

## SUPPORT IN THE EARLY YEARS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)

Central  
Bedfordshire

### EDUCATION

Early Years settings that provide education and care:  
Private, voluntary and independent (PVI's)

- Preschools
- Private nurseries

School nursery classes and preschool

### HEALTH

- Community Paediatricians
- GPs
- Health Visitors
- 0 – 19
- Speech and Language therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational therapists

### CARE

- Children with Disabilities Team
- Early Help

Education, Health and Care professionals may refer children with additional needs to Central Bedfordshire's SEND Service Early Years SEND Team. Referrals are considered weekly and allocated to the Early Years SEND Advisory teachers [Link here to referral form](#)

An Early Years SEND Advisory teacher will contact a child's parents/carers and the Early Years setting, if the child is attending one, and arrange to carry out an Initial Assessment within 8 weeks of when the referral is received. If a child is not attending a setting the Initial Assessment visit will be carried out in the child's home. [Link here to leaflet – A Parent's guide....](#)

Each Early Years completed Initial Assessment is sent to the Early Years Allocation meeting which meets every two weeks. At the meeting each Initial Assessment is discussed by the teachers from the Early Years SEND team and a plan for supporting a child's progress and achievement is made. Information in the Initial Assessment may also prompt additional funding to be offered to the Early Years setting to help them to support the child. [Link to policy on Early Years Additional Funding](#)

### HOME SUPPORT

[Link to description of home visits](#)

### EARLY YEARS SETTING SUPPORT

[Link to description of setting support](#)

### CONTINUING SUPPORT DURING THE EARLY YEARS

The Early Years SEND Team Teachers and Specialist Practitioners continue to support a child through their early years until they start school. They offer advice and guidance to parents/carers and Early Years settings. They monitor a child's progress and achievements. Where appropriate, they will assist and guide Early Years settings to make a request for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment.

### TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

Planning together with the child, parents/carers and the Early Years setting, arrangements will be made with the receiving school to meet and discuss preparations for a child to make a smooth transition into school