



HOUNSLOW SENDIASS

Information Advice and Support Service

SEN Support in Mainstream Schools Factsheet

This factsheet provides information about the support that mainstream schools must provide for children who have special educational needs (SEN).

What is SEN support?

If your child has special educational needs, they should be provided with SEN support. This means help that is additional or different to the support given to other children of the same age.

The Hounslow Local Offer will set out what support should be provided for children with SEN. The aim of this support is to help children achieve the learning objectives set for them by the school.

Each school must publish a SEN information report about the SEN provision they provide. This will be available on the school's website, and your school's SENCO will be able to give you more detail.

SEN support may include:

- A special learning programme for your child
- Extra help from a teacher or a learning support assistant
- Providing additional or materials and equipment, or adapting them to better suit your child
- 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
- Supporting your child with physical or personal care, such as eating, getting around school safely, toileting or dressing

Who decides what SEN support my child receives?

Teachers are responsible for keeping an eye on your child's progress. They should identify students making less than expected progress.

If they believe your child is struggling, the school will then decide if your child needs SEN support. The school must inform you of this, and if the child is over 16, they should also be directly involved.

If it is agreed that your child requires SEN support, the school will discuss with you what learning objectives will be set, what help will be provided and agree a date for progress to be reviewed. The

teacher will work closely with any additional staff such as teaching assistants or specialists to better support your child, and parents will be informed as to who these staff members are. You and your child will be involved in reviewing progress and planning next steps to ensure your child remains supported.

However, sometimes parents identify that their child has special educational needs before the school. If this is the case, you should talk to your child's teacher or the school SENCO.

What are schools required to provide?

According to the SEND Code of Practice, 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*
- *ensure that children and young people with SEN engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have 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*
- *publish an SEN information report and their arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps being taken to prevent disabled children from being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to enable access to the school for disabled children and their accessibility plan showing how they plan to improve access progressively over time”*

(Section 6 Paragraph 2)

Further help

For any further information, check out the Hounslow SEND Local Offer website and IPSEA page:

[SEN support in schools | London Borough of Hounslow](#)

[SEN Support | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#)

Alternatively, the Hounslow SENDIASS team will be able to offer you personalised guidance and support. You can contact them:

- By email: sendiass@hounslow.gov.uk
- By telephone: 0208 5832607