Parent Guide to Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

What is a learning difficulty or disability?

A child of school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- have a disability which prevents them from making use of resources of a kind generally provided to other children/pupils of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post 16 institutions.

Special educational provision

This is educational provision that is additional to or different from that made generally for other children or young people of the same age by mainstream schools.

SEN support: support ALL pupils can access

- Sometimes your child may need extra help in class, but this does not necessarily mean they have SEN
- The majority of children identified as having SEN can be supported without the need for an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), this is known as SEN support
- Class teachers will regularly check on children's progress and identify any barriers they may have
- Teachers adapt their teaching to meet individual needs if your child is not making expected progress

What to expect from School…

My child finds learning and/or social situations in school difficult

These strategies can help…

- Writing and reading frames
- Support from peers
- Specific intervention e.g. reading
- Information presented in different formats
- Responsive teaching
- Task planners
- Pen grips

Has the graduated response been correctly applied?

These strategies are not helping…

- Small group work
- A key adult
- ELSA
- Social stories
- Adapted learning tasks

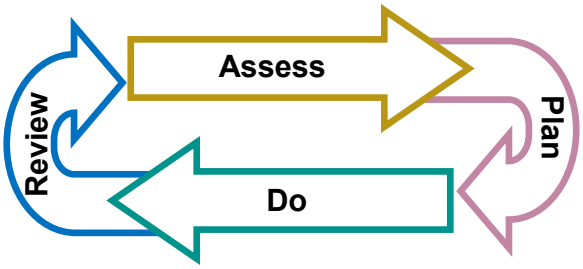
These strategies may not work straight away. It takes time to learn how to use them successfully.

I don't know?

- Overlays
- Support from members of staff
- Retrieval practice
- Information recorded in different ways
- A supported area at lunch or break
- Chunking of information

The graduated response is a way of repeatedly checking that interventions and support match your child's needs

The Graduated Response:



What the graduated response could look like:

The School **assesses** your child and identifies a need.
The school **plans** an intervention to address the need.
The school **does** the intervention.
The school **reviews** the progress made by your child and the need for more or different support/intervention.

If your child has fully engaged in repeated cycles of intervention and support but not made progress from their starting point, then more specific assessment may be required to establish the nature and level of need. There are four broad areas of need, and the boxes below show some of the ways through which these can be supported.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Sensory and Physical	Communication and Interaction	Cognition and Learning
The Boxall Profile Mindfulness Restorative approaches Zones of Regulation Play therapy Wellbeing support GP referral to Point 1 and CAMHS Lego therapy	Sensory equipment/ spaces Support from outreach services such as the hearing or visual impairment or physical disability teams GP referrals to physio and occupational therapy Assistive technologies and or equipment	Phonological awareness Vocabulary games Repeat instructions Teach listening skills Visual timetables Social stories Pre-teaching Colourful semantics Core vocabulary	Differentiation in class Support from adults Multi-sensory teaching strategies Phonics Working memory Motor skills Reasonable adjustments to the classroom Equipment - pencil grips, slopes etc Use of ICT

Schools do not 'fit' a pupil into a category, but rather provide support based on their level of need.

The majority of children identified as having SEN can be supported at SEN support level.

What is an EHCP ?

An Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan or an EHCP) is a legal document which describes a child or young person's special educational needs, the support they need, and the outcomes they would like to achieve.

EHCP Myths and Legends: What an EHCP IS NOT...

It does not provide your child with a 1:1 adult all the time. The EHCP is designed to support your child to make progress independently.

If additional resources are not required, then an EHC plan should not be necessary and therefore the needs should be met under delegated funding.

An EHCP is not a tool to facilitate frequent changes of school.

EHC needs assessment timeline

- **An EHC needs assessment is requested:**
- **By 6 weeks:** The LA must tell you if they will or will not be assessing your child.
- **By 16 weeks:** The LA must finish the assessment and notify you of their decision.
- **Between 16-20 weeks:** The LA will send you a draft EHC Plan. You have 15 days to comment and suggest a specific school.
- **By 20 weeks:** The LA must issue your child's final EHC Plan.
- **Every 12 months:** The LA must review your child's EHC Plan.

How can I help my child?

- Limit screen time
- Encourage your child to read
- Ensure good sleep patterns at home
- Support them to build resilience to challenges, praise effort and persistence
- Attend meetings – parents evening, phonics, transitions and SEN – We achieve the best results if we work together!
- Offer a balanced and varied diet
- Let the school know about any worries you have or changes in personal circumstances

Map of Hampshire Support

Hampshire offers a wide range of services to assist schools and parent/carers in supporting the needs of children and young people. This map highlights some key services that are available and on the following page you can find more information.

