

Dear sir/ madam

I am a mother of a SEN child who has went through the education system, including having to fight very hard for his provision.

Um also a SEN teacher of 20 years and a behaviour specialist. I have a lot that I would like to contribute to help improve SEN and support our kids better, including:

Proper assessment - statement is very vague- you have pupils with an IQ of MLD but autistic and unable to cross a road or dress themselves but the statement doesn't reflect the latter. An adaptive functioning assessment should be standard with IQ testing for an accurate picture and prep for effective support.

Recruitment- the majority of SEN posts ask for very little experience- this is horrendous for those pupils - SEN staff 'learn as they go' SEN teaching should be treated as a subject specialist. We need to look at qualifications for staff who pursue SEN, not just those who are struggling to gain employment and 'fall' into it which is commonly the case.

Provision - SPIM staff are constantly on chat groups asking the absolute basics and don't have senior staff experience to support. MLD special schools provided a mainstream experience with expertise in SEN from top to bottom. The kids are being let down.

EA Recruitment for support departments - I have yet to see a role advertised for supporting schools with SEN pupils that would require high enough level of experience. I myself have worked both CAs, very good at their job, but reliant on the teacher and the SEN knowledge they possess be recruited into SEN support roles in EA where they are the experts and advising teaching staff how to best support SEN when they haven't taught themselves - it's a way to save money on recruiting and using the real expertise.

I'd love to meet with or engage properly to help improve the provision we offer for our SEN the most vulnerable in society.

Regards

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