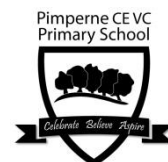




# **Pimperne Primary School**

## **Information on Educational Health Care Plans**



### **What is an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan?**

A child or young person has Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) if they have a learning difficulty or disability that needs special educational arrangements to be made for them.

Most children and young people with SEND can have their needs met in inclusive mainstream schools, early years setting or further education.

An EHC Plan is for children and young people who can't have all their special educational needs met by the help available at their school or setting and need extra support through a person-centred plan. The extra support will mean that for most learners their needs can be met in their current school or setting.

### **What is an EHC Plan meant to do?**

An EHC Plan describes your child or young person's special educational, health and care needs. It sets outcomes that will help your child learn and prepare for the next stage of their education and adulthood, such as:

- skills and abilities you'd like the child or young person to have
- employment or higher education
- independent living
- good health
- joining in with the community

The plans are legal documents that belong to the child or young person. They can start from birth and could continue into further education and training, so from the age of 0 to 25 years. They are reviewed every year so that they can adapt to your child's needs as they develop.

### **How the EHC Plan can help your child achieve their outcomes?**

The EHC Plan describes the extra support your child needs to achieve their outcomes.

In a mainstream school or educational setting this could mean things like:

- equipment or resources
- extra training for staff
- accessing specialist services and advice
- accessing particular activities
- a level of teaching assistant support
- a combination of different options

The EHC Plan is flexible and responsive. The school or setting normally decides the best way to allocate this support. They do this in discussion with other professionals, parents and learners.

It can also describe support from health or social care, if they're involved. It also shows what friends, family and others in the community will do to help.

### What an EHC Plan can and can't help with

An EHC plan can help:	An EHC plan isn't:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collect up-to-date advice on your child's needs</li> <li>share the views, wishes and goals of you and your child</li> <li>working together to decide support and plan for the future</li> <li>identify outcomes that will make a difference to your child</li> <li>define the support your child needs to meet those outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a guarantee of full-time or one-to-one teaching assistance</li> <li>needed because your child has a particular diagnosis</li> <li>a guarantee of a place in a special school</li> <li>the only way your child can get help and have their needs met</li> <li>guaranteed or always appropriate until the age of 25</li> </ul>

### Is an EHC Plan right for your child?

Most children and young people can have their needs met and receive the support they need without an EHC Plan.

### The graduated response: assess, plan, do and review

If your child has SEND their current school or setting should put an 'assess, plan, do and review' model in place. This is known as a graduated response.

The school or setting has funding to support this work and should use the services available on our Local Offer to help meet your child's needs.

All mainstream schools and educational settings have a person called a Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENDCO) who will know about the graduated response. It's helpful to talk to your SENDCO to discuss your child's needs. Some useful questions are:

- what's been done and what support is already in place?
- are there services or professionals that could offer further support?
- have different approaches been tried and reviewed?
- has the school or educational setting got evidence of a graduated response?

### If your child or young person needs more help

For a small number of children, a graduated response may not be able to fully meet their needs and they may need extra help. We might need to consider whether that help and support needs to be provided through an EHC Plan.

We will agree a needs assessment if both of these apply:

- the child or young person has, or may have SEND
- they may need SEND support that they can only get through an EHC Plan

If a needs assessment is agreed, it won't always result in an EHC Plan. This could be because there isn't evidence of a graduated response, or because:



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## Information on Educational Health Care Plans



- the school or setting can support the child or young person through SEND support
- the child or young person's needs are unclear
- it's not clear what help they're getting at the moment

We start thinking about an EHC Plan when a graduated response is already in place and your child's needs are still not being met.

### Who can apply for an EHC plan?

- **The school or educational setting** – or anyone who thinks an assessment might help, including doctor, health visitor, social care professional or specialist teacher.
- **A parent, carer or family friend** – can request a needs assessment for the child or young person.
- **A young person** – can request a needs assessment themselves but we'll still need input from the school.