SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

A guide to additional needs, SEND support and helpful services

Every child is different. If you have concerns about learning, development or wellbeing, we are here to help.

START WITH THE CLASS TEACHER

Your child's class teacher is the first person to speak to about learning, communication, friendships, behaviour or wellbeing. They can listen, share observations and explore helpful strategies. If more advice is needed, the class teacher can involve the SENCO.

THIS IS ME | UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

A Kent and Medway approach that helps families and trained school staff understand a child's strengths, differences and support needs, including possible neurodevelopmental differences such as autism or ADHD. Together they identify practical strategies and adjustments for school and home. A diagnosis is not needed. Speak to the class teacher, who can involve the SENCO.

Scan for official This is Me information

SPEECH & LANGUAGE SUPPORT

Kent's Balanced System approach supports speech, language and communication through everyday strategies, targeted help and specialist input where needed. Speak to the class teacher first; they can involve the SENCO for further advice.

GP & DEVELOPMENTAL CONCERNS

For concerns about development, health, autism or ADHD, a GP can advise about health services and assessment routes. Share examples from home and school. School support does not depend on a diagnosis.

SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM

Kent's School Health Team offers advice about sleep, toileting, emotional wellbeing and general health. Families can contact the service or ask the school for guidance.

THE AUTISM APPRENTICE

Provides autism information, guidance, workshops and family support, including before or after diagnosis. Some services may charge. autismapprentice.co.uk

SCAN FOR SUPPORT OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Speech & language

Kent School Health

Autism Apprentice

You do not need a diagnosis to ask for support.

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Helpful services, advice and support for families - alongside the support available through the school.

PRESCHOOL & EARLY YEARS SUPPORT

If you have concerns about your child in the school nursery, speak to their nursery teacher or key person first. They can discuss strengths and needs, try strategies and involve the SENCO if needed.

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING & BEHAVIOUR

For worries, big feelings, friendships or changes in routine, start with the class teacher. The school can explore helpful strategies with you. The Kent Resilience Hub also has parent resources.

FAMILY HUBS

Kent Family Hubs offer parenting advice, family activities, wellbeing support and opportunities to connect with other families. Check current local sessions through Kent Family Hubs.

KENT PACT | PARENT CARER VOICE

Kent's parent carer forum helps families share experiences, connect with others and contribute to shaping SEND services.

EARLY HELP & FAMILY SUPPORT

Families can sometimes benefit from extra help with behaviour, relationships, attendance or wellbeing. Speak to the class teacher or Family Liaison Officer (FLO), where available.

KENT SEND LOCAL OFFER

Find information about education, health, family support, activities, clubs and short breaks. Scan to explore Kent's official SEND information and services.

Kent SEND Local Offer · open online

Scan the SEND Local Offer

IASK | INDEPENDENT SEND ADVICE

Free, confidential and impartial advice about SEN Support, school meetings, rights, EHC needs assessments and EHCPs. 03000 41 3000 · iask@kent.gov.uk

SCAN FOR SUPPORT OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Family Hubs **Early Help** **IASK** **Wellbeing** **Kent PACT**

NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

Speak to the class teacher, or the nursery teacher/key person for nursery children. They can listen, explore what may help and involve the SENCO when needed.

You do not need a diagnosis to ask for support.