

## Who are EHC plans for?

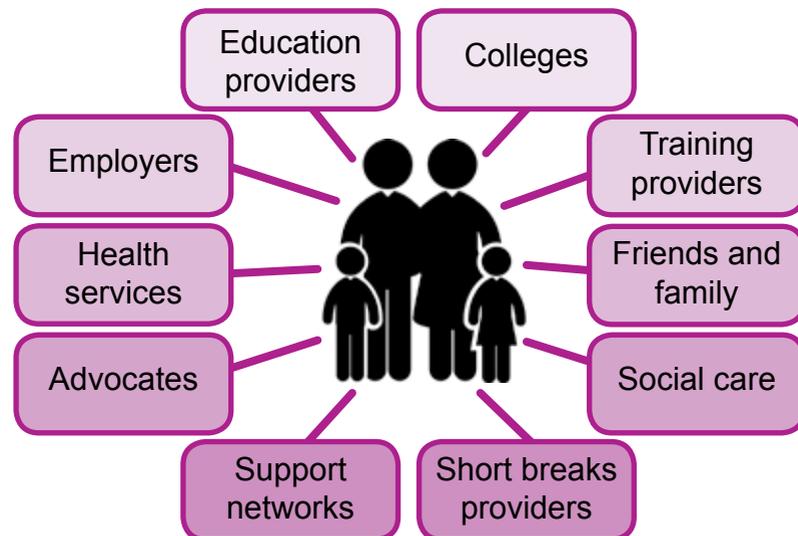
Children and young people who...

- are under the age of 25
- have special educational needs (SEN)
- are in school, college or training
- need more SEN support than their school or college can provide on their own.

## What does an EHC plan do?

It brings together what is known about a child or young person including...

- who they are
- their goals and aspirations
- their needs in education, health and social care
- the outcomes that will help them achieve their goals and aspirations
- the support they need
- the educational placement that has been agreed.



## How do you start the process?

A professional who works with you and your child may talk to you about having an EHC needs assessment and start the process.

Or you (or the young person if over 16) can ask for an EHC needs assessment by telephone (0344 800 80 20), asking for the SEN Centre of Excellence, or by completing the form that can be found on the Local Offer ([www.norfolk.gov.uk/send](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/send)).



## What can you expect?

A lot of information needs to be collected to see if an EHC needs assessment is right for your child. If the local council decides that it is, an EHC plan coordinator will help to make sure that everyone who needs to share their views can do so. You and your child must be fully involved and at the heart of this.

If, after the EHC needs assessment, the local council decides to develop an EHC plan, we will all work together to co-produce this.

## Where can you get support?

There are many organisations that can support you and your child with the EHC needs assessment and plan development process, including organisations that can provide you with an independent supporter.

Find out more in the “Care, support and advice” section at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/send](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/send)

## What does the law say?

- It must be a person-centred process with the child and family having their voices listened to and valued
- What the EHC plan must include
- The EHC plan process should take no longer than 20 weeks from the date of request
- An EHC plan should be reviewed at least annually
- There is a right of appeal.

You can find out more about this in the Local Offer at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/send](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/send)

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This leaflet is part of a series of leaflets that cover:

- Joint commissioning
- The Local Offer
- Special educational needs (SEN) support
- **Education, health and care (EHC) plans**
- Personal budgets
- Preparing for adulthood.

## Education, health and care (EHC) plans



An EHC plan is a way of setting out important information about your child in the areas of education, health and social care.

Its focus is on the views and wishes of you and your child.

This is called person-centred planning.