

Lewisham EHCP Fact Sheet

Definitions, Eligibility, Process

What is an EHCP?

Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), outlines the support a child or young person (0–25 years) with **special educational needs** and **disabilities (SEND)** needs across education, health and social care.

This helps secure the best possible outcomes and supports preparation for adulthood, including employment, independent living, and community participation.

Who Can Request an Assessment?

- Parents/carers
- Young people (16–25 years)
- A school/institution (ideally with parental consent)
- Professionals or others close to the family

Requests can be made via the school or directly to the **Lewisham SEN Team** (contact details on page 4).

Who is eligible?

Children/young people:

- Aged 0 - 25
- Living in Lewisham
- With significant and long-term SEND **not** manageable under the school's SEN Support

How long is the process?

- A decision on whether to conduct an assessment is made within 6 weeks of the request.
- If approved, the full assessment and EHCP decision is made within 16 weeks of the original request.

Lewisham EHCP Fact Sheet

EHCP Application: Step by Step

Step 1: Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA)

An EHC Needs Assessment determines whether an EHCP is required. An EHCNA is conducted if the child's needs cannot be met through standard SEN Support provided by a school or early years setting. It gathers information from:

- Educational setting staff
- Health and social care professionals
- The child or young person
- Parents or carers

An allocated EHC Coordinator oversees this process in line with the SEND Code of Practice.

Step 2: Drafting an EHCP

If the panel agrees an EHCP is needed:

- A draft plan is shared with the family/young person for feedback (15 calendar days to respond).
- Families can suggest edits, name a preferred school/college, and request a personal budget (optional).
- Lewisham must consult the chosen institution and consider their response.

Step 3: Final EHCP

- Agreed changes are made.
- If not all suggested changes are accepted, a final plan is still issued.
- The final EHCP is signed and dated by the local authority.

Lewisham EHCP Fact Sheet

What does an EHCP need to include?

An EHCP needs to include following sections:

Section	Content
A	Child/young person's views and aspirations
B	Special educational needs (SEN)
C	Health needs related to SEN
D	Social care needs related to SEN/disability
E	Desired outcomes
F	Special educational provision
G	Health provision
H1	Statutory social care (under 18s)
H2	Additional social care related to SEN/disability (including adult provision)
I	Named educational placement
J	Personal budget details (if applicable)
K	All advice gathered during the assessment

Lewisham EHCP Fact Sheet

Annual Reviews & Useful Contacts

Annual Reviews

The EHCP is reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

For children in Year 9 or above, the EHCP must include support for preparation for adulthood (e.g. employment, housing, independent living).

Need Help or Advice?

- Lewisham SEND Team: sen@lewisham.gov.uk
- Parent Carer Forum Lewisham: info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk
- SENDIASS Lewisham: Independent advice & advocacy, lewisham@kids.org.uk

Need further help/ guidance from us?

Fill out a referral form here!

Our team is always happy to help!

What else do we offer in Lewisham?

Scan the QR code to find out!

