

SEND Youth Forum

Leads:

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Purpose & Aims

Topic	Details
Collaborating with Schools and Settings	Work closely with schools and educational settings to ensure a broader representation of children and young people's views. Trusted adults can play a supportive role in facilitating this process.
Inclusive Participation of CYP not in a setting in Oxfordshire	Create accessible avenues for children and young people who do not attend a setting to express their views. Consider alternative methods that cater to their unique needs.
Enhancing Opportunities for CYP with SEND	Provide additional opportunities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to share feedback and contribute ideas.

Statement of purpose from our members

The forum has met once, and the young people proposed that the forum should have the following aims and objectives:

- To change the system, give people better support, and see what young people can achieve if we help them.
- To give people opportunities to tell us their stories, feedback and what they want – online, through schools and at social events.
- To hear about their lived experience – the good and the bad.
- To represent that feedback and make sure that we get a response and share the positive work people are doing.
- To make friends and make a difference.



“In our words...”

“To be current, you have to be current!”

Our Goals

Choice and Involvement: We champion young people's right to choose and be involved in decisions affecting their lives.

Diverse Representation: We ensure that individuals with varying needs, circumstances, and ages have equal opportunities for involvement.

System Transformation: The forum aims to drive positive change, share impactful stories, and enhance support systems.

Informed Decision-Making: We advocate for young people by ensuring their experiences—both positive and negative—inform decision-making processes.

SEND Youth Forum membership

The forum will consist of young people with SEND themselves as they can provide valuable insights into their experiences, challenges, and needs.

- The membership will ensure diversity within the forum, including different disabilities, ethnic backgrounds, socioeconomic statuses, and genders.
- The age range of forum members will be from 16-25 years.
- The young people attending the forum will receive support from appropriate adults as necessary (this could be Local Authority representatives and support staff from their respective settings).
- The forum will not exceed a total of 12 members, currently we have nine members across the local area with a diverse range of SEN needs.
- New members will be invited to apply via an Expression of Interest available from SENDyoungpeople@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- Youth Forum members will receive a voucher worth £10 for each forum they attend as a token of appreciation for their time. Members will be supported via the transport team to and from the venue. We intend to meet five times a year at an accessible location.

SEND Governance Review

The forum will provide reports to both the Director Leadership Team (DLT) and the SEND Improvement and Assurance Board (SIAB). These boards will assess the forum’s effectiveness, enabling a continuous cycle of feedback and action, supporting the ‘You said, we did/didn’t’ approach.”

Cycle	Date of Youth Forum	Feedback to DLT and SIAB
1	26 th September 2024	DLT – 17.10.24 SIAB – 23.10.24
2	21 st November 2024	DLT – 19.12.24 SIAB – Jan 2025 (tbc)
3	27 th February 2025	DLT – 6 th March SIAB – March 2025 (tbc)
4	8 th May 2025	DLT – 29.05.25 SIAB – June 2025 (tbc)
5	10 th July 2025	DLT – 31.07.25 SIAB – July 2025 (tbc)

How you can help...

