



Parent Guide: What to Do if You Think Your Child May Have SEND

At Catcott Primary School, we want every child to feel supported, happy and able to succeed. Sometimes families notice that their child may need extra help with learning, behaviour, communication, emotions, or sensory needs.

If you have any concerns about your child, we encourage you to follow the steps below.

1. Explore the School Website

Our school website contains helpful information and resources for families.

Please visit the **SEND** and **Wellbeing** sections of the website where you will find:

- Information about how the school supports children with SEND
- Guidance for parents
- Links to useful resources
- **Padlets** with strategies, advice and support services for families

These pages are a good starting point if you are beginning to explore your child's needs or would like ideas for support at home.

2. Talk to the School

The first step is to speak with your **child's class teacher**. They see your child learning every day and can share what they have noticed in school.

You can:

- Send a message on **Class Dojo**
- Speak to the teacher at the end of the day
- Arrange a meeting through the school office

The teacher may discuss your concerns with the **SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator)** and explore possible support strategies.

3. Share What You Are Noticing at Home

Parents and carers know their children best. If you have noticed things such as:

- Difficulties with attention or concentration
- Challenges with communication or social interaction
- Strong sensory preferences or sensitivities
- Anxiety or emotional regulation difficulties
- Challenges with reading, writing, or learning

Please share this information with the school. Your observations help us build a full picture of your child's needs.

4. School Support and Next Steps

If needed, the school may:

- Monitor your child's progress more closely
- Try additional strategies or classroom support
- Create a **Pupil Passport** or Individual Support Plan
- Involve the SENDCo to explore next steps

In some cases, the school may discuss whether further assessment or specialist advice would be helpful.

5. Parent Workshops and Support

We know that supporting children with additional needs can feel overwhelming at times. Families are not expected to do this alone.

Catcott Primary School works with outside services that offer **workshops and advice for parents**, including:

WISE UP Parent Workshops

These sessions help families understand children's emotional wellbeing, behaviour, and strategies that support regulation and resilience.

MHST (Mental Health Support Team)

The MHST team provides workshops and guidance for parents about:

- children's mental health
- anxiety and emotional wellbeing
- strategies to support children at home

These workshops are shared with families through school communications.

6. Remember – Early Conversations Help

If you are worried about your child, it is always okay to ask for advice. Many children benefit from small changes or support strategies in school.

Working together – **families, teachers and support staff** – helps ensure that every child receives the support they need to thrive.