

A Parent/Carer's Guide to The SEND Journey



Thinking points!

Parents/Carers

Things to think about that might be impacting:

- What does my child's **sleep** routine/pattern look like?
- What are my child's **eating** habits? Are they accessing enough healthy foods?
- What are my child's routines around **technology**?
- Are there any **medical/health** needs that need investigating?
- When was the last time your child had their **eyes** tested? **Hearing** checked?
- Are there any **events** that have happened that might be impacting e.g. death of a family member.

START:
Area of need observed in child

Your child's strengths and needs (barriers to learning/engagement) observed by an appropriate adult e.g. the Teacher.

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social Emotional Mental Health
- Sensory and/or Physical Health

The teacher will make changes to how they teach and give your child extra help or support in class, based on what your child finds difficult.

The teacher will keep an eye on how your child is doing over about six weeks, to see what's working and what's not.

YES – Remain in this stage

Teacher to check in with the SENDCO (special educational needs coordinator).

Discussion between parents/carers and class teacher to discuss observations and next steps.

Observe

NO

Is your child making enough progress with the support they are receiving?

Return to observing and remove from monitoring list

The teacher will talk with the school's SENDCO to decide if any checks or assessments are needed. These will be done and the teacher and SENDCO will look at the results together to understand how best to support your child.

SENDCO conversation with parents, observations, etc

Your child's progress will continue to be closely watched and recorded as part of the school's SEND support process, as Monitored (N) following the school's usual procedures.

The teacher and SENDCO will keep track of your child's progress over a term to see how well the support is helping.

YES

Parents/Carers:

How to support at home (choose the ones that are relevant):

- If **behaviour** is a concern, keep track of behaviour thinking about what happened before the behaviour, what was the behaviour and what was the consequence.
- Regular **reading**
- Practising **number bonds/times tables**
- Use of BOSS's **Toolkit for Regulation**
- Feel calm with a **sensory circuit**
- Check out your **school's website** for any useful resources or information

Is your child making enough progress with the support they are receiving?

NO

The school may decide to ask for extra help from specialists outside of school, like speech therapists or educational psychologists. To do this, they will collect information about your child's needs and send a referral.

Child added to SEND register as SEN Support (K). Letter sent to parents/carers.

The teacher and SENDCO will keep checking your child's progress over at least three school terms. They'll also use local council guidance and resources to help understand your child's needs and find the right support.

With input from any outside specialists, the school will put together an IEP (Individual education plan) for your child. Your views—and your child's—will be included, and the plan will be shared with everyone involved in supporting them.

Decision to continue on the SEND register or revert back to Stage 1.

NO

Is your child making enough progress with the support they are receiving?

YES

Stage 2

Stage 3

The teacher and SENDCO will continue to check your child's progress over time. Support will be carefully planned and delivered to match your child's needs, using advice from professionals and based on their individual targets in your child's IEP.

If your child needs more support than the school can provide on its own, the school may gather information and apply for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This plan can offer extra help across education, health, and care if approved — but it's not guaranteed. To apply, the school must show that a lot of support has already been tried and that more is needed. Reports from different professionals (like doctors or specialists) will be included. If granted, the EHCP will include clear goals and be reviewed each year with you.

Key:

- Teacher
- SENCO
- Teacher & SENDCO
- Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers:

Other resources to explore:

- **Lincolnshire Local Offer:**
<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/send-local-offer>
- **Team Around the Child:**
<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/keeping-children-safe/team-around-child>

EXPLORE