

YouGov / Ambitious About Autism Survey Results

Sample Size: 1025 parents of SEND children
with an EHCP, or without an EHCP but who
receive additional support
Fieldwork: 3rd - 20th July 2026

	Parents' Age						Gender		Child's Age				Child's Age		Child's Gender		EHCP / Support	
	Total	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Male	Female	0-4	5-11	12-16	17-18	0-11	12-18	Male	Female	My child/young person has an EHCP	My child/young person does not have an EHCP, but receives additional support
Weighted Sample	1025	36	253	528	169	38	552	473	66	597	344	18	662	363	650	375	296	729
Unweighted Sample	1025	25	215	494	233	58	582	443	42	394	470	119	436	589	623	402	538	487
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Thinking about the upcoming school year
(beginning in September 2026), which of the
following best describes your child/young
person's situation?

My child/young person is enrolled to go to school in September, and I am expecting them to be able to attend	90	85	90	91	86	93	90	89	57	96	86	74	92	85	92	85	87	91
My child/young person is enrolled to go to school in September, but I do not expect them to be able to attend	3	6	3	4	1	3	3	4	11	1	5	1	2	5	2	5	6	2
My child/young person is not enrolled to go to school in September	6	7	5	5	12	4	7	6	32	3	7	22	6	8	5	9	6	7
Don't know	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	1	1

How confident are you, if at all, that
mainstream schools currently have sufficient
levels of each of the following to be able to
support children and young people with SEND?
Staff

Very confident	4	15	2	4	4	5	6	1	9	4	2	5	5	2	4	3	5	3
Fairly confident	18	34	22	17	15	15	22	14	21	18	18	15	19	18	20	15	20	18
TOTAL CONFIDENT	22	49	24	21	19	20	28	15	30	22	20	20	24	20	24	18	25	21
Not very confident	40	39	42	40	33	42	40	39	30	42	38	33	41	38	41	37	32	43
Not at all confident	37	10	32	38	46	38	29	45	31	35	40	43	35	40	33	44	41	35
TOTAL NOT CONFIDENT	77	49	74	78	79	80	69	84	61	77	78	76	76	78	74	81	73	78
Don't know	2	2	3	1	2	0	2	1	8	1	2	5	1	2	2	1	2	2

Expertise and training

Very confident	4	12	3	3	3	1	5	2	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	2	6	3
Fairly confident	25	52	32	22	15	18	29	20	47	24	21	21	26	21	27	20	23	25
TOTAL CONFIDENT	29	64	35	25	18	19	34	22	51	28	24	24	30	24	31	22	29	28
Not very confident	41	29	38	45	35	48	41	41	21	44	41	34	41	40	43	38	33	44
Not at all confident	28	5	24	27	43	32	22	35	20	27	32	41	26	33	23	38	36	25
TOTAL NOT CONFIDENT	69	34	62	72	78	80	63	76	41	71	73	75	67	73	66	76	69	69
Don't know	2	2	3	2	3	0	2	3	8	2	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Resources

Very confident	3	22	3	3	2	1	4	2	5	4	2	1	4	2	4	3	5	3
Fairly confident	17	34	22	14	14	16	20	13	29	16	15	15	18	15	19	13	18	16
TOTAL CONFIDENT	20	56	25	17	16	17	24	15	34	20	17	16	22	17	23	16	23	19
Not very confident	38	38	37	39	35	37	40	36	31	38	39	32	38	39	40	35	31	41
Not at all confident	40	3	35	42	47	43	34	47	26	41	41	48	39	42	35	49	43	39
TOTAL NOT CONFIDENT	78	41	72	81	82	80	74	83	57	79	80	80	77	81	75	84	74	80
Don't know	2	4	3	2	1	2	2	2	9	1	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2

Imagine the Government were to introduce
Individual Support Plans (ISPs) for children with
SEND, a digital plan unique to the child and
provided by their education setting. Do you
think schools should or should not be legally
required to do each of the following?
Create and review the ISP with the child's
parents

Should be required	84	88	85	83	85	81	82	87	75	85	85	86	84	85	83	87	88	83
Should not be required	6	11	6	6	3	6	8	4	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	6
Don't know	10	2	8	10	11	12	11	8	21	9	10	7	10	10	11	8	7	11

Provide the support outlined in the ISP

Should be required	89	85	88	90	90	96	87	92	72	92	88	91	90	88	88	92	91	89
Should not be required	4	13	5	3	3	0	6	1	8	3	4	4	4	4	5	2	4	4
Don't know	7	2	7	7	7	4	7	7	21	5	8	5	6	8	7	7	5	8

Imagine the Government were to introduce
National Inclusion Standards for schools when it
comes to providing support for SEND children
and young adults, setting minimum support
standards in mainstream education settings.
Which of the following best describes how these
standards should be treated?

As recommended guidelines but are not legal binding	22	47	23	22	19	7	24	20	26	21	23	25	21	23	21	23	17	24
As legally binding standards that have to be met	70	53	69	69	75	89	69	72	69	70	71	65	70	71	71	70	76	68
Don't know	8	0	8	9	6	4	8	8	6	9	6	10	8	6	8	7	7	8

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	%	%	%	%	%		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Imagine a child does not have an EHC
(Education, Health and Care) plan, but does
have an ISP (Individual Support Plan) under a
new SEND system. If the parents feel the school
is not providing the support agreed in the ISP,
do you think they should or should not be able
to take legal action against the school in these
circumstances?

Should	59	80	65	54	58	66	59	59	62	57	62	50	58	61	59	59	73	53
Should not	20	17	18	23	17	19	21	19	8	22	19	25	20	19	21	19	11	24
Don't know	21	3	18	23	25	15	20	22	30	21	19	26	22	20	21	22	16	23