

Leaflet 1: Does my child have Additional Support Needs?

What is meant by Additional Support Needs?

The term “additional support needs” applies to children or young people who 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. It is not restricted to educational support but can include multi-agency support from health, social services and voluntary agencies.

How do I find out if my child has Additional Support Needs?

The teaching staff and other professionals who work with your child on a daily basis will identify if there is a need for additional support. They should work closely with you if concerns arise. You have knowledge and expertise about your child that is valuable to the professionals who work with them. You know your child’s strengths, and you will also be aware of the areas in which they need extra support. If you think your child has additional support needs please talk to a member of staff.

How will my child’s Additional Support Needs be assessed?

Children’s needs are assessed over time and continuously. This may include:

- gathering evidence of your child’s progress
- focussing on their strengths
- finding out if there are any areas where they need support

The assessment will involve you and other people who know your child.

What happens next?

You will be invited to a meeting to talk about the information gathered, your views and to plan the next steps.

Further information is available from:

- Staff in the school or Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting who know your child
- The Inclusion Service in Perth and Kinross Council (ASN@pkc.gov.uk or Customer Service Centre 01738 475000)
- Getting It Right <https://www.gov.scot/policies/girfec/principles-and-values/>
- Enquire Helpline on 0845 123 2303, www.enquire.org.uk or info@enquire.org.uk
- <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/7/contents>
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