SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

INTRODUCTION



What is SEND?

A child or young person has special educational needs and disabilities if they have a learning difficulty and/or a disability that means they need special health and education support. This is often shortened to SEND.

SEN Support

SEN Support is what schools and similar settings use to find and meet the needs of children with special educational needs (SEN).

Education settings must make sure they meet the “reasonable” special educational needs of children. This means that all education settings – early years settings, schools and colleges – should be able to meet the needs of most children with a learning disability.

Education settings should use a graduated approach to support children with SEND following the cycle of assess, plan, do, review.

If your child’s school has taken relevant and purposeful action to identify and meet your child’s needs, but they are still not making expected progress, the school should consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment. Those with parental responsibility are also entitled to make such a request.

Education, Health and Care Plan

An education, health and care (EHC) plan is for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support.
EHC plans identify educational, health and social needs and set out the additional support to meet those needs.

Please see the Education, Health and Care Plan section for further information regarding these plans.