

High needs funding for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in mainstream schools



High needs funding supports children with SEND to make progress in school. It funds the provision listed in a child's plan. It is for children with Education, Health, and Care (EHC) Plans and some children at SEN Support.

There is more high needs funding for schools to support children with SEND in the school year 2022/23.

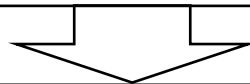
In September 2022 we are changing how mainstream schools in Sheffield receive high-needs funding to support children with SEND. This change is the first step in a review of how we fund SEND provision in mainstream schools. It is a temporary change that will help us to build a new funding model in the future.

Some schools will see small changes to how they get funding. For other schools there will be more changes. We want to make sure that method is the same in all schools in Sheffield.

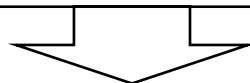
The information below is a short explanation of how we distribute this funding.

SEND funding in mainstream schools

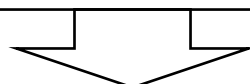
All mainstream schools in the country are allocated some money called 'notional SEND funding' or 'element 2 funding'. This is not high needs funding. Mainstream schools use this money to fund educational provision for all children in the school with SEND, up to £6000 per child.



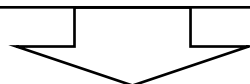
Local authorities have extra funding for high-needs SEND provision. In Sheffield we have split this funding into two parts from September 2022. The first part is issued directly to schools. The second part is held by localities. Localities are groups of schools that are close to each other and work together. Each locality has a lead headteacher.



1. Mainstream schools will get some money called 'SEND high-needs initial block funding'. Schools use this money first to fund provision for children with high needs. This money is for provision that costs over £6000.



2. Localities will allocate the extra money to support children with high needs Some schools will need more money to support some children with SEND. The school SENCO will request for this money from their locality. The locality will need to know how the school has used the initial funding that it has received.



The local authority also has a small amount of extra funding for emergencies and exceptional cases. The school can request this funding from the local authority.