

SEND FAQ

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Q: Will I still receive inclusion funding monies for the Summer term if the child in receipt of it isn't attending?

A: Yes, the Summer 2020 payments will be still made for the children in receipt of Inclusion Funding even if they are not attending the setting due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. If the support member of staff for the child has been furloughed or you have not yet employed this person, then the money can be spent to support the child in their transition through to school or back into your provision.

Q: I have an EHC needs assessment referral ready to send off to the SENDAS where do I send this?

A: Please forward referrals to ea.senreferrals@bolton.gov.uk. Please do not send these via post or hand delivery as the offices are now closed.

Q: I have not been able to complete the graduated approach for my child as they have not been attending the provision due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, will I still be able to make a request for an Education, Health and Care Needs assessment?

A: When the child returns to your provision, the graduated approach can continue, and requests can be made as and when they are needed.

Q: Will the EHC needs assessment process remain at 20 weeks now that we are in lockdown?

A: Government guidance at the current time is that this should still be the case. However, if it is not possible for services to assess children, then the assessment will not be complete in 20 weeks. We await further Government guidance on this.

Q: Will I still find out if my child has been accepted to special school before the Summer holidays?

A: Yes, this decision will be made before the end of June.

Q: Will I receive any support from the Start Well team when I am offering Inclusion Funding to a key worker/vulnerable child during the lockdown?

A: Yes, the Start Well team are still available via the phone and skype and will support settings through this difficult time. The Start Well SEND Manager is also contactable on 01204 338 355 / 07919 326 991 for any queries or concerns.

Q: How will the assessments be carried out for my child from external agencies?

A: It is likely that agencies will collate as much information as they can via telephone from both the setting and parents and that they will want to triangulate this information with their own observations and assessments before finalising any reports.

Q: Will I be given support in implementing strategies if services are unable to come into model these?

A: Yes, the Start Well SEND Outreach teacher is available to support you via phone or email with any strategies you are struggling with.

Q: How can I support parents of children with special educational needs who are at home?

A: There are some website links, resources and materials to support parents of children with SEND on the Start Well website.

Q: What happens if I submitted an interim assessment (emergency) application for a child to receive Inclusion Funding?

A: If the child is no longer attending due to the Coronavirus pandemic and you have submitted an interim assessment application for a child, this application will be put on hold until the child is back in the provision.

