

## **SESLIP SEND Courageous Conversations Programme for 2026/27**

SEND Courageous Conversations core aim is to enable and support LAs and their partners, including parent carer forums to focus on what would enable children to achieve and thrive throughout their lives, and to be included and have their needs met.

The topic and content is worked up with each individual LA to meet each area's needs. The SESLIP SEND Courageous Conversations Evaluation Report can be found [here](#) and details the range of areas that LAs have focused in 2024-2026. SEND Courageous Conversations can play a part in shaping and developing a local area's response to the national agenda, including the SEND Reforms.

So far **Reading** and **Buckinghamshire** have had their second SEND Courageous Conversation.

Thanks to colleagues from **East Sussex, Hampshire, Portsmouth,** and **Southampton** LAs for taking part, alongside the chairs of the **Parent Carers Forums in Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire.**

### **For 2026-2027:**

**Bracknell Forest**

**Brighton and Hove**

**Hampshire**

**Kent**

**Medway**

**Milton Keynes**

**Oxfordshire** (scheduled for June 2026)

**Portsmouth**

**Southampton** (scheduled for June 2026)

**Surrey**

**West Sussex** (scheduled for June 2026)

**Wokingham** (scheduled for April 2026)

are all at different stages of planning with some aiming to have their SEND Courageous Conversation before August 2026, with the remainder before end of December 2026.

This would mean 14 of the 19 LAs would have had a second SEND Courageous Conversation.

All LAs are expected to involve their parent carer forums from the initial state of planning.

We offer the opportunity for staff from other LAs and from other parent carer forums to take part. So far this participation has been highly valued by the host areas as well as individual colleagues who have taken part. SESLIP provides financial support to parent carer forums to enable their representatives to take part in other areas SEND Courageous Conversations.

For LAs who wish to be involved please do get in touch, either to have one and/or to have your staff take part in a different area's SEND Courageous Conversation.

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