



**Cheshire East Information  
Advice and Support  
(CEIAS) team**

## **Moving to Cheshire East when your child has Special Educational Needs and/ a Disability (SEND)**

### **General information**

Before you can apply for a school place for your child you need to have proof of a Cheshire East address. This could be a:

- Utility bill (gas, electricity, water)

- Council Tax statement

- Copy of a tenancy agreement signed by both landlord and tenant

- Solicitor's letter advising the completion date of a house purchase.

When finding a school within Cheshire East, it is always recommended that you visit as many schools as possible and ask the questions that are important to you. You may find our "Choosing a school" factsheet useful .

### **For children and young people currently living in the UK and with an existing Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)**

If your child already has an EHCP, provided by your current Local Authority, you will need to contact the Cheshire East Special Educational Needs and Disabilities team, as soon as your Cheshire East address has been confirmed.

Once you move, the provision in your child's EHCP becomes the responsibility of Cheshire East local authority. Your old authority has 15 working days to transfer your EHCP to Cheshire East. If you give your old authority 15 working days' notice of your move, it must transfer the EHCP on the day of your move.

You retain your parental right to state a preference for a maintained mainstream or special school (whichever is specified in the EHCP). Cheshire East LA must tell you within **six** weeks of the date of transfer when they will review the EHCP and whether they will reassess your child. Otherwise the EHCP will remain the same, apart from the change of the name of school, until the next Annual Review.

## For children and young people currently living in the UK with special educational needs and/or disability but no EHCP

All Cheshire East schools have statutory duties to support children with SEND and are able to do so.

You will need to apply for a school place via the usual admissions processes which can be found here: [SEND school place applications](#)

If you are applying outside the normal admissions timetable, you will need to apply for an “in year” admission and you can do this **up to four weeks before you need the place**.

The school will assess your child and may then decide to put support in place such as **SEN Support** to meet their needs. If the school does not agree that your child has special needs or is of the opinion that they do not need additional support, ask to meet with the head teacher/Special Educational Needs Co-coordinator (SENCO) to discuss your concerns.

It will be extremely useful for you to be able to provide up to date reports (within the last 18 months, or two years at the most) from any professionals who have been involved with your child’s education or special educational needs. Other reports can also be useful, for example medical reports from a consultant or paediatrician.

## Information for families living overseas, who are looking to relocate to the UK

For an understanding of the SEND system in the UK take a look at the following:

**Cheshire East Local Offer for SEND:** <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities.aspx>

**SEND Code of Practice:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

The majority of children with SEND are supported within mainstream school. A small number of children with more complex needs are supported via an Education Health and Plan .

If your child already has the equivalent of an EHCP in your country of residence and/or attends a special school, you should send copies of all the relevant paperwork to the local authority SEN team including any recent reports from professionals. The Council will then decide whether to base its initial judgement on this paperwork, or whether to carry out its own assessments.



Cheshire East Information Advice and Support  
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Website: [www.ceias.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.ceias.cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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