

Where to go for more information

Contact the school

If you have any questions about the support your child is receiving, or about SEN more generally, please speak to your child's class teacher or our SENCO.

See our [website](#)

The school's [SEN policy and information report](#) sets out more detailed information about the support available for children with SEN and disabilities.

You can access this information on our website.

2015 SEN Code of Practice

The government's SEND Code of Practice and a related guide for parents have more information about the topics outlined in this leaflet:

- **SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years**, GOV.UK – DfE
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf)
- **SEND: a guide for parents and carers**, GOV.UK – DfE
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417435/Special educational needs and disabilities guide for parents and carers.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417435/Special_educational_needs_and_disabilities_guide_for_parents_and_carers.pdf)

The Local Offer

Every local authority must identify education, health and social care services in their local area provided for children, young people and families who have SEN or disabilities and include them in an information directory called the Local Offer

[Kent County Council SEND Local Offer](#)



IASK

Provides information, advice and support to children, young people and parents/carers about special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This includes health and social care where it is linked to education.

A free, confidential and impartial service based in Kent. Staff and volunteers are independently trained in SEND.

Helpline: 03000 41 3000

Email: iask@kent.gov.uk

Website: www.iask.org.uk

Glossary of terms

EHC plan - education, health and care plan

SEN - special educational needs

SENCO - SEN co-ordinator

SEND - SEN and disability



Special Educational Needs and Disability



The 2015 Code of Practice says that:

A person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for Special Educational Provision to be made for them. At compulsory school age, this means that they have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others the same age, or, have a disability, which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools.

What is SEN?

Some children find learning more challenging than others and may need extra support to achieve their full potential.

The 0-25 SEND Code of Practice sets out four areas of SEN:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties
- Sensory and / or Physical Needs

Some children may have SEN that covers more than one of these areas.

Many children who have SEN may also have a disability. A disability is described in the Equality Act 2010 as 'a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term (a year or more) and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.'

Children who need extra help with their learning may receive additional support under one of the following categories:

- SEN support
- An EHC plan/statement of SEN

What is SEN support?

SEN support describes the additional help that assists children to access the curriculum.

This might include:

- Targeted support and strategies in the classroom
- Small group or one-to-one interventions which are additional to class teaching
- Support from specialists such as the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, Speech and Language Therapists, and Occupational Therapists

Children are best supported when schools and parents work together to identify the most appropriate strategies to support the child's education and wellbeing.

What is an EHC plan?

This is a legal document; it states exactly what a child's special educational needs are and how these will be met.

EHC plans are undertaken in consultation with schools, parents and outside agencies when a child requires an intensive range of support to meet their complex needs.

Moving to an EHC plan

Generally, an EHC plan will be applied for if:

- The child has a disability which is lifelong which will mean that they may always need support to learn effectively
- If progress has halted despite high quality targeted support (see graduated approach)
- The child's progress and attainment is significantly below their peers and that it is thought that they may benefit from specialist school provision in the future

Having a diagnosis i.e. ADHD ADD ASD or Dyslexia does not necessarily mean that the child needs an EHC plan if they are responding well to targeted support.

If an application for an EHC plan is successful, then this is a statutory document which is reviewed regularly and an annual review must take place in consultation with the LA SEN department.

FAQs

How will the school decide what type of support my child receives?

Every child's needs are different and may change over time.

The school will assess each child's needs closely to identify which support suits them best.

The school will also regularly review the support your child receives to see what is working and what is not, and incorporate the views of parents and children.

How do I know if my child needs SEN support?

If your child is not making expected progress for their year group, they may need SEN support.

The school will discuss your child's needs with you before placing your child on SEN support.

Schools use a graduated approach cycle of 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' in order to determine the type of support best suited to each child:

