



Services for Young Children

Blog article

The new 0-25 Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC plan)

From 1 September 2014, the provisions in the Children and Families Bill, its associated regulations and Code of Practice will be in force.

The majority of children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) will have their needs met within local mainstream early years providers, schools or colleges.

For children and young people with more complex needs, a co-ordinated assessment process and the new 0-25 Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC plan) replace statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments (LDAs)

A local authority must conduct an assessment of education, health and care needs and prepare an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan when it considers that it may be necessary for special educational provision to be made for the child or young person through an EHC plan. This is likely to be where the special educational provision required to meet the child or young person's needs cannot reasonably be provided from within the resources normally available to mainstream early years providers, schools and post-16 institutions. This statutory assessment should not be the first step in the process; rather it should follow on from planning already undertaken with parents and young people in conjunction with an early years provider, school, post-16 institution or other provider.

EHC plans must be focused on the outcomes the child or young person seeks to achieve across education, health and care. EHC plans must set out how services will work together to meet the child or young person's needs and in support of those outcomes. EHC plans will be based on a co-ordinated assessment and planning process which puts the child and young person and their parents at the centre of decision making.

Statutory assessment will not always lead to an EHC plan. The information gathered during an assessment may indicate ways in which the school, college or other provider can meet the child or young person's needs from within available resources.

In Hampshire, transitional arrangements are in place. From January 2014, where appropriate, parents have had the choice to use the current Statement process or use an EHC plan. **Please ensure parents are aware of this choice and contact your Area Inclusion Co-ordinator if you require further advice.**

Source: Consultation on Draft 0-25 Special Educational Needs (SEN) Code of Practice, Draft Regulations and Transitional Arrangements.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/251832/SEN_consultation_document.pdf

