

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for pupils with SEND during the Coronavirus outbreak

1. My child has an EHCP. Do they have to go school?

If at all possible children should be at home to slow the spread of coronavirus. Government guidelines are prioritising pupils of key workers and vulnerable groups. Through risk assessments, schools and parents need to work together to demonstrate that it is safer for children to be at school rather than stay at home.

2. If my child's school transport changes – what do I do?

All transport queries should be directed to:

Education.transportteam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

3. Am I a key worker?

Please check government guidance for details of identified key worker status:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>

4. My child's special school said they are not able to open on Monday due to staffing issues. What do I do?

The Local Authority and special schools are working hard to ensure provision is made available on Monday 23 March however understandably school staff need to be monitoring their own health and this may lead to shortages that result in the school not being able to open. The LA will do all it can to redeploy staff if possible to support schools to remain open.

5. What happens to my child's education whilst they are at home?

Schools are working hard to ensure online learning is available alongside creating home learning packs to support parents with home schooling.

6. My child has 1:1 support in school – can the TA come to my home?

This is not possible due to government guidelines on social distancing and the required need for school staff to be available on site.

7. My child has a draft EHCP – can they go to school next week?

If a pupil does not have finalised EHCP they will need to stay at home unless they are the child of a key worker.

8. If I receive a final EHCP can my child return to school?

This will need to be discussed with your child's school however please consider whether your child is safer at home for the short term.

9. I have just applied for an EHC assessment. Will statutory timeframes still apply?

The Government are in the process of agreeing temporary changes to statutory timeframes. Please be aware the Cambridgeshire Statutory Assessment Team (SAT) are committed to continuing their work however given school closures and the impact of self-isolation on staff; usual processes may be delayed.

10. My child has sensory needs – they are unable to follow hygiene routines. My child has asthma/respiratory difficulties. My child requires medical care throughout the day. Should they be in school?

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