

WIA&SS

Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



The local SENDIASS, working in partnership with children and young people with SEND and their parents

Dear Parent,

This school list names different types of special schools.

Our schools' lists are designed to give you an idea of what is available in Wandsworth and other boroughs.

However, it does not include the names of every school, and we cannot guarantee that all the schools listed are suitable for your child/young person.

Please note: School details can change quickly and although we try to update our school lists every year, some details may change before then. We recommend that you look at the school's website for further information and visiting a school is usually the best way to find out if it is the right one for your child/ young person.

You can also use the Ofsted website www.ofsted.gov.uk to get further information about the school.

We recommend that you ask to speak to/make an appointment with the Headteacher when contacting a school for the first time.

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WIA&SS

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Information,
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Support Service



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The Wandsworth Information and Advice Support Service (WIASS) is an impartial service; therefore, we do not make recommendations about individual schools and do not endorse any of the schools on this list.

However, we will explain your rights and the LA's duties when deciding on which school/s:

If you have received your child / young person's draft EHC plan, you should contact your child's/young person's EHC Coordinator to make a request for a particular school to your local authority (LA).

The Law:

You have the right to request the following types of school/s, to be named in your child's/young person's (16-25) EHC Plan:

- A maintained school or nursery (mainstream or special school). These are schools that are funded by a Local Authority (LA)
- An Academy or free school (mainstream or special) These are schools that are funded by the Secretary of State (Government).
- Further education or sixth form college
- A non-maintained special school. These are charitable foundations and "not for profit" schools.
- A Section 41 school. These are independent schools or specialist colleges that have been approved by the Secretary of State (Government)

WIA&SS

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Support Service



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The LA must consult the above school/s if you ask them to.

The LA must name one of the above school/s unless it can prove one of the following:

- It would be unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or SEN of your child's or young person's, or
- The attendance of your child or young person there would be incompatible with the efficient:
 - a) Education of others, or b) Use of resources

Independent Schools (that are not non-maintained or Section 41 schools):

While there is no automatic right to request an independent school that is not a non-maintained* (does not operate for profit) or Section 41 approved school, you can ask the LA to consider this option.

It is important to have a confirmed offer of a place from the independent school before making a request for the LA to consult with this type of school. It is important to note that if an independent school does not offer your child / young person a place, the LA can not force admissions or name the setting in the EHC Plan.

WIA&SS

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Support Service



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The LA will consider whether the school can meet all of your child's special educational needs and provide a suitable education. They will also consider the cost of the placement and if there are other schools that can meet all of your child's needs.

*Non-maintained independent schools must meet certain standards and are inspected by Ofsted or the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI)

Questions to consider on a school visit:

How does the SENCO communicate information about individual pupils to teachers? This is especially important at secondary school where a pupil might be taught by 13-14 different teachers in a week.

What training do teachers and support staff receive to support children with SEND?

How does the school ensure children with SEND can participate in extra-curricular activities and school trips?

How does the school involve parents in school life?

How does the school communicate with you regarding your child's progress and any concerns?

Does the school have experience of children with the same/similar needs as your child and how did they work with them?

Are there quiet spaces or sensory areas available for your child if they need them?

WIA&SS

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What induction processes are in place for new students, particularly those with SEND?

How are difficulties with behaviour managed within the school environment?

How does the school support emotional regulation and mental health?

What is the school's approach to bullying?

What is the staff-to-student ratio, particularly in SEN classrooms / settings?

How does the school work with external specialist professionals to help your child/young person?

Other things to think about when visiting a school.

Do you feel welcome?

Do the children look comfortable/happy?

Do the classrooms look like places where children can learn?

Does the school celebrate different cultures/different points of views?

Do the staff seem interested in you and your child?

WIA&SS

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Information,
Advice &
Support Service



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For more information and questions, for when you are deciding on a school, please read our,

- [Looking for a primary school if your child has an EHC plan leaflet](#)
- [Looking for a secondary school if your child has an EHC plan leaflet](#)

If you have any questions about the lists or you would like more advice or information about deciding on school/s, please contact the WIASS office:

- **Helpline number: 020 8871 8065** (24-hour answer machine)
- **Email:** wiass@wandsworth.gov.uk

WIA&SS

Wandsworth
Information,
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Support Service



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ASD Primary Schools for Pupils with Severe/Complex ASD Needs:

