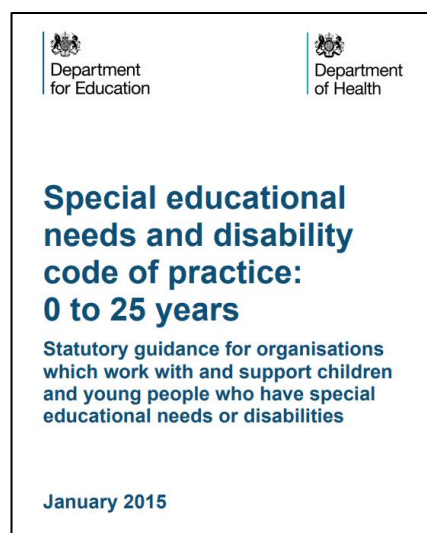


SEN Code of Practice

What is the SEN Code of Practice?



https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf

The Children and Families Act (2014) reformed legislation relating to children and young people with **special educational needs** and disabilities (SEND). The SEND **Code of Practice** is statutory guidance for organisations that work with and support children and young people with **special educational needs** and disabilities.

Details

This statutory code contains:

- details of legal requirements that you must follow without exception
- statutory guidance that you must follow by law unless there's a good reason not to

It explains the duties of local authorities, health bodies, schools and colleges to provide for those with special educational needs under part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The code, which applies to England, is for:

- headteachers and principals
- governing bodies
- school and college staff
- special educational needs (SEN) coordinators
- early education providers
- local authorities
- health and social services staff

The most relevant section for mainstream schools is chapter 6, entitled: 'Schools', explaining the action that mainstream schools should take to meet their duties in relation to identifying and supporting all children with special educational needs (SEN), whether or not they have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan.

What are the four areas of SEN in the Code of Practice?

The 0-25 SEND Code of Practice (2015) identifies 'four broad areas of [special educational] need and support' (see chapter 6 for detailed descriptions): - Communication and interaction; - Cognition and learning; - Social, emotional and mental health; - Sensory and/or physical needs.

When was the SEN code of practice first introduced?

The first Code of Practice for the 'Identification and Assessment of children with SEN' came into effect in 1994. Since then, the rights and duties contained in the 1993 Act has been consolidated into Part IV of the 1996 Education Act. The information was updated as part of the 2014 Children and Families Act.

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