

*These notes refer to the Special Educational Needs And Disability Act 2001 (c.10) which received Royal Assent on 11 May 2001*

# **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY ACT 2001**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 1 – Special Educational Needs**

#### **Sections 1 to 10 and Schedules 1 & 8**

#### ***Section 2: Advice and information for parents***

49. This section amends the EA by inserting a new section 332A to place a duty on LEAs to make arrangements for providing information on SEN matters to parents of children in their area who have SEN. These are normally known as parent partnership services. Most LEAs already provide such services but there is no legal requirement on them to do so. The new duty does not mean that LEAs will have to provide the services themselves; they might, for example, decide to contract with a provider from the voluntary sector.
50. In making these arrangements LEAs must heed guidance issued by the Secretary of State or, in Wales, the NAW. The revised SEN Code of Practice will give guidance on parent partnership services. LEAs must publicise to parents and schools, in their area, the fact that the services are available and must inform other interested parties.