

# **Post-16 provision in Hampshire for young people with special educational needs (SEN)**

For young people with SEN attending post-16 provision in 2018/19

For young people transferring to post-16 provision in 2019/20

SEN Service  
Children's Services Department

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# What you need to know...

## Young people preparing to make their own decisions

As young people develop, and increasingly form their own views, they should be involved more closely in decisions about their own future. After compulsory school age (the end of the academic year in which they turn 16) the right to make requests and decisions under the Children and Families Act 2014 applies to them directly, rather than their parents. Parents, or other family members, can continue to support young people in making decisions, or act on their behalf, providing a young person is happy for them to do so. It is likely that parents will remain closely involved in the great majority of cases.

The right of young people to make a decision is subject to their capacity to do so as set out in the Mental Capacity Act 2005. The underlying principle of the Act is to ensure that those who lack capacity are empowered to make as many decisions for themselves as possible and that any decision made or action taken on their behalf is done so in their best interests.

Further information on the Mental Capacity Act can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/mental-capacity-act-making-decisions](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mental-capacity-act-making-decisions).

## Raising the Participation Age

Under the Government policy *Raising the Participation Age* (RPA), young people who started in year 11 (or the years below) in September 2013, must remain in some form of education or training up until 18 years. This is to help young people fulfil their potential, regardless of their background or life circumstances. RPA is not the same as raising the school leaving age. The school leaving age is the same and young people will be able to leave school after year 11 and choose the post-16 option that is best for them. The choices are full-time education, work based learning or full-time employment/volunteering with part-time training which leads to an accredited qualification.

Further information:

- [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture)
- [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

## Learning Difficulties Assessments and their transfer to Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans

Learning Difficulties Assessments (also sometimes called an S139a or LDA) are no longer in use. If you had an LDA and want to discuss whether an EHC plan is appropriate speak with your college, training provider or the SEN Service. The majority of young people with special educational needs (SEN) already in college or work based learning will be supported through SEN Support (see SEN Support on page 3).

## Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan

Young people with complex needs moving on to college or work based learning should apply to the education provider in the normal way. If they have been assessed as requiring an EHC plan the local authority will liaise with the young person and/or their parents/carers to decide which provider will be named on the plan. The local authority has a duty to finalise these decisions by 31 March to enable colleges time to make appropriate transition arrangements.

The named college or training provider must put in place the provision detailed in the EHC plan and it must, at least once a year, make arrangements for its review. This provides an opportunity for the learners, parents/carers, the college or training provider and other professionals involved to consider the progress the learner has made over the previous 12 months and whether any changes or amendments need to be made.

## **Personal Budgets**

In the majority of instances the appropriate funding body, eg Education Funding Agency (EFA), local authority (education or social care) or health service will arrange and fund the provision agreed within a young person's EHC plan. However, if a parent or young person wishes, they can request, a personal budget so they can be involved in securing the provision themselves.

Further information:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years, Department for Education / Department of Health  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25)

Hampshire's Local Offer <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/localoffer>

To enquire about Personal Budgets with regard to a specific young person, contact the SEN Service (contact details page 7).

## **Education and/or training for young people with SEN 19 to 25 years**

Young people aged 19 to 25 years with SEN, but without an EHC plan are funded by the Skills Funding Agency. Colleges may charge fees for these learners (though fee remission may be available for some learners) but must use their best endeavours to secure the necessary special educational provision that they need.

College learners and apprentices with an EHC plan do not have to pay tuition fees, as these and the learner's support costs are funded by the EFA, with contributions from the local authority and health. Please be aware that there is no entitlement to an EHC plan beyond 19 years but when considering whether an EHC plan should continue beyond 19 the local authority must take account of whether the education or training outcomes specified in the EHC plan have been achieved. When learners are supported by Adult Services, the local authority should ensure that they are involved in and made aware of the decision to cease the young person's EHC plan.

## **Study programmes**

From year 12, instead of the national curriculum, schools and colleges are expected to offer study programmes that stretch and progress young people to enable the best possible outcomes in adult life. They should enable young people to progress to a higher level of study than their prior attainment, take rigorous substantial qualifications, study English and maths, and participate in meaningful work experience and non-qualification activity. Learners should not be repeating learning they have already completed successfully. For learners not taking qualifications their study programmes should focus on high quality work experience and on non-qualification activity which prepares them well for employment, independent living, being healthy adults and participating in society. It is anticipated that most programmes will include accredited learning. For further information please visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

## Full-time courses and five-day packages of support

A full time course, as defined by the EFA, typically ranges between 540 and 600 guided learning hours per annum. This equates to approximately 16 hours per week and many college full time programmes are run over 3 or 4 days. It is recognised that for a small number of young people with an EHC plan, a five day package of support is required. Five-day packages of provision and support can be offered outside educational settings and could involve amounts of time at different health and care providers for different activities.

## Full-time education providers

### Mainstream secondary school sixth forms and local authority maintained special schools with post-16 provision

Some young people with SEN, attending either a local mainstream or special school for their secondary education, will continue into the sixth form or post-16 provision of the school, if this is available. Other young people may join these schools for year 12, place dependent. Others may leave and attend a local further education or sixth form college.

- Details of special schools with post-16 provision can be found in the document *Provision in Hampshire for children and young people with Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans* available to view and download at:  
<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sen-provision-in-hampshire.pdf>
- Details of mainstream secondary schools with sixth forms can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges)

### Further education and sixth form colleges

The majority of young people with SEN leaving school after year 11, with either SEN Support or an EHC plan, will access a local further education or sixth form college. Across Hampshire, colleges offer a wide variety of courses from pre-entry to at least level 3; academic, vocational, work preparation and independent living; all colleges support young people with SEN and many, offering personal care, medical and therapy support, are equipped to support learners with complex and multiple learning difficulties and disabilities.

**Statutory duties:** Further education and sixth form colleges have a statutory responsibility to meet the needs of young people with SEN. The governing body should ensure a named person has oversight of SEN provision to co-ordinate support similar to the role of the school SENCo. Colleges must use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision a learner needs and to make reasonable adjustments to prevent them being placed at a substantial disadvantage. Colleges should offer an inclusive approach to learning and teaching, with high quality teaching, differentiated for individuals.

**SEN Support:** The majority of young people with SEN will have their needs met in local further education and sixth form colleges without the need for an EHC plan. This is known as SEN Support (previously known as School Action or School Action Plus). Examples of the type of support young people can expect to receive under SEN Support is detailed in *SEN Support – guidance for early years providers, mainstream schools and colleges* available to view and download at:  
<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/education/sen-support.pdf>

To ensure young people receive the support they need, colleges should:

- gather information about the support received in school/required in college from schools, students and those working with them closely
- meet with young people to discuss their aspirations, the courses and support young people think will help them best
- agree written plans with young people that prepare them for work and independence and detail the support they will put in place
- ensure the agreed support is put in place and that it is provided by appropriately qualified staff
- regularly review the support to consider its effectiveness, taking into account progress and changing aspirations; agreeing changes required.

**EHC plan:** Under the Children and Family Act 2014 young people with a statement of SEN in school, transferring to college or training in September 2016, will, where needed, be supported by an EHC plan. For some young people the local authority may feel SEN Support to be more appropriate. If this is the case the local authority will discuss their reasons with you.

**Annual reviews and progress** - when a young person holds an EHC plan, there will be an annual review, and the young person should be an active part of this process. The annual review will consider the progress made against the EHC plan outcomes, as well as the support needed to achieve these. It is important that there is evidence of clear progression against these outcomes being made.

An EHC plan will cease if a young person aged 16+ leaves education to take up full-time employment.

EHC plans will also cease if a young person enters higher education. Moreover, an EHC plan may be ceased if the local authority has taken the view that their education and training outcomes specified in the EHC plan have been achieved.

**Supporting transition:** From year 9 colleges should work proactively with schools to enable young people to explore their aspirations; understand how different post-16 options can meet them; explore specific courses; firm up plans for their post-16 options and familiarise themselves with the expected new setting. From year 9 an EHC plan should have outcomes that reflect your Preparation for Adulthood, see [www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/downloads/education-health-and-care-planning/pfa-outcomes-tool.htm](http://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/downloads/education-health-and-care-planning/pfa-outcomes-tool.htm)

**Travel to college:** Although the government RPA policy requires young people of sixth form age to remain in education or employment with training there is no requirement for a local authority to provide transport. The authority must provide an annual transport policy statement, this can be viewed at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schooltransport/eligibility>

The majority of learners either walk to college, use college transport if available or public transport. Working with parents/carers, colleges should do everything possible to enable learners to travel to college alongside their peers. All post-16 settings administer the government's 16-19 Bursary Fund which can be accessed by families meeting low income criteria, this fund may be used to support travel costs.

Learners with an EHC plan may request travel support from Hampshire County Council but to qualify for this, learners must attend the closest college to their home, able to meet their needs. This entitlement will be discussed with families and learners at the

time of writing the EHC plan. An annual contribution towards the cost of providing the transport is paid by parents.

For further information please contact the SEN Travel Team on 01962 845327 or email [sen.transport@hants.gov.uk](mailto:sen.transport@hants.gov.uk)

Young people aged 19 years or over with an EHC plan may continue to receive travel support through Children's Services, others who meet Adult Services criteria, may also be able to receive transport support to college funded by Adult Services. For further information please contact the Adult Services on 0300 555 1386.

**My local colleges:** There are 17 further education and sixth form colleges in Hampshire. All offer support for young people with SEN. Details of these colleges are available at [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges). Young people living near to the Hampshire boundary might attend a further education college or sixth form in a neighbouring authority, eg Dorset, Wiltshire, Portsmouth, Southampton, Surrey, Berkshire or West Sussex.

Further details and information can be found through the individual college website or Hampshire's Local Offer website <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/localoffer>.