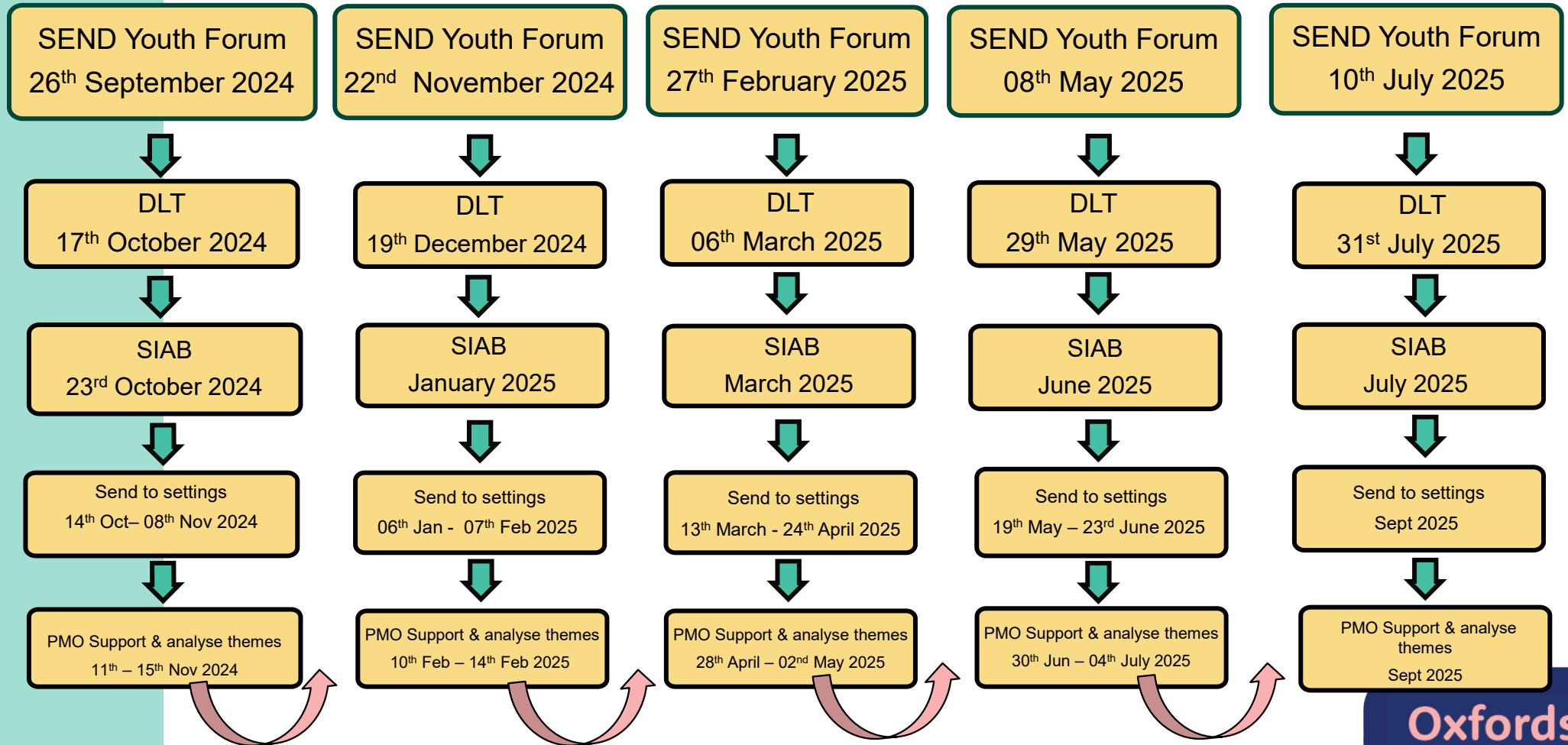
The role of schools and settings would be:

- To sign up for and arrange focus groups with mixed groups of children and young people with SEND, (those with EHCP on SEN Register or emerging needs).
- We will provide you with a theme/topic and some prompts for questions, but it is up to your facilitator on how they want to run the focus group e.g. group discussions or 1:1's. This will depend on the need of the CYP. Please feel free to be creative!!
- To act as a conduit, sharing the views of participants with the SEND Youth Forum, and sharing the responses in the following months.
- Please be reassured we will be supporting you throughout the whole process.
- Per cycle (3 months) we are looking for 5 primary mainstream, 3 secondary 2 special school settings + AP (1). We've made plans to speak to teams who work in Alternative Provision to make sure CYP who are not accessing education are included.
- No more than 15 per group (this can be flexible).

Cycle of feedback

Cycle	Window for schools to hold focus group	Date of Youth Forum
1	14 th October – 8 th November 2024 →	21 st November 2024
2	6 th January to 7 th February 2025 →	27 th February 2025
3	13 th March to 24 th April 2025 →	8 th May 2025
4	19 th May to 23 rd June 2025 →	10 th July 2025

SEND Youth Forum- Setting Cycle



Questions & contact

Please use the sign-up form below: *we need you to confirm your attendance by 20th Sept.*

[SEND Youth Forum - Schools and Settings Date Selection \(office.com\)](#)

Once you have signed up, we will be in touch via email with the next steps.

If you have any questions, please email SENDYoungPeople@oxfordshire.gov.uk

We are happy to arrange a 1:1 Teams/phone call if needed.