

# 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 (including 6th forms within a school).

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](http://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.

Last updated August 2025

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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)

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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.**

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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 cannot force admissions or name the setting in the EHC Plan.

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)

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## **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?**

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**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?**

**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 specialists 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?**



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

**Do the staff seem interested in you and your child?**

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](mailto:wiass@wandsworth.gov.uk)

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## ASD Secondary Schools for Pupils with Severe/Complex ASD Needs:

Wandsworth				
<b>Paddock Secondary School</b>  <b>(Maintained Special)</b>	Maintained school for pupils with multiple/complex needs.  Boys and Girls Ages 11 - 19	Broadwater, Tooting, SW17 0DZ	Tel: 02088878 1521  Email: <a href="mailto:admin@paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk">admin@paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk">www.paddock.wandsworth.sch.uk</a>
Sutton				
<b>Sherwood Park School</b>  <b>(Community Special School)</b>	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: <a href="mailto:parkoffice@sherwoodpark.org.uk">parkoffice@sherwoodpark.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.sherwoodpark.org.uk/">www.sherwoodpark.org.uk/</a>



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Richmond				
<b>Strathmore School</b>  <b>(Community Special School)</b>	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: <a href="mailto:info@strathmore.org.uk">info@strathmore.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.strathmore.richmond.sch.uk">www.strathmore.richmond.sch.uk</a>
Kingston				
<b>Dysart School</b> <b>(Academy Special School)</b>	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 <a href="mailto:dysart-office@dysartschool.org">dysart-office@dysartschool.org</a>	Website <a href="http://www.dysartschool.org">www.dysartschool.org</a>



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Southwark				
<b>Highshore School</b>  <b>(Community Special School)</b>	<p>Highshore is a complex mixed needs special secondary (age range 11 – 19) school situated in Camberwell, in the London Borough of Southwark.</p> <p>Boys and Girls Ages 11 – 19</p>	<p>135 Farmers Road Camberwell London SE5 0TW</p>	<p>Tel: 020 7708 6790</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@highshore.southwark.sch.uk">office@highshore.southwark.sch.uk</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.highshoreschool.co.uk">www.highshoreschool.co.uk</a></p>



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## **Independent Special Schools:**

<b>Wandsworth</b>				
<b>Tram House</b>  <b>(Independent Special School)</b>  <b>*Section 41</b>	Tram House School is an Independent Special School for autistic children and young adults aged 11-19 years (Year 7 – Year 14).  Boys and Girls Ages 11 – 19	520 Garratt Lane London SW17 0NY  Sixth Form: 140 Woking Close, London, SW15 5LD	Tel: 020 3031 9707  Sixth Form Tel: 020 3031 9706  Email: <a href="mailto:tramhouseschool@beyondautism.org.uk">tramhouseschool@beyondautism.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.beyondautismschools.org.uk">www.beyondautismschools.org.uk</a>



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Kensington and Chelsea				
<b>Snowflake School</b>  (Independent Special School)	An independent special school for pupils with autism and complex needs.  Boys and Girls Ages 11 - 19	46a Longridge Road London SW5 9SJ	Tel: 020 7370 3232  Email: <a href="mailto:info@snowflakeschool.org.uk">info@snowflakeschool.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.snowflakeschool.org.uk">www.snowflakeschool.org.uk</a>
Surrey				
<b>Papillon House School</b>  (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: <a href="mailto:admin@papillonhouseschool.co.uk">admin@papillonhouseschool.co.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.papillonhouseschool.co.uk">www.papillonhouseschool.co.uk</a>

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<b>St. Piers School</b>  <b>(Independent Special)</b>	<p>St Piers is for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. These can include epilepsy, autism, and severe learning difficulties.</p> <p>Boys and Girls Ages 11 - 19</p>	<p>St. Piers Lane Lingfield Surrey RH7 6PW</p>	<p>Tel: 01342 832243</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:education@youngepilepsy.org.uk">education@youngepilepsy.org.uk</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.stpiers.org.uk">www.stpiers.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Jigsaw</b>  <b>(Independent Special)</b>	<p>Provides a high level of support for pupils with severe autism, including tailored educational programs and therapeutic interventions.</p> <p>Boys and Girls Ages 4 – 19 years</p>	<p>Building 20 Dunsfold Park Stovolds Hill Cranleigh Surrey</p>	<p>Tel: 01483 273874</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:info@jigsawschool.co.uk">info@jigsawschool.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.jigsawschool.co.uk">www.jigsawschool.co.uk</a></p>

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Haringey				
<b>Treehouse School</b>  (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: <a href="mailto:admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk">admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.treehouseschool.org.uk">www.treehouseschool.org.uk</a>
Ealing				
<b>Sybil Elgar</b>  (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: <a href="mailto:sybil.elgar@nas.org.uk">sybil.elgar@nas.org.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.autism.org.uk">www.autism.org.uk</a>



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The following school search websites can also help you:

[www.specialneedsuk.org](http://www.specialneedsuk.org)

[www.schoolsearch.co.uk](http://www.schoolsearch.co.uk) (for independent schools)

[www.isc.co.uk](http://www.isc.co.uk) (for independent schools)