

# NEWSLETTER

## WEEKLY OVERVIEW

We are pleased to share important updates, guidance, and local support available for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

What's New: SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan  
The government's SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan (often referred to as the SEND "White Paper") aims to improve consistency and support across education, health, and care services.

## REMINDERS

Key updates include:

- Earlier identification of needs and improved support in mainstream schools
- National standards for SEND provision
- Improved EHCP processes and reduced waiting times
- Better collaboration between education, health, and care services

What this means for you:

- More consistent support regardless of where you live
- Clearer guidance on what support your child should receive
- Improved communication between professionals



# MORE INFORMATION

## EHCP

Understanding EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans)

An EHCP is a legal document that outlines a child or young person's needs and the support they must receive.

Key things to know:

- You can request an EHCP assessment if your child needs more support than a school can provide
  - The process should take up to 20 weeks
- You have the right to be involved in decisions and reviews

Annual Reviews:

- EHCPs are reviewed every year to ensure support remains appropriate
  - You can share your views and request changes during the review

Support:

- Schools and local authorities should guide you through the process
- Independent advice services are also available to support families

## REMINDERS

Local Support: Local Offers

Tameside Local Offer:

- Information on education, health, and social care services
- Support groups and activities for children with SEND
- Guidance on EHCPs and assessments
- Parent support services and advice

Manchester Local Offer:

- Early help and SEND support services
- Information on schools, transport, and short breaks
- Advice for preparing for adulthood
- Access to specialist services and therapies

Trafford Local Offer:

- Clear pathways for SEND support and referrals
- Information about education settings and inclusion support
- Health services including CAMHS and therapy services
- Support for transitions and post-16 opportunities

Oldham Council provides a Local Offer for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The Local Offer is a one-stop place where families can find information about the support available in Oldham. What can you find there? Education support (schools, EHCP information) Health services (speech and language, CAMHS, etc.)

Social care and family support Advice on safety, wellbeing, and daily life skills

Why it's helpful

It helps parents and carers:

Understand what support their child can access

Find services quickly and easily

Get advice on supporting their child at home and in school

Where to find it

You can access the Local Offer online via the Oldham Council website by searching "Oldham Local Offer".

## TIPS

Top Tips for Parents

- Keep records of communication and reports
- Ask questions - no concern is too small
- Work in partnership with your child's school
- Access local support groups and networks

Need More Help?

If you need further support, please contact your school SENDCo or local SEND Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

SARAH

SENDCO

