THE SIBT FRAMEWORK

Local Authority Implementation & Measurement Tool Guide

This guide provides Local Authorities (LAs) and Parent Carer Forums (PCFs) with an operational strategy to integrate the SIBT Framework into strategic commissioning, area-level self-evaluation, and Ofsted/CQC inspection preparation. It details how to deploy the **SEND Experience Index** across all five domains.

1. Strategic Governance & Data Triangulation

To deliver an accurate area-level insight tool, LAs must combine qualitative sentiment with existing quantitative datasets. This creates a multi-dimensional view of performance that avoids typical data blind spots.

Domain	Qualitative Pulse Indicators (Surveys / PCF Focus Groups)	LA Core Hard Data Sets (Contextual Layers)
1. Access	• Perceived time to get support. • Ease of accessing physical/digital infrastructure. • Confidence in finding adjustments.	• Median weeks to issue EHCPs. • Therapy wait times (NHS/ICB). • Number of open EHCP content appeals.
2. Participation	• Frequency of co-curricular engagement. • Meaningful choice in learning activities. • Inclusion on school visits/trips.	• Persistent absence rates (SEND support vs EHCP). • Suspension/Exclusion rates. • Elective Home Education (EHE) spikes.
3. Inclusion	• Parental trust in staff SEND awareness. • Speed of implementing 'reasonable adjustments'. • Quality of communications.	• Training delivery penetration statistics. • Funding distributed via Element 3 top-ups. • Local mainstream vs specialist placement splits.
4. Belonging	• Psychological safety indicators (bullying/isolation). • Feeling welcomed by school leadership and peers. • Acceptance of difference.	• Managed moves success metrics. • Alternative Provision (AP) transition rates. • Annual school climate survey indicators.
5. Thriving	• High future aspirations and confidence. • Preparation for adulthood milestones. • General emotional wellbeing scales.	• Post-16 NEET figures (Not in Ed, Emp, or Training). • Attainment 8 scores for SEND subgroups. • Adulthood independence outcomes data.

2. Operational Measurement Tools & Toolkit Templates

Local authorities are advised to deploy short, non-burdensome tools quarterly to gauge local performance. The following standardized templates are designed for immediate digital system deployment.

A. Parent & Carer Standardized Pulse Questions

LAs should host these items digitally, utilizing 5-point Likert Scales (Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree) with anonymous, school-by-school capture:

- **[Access Question]:** My child receives the adjustments they need to engage with education in a timely manner.
- **[Inclusion Question]:** The staff at my child's setting listen to our ideas and proactively adapt to meet my child's learning needs.
- **[Belonging Question]:** My child's setting makes our family feel valued, safe, and truly welcome as part of the community.

B. Child & Young Person (CYP) Standardized Pulse Questions

Accessible digital surveys or visual boards (e.g., smiley face scales) should be deployed across settings:

- **[Participation Question]:** I get to take part in the fun parts of school life like trips, clubs, and choosing my learning.
- **[Belonging Question]:** People at my school accept me, listen to me, and treat me well for who I am.
- **[Thriving Question]:** I feel confident about my future and am learning skills that help me become more independent.

3. Implementation Roadmap for LAs & PCFs

To roll out the SEND Experience Index efficiently, local partners should follow this sequential framework timeline:

Phase 1: Co-Production Alignment (Month 1-2)

- Form a joint steering group comprised of LA SEND commissioners, Integrated Care Board (ICB) representatives, and the PCF leadership team.
- Agree on data-sharing protocols to sync existing area metrics with incoming qualitative survey portals.

Phase 2: Toolkit Deployment & System Launch (Month 3)

- Embed pulse survey tools within existing LA communications, school newsletters, and PCF social media engagement groups.
- Establish an anonymous reporting platform to ensure full psychological safety for all participating families.

Phase 3: Analysis & Area Reflection (Quarterly)

- Aggregate survey sentiment and overlay corresponding local performance data (e.g., matching low belonging scores against school suspension spikes).
- Present outcomes to the area SEND Board as an anonymous, macro-level dashboard to direct resource allocation.

4. Area SEND Inspection Alignment (Ofsted & CQC)

The SIBT framework's Index acts as primary evidence for evaluation under the Ofsted/CQC area inspection criteria:

- **Evaluating Lived Experiences:** The Index serves as a turnkey evidence pack demonstrating robust co-production and active engagement with the local parent-carer voice.
- **Evaluating System Efficiency:** It tracks the downstream impact of structural services—showing whether improved EHCP timeliness (Access) translates directly into emotional wellbeing and school connection (Belonging).
- **Proactive Risk Profiling:** Moving beyond lagging indicators, it highlights systemic drops in student connection early on, allowing areas to execute interventions long before attendance issues escalate.