

Summary: Chapter 3 - SEN and getting extra help

If a child has special educational needs (SEN) they find it much harder to learn than other children of the same age. The government publishes an SEN Code of Practice that tells schools and Local Authorities how they should meet the needs of children with SEN. (To order a free copy contact DCSF Publications on 0845 6022260; see p29 for further details)

Parents should keep letters or reports from school in date order and in a special place, and make notes of anything they are worried about.

If parents have any concerns or worries about their child, they should arrange to talk to the class teacher first. They should expect to be listened to and taken seriously.

All children with SEN should have an individual education plan or equivalent planned programme and their parents should share in the planning.

All schools have funding from the Local Authority to help children with SEN.

If the school is finding it hard to help your child, they can ask for advice and support from the Local Authority. Schools or parents can request a statutory assessment if a child's needs are severe and complex.