

Questions for Parents

Questions for School Meetings (e.g., with SENCO, teachers, or headteachers):

1. What specific support will be put in place to meet my child's needs?
2. How will the support provided be monitored and reviewed?
3. How will you ensure my child is included in classroom activities and not isolated?
4. What interventions and strategies are being used, and why were these chosen?
5. How will I be informed about my child's progress and any changes to their support plan?
6. Who will be the main point of contact for me regarding my child's SEND support?
7. What training do teachers and staff have to work with children with my child's specific needs?
8. How can we work together to create a home-school communication system (e.g., daily or weekly updates)?
9. How does the school ensure that my child's voice is heard in decisions about their support?
10. Can you explain the steps and timeline for reviewing my child's Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) or support plan?

Questions for Local Authority (LA) Meetings:

1. What services and resources are available from the LA to support my child's specific needs?
2. Can you explain the process for obtaining and reviewing an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP)?
3. What can I do to support the EHC teams, during my child's assessment or annual review?
4. How does the LA monitor the provision my child is receiving, and how can I provide input?
5. What are my options if I disagree with the provision being offered?
6. How does the local authority work with schools during transitions (e.g., moving from primary to secondary school)?
7. How can I ensure my child receives the right support from health and social care, in addition to educational support?
8. What is the complaints or appeals process if I feel the LA is not meeting its responsibilities? Who should I speak to if I feel that the LA is not meeting the needs of my child?
9. How does the LA work with schools to deliver the support outlined in EHCPs?
10. Who is my main point of contact in the LA, and how often can I expect communication from them?

Questions for Professionals (e.g., Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists):

1. Can you explain the assessment process and how it will identify my child's needs?

Questions for Parents

2. What specific interventions or therapies do you recommend for my child, and why?
3. How will you measure my child's progress, and how often will I receive updates?
4. How will you work with the school and other professionals to support my child's needs?
5. What can I do at home to reinforce the support or therapy my child receives?
6. What happens if my child does not respond to the recommended interventions?
7. Can we set up regular meetings to review my child's progress? How frequently should these occur?
8. What should I do if I have concerns about my child's development or the effectiveness of the current support?
9. How long should I expect to wait for further assessments, reports, or referrals?
10. Who is responsible for following up on my child's therapy or intervention plan, and how can I contact them if necessary?

Questions to Ask About Referrals and External Support:

1. Can you provide a timeline for when the referral will be made and when we can expect a response?
2. Who is responsible for managing the referral process, and how can I follow up?
3. What external agencies or specialists will be involved, and how will they communicate with the school and me?
4. How does the school/LA track and manage outstanding referrals?
5. What can I do if there are delays in receiving external support or specialist involvement?
6. How can I access additional resources or services while waiting for the referral to be processed?

Questions for EHCP Meetings or Annual Reviews:

1. Can you explain the current progress my child has made in relation to the outcomes set in the EHCP?
2. Are there any changes needed to the current provision in my child's EHCP?
3. How does the school/LA ensure that the support outlined in the EHCP is being implemented daily?
4. How are the health and social care elements of the EHCP being addressed and monitored?
5. Can you provide a timeline for when the EHCP will next be reviewed, and who will be involved in that review?
6. If my child is not meeting the expected outcomes, what changes will be made to the support plan or EHCP targets?
7. What support is in place to ensure my child is prepared for their next educational transition (e.g., from primary to secondary school or from school to further education)?

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Additional Key Questions:

- What can I do to support my child's learning and development at home?
- How are decisions about my child's support made, and how can I ensure I am involved in these decisions?
- Are there any additional resources or support groups I can access as a parent?