

SEND Support vs an EHCP: What's the Difference?



Send support and an EHCP both aim to help people with additional needs.



Understanding the difference is an important step to getting the right support.



What is Send support?

Send support is used in schools and colleges to help students that need extra support.



This is the first level of support for children and adults (0 - 25) with additional needs.



It may include:

- Extra help from a teacher or teaching assistant
- Adjustments to lessons
- Behaviour or emotional support



SEND Support is flexible, which means it can be changed to better suit a persons needs.



What is an EHCP?

An EHCP is a formal, legal plan for children with more complex or long-term needs.



EHCP's are used when a school or college needs more help supporting someone's needs.



It provides:

- Detailed support plans
- Input from health and care services
- Specific funding for support

SEN Support	EHCP
Provided by school	Issued by local authority
No legal document	Legal document
Uses school resources	Includes additional funding
Less formal	More detailed and structured
For mild to moderate needs	For complex or long-term needs



What do I need?

You or your child may need an EHCP if:

- SEN Support isn't enough
- Little improvement is being seen
- Needs are not being met



You or Your child may stay on SEND Support if:

- Needs are being met by the schools
- Clear improvements are being seen



Starting with SEN Support is completely normal. Not everyone needs an EHCP.



You can request an EHCP assessment if you feel like you or your child's needs are not being met.



Need more help? Contact us at

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