

# Campaigning for urgent reform and fairer funding in education

The last 12 months have been very busy and productive for f40 as we have continued to work with our members and partners to raise the issues around unfair education funding and the crisis in SEND with both parliamentarians and policymakers across Government, as well as opposition parties.

During the General Election campaign, we engaged all prospective parliamentary candidates, encouraging them to join us in lobbying for education reform and investment, and then set about liaising with newly elected Members of Parliament, many of whom were new to the issues of education and the f40 group. Our parliamentary briefing with the County Council Network and

Local Government Association in the autumn was exceptionally well-attended.

The national focus remains very much on the SEND crisis, and we plan to continue building momentum to ensure the f40 voice is heard and that our concerns and suggestions are considered.

## Summary of activity in 2024/2025

**Worked with The Rt Hon Sir David Davis MP to secure a well-attended debate on SEND** in the House of Commons

**Wrote to all prospective parliamentary candidates and newly elected MPs** following the 2024 General Election, inviting them to work with f40

**Launched a new f40 website**

**Appointed 3x new Vice Chair MPs, representing Lab, Cons, Lib Dems**

**Hosted a parliamentary briefing** for almost 80 MPs and their representatives

**Submitted written evidence** to the Public Accounts Committee inquiry on SEND

**Hosted a webinar for f40 members** on the SEND crisis and Isos Partnership research

**Submitted written evidence** to Education Select Committee inquiry on SEND crisis

**Gave oral evidence** to the Education Select Committee inquiry on SEND

**Worked with the National Governance Association** to circulate a letter to all school governing bodies, which they could share with their MPs, calling for action on SEND

**Hosted f40 conference** in London for members

**Urged f40 MPs to lobby Government** for investment and systemic change in SEND

**Interviewed on BBC Radio 4** about LA perspective of the crisis in SEND

This activity has raised the profile of the f40 group as an expert organisation that both the DfE and local authorities can rely on to help address, not only the inequity of funding, but solutions to the financial pressures created by the SEND system.

# Campaign plan for 2025/2026

**Respond to Government suggestions** on SEND reform

**Meet with Dame Christine Lenehan**, Government Strategic Advisor on SEND

**Invite the National Parent/Carer Forum** to meet with f40

**Work on new f40 fair funding formula** for Schools and High Needs – for presentation to the DfE

**Host MPs' drop-in and Parliamentary briefing** in Summer 2025

**Meet with education partners**, such as NEU, ASCL, NAHT and NGA as part of Collaboration Group

**Invite Education, SEND, and Early Years ministers** to meet with f40

**Invite Opposition party spokespeople** and Children's Commissioner to meet with f40

**Liaise with key Government departments**, inviting them to meet with f40, such as departments for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Justice, and Treasury

**Meet with the DfE teams** for both School funding and the SEND Change Programme

**Liaise with the All-Party Parliamentary Groups** for SEND, Education and Children

**Invite local authorities** who are among the lowest funded for education and SEND to join f40

**Explore the possibility of hosting another conference** later in 2026



## For more information

For more information about f40, contact Secretary Karen Westcott at [karen@dtw.co.uk](mailto:karen@dtw.co.uk) or on 07545 210067

