

So what does SEN actually mean



What is SEN?

- **Special Educational Needs (SEN)** A learning need or disability that means support above what is available to all children is needed.

What is available to all children?

Most schools and Local Authorities publish 'What is Ordinarily Available' or 'universal'.

It is usually classroom based stuff such as:

- Using images alongside words
- Repeating learning
- Support for reading
- Thoughtful seating
- Use of technology
- Printed copies of whiteboard info.
- Checklists/tick lists
- Movement opportunities
- Focus objects
- Regular check ins
- Post-it notes prompts
- Roles and responsibilities
- Focussed activities available to all such as guided reading
- 'Scaffolding' giving prompts or hints through words, actions, images or physical resources

What is SEN Support?

Sometimes children and young folk need 'what is ordinarily available' and a bit more. Most Local Authorities and schools call this SEN Support and have info. about it on their websites in the SEN Information reports. It might include:

- Small group literacy
- Social Skills groups
- Emotional Literacy Support
- Extra Forest School
- Handwriting group
- Numeracy group
- Sensory room time
- Social Story work
- Nurture groups

All SEN Support should be carefully planned and always reviewed to see what difference it has made. This is often captured in an Assess, Plan, Do, Review document. Whilst the SEN Support is happening, the children or young person is on the SEN register.

**'Show me this in a
picture.'**

**High
Needs
& EHCPs**

SEN Support

For some children. More specific support, often in small groups or 1:1. Always carefully planned, always reviewed.

**Universal or 'Ordinarily
available provision'**

Support and adjustments that all children get.

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