



Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 Providing Additional Support

The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act came into effect on 14 November 2005. It introduces a new framework for supporting children and young people in education and a new term “additional support needs”.

The term “additional support needs” applies to children or young people who, for whatever reason, require additional support, long or short term, in order to benefit from their education. Depending on your child’s needs, different kinds of support are available. Support needs will be identified using procedures outlined in Information Sheet 6 “Arrangements for Identifying, Monitoring and Reviewing Additional Support Needs”.

It is important to remember that additional support should be integrated into the child’s or young person’s everyday life at school or nursery, so that whenever possible, it does not make them feel singled out.

Examples of additional support are shown in the diagram on page 2.

Who receives additional support from the Local Authority?

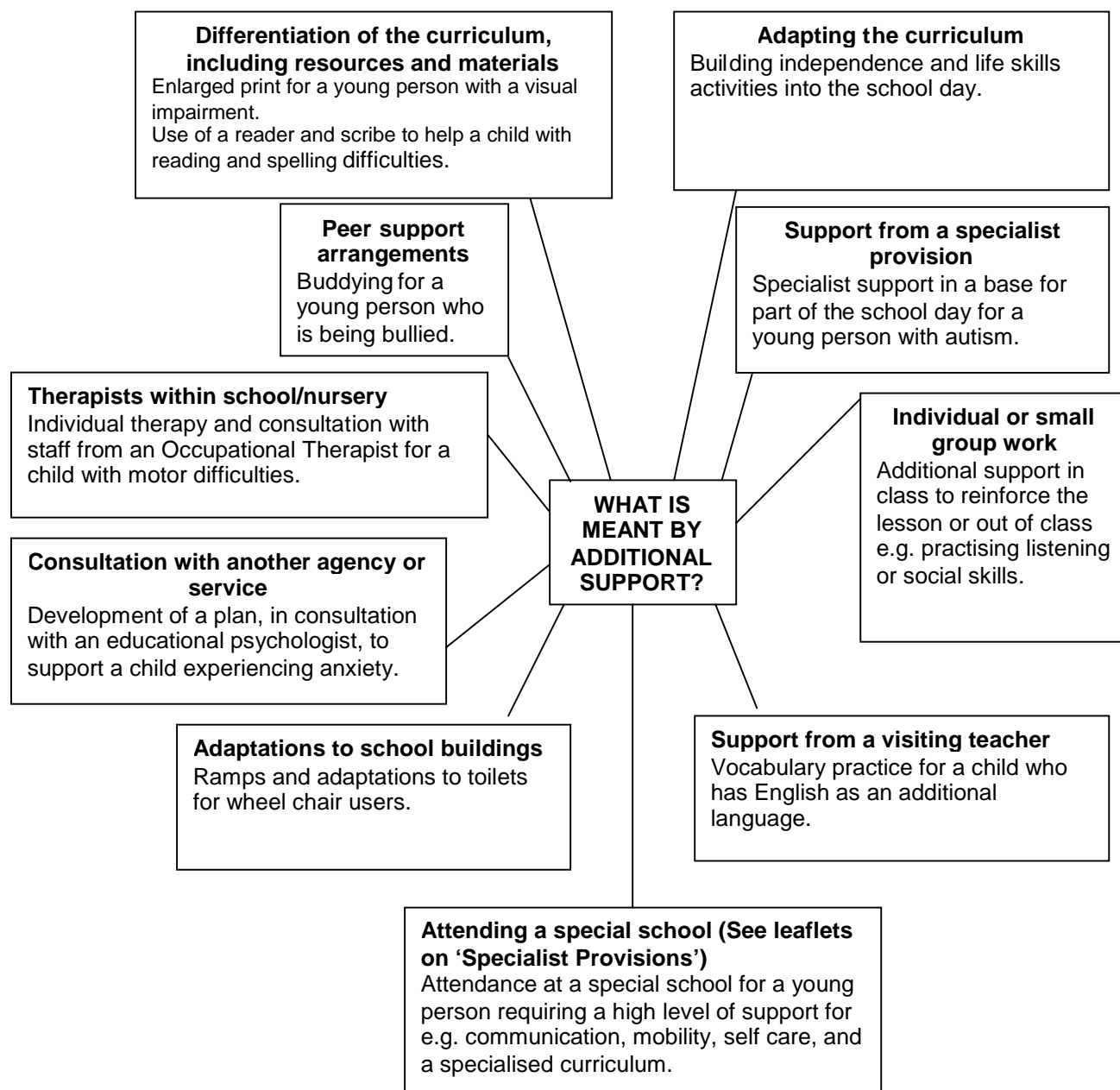
Education authorities must put in place “adequate and efficient” provision for pre-school and school-age children who have additional support needs, except when:

- You have arranged for your child to attend a pre-school centre or school outside their local area by making a placing request. In this case, the host authority is responsible for their education.
- You have arranged for your child to attend an independent school or grant aided school, or educate your child at home. In this case the education authority can provide additional support for your child, but is not legally obliged to do so. You have the right to ask your education authority to assess your child to find out if they have additional support needs. You also have the right, and so does the manager of your child’s school, to ask your education authority to establish whether your child would require a Co-ordinated Support Plan.

Every year schools and nurseries give information to the Service Manager, Support for Young People about children with additional support needs as part of an audit process. This information is used to plan support in schools and nurseries for the following year and to ensure support is targeted where it is most needed.

For some children and young people, additional support may continue throughout their education including preparation for leaving school and adulthood. The support at this stage may include:

- Advice and guidance from careers advisory services in schools
- Personal learning planning (see Information Sheet 5 on “Educational Plans”)
- Organising visits to colleges or universities
- Organising a work placement
- Organising a phased entry to college, training placement or workplace for one or two days a week while continuing at school for the rest of the week
- Offering alternative curricular programmes such as literacy and numeracy, IT skills training, personal and social development or outdoor education.



What if my child is under 3?

Additional support to help with your child's development and prepare them for pre-school can be available for children **under three**. The support will depend on your child's circumstances and may be available from a home visiting teacher, public health nurse, GP, community paediatrician or a social worker. Education authorities **must** provide appropriate additional support for children under the age of three who have additional support needs because of a disability, if the child has been referred to the education authority by an NHS Board. See Information Sheet 9 for further details.

Where can I find more information?

- Information may be obtained by contacting, ASL Co-ordinator, at Pullar House on 01738 476390
- Further information on the Act is available from <http://www.scotland-legislation.hmsso.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/>
- Information and advice is also available from Enquire Helpline on 0845 123 2303
- Email: info@enquire.org.uk
- See other Information Sheets in the series:
 - Sheet 1 Introducing the Act
 - Sheet 2 New Rights for Parents, Children and Young People
 - Sheet 4 Identifying, Monitoring, and Reviewing Additional Support Needs
 - Sheet 5 Educational Plans
 - Sheet 6 Additional Support Meetings
 - Sheet 7 Resolving Disagreements
 - Sheet 8 Sources of Support and Advice
 - Sheet 9 Providing Additional Support for Children under 5
 - Sheet 10 Individualised Educational Programmes (IEP)
 - Sheet 11 Transitions
 - Sheet 12 Preparing for Adulthood – Post School Transitions

These are also available online at www.pkc.gov.uk and follow the path: Education and Learning, Schools, Schools – Additional Support Needs – Information Sheets

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting:- Communication Manager on 01738 476873

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