

Are You aged 14-25 and Worried about Your Education?

Deciding which school/college that is best for you can be a tough decision especially for a Young Person in need of Additional Support

Seeking support for yourself is a daunting experience, however this factsheet will give you the information and tips you want and need

Do You Get To Choose?



Making a School/College Choice

No-one will tell you explicitly which school/college you should express a preference for.

If you have an EHC Plan which is information from your EHC Needs assessment saying what you want to achieve and what support is provided to support you, this will help to indicate the type of provision required to meet your needs.

Have this in mind when you're looking at schools and preparing your questions.

What Kind of School/College Might I Go To?

If you have an EHC Plan, you may ask for any of the following:

- maintained school and any form of academy or free school (mainstream or special)
- non-maintained special school
- independent school approved for this purpose by the Secretary of State and published in a list available at www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-special-schools-and-colleges

The Local Authority (LA) have to agree your choice of school/college, **unless**

- the school/college is unsuitable to meet your needs

Family Action Ealing ISAID! Service (Impartial Support Advice and Information on Disability and Special Educational Needs).

Sycamore Lodge/1 Edgecote Close/ Ealing/ London/ W3 8PH

Advice line: 02039788989

email: isaidealing@family-action.org.uk

web: www.ealing-isaid.org.uk

Registered charity no: 264713 Registered company limited by guarantee in England and Wales no: 01068186

- it would prevent the efficient education of other young people in the school/college (for example the school is oversubscribed) or
- it would not be good use of LA resources.

If you express a preference for a suitable school that is not your nearest school then Ealing may expect you to ensure you can get there.

[If you do not have an EHC Plan](#), even if you have SEND, then the LA's standard school admissions criteria will apply.

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201113/school_admissions

Look at **Ealing Local Offer** for information on local schools and information about the way individual schools support their pupils' additional needs: [Local Offer](#) and www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk

Prepare any notes and particular questions you have, you may find it helpful to write any questions down and take them with you.

Your rights

- You have the right to express a preference of school/college you would like to go to, whether the school is inside or outside the area you live in.
- If you are not offered a place at the school/college you have expressed a preference for, you have the right to appeal to an independent panel.

What If I Do Not Get the School/College of my Choice?

Take it one step at a time, the decision will be a process you'll work through, [Ealing ISAID! Service](#) have Children and Young People Caseworkers and can offer you impartial advice & guidance, to support you in expressing your preference and working through the admissions process.

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Who to contact

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Helpline: 0203 9788989

Website: : www.ealing-isaid.org.uk



IPSEA (For legal Information and advice on applying and appealing)

Phone: 0800 018 4016

Web: www.ipsea.org.uk

Good Schools Guide: www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk

UK Schools Search: www.ukschoolsearch.net

Edubase directory: www.education.gov.uk/edubase up to 15th September

Get Information about Schools: www.get-information-schools.service.gov.uk

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