



SENDIASS Setting Support Checklist

Helping you feel informed, confident, and supported in making the right choice for your child.

Child's Details

Child's Name: _____

Setting Name: _____

Date of Visit: _____

**This is advice that has tried to cover all types of questions. When using this it may be some questions are not necessary for your child's individual needs and is giving you choices of what you want to ask. Also consider taking someone with you (a friend/relative)*

Understanding & Supporting My Child

- ☐ How will staff get to know and understand my child's individual needs?
- ☐ Will my child have a personalised support plan (e.g. will this be the EHCP or broken down into a SEN support plan)?

- ☐ How are medical needs such as pain, fatigue, or mobility supported?
 - ☐ How do you monitor progress (learning, wellbeing, confidence)?
 - ☐ How is learning adapted if my child has gaps in education?
 - ☐ How do you support children that struggle with writing, do you have other ways for them to be able to do their work?
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Re-engaging with Education

- ☐ What experience do you have supporting children who have been out of education long term or have emotionally based school avoidance?
 - ☐ How will you help my child feel safe, settled and welcome?
 - ☐ Is a phased or flexible start available?
 - ☐ How do you support children with anxiety about attending school?
 - ☐ How do you rebuild confidence, routine and motivation?
 - ☐ Will my child have a named key adult or mentor?
 - ☐ What transitional arrangements can my child have, how do you work with his current education setting/situation?
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Specialist Support & Therapies

- ☐ What specialist services are available?
 - ☐ Physiotherapy ☐ Occupational Therapy ☐ Speech & Language
 - ☐ Other: _____
 - ☐ How often can my child access these services?
 - ☐ Are therapies part of the school day?
 - ☐ Do staff and therapists work together?
 - ☐ Can existing health/therapy plans continue here?
 - ☐ Do you work with the Local Authority SEND Inclusion services?
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Staff & Experience

- ☐ What training do staff have in relation to SEND
 - ☐ What training do staff have in relation to medical needs?
 - ☐ What are staff-to-pupil ratios?
 - ☐ Will my child have consistent staff working with them each day?
 - ☐ How do staff support pain, distress, and emotional regulation?
 - ☐ How do staff support mental health in school?
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Environment & Facilities

- ☐ Calm, welcoming and accessible environment
 - ☐ Quiet/safe spaces available
 - ☐ Areas for breaks or sensory regulation
 - ☐ Opportunities for movement during the day
 - ☐ Suitable facilities for physical/sensory needs
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Daily Support & Flexibility

- ☐ Flexible approach to the school day if my child is struggling
 - ☐ Clear communication with parents/carers
 - ☐ Support to stay connected if my child cannot attend
 - ☐ Willingness to adapt based on my child's wellbeing
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Emotional Wellbeing

- ☐ Strong focus on emotional wellbeing
 - ☐ Access to pastoral or counselling support
 - ☐ Support to build friendships and social confidence
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Working in Partnership with Me

- ☐ Regular, clear updates about progress
 - ☐ Parents involved in planning and reviews
 - ☐ Easy to contact staff with concerns
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Outcomes & Next Steps

- ☐ Clear and realistic goals for my child
 - ☐ Evidence of helping children re-engage successfully
 - ☐ Support for future transitions (education, independence, life skills)
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My Reflections

What went well / felt positive:

Any worries or questions:

Overall feeling about this setting:

- ☐ Very confident ☐ Quite confident ☐ Unsure ☐ Not confident
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SENDIASS Tip: Trust your instincts. A good setting should feel understanding, flexible, and genuinely interested in your child as an individual.

Contact us:

- Follow us on Facebook at BarnsleySENDIASS
- Call us on 01226 787234
- Email us at sendiass@barnsley.gov.uk