

**MINISTER'S PRE-BRIEF AND MEETING NOTE**

PRE-BRIEF

MEETING

<b>DATE AND TIME OF MEETING:</b>		Monday 8 September 2025 @ 4:00pm	
<b>TITLE/ORGANISATION:</b> [Include INV number where possible and ensure title on re-brief and meeting notes are the same]		Meeting with Keith Buchanan MLA and parents regarding special school summer schemes	
<b>VENUE:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PB	<input type="checkbox"/> Rathgael	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
<b>LIST OF ATTENDEES: (As follows)</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> SpAd:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minister PS	<input type="checkbox"/> Minister APS
<b>OFFICIALS:</b>	[REDACTED]		
<b>OTHERS:</b> [include PDF copies of any presentations delivered]	Keith Buchanan MLA [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Clar McKenna – EA [REDACTED]		
<b>KEY POINTS DISCUSSED:</b> The following topics were discussed – Summer scheme at Sperrinview special school reduced from two weeks to one week 2 summers ago due to staffing issues at the school; one parent had to apply for term time working to cover childcare; families struggling during the summer; lack of support for childcare for children with complex needs; no aftercare in special school; 21 summer schemes in special schools out of 40 special schools; funding is provided through earmarked funding but this is under pressure; question mark of future provision; qualified staffing is an			

**issue; concerns for children with complex SEN post-19; the exponential growth in children with complex need and the costs to the education budget; operational decisions are very difficult; and special school principal's concerns on the provision of nursing and allied health professional support in special schools.**

**ISSUES AGREED:**

**ACTION POINTS / OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE:**

**NOTE WRITTEN BY:**

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**DATE: 8 September 2025**

Signed and dated by Private Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_.

Ministers' clearance: \_\_\_\_\_.