

Stockport SENDIASS

# SEN Support in Schools

The majority of children with SEND will have their needs met in a local mainstream school without the need for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

The SEND Code of Practice says all schools must:

- use their best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEN gets the support they need – this means doing everything they can to meet children and young people’s SEN
- designate a teacher to be responsible for co-ordinating SEN provision – the SEN Co-ordinator or SENCO
- inform parents when they are making special educational provision for a child.

Schools should also tell parents and young people about the SEND Information, Advice and Support service (SENDIAS)

## What is SEN support?

Every child with special educational needs should have SEN support. This means help that is additional to or different from the support generally given to other children of the same age.

The purpose of SEN support is to help children achieve the **outcomes** or learning objectives set for them by the school. Schools should involve parents in this process.

SEN support can take many forms, including:

- a special learning programme for your child
- extra help from a teacher or a learning support assistant
- making or changing materials and equipment
- working with your child in a small group
- observing your child in class or at break and keeping records
- helping your child to take part in the class activities
- making sure your child has understood things by encouraging them to ask questions and to try something they find difficult

- helping other children work with your child, or play with them at break time
- helping your child with physical or personal care, such as eating, getting around school safely, toileting or dressing.

Schools may also involve specialists to advise them on effective support and interventions.

## Who decides what SEN support my child has?

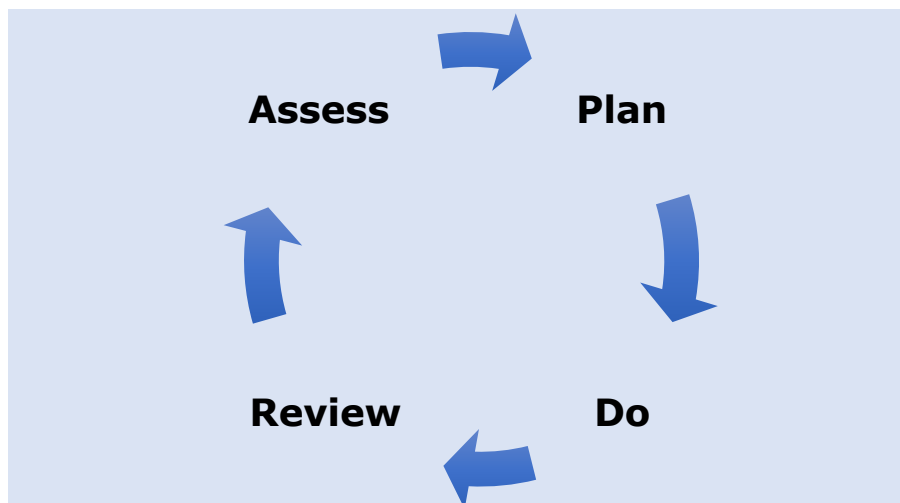
Teachers, supported by the SENCO, should make regular assessments of progress for all pupils. These assessments should identify pupils who are making less than expected progress.

The school should then decide if your child needs SEN support and teachers should talk to you and your child about this.

Sometimes you may be the first to be aware that your child has some special educational needs. If you think your child may need SEN support you should talk to your child's teacher or to the SENCO.

## A graduated approach

When your child is identified as having SEN, the school should use a graduated approach based on four steps. These are:



## **Assess**

Teaching staff should work with the SENCO to assess your child's needs, so that they give the right support. They should involve you in this and, wherever possible, seek your child's views. The SEND Code of Practice says that 'schools should take seriously any concerns raised by a parent'. Sometimes schools will seek advice from a specialist teacher or a health professional. They should talk to you about this first.

## **Plan**

If the school decides that your child needs SEN support it must tell you. The school should talk with you about the outcomes that will be set, what help will be provided and agree a date for progress to be reviewed.

## **Do**

Your child's class or subject teacher is usually responsible for the work that is done with your child, and should work closely with any teaching assistants or specialist staff involved. The school should tell you who is responsible for the support your child receives.

All those who work with your child should be made aware of:

- their needs
- the agreed outcomes
- the support being provided
- the teaching strategies that are required.

## **Review**

The school should review your child's progress, and the difference that the help your child has been given has made, on the date agreed in the plan. You and your child should be involved in the review and in planning the next step.

The SEND Code of Practice says that 'schools should meet with parents at least three times a year'. Sometimes it helps to involve other professionals in further assessment or to support planning the next steps. If your child has not made reasonable progress it will be important to agree with the school what should happen next.

## SEN Information Report

Every school must publish an SEN Information Report about the SEN provision the school makes. You can find this on the school's website. You can also ask your child's teacher or the school's SENCO for information on the SEND provision made by the school.

## Where can I get more information, advice or support?

You can find out more about SEN Support by:

- Reading Chapter 6 of the SEND Code of Practice which can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25)
- Contacting the SEND Information, Advice and Support service (SENDIAS) Tel: 0161 480 3189

## Get in touch with us today

Our expert team at the Together Trust will do everything they can to support you and your family. Contact details can be found below or you can get in touch by filling in our online contact form:

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