



SEND

A Quick Guide to:

-  What is Special Educational Needs and/or Disability?
-  How do I know my child has SEND?

What is SEND?

SEND is an abbreviation of Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. The Code of Practice 2014 defines SEND as: 'A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them'.

There are four broad areas of need set out in the SEND Code of Practice:

Communication and Interaction: Children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) have difficulty in communicating with others. This may be because they have difficulty saying what they want to, understanding what is being said to them or they do not understand or use social rules of communication.

Children or young people with Autism are likely to have particular difficulties with social interaction. They may also experience difficulties with language, communication and imagination, which can impact on how they relate to others.

Cognition and Learning: Support for learning difficulties may be required when children and young people learn at a slower pace than their peers, even with appropriate differentiation.

Learning difficulties cover a wide range of needs, including moderate learning difficulties (MLD), severe learning difficulties (SLD), where children are likely to need support in all areas of the curriculum, through to profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD).

Specific learning difficulties (SpLD), affect one or more specific aspects of learning and encompasses a range of conditions such as dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health: Children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which manifest themselves in many ways.

These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour.

These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties. Other CYP may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, ADHD or attachment disorder.

Sensory and / or Physical needs: Some children and young people require special educational provision because they have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of the educational facilities generally provided.

Many children and young people who are deaf, have vision impairment (VI), or a multi-sensory impairment (MSI) will require specialist support and/or equipment to access their learning.

For more information on who to speak to, take a look at the 'First Steps in SEND' guide.

Contact the SEN team

Find out more

York SEND Local Offer website outlines the Support available for children's education, health and care needs in York. For more information, contact us:

 sendept@york.gov.uk

 01904 554336

 York SEND Local Offer website: yorksend.org

Guidance to consider

- [SEND Code of Practice 0-25 2014](#)
- [Children and Families Act 2014](#)

If you would like this document in an alternative format, please call (01904) 551550, or email ycc@york.gov.uk.