

## Who can I contact if I need further help or support?

- Your child's class teacher
- The SENCO or the Head Teacher at your child's school/ setting
- Derby & Derbyshire Parent Partnership Service (contact details overleaf)

**A fact sheet containing more detailed information about School Action/School Action Plus is available from the address overleaf.**

**Parent Partnership produces other leaflets and fact sheets related to this topic that you may find useful -**

- Statutory Assessment
- Annual Reviews
- Statement/Note in Lieu
- Analysing a proposed statement

**If you want more information about anything included in this leaflet please contact -**

If you live in Derbyshire:

Parent Partnership  
The Community Centre  
School Board Lane  
Brampton  
CHESTERFIELD S40 1DD  
Tel: 01246 273154 / 5

If you live in Derby City:

Parent Partnership  
90 / 92 Marlborough Road  
DERBY DE24 8DS  
Tel: 01332 716930

Website:

[www.derbyshireparentpartnership.co.uk](http://www.derbyshireparentpartnership.co.uk)



# School Action and School Action Plus

**Free, confidential, impartial help, advice and support for Parents and Carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs.**

**All leaflets available in large print and other languages.**

## The Graduated Approach

It is important that Special Educational Needs are identified early so that your child can be helped as quickly as possible. The Code of Practice describes how this help should be made by a step-by-step or 'graduated approach'. This approach recognises that children learn in different ways and have different levels of special educational needs.

### School say my child is on 'School Action'. What does this mean?

The school must tell you when they start giving extra or different help to your child because they have special needs. This help could be a different way of teaching or help from an extra adult, perhaps in a small group, or it could be the use of some special equipment. This stage is called **School Action**.

Your child's teacher is responsible for working with them and may write an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for them and discuss this with you.

The IEP should say

- what special help has been given
- how often your child will receive the help

- who will provide the help
- what your child's targets are
- how and when your child's progress will be reviewed
- what help you could give your child at home

Not all schools will write an IEP but they should always be able to tell you what help they are giving your child and what progress they are making.

### So what is School Action Plus?

If your child does not make enough progress at School Action, the school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) may decide to ask for help from people outside the school. This could be a speech therapist, a specialist teacher or an educational psychologist.

This sort of help is called **School Action Plus**.

The SENCO should keep you informed about how your child is getting on and should include you in any discussions about the help that is being provided. Remember that your views are very important at every stage of the graduated approach.

## What happens next?

If your child makes good progress at School Action or School Action Plus then they may need a reduced level of support or they may no longer need special help or an IEP. The class teacher should continue to monitor their progress. By using different teaching styles, books or worksheets and grouping children according to their learning needs, the class teacher makes sure that all children are supported in their learning. This is known as **differentiation**.

If your child still does not seem to be making enough progress or needs a lot more extra help, the SENCO may ask the Local Education Authority (LEA) to make a more detailed assessment of their needs based on specialist advice. This Statutory Assessment may lead to the LEA writing a Statement of Special Educational Needs. This would describe all your child's needs and all the special help they need.