

Frequently Asked Questions:

When will the changes take place?

Changes to the SEND Code of Practice come into effect from September 2014.

Will fewer children get a Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC) than get a Statement of Special Educational Needs?

The legal criteria will remain the same as the current criteria for a Statement of SEN, unless there is evidence that the child's needs have changed.

Can I appeal if I'm not happy with anything in my child's EHC plan?

The educational aspects of an EHC Plan can be appealed to the SEND tribunal (from Sept 2014) in the same way as those of a statement. Arrangements for challenging Social Care and Health are still to be finalised but should be in place by September 2014.

If you would like further information regarding the changes to the SEND Code of Practice and how it may affect your child please contact the appropriate member of staff below:

Ward Green Primary School:

Helen Jones

Tel: 01226 286510

For impartial help and advice:

- ◆ Barnsley Sendiass
- ◆ Children with Disabilities Team
 - 01226 774050
- ◆ Barnsley FID
 - 0800 0345340
 - Or see website



Information for Families

Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: (SEND) 0-25 years



Key Changes:

- ◆ The Code of Practice (2014) covers the 0-25 age range.
- ◆ School Action and School Action Plus will be replaced by School Support although there will still be the same duties to “assess, plan, do and review” to meet the needs of students.
- ◆ For children and young people with more complex needs a co-ordinated assessment process and the new 0-25 Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC plan) will replace statements.
- ◆ There is a clearer focus on the views of children, young people, their families and their role in decision-making.
- ◆ It includes guidance on the joint planning and commissioning of services to ensure closer working relationships between education, health services and social care so families only have to tell us once.
- ◆ The authority will publish a ‘Local Offer’ - a website with information about the range of support and services available for children with SEND in their area which families may wish to access.
- ◆ Schools will also publish their own ‘local offer’ to keep families informed of support available in their particular school.
- ◆ There is a greater focus on support that enables those with SEND to succeed in

their education and make a successful transition to adulthood.

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she has:

‘a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age,’

or

‘a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.’

Special Educational needs can be considered as falling under four broad areas:

- ◆ Communication and Interaction
- ◆ Cognition and Learning
- ◆ Social, Mental and Emotional Health
- ◆ Sensory and/or Physical

Children and Young People with a Disability

Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is:

‘... a physical or mental impairment which has a long term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities’.

Long term is defined as a ‘year or more’. This includes sensory impairments and long term health conditions. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and those with SEN.

Medical Conditions

Arrangements will be made to support pupils with medical conditions.

Individual health care plans will normally specify the type and level of support required to meet the medical needs of such pupils.

For children and young people who also have special educational needs, provision will be planned and delivered in a coordinated way with the health care plan.

Education, Health and Care plans (EHC)

The purpose of an EHC plan is to make special educational provision to meet the special educational needs of the child or young person, to secure improved outcomes for them across education, health and social care; and as they get older, prepare them for adulthood.

Young people over 18 with EHC plans

An EHC plan will continue for young people who choose to stay in education or training. For most young people this will be to go on to further education (college) or to get an apprenticeship.