

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 SEN.

These include:

- Educational Psychology Service
- Local Inclusion Officer Service
- Support Service for SEN (for pupils with statements)

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
- autism 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.

For physiotherapy and occupational therapy you will need to talk to your GP, who will also advise on access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and to voluntary services such as Barnardos.

What other advice is available?

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

Contact Details

Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service
County Hall
Matlock DE4 3AG
01629 580000

Head of Local Inclusion Officer Service
Derbyshire County Council
Council House
Saltergate
Chesterfield S440 1LF
01629 537699

Derbyshire Parent Partnership
c/o Register Office
New Beetwell Street
Chesterfield S40 1QJ
01629 533660

The full version of the
SEN Descriptors is available in every
school and on the Derbyshire County
Council website:

www.derbyshire.gov.uk

If you require this and other
Local Inclusion Officer Service leaflets
in large print or another format,
please contact Head of LIO Service
listed above

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 (SEN).
- The Local Authority (LA) provides funding through normal school budgets to help schools to support pupils with SEN.

Derbyshire LA has produced

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 LA 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
- Be socially and emotionally immature

What can school staff 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
- Make an Individual Education Plan for your child
- Arrange for your child to have some additional support in smaller teaching groups supported by a Teaching Assistant
- Help your child by using different levels and types of teaching materials
- Follow guidance from the county files for Dyslexia / Language Friendly Schools
- 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