



Special Educational Needs Information for Parents and Carers



A child may have a special educational need (SEN) if they require additional or different provision to support them in their learning. A child may have difficulty in reading, writing or mathematics, understanding others and expressing themselves, sensory perception or physical mobility or difficulty communicating with others. These difficulties cause barriers to the child's learning. For some children this may be a temporary difficulty, while others may have a long term need for special help.

My child is on the SEN register

If your child is identified with a special need, they will be placed on our school's SEN register at SEN support level of provision. Further guidance on the code from the Department of Education can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers. The school will work in partnership with you as the parent or carer to assess your child to identify their strengths, needs and the extra help they require. Your child will be set targets so that their progress can be monitored closely. These targets will be discussed and reviewed with you at parents' evenings or SEN reviews throughout the year. SEN reviews will usually be held by your child's class teacher and any other members of staff who support your child in school.

What help will be available for my child?

This depends on your child's needs and how well they are progressing. The school will work with you to discuss the best way to help your child. This may include:

- adapting the way your child is taught, e.g. giving instructions in a different way, visual timetable, multisensory resources.
- using specialist equipment e.g. coloured paper in books, writing slope, wobble cushion, ear defenders and timers.
- participating in specific interventions (1-1 or in small groups) for some of the time to address your child's specific needs.
- carrying out in-house assessments by staff and/or by external professionals.

Who may become involved with my child from outside the school?

Experts from outside agencies may be asked to assess your child's needs if they continue to have difficulties or if further assessment is required. The SENCo may ask for your permission to seek additional advice from outside specialists such as health professionals, specialist teachers or educational psychologists who would:

- carry out further assessment of your child's needs
- provide advice to schools on how to best support your child
- suggest resources that would help your child make progress

Parents are wherever possible offered the opportunity to meet with these professionals during SEN reviews to discuss the results of their assessment.

A Graduated Approach



A graduated approach is followed for SEN support and there are 4 stages:

- **Assess-** your child's difficulties must be assessed so that the right support can be provided. This will include, for example, asking you what you think, talking to professionals who work with your child (such as their teacher), and looking at records and other information.
- **Plan-** The school will agree, with your involvement, the support that can be provided and how your child will benefit from the support they get.
- **Do-** The school will put the planned support into place. The teacher remains responsible for working with your child on a daily basis, but the SENCo and any support staff or specialist teaching staff involved in providing support will work closely to track your child's progress and check that the support is being effective.
- **Review-** The support your child receives will be reviewed at the time agreed in the plan. The school, parents/carers and relevant external agency members will work together to see if the support is having a positive impact, whether the outcomes have been, or are being achieved and if or how any changes should be made.

What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

If your child's needs are very complex, the school may ask the local authority, in collaboration with you as the parent or carer, to carry out an education, health and care needs assessment. This is only appropriate for a very small number of pupils. The SENCo will request the assessment after gathering in-depth information about the child's needs from parents/carers, teachers and external agency members. Once the assessment has been carried out, this could lead to your child getting an Education, Health and Care (EHCP) Plan. This EHC Plan brings all of your child's education, health and social care needs into one legal document. Further guidance on EHC plans can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers.

Who can I talk to?

If you are at all concerned about your child's needs, the class teacher will be more than happy to discuss this with you at a mutually convenient time. You can also talk to the special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) across the academy.

Our role is to support children and parents to ensure the needs of the child are being met. To make an appointment with staff members regarding your child, please contact the school:

Infant school: 0116 276 7648

office@humberstoneinfantacademy.co.uk

Junior school: 0116 276 7248

office@humberstoneacademy.co.uk