edyourself.org/articles/newcode.php#format>
20. here <http://edyourself.org/articles/newcode.php#transition>
21. More <http://snafu2.org.uk/>
22. Home education and special needs website <http://ehe-sen.org.uk/>
23. October 23rd 2013 <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131217-0002.htm#13121787000386>
24. here <http://edyourself.org/articles/localoffer.php>
25. Jordans family law update <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/889/made>
26. Children and Families Act 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted>
27. Ipea webchat on SEN changes <http://bringingusttogether.org.uk/jane-mcconnells-webchat/>
28. Briefing on the SEN changes <http://www.specialneedsjungle.com/sen-reforms-happens-next/>
29. Briefing on SEN Reforms <http://www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk/sen-articles-occasionally.html>
30. Funding home educating families 2014-15 <http://edyourself.org/articles/funding.php#2014-15guidance>
31. Local Offer <http://edyourself.org/articles/localoffer.php>
32. Independent SEN Champions 2014 [http://www.ncb.org.uk/media/1102886/independent\\_support\\_q\\_and\\_a.pdf](http://www.ncb.org.uk/media/1102886/independent_support_q_and_a.pdf)
33. Archived page as pdf March 13th 2014 <http://edyourself.org/seninchildrenfamiliesbillmarch2014.pdf>
34. Children and Families Act <http://edyourself.org/articles/candfact2014.php>
35. SEND Code Practice 2014 <http://edyourself.org/articles/newcode.php>
36. Guide to SEN and Disability Regulations <http://edyourself.org/articles/SENDregs.php>
37. EHC Plans 13+ <http://edyourself.org/articles/ehcp16.php>
38. Home Education and SEN <http://ehe-sen.org.uk/>