

Questions you could ask about SEN support in a school:

How does the school approach the inclusion of SEN children?
How do you welcome a new pupil and orientate them to the school day and where to go?
Is special school transport available?
Do you support SEN childrens' eating and drinking?
Who oversees giving medication at school?
Are you able to provide a time out/ toilet pass/movement breaks?

Individual SEN care:

Who is the key SEN contact for us to reach out to e.g.the SENCO?
Can I have a copy of the SEN Support Plan once it's created?
How are parents involved in planning or reviewing the plan?
Is learning support available in class?
How are pupils supported to manage timetables, and changing between subjects or classrooms?
Will the relevant staff be aware of my child's SEN Support Plan?
What training do the staff have on my child's needs?
What resources are available (buddy systems, quiet rooms, laptops etc)?

Communication with parents

How often and in what ways does the school communicate with us about our child's progress or concerns?

Emotional wellbeing and mental health

Are staff trained in trauma-informed practice or mental health first aid?
How do staff support students who find unstructured time (like lunch/breaks) challenging or children who need quiet?
How will you meet my child's social and emotional aspects of learning (SEAL)?

Social inclusion and extracurricular activities

How are all students included in form groups, assemblies, and school-wide activities?
Are the breakfast/ after school clubs accessible for my child?
Will my child be able to go on school trips?
How does the school promote friendships?
Are there mentoring, nurture groups or drop-in support options?
What happens if bullying occurs?

Challenging behaviour

What is the school policy and how is it adjusted for children with SEN?

Homework

Would there be someone to support my child with their homework?
Can homework be completed on the computer at home?
How can I work with the school to support my child at home?

Exams and assessments

How are assessments adapted for pupils who need extra time, or a quiet space?
Are there regular opportunities to review academic progress and adapt support?

