

Children and families Act and New SEND Code of Practice 2014

Information For Families.

From September 2014 there will be a number of changes to improve services for children with special educational needs and disabilities. The Act aims to create a more family friendly, multi agency approach to statutory assessment processes for young people with complex needs. It will also give more choice and empowerment to those involved.

What do the changes include?

- All pupils with a statement will have a child centred review whereby the current statement of SEN will be converted to an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP). These will make sure all agencies work together providing a coordinated assessment and planning process which covers all needs. You will be invited to this by the SENCo in due course. The time frame for this is over the next 3 years. Normal Annual Reviews will take place in the meantime.
- Pupils and carers will be offered more choice and control in the services they access. This may continue until the young person is 25 if they are still in education or training.
- In some cases families with an EHC Plan may be able to request to manage the budget of 'Top Up' funding if the child receives it. This would be through a consultation process between the school and the complex needs team.
- All councils must publish a 'Local Offer' of all the services available for young people across education. Health and social care. Abbey Grange's can be found on the school website.
- The process of statutory assessment has been reduced from 26 weeks to 20 weeks.

Useful contacts;

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