

Support in Birmingham for children and young people with a special educational need or disability (SEND)

Information for families



About this leaflet

This leaflet explains how Birmingham City Council supports children and families with special educational needs or a disability (SEND) across the city. You can also view this guide and find out more information on our Local Offer website:

www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk

What is the SEND and Inclusion Service?

In Birmingham, our SEND and Inclusion service offers a wide range of advice and support to children and young people aged 0-25 who have special educational needs or a disability and their families, early years, schools or post-16 educational settings.



Help where you live

We have six Locality Teams who work with families and school across the six local areas of Birmingham.

North West	Aston Nechells
	Handsworth
	Ladywood
East	Cole Heath
	East Wards
	FAYS
	Saltley Plus
North	Erdington
	Sutton Coldfield
	Perry Barr
South	Hall Green
	Kings Norton
South West	Quinborne
	Senneleys
	Northfield
Central	Sparkhill
	Cole Heath A

Each team includes:

- Educational psychologist
- Advisory teaching service
- Speech and language therapist
- Occupational therapist
- Nurse
- Parent Link Officer

If you would like more information about any of these teams, visit www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk or call the Parent Link Contact Line.



Parent Link Service

If you have a question or concern, or are not sure who can help, our team of Parent Link Officers can help or put you in touch with the right person. Call the Parent Link Contact Line on 0121 303 8461 from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, or email: ParentLinkService@birmingham.gov.uk

You can also talk to a Parent Link Officer at your local termly SEND Family Forum. These are regular meetings that take place in your local area. Find out more information about parent forums, including where your nearest forum is, at www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk

Help in school

Most children with a special educational need or disability go to their local mainstream school. They may have a plan that says what the school is doing to help them to make progress.

If your child has more complex needs, your school may ask the SEND support services in your area to give them some advice. Together with you, they may write a SEND Support Provision Plan which details everything that is being done to help your child at school and they may ask the local authority for some extra money to pay for this.

Education Health and Care Plan

If your child has very complex needs, particularly if they require a specialist setting, they may need an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan. This includes all the information about your child's needs and the support that will be provided to them, now and in the future.

Schools will work with you and our Inclusion Team to ask the Local Authority if your child can be assessed for this. Alternatively, you can ask the Local Authority for an assessment. Parent Link Officers can help if you have questions or would like further information.

You can find more information about EHC Plans at www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk



Link Specialist Teachers

Link Specialist Teachers are members of the SEND and Inclusion team whose role is to be the link between the local authority, educational settings and families.

They can help make sure that there is clear communication with everyone who is involved in your child's education, and that you are involved in any decision making about your child. They also work with settings to put the right provision and support in place for your child.



How we're supporting families of children with SEND

Below are just two examples of how the SEND and Inclusion service has helped children with SEND and their families.

"I was contacted by my son's school to say that, because of his behaviour, he could be at risk of exclusion. My son has autism and I didn't really know who to talk to at school to get help. I rang the parent link contact line and spoke to a parent link officer who helped me to arrange a meeting with the school SENCo. In this meeting we talked about the school using the strategies that helped at home.

We also talked about the specialist advisory team for ASD, who were able to come to the school to support the class teacher to work in different ways. My son is really happy going to school now and on the days he struggles, the school have things they can do to help him. I also know that the specialist team are always there to provide support and advice."

"My daughter was diagnosed with a hearing loss when she was two months old. The teacher of the deaf visited me at home from the very beginning and gave me ideas to develop my daughter's listening and language. The teacher helped me understand the special technology we needed and was a great link with local health services. They also helped me to choose the right nursery for my daughter and together we planned a 'transition package'. The nursery staff were trained about deafness and a SEND Support Provision Plan was put in place. This plan is really helpful because it describes my daughter's needs and how to support her. She's having the best time in nursery and is making lots of progress."



Contact us

For more information about the support available for your child,
visit www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk