

## SEND - What does that mean?

**SEND** stands for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Children with SEND often have a difficulty in at least one of the following four areas:

**Communication and Interaction e.g. Autism**  
**Cognition and Learning e.g. Dyslexia**  
**Social, Emotional and Mental Health e.g. Bipolar Disorder**  
**Sensory and/or Physical needs e.g. a Hearing Impairment**

All children with SEND are different. Some children have complex needs and some have only a small need. Some children have at least one diagnosis and some do not have any.



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with SEND  
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## What is the SEND Code of Practice?

The **SEND Code of Practice** is a legal document that sets out the duties for those who work with children with any type of special educational needs and what families can expect with regard to their child. It covers children and young people from birth to age 25.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/398815/SEND\\_Code\\_of\\_Practice\\_January\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf)

There is also a simplified parent friendly guide available as the full document is long and uses some words that some parents may find difficult to understand.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/417435/Special\\_educational\\_needs\\_and\\_disabilites\\_guide\\_for\\_parents\\_and\\_carers.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417435/Special_educational_needs_and_disabilites_guide_for_parents_and_carers.pdf)

## What is a school's SEND Information Report?

All schools have to have a SEND Information Report that lists the support the school can offer. You can find the information report for any Portsmouth school on [www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org) and searching for the school's name using the search facility or by clicking on "At school" and then the "Education" button.

## What is Ordinary Available Provision?

Ordinary available provision is the support all children can access in a mainstream school. It can be accessed by any child depending on their needs however can be adjusted to meet the needs of children with SEND.

## What is SEN support?

SEN Support is a term used to describe the support offered to children in mainstream schools who need additional support to enable them to make progress

Children who are on **SEN Support** have been identified by their parents and the school as having difficulties in at least one of the four areas of difficulty



SEN Support  
can help  
most

**Communication and Interaction,  
Cognition and Learning,  
Social, Emotional and Mental Health,  
Sensory and/or Physical needs,**

Children on **SEN Support** will find their needs are met with interventions. Interventions can be one to one or small group work on a specific area. All schools offer different interventions.

All schools have a SENCO – Special Educational Needs Coordinator who is responsible for identifying children who need support and for ensuring the correct interventions are used and progress monitored to meet the needs of the children in their school.

Schools are given a budget to use to support the needs of children with SEND. This budget is used to purchase resources, pay for specialist training, additional staff and also may be used to fund specific interventions.

## What is an EHCP?

A small number of children will have an EHCP. An EHCP is an Educational Health and Care plan. These are for those children with complex needs who will need more support to stay in a mainstream school or to attend a Special school. If your child's school, feel they cannot meet your child's needs on SEN Support they may discuss with you whether your child would benefit from an EHCP.

Your child's SENCO is

[Erika Anders](#)

To arrange a meeting please email:

[anderse@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:anderse@mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk)

There are also some helpful organisations that can be contacted to help you and your child. There are lots of them listed on [www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org) below are a few that may be helpful.

PORTSMOUTH SENDIASS are available to support you in school meetings and to act as an impartial person in making sure schools and parents can work together to support their child.

PORTSMOUTH PARENT VOICE can ensure parents' voices are heard and their views can be used to help the council and schools when making important decisions.

PORTSMOUTH INDEPENDENT SUPPORT are able to support parents whose children have a statement of SEN and are being transferred onto an Educational Health and Care Plan.

All of these services as well as PORTSMOUTH DISABILITY FORUM are based at the

Frank Sorrell Centre,  
Prince Albert Road,  
Southsea,  
PO4 9HR

For the latest contact details of these organisations please look at  
[www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org)

## A parent's guide to SEN support in schools



### Parent Engagement Officer

This leaflet was developed in partnership with  
The Parent Engagement Officer from  
Portsmouth Disability Forum.  
Email: [engagementofficer@p-d-f.org.uk](mailto:engagementofficer@p-d-f.org.uk)