Prevention

Education safeguarding - Homepage - Hampshire SCP

Hampshire Healthy Families - Welcome To Hampshire Healthy Families: Hampshire Healthy Families

Hampshire healthy schools - Healthy Schools in Hampshire | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council

P.S.H.E Offer - Relationships and Sex Education & PSHE training and Support | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Libraries - Hampshire Libraries | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Arts - South East | Arts Council England

Hampshire Heritage and Culture - Hampshire Cultural Trust - Changing lives through culture

Hampshire Fire and Rescue education - Playing with fire - Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service, Official website of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service

Hampshire Police - Safe4Me – Hampshire Police's free education resource programme for schools, colleges and partners in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

Intervention

Specialist Teacher Advisors (STAS) Hampshire - Specialist Teacher Advisory Service | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Speech and Language - Speech and Language Therapy: Hampshire Hospitals

Inclusion Service - Inclusion Support Service (ISS) | Hampshire County Council

Rights and Diversity in Education Centre - RADE Centre | Hampshire County Council

School Nursing Team - Children and Family Services: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

Hampshire Learns - Hampshire Learns | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Virtual School - Hampshire and Isle of Wight Virtual School and College for children in care | Hampshire County Council

Early help hub - Early help hubs | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council

Family wellbeing hub - Family Information and Services Hub | Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Intervention

Education Psychology - Educational Psychology services for schools | Hampshire County Council

Children's Centres - Family Information and Services Hub | Hampshire Children's Centres

Family Information and Services Hub - Family Information and Services Hub | Hampshire's Family Support Service

Support for young people - Support for young people | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council

Early help services - Family Information and Services Hub | Hampshire's Family Support Service

Young carers -- Young carers | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Virtual School - Hampshire Virtual School and College

Targeted Support

Mental Health support – Kooth - Home - Kooth

Services for Young People - Support for Young People | Lets Talk About It

YMCA wise – young people at risk of child sexual exploitation YMCA WiSE

Stop smoking support - Smokefree Hampshire | Your Stop Smoking Service

Catch 22 – whole family support Family services | Catch22

Hampshire Youth Access (HYA) - partnership of 11 leading agencies providing counselling, information, advice, and support to children and young people aged 5 – 17 (or 24 for care leavers and SEND) across Hampshire. Home - HYA (hampshireyouthaccess.org.uk)

Where to find more support for Families

Emotional health and wellbeing

CAMHS

Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) is a NHS specialist service that aims to help young people aged 5 -18 years and their families who are finding it hard to manage their emotional and psychological health, and who are suffering with acute, chronic and severe mental health problems.
CAMHS (hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk)

They also have the following specialist teams that can be contacted directly:

Specialist Eating Disorder Team

This team covers the whole of Hampshire and works with young people who have eating disorders and difficulties, and their families. The aim is to see young people as quickly as possible and provide specialist treatment. The team also provides information and guidance for anyone who might be concerned about an eating difficulty.
The Specialist Eating Disorder Team can be contacted Monday-Friday 9-5pm on 0300 304 0062.

Learning Disability Care

Hampshire CAMHS also offer their services to children and young people with a learning disability, making sure that young people with a learning disability who also have a mental health difficulty can get the help and support they need. Every team in Hampshire CAMHS has a specialist learning disability CAMHS worker who can offer a range of approaches depending on each person's needs.
Further information can be found at: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds
Mental Wellbeing Hampshire | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council

Support for the whole family

Portal : Hampshire Healthy Families
Family Information and Services Hub | Hampshire's Family Support Service
Early Help

Information Advice & Support with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Family Information and Services Hub | Hampshire's Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities
Parents & Carers | Hampshire SENDIASS

Some common SEN acronyms…

ADD - Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD - Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder
ASC - Autistic Spectrum Condition
ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder
CAMHS - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CIN - Child in Need
CLA - Child Looked After
CoP - Code of Practice
EHCP - Education, Health and Care Plan
EP - Educational Psychologist
HI - Hearing Impairment
LSA - Learning Support Assistant
OT - Occupational Therapy / Occupational Therapist
PD - Physical Disability
PP - Pupil Premium
PRU - Pupil Referral Unit
SALT - Speech and Language Therapy
SLT - Speech and Language Therapy / Therapist
VI - Visual Impairment (loss of sight)