

GETTING EXTRA OR DIFFERENT TYPES OF HELP AT SCHOOL: SEN SUPPORT



This information sheet is for you if you are under 16 years old, attend a school, and want to know:

- What SEN Support is?
- Why you might need it?



Do you find learning or taking part at school a struggle and need extra or different types of help for this, compared to other students of the same age?

Are you aged between 0-25 years old?

If **yes**, this may mean you have **Special Educational Needs (SEN)**!



EXAMPLES OF SEN:

You may have one or more of the following difficulties:

- Math's or English (spellings, writing or reading)
- Concentration/focusing in class
- Speaking or understanding what's been said
- Seeing or hearing
- Anxiety or feeling depressed
- Making or keeping friendships
- Getting frustrated or angry often
- Walking, using your arms or hands
- Sensitive to noise and big crowds
- Health needs that make it difficult to learn
- Other?

If you have SEN, the extra or different types of help you can get at school is called SEN Provision.

Example of SEN Provision (help)

- Extra help with your subjects, i.e. Maths and/or English
- Working in a small group for certain subjects
- Homework club
- Dyslexia ruler
- Time out card
- A mentor or someone to talk to
- Learning support in class, e.g. a teaching assistant
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)
- Larger fonts and coloured backgrounds
- Visual timetables and/or checklists
- Extra time in exams
- A quiet space to have lunch
- Therapies, such Speech and language or Occupational therapy

WHAT CAN I DO IF I THINK OR I HAVE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS?

Speak to your form tutor (or a member of staff you get on with) and your parent/carer, so an appointment can be made to discuss this with the school's **SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator)**.



The SENCo's role is to make sure that your needs are identified, letting school staff and your parent/carer know, what help you need.



WHAT SHOULD YOUR SCHOOL DO NEXT?

After your meeting with the SENCo it may be agreed for the school to provide you with **SEN Support**.

This cycle is made up of **four stages: Assess, Plan, Do and Review** - which will hopefully make sure,

- Your needs are better understood
- You are provided with the right help so you can learn better and take part at school.



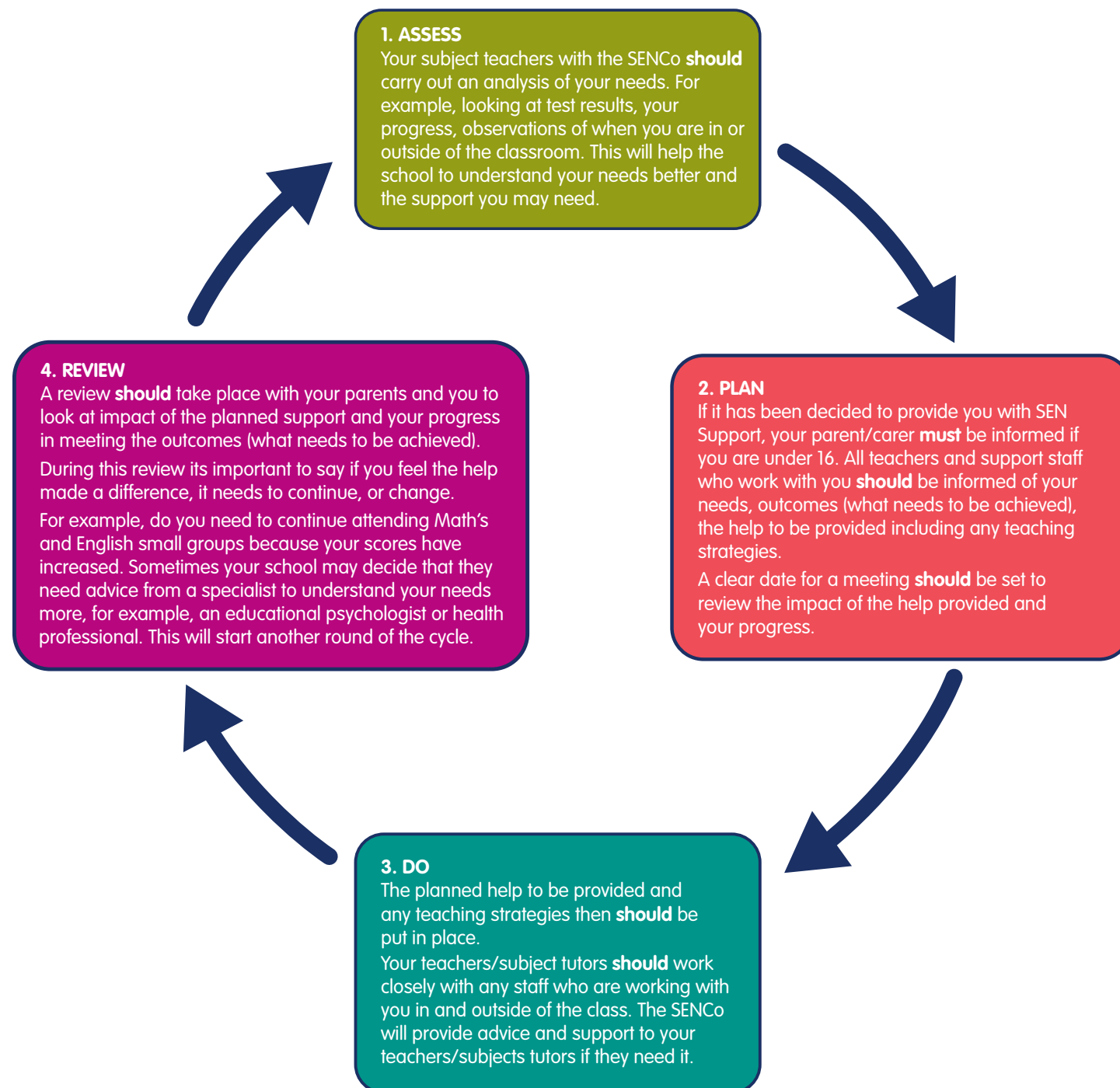
THE SEN SUPPORT CYCLE:

The diagram on the right → tells you what happens at each stage of the cycle.

You and your parents **must** be at the centre of this cycle- which means your **views, wishes and feelings must** be considered at each stage of this cycle.

This cycle can be for one term or go on longer.

During the Planning stage of the cycle, your parent/carer **should** be given a written record of the SEN Support (which would be good for you to see). The written record is sometimes called a **SEN Support plan, IEP (Individual Education Plan) or Provision Map**. This document **should** be reviewed with your parent/carer, and you, **at least once a term**.



REQUESTING AN EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

If you, your parent/carer, or school feel that you have not made enough progress or still struggling, despite the help provided during the SEN support cycles, a decision may be made by your school and your parent/carer's for an **EHC Needs Assessment to be requested**.

This request is usually made, so your school can get extra funding from the council, usually referred to as the **Local Authority (LA)** to give you more help or to continue with the help you are already getting.

For further information about this, please contact us.



HOW WE CAN HELP:

We can:

- Go through any questions you have about this cycle.
- Support you and your parent/carer to give your views during the cycle.
- Help you and your parent/carer to take part in meetings about your SEN and the help you need.
- Provide your options when your parent/carer or you are not in agreement with the help your school is providing.

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: wiaass@wandsworth.gov.uk
- Visit: wiaass.org.uk

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