



# National Conference 2026

## NAVIGATING SEND REFORM: STRATEGY, PRACTICE AND LEADERSHIP

**08:00 - 08:45** *Arrival, registration & networking exhibition*

**08:45 - 09:00** Welcome: Pauline Aitchison  
NNoSS Network Lead & Deputy Director, Schools North East  
& Sarah Monk, Chief Strategy Officer, Edwin

**09:00 - 09:30** **Building a Sustainable Learning Support Workforce  
for Special Schools**  
Louise Linehan, Sales and Performance Director, Axcis,  
Jordan Stebbings, Partnerships Manager & Daniel Curry, SEND  
Branch Manager, Edwin

**09:30 - 09:50** **School Business Professionals Policy Briefing**  
Ben Hardy, Policy Manager, Schools North East

**09:50 - 10:45** **SEND Reform & the Schools White Paper  
Setting the Scene, Roundtable & Sector Voice**  
Ben Hardy & Pauline Aitchison

**10:45 - 11:30** *Exhibition & networking break*

**11:30 - 12:20** **Inclusion in Practice:  
Delivering Outreach and Satellite Provision at Scale**  
Amanda Goldthorpe-Hall, SBM, Philip Southcote School & Helen  
Stewart, School Business & Operations Manager, Hope School

**12:20 - 13:20** *Networking lunch & exhibition*

**13:20 - 14:00** **The Evolving SEND System**  
Dame Christine Lenehan, SEND Strategic Advisor, DfE

**14:00 - 15:00** **Panel Debate: SEND Reform**  
Chair: John Roberts, Tes  
Panellists: Mark Vickers, Jayne Franklin, Dame Christine Lenehan &  
Karen Smith

**15:00 - 16:00** **Cultivating a Culture of Belonging for All**  
Hannah Wilson, Director, The Belonging Effect

**16:00 - 16:30** *Close & networking*