

## Who else can help ?

Schools have access to a range of professionals who visit regularly or can be contacted in order to discuss arrangements for supporting pupils with special educational needs

These include:

- The Educational Psychology Service
- The Support Service for Special Educational Needs
- The Local Inclusion Officer Service

If your child has other difficulties as well as their learning, all schools have access to County services which can offer support and advice for pupils with:

- behaviour difficulties
- autistic spectrum difficulties
- hearing, physical and/or visual difficulties

You or your child's teacher (with your permission) can ask a speech and language therapist to see your child.

Your GP can make a referral for physiotherapy and occupational therapy , and will also advise on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and voluntary services such as Barnardos.

## What other advice is available ?

Derbyshire has published comprehensive files of advice and information on dyslexia, speech and language difficulties and autism.

## Contact Details

### Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service

County Hall,  
Dale Road, Matlock  
DE4 3AG  
01629 580000

Support Service for SEN  
Buxton Area Education Office  
Kents Banks Road  
SK17 9HR  
01298 26121

Local Inclusion Officer Service  
Chesterfield Area Education Office  
Sheffield Road  
S41 7LU  
01246 204851

Derbyshire Parent Partnership  
The Community Centre  
School Board Lane  
Brampton  
S40 1DD  
01246 273154 / 5

The full version of the  
**SEN Descriptors** is available in every  
school or through the Derbyshire website

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)

- follow links through to Education
- ➔ Special Educational Needs
  - ➔ Local Inclusion Officer Service
  - ➔ The Derbyshire Descriptors

## My Child Has Learning Difficulties



Guidance for  
Parents and  
Carers about  
Help in School

Schools have a responsibility to make provision for pupils with special educational needs

The Local Authority provides funding through normal school budgets to help schools to support pupils with special educational needs

Derbyshire Local Authority has produced

### **The Derbyshire Descriptors of SEN Provision**

The Descriptors offer guidance and advice to primary and secondary schools about the level and type of support they should provide for pupils with additional needs. They are used by the Local Authority to monitor provision for pupils with SEN without a statement.

They outline how schools should:

- Assess, plan and review provision
- Arrange teaching groups
- Adjust the curriculum and teaching methods
- Provide resources, such as access to additional support from a Teaching Assistant for up to 3 hours per week for pupils at School Action or up to 8 hours a week for pupils at School Action Plus

### **Your child may:-**

- Have difficulties with reading, spelling and writing
- Have difficulties with numeracy, and with understanding time, measurement and money
- Have difficulty transferring skills and using them in different situations
- Have delayed speech and language skills – typical of a younger child
- Have a short attention span and poor listening skills
- Be poorly motivated and resistant to learning
- Have poor memory and/or spatial skills
- Have a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia
- Be socially and emotionally immature

### **What can school do ?**

- Use teacher assessment and observations to establish clearly what your child can and can't do and what style of teaching and learning suits them best
- Discuss your child with relevant professionals who visit the school and follow their advice
- Help your child by using different levels and types of teaching materials
- Use appropriate programmes for pupils with particular needs such as dyslexia and dyspraxia
- Follow guidance from the County Files for Dyslexia / Language Friendly Schools
- Arrange for your child to have some additional support in smaller teaching groups supported by a Teaching Assistant
- Support your child's self esteem by ensuring that they have learning tasks they can be successful at
- Involve you and your child in planning and review of progress