

3. What are the stages of SEND?

Following the SEND Code of Practice (2015), the school uses a graduated approach when meeting the needs of children with SEND. For many children, quality first teaching on a daily basis is enough to ensure that they achieve well and make good progress across the curriculum.

SEN support

For some children, quality first teaching may not be enough to help them make adequate progress and they may need something which is '*additional to and different from*' that which is normally provided for all children. This could mean that the class teacher may be using different strategies to help your child to learn, or perhaps your child will be receive some additional support in a small group alongside other children with similar needs.

For some children the school, with your agreement, may decide to involve some external professionals to provide them with more specialist advice and guidance in order to support them to remove the barriers to your child's learning.

Only a very small percentage of children require support of an additional nature beyond this.

Education, Health and Care Plan (*replaced Statements of Special Educational Needs*)

If your child has significant difficulties, they may require an Education, Health and Care Plan. This means your child will have been identified by the school as needing a particularly high level of additional support, which cannot be provided from the element 1 and 2 funding available to the school.

For your child this would mean:

Request for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment

- The school (or you) can request that the Local Authority carry out an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment of your child's needs. This is a legal process which sets out the amount of support that will be provided for your child.
- After the school (or you) have sent in the request to the Local Authority (with a lot of information about your child), they will decide whether they think your child's needs (as described in the paperwork provided), seem complex enough to need an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment.

Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment

- If the Local Authority decide that the needs of your child are severe, complex and lifelong and require significant support in school to make good progress, they will write an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- If this is not the case, they will ask the school to continue with the support at an SEN support level. They will set up a meeting in school to ensure a plan is in place to ensure your child makes as much progress as possible.
- The Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will outline the support your child will receive from the LA, how the support should be used and what strategies must be put in place. It will also have long and medium term outcomes for your child.

