



SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS NEWSLETTER Spring 2023

Children and young people with SEND may need extra help or support, or special provision made for them to have the same opportunities of other children of their age.

The SEND Code of Practice describes 4 broad areas of need. If your child has a SEND, their needs may fall into one or more of the following 4 areas:

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.

Every child with SLCN is different and their needs may change over time. They may have difficulty with one, some or all of the different aspects of speech, language or social communication at different times of their lives.

Children and young people with ASD, including Asperger's Syndrome and 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. 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 and associated difficulties with mobility and communication, through to profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD), where children are likely to have severe and complex learning difficulties as well as a physical disability or sensory impairment.

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

Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties

Some children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance misuse, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained. Other children and young people may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactive disorder 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. These difficulties can be age related and may fluctuate over time. Many children and young people with vision impairment (VI), hearing impairment (HI) or a multi-sensory impairment (MSI) will require specialist support and/or equipment to access their learning. Children and young people with an MSI have a combination of vision and hearing difficulties.

For more information and support, please visit The Local Offer—Live Well Cheshire West <https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/>

**Our next Coffee Afternoon is on Monday 27th March 2023
2.30-3.30pm. The theme will be Autism.**

Upcoming SEND dates:

Eating Disorders Awareness Week—27th February - 5th March 2023

World Hearing Day and Dyscalculia Awareness Day— 3rd March 2023

Young Carers Action Day—5th March 2023

World Down Syndrome Day—21st March 2023

World Autism Acceptance Week—27th March - 2nd April 2023

World Autism Awareness Day—2nd April 2023

The 4 Broad Areas of SEN

