

SEND Information Report

2025-2026

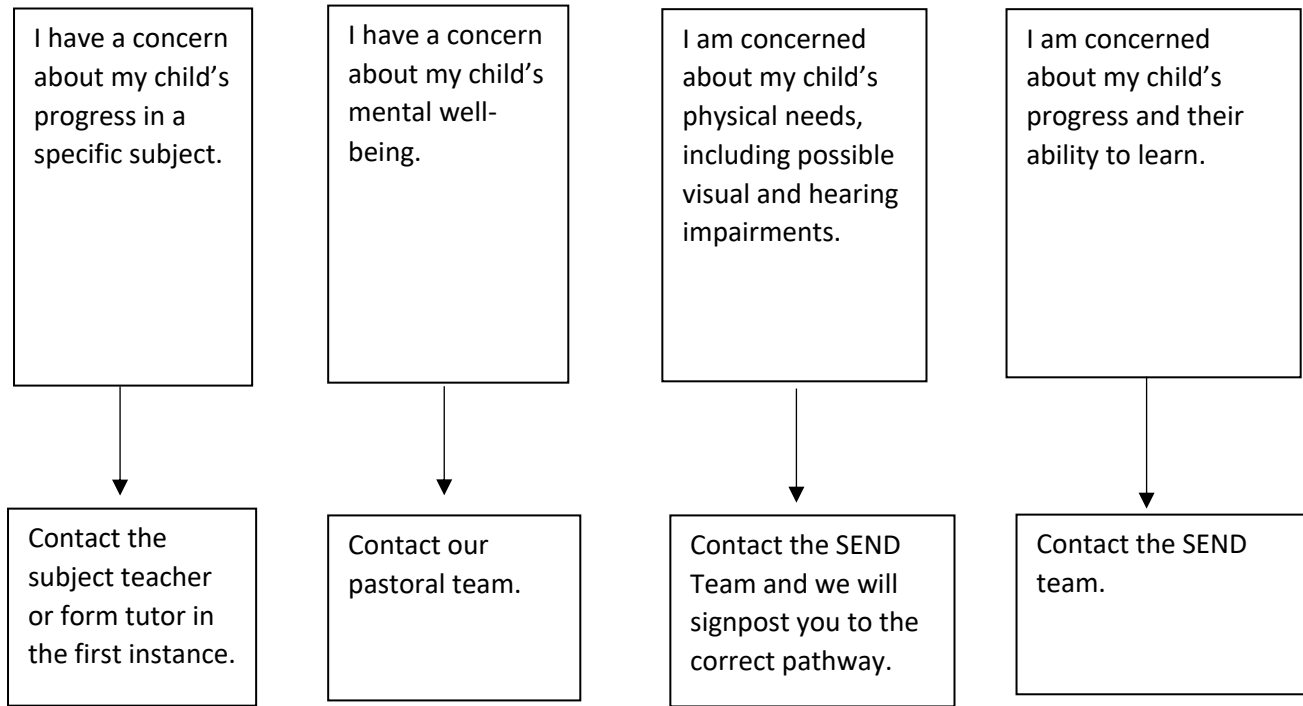


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Who are the best people to talk to if I have a SEND concern?

Who are the best people to talk to at Southend YMCA Community School about my child's difficulties with learning, special educational needs, or disability?



How will the school let me know if they have any concerns about my child's learning, special educational needs, or disability?

- You will receive 3 reports a year on your child's progress in each subject, these are linked to the academic review days.
- Your student's subject teacher/form tutor may call you to discuss any concerns.
- You will have an opportunity to discuss your child and any concerns at parents evening.
- Our SEND team may contact you and discuss your child's difficulties and any possible support strategies the school are putting in place for your child.
- Students with identified SEND will have contact calls with staff members to keep the channels of communication open.
- If your child is receiving specialist intervention to support your child access their learning, the school will notify you in writing.
- We hold a parent/carers community forum every term where you can raise any concerns you may have.

How will the school consider my views and those of my child with regard to their difficulties with learning, special educational needs or disabilities?

- The SEND Code of Practice states that parent and student views should always be considered in providing the best support to those who have SEND. We encourage parents and students to share their concerns with us and operate an open-door policy.
- You will be able to share your views and discuss your child's progress at parents' evening with subject teachers and a member of the SEND team should you need to.
- If your child has an identified SEND need there will be regular contact with you to discuss strengths, areas for development, current progress, support strategies being used and expected outcomes. Your child's learning passport will also be treated as a live document and updated accordingly.
- If your child has an Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you and your child will both be encouraged to share their views at the Annual review and we operate an open-door policy at all times so you can share any concerns/celebrate any successes with us during the academic year.
- Parent/carers forums are held termly and within these meetings there are opportunities for your voice to be heard and for you to provide feedback via our feedback forms.
- Every term there are academic review days where your student will have an opportunity to reflect on their successes, identify any areas they feel they need further support and discuss their current targets with a key member of staff.
- If you ever want to get in touch with the SEND team please contact either sabahwallace@ymca.southend.sch.uk or carlavaughan@ymca.southend.sch.uk or kristianfulljames@ymca.southend.sch.uk

How does the school ensure the teaching staff are appropriately trained to support your child's special educational needs and/or disability?

