

## Helpful discussion points for a SEN support meeting

### What is SEN Support?

Most children and young people with Special Educational Needs or a Disability who attend a mainstream nursery, school, or college will receive SEN Support.

SEN Support is when a child or young person's needs call for special educational provision to be made.

Special Educational Provision is defined as provision that is different from or additional to what is normally available to pupils of the same age.

Schools have a legal duty under the SEND Code of Practice 2015 to use their best endeavours to secure special educational provision.

### How and when should I request a SEN Support Meeting?

If you have concerns about your child or young persons progress across any area of need; academically, socially and/or emotionally; or you're unsure what support is in place for them, you could request a meeting to discuss what their SEN Support looks like.

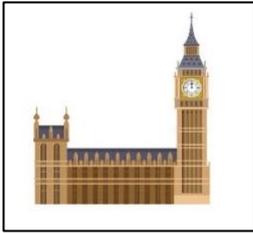
You should request a meeting with the SENCo of your child or young person's setting. It can also be helpful for the class teacher or TA to be present at this meeting.

### Suggested questions/discussion points:



Where are you currently in the assess, plan, do, review process for my child?

When a pupil receives SEN Support schools should follow what is known as the **Graduated Approach**. The Graduated Approach incorporates a four-part cycle:



'...through which earlier decisions and actions are revisited, refined and revised with a growing understanding of the pupil's needs and of what supports the pupil in making good progress and securing good outcomes.'

(SEND Code of Practice, 2015).



I'd like to be involved in this process and I understand school must make sure they meet with me, at least on a termly basis.

At the end of your meeting, it is helpful to set the date and time of the next meeting there and then.



What needs have you identified for my child?

Schools are required to identify and address any SEN of their pupils.



Is there an SEN support plan/IEP/behaviour support plan in place for my child? If yes, can you provide me with a copy. If no, when will a copy be available for me?

As part of the Graduated Approach, schools should have some form of documentation in place that details the pupils needs and what support is in place to meet these needs. Such documents should also include clear targets for progress and be reviewed at least termly. This type of document can be called many different things, so ask your school or check the SEND Policy on their website to find out what model your child's school adopts.



Please can you explain the support that is in place for my child?

It is often helpful to seek clarification on the support that is in place for your child; for example, when and how often they receive the support, by whom, etc. Following this, you could ask:

- What outcomes/goals is this support going to help my child achieve?
- Please can you explain how the school are using their notional SEN budget of up to £6000 to support my child's needs?
- How are school going to access other assessments for my child (e.g. dyslexia screening, BOOST Outreach, educational psychologists, paediatrician, SALT)?
- Please can you show me a record of my child's attainment levels and progress?
- Please can we set a date to review the SEN support plan and plan next steps for my child?

SENDiass4BCP can help you prepare for meetings, and we can also support you in meetings to help you express your views and concerns, as well as taking notes and speaking to you after the meeting to consider outcomes.