

What should I do if I think my child has special needs or a disability?

If you feel that your child may have SEND then you should ask to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If they are unable to see you straight away, they will be happy to make an appointment when you can discuss your concerns in more detail.

It may be decided to discuss any concerns further. At this stage the SENCO will convene a meeting with parents. Usually it is informal and gives you the opportunity to share information between yourself and staff. Then if agreed, school will suggest ways to support your child and put those actions in place.

After a period of time, the SENCO or class teacher will review the progress your child has made and will share this information with you at a review meeting. A decision will be made as to whether further action is needed or whether your child's needs are being appropriately met.

Sometimes it may be that school may need to seek further advice or specialist support. School will always seek parental consent before this takes place. You will always be kept fully informed about any involvement of other services and any additional support your child is receiving. Where there are other services involved, e.g. health, CAMHs, educational psychology, behaviour support or educational support teams involved, a Common Assessment is done with the family and a team of people work together to provide the necessary support. See - What is a Common Assessment Form (CAF),

For more information go to www.barnsley.gov.co.uk/ special needs