Wandsworth				
Paddock Primary School (Maintained Special)	Maintained school for pupils with multiple/complex needs. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 11	Priory Lane London SW15 5RT	Tel: 02088878 1521 Email: admin@paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk	Website: www.paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk



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Advice &
Support Service



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Lambeth				
Livity School (Community Special School)	The Livity School is a primary special school for children aged 2 to 11 with severe learning difficulties, profound and multiple learning difficulties and complex medical needs. Many of our pupils have autism.	Adare Walk Streatham London SW16 2PW	Tel: 0208 769 1009 Email: admin@thelivity.lambeth.sch.uk	Website: www.thelivingschool.co.uk
Sutton				
Sherwood Park School (Community Special School)	The school specializes in catering to students complex learning difficulties and autism spectrum conditions. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 19	Streeters Lane Wallington Surrey SM6 7NP	Tel: 020 8773 9930 Email: parkoffice@sherwoodpark.org.uk	Website: www.sherwoodpark.org.uk/



Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



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Richmond				
Strathmore School (Community Special School)	Specializes in profound autistic spectrum disorders and associated challenging behaviours, making it well-suited for students with severe needs. Boys and Girls Ages 4 - 19	St Richard Reynolds, Station Road, Twickenham, TW1 4DQ	Tel: 020 8948 0047 Email: info@strathmore.org.uk	Website: www.strathmore.richmond.sch.uk
Kingston				
Dysart School (Academy Special School)	Dysart is a provision for pupils who have a range of severe and complex learning disabilities. Boys and Girls Ages 4 -11	190 Ewell Road Surbiton KT6 6HL	Tel: 020 8412 2600 Email dysart-office@dysartschool.org	Website www.dysartschool.org



Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



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Independent Special Schools:

Wandsworth				
Park House (Independent Special School) *Section 41	Park House School is an Independent Special School for autistic pupils aged 4-11 years. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 11 years	48 North Side Wandsworth Common London SW18 2SL	Phone: 020 3031 9700 Email: parkhouseschool@beyondautism.org.uk	Website: www.beyondautismschools.org.uk
Kensington and Chelsea				
Snowflake School (Independent Special School)	An independent special school for pupils with autism and complex needs. Boys and Girls Ages 5 – 11 years	46a Longridge Road London SW5 9SJ	Tel: 020 7370 3232 Email: info@snowflakeschool.org.uk	Website: www.snowflakeschool.org.uk

WIA&SS

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Advice &
Support Service



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Surrey				
Papillon House School (Independent Special School)	Specializes in profound autistic spectrum disorders and associated challenging behaviours, making it well-suited for students with severe needs. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 19 years	Pebble Close Tadworth Surrey KT20 7PA	Tel: 01372 363663 Email: admin@papillonhouseschool.co.uk	Website: www.papillonhouseschool.co.uk

WIA&SS

Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



The local SENDIASS, working in partnership with children and young people with SEND and their parents

Jigsaw (Independent Special)	Provides a high level of support for children and young people with severe autism, including tailored educational programs and therapeutic interventions. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 19 years	Building 20 Dunsfold Park Stovolds Hill Cranleigh Surrey GU6 8TB	Tel: 01483 273874 Email: info@jigsawschool.co.uk	Website: www.jigsawschool.co.uk
Haringey				
Treehouse School (Independent Special School)	Special school for pupils with high and complex autism. Boys and Girls Ages 4 -19 years	Woodside Avenue London N10 3JA	Tel: 020 8815 5424 Email: admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk	Website: www.treehouseschool.org.uk

WIA&SS

Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



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Ealing				
Sybil Elgar (Independent Special School)	Specialist setting for pupils with high levels of need and complex autism. Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 22 years	Havelock Road Southall Ealing London UB2 4NY	Tel: 020 8813 9168 Email: sybil.elgar@nas.org.uk	Website: www.autism.org.uk
Hammersmith and Fulham				
First Bridge (Independent Special School)	A specialist independent school, for children from four to nine years old, with suspected or diagnosed autism and other developmental delays, including those with complex needs	Station Court, Imperial Wharf 1 Harbour Avenue, London SW6 2PY	Tel: 020 3301 3985 Email: admissions@firstbridgecentre.com	Website: www.firstbridgecentre.com

WIA&SS

Wandsworth
Information,
Advice &
Support Service



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The following school search websites can also help you:

www.specialneedsuk.org

www.schoolsearch.co.uk (for independent schools)

www.isc.co.uk (for independent schools)