

What is an Education, Health & Care (EHC) Plan?

The Education, Health & Care Plan or EHCP is a legally binding document which outlines a child or young person's special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) and the support including any additional funding that is necessary to cater for those needs. It also includes any health or care provision that is needed.

Is my child eligible for an EHCP?

Most children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities make good progress through school with additional support and reasonable adjustments. However, a small group of children may have such significant difficulties that they need more support than the school can provide.

If this is the case and your child is aged between 0 and 25, the local authority should conduct an EHC Needs Assessment. Based on this assessment they will be able to decide whether your child is eligible for an EHC plan.

*Section 36(8) of the Children and Families Act 2014 states that the local authority **must** assess where:*

- (a) the child or Young Person has or may have **special educational needs, and***
 - (b) it may be necessary for **special educational provision** to be made for the child or Young Person in accordance with an EHC plan.*
- (s.36(8) CFA 2014 -see also 36(10) for those over 18)*

How do I request an EHC Needs Assessment?

In most cases the request for an EHC needs assessment is done by your child's educational setting, after discussing it with you. However, you or your child can also directly request an assessment. To do this you will need to put your request in writing to the Local Authority stating why you feel your child has SEND and any evidence you have to support what you are saying – for example school and medical reports. See the parental application form on the Local Offer website

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer/education-health-and-care-plans-ehcps/request-ehc-needs-assessment>

Your child's SENCo is central to the process, so you should contact them in the first instance. You can also talk to Haringey SEND Department (Tel: 020 8489 1913) or Haringey SENDIASS; [SENDIASS - Markfield](#) (Special Educational Needs Independent Advice and Support) Service for more information.

For further guidance on how to request an EHCP please visit the Haringey Local Offer: [For Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) | Haringey Council](#)

Where can I find out more?

- IPSEA: <https://www.ipsea.org.uk>
- SEND Code of Practice <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>
- SOSSEN: <https://www.sossen.org.uk>