

Education Health and Care Plan Pathway

*A Personalised Pathway for
Supporting Children and
Young People with Special
Educational Needs or
Disability (SEND)*

Lancashire's Education, Health and Care Plan Pathway

From September 2014, statements of Special Educational Needs (SEN) will be replaced by Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC Plans). The EHC Plan will provide the same statutory protection as the statement of SEN. However because it will cover from birth to age 25 it will extend the rights and protections to young people in further education. The aim of this new process is to make a meaningful difference to the lives of children, young people and their families and training.

Our pathway has been developed with families and a range of people from across education, health and care services and the voluntary and community sector. The timescale for assessment and completion of an EHC Plan is maximum of 20 weeks. The Path has seven steps for a child or young person and their family as shown on the diagram below.

Local Offer

1

Sets out services available for children and young people with SEN and disabilities from birth to age 25 and their families. The majority of children and young people with SEND will have their support needs met through the local offer without the need for an EHC plan.

Within the local offer children's needs can be regularly reviewed through the ***CAF** process. ***All About Me** profiles can be used so that you 'tell your story once'.

Team around the Family

2

At this step you and the professionals involved in supporting your child are reviewing their progress regularly. This is part of the ***graduated response**. This enables you, with support if needed, keep the 'All About Me' document updated with what support you are getting. If your child has unmet needs at this stage a ***plan facilitator** will be identified to work alongside you and the professionals involved with your child to help everyone share information and consider whether an ***integrated assessment** is necessary.

Referral

3

If you and the professionals involved in supporting your child agree that an integrated assessment of your child's needs is the next step a ***formal request** is sent in. The plan facilitator will have all the information ready for the referral to be made. A ***plan coordinator** will be identified to manage the request. They will ensure that all the information that is needed is in place. They may send out for further information if they identify it is necessary. From the time the referral is received there is a ***20 week timescale** for the authority to issue complete the process.

Explanations for words that are ***in bold** can be found overleaf.

Integrated Assessment

4

In line with ***Lancashire's Criteria Document**, a decision will be made by a ***multi agency panel** about whether or not your child is eligible for an EHC Plan or a ***SEN support plan**. If an EHC plan is agreed the panel will consider what support they might need; what outcomes should be worked towards and what budget should be agreed to ensure that support is put in place. If they are not eligible for an EHC they return to steps 1 and 2 of this process with a SEN support plan. You will be notified of next steps either way.

My Plan

5

This step is when the personalised EHC Plan will be developed and agreed. It will be ***co-produced** with your son/daughter, yourself and the professionals that are providing support. A multi-agency meeting will be held to agree what is required to best meet the needs of your child, and how we will ensure that the desired outcomes will be achieved. You may wish to consider a ***personal budget** which can be arranged in a number of ways and allows you to manage the funding to be used to meet your son or daughters needs.

My Life

6

Having finalised the EHC Plan and the elements (if any) you wish to take up as a personal budget, support will be available to ensure that your child is achieving the outcomes described in the Plan and that you can make the best use of the funding available to you.

My Review

7

The EHC Plan will be reviewed at least annually using a ***person centred** approach to maintain its relevance to your son/daughters individual situation. In certain cases it may be reviewed more frequently, if this is agreed by you, your child and those providing support. Reviews will also play a big part in planning the next steps in a young person's life and getting the transitions into the next phases of their lives sorted and supported.

Please note

Steps 4-7 are only followed if the decision is to proceed to a formal integrated assessment and EHC plan. If it is not agreed the information gathered for the assessment is sent to the Early Years setting/school or College to be compiled into the SEN support plan so that the relevant setting is best able to meet the child or young person's needs.

CAF	CAF stands for Common Assessment Framework. This is an assessment that can be used by practitioners in all agencies in Lancashire to help in the early identification of needs of children, young people and families.
All About Me	This is a document that enables the child/young person's story to be told once. The document is co-produced with the child/young person and their family.
Graduated response	Early Years Settings, Schools and Colleges have to show that they have been taking meaningful steps to meet the needs of their pupils such as acting on specialist advice and reviewing progress over time.
Plan facilitator	This will often be the SENCO of a school, early years setting or additional learning support co-ordinator at a local college who is fully involved in meeting your child's needs.
Integrated assessment	This is a coordinated assessment of education, health and care needs usually based on information already available.
Formal request	A request for a statutory integrated assessment of needs.
Plan coordinator	This is the person best placed within the LA to work with yourselves and professionals at the point of assessment and beyond. Often this will be the SEND Officer (SENDO).
20 week timescale	This is the statutory timescale in which an integrated assessment has to be completed as instructed within the SEND Code of Practice.
Criteria document	This document contains the criteria which the Local Authority will use to decide whether or not to carry out a formal, co-ordinated and integrated assessment of a child or young person's education, health and care needs; and then at the conclusion of any such assessment, whether or not to issue an Education Health and Care Plan.
Multi-agency panel	This is a decision making group with people from education health and care.
SEN support plan	This is the plan that the early years setting, school or local college will use to ensure a child or young person's needs are met where an EHC Plan is not agreed.
Co-produced	This means everyone working together in an equal partnership.
Personal budget	If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you may have the right to a personal budget for their support. The personal budget can be used to buy in specialist special educational needs (SEN) and disabled care for all or some of the provision outlined in the EHC plan.
Person centred	Working in a way that puts the child's /young person's views, hopes and aspirations at the centre of everything we do.
EHC plan	An Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan brings your child's education, health and social care needs into a single, legal document. Your child must have special educational needs to be eligible for a plan.

More information about our processes and the way we work can be found on our website at www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND