

## **Important Information Regarding Changes to the Code of Practice for Children with Special Educational Needs**

The Children and Families Act 2014 has led to one of the most profound changes to Special Educational Needs in recent years. The Act places the child and their family at the centre of any decisions made regarding the child. The practical implementation of this Act is published in the revised Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Code of Practice, (DFE, 2014).

The ultimate aim is to improve SEND support. Schools will be expected to place much more emphasis on individual needs and personal goals. The intention is that everybody works together to ensure the best possible outcome for the pupil.

Changes to the Code of Practice from September 2014 will result in the terms School Action, School Action Plus and Statement of Special Educational Needs no longer being used. The SEND Register will now consist of children who are identified as SEN Support and those who have an Education Healthcare Plan.

The school's SEND Register will be reviewed and many pupils who were previously identified as SA and SA+ will be now identified as SEN Support. Some children previously identified may no longer need to be on SEN Support because they are making good progress academically and do not require anything "additional to or different from" the school curriculum. These children will be monitored closely by the class teacher and phase leader to ensure they continue to make good progress.

Statements of Special Educational Needs will now be replaced with Education Healthcare Plans (EHCP's). The Local Authority will advise schools as to when this will take place.