



Education, Health and Care plan explained.

Children and young people who need extra help with learning may need an **Education, Health and Care plan**. Sometimes these are called **EHC plans**. This guide explains more about EHC plans.

Support is available to young people from the Devon Information, Advice and Support service. This service is often called DIAS. DIAS is a free, confidential and impartial service for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). If you have special educational needs it means you might need extra help to learn things.



How will an EHC plan help me?

An EHC plan says in writing what help you need in school or college, what your goals are and what support must be given to help you. Your teachers and other people who help you in school or college can use the EHC plan to make sure you're getting the right support.

What is in the EHC plan?

Everyone will have a different plan because it is **all about YOU**. We are all different.

It will have information like:

- **Who** you are.
- How you **communicate**.
- What you want to **achieve**.
- Why **you need help** with things.
- What **kind** and **amount** of **support** you need, and **how often** you must get it.
- Where you go to school or college (if you do).

Once this support is written down in the plan, it **must** be given to you.

How will the EHC plan be used?

All the people that support you will be able to see your EHC plan. It should help them work together to support you.

You have the right to say what kind of information you think should be in your EHC plan and who you want to see it.



Who gets an EHC plan?

If you need extra help with learning and it is before your 25th birthday, then you **might** get an EHC plan to help you get more support.

How long will I have an EHC plan for?

EHC plans can carry on until you are **25 years** old. They will **stop** if:

- You go to **University**.
- You get a **job**.
- The local authority think you do **not need** it anymore.



The local authority are sometimes called the LA or the council. In Devon someone who works in the SEN 0-25 Team decides which young people need an Education, Health and Care plan. They might say that you do not need an EHC plan anymore.



What if I don't agree with the SEN 0-25 Team?

You can tell the local authority what you think about your plan and they must listen to you.

If you do not agree with

- what is written in the plan
 - the SEN 0-25 Team's decision to end the plan
 - the SEN 0-25 Team's decision not to give you an EHC plan
- then you can say that you don't agree.

DIAS can help you say that you don't agree. DIAS contact details are on the bottom of this page.

I think I might need an EHC plan, how do I get one?

The first step is to ask for an **EHC needs assessment**.

Who can ask for an EHC needs assessment?

- you
- your parent or carer
- your school or college.



How do I ask for an EHC needs assessment?

You need to contact the SEN 0-25 Team. The DIAS young people factsheet '**Education, Health and Care needs assessment explained**' will tell you how to ask for an EHC needs assessment. You can ask for help with an EHC needs assessment. You can ask an adult you know to help you or you can ask DIAS for help. DIAS contact details are at the bottom of the page.