

What is an EHCP and how to apply.



An Educations, Heath and Care Plan (EHCP) is used to support people with special needs.



An EHCP is used when someone needs more support than the usual SEND support.



EHCP's make sure people with additional needs get the right support for them to thrive.



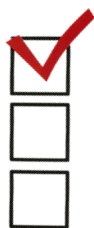
Getting an EHCP can be hard, so it is important to understand the steps.



Parents and Carers can apply for an EHCP **assessment** through the local government



An assesment means a test that helps the doctors with results.



A young person can also apply for a test if they're aged 16 to 25.



Step 1: Identify you or your child's needs

Get as much information as possible that might support your assessment.



This might include:

- Challenges with communication
- Sensory sensitivities
- Learning delays or difficulties
- Emotional or behavioural needs

Speak to:

- Teachers or the SENCos (Special Educational Needs Coordinator)
- Health professionals, like your Doctor or therapist





They may be able to provide support information to help with the assessment.



Step 2: Request an EHC Needs Assessment

You can apply directly to your local authority and don't need to wait for the school to refer you.



Write a simple letter or email requesting an EHC needs assessment.



Include:

- Name and date of birth
- School or setting
- Why you believe extra support is needed



Remember to be clear and honest about daily life and learning.



Step 3: Assessment Process

The local authority you applied to has 6 weeks to do the assessment.

If they agree, they will get information from:

- A parent/carer
- The school
- Educational psychologists
- Health and social care professionals



They will use this information to get a better understanding of the situation.



Step 4: Decision on an EHCP

After the assessment, the local authority decides whether to issue an EHCP.



They may agree to create a ECH plan or may decide that SEN support is enough.



If they do not give you an EHCP, you can ask to have the result changed.

To appeal, visit: [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Tribunal](#).



Step 5: Receive the draft EHCP

If approved, you'll receive a draft plan that will talk about the support you will get.



This includes:

- You or your child's needs
- The support that will be received
- The school placement



You will have a 15 day window to look at the plan and ask for changes



This plan is to help you or your child, so don't be afraid to speak up as your input matters!



Step 6: Final EHCP

The final EHCP should be issued within no more than 20 weeks of your application.



Once everything is complete, the school or college must follow the plan and the support plan becomes legally binding.



Legally binding means it has to be followed or it will be breaking the law.



You are allowed to ask questions and challenge decisions, you can use a disability advocate to help you.



Need more help? Contact the us at

Referrals@halowproject.org.uk