## **Independent special school sixth forms and independent specialist colleges**

Placements at independent providers are generally by exception, eg if a sixth form or further education college is unable to meet a learner's complex education support needs. Any young person and/or parent considering an independent school or college is asked to speak to the SEN Service as a priority (contact details page 7). Formal consultation with a range of providers, eg further education, sixth form and independent, as agreed with the local authority, is essential as part of the local authority's consultation process, to enable the young person to make an informed request to the local authority and the local authority to fulfil its duties when naming the placement on the EHC plan.

## **Work based learning**

Work based learning opportunities are offered by a number of colleges and training providers across Hampshire. These include:

**Apprenticeships:** These are paid jobs that incorporate training, leading to nationally recognised qualifications. Apprentices earn as they learn and gain practical skills in the workplace. Many lead to highly skilled careers. Young people with EHC plans can retain their plan when on an apprenticeship.

**Traineeships:** These are education and training programmes with work experience, focused on giving young people the skills and experience they need to help them compete for an apprenticeship or other jobs. Traineeships last a maximum of six months and include core components of work preparation training, English and maths (unless GCSE A\*-C standard has already been achieved) and a high quality work experience placement. They are currently open to young people aged 16 to 24, including those with EHC plans. Young people with EHC plans can retain their plan when undertaking a traineeship.

**Supported internships:** These are structured study programmes for young people with an EHC plan, based primarily at an employer. Internships normally last for a year and include extended unpaid work placements of at least six months. Wherever possible,

they support the young person to move into paid employment at the end of the programme. Learners complete a personalised study programme which includes the chance to study for relevant substantial qualifications, if suitable, and English and maths to an appropriate level. Young people with EHC plans will retain their plan when undertaking a supported internship.

**Other programmes of support:** For young people who find themselves out of education, training or employment, a range of short programmes of training and support may be available to help people re-engage.

For further information on work based learning and details of training providers in Hampshire, please visit: [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture) and [www.alphi.org.uk](http://www.alphi.org.uk).

## What help can Support4SEND give?

Support4SEND provides free and confidential service offering impartial information, advice and support on issues relating to a child or young person's special educational needs or disability. We work with parents carers and with children and young people from 0-25 years in Hampshire.

If you have a question about special educational needs and/or disability you can contact us for:

- a confidential telephone helpline
- a website where you can see information about our service and about educational issues
- one to one support by telephone or email, or face to face if appropriate
- someone to listen to you and help you look at your options
- help to understand your rights around education
- help with discussions with your school/college, the local authority and other agencies so that your views are heard
- help to express your views in writing and at meetings
- someone to explain jargon and help you understand forms and documents
- support through the statutory assessment process towards an EHC plan
- information about other agencies and organisations who can support you
- support and advice on fixed term and permanent exclusion
- information about the independent mediation services offered by the local authority
- annual Special Needs Information Days.

Tel: 01962 845870

Email: [enquiries.support4send@hants.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.support4send@hants.gov.uk)

Website [www.hants.gov.uk/support4send](http://www.hants.gov.uk/support4send)

## Contact the SEN Service

Please contact the SEN Service team for your area.

SEN Team	Email	Telephone number
Basingstoke & Deane	<a href="mailto:basingstoke.sen@hants.gov.uk">basingstoke.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 846435/ 846649
East Hants	<a href="mailto:easthants.sen@hants.gov.uk">easthants.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 846448
Fareham & Gosport	<a href="mailto:fareham.gosport.sen@hants.gov.uk">fareham.gosport.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 845315
Hart & Rushmoor	<a href="mailto:hart.rushmoor.sen@hants.gov.uk">hart.rushmoor.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 845542 / 846455
Havant	<a href="mailto:havant.sen@hants.gov.uk">havant.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 846191/ 667977
New Forest	<a href="mailto:newforest.sen@hants.gov.uk">newforest.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 846247 / 846535
Test Valley	<a href="mailto:testvalley.sen@hants.gov.uk">testvalley.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 847496
Winchester & Eastleigh	<a href="mailto:winchester.sen@hants.gov.uk">winchester.sen@hants.gov.uk</a>	01962 846569

## Useful links

- Hampshire Local Offer <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/localoffer>
- Your future (Advice, education, training, working and local youth support) [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture)
- List of colleges in Hampshire [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges)
- List of mainstream schools in Hampshire with sixth forms [www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges](http://www.hants.gov.uk/yourfuture/youth-advice/college/mapofcolleges)
- List of special schools in Hampshire with post-16 provision <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sen-provision-in-hampshire.pdf>
- Checklist for visiting colleges – a guide for young people <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sen-checklist-visiting-colleges-yp.pdf>
- Checklist for visiting colleges – a guide for parents/carers <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sen-checklist-visiting-colleges.pdf>

If you would like more information or a copy of this publication in another language or format (eg: large print or in an audio format) please contact **0300 555 1384** or **childrens.services@hants.gov.uk** or **Textphone 0300 555 1390**

You can download this publication at:

**<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sen-post-16-provision-yp.pdf>**

Calls to 0300 numbers are included in call packages, or charged at the same rate as 01 and 02 numbers. Costs may vary depending on your telecoms provider and whether you are calling from a landline or mobile. Further information about call charges can be found at [www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk).

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