- High quality teaching is the key method to ensure that your child's needs will be met in the classroom. This is part of the universal approach and will include quality assessment of your child's needs, planning to meet these needs and evaluation of these strategies and their success in supporting your child to do their best.
- The school staff (teaching and support staff) participate in a wide range of professional development to ensure there is appropriate expertise to support children with SEND. Staff are trauma informed, Adverse Childhood Experience aware and understand attachment.
- Student passports are compiled when students first join us and are then treated as a live document updated when necessary.
- In response to particular needs, individual training is arranged when necessary.
- The staff within school hold a range of qualifications to help support students and often lead in-house training.

How will the curriculum and the school environment be matched to my child's needs?

- Your child's learning needs will mostly be met through the high-quality teaching delivered by their subject teacher, who takes responsibility for planning a suitably adapted lesson to meet the needs of your child wherever possible.
- We carefully plan our curriculum offer to meet the ability, needs and interests of all children within the constraints of the government recommendations and the resources available within school.
- The subject teacher will, wherever reasonably possible, adapt lesson planning and teaching to match your child's special educational needs and/or disability. All students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and will be supported to access this as specific adjustments to the curriculum, these would be made in consultation with parents, to maintain the integrity of the curriculum, these would be made in consultation with the parents/carers.
- It may be appropriate to adopt different strategies, use specific resources and adapt outcomes to meet your child's needs and ensure they are successful.
- Additional specialist advice is sought when appropriate and available, when necessary, accessibility aids and technology may be used to support your child's learning.

What types of support may be suitable for my child?

We have a wealth of resources, support and experience to offer support. We tailor support to respond to the specific nature of the barriers your child experiences to learning. We work collaboratively with parents to ensure communication avenues are open and our education provision matches the needs of the four broad areas of need, as defined in the SEND Code of Practice 2015.

- **Communication and interaction** – speech and language difficulties, autism
- **Cognition and learning** – moderate and severe learning difficulties, dyslexia, dyscalculia
- **Social, emotional and mental health** – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, attachment disorder.
- **Sensory and/or physical needs** – hearing or visual impairment, sensory sensitivities

We have a 3 tier approach to supporting a child's learning

- **Universal-** This is the quality first teaching your child will receive from their class teacher and may include adaptations to match learning needs. As an alternative provision we have a broad universal offer which supports each pupil to access their education.
- All of our students have a learning passport which is compiled from information from commissioning schools, parents and the student. An explanation of a passport can be found at the back of this booklet.
- **Targeted** – when it is appropriate additional short term special educational provision is put in place to remove or reduce any obstacles to your child's learning. This takes the form of a graduated four-part approach of a) **assessing** your child's needs, b) **planning** the most effective and appropriate intervention, c) **providing** this intervention and d) **reviewing** the impact of your child's progress towards individual learning outcomes. Specific targeted interventions may be run outside the classroom. More guidance on this four-part process is included at the back of this booklet.
- **Specialist** – it may be necessary to offer specialist and regular long-term support from specialists within the school in order to offer the best possible outcomes for your child. This may include speech and language support, occupational therapy, sensory processing support.
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How will you support my child to reach their learning outcome?

- The class teachers and other staff working with your child ensure that your child receives appropriate teaching and support in order to reach these goals. These targets will be reviewed regularly in response to your child's needs.
- We believe children and parents/carers are at the centre of any provision made to support a child in their learning outcomes. We want to work alongside you to ensure your child makes the best progress. If you would like to discuss the progress your child is making please do not hesitate to contact us.

What is an EHCP and who can request one for my child?

The purpose of an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan or EHCP) is to enable more support for your child whilst they are at school and to help them plan for adulthood. The document is issued through the local authority (based on where your address is rather than where the school's address is). The Local Authority review it every year and the progress your child has made.

An EHCP will:

- Contain the views and aspirations of you and your child.
- Include a full description of their special educational needs and any health and social care needs.
- Establish outcomes for your child's progress.
- Specify the provision required and how education, health and social care will work together to meet your child's needs and support the achievement of the agreed outcomes.

You, your child (where appropriate and aged 16 or over) and/or the school, usually the SENDCo or Headteacher, can request that the local authority conduct an assessment of your child's needs and support the achievement of the agreed outcome.

Each local authority has a slightly different process, so it is worth looking at the Local Offer for the authority if you are keen to pursue one. As a school, when we request an EHC Plan, a detailed overview of the support the student has already received has to be provided. It is recommended you discuss your interest in an EHC Plan with the SEND team.

How will you help me to support my child's learning?

- We may provide you with some additional learning tasks, strategies or activities to work on at home to support your child's learning enabling them to make the best possible progress, offering you support if you need this.
- The SEND team can also offer you support with strategies to support your child at home.
- We actively encourage parents and carers to approach us if they feel more support is needed.

What support will there be for my child's engagement and well-being whilst at our school?

- We recognise a child's well-being is closely linked to their ability to engage in the curriculum and make good progress, all members of staff take this aspect of school life very seriously.
- Staff are both ACE aware and trauma informed.
- All staff working with you child are trained to be able to support your child's pastoral needs or to be able to identify and signpost to a member of staff whom can also support.
- Your child has access to our pastoral team and the SEND team as and when they need it, we will listen to your child if they identify a preferred member of staff they would like to check in/talk to and do all we can to accommodate this.
- All students access pastoral support and Social Emotional Mental Health sessions through the school.
- SEND and safeguarding work very closely together at the school.
- Please feel free to contact your child's form tutor, the pastoral team or the SEND team should you have any concerns.

How my child is included in all the same activities as their peers at school.

- We are an inclusive school and committed to providing equal opportunities to all our students.
- Any school clubs or trips are open to all students provided they have met the criteria set out for these e.g. enough positive points.
- Where necessary we will make reasonable adjustments to ensure children with SEND are included in all activities.
- Please feel free to contact the school should you have any concerns.
- The SEND and Inclusion team facilitate engagement through supporting the student to access activities, including outside of the curriculum, this is through social stories, adult support or communication with home and staff in order to ensure students are able to attend.

How will we support your child in transition stages?

- We liaise closely with the school your child has been referred from. We are able to discuss with the relevant staff any individual needs and how best to support your child when they join us.
- While your child is with us, we will take care to ensure that all staff are aware of individual student's needs, learning progress and best support strategies. The SEND and admissions team spend a long-time information gathering from schools and parents to ensure we have a detailed picture of your child's needs and any further steps which may need to be taken e.g. applying for assessments.
- If your child has an EHC Plan, we will participate/facilitate its review in sufficient time prior to them moving between key phases of education. You will be kept informed of these arrangements and invited to attend reviews.

If I have any further questions, who can I ask?

We are very happy to speak to you about any aspects of your child's education. There are several members of staff supporting each student. Please use the following guide to work out who may be best suited to answer your question

My concern is subject based

Please contact the subject teacher.

My concern is around SEND

Please contact the SEND department Sabah Wallace/Carla Vaughan/ Kristian Fulljames

sabahwallace@ymca.southend.sch.uk

carlavaughan@ymca.southend.sch.uk

kristianfulljames@ymca.southend.sch.uk

My concern is around mental wellbeing or pastoral issues

Please contact a member of our pastoral team

Jade Tyrell

jadetyrrell@ymca.southend.sch.uk

Catherine Bickmore

catherinebickmore@ymca.southend.sch.uk

or our safeguarding/inclusion lead- Deputy Headteacher

Donna Merry

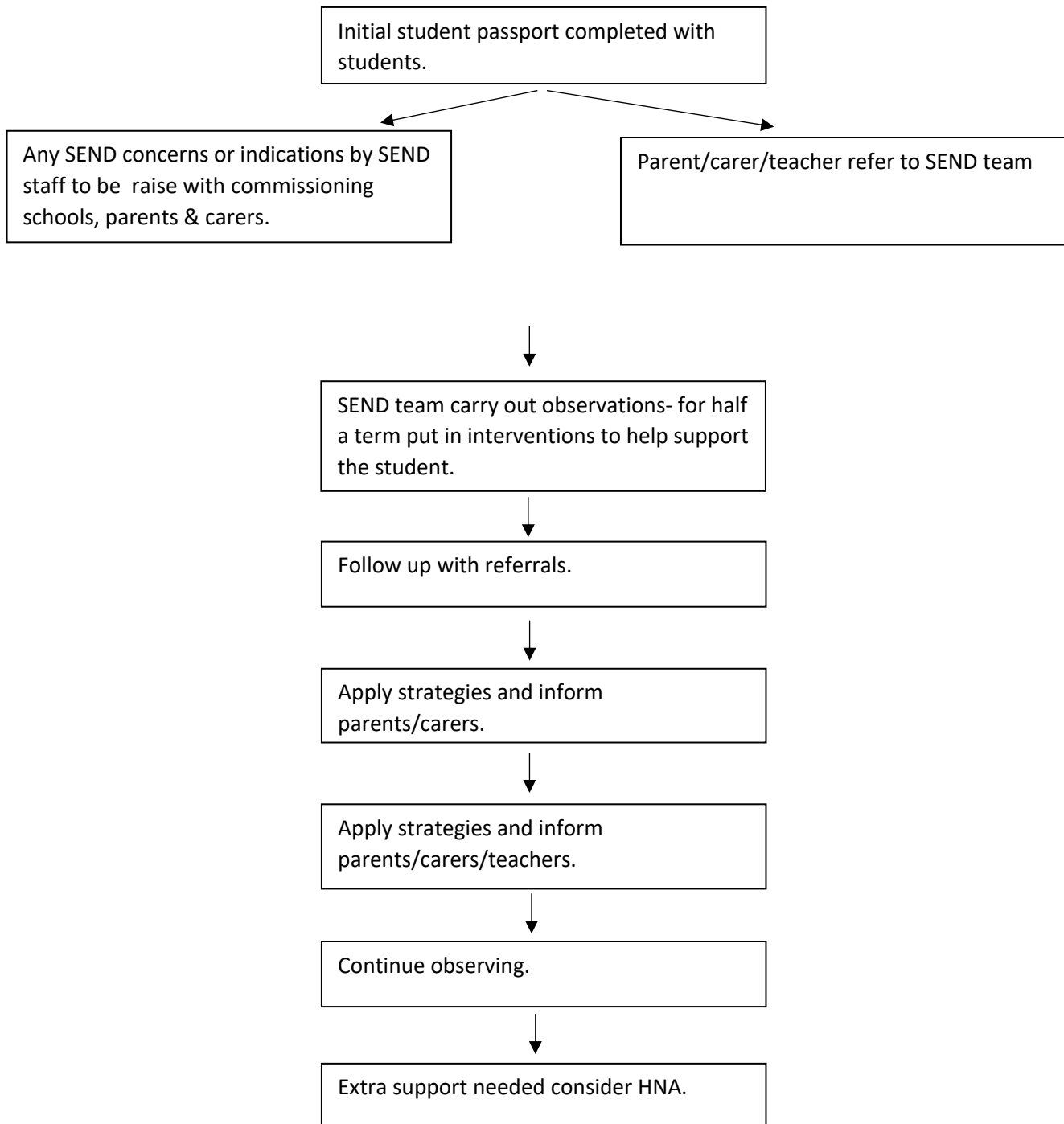
donnamerry@ymca.southend.sch.uk

I am unsure who to contact

Please contact our reception and they will signpost you to the correct member of staff

01702 987820

How SEND enquiries are processed at school



The SEND Code of Practice outlines the graduated approach as the structure schools use to support students with SEND. It recognises that learning difficulties are not ‘solved’ quickly and that we often need to try a range of strategies. Each new strategy takes time to embed before we can assess results. If there has been no improvement following the introduction of a range of strategies, then the issue will be raised with our links at the Essex and Southend SEND teams.

Passport Explanation

A student's passport is a document which is an adaptation of the One Plan. Page 1 provides details about the student, their needs, and recommended strategies. This is only shared with teachers. Any concerns raised whilst completing this will be communicated with the parent/carers.

Photo	Name	
	D.O.B.	
	PP/LAC	<i>If your child receives the pupil premium grant, these boxes will be complete.</i>
	Review Date	
	Previous School	<i>Commissioning school if applicable</i>
	Dual role	
	SEND Status	<i>Either EHCP or SEND support</i>
	Access Arrangements	
	Barriers to Learning	<i>Here we detail the key challenges your child faces to their learning</i>

SEND Need	Outline of the SEND areas of need
Allergies/Health	Any health issues or allergies
Visual/Audio	Sight or hearing impairments
Triggers	Any triggers for staff to avoid
Sensory Profile	Any sensory triggers
Context	Journey

Required support
Outline of the support the student needs to be able to access their education.

Name	Year
I live with...	Who student lives with at home
My hopes and wishes for the future are...	What the student hopes their future will hold
I like...	Students likes
I don't like...	Students dislikes
I find the following difficult:	Identified difficulties from student
I'm proud of...	What student is proud of
It helps me when the teachers...	How student would like to be supported
I don't like it when teachers...	Things student identifies as difficult within the classroom
I find it hard to learn in class when/if...	Identified barriers
You can support me by...	Ways to support identified by the student
Cultural Capital*	Range of interests outside of the curriculum

Useful contacts

SENDIASS- Southend

[Support and Advice for Families from SENDIASS Southend](#)

<https://www.sendiasssouthend.co.uk/>

Email iass@southend.gov.uk

Call 01702 215499

SENDIASS- Essex

[Essex SEND - Information, Advice and Support Service \(essexsendiass.co.uk\)](#)

<https://www.essexsendiass.co.uk/>

Email send.iass@essex.gov.uk

Call 01245 204338

Livewell Southend- Local Offer

[SEND Local Offer – Livewell Southend](#)

<https://www.livewellsouthend.com/send-local-offer>