

Education & Welfare Provision for Pupils with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)

Introduction

This Policy applies to the whole school, including the EYFS, and should be read in conjunction with the School's Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy and the SEND Accessibility Plan.

The School currently follows the guidance set out in the SEN and Disability Code of Practice, 0-25 years 2014 (SEND Code 2014). We also act in accordance with the following relevant legislation:

Children and Families Act 2014

Education Act 1996

Educational (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001

Equality Act 2010

There are currently 2 pupils at Daneshill with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

Factors that affect a child's ability to learn can include difficulties with:

Communication and interaction

Cognition and learning

Social, emotional and mental health difficulties

Sensory and/or physical

An education, health and care (EHC) plan is for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support. EHC plans identify educational, health and social needs and set out additional support to meet those needs. Requesting an EHCP Assessment An application can be made by parents/carers to the local authority to carry out an assessment. A request can also be made by:

- school
- doctor
- health visitor
- nursery worker

A local authority has 6 weeks to decide whether to carry out an EHC assessment. Where an assessment is carried out, information will be gained from:

- school, nursery or carer
- professional assessments or reports
- a letter from parent or carer about the child's needs

Within 16 weeks, the authority will decide whether or not an EHC plan will be made.

Creating an EHC Plan

The local authority will create a draft EHC plan and send out a copy. There are 15 days to comment, which might include a request for specialist school provision. The local authority has 20 weeks from the date of the assessment to provide the final EHC plan.

Disagreeing with a decision

- The local authority can be challenged about:
- their decision to not carry out an assessment
- their decision to not create an EHC plan
- the special educational support in the EHC plan
- the school named in the EHC plan

If the problem with a local authority cannot be resolved, an appeal to the special educational needs and disability tribunal can be convened.

Personal budgets

In some cases, a personal budget may be awarded if a child has an education, health and care (EHC) plan, or have been told that they need an EHC plan. Parents will have a say in how to spend the money supporting their child.

There are 3 ways a personal budget can be used:

- direct payments into a personal account to buy and manage services independently
- an arrangement with the local authority or school where they hold the money, but parents/carers still decide how it will be spent (sometimes called 'notional arrangements')
- third-party arrangements - someone else is chosen to manage the money for parents/carers

It is also possible to have a combination of all 3 options.

School Aims

At Daneshill we aim to ensure that all pupils with EHC Plans and LS needs, have complete access to high quality education within a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, so that they can reach their full potential and enhance their self-esteem. Furthermore, we aim to meet the needs of all pupils who have EHC Plans or need LS by offering continual and appropriate forms of education provision. For further information, please see the School's LS Policy, Accessibility Plan, Curriculum Policy and Teaching and Learning Policy.

School Procedure

When referring a pupil for statutory assessment, written information should be submitted by either the the school SENCO, giving the reasons for the request and including the following evidence:

- the views of the pupil and parents
- the school's own assessment of the child's progress over time, including records of action taken by the school including Raising Achievement or Individual Education Plans and the outcomes of any reviews
- copies of any advice provided by health and social services
- any reports from specialists from outside the school such as educational psychologists, advisory teachers and therapists

- details of any involvement of the education welfare service or social services or of other professionals
- details of the extent to which the school has followed advice from outside agencies

It is the responsibility of the school SENCO to:

- work together with Form Teachers and all other relevant staff to monitor the provision as outlined in the EHC plan and ensure that all needs are met
- ensure that all relevant staff are aware of the pupil's strengths and difficulties and the implications for curriculum delivery
- co-ordinate and review the pupil's learning activities, and ensure that all staff are aware of the pupil's needs and the programmes to be followed
- offer support through the inclusion of differentiation, modification and adaptation of teaching materials and methods as appropriate
- manage these resources and use them in the most appropriate way to meet the pupil's needs
- monitor and record the pupil's progress.

Reviewing an EHC Plan

A full Annual Review takes place within 12 months of the issue of an EHC plan, and then every subsequent 12 months. Annual reviews may take place sooner, if there are any serious concerns about progress, or any suggestion that the pupil's needs have materially altered.

Close and effective liaison will be maintained between the school, the LEA, other agencies involved, and the pupil and parents. This will take the form of regular parents meetings, twice yearly reports, and informal exchanges of information about the pupil's work, progress, and general welfare. Where a pupil with an EHC plan is wholly or partly funded by the Local Authority or other public funds, such information as may be reasonably required for the purpose of the annual review of the EHC plan will be provided to the Local Authority by the school.

This Policy is made available to parents of prospective pupils and all current parents on the school's website. This Policy will also be made available, on request, to the Secretary of State or an Independent Schools Inspectorate.

Reviewed and updated Jan 2022