

Where can I get further information, advice or support?

Look for the SEN Information Report on the school website.

The Local Offer is the place to find out about services available locally and the arrangements that schools and others are expected to make.

You can find the Local Offer at:

www.peterborough.gov.uk/localoffer

SEND Partnership Service can also give you:

- More information about SEN support and funding
- Advice about what to do if you are not happy with the support your school is providing
- Information about other organisations, support groups and information services that could help
- Information and advice about your rights to request an EHC needs assessment if your child might need more intensive and specialist help



Funding for SEN in mainstream schools

This information is about funding for special educational needs (SEN) in mainstream schools. This includes academies and free schools.



What is SEN funding for?

Schools should use some of their budget to buy resources and make provision for children who need additional help. Schools can decide how to spend this money. This is called delegated funding.

For example, children with SEN might need:

- Some changes to the curriculum
- Special equipment or teaching materials
- The use of additional information technology
- Small group work
- Support in the classroom
- A base to work in or have quiet time

Funding for SEN provision is from three elements:

Element 1 - the basic entitlement

This is the basic amount funded to the school for each pupil and varies between primary and secondary schools.

Element 2 - additional need funding

Part of the overall school budget is classified as the 'notional SEN' budget. It is from this budget that mainstream schools and academies are required to put in place support for all children with SEN and to contribute the first £6,000. This is equivalent to approximately 11.8 hours teaching assistant time per week.

Element 3 - top up funding

Where the cost of additional support is more than £6,000, the local authority will provide funding. The level of need is agreed by the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Panel and funding is provided to the school for that pupil.

Although academies receive their main funding directly from the Education Funding Agency, the top-up funding (Element 3) is still the responsibility of the local authority.

You can ask your school how it uses its SEN budget to support your child.

The local authority also publishes a Local Offer that explains what type of resources this money might be spent on.

Who manages the school's SEN resources?

School governors are responsible for the school's policy on SEN and how the resources are used. The headteacher and the SENCO ensure that the policy is put into practice.

The SENCO organises support for individual children, but every teacher is responsible for making sure that your child's special educational needs are met in the classroom.

The SEN Information Report on the school's website tells you more about the arrangements for SEN support and how to contact the SENCO.

How can I find out what support and resources my child is getting?

The first step is to talk with your child's teacher or the SENCO. This may be at a parents' evening, a support plan meeting or a review. You can ask for a written copy of any support plan in place for your child.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care plan (or Statement of Special Educational Need) it should set out the support and resources that are provided.

