

## Understanding and Checking Your Draft Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP)

The purpose of an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** is to detail the special education provision required to meet a child or young person's **special educational needs (SEN)** and to secure the best possible outcomes across education, health, and social care. Understanding your or your child's EHCP is key to ensuring the right support is in place.

When you receive a **draft EHCP**, you will have **15 days to respond**. Use this time to review and ensure the content meets your child's needs.

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### Key Sections of an EHCP

#### *Section A: All About Me and My Family*

This section captures the child or young person's **views, interests, and aspirations**, as well as details about their family.

- This is typically completed during the early stages of the EHCP process and is updated during **Annual Reviews**.

#### *Section B: Special Educational Needs (SEN)*

All identified SEN must be clearly described, not just listed as diagnoses.

- **Example:**  
*"Jack has Autism. He plays well on his own but finds it extremely difficult to engage with other children or make friends with peers."*

#### *Section C: Health Needs*

This section outlines health needs that relate to the child or young person's SEN.

- **Example:**  
*"Grace has cerebral palsy which affects the right side of her body. For short distances, she prefers to walk unaided, but she uses a walking frame for longer distances."*

#### *Section D: Social Care Needs*

Details social care needs arising from the SEN or disability.

- **Example:**  
*"Ebrah has limited mobility, which impacts her ability to participate in family outings or social activities of her choosing."*

### *Section E: Outcomes*

Outcomes should be **SMART** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound).

- **Example for a 19-year-old:**  
*"By the end of his course, Ralph will attend three work-based interviews."*
- **Example for a 3-year-old:**  
*"Aaftab will engage in a daily play activity with another child and an adult by the time he is in reception."*

### *Section F: Special Education Provision*

This section specifies the **provision required to meet all identified needs** in Section B. It must be detailed, specific, and quantified (e.g., type, hours, frequency of support, and the qualifications of those delivering it).

- Ambiguous terms like "regular opportunities" or "access to" should be avoided.
- **Example:**  
*"Daniel will receive two 30-minute sessions per week focusing on his social use of language. These sessions will be delivered by a teaching assistant under the guidance of a speech and language therapist."*

If health or social care provision educates or trains, it must be included here.

### *Section G: Health Provision*

Details health provision required to meet SEN or a disability.

- **Example:**  
*"Aisha will receive two six-week blocks of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) with a clinical psychologist, separated by a two-week review period."*

### *Section H1: Social Care Provision under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970*

Includes practical support such as help in the home, transport assistance, or short breaks.

- **Example:**

*"Elena will receive two hours of support at home each day from a personal assistant to help with feeding and dressing."*

### *Section H2: Additional Social Care Provision*

Includes non-statutory support like Early Help or adult social care.

- **Example:**

*"Tina will receive two seven-night blocks of residential short breaks per year, taken approximately six months apart."*

### *Section I: Educational Placement*

Names the school, college, or type of educational placement. Once named, the institution must admit the child or young person.

### *Section J: Personal Budget*

Details any arrangements for personal budgets for education, health, or social care, specifying the type, amount, and delivery arrangements.

### *Section K: Information and Advice*

Lists all evidence gathered during the assessment process that informed the EHCP.

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## Checking Your Draft EHCP

When reviewing your EHCP:

- Ensure all needs in Sections B, C, and D are **clearly detailed**.
- Check that the **outcomes in Section E** are specific and achievable.
- Confirm that **provisions in Section F** are detailed and match the needs in Section B.
- Ensure all advice from professionals has been included and appropriately reflected.

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## Need More Help?

If you're unsure about any part of the EHCP, contact Shropshire SENDIASS for **free, impartial information and advice.**