Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans

This information sheet is for you, if you are aged between 16-25 years old.

- Attend a Sixth Form, or College
- Want to understand what an EHC Plan is, and,
- Why one might be issued.

Turn over for more information If you want to know more about what an EHC needs assessment is and why one might be requested, please contact us.



What is an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan?

An EHC plan is a legal document that describes your

- Special Educational, Health and Social Care needs,
- Provisions (extra or different types of help) that you will need to meet your needs

When is an EHC plan issued?

- An EHC plan is issued following an EHC needs assessment and can only be issued if you are between 16-25 years old and are attending a Sixth Form, College or training setting
- An EHC plan cannot be issued if you are, or going to be attending a university or on a higher education course in college, for example, a Level 4 BTEC.
- You can find out more about getting extra help at university, by following the link below. <u>Help if you're a student with a learning difficulty, health problem or disability: Disabled</u> <u>Students' Allowance</u>
- An EHC needs assessment is carried out by the council known as the Local authority (LA)

Special Educational Needs (SEN) are when you find learning or being at Sixth Form or College a struggle compared to other students and need extra or different types of help for this.

What information **must** be in an EHC plan?

An EHC plan has to have 12 Sections (parts) that are clearly labelled.

These sections are:

- SECTION A: Yours and your parent/carer (if you agree for them to be included) views, your interests, and aspirations
- **SECTION B:** A description of your special educational needs (SEN)
- **SECTION C:** A description of your health (medical) needs related to your SEN
- SECTION D: A description of your social care needs (any difficulties you have outside of school) related to your SEN
- SECTION E: Outcomes how the extra help will benefit you. These must be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time limited)
- SECTION F: Special educational provision (help) you will receive at Sixth Form or College to meet your needs in section B
- **SECTION G:** Health provision you will receive to meet your needs in Section C
- SECTIONS HI AND HII: Social care provision you will receive to meet your needs in Section D
- SECTION I: The name of the education setting you will attend (usually your current Sixth Form, College, or training setting)
- SECTION J: Personal Budget Arrangements (this is when the LA agree to release some of the money that comes with your EHC plan to you and/or your parent/carer, to find a different way to deliver the support in your EHC plan)
- SECTION K: Advice and information (reports) that were collected during the EHC needs assessment. The information from these, is added into the relevant sections on your EHC plan

What happens when you receive a draft EHC plan?

When you (your parent/carer, if you agree to it) receive the draft EHC plan, you will be asked for your thoughts on it.

This is an opportunity for you to have a look at the draft EHC plan with your parent/carer or someone else, to make sure what is written about you is correct. Please contact us if you would like a template to help you write your views for Section A (Your story and aspirations) of your EHC plan. You (and your parent/carer, if you agree) will also receive a letter with the draft EHC plan informing you, that you **have 15 calendar days to:**

- Make comments and amendments (changes) about what is written in draft EHC plan.
- Request a meeting with the LA (Your EHC Co-ordinator) to discuss the draft EHC plan.
- Request the name of your current Sixth Form, College or training setting or a new one, is named in the final EHC plan.

You will need to make sure that the EHC plan contains all the **necessary** information about your needs and the help you require to meet your aspirations, by checking the following:

- Is everything in the right section?
- Has anything been left out or is incorrect?
- Is everything written about you clear? For example, if someone who has never met you, read your EHC plan, would they know what your aspirations, needs and the help you require are?

Once your EHC Co-ordinator receives your thoughts (views) on the draft EHC plan, they will consider any amendments (changes) that you have asked for and will make them if they can see evidence for this, for example, in any of the professionals reports) The LA will also send a copy of your draft EHC plan to the Sixth Form, College or training setting you have asked for, providing they are on a list of government approved education settings, that the law says can be named in your EHC plan.

The LA have to try and name this setting if you have asked for it, unless the LA can prove:

- The education setting is not suitable for your age and/or ability, or
- 2) The type of help you need in the classroom may impact the learning of other students in the classroom at this setting, or
- The cost of the setting is too expensive for the LA (if there are cheaper settings that can also meet all of your needs)

Once the Sixth Form, College or training setting have received a copy of your draft EHC plan, they have **15 calendar days** to say whether they can provide you with all the help outlined in your draft EHC plan or not.

Finalising the EHC plan

When you receive the final EHC plan it **should** have the name of the Sixth Form, College or training setting in Section I.

What next?

The final EHC plan means that your current or new Sixth Form, College or training setting, will give you the help written in the EHC plan.

The LA **must** review your EHC plan every year, to check if the help you are given is supporting you. This is referred to as an Annual Review of your EHC plan. You, your parent/carer, (if you agree for them to be invloved) Sixth Form, College or training setting and other professionals will be part of this review.

For more information about Annual Reviews of EHC plans, please contact us.

How we can help:

We can help by

- Going through any questions you have about the EHC plan
- Support you to give your views on the EHC plan
- Providing you with your options, if you are not in agreement with what is written in a section or sections of your EHC plan.

How to contact us:

- By phone call or text our Children and Young People's officer on 07917 504 390
- Call our office Helpline Number: 020 8871 8065
- Email: wiass@wandsworth.gov.uk
- Visit: wiass.org.uk

We are Free, Confidential (private) and Objective (we will not tell you what to do or take sides)



The local SENDIASS working in partnership with Children and Young People (aged 0-25) with SEND and their parent



