

Pupil and School Support (PSS) - Parent Information

Who are Pupil and School Support?

- Pupil and School Support (PSS for short) is part of Birmingham's SEND Advisory Support Services that help children and young people with additional needs in schools and maintained nursery schools in Birmingham.
- We are qualified teachers who support children and young people in educational settings who have cognition, learning and language difficulties.
- Every maintained nursery school, mainstream school and academy have a qualified teacher assigned to their setting.

How does the Pupil and School Support Team support schools?

- We work with settings to help their pupils with cognition, learning and language difficulties make progress and achieve to the best of their abilities.
- We help to develop the knowledge of SENCOs, ensuring they can lead whole school improvement; help school staff to support pupils with SEN, promote inclusive practice, set aspirational targets and raise attainment, and support early identification of need and evidence-based intervention.

How does the Pupil and School Support Team support individual children and young people?

- Settings will ask their PSS teacher to become involved if they have concerns about your child's learning and progress.
- This should be after they have already given additional support and tried different things in the classroom.
- The decision to involve PSS should be discussed and agreed with you as parents/carers and your written consent will be gained first.
- All PSS involvement is personal to the child/young person and will take place after discussion with the setting about their concerns. The PSS teacher may:
 - Work outside the classroom with your child to assess their skills;
 - See how your child works in the class;
 - Talk about your child's learning need with staff;
 - Talk to your child about how they feel about their learning.

How do we assess your child?

The PSS teacher may assess a pupil's ability in any of the following areas:

- Speech and Language
- Reading
- Spelling
- Writing
- Memory & Processing
- Mathematics

What happens after your child has been assessed?

After seeing your child, the PSS teacher will:

- Share ideas about what to try next
- Work with staff on how to help your child

We may also:

- Provide a written report for the nursery/school
- Meet you in school to discuss the work carried out
- Suggest other outside agencies who could also help your child
- Work with the nursery/school to monitor your child's progress and set targets.
- See your child more than once to assess the progress that has been made over 6 months or a year.

How do I contact a Pupil and School Support Teacher?

- You can arrange to see or speak to us through the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at your child's school.
- Contact details for the school SENCo can be found on their school website. Look for their 'SEN Information Report' for more information.

Will I meet the Pupil and School Support Teacher working with my child?

- You are the expert on your child, and it is important that we work together to make decisions about your child's learning.
- Sometimes you will meet the PSS teacher in nursery/school.
- Sometimes contact will be via email, phone call or Microsoft Teams.

Do Pupil and School Support have any further information for parents?

Webinars:

- Parent and carer webinars on a range of topics can be found on the Local Offer website: www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/webinars-4/

Webpages and Videos:

- You may find the following links to our parent information pages and videos helpful too:
- [Supporting children who have dyslexia](#)
- [Supporting children with learning needs](#)

Contact Details:

Pupil and School Support, Children and Families Directorate, Birmingham City Council

Office: PO Box 17843, Birmingham, B2 2JR

Birmingham Local Offer: www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk

To contact PSS: LDParentEnquiries@birmingham.gov.uk
