

## **Special Educational Needs in Leicestershire Working with children, families and schools**

### **HELP IN LEICESTERSHIRE**

Children with special educational needs are taught in their local school wherever possible. All schools have a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) who, has the responsibility to ensure that children with special needs get the right kind of help. The ways in which teachers and support staff work with children to meet individual needs may be a little different from school to school. The main aim will always be to make sure that children with special needs get the help they needs.

Leicestershire Education Authority delegates money to schools to help address the needs of both statemented and non-statemented pupils.

School Governors in setting the school budget need to set aside monies to be spent on meeting special educational needs for those children with and without statements of SEN. Schools in Leicestershire already have a range of specialist equipment, resources, facilities and teaching expertise to address a wide range of needs and difficulties.

#### **Where can extra help come from?**

##### Specialist Teaching Service

The Specialist Teaching Service works in partnership with parents, schools, colleges and other professionals in meeting the frequently complex requirements of children with special educational needs. They can provide support for:

- General learning difficulties
- Specific learning difficulties (including Dyslexia)
- Hearing impairment
- Visual impairment
- Multi-sensory impairment
- Autism
- Pre-school special educational needs

They work with individual children or groups of children by providing:

- Specialist teams of peripatetic teaching staff
- Units for hearing impaired children
- Resource bases for visually impaired children
- Support to pre-school children attending specialist nurseries
- Audiological and technical support
- Specialist Educational Assessments

Your child's statement, where appropriate, may refer to one or more of the above to help support your child's learning.

### Educational Psychology Service

There is an Educational Psychologist linked to every school that any Leicestershire child will attend. The Educational Psychologist will be available to provide the following support as and when it is necessary:

- Provide support to parents during the period of statutory assessment
- Ongoing advice to the child's school
- Attendance at annual reviews of the child's statement
- Work in connection with the annual review

### Student Support Service

The Student Support Service usually works directly with children who have been permanently excluded from their school. They provide supportive help to children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties to assist their return to full time education.

### Special Schools, Units and Nurseries

The Education Authority has a wide range of special schools, units and nurseries which are available for a small number of pupils whose needs are most severe and complex. Such schools provide specialist support for pupils with:

- Severe learning difficulties
- Autism
- Moderate learning difficulties
- Hearing impairment
- Speech and language difficulties

### Equipment

Your child's learning difficulty may call for access to a particular piece of equipment such as a portable word-processing device, an electronic keyboard or tape recorder. The schools will be expected to make such equipment available. However, if a significant piece of equipment is required such as special communication aid or closed circuit television, the Education Department may be responsible for its provision.