Special educational needs

▶ **Section 20 Children and Families Act 2014** defines a child as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) if he or she *"has a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special education provision to be made for him or her"*.

▶ In the **Equality Act 2010** a person is classed as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Special Educational Needs

▶ The term 'Special Educational Needs' is used to describe learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for children to learn than most children of the same age.

▶ Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) are likely to need extra or different help from that given to other children their age. This help is known as special educational provision.

▶ Speech, language and communication

  ▶ These children may have difficulty in expressing themselves or understanding what others are saying to them. They may find it hard to make friends or relate to others. They may find it difficult to make sense of the world around them or to organise themselves.

▶ Thinking, learning and understanding

  ▶ These children may find all learning activities difficult, or have particular difficulties with some learning activities such as reading and spelling

▶ Behavioural, social and emotional development

  ▶ These children may have very low self-esteem and lack confidence. They may find it difficult to follow rules or settle down and behave properly in school.

▶ Sensory processing disorder

  ▶ These children may have a disability or a medical condition that has an impact upon their learning. They may have a visual or hearing impairment.

EHCP

The purpose of an EHCP is:

▶ to make special educational provision to the meet the SEN of the child or young person;

▶ to secure the best possible outcomes for them across education, health and social care, and

▶ to prepare them for adulthood, as they